Inciting Joy
Essays
Ross Gay

Summary
An intimate and electrifying collection of essays from the New York Times bestselling author of The Book of Delights

In these gorgeously written pieces, prize-winning poet and author Ross Gay considers the joy we incite when we care for each other, especially during life’s inevitable hardships. Throughout Inciting Joy, he explores how we can practice recognizing that connection, and also, crucially, how we expand it.

In ”We Kin” he thinks about the garden (especially around August, when the zucchini and tomatoes come on) as a laboratory of mutual aid; in ”Share Your Bucket” he explores skateboarding’s reclamation of public space; he considers the costs of masculinity in ”Grief Suite”; and in ”Through My Tears I Saw,” he recognizes what was healed in caring for his father as he was dying.

In an era when divisive voices take up so much air space, Inciting Joy offers a vital alternative: What might be possible if we turn our attention to what brings us together, to what we love? Full of energy, curiosity, and compassion, Inciting Joy is essential reading from one of our most brilliant writers.

Contributor Bio
Ross Gay is the New York Times bestselling author of The Book of Delights: Essays and four books of poetry. His Catalog of Unabashed Gratitude won the 2015 National Book Critics Circle Award and the 2016 Kingsley Tufts Poetry Award and was a finalist for the National Book Award, and Be Holding won the 2021 PEN/Jean Stein Book Award. He is a founding board member of the Bloomington Community Orchard, a nonprofit, free-fruit-for-all food justice and joy project. Gay has received fellowships from Cave Canem, the Bread Loaf Writer’s Conference, and the Guggenheim Foundation. He teaches at Indiana University.

Marketing Plans

• 15-city tour: New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago, Minneapolis, Atlanta, Nashville, Denver, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland, Seattle, St. Louis, Columbus, and Washington, DC
• Lecture tie-ins
• Appearances at fall literary festivals
• National media campaign, including TV, radio, and podcast interviews
• National print and online campaign, including reviews, features, and original essays
• 20-city radio satellite tour
• Dedicated influencer galley mailings and extensive bookstagram tour
• Prepublication industry buzz campaign, including widespread bookseller galley mailings, author appearances at multiple fall regional trade shows, and industry advertising
• Indie Next campaign
• National consumer advertising campaign, including a second wave of promotion right before the holidays
• Social media campaign, including author videos, giveaways, and Facebook and Instagram advertising
• Signed stock promotion
The Book of Delights
Essays
Ross Gay

Summary
The New York Times Bestseller, Now in Paperback!
As Heard on NPR’s This American Life

The winner of the NBCC Award for Poetry offers up a spirited collection of short lyrical essays, written daily over a tumultuous year, reminding us of the purpose and pleasure of praising, extolling, and celebrating ordinary wonders.

The first nonfiction book from award-winning poet Ross Gay is a record of the small joys we often overlook in our busy lives. Among Gay’s funny, poetic, philosophical delights: a friend’s unabashed use of air quotes, cradling a tomato seedling aboard an airplane, the silent nod of acknowledgment between the only two black people in a room. But Gay never dismisses the complexities, even the terrors, of living in America as a black man or the ecological and psychic violence of our consumer culture or the loss of those he loves. More than anything else, though, Gay celebrates the beauty of the natural world—his garden, the flowers peeking out of the sidewalk, the hypnotic movements of a praying mantis.

The Book of Delights is about our shared bonds, and the rewards that come from a life closely observed. These remarkable pieces serve as a powerful and necessary reminder that we can, and should, stake out a space in our lives for delight.

Contributor Bio
Ross Gay is the New York Times bestselling author of The Book of Delights: Essays and four books of poetry. His Catalog of Unabashed Gratitude won the 2015 National Book Critics Circle Award and the 2016 Kingsley Tufts Poetry Award and was a finalist for the National Book Award, and Be Holding won the 2021 PEN/Jean Stein Book Award. He teaches at Indiana University.

Quotes
"The delights he extols here . . . feel purposeful and imperative as well as contagious in their joy." —The New York Times Book Review

"Perfect for this tense and distracting moment—beautiful, small bites you can consume when you need some sustenance for the soul." —Time

"You’ll find that the delights of Gay’s world illuminate the delights of yours, that his wonder is contagious and has caused you to deepen your own." —GQ

"From cover to cover, the beautifully written essays highlight the little miracles that happen all around us. It encourages the reader to slow down, take in each moment and find joy in the everyday." —Today

"I am indebted to this book for reminding me, reminding us, that there is so much to celebrate in the world." —Clint Smith, author of How the Word Is Passed

Marketing Plans
- Select author appearances and lecture tie-ins
- National media campaign, including TV, radio, and podcast interviews
- National print and online campaign, including roundups and original essays
- National digital advertising campaign
- Promotion and outreach to community gardening organizations
- Social media campaign, including Facebook and Instagram advertising
- Posters available upon request
The Complicities
Stacey D'Erasmo

Summary
Award-winning author Stacey D'Erasmo tells a haunting and emotionally affecting story about a woman trying to rebuild her life after her husband's arrest, and what she knew—or pretended not to know—about where their family's money came from.

After her husband Alan's decades of financial fraud are exposed, Suzanne's wealthy, comfortable life shatters. Alan goes to prison. Suzanne files for divorce, decamps to a barely middle-class Massachusetts beach town, and begins to create a new life and identity. Ignoring a steady stream of calls from Norfolk State Prison, she tries to cleanse herself of all connections to her ex-husband. She tells herself that he, not she, committed the crimes.

Then Alan is released early, and the many people whose lives he ruined demand restitution. But when Suzanne finds herself awestruck at a major whale stranding, she makes an apparently high-minded decision that ripples with devastating effect not only through Alan's life as he tries to rebuild but also through the lives of Suzanne and Alan's son, Alan's new wife, his estranged mother, and, ultimately, Suzanne herself.

When damage is done, who pays? Who loses? Who is responsible?

With biting wisdom, The Complicities examines how the stories we tell ourselves can also be stories of our own deep complicity.

Contributor Bio
Stacey D'Erasmo is the author of four novels and one book of nonfiction. She has been the recipient of a Stegner Fellowship in fiction, a Guggenheim Fellowship in fiction, and a Duggins Outstanding Mid-Career Novelist Prize from Lambda Literary, among other awards. Her essays, features, and reviews have appeared in the New York Times Magazine, the New York Times Book Review, the New Yorker, the Boston Review, and Ploughshares, among other publications. She is an associate professor of writing and publishing practices at Fordham University.

Quotes
"A subtle masterpiece." —Ruth Ozeki, author of The Book of Form and Emptiness

"This suspenseful novel sees it all, and I found myself enlightened and deeply moved by its compelling story." —Charles Baxter, author of The Sun Collective

Marketing Plans
- National media campaign, including TV, radio, and podcast interviews
- National print and online campaign, including reviews and original essays
- 6-city tour: New York; DC; Philadelphia; Boston; S. Hadley, MA; Madison, CT
- Prepublication virtual media lunch
- Early outreach to booksellers and Indie Next campaign
- Extensive influencer/bookstagrammer tour
- National digital and social media advertising campaigns
- Widespread galley distribution and industry advertising
- Prepublication activation campaign for consumers, including targeted outreach and giveaways via Goodreads and LibraryThing
- Book club kit with discussion questions, author essay, and more
- Reading group promotions and advertising on top book club and literary sites
- Social media campaign, including prepublication outreach to bookstagrammers
Lark Ascending
Silas House

Summary
A riveting story of survival and hope, set in the not-too-distant future, about a young man forced to flee the United States and seek refuge abroad.

As fires devastate most of the United States, Lark and his family secure a place on a refugee boat headed to Ireland, the last country not yet overrun by extremists and rumored to be accepting American refugees. But Lark is the only one to survive the trip, and once ashore, he doesn’t find the safe haven he’d hoped for. As he runs for his life, Lark finds an abandoned dog who becomes his closest companion, and then a woman in search of her lost son. Together they form a makeshift family and attempt to reach Glendalough, a place they believe will offer protection. But can any community provide the safety that they seek?

For readers of novels such as Station Eleven, The Dog Stars, and Migrations, Lark Ascending is a moving and unforgettable story of friendship, family, and healing.

Contributor Bio
Silas House is the New York Times bestselling author of seven novels, one book of creative nonfiction, and three plays. His writing has appeared in the New York Times, the Atlantic, the Advocate, Time, and elsewhere. A former commentator for NPR’s All Things Considered, House is the winner of the Nautilus Award, the Storylines Prize from the NAV/New York Public Library, an E. B. White Honor, and many other awards.

Quotes
"In Lark Ascending, Silas House casts an irresistible spell, conjuring a near future that is both familiar and unbearable, illuminating the brutality and suffering that our own thoughtless age seems determined to invoke. But Lark Ascending is not merely, or even mainly, a tale of pain and grief. This beautiful book is shot through with such tenderness and humanity, such love and courage and beauty and hope, that it feels almost like a prayer." — Margaret Renkl, bestselling author of Late Migrations

"I was sucked into this urgent story where survival in the not-too-distant future depends on forging connections with strangers and nurturing tenderness and hope within. An essential, heartbreaking but ultimately uplifting read."
—Michelle Gallen, author of Factory Girls and Big Girl, Small Town

"Beautiful and compelling. Lark Ascending marks a stunning turn in House’s career, taking him from the Appalachian Mountains to a post-apocalyptic Atlantic crossing, but I have no doubt that readers will follow Silas House wherever he goes, whether into the past or headlong into the future."
—Wiley Cash, bestselling author of When Ghosts Come Home

Marketing Plans
- 15-city tour: Louisville, KY; Lexington, KY; Cincinnati/Dayton; Columbus, OH; St. Louis; Kansas City; Nashville; Atlanta; DC; Boston; Chicago; Milwaukee; Minneapolis; Denver; San Francisco
- Prepublication bookseller events and virtual media lunch
- National media campaign, including TV, radio, and podcast interviews
- National print and online campaign, including reviews and original essays
- Dedicated influencer galley mailings and extensive bookstagram tour
- Prepublication industry buzz campaign, including widespread bookseller galley mailings, author appearances at regional trade shows, and industry advertising
- Indie Next campaign
- National consumer advertising campaign, including top literary sites
- Book club advertising and designed book club kit at publication
- Social media campaign, including Facebook and Instagram advertising
Somewhere Sisters
A Story of Adoption, Identity, and the Meaning of Family
Erika Hayasaki

Summary
Identical twins Isabella and Hà were born in Vietnam and raised on opposite sides of the world, each knowing little about the other’s existence, until they were reunited as teenagers, against all odds.

The twins were born in Nha Trang, Vietnam, in 1998, where their mother struggled to care for them. Hà was taken in by their biological aunt, and grew up in a rural village, going to school, and playing outside with the neighbors. They had sporadic electricity and frequent monsoons. Hà’s twin sister, Loan, spent time in an orphanage before a wealthy, white American family adopted her and renamed her Isabella. Isabella grew up in the suburbs of Chicago, with a nonbiological sister, Olivia, also adopted from Vietnam. Isabella and Olivia attended a predominantly white Catholic school, played soccer, and prepared for college.

But when Isabella’s adoptive mother learned of Isabella’s biological twin back in Vietnam, all of their lives changed forever. Award-winning journalist Erika Hayasaki spent years and hundreds of hours interviewing each of the birth and adoptive family members and tells the girls’ incredible story from their perspectives, challenging conceptions about adoption and what it means to give a child a good life.

For readers of All You Can Ever Know and American Baby, Somewhere Sisters is a richly textured, moving story of sisterhood and coming-of-age, told through the remarkable lives of young women who have redefined the meaning of family for themselves.

Contributor Bio
Erika Hayasaki is a journalist based in Southern California, the author of The Death Class, and a professor in the Literary Journalism Department at the University of California, Irvine. Her writing has appeared in the New York Times Magazine, the New Yorker, the Atlantic, and others. She has been a 2021-22 Knight-Wallace Reporting Fellow and a 2018 Alicia Patterson Fellow and received awards from the Association of Sunday Feature Editors, the Society for Features Journalism, and the American Society of Newspaper Editors. She is the mother of a daughter and twin boys.

Quotes
"Seamlessly weaving historical context with brilliant reportage, Hayasaki delivers an incisive and poignant exploration of the world of transracial adoption and twinship, bearing witness to the profound struggles of those caught between two worlds, trying to define themselves." —Ly Tran, author of House of Sticks

"Urgent and compelling, this book asks important questions about responsibility and ethics and will inspire all of us as we work toward a more responsible and inclusive society." —Nguyễn Phan Quế Mai, author of The Mountains Sing

Marketing Plans
- National media campaign, including TV, radio, and podcast interviews
- National print and online campaign, including reviews and original essays
- 20-city radio satellite tour
- 8-city tour: San Francisco, Los Angeles, San Diego, Portland, Seattle, New York, Chicago, Houston
- Widespread bookseller galley mailings and industry advertising
- Prepublication consumer buzz campaign, including galley giveaways via Goodreads and LibraryThing
- National digital consumer advertising campaign, including the New York Times
- Social media campaign, including Facebook and Instagram advertising
Fatty Fatty Boom Boom
A Memoir of Food, Fat, and Family
Rabia Chaudry

Summary
From the bestselling author of Adnan's Story and the host of the wildly popular Undisclosed podcast, an intimate memoir about food, body image, and growing up in a tight-knit but sometimes overly concerned Pakistani immigrant family.

"My entire life I have been less fat and more fat, but never not fat."

Rabia Chaudry was raised with a lot of love—and that love looked like food. Delicious Pakistani dishes—fresh roti, chaat, pakoras, and shorba—and also Domino's, Dairy Queen, and an abundance of American processed foods, as her family discovered its adopted country through its (fast) food.

At the same time, her family was becoming increasingly alarmed about their chubby daughter's future. Most important, how would she ever get married? In Fatty Fatty Boom Boom, Chaudry chronicles the dozens of times she tried and failed to achieve what she was told was her ideal weight. The truth is, though, she always loved food too much to hold a grudge against it.

At once an ode to Pakistani cuisine, including Chaudry's favorite recipes; a love letter to her Muslim immigrant family both here and in Lahore; and a searingly honest portrait of a woman grappling with a body that gets the job done but that refuses to meet the expectations of others. "Fatty Fatty Boom Boom" Chaudry shows us how freeing it is to finally make peace with body we have.

Contributor Bio
Rabia Chaudry is an attorney, advocate, podcaster, and author of the New York Times bestseller Adnan's Story and executive producer of a four-part HBO documentary The Case Against Adnan Syed, which was based on her book. Chaudry is also co-producer and co-host of three podcasts, Undisclosed (360 million downloads), The 45th (four million download) and the new The Hidden Djinn. Currently, she is a founding board member of the Inter-Jewish Muslim Alliance and the Muslim Jewish Advisory Council, both of which focus on building Muslim-Jewish coalitions around pressing policy issues and educating across communities to break barriers.

Quotes
"A delectable memoir that reads with the intensity of a novel. Devour it all at once, or savor it slowly—there's no wrong way to enjoy this funny, heart-wrenching, and brutally honest journey of food, family, and learning to love yourself." —Geraldine DeRuiter, founder of Everywherist.com and author of All Over the Place

Marketing Plans
- National media campaign, including TV, radio, and podcast interviews
- National print and online campaign, including reviews and original essays
- 12-city tour, including New York; Washington, DC; Houston; and Chicago
- 20-city radio satellite tour
- Prepublication media lunch and influencer buzz campaign
- Prepublication activation campaign for consumers, including targeted outreach on book club sites and Goodreads
- Book club outreach, along with a designed book club kit with recipes and more
- Extensive bookstagrammer/BookTokker tour
- Robust consumer advertising campaign
- Major social media campaign
**I Am the Light of This World**
Michael Parker

**Summary**
"As true and moving a book, as honest, as gripping, as any I have ever read. Parker has delivered his strongest work yet . . . A novel of truly singular beauty and wisdom." —Ben Fountain, author of *Beautiful Country Burn Again*

Beginning in the 1970s in Carthage, Texas, I Am the Light of This World follows the story of Earl, a seventeen-year-old boy who comes from a poor family and is an outsider, a dreamer, a reader, a lover of music. He meets Tina, a new girl in town who is living with her aunt, and she convinces him to drive her to visit her mother in Austin. But as the night gets going and gets out of control, Earl loses track of what is happening and Tina disappears. Two days later, when Earl comes to, he’s being questioned: Tina is gone, and there is blood in the trunk of his car. Since he can’t remember what happened, and since his family has no money to post bail or hire a decent lawyer, Earl goes to prison for a murder he did not commit.

When he is released thirty years later, Earl moves to the Oregon coast, trying to navigate a world that has changed radically in his absence. He is lucky enough to find goodhearted people, and he tries to have the life he was never given. But just as things are starting to fall into place, his past is discovered. *I Am the Light of This World* is a page-turning look both at the arc of a life, and of how to come to peace with one’s past.

**Contributor Bio**
The author of seven novels and three collections of stories, Michael Parker has been awarded four career-achievement awards: the Hobson Award for Arts and Letters, the North Carolina Award for Literature, the R. Hunt Parker Award, and the 2020 Thomas Wolfe Prize. His short fiction and nonfiction have appeared in the *Washington Post*, the *New York Times*, *Oxford American*, *Runner’s World*, *Men’s Journal*, and others. He is a three-time winner of the O. Henry Prize for his short fiction and his work has appeared in dozens of magazines and several anthologies. He taught for twenty-seven years in the MFA Writing Program at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, and since 2009 he has been on the faculty of the Warren Wilson Program for Writers. He lives in Austin, Texas.

**Marketing Plans**
- National media campaign, including TV, radio, and podcast interviews
- National print and online campaign, including reviews and original essays
- 6-city tour: Austin, Houston, San Antonio, Dallas, Raleigh/Chapel Hill, Greensboro
- Extensive influencer/bookstagrammer tour
- Early outreach to booksellers and Indie Next campaign
- Spotify playlist and genre-targeted advertising
- National digital and social media advertising campaigns targeting readers of Ron Rash, Michael Farris Smith, and Tom Franklin
- Prepublication campaign, including widespread galley mailings, author appearances at fall festivals, industry advertising, and dedicated retail e-blast
- Prepublication activation campaign for consumers, including targeted outreach and monthly giveaways via Goodreads and LibraryThing
- E-book promotion in *Prairie Fever* and *The Watery Part of the World*
- Comprehensive social media campaign, including prepublication outreach to bookstagrammers
- Quote graphics campaign, including Algonquin’s social media platforms, Edelweiss, and e-newsletters
Factory Girls
Michelle Gallen

Summary
From the author of Big Girl, Small Town, a darkly comic coming-of-age story about a young woman working a summer job in a shirt factory in Northern Ireland, while tensions rise both inside and outside the factory walls.

It's the summer of 1994 and all Maeve Murray wants are good final exam results so she can earn her ticket out of the wee Northern Irish town she has grown up in during the Troubles—away from her crowded home, the silence and sadness surrounding her sister's death, and most of all away from the simmering violence and religious tensions of her divided community. And as a first step, Maeve's taken a summer job in an integrated local shirt factory working alongside Protestants with her bff, cuddly kind Caroline Jackson, and her oblivious frenemy, privileged and clever Aoife O'Neill. But getting the right exam results are only part of Maeve's problem—she's got to survive a tit-for-tat paramilitary campaign as brutal as her relationship with her mam, iron 100 shirts an hour all day every day in the local factory, put up with the Proddies, and escape the attentions of Andy Strawbridge, her slick and untrustworthy English boss.

What seems to be a great opportunity to earn money before starting university turns out to be a crucible in which Maeve—and the other vulnerable workers in the factory—are tested in ways they're not equipped to handle. And seeking justice for herself and her fellow workers may just be Maeve's one-way ticket out of town.

Biting, perceptive, and steeped in the vernacular of its setting, Factory Girls brings us an unforgettable heroine willing to sacrifice everything to reach for her dreams.

Contributor Bio
Michelle Gallen was born in County Tyrone in the mid 1970s and grew up during the Troubles. She studied English literature at Trinity College Dublin and won several prestigious prizes as a young writer. Following a devastating brain injury in her mid-twenties, she co-founded three award-winning companies and won international recognition for digital innovation. She now lives in Dublin with her husband and kids.

Quotes
"Factory Girls is full of the stuff that we're starting to expect of Michelle Gallen; wild, hilariously angry characters, and language that is vital, bang-on, and seriously funny."
—Roddy Doyle, author of Paddy Clarke Ha Ha Ha

"Gallen manages to take a dark and violent period in history and turn it into one of the most moving and hilarious novels I have ever read. The rich cast of characters will break your heart and make you laugh out loud. I found it difficult to put this book down . . . I was transported to Northern Ireland via an unforgettable voice and a steadily boiling story of friendship, grief, and determination. Factory Girls is one of the best books ever written about The Troubles, and one of the best books I've read in a very long time."
—Silas House, author of Southernmost and Lark Ascending

Marketing Plans
- National media campaign, including TV, radio, and podcast interviews
- National print and online campaign, including reviews and original essays
- Virtual appearances
- Dedicated influencer galley mailings and extensive bookstagram tour
- Prepublication industry buzz campaign, including industry advertising
- Indie Next campaign
- National consumer advertising targeting top women’s and literary sites
- Book club advertising and promotion
- Bound-in reader’s guide, including questions for discussion
- Social media campaign, including author videos
Carry the Dog
Stephanie Gangi

Summary
"Powered by insight and true wit." — Meg Wolitzer

"I can't remember the last time I was as completely bewitched by a fictional character as I was by Bea Seger . . . What a treat to view life through the eyes of this funny, smart, gutsy woman." — Richard Russo

Bea Seger has spent a lifetime running from her childhood. The daughter of a famous photographer, she and her brothers were the subjects of an explosive series of images in the 1960s known as the Marx Nudes. Disturbing and provocative, the photographs shadowed the family long past the public outcry and media attention. Now, decades later, both the Museum of Modern Art and Hollywood have come calling, eager to cash in on Bea's mother's notoriety. Twice divorced from but still entangled with aging rock star Gary Going, Bea lives in Manhattan with her borrowed dog, Dory, and sort-of sister, Echo. After years of avoiding her past, Bea must make a choice: let the world in—be compensated for the trauma of her childhood—or leave it all locked away in a storage unit forever.

Carry the Dog sweeps readers into Bea's world as the little girl in the photographs and the woman in the mirror meet at the blurry intersection of memory and truth, vulnerability and resilience.

Contributor Bio
Stephanie Gangi is a poet, essayist, and novelist. Her award-winning poem, "Four," was published in the Hippocratic Prize Anthology. Her acclaimed debut novel, The Next, was a finalist in the Writers@Work Annual Writing Competition. Her essays have been published in Literary Hub, Catapult, The Woolfer, Bust, TueNight, and NextTribe. Gangi wrote the first draft of Carry the Dog at the Leopardi Writing Conference in Recanati, Italy, after winning the Jeannine Cooney Scholarship for Excellence in Fiction. She lives in New York City.

Quotes
"A witty, startlingly astute dispatch from the societal graveyard of middle-aged women." — People

"A book about resilience, and the imperative of defining yourself to yourself, and a riveting reminder that nothing in this life is ever too late. I loved it." — Mary Beth Keane, author of Ask Again, Yes

"Magnificent . . . A dark, utterly convincing exploration of family trauma and individual survival . . . It's easy to forget that Carry the Dog is fiction; it feels deeply real, like a true memoir from a slightly alternate world just beyond our reach."

— The New York Journal of Books

"Bea is an irresistible character." — Booklist, starred review

Marketing Plans
- Select author appearances
- National media campaign, including paperback roundups and original essays
- National print, digital, and social media advertising campaign targeting top women's and literary sites
- Extensive outreach to book clubs
- Bound-in reader's guide, including questions for discussion
- Comprehensive social media campaign, including outreach to bookstagrammers
Honor
Thrity Umrigar

Summary
THE JANUARY 2022 REESE'S BOOK CLUB PICK, NOW IN PAPERBACK

"In the way A Thousand Splendid Suns told of Afghanistan's women, Thrity Umrigar tells a story of India with the intimacy of one who knows the many facets of a land both modern and ancient, awash in contradictions." —Lisa Wingate, #1 New York Times bestselling author of Before We Were Yours

Indian American journalist Smita has returned to India to cover a story, but reluctantly: long ago she and her family left the country with no intention of ever coming back. As she follows the case of Meena—a Hindu woman attacked by members of her own village and her own family for marrying a Muslim man—Smita comes face to face with a society where tradition carries more weight than one's own heart, and a story that threatens to unearth the painful secrets of Smita's own past. While Meena's fate hangs in the balance, Smita tries in every way she can to right the scales. She also finds herself increasingly drawn to Mohan, an Indian man she meets while on assignment. But the dual love stories of Honor are as different as the cultures of Meena and Smita themselves: Smita realizes she has the freedom to enter into a casual affair, knowing she can decide later how much it means to her.

In this tender and evocative novel about love, hope, familial devotion, betrayal, and sacrifice, Thrity Umrigar shows us two courageous women trying to navigate how to be true to their homelands and themselves at the same time.

Contributor Bio
Thrity Umrigar is the bestselling author of eight novels, including The Space Between Us, which was a finalist for the PEN/Beyond Margins Award, as well as a memoir and three picture books. Her books have been translated into several languages and published in more than fifteen countries. She is the winner of a Lambda Literary Award and a Seth Rosenberg Award and is Distinguished Professor of English at Case Western Reserve University. She has contributed to the Boston Globe, the Washington Post, the New York Times, and Huffington Post.

Quotes
"Honor is about an Indian-American journalist named Smita who returns to India on assignment. The story she's covering is an emotionally riddled one that utilizes the lives of characters to portray the cultural realities of India, both new and old. Her experiences lift the veil on the complexities of journalism and leave Smita questioning her boundaries as a reporter. Complex and unfiltered, these are the type of characters that stick with you long after you turn the pages . . . Powerful story about family, devotion, and cultural truths all through the eyes of an incredible journalist."
—Reese Witherspoon, Reese's Book Club

"Utterly engrossing . . . With insight and compassion, Umrigar writes masterfully about the complexities of hatred and love, estrangement and belonging, oppression and privilege, about holding on and letting go. A powerful, important, unforgettable book."
—Cheryl Strayed, #1 New York Times bestselling author of Wild

Marketing Plans

• Select author appearances
• National media campaign, including paperback roundups and original essays
• National digital and social media advertising campaign
• Promotion and partnership outreach to book club influencers
• Bound-in reader's guide, along with a downloadable book club kit
• Comprehensive social media campaign focusing on BookTok, bookstagram, and BookTube
Pump
A Natural History of the Heart
Bill Schutt

Summary
"Fascinating . . . Surprising entertainment, combining deep learning with dad jokes . . . [Schutt] is a natural teacher with an easy way with metaphor."
—The Wall Street Journal

In this lively, unexpected look at the hearts of animals—from fish to bats to humans—American Museum of Natural History zoologist Bill Schutt tells an incredible story of evolution and scientific progress.

We join Schutt on a tour from the origins of circulation, still evident in microorganisms today, to the tiny hardworking pumps of worms, to the golf-cart-size hearts of blue whales. We visit beaches where horseshoe crabs are being harvested for their blood, which has properties that can protect humans from deadly illnesses. We learn that when temperatures plummet, some frog hearts can freeze solid for weeks, resuming their beat only after a spring thaw. And we journey with Schutt through human history, too, as philosophers and scientists hypothesize, often wrongly, about what makes our ticker tick. Schutt traces humanity's cardiac fascination from the ancient Greeks and Egyptians, who believed that the heart contains the soul, all the way up to modern-day laboratories, where scientists use animal hearts and even plants as the basis for many of today's cutting-edge therapies.

Written with verve and authority, weaving evolutionary perspectives with cultural history, Pump shows us this mysterious organ in a completely new light.

Contributor Bio
Bill Schutt is a vertebrate zoologist and author of six nonfiction and fiction books, including Pump: A Natural History of the Heart and the New York Times Editor's Choice, Cannibalism: A Perfectly Natural History. Recently retired from his post as professor of biology at LIU Post, he is a research associate at the American Museum of Natural History, where he has studied bats all over the world. His research has been featured in Natural History magazine as well as in the New York Times, Newsday, the Economist, and Discover.

Quotes
"[A] show-stopping exploration of cardiac biology . . . Informative, playful, and impossible to put down."
—Publishers Weekly, starred review

"An easy-to-read and fascinating look into the complexity and wonder of the heart in its many forms." —Booklist

Marketing Plans

- Select author appearances
- National media campaign, including TV, radio, and podcast interviews
- National print and online campaign, including roundups and original essays
- National print, digital, and social media advertising campaign targeting readers of Mary Roach and Bill Bryson
- Promotion and outreach to heart health organizations, museums, and science advocacy groups
- Bound-in reader's guide, including questions for discussion
- Comprehensive social media campaign
- Quote graphics campaign, including Algonquin's social media platforms, Edelweiss, and e-newsletters
The Genome Defense
Inside the Epic Legal Battle to Determine Who Owns Your DNA
Jorge L. Contreras

Summary
In this riveting, behind-the-scenes courtroom drama, a brilliant legal team battles corporate greed and government overreach for our fundamental right to control our genes.

When attorney Chris Hansen learned that the U.S. government was issuing patents for human genes to biotech companies, he thought, How can a corporation own what makes us who we are? Then he discovered that women were being charged exorbitant fees to test for hereditary breast and ovarian cancers, tests they desperately needed, all because Myriad Genetics had patented the famous BRCA genes. So he sued them.

Jorge L. Contreras, one of the nation’s foremost authorities on human genetics law, has devoted years to investigating the groundbreaking civil rights case known as AMP v. Myriad. In The Genome Defense, he gives us the view from inside as Hansen and his team of ACLU lawyers, along with a group of activists, scientists, and physicians, take their one-in-a-million case all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court. Contreras interviewed more than a hundred key players involved in all aspects of the case—from judges and policy makers to ethicists and genetic counselors, as well as cancer survivors and those whose lives would be impacted by the decision—expertly weaving together their stories into a fascinating narrative of this pivotal moment in history.

The Genome Defense is a powerful and compelling story about how society must balance scientific discovery with corporate profits and the rights of all people.

Contributor Bio
Jorge L. Contreras received his law degree from Harvard and teaches intellectual property, science policy and the law and ethics of genetics at the University of Utah, and has served on high-level governmental advisory committees. His articles have appeared in Science, Nature, Harvard Journal of Law and Technology, among others. He has been featured on NPR, PRI and BBC radio, and his opinions are cited in the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, the Economist, and the Washington Post.

Quotes
“A compelling and thoroughly researched narrative history of a seminal lawsuit.” —The Wall Street Journal

“Ably and affectinglly detailed . . . This story stands as a guide to the forces that shape an increasingly important industry—and to the vexed influence of patents.” —Nature

“[A] behind-the-scenes history of Molecular Pathology vs. Myriad Genetics, a long-shot lawsuit that culminated in a landmark 2013 Supreme Court decision that opened the human genome to the benefit of researchers, cancer patients and everyday Americans.” —The New York Times Book Review (“11 New Works of Nonfiction to Read This Season”)
Volunteers
Growing Up in the Forever War
Jerad W. Alexander

Summary
"Riveting and morally complex, Volunteers is not only an insider's account of war. It takes you inside the increasingly closed culture that creates our warriors." —Elliott Ackerman, author of the National Book Award finalist Dark at the Crossing

As a child, Jerad W. Alexander lay in bed listening to the fighter jets take off outside his window and was desperate to be airborne. As a teenager at an American base in Japan, he immersed himself in war games, war movies, and pulpy novels about Vietnam. Obsessed with all things military, he grew up playing with guns, joined the Civil Air Patrol for the uniform, and reveled in the closed and safe life "inside the castle," within the embrace of the armed forces, the only world he knew or could imagine. Most of all, he dreamed of enlisting—like his mother, father, stepfather, and grandfather before him—and playing his part in the Great American War Story.

He joined the US Marines straight out of high school, eager for action. Once in Iraq, however, he came to realize he was fighting a lost cause, enmeshed in the ongoing War on Terror that was really just a fruitless display of American might. The myths of war, the stories of violence and masculinity and heroism, the legacy of his family—everything Alexander had planned his life around—was a mirage.

Alternating scenes from childhood with skirmishes in the Iraqi desert, this original and propulsive memoir introduces a powerful new voice in the literature of war. Alexander—not some elite warrior, but a simple volunteer—delivers a passionate and timely reckoning with the troubled and cyclical truths of the American war machine.

Contributor Bio
Jerad W. Alexander has written for Esquire, Rolling Stone, The Nation, Narratively, and elsewhere. He holds an MFA in Literary Reportage from the New York University Arthur L. Carter School of Journalism. From 1998 to 2006, he served as a U.S. Marine, deploying to the Mediterranean, East Africa, and Iraq. He grew up on military bases, from the east coast of the United States to Japan. He currently lives in New York City, but calls Atlanta home.

Quotes
"A beautiful and powerfully affecting portrait of a boyhood in a military family." —Phil Klay, National Book Award-winning author of Redeployment and Missionaries

"An absolute triumph." —Jared Yates Sexton, author of American Rule

"An absorbing memoir reflecting the realities of serving in the modern-day military." —Kirkus Reviews

"A beautiful, dark chronicle of an American life and lineage shaped by empire. This testament to moral and physical courage deserves all the accolades about to come its way and more. Volunteers is exceptional."
—Matt Gallagher, author of Youngblood and Empire City

Marketing Plans

- Select author appearances
- National media campaign, including paperback roundups and original essays
- National print, digital, and social media advertising campaign
- Bound-in reader's guide, including questions for discussion
- Comprehensive social media campaign
- Outreach to and partnerships with organizations such as Iraq Veterans for Peace
Title Index

Algonquin Books: Fall 2022

B
Book of Delights, The ....................... 3

C
Carry the Dog ............................ 10
Complicities, The ......................... 4

F
Factory Girls ............................. 9
Fatty Fatty Boom Boom ................. 7

G
Genome Defense, The .................... 13

H
Honor ..................................... 11

I
I Am the Light of This World .......... 8
Inciting Joy ............................. 2

L
Lark Ascending ........................... 5

P
Pump ...................................... 12

S
Somewhere Sisters ....................... 6

V
Volunteers ............................... 14