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In this groundbreaking work, sociologist James W. Loewen, author of the classic bestseller *Lies My Teacher Told Me*, brings to light decades of hidden racial exclusion in America. In a provocative, sweeping analysis of American residential patterns, Loewen uncovers the thousands of “sundown towns”—almost exclusively white towns where it was an unspoken rule that blacks weren’t welcome—that cropped up throughout the twentieth century, most of them located outside of the South.

Written with Loewen’s trademark honesty and thoroughness, *Sundown Towns* won the Gustavus Myers Outstanding Book Award, received starred reviews in *Publishers Weekly* and *Booklist*, and launched a nationwide online effort to track down and catalog sundown towns across America.

In a new preface, Loewen puts this history in the context of current controversies around white supremacy and the Black Lives Matter movement. He revisits sundown towns and finds the number way down, but with notable exceptions in exclusive all-white suburbs such as Kenilworth, Illinois, which as of 2010 had not a single black household. And, although many former sundown towns are now integrated, they often face “second-generation sundown town issues,” such as in Ferguson, Missouri, a former sundown town that is now majority black, but with a majority-white police force.

**James W. Loewen** is the bestselling and award-winning author of *Lies My Teacher Told Me*, *Lies Across America*, *Lies My Teacher Told Me About Christopher Columbus*, and *Sundown Towns*, all published by The New Press. He has won the American Book Award, the Oliver Cromwell Cox Award for Distinguished Anti-Racist Scholarship, the Spirit of America Award from the National Council for the Social Studies, and the Gustavus Myers Outstanding Book Award. Loewen is professor emeritus of sociology at the University of Vermont and lives in Washington, DC.
Lies My Teacher Told Me
Everything Your American History Textbook Got Wrong

JAMES W. LOEWEN
WITH A NEW PREFACE BY THE AUTHOR

NOW IN PAPERBACK FROM THE NEW PRESS A NEW EDITION OF THE NATIONAL BESTSELLER AND AMERICAN BOOK AWARD WINNER WITH A NEW PREFACE BY THE AUTHOR

Every teacher, every student of history, every citizen should read this book. It is both a refreshing antidote to what has passed for history in our educational system and a one-volume education in itself.

—HOWARD ZINN

Since its first publication in 1995, Lies My Teacher Told Me has become one of the most important—and successful—history books of our time. Having sold nearly two million copies, the book also won an American Book Award and the Oliver Cromwell Cox Award for Distinguished Anti-Racist Scholarship and was heralded on the front page of the New York Times in the summer of 2006.

For this new edition, Loewen has added a new preface that shows how it is that inadequate history courses in high school have helped produce adult Americans who think that Donald Trump can solve their problems, and calls out academic historians for abandoning the truth in a misguided effort to be “objective.”

What started out as a survey of the twelve leading American history textbooks has ended up being what the San Francisco Chronicle calls “an extremely convincing plea for truth in education.” In Lies My Teacher Told Me, James W. Loewen brings history alive in all its complexity and ambiguity. Beginning with pre-Columbian history and ranging over characters and events as diverse as Reconstruction, Helen Keller, the first Thanksgiving, the My Lai massacre, 9/11, and the Iraq War, Loewen offers an eye-opening critique of existing textbooks, and a wonderful retelling of American history as it should—and could—be taught to American students.

Winner of the American Book Award
Winner of the Oliver Cromwell Cox Award for Distinguished Anti-Racist Scholarship

A lively critique.
—THE NEW YORK TIMES

Loewen’s book contains so much history that it ends up functioning not just as a critique, but also as a kind of counter-textbook that retells the story of the American past.
—THE NATION

Remarkable.
—USA TODAY

Honest and well-written.
—HARPER’S MAGAZINE

An extremely convincing plea for truth in education.
—SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE

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6 1/4” x 9 1/4”, 480 pages
American History/Education

WWW.THENEWPRESS.COM
From the Folks Who Brought You the Weekend
An Illustrated History of Labor in the United States

REVISED AND UPDATED EDITION

PRISCILLA MUROLO AND A.B. CHITTY
WITH ILLUSTRATIONS BY JOE SACCO

A comprehensive history of American labor. . . . Enlivened and diverted by the humorous cartoon narratives of Joe Sacco.
—THE WASHINGTON POST

An enjoyable introduction to American working-class history.
—THE AMERICAN PROSPECT

Thoroughly includes the contributions of women, Native Americans, African Americans, immigrants, and minorities, and considers events often ignored in other histories.
—BOOKLIST

Just published
Paperback, 978-1-62097-448-3
Ebook, 978-1-62097-449-0
$19.99 / $29.99 CAN
6 ¼” x 9 ¼”, 416 pages with 30 b&w images
History/Sociology

A marvelously informed, carefully crafted, far-ranging history of working people.
—NOAM CHOMSKY

Hailed as a work of “impressive even-handedness and analytic acuity” (Publishers Weekly, starred review), From the Folks Who Brought You the Weekend has set the standard for viewing American history through the prism of working people. From indentured servants and slaves in seventeenth-century Chesapeake to high-tech workers in contemporary Silicon Valley, the book “[puts] a human face on the people, places, events, and social conditions that have shaped the evolution of organized labor” (Library Journal), enlivened by numerous full-page illustrations throughout from the celebrated comics journalist Joe Sacco.

In this fully updated new edition, authors Priscilla Murolo and A.B. Chitty have added a wealth of fresh analysis of labor’s role in American life, with new material on sex workers, disability issues, labor’s relation to the global justice movement and the immigrants’ rights movement, the 2005 split in the AFL-CIO and the movement civil wars that followed, and the crucial emergence of worker centers and their relationships to unions. With two entirely new chapters—one on global developments, from the movement of jobs offshore to the emergence of modern global union federations, and a second on the 2016 election and unions’ relationships to Trump—From the Folks Who Brought You the Weekend will remain the standard, “comprehensive history of American labor” (The Washington Post).

Lower Ed
The Troubling Rise of For-Profit Colleges in the New Economy

TRESSIE McMILLAN COTTOM

NOW IN PAPERBACK AS FEATURED ON THE DAILY SHOW, NPR’S MARKETPLACE, AND FRESH AIR, THE “POWERFUL, CHILLING TALE” (CAROL ANDERSON, AUTHOR OF WHITE RAGE) OF HIGHER EDUCATION BECOMING AN ENGINE OF SOCIAL INEQUALITY

McMillan Cottom has written the best book yet on the complex lives and choices of for-profit students.
—DANA GOLDSTEIN FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW

Published to rave reviews and a flurry of media buzz—including a laudatory tweet from none other than Oprah herself—Lower Ed is quickly becoming the definitive book on an economic and social phenomenon that has shaken the very core of opportunity in America. With sharp insight and deliberate acumen, Tressie McMillan Cottom, an associate professor of sociology who was once a recruiter at two for-profit colleges, expertly parses the fraught dynamics of the big-money industry of for-profit colleges, the fastest growing sector of higher education at the turn of the twenty-first century.

Drawing on more than one hundred interviews with students, employees, executives, and activists, Lower Ed details the benefits, pitfalls, and real costs of the expansion of for-profit colleges. Featured by Newsweek, The Atlantic, Vibe magazine, Mother Jones, the Chronicle of Higher Education, Slate, Pacific Standard, and several other outlets, this is a smart, essential look at our nation’s broken social contracts and the challenges we face in our divided, unequal society.

Tressie McMillan Cottom is an assistant professor of sociology at Virginia Commonwealth University. Her work has been featured by the Washington Post, NPR’s Fresh Air, The Daily Show, the New York Times, Slate, and The Atlantic, among others. She lives in Richmond, Virginia.

A New York Times Editor’s Choice book
Compelling, unforgettable, and deeply necessary.
—ROXANE GAY, AUTHOR OF HUNGER AND BAD FEMINIST

A must-read.
—RUTH MILKMAN, PAST PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

Anyone frustrated with high college prices, student debt, or the diminishing sense of hope surrounding so many communities needs to read this book.
—SARA GOLDRICK-RAB, AUTHOR OF PAYING THE PRICE

The best book I’ve read on for-profit (or shareholder) colleges and universities.
—WILLIAM A. DARITY JR, DUKE UNIVERSITY

Just published
Paperback, 978-1-62097-438-4
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$18.99 / $28.50 CAN
5 ½” x 8 ¼”, 240 pages
Education
(Hardcover edition: 978-1-62097-060-7)
Money Rock
A Family’s Story of Cocaine, Race, and Ambition in the New South
PAM KELLEY

MEET MONEY ROCK, A CHARISMATIC YOUNG MAN—AND CHARLOTTE’S FLASHIEST DEALER—AT THE CENTER OF A DECADES-SPANNING AND EYE-OPENING, RIVETING SOCIAL HISTORY, IN THE TRADITION OF GHETTOSIDE

To be a poor man is hard, but to be a poor race in a land of dollars is the very bottom of hardships.
—W.E.B. DU BOIS

Money Rock is the gripping story—by turns action-packed, uplifting, and tragic—of a striving African American family, swept up and transformed by the 1980s cocaine epidemic. This epic account begins in 1963 when Belton Lamont Platt (who would come to be known as Money Rock) is born in a newly integrated North Carolina hospital to Carrie, an activist mother. It ends with Belton’s sons, three of whom die violently as teenagers, and one—his oldest—who’s trying to transcend a criminal past in a world where the odds are stacked against him.

Veteran reporter Pam Kelley takes readers through a shootout that shocks the city, a botched FBI sting, and a trial with a judge known as “Maximum Bob.” Yet Money Rock transcends the dramatic details, illuminating the power of family and the near impossibility of creating lasting change without reckoning with the sins of the past. This intimate journey shows the social forces and public policies shaping the choices of characters both brilliant and flawed, complex people whose lives are often oversimplified and undervalued. Readers will find in Money Rock a deeply American story, one that shouldn’t be possible, let alone common.

A former reporter for the Charlotte Observer, Pam Kelley has won honors from the National Press Club and the Society for Features Journalism. She contributed to a subprime mortgage exposé that was a finalist for the 2008 Pulitzer Prize for Public Service. She lives in North Carolina. This is her first book.

• 75% of crack cocaine users are white or Hispanic, but nearly 85% of people in federal prison for crack offenses are black.
• Because of the crack epidemic and the harsh, racially discriminatory policies of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act, one in three black men will see the inside of a jail cell.

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$26.99 / $40.50 CAN
5 ¼” x 8 ¼”, 288 pages with 20 b&w images
African American Studies
Tough Cases
Judges Tell the Stories About Some of the Hardest Decisions They've Ever Made

EDITED BY RUSSELL CANAN, FREDERICK WEISBERG, AND GREGORY MIZE

When a judge sits in judgment over a fellow man, he should feel as if a sword is pointed at his own heart.
—THE TALMUD

Prosecutors and defense attorneys have it easy—all they have to do is to present the evidence and make arguments. It's the judges who have the heavy lift: they are the ones who have to make the ultimate decisions, many of which have profound consequences on the lives of the people standing in front of them.

In Tough Cases, judges from different kinds of courts in different parts of the country write about cases that proved difficult for them to decide: the Elián González case about whether to return a seven-year-old boy to his father in Cuba after his mother drowned trying to bring the child to the United States, or the Terri Schiavo case about whether to withdraw life support from a woman in a vegetative state over the wishes of her parents, or the Scooter Libby case about appropriate consequences for revealing the name of a CIA agent. Others are less well-known but equally fascinating: a judge on a Native American court trying to balance U.S. law with tribal law, a young Korean American former defense attorney struggling to adapt to her new responsibilities on the other side of the bench, and the difficult decisions faced by a judge tasked with assessing the mental health of a woman who has killed her own children.

Relatively few judges have publicly shared the thought processes behind their decision making. Tough Cases makes for fascinating reading for everyone from armchair attorneys and fans of Law and Order to those actively involved in the legal profession who want insight into the people judging their work.

Russell Canan and Frederick Weisberg are currently associate judges for the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, where they live. Gregory Mize is a former judge for the Superior Court of the District of Columbia and is currently a judicial fellow at the National Center for State Courts and an adjunct professor at the Georgetown University Law Center. He lives in Washington, DC.
Your book was . . . like a bag of pot, with me saying, “I’m not gonna smoke.” But I was insatiable.
—QUENTIN TARANTINO ON PETER BISKIND’S EASY RIDERS, RAGING BULLS

Almost everything has been invoked to account for Trump’s victory and the rise of alt-right, from job loss to racism to demography—everything, that is, except popular culture. In The Sky Is Falling bestselling cultural journalist Peter Biskind dives headlong into two decades of popular culture—from superhero franchises such as the Dark Knight, X-Men, and the Avengers and series like The Walking Dead and Game of Thrones to thrillers like Homeland and 24—and emerges to argue that these shows are saturated with the values that are currently animating our extreme politics.

Where once centrist institutions and their agents—cops and docs, soldiers and scientists, as well as educators, politicians, and “experts” of every stripe—were glorified by mainstream Hollywood, the heroes of today’s movies and TV, whether far right or far left, have overthrown this quaint ideological consensus. Many of our shows dramatize extreme circumstances—an apocalypse of one sort or another—that require extreme behavior to deal with, behavior such as revenge, torture, lying, and even the vigilante violence traditionally discouraged in mainstream entertainment.

In this bold, provocative, and witty investigation, Biskind shows how extreme culture now calls the shots. It has become, in effect, the new mainstream.

Peter Biskind is a contributing editor to Vanity Fair, a writer for Esquire, and the author of the classic bestsellers Easy Riders, Raging Bulls and Down and Dirty Pictures. He lives in upstate New York.
A History of America in Ten Strikes

ERIK LOOMIS

A thrilling and timely account of ten moments in history when labor challenged the very nature of power in America, by the author called “a brilliant historian” by The Progressive Magazine

A brilliantly recounted American history through the prism of major labor struggles, with critically important lessons for those who seek a better future for working people and the world.

—NOAM CHOMSKY

Powerful and accessible, A History of America in Ten Strikes challenges all of our contemporary assumptions around labor, unions, and American workers. In this brilliant book, labor historian Erik Loomis recounts ten critical workers’ strikes in American labor history that everyone needs to know about (and then provides an annotated list of the 150 most important moments in American labor history in the appendix). From the Lowell Mill Girls strike in the 1830s to Justice for Janitors in 1990, these labor uprisings both reflect the times in which they occurred and speak directly to the present moment.

For example, we often think that Lincoln ended slavery by proclaiming the slaves emancipated, but Loomis shows that they freed themselves during the Civil War by simply withdrawing their labor. He shows how the hopes and aspirations of a generation were made into demands at a GM plant in Lordstown in 1972. And he takes us to the forests of the Pacific Northwest in the early nineteenth century where the radical organizers known as the Wobblies made their biggest inroads against the power of bosses. But there were also moments when the movement was crushed by corporations and the government; Loomis helps us understand the present perilous condition of American workers and draws lessons from both the victories and defeats of the past.

In crystalline prose, labor historian Erik Loomis lifts the curtain on workers’ struggles, giving us a truly fresh perspective on American history from the bottom up.

Erik Loomis is an assistant professor of history at the University of Rhode Island. He blogs at Lawyers, Guns, and Money on labor and environmental issues past and present. His work has also appeared in AlterNet, Truthout, and Salon. The author of Out of Sight (The New Press) as well as Empire of Timber, he lives in Providence, Rhode Island.
A FEW THOUSAND DOLLARS

SPARKING PROSPERITY FOR EVERYONE

ROBERT E. FRIEDMAN

A GUIDE TO MAKING THE U.S. ECONOMY WORK FOR EVERYONE, BY A LEADING ADVOCATE OF ASSET DEVELOPMENT

The American people—all the American people, especially those who have been left out and sidelined by past investments—deserve a realistic chance at going to college, buying a home, starting a business. This is the way an economy grows.

FROM A FEW THOUSAND DOLLARS

One-fifth of this nation is un- or underbanked, mired in debt, and facing an average $2,400 a year in interest, fines, and fees.

Almost half the country lacks the liquid savings to survive three months at the poverty line if their major form of income were to be disrupted.

This figure rises to three-fifths of African Americans, Latinos, and other communities of color.

A few thousand dollars means being able to weather the inevitable illness and accidents that otherwise knock down into a debt spiral.

The majority of Americans do not have a few thousand dollars to weather an unexpected illness, job loss, or accident. Most Americans, including 80 percent of people of color, are locked out of the mainstream economy, unable to add their talents, work, and dreams, unable to share in the bounty of this economy. Without a nest egg most Americans cannot invest in their future—and the future of our country—through saving, entrepreneurship, education, and homeownership. We can—and we should—do better.

Longtime leader in the field of asset-building Robert E. Friedman demonstrates how a few simple policy changes would address wealth inequality—and build a better economy and a stronger country for us all. In six sharp, compelling chapters, accented by sixteen original black-and-white illustrations by Rohan Eason that present the realities of income and asset inequality and explain the needed policy interventions, Friedman addresses savings, business, education, home, and prosperity to articulate a vision for making inclusive investments without spending an additional dollar, just by transforming tax subsidies for the wealthy few into seeds for prosperity for everyone. This is an investment with a huge return: the redemption of the American promise of prosperity for all.

Robert E. Friedman is founder and general counsel of Prosperity Now, formerly the Corporation for Enterprise Development (CFED), a thirty-nine-year-old national economic development nonprofit. He helped create the U.S. microenterprise and savings and asset-building fields and the international enterprise development and child savings fields. He lives in San Mateo, California.
People Like Us
The New Wave of Candidates Knocking at Democracy's Door

SAYU BHOJWANI

THE INSPIRING STORY OF POLITICAL NEWCOMERS (SOMETIMES ALSO NEWCOMERS TO AMERICA) WHO ARE KNOCKING DOWN THE BUILT-IN BARRIERS TO CREATING BETTER GOVERNMENT

Democracy is never a final achievement. It is a call to an untiring effort.
—JOHN F. KENNEDY

The system is rigged: America's political leadership remains overwhelmingly white, male, moneyed, and Christian. Even at the local and state levels, elected office is inaccessible to the people it aims to represent. But in People Like Us, political scientist Sayu Bhojwani shares the stories of a diverse and persevering range of local and state politicians from across the country who are challenging the status quo, winning against all odds, and leaving a path for others to follow in their wake.

In Anaheim, California, a previously undocumented Mexican American challenges the high-powered interests of the Disney Corporation to win a city council seat. In the Midwest, a thirty-something Muslim Somali American unseats a forty-four-year incumbent in the Minnesota house of representatives. These are some of the foreign-born, lower-income, and of-color Americans who have successfully taken on leadership roles in elected office despite xenophobia, political gatekeeping, and personal financial concerns. In accessible prose, Bhojwani shines a light on the political and cultural roadblocks that prevent government from effectively representing a rapidly changing America, and offers forward-thinking solutions on how to get rid of them.

People Like Us serves as a road map for the burgeoning democracy that has been a long time in the making: inclusive, multiracial, and unstoppable.

Sayu Bhojwani is the founder and president of New American Leaders, the only national organization focused on preparing immigrant leaders to run for public office at the local and state levels. She served as New York City's first commissioner of immigrant affairs and lives in New York. This is her first book.

• White men make up 31% of the population and hold 65% of the elected positions in state and local government.
• Latinx and Asian Americans are the fastest-growing immigrant groups, but hold only 2% of the 500,000 local and state elected offices.
• By the 2020 census, more than half of all children will be from a racial minority group.

State of Resistance: What California’s Dizzying Descent and Remarkable Resurgence Mean for America’s Future
Manuel Pastor

October
Hardcover, 978-1-62097-414-8
$24.99 / $37.50 CAN
5 1/4" x 7 1/4", 208 pages
Current Affairs & Politics

WWW.THENEWPRESS.COM 13
The book’s deceptive directness and simplicity, and its muted undercurrents of horror, will make many think of . . . Ernest Hemingway. . . . A reminder of the power a short, perfect work of fiction can wield.

—THE WALL STREET JOURNAL ON A MEAL IN WINTER

Hubert Mingarelli’s simple, powerful, and moving stories of men in combat have established him as one of the most exciting new voices in international fiction.

In Four Soldiers he tells the story of four young soldiers in 1919, members of the Red Army during the Russian civil war. It is set in the harsh dead of winter, just as the soldiers set up camp in a forest in Galicia near the Romanian front line. Due to a lull in fighting, their days are taken up with the mundane tasks of trying to scratch together what food and comforts they can find, all the time while talking, smoking, and waiting. Waiting specifically for spring to come. Waiting for their battalion to move on. Waiting for the inevitable resumption of violence.

Recalling great works like Isaac Babel’s Red Cavalry, Ernest Hemingway’s A Farewell to Arms, and Stephen Crane’s The Red Badge of Courage, Four Soldiers is a timeless and tender story of young male friendships and the small, idyllic moments of happiness that can illuminate the darkness of war.

Hubert Mingarelli is the author of numerous novels and short story collections, as well as fiction for young adults. His novel A Meal in Winter was shortlisted for the 2014 Independent Foreign Fiction Prize and was selected by Indies Introduce in the United States. He lives in Grenoble. Sam Taylor is an acclaimed translator and novelist who lives in Texas. His translations include A Meal in Winter by Hubert Mingarelli (The New Press), Special Envoy by Jean Echenoz (The New Press), The Arab of the Future by Riad Sattouf, and the award-winning HHhH by Laurent Binet.

Praise for Hubert Mingarelli’s A Meal in Winter:

Stark and profound.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES

The command of tone and voice sustains tension until the very last page of a novel that will long resonate in the reader’s conscience.

—KIRKUS REVIEWS (STARRED REVIEW)

Brilliant, devastating, [and] compelling.

—SIMON SEBAG MONTEFIORE, AUTHOR OF THE ROMANOVS
The Pyrenees have often been slighted by comparison with the Alps. But in some respects the Pyrenees are the more impressive chain; harsher and more rugged, a nearly impenetrable frontier.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES

With the Catalonia crisis making international headlines, the unique cultural and geographic region bordering Spain and France has once again moved to the center of the world’s attention. In The Savage Frontier, acclaimed author and journalist Matthew Carr uncovers the fascinating, multilayered story of the Pyrenees region—at once a forbidding, mountainous frontier zone of stunning beauty, home to a unique culture, and a site of sharp conflict between nations and empires.

Carr follows the routes taken by monks, soldiers, poets, pilgrims, and refugees. He examines the people and events that have shaped the Pyrenees across the centuries, with a cast of characters including Napoleon, Hannibal, and Charlemagne; the eccentric British climber Henry Russell; Francisco Sabaté Llopart, the Catalan anarchist who waged a lone war against the Franco regime for years after the civil war; Camino de Santiago pilgrims; and the cellist Pablo Casals, who spent twenty-three years in exile only a few miles from the Spanish border to show his disgust and disapproval of the Spanish regime.

The Savage Frontier is a book that will spark a new awareness and appreciation of one of the most haunting, magical, and dramatic landscapes on earth.

Matthew Carr is the author of several books of nonfiction, including Blood and Faith (The New Press), and a novel, The Devils of Cardona. He has written for a variety of publications, including the New York Times, The Observer, The Guardian, and others. He lives in the United Kingdom.
The Meaning of Life
The Case for Abolishing Life Sentences

MARC MAUER AND ASHLEY NELLIS
FEATURING SIX PORTRAITS OF LIFERS BY KERRY MYERS

I can think of no authors more qualified to research the complex impact of life sentences than Marc Mauer and Ashley Nellis. They have the expertise to track down the information that all citizens need to know and the skills to translate that research into accessible and powerful prose.

—HEATHER ANN THOMPSON, AUTHOR OF THE PULITZER PRIZE–WINNING BLOOD IN THE WATER

Most Western democracies have few or no people serving life sentences, yet here in the United States over 200,000 people are sentenced to die in prison.

Marc Mauer and Ashley Nellis of The Sentencing Project argue that there is no practical or moral justification for a sentence longer than twenty years. Harsher sentences have been shown to have little effect on crime rates, since people “age out” of crime—meaning that we’re spending a fortune on geriatric care for older prisoners who are no longer dangerous. Extreme punishment for serious crime also has an inflationary effect on sentences across the spectrum, helping to account for severe mandatory minimums and the criminalization of minor offenses.

A thoughtful and stirring call to action, The Meaning of Life also features moving profiles of a half dozen people currently serving life sentences, written by former “lifer” and award-winning writer Kerry Myers. The book will tie in to a campaign spearheaded by The Sentencing Project and offers a much-needed road map to a more humane criminal justice system.

Marc Mauer is the executive director of The Sentencing Project (a national organization based in Washington, DC, that promotes criminal justice reform), where Ashley Nellis is a senior research analyst. The author of Race to Incarcerate (The New Press), Mauer lives in Silver Spring, Maryland, and Nellis lives in New York City. Kerry Myers served twenty-seven years of a life sentence for a crime he did not commit. He was the recipient of the Thurgood Marshall Journalism Award, among others, and lives in Baton Rouge.
The Make-or-Break Year
Solving the Dropout Crisis One Ninth Grader at a Time

EMILY KRONE PHILLIPS

You’ve got close to educational meltdown here in Chicago. Is there a worse case?
—WILLIAM BENNETT, FORMER U.S. SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

When Pam Glynn, a no-nonsense daughter of immigrants, became the principal of Hancock High School, the students were disengaged, not headed toward college, and the staff was dispirited, detached, and even mutinous. Yet before long, Glynn and others managed to turn one of the state’s worst-performing high schools into one of Chicago’s best.

The Make-or-Break Year weaves together stirring accounts of students and educators from two very different struggling high schools—Hancock and Tilden—with cutting-edge research on the pivotal nature of ninth grade to depict a program-movement: Freshmen OnTrack. Initially envisioned as a dropout prevention strategy, it became a revolution—altering how teachers assigned grades, meted out discipline, and provided social, emotional, and academic support to students.

In a book for anyone who cares about education, justice, or the human costs of widening social inequality, Emily Krone Phillips, a former education reporter and communications director, narrates a riveting story of real change happening within a faulty system. In the tradition of vivid youth dramas including The Prize and There Are No Children Here, The Make-or-Break Year reveals a holistic approach that is transforming lives and tapping the tremendous potential inside America’s urban high schools.

Emily Krone Phillips worked as an education reporter before landing a job as communications director at the University of Chicago Consortium on School Research, where the Freshmen OnTrack research originated and inspired her to write this book. She lives in Chicago.

• More students fail ninth grade than any other grade in high school, and a disproportionate number of these students subsequently drop out.

• Nationwide, almost a quarter of students repeat ninth-grade classes.

• Freshmen who are “on-track” (no more than one F in a core course) are more than three and a half times more likely to graduate from high school in four years than off-track students.

• Freshmen OnTrack is a better predictor of high school graduation than eighth-grade test scores, poverty, race/ethnicity, and gender combined.

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Education
Rigorous, incisive, empathetic, and witty.
—ROXANE GAY

Tressie McMillan Cottom, the writer, professor, and acclaimed author of *Lower Ed*, now brilliantly shifts gears from running regression analyses on college data to unleashing another identity: a purveyor of wit, wisdom—and of course Black Twitter snark—about all that is right and much that is so very wrong about this thing we call society. In the bestselling tradition of bell hooks and Roxane Gay, McMillan Cottom’s freshman collection illuminates a particular trait of her tribe: being thick—in form, and in substance.

This bold compendium, likely to find its place on shelves alongside Lindy West, Rebecca Solnit, and Maggie Nelson, dissects everything from beauty to Obama to pumpkin spice lattes. Yet *Thick* will also fill a void on those very shelves: a modern black American female voice waxing poetic on self and society, serving up a healthy portion of clever prose and southern aphorisms in a style uniquely her own.

McMillan Cottom has crafted a black woman’s cultural bible, as she mines for meaning in places many of us miss and reveals precisely how—when you’re in the thick of it—the political, the social, and the personal are almost always one and the same.

*Tressie McMillan Cottom* is an assistant professor of sociology at Virginia Commonwealth University and the author of *Lower Ed* (The New Press). Her work has been featured by the Washington Post, NPR’s Fresh Air, The Daily Show, the New York Times, Slate, and The Atlantic, among others.
The End of Ice
Bearing Witness and Finding Meaning in the Path of Climate Disruption

DAHR JAMAIL

The author who Jeremy Scahill calls the “quintessential unembedded reporter” visits “hot spots” around the world in a global quest to discover how we will cope with our planet’s changing ecosystems

A superb journalist, in the most honorable tradition of that craft.
—HOWARD ZINN

After nearly a decade overseas as a war reporter, the acclaimed journalist Dahr Jamail returned to America to renew his passion for mountaineering, only to find that the slopes he had once climbed have been irrevocably changed by climate disruption. In response, Jamail embarks on a journey to the geographical front lines of this crisis—from Alaska to Australia’s Great Barrier Reef, via the Amazon rainforest—in order to discover the consequences to nature and to humans of the loss of ice.

In The End of Ice, we follow Jamail as he scales Denali, the highest peak in North America, dives in the warm crystal waters of the Pacific only to find ghostly coral reefs, and explores the tundra of St. Paul Island where he meets the last subsistence seal hunters of the Bering Sea and witnesses its melting glaciers. Accompanied by climate scientists and people whose families have fished, farmed, and lived in the areas he visits for centuries, Jamail begins to accept the fact that Earth, most likely, is in a hospice situation. Ironically, this allows him to renew his passion for the planet’s wild places, cherishing Earth in a way he has never been able to before.

Like no other book, The End of Ice offers a firsthand chronicle—including photographs throughout of Jamail on his journey across the world—of the catastrophic reality of our situation and the incalculable necessity of relishing this vulnerable, fragile planet while we still can.

Dahr Jamail, a Truthout staff reporter, is the author of Beyond the Green Zone: Dispatches from an Unembedded Journalist in Occupied Iraq. Jamail has reported from the Middle East over the last ten years, and he has won the Martha Gellhorn Prize for Journalism. He lives in Washington State.
Free All Along
The Robert Penn Warren Civil Rights Interviews

EDITED BY STEPHEN DRURY SMITH AND CATHERINE ELLIS

A STUNNING COLLECTION OF PREVIOUSLY UNPUBLISHED INTERVIEWS WITH KEY FIGURES OF THE BLACK FREEDOM STRUGGLE BY THE PULITZER PRIZE–WINNING AUTHOR

Includes interviews with:
James Baldwin
Stokely Carmichael
Kenneth Clark
Septima Clark
Ralph Ellison
Charles Evers
Aaron Henry
Martin Luther King Jr.
Robert Moses
Bayard Rustin
Ruth Turner
Wyatt T. Walker
Roy Wilkins
Stephen Wright
Malcolm X

January

This is an expression not of people who are suddenly freed of something, but people who have been free all along.
—RALPH ELLISON, SPEAKING WITH ROBERT PENN WARREN

In 1964, in the height of the civil rights movement of the 1960s, Pulitzer Prize–winning author and poet Robert Penn Warren set out with a tape recorder to interview leaders of the civil rights movement. He spoke with luminaries such as James Baldwin, Martin Luther King Jr., Stokely Carmichael, Ralph Ellison, and Roy Wilkins. In Harlem, a fifteen-minute appointment with Malcolm X unwound into several hours of vivid conversation.

A year later, Penn Warren would publish Who Speaks for the Negro?, a probing narrative account of these conversations that blended his own reflections with brief excerpts and quotations from his interviews. Astonishingly, the full extent of the interviews remained in the background and were never published.

The large collection of audiotapes of Penn Warren’s conversations remained unknown to the public until rediscovered by scholars in recent years. Free All Along brings to life these vital historic voices of America’s civil rights generation, including writers, political activists, religious leaders, and intellectuals.

A major contribution in their own right to our understanding of the struggle for civil rights, these remarkable long-form interviews are presented here as original documents with pressing relevance today.

Stephen Drury Smith is the executive editor and host of American RadioWorks®, the acclaimed documentary unit of American Public Media. He lives in St. Paul, Minnesota. Catherine Ellis is a contributing producer with American RadioWorks® and the founder of Audio Memoir. She lives in Boston, Massachusetts.
Eating Tomorrow
Agribusiness, Family Farmers, and the Battle for the Future of Food

TIMOTHY A. WISE

There is no “we” who feed the world. The world is mainly fed by hundreds of millions of small-scale farmers who grow 70 percent of developing countries’ food.

—FROM EATING TOMORROW

Few challenges are more daunting than feeding a global population projected to reach 9.7 billion in 2050—at a time when climate change is making it increasingly difficult to successfully grow crops. In response, corporate and philanthropic leaders have called for major investments in industrial agriculture, including genetically modified seed technologies. Reporting from Africa, Mexico, India, and the United States, Timothy A. Wise’s Eating Tomorrow discovers how in country after country, agribusiness and its well-heeled philanthropic promoters have actually exacerbated food crises.

Most of the world, Wise reveals, is fed by hundreds of millions of small-scale farmers, people with few resources and simple tools but a keen understanding of what and how to grow. These same farmers—who already grow more than 70 percent of the food eaten in developing countries—can show the way forward as climate rises and population increases. Wise takes readers to remote villages to see how farmers are rebuilding soils with ecologically sound practices and nourishing a diversity of native crops without chemicals or imported seeds. They are growing more and better food; in the process, they are not just victims in the climate drama but protagonists that all of us can learn from.

Timothy A. Wise is a senior researcher at the Small Planet Institute, collaborating with director Frances Moore Lappé to start its new Land and Food Rights Program. He is also a senior research fellow at Tufts University’s Global Development and Environment Institute. He lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

The benefits of small versus big farms:

• Small farmers feed over 70% of the population in developing countries.

• Small farmers’ low-input methods contribute lower levels of greenhouse gases and adapt more effectively to the rapidly changing climate.

• Modern seeds and chemical fertilizers—the new “green revolution for Africa” touted by donors and agribusiness—have done nothing to improve soil fertility.

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Acclaim for Becoming Ms. Burton:

Winner of the NAACP Image Award

Winner of the Goddard Riverside Stephan Russo Book Prize for Social Justice

“Susan Burton is an angel among us.”
—Howard Schultz, executive chairman, Starbucks Coffee Company

“Miraculously inspirational . . . Becoming Ms. Burton is most of all a book about trauma, fair justice, inequality, healing, resiliency and selfless humanity. It is a life changer.”
—Vivian D. Nixon, executive director of College & Community Fellowship and co-founder of the Education from the Inside Out Coalition

“More than just a memoir, this account provides an intimate glimpse into the problems that plague the U.S. prison system.”
—Library Journal

“A dramatic, honest, moving narrative of how hard life can get and how one can still overcome seemingly insurmountable adversity to do good in the world.”
—Kirkus Reviews

“Valuable . . . rarely has such a powerful, personal perspective been made available to us. . . . Our understanding of the criminal justice system is immeasurably strengthened by Susan Burton’s fierce, compassionate, and expressive voice.”
—Los Angeles Review of Books
Becoming Ms. Burton
From Prison to Recovery to Leading the Fight for Incarcerated Women

SUSAN BURTON AND CARI LYNN
WITH A FOREWORD BY MICHELLE ALEXANDER
INCLUDES A READING GROUP GUIDE

NOW IN PAPERBACK  WINNER OF THE PRESTIGIOUS NAACP IMAGE AWARD, A UNIQUELY AMERICAN STORY OF TRAUMA, INCARCERATION, AND “THE BREATHTAKING RESILIENCE OF THE HUMAN SPIRIT” (MICHELLE ALEXANDER)

Susan Burton is a national treasure . . . a stunning memoir [from] a modern-day Harriet Tubman.
—NICHOLAS KRISTOF IN THE NEW YORK TIMES

Widely hailed as a stunning memoir from someone more likely to be locked up or otherwise silenced, Becoming Ms. Burton is the life story of Susan Burton, whose organization A New Way of Life has transformed the lives of more than one thousand formerly incarcerated women in Los Angeles.

In this “stirring and moving tour-de-force” (John Legend), Susan takes us on her own journey through the criminal justice system—from growing up amid poverty and abuse in L.A. to battling addiction after tragically losing her son, and from cycling in and out of prison for more than fifteen years to her transformation into a powerful advocate for “a more humane justice system guided by compassion and dignity” (Booklist, starred review).

Frequently compared to The New Jim Crow and Just Mercy, Becoming Ms. Burton—winner of the Goddard Riverside Stephan Russo Book Prize for Social Justice—is an unforgettable book on the devastating impact of mass incarceration that powerfully shows the structural changes necessary to restore the lives of formerly incarcerated people.

Since 1980, the rate of incarceration for women has risen more than 700%. The majority of these women are imprisoned for nonviolent offenses.

Black women are more than twice as likely to be incarcerated for drug offenses as white women.

It is estimated that as many as 94% of incarcerated women were victims of physical or sexual abuse.

Sixty-five million Americans with a criminal record face a total of 45,000 collateral consequences that restrict everything from employment, professional licensing, child custody rights, housing, student aid, voting, and even the ability to visit an incarcerated loved one.

Over 60% of the formerly incarcerated will still be unemployed a year after release.

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Memoir/Criminal Justice

Susan Burton is the founder and executive director of A New Way of Life, a nonprofit that provides sober housing and other support to formerly incarcerated women. Nationally known as an advocate for restoring basic civil and human rights to those who have served time, Burton was a winner of AARP’s prestigious Purpose Prize and has been a Starbucks® “Upstander,” a CNN Top 10 Hero, and a Soros Justice Fellow. She lives in Los Angeles. Cari Lynn is a journalist and the author of several books, including The Whistleblower and Leg the Spread. She lives in Los Angeles. Michelle Alexander is the author of the bestselling The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness (The New Press). She lives in Ohio.
No matter what the laws of physics decree, there is untold and explosive energy in resistance. Or such is the evidence of the Belarus Free Theatre’s bruising exploration of the dynamics of resistance.

— THE NEW YORK TIMES

In the fall of 2017, the internationally acclaimed underground theater troupe Belarus Free Theatre took New York by storm for a production of their harrowing anti-torture, anti-Putin play *Burning Doors*. Joined by Maria Alyokhina, a member of Russian punk group Pussy Riot, the play met with enthusiastic acclaim from critics, with *New York* magazine praising it as a “smart, smoldering, physically brutal piece of theater.”

In *Svetlana and Nadezhda*, award-winning documentary photographer Misha Friedman and *New Yorker* reporter Masha Gessen take us backstage, giving us an intimate look at this fiercely creative drama troupe that cannot officially perform in its homeland, which remains a dictatorship in all but name.

*Svetlana and Nadezhda* is not only an astonishing series of photos documenting the theater troupe’s recent production in New York, but Gessen and Friedman also visit Minsk to meet Svetlana Sugako and Nadezhda Brodskaya, the young lesbian couple who keep the place running. This book is a moving examination of what it is like to create art under a repressive government and a meditation on how queerness will always be a threat to autocracy.

*Misha Friedman* is an award-winning documentary photographer whose work has appeared in the *New York Times*, the *Los Angeles Times*, and the *New Yorker*. *Maria Alexandrovna “Masha” Gessen* is a Russian and American journalist and the National Book Award-winning author of *The Future Is History*. She lives in New York City.
Night in the American Village
The Women in the Shadow of the U.S. Military Bases on Okinawa

AKEMI JOHNSON

A BEAUTIFULLY WRITTEN EXAMINATION OF THE COMPLEX RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE WOMEN LIVING NEAR THE U.S. BASE IN OKINAWA AND THE SERVICEMEN WHO ARE STATIONED THERE

A lively encounter with identity and American military history in Okinawa. Night in the American Village is by turns intellectual, hip, and sexy. I admire it for its ferocity, style, and vigor.

—ANTHONY SWOFFORD, AUTHOR OF JARHEAD

At the southern end of the Japanese archipelago lies Okinawa, host to a vast complex of U.S. military bases. A legacy of World War II, these bases have been a fraught issue in Japan for decades—with tensions exacerbated by the often volatile relationship between islanders and the military, especially after the rape of a twelve-year-old girl by three servicemen in the 1990s.

But the situation is more complex than it seems. In Night in the American Village, journalist Akemi Johnson takes readers deep into the “border towns” surrounding the bases—a world where cultural and political fault lines compel individuals, both Japanese and American, to continually renegotiate their own identities. Focusing on the women there, she follows the complex fallout of the brutal rape and murder of a Japanese woman by a U.S. serviceman in 2016 and speaks to protesters, to women who date and marry American men and groups that help them when problems arise, and to Okinawans whose family members survived World War II.

Thought-provoking and timely, Night in the American Village is a vivid look at the enduring wounds of U.S.-Japanese history and the cultural and sexual politics of the American military empire.

Akemi Johnson is a journalist and writer who has contributed to NPR’s All Things Considered and Code Switch. She has written about Okinawa for The Nation, Roads & Kingdoms, Off Assignment, and Kyoto Journal. A graduate of the Iowa Writers’ Workshop, Johnson was a 2008-2009 Fulbright scholar in Okinawa. She lives in San Diego.
At a time of thick political and racial tensions, and of heightened worries among people of color, what is a teacher to say when . . .
—FROM “THE KIDS ARE ALT-RIGHT,” BUZZFEED, JUNE 2017

Is it okay to discuss politics in class? How can teachers talk about immigration without putting undocumented students in the spotlight or at risk? What are constructive ways to help young people process the daily news coverage of sexual assault? How can educators engage students around Black Lives Matter? Climate change? Hate speech? Confederate statue controversies?

Lisa Delpit’s Other People’s Children, a classic text on cultural slippage in classrooms, has sold over a quarter million copies. In Teaching When the World Is on Fire, Delpit now turns to a host of crucial issues facing teachers in these tumultuous times. Anchored by a smart introduction that provides a framework for tackling difficult topics with students, Delpit’s master-teacher wisdom tees up insight from high-profile educators including José Luis Vilson, Jesse Hagopian, Bill Ayers, Carla Shalaby, and Mica Pollock, along with critical guidance from K–12 classroom teachers and well-known education networks including Rethinking Schools, the Zinn Education Project, and Facing History and Ourselves.

This timely, urgent volume is sure to inspire teachers who are eager to support their students in navigating the current events, cultural shifts, and social dilemmas that shape our communities, our country, and our world.

Lisa Delpit is the Felton G. Clark Professor of Education at Southern University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, where she lives. She is the author of Other People’s Children and “Multiplication Is for White People” and the co-editor of The Skin That We Speak (all published by The New Press).
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