

The Bassoon King My Life In Art Faith And Idiocy

The Olympic runner, actress, filmmaker and writer Alexi Pappas shares what she's learned about confidence, self-reliance, mental health, embracing pain, and achieving your dreams. NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY REAL SIMPLE • "Heartbreaking and hilarious."—Mindy Kaling • "A beautiful read."—Ruth Reichl • "Essential guidance to anyone dreaming big dreams."—Shalane Flanagan • "I couldn't put it down."—Adam Grant run like a bravey sleep like a baby dream like a crazy replace can't with maybe When "Renaissance runner" (New York Times) Alexi Pappas—Olympic athlete, actress, filmmaker, and writer—was four years old, her mother died by suicide, drastically altering the course of Pappas's life and setting her on a search for female role models. When her father signed his bereaved daughter up for sports teams as a way to keep her busy, female athletes became the first women Pappas looked up to, and her Olympic dream was born. At the same time, Pappas had big creative dreams, too: She wanted to make movies, write, and act. Despite setbacks and hardships, Pappas refused to pick just one lane. She put in a tremendous amount of hard work and wouldn't let anything stand in her way until she achieved all of her dreams, however unrelated they may seem to outsiders. In a single year, 2016, she made her Olympic debut as a distance runner and wrote, directed, and starred in her first feature film. But great highs are often accompanied by deep lows; with joy comes sorrow. In *Bravey*, Pappas fearlessly and honestly shares her battle with post-Olympic depression and describes how she emerged on the other side as a thriving and self-actualized woman. Unflinching, exuberant, and always entertaining, *Bravey* showcases Pappas's signature, charming voice as she reflects upon the touchstone moments in her life and the lessons that have powered her career as both an athlete and an artist—foremost among them, how to be brave. Pappas's experiences reveal how we can all overcome hardship, befriend pain, celebrate victory, relish the loyalty found in teammates, and claim joy. In short: how every one of us can become a bravey.

This welcome volume encompasses the entire history of the bassoon, from its origins five centuries ago to its place in twenty-first-century music. James Kopp draws on new archival research and many years' experience playing the instrument to provide an up-to-date and lively portrait of today's bassoon and its intriguing predecessors. He discusses the bassoon's makers, its players, its repertory, its myths, and its audiences, all in unprecedented detail. The bassoon was invented in Italy in response to the need for a bass-register double-reed woodwind suitable for processions and marching. Composers were quick to exploit its agility and unique timbre. Later, during the reign of Louis XIV, the instrument underwent a major redesign, giving voice to its tenor register. In the early 1800s new scientific precepts propelled a wave of invention and design modifications. In the twentieth century, the multiplicity of competing bassoon designs narrowed to a German (or Heckel) type and a French type, the latter now nearly extinct. The author examines the acoustical consequences of these various

redesigns. He also offers new coverage of the bassoon's social history, including its roles in the military and church and its global use during the European Colonial period. Separate historical chapters devoted to contrabassoons and smaller bassoons complete the volume [Publisher description].

New York Times Bestseller A startlingly original debut from the actor, writer, director, and executive producer hailed as “a gifted observer of the human condition and a very funny writer capable of winning that rare thing: unselfconscious, insuppressible laughter” (The Washington Post). A boy wins a \$100,000 prize in a box of Frosted Flakes—only to discover that claiming the winnings might unravel his family. A woman sets out to seduce motivational speaker Tony Robbins—turning for help to the famed motivator himself. A new arrival in Heaven, overwhelmed with options, procrastinates over a long-ago promise to visit his grandmother. We meet Sophia, the first artificially intelligent being capable of love, who falls for a man who might not be ready for it himself; a vengeance-minded hare, obsessed with scoring a rematch against the tortoise who ruined his life; and post-college friends who try to figure out how to host an intervention in the era of Facebook. Along the way, we learn why wearing a red T-shirt every day is the key to finding love, how February got its name, and why the stock market is sometimes just . . . down. Finding inspiration in questions from the nature of perfection to the icing on carrot cake, *One More Thing* has at its heart the most human of phenomena: love, fear, hope, ambition, and the inner stirring for the one elusive element just that might make a person complete. Across a dazzling range of subjects, themes, tones, and narrative voices, the many pieces in this collection are like nothing else, but they have one thing in common: they share the playful humor, deep heart, sharp eye, inquisitive mind, and altogether electrifying spirit of a writer with a fierce devotion to the entertainment of the reader.

In this New York Times bestseller, host of one of the nation’s top morning shows Elvis Duran shares his wildest stories and hardest-learned lessons with his trademark honesty and “bighearted, deliciously warm” (Barbara Corcoran, star of ABC’s Shark Tank) humor. Elvis Duran’s nationally syndicated radio program, *Elvis Duran and the Morning Show*, is America’s most-listened-to Top 40 morning show and one of the 10 most-listened-to programs in all of radio, heard live by nearly ten million people every morning. But his success didn’t happen overnight. Elvis spent years navigating the wild world of radio as a DJ for hire, working (and partying) in markets around the country before taking over the morning shift at the legendary Z100 in 1996. Over the last twenty years, he has become one of New York City’s signature voices (Variety calls him “a permanent fixture of the area’s daily commutes”) thanks to his show’s exciting mix of music, new artist discovery, interviews, gossip, and live listener interaction. Along the way, Elvis has become known not just for his incisive interviews (and occasional feuds) with pop music’s biggest stars, but for the show’s commitment to kindness and positivity and Elvis’s own candor and openness with his audience. Bold, funny, and totally candid, *Where Do I Begin?* is sure to be loved by anyone who

listens to Elvis live every morning—or anyone who wants to know what really goes on behind the scenes of the pop music machine from the “man who has been as big a part of the industry’s success as anyone” (Ryan Seacrest).

One More Thing

A Self-Mythologizing Memoir

The Art of Men (I Prefer Mine al Dente)

The Actor’s Life

Inconceivable Tales from the Making of The Princess Bride

The World Book Encyclopedia

Vacationland

For nine seasons Rainn Wilson played Dwight Schrute in the *The Office* (U.S.). Viewers fell in love with the character and grew to love the actor who played him even more. In *The Bassoon King*, he tells his own story and explains how he came up with his incredibly unique sense of humor and perspective on life. The book chronicles his journey from super-nerddom to drama, his years of mild debauchery and struggles as a young actor in New York, his many adventures, and insights about *The Office* which fans of both Wilson and the show will love.

Emmy Award-winning actress Kirstie Alley’s candid and audacious memoir about her life and the men she has shared it with—for better and for worse. John Travolta. Parker Stevenson. Ted Danson. Maksim Chmerkovskiy. Kelsey Grammer. Patrick Swayze. Woody Allen. Woody Harrelson. And many others. . . . In three decades in Hollywood, Kirstie Alley has lived with, worked with, loved, or lost all of these men, and in this revealing memoir, she peels back the layers (and sometimes the sheets) on her relationships with all of them. From the early days of her childhood in Wichita, Kansas, surrounded by her loving father, her inquisitive and doting grandfather, and a younger brother she fiercely protected when she wasn’t selling tickets to see him naked, Kirstie Alley’s life has been shaped and molded by men. “Men, men, glorious men!” gave her her first big break in Hollywood and her awardwinning role on *Cheers*, and through two marriages, a debilitating cocaine addiction, the death of her mother, roles in some of the biggest comedies of the last twenty years, and a surprising stint on *Dancing with the Stars*, men proved to be the inspiration for multitudes of the decisions and dramas in Kirstie Alley’s life. In this collection of linked essays that’s both hilarious and poignant in turns, Kirstie chronicles all the good, the bad, and the ugly men who have influenced and guided her. She demonstrates how men can be the air that women breathe or the source of all of their frustrations. But for better or worse, Kirstie shows that a life well lived is a life lived in the company of men, especially if they remember to put the lid down. *The Art of Men (I Prefer Mine al Dente)* is a hilarious excursion into love, joy, motherhood, loss, sex, and self-discovery from one of Hollywood’s most enduring stars.

Hollywood starlet Mindy Kaling shares her ongoing, laugh-out-loud journey to find contentment and excitement in her adult life.

Rue McClanahan, best known for her portrayal of Blanche Devereaux on the Emmy-award winning series *The Golden Girls* reveals her life in and out of the spotlight in a laugh-out-loud funny memoir about love, marriage, men, and getting older that is every bit as colorful as the characters she played. Raised in small-town Oklahoma in a house “thirteen telephone poles past the standpipe north of town,” Rue

developed her two great passions—theater and men—at an early age. She arrived in New York City in 1957 with two-weeks worth of money in her pocket, hustled her way into a class with the legendary Uta Hagen, and began working her way up in the acting world against the vibrant, free-spirited backdrop of the sixties. That's when she met and married Husband #1—a handsome rogue of an aspiring actor who quickly left her with a young son. Still, she was determined to make it on the stage and screen—and in the years that followed, rose to the top of the entertainment world with a host of adventures (and husbands) along the way. From her roles on Broadway opposite Dustin Hoffman and Brad Davis, to her first television appearances on *Maude* and *All in the Family*, to the *Golden Girls* era and beyond, *My First Five Husbands* is the irresistible story of one woman's quest to find herself. Rue is proof that many things can and do get better with age—and that, if she keeps her wits about her, even a small-town girl can make it big. People always ask me if I'm like Blanche. And I say, 'Well, Blanche was an oversexed, self-involved, man-crazy, vain Southern Belle from Atlanta—and I'm not from Atlanta!'" —Rue McClanahan

Stories and Other Stories

The Story of My Life

Party of One

A Memoir

The Art of Possibility

My Squirrel Days

A National Bestseller Have you ever wondered what it would be like talk to Parker Posey? On an airplane, with Parker as your seat companion, perhaps? Parker's irreverent, hilarious, and enchanting memoir gives you the opportunity. Full of personal stories, whimsical how-tos, recipes, and beautiful handmade collages created by the author herself, *You're On an Airplane* is a delight in every way. In her first book, actress and star of movies such as *Dazed and Confused*, *Party Girl*, *You've Got Mail*, *The House of Yes*, and so many more, Posey opens up about the art of acting, life on the set, and the realities of its accompanying fame. A funny and colorful southern childhood prepared Posey for a life of creating and entertaining, which not only extends to acting but to the craft of pottery, sewing, collage, yoga, and cooking, all of which readers will find in this whimsical, hilarious, always entertaining book. Parker takes us into her childhood home, behind the scenes of the indie film revolution in the 90s, the delightful absurdity of the big-budget genre thrillers she's turned into art in a whole new way, and the creativity that will always be part of both her acting and her personal life. With Posey's memorable, hilarious, and poignant voice, her book gives the reader a feeling of traveling through not only a memoir, but an exploration, meditation, and celebration of what it means to be an artist. Buckle up and enjoy the journey.

An encyclopedia designed especially to meet the needs of elementary, junior high, and senior high school students.

"A collection of whimsical autobiographical essays by the Academy Award-nominated actress and star of *Up in the Air*

recounts memorable milestones from her New England upbringing to the blockbuster films that have made her one of Hollywood's most popular actresses, "--Baker & Taylor.

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • Ali Wong's heartfelt and hilarious letters to her daughters (the two she put to work while they were still in utero) cover everything they need to know in life, like the unpleasant details of dating, how to be a working mom in a male-dominated profession, and how she trapped their dad. "Knife-sharp . . . a genuine pleasure."—The New York Times NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY Time • Variety • Chicago Tribune • Glamour • New York In her hit Netflix comedy special Baby Cobra, an eight-month pregnant Ali Wong resonated so strongly that she even became a popular Halloween costume. Wong told the world her remarkably unfiltered thoughts on marriage, sex, Asian culture, working women, and why you never see new mom comics on stage but you sure see plenty of new dads. The sharp insights and humor are even more personal in this completely original collection. She shares the wisdom she's learned from a life in comedy and reveals stories from her life off stage, including the brutal single life in New York (i.e. the inevitable confrontation with erectile dysfunction), reconnecting with her roots (and drinking snake blood) in Vietnam, tales of being a wild child growing up in San Francisco, and parenting war stories. Though addressed to her daughters, Ali Wong's letters are absurdly funny, surprisingly moving, and enlightening (and gross) for all. Praise for Dear Girls "Fierce, feminist, and packed with funny anecdotes."—Entertainment Weekly "[Wong] spins a volume whose pages simultaneously shock and satisfy. . . . Dear Girls is not so much a real-talk handbook as it is a myth-puncturing manifesto."—Vogue "[A] refreshing, hilarious, and honest account of making a career in a male-dominated field, dating, being a mom, growing up, and so much more... Yes, this book is addressed to Wong's daughters, but every reader will find nuggets of wisdom and inspiration and, most important, something to laugh at."—Bustle

A Gentleman in Moscow

Finding the Upside to Life's Downs

True Stories from Painful Beaches

Foundations for Superior Performance

A Novel

If Chins Could Kill

Tales from the Star of Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt and The Office

#2 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER* • "Rogen's candid collection of sidesplitting essays . . . thrives at both explaining and encapsulating a generational comedic voice."—The Washington Post A collection of funny personal essays from one of the writers

of Superbad and Pineapple Express and one of the producers of The Disaster Artist, Neighbors, and The Boys. (All of these words have been added to help this book show up in people's searches using the wonders of algorithmic technology. Thanks for bearing with us!) NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY NPR • New York Post • Marie Claire • Self • BookRiot Hi! I'm Seth! I was asked to describe my book, Yearbook, for the inside flap (which is a gross phrase) and for websites and shit like that, so... here it goes!!! Yearbook is a collection of true stories that I desperately hope are just funny at worst, and life-changingly amazing at best. (I understand that it's likely the former, which is a fancy "book" way of saying "the first one.") I talk about my grandparents, doing stand-up comedy as a teenager, bar mitzvahs, and Jewish summer camp, and tell way more stories about doing drugs than my mother would like. I also talk about some of my adventures in Los Angeles, and surely say things about other famous people that will create a wildly awkward conversation for me at a party one day. I hope you enjoy the book should you buy it, and if you don't enjoy it, I'm sorry. If you ever see me on the street and explain the situation, I'll do my best to make it up to you. *I was beaten by Bill O'Reilly, which really sucks.

If Chins Could Kill: Confessions of a B Movie Actor Here we are together in the digital universe. Somehow, you've clicked yourself to this page. If you came here of your own free will and desire, you and I are going to get along just fine. Life is full of choices. Right now, yours is whether or not to download the autobiography of a mid-grade, kind of hammy actor. Am I supposed to know this guy? you think to yourself. No-and that's exactly the point. You can download a terabyte of books about famous actors and their high-falootin' shenanigans. I don't want to be a spoilsport, but we've all been down that road before. Scroll down to that Judy Garland biography. You know plenty about her already-great voice, troubled life. Scroll down a little further to the Charlton Heston book. Same deal. You know his story too-great voice, troubled toupee. The truth is that though you might not have a clue who I am-unless you watch cable very late at night-there are countless working stiffs like me out there, grinding away every day at the wheel of fortune. If Chins Could Kill: Confessions of a B Movie Actor documents my time in blue-collar Hollywood, where movies are cheap, the hours are long, and the filmmaking process can be very personal. To keep up with the times, I've digitized Chins. It was originally published in hardcover/analog fifteen years ago, which is a vast amount of time in the evolution of books and technology, and it was time to get current. The advance of technology is great for a book like this, which is jammed full of pictures. When it came out originally, the photographs all had to be black and white and moderately sized on the page. Now, any photo that was originally taken in color can strut its stuff. Overall, the resolution of the images is off-the-charts better than the first go-around. This is one "sequel" that I'm happy to be a part of, since we could make so many technical improvements. The process was very similar to restoring an old movie. Since I knew that it was going to be reissued, I also had a look at the story being told and decided to condense, move, or clarify some chapters, all or in part. I also tried to add a hint of historical context, since it has been a decade and a half since Chins first came out. I hope you enjoy it. Regards, Bruce Campbell

In these delightfully candid musings about his life and his cinema, RGV reveals the man behind pioneering Telugu and Hindi films such as Shiva, Rangeela, Satya, Sarkar, Bhoot and Company. Discussing a wide range of subjects, from the influences and

circumstances that drew him to films to his cinematic techniques, his successful and unsuccessful films, his Bollywood idols, his relations with the media and the controversies dogging him, *Guns & Thighs* is as much about RGV's life and philosophy of life as about his films and the Indian film world. Characteristically, he pulls no punches, whether he's talking about movies, women or the media. Even when it comes to his own films, he embraces his failures as much his successes and dissects them with rare honesty and humility. Refreshingly contrarian and politically incorrect, this book discloses a perspective as colourful and larger than life as Indian films. It is not for RGV fans alone but for all those passionate about cinema and the people associated with it.

The mega-bestseller with more than 2 million readers, soon to be a major television series From the #1 New York Times-bestselling author of *The Lincoln Highway* and *Rules of Civility*, a beautifully transporting novel about a man who is ordered to spend the rest of his life inside a luxury hotel In 1922, Count Alexander Rostov is deemed an unrepentant aristocrat by a Bolshevik tribunal, and is sentenced to house arrest in the Metropol, a grand hotel across the street from the Kremlin. Rostov, an indomitable man of erudition and wit, has never worked a day in his life, and must now live in an attic room while some of the most tumultuous decades in Russian history are unfolding outside the hotel's doors. Unexpectedly, his reduced circumstances provide him entry into a much larger world of emotional discovery. Brimming with humor, a glittering cast of characters, and one beautifully rendered scene after another, this singular novel casts a spell as it relates the count's endeavor to gain a deeper understanding of what it means to be a man of purpose.

Confessions of a B Movie Actor

Beyond the Precipice

SoulPancake

The Bassoon

Tales of The Office from Two Best Friends Who Were There

Guns & Thighs

My First Five Husbands...And the Ones Who Got Away

Rainn Wilson's memoir about growing up geeky and finally finding his place in comedy, faith, and life For nine seasons Wilson played Dwight Schrute, everyone's favorite work nemesis and beet farmer. Viewers of *The Office* fell in love with the character and grew to love the actor who played him even more. Rainn founded a website and media company, SoulPancake, which eventually became a bestselling book of the same name. He also started a hilarious Twitter feed (sample tweet: "I'm on Facebook" is the new "I don't even own a TV") that now has more than four million followers. Now, he's ready to tell his story and explain how he came up with his incredibly unique sense of humor and perspective on life. He explains how he went from "bone-numbingly nerdy before there was even a modicum of cool attached to the word." *The Bassoon King* chronicles his journey from nerd to drama geek ("the highest rung on the vast, pimply ladder of high school losers"), his years of mild deba

struggles as a young actor in New York, his many adventures and insights about The Office, and finally, Wilson's achievement and satisfaction, both in his career and spiritually, reconnecting with the artistic and creative values of the world he grew up in.

Alive with the intoxicating magic of summer in New England, former editor of the New York Times Book Review Charles McGrath's evocative memoir looks back at that sun-soaked season, at family, youth, and a singular bond made at a moment he thought he was beyond making friends. "To read Chip McGrath's gentle, elegant memoir ... is to lose yourself in your summers, especially the ones of your youth, when you imagined there'd be an infinite number of them, and also friends to share those summers with. That both turn out to be numbered makes this book positively ache with beauty and loss." —Richard Russo
It was early evening and a new acquaintance had come to retrieve his daughter from a play date. Instead of driving up the driveway, he arrived by water, tacking his sailboat smartly across a squiggly channel in the marsh, throwing a rope overboard, and pulling it back home, his gleeful daughter riding in the wake. Who knew you could do such a thing? And how could you resist a man such as that? Over the course of this rich memoir, McGrath recalls with a gimlet eye the pleasures of summer: lobstering, 9-hole golf, family costume charades, bridge-jumping, and a friendship forged between two men from different backgrounds who came together late in life. Recounting the vagaries of summer with such precision and warmth-- from the strips of sunburnt skin from your shoulder as if "shuffling off your own cocoon," the outdoor shower curtain blowing in the breeze, an M80 firework in the mailbox--The Summer Friend is simultaneously a potent evocation of the rhythms and pleasures of summer and a stirring remembrance of a friend found and then lost.

"From comedian, Esquire contributor, and former MTV VJ Dave Holmes, the hilarious memoir of a music geek and perennial outsider fumbling his way toward self-acceptance, with the music of the '80s, '90s, and '00s as his soundtrack. Dave spent his life on the periphery, nose pressed hopefully against the glass, wanting just one thing: to get inside. Growing up as the artsy kid in the sporty family. At his high school and Catholic college, he was the closeted gay kid surrounded by straight guys. And in his twenties, in the middle of a disastrous career in advertising, he accidentally became an MTV VJ overnight when he finished second, naturally, in the Wanna Be a VJ contest, opening the door to fame, fortune, and celebrity--you know, almost. But despite all the close calls, or possibly because of them, he just kept trying, and if (he never quite succeeded, at least he got some good stories out of it. In Party of One, Dave tells the hilariously painful and hilarious tales--in the vein of Rob Sheffield, Andy Cohen, Josh Kilmer-Purcell, Paul Feig, and Augusten Burroughs--of a perennial outsider desperate to get in, of a misfit constantly changing shape, of a guy who finally learns to accept himself. Set around a mix of hits and deep cuts from the '80s, '90s, and '00s--from Bruce Springsteen's 'Hungry Heart' to Wilson Pickett's 'Impulsive' to En Vogue's 'Free Your Mind' and beyond--and punctuated with interludes like 'So You've Had Your Heart'

in the 1990s: A Playlist, ' this book is for anyone who's ever felt like a square peg, especially those who found their world, as we often do, around a band, an album, or a song. It's a laugh-out-loud funny, deeply nostalgic story about in, never giving up, and listening to good music along the way"--

Comedian and star of The Office and Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt Ellie Kemper delivers a hilarious, refreshing, and insightful collection of essays "teeming with energy and full of laugh-out-loud moments" (Associated Press). "A pleasure. Ellie is the kind of stable, intelligent, funny, healthy woman that usually only exists in yogurt commercials. But she's real and ours!" —Tina Fey "Ellie is a hilarious and talented writer, although we'll never know how much of this book the squirrels wrote."—Mindy Kaling Meet Ellie, the best-intentioned redhead next door. You'll laugh right alongside her as she shares her childhood in St. Louis, whether directing and also starring in her family holiday pageant, washing her dad's car with a pad, failing to become friends with a plump squirrel in her backyard, eating her feelings while watching PG-13 movies, becoming a "sports monster" who ends up warming the bench of her Division 1 field hockey team in college. You'll learn how she found her comedic calling in the world of improv, became a wife, mother and New Yorker, and landed the role of the bridesmaid (while simultaneously being a bridesmaid) in Bridesmaids. You'll get to know and love the comic, upbeat, polite actress playing Erin Hannon on The Office, and the exuberant, pink-pants-wearing star of Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt. If you've ever been curious about what happens behind the scenes of your favorite shows, what it really takes to be a "warrior," how to recover if you accidentally fall on Doris Kearns Goodwin or tell Tina Fey on meeting her for the first time, she has "great hair—really strong and thick," this is your chance to find out. But it's also a laugh-out-loud primer on how to maintain a positive outlook in a world gone mad and how not to give up on your dreams. Ellie "dives fully into each role—as a comedian, writer, and also wife and new mom—with an electric dedication, by which one learns to reframe the picture and exactly become a glass-half-full sort of person, at least become able to appreciate them" (Vogue.com).

Like Brothers

Warm-ups and Technique for Band. Alto saxophone

A Memoir in 21 Songs

A Life in Parts

Why Not Me?

From Gilmore Girls to Gilmore Girls (and Everything in Between)

Talking as Fast as I Can

In a 25th anniversary, behind-the-scenes account of the making of the cult-classic film, the lead actor shares never-before-told stories and exclusive photographs as well as interviews with Robin Wright, Billy Crystal and more. 100,000 first printing.

The first book in twenty-five years from “one of our great comic minds” (The Washington Post) features Seinfeld’s best work across five decades in comedy. Since his first performance at the legendary New York nightclub “Catch a Rising Star” as a twenty-one-year-old college student in fall of 1975, Jerry Seinfeld has written his own material and saved everything. “Whenever I came up with a funny bit, whether it happened on a stage, in a conversation, or working it out on my preferred canvas, the big yellow legal pad, I kept it in one of those old school accordion folders,” Seinfeld writes. “So I have everything I thought was worth saving from forty-five years of hacking away at this for all I was worth.” For this book, Jerry Seinfeld has selected his favorite material, organized decade by decade. In this “trove of laugh-out-loud one-liners” (Associated Press), you will witness the evolution of one of the great comedians of our time and gain new insights into the thrilling but unforgiving art of writing stand-up comedy.

Jenna Fischer’s Hollywood journey began at the age of 22 when she moved to Los Angeles from her hometown of St. Louis. With a theater degree in hand, she was determined, she was confident, she was ready to work hard. So, what could go wrong? Uh, basically everything. The path to being a professional actor was so much more vast and competitive than she’d imagined. It would be eight long years before she landed her iconic role on *The Office*, nearly a decade of frustration, struggle, rejection and doubt. If only she’d had a handbook for the aspiring actor. Or, better yet, someone to show her the way—an established actor who could educate her about the business, manage her expectations, and reassure her in those moments of despair. Jenna wants to be that person for you. With amusing candor and wit, Fischer spells out the nuts and bolts of getting established in the profession, based on her own memorable and hilarious experiences. She tells you how to get the right headshot, what to look for in representation, and the importance of joining forces with other like-minded artists and creating your own work—invaluable advice personally acquired from her many years of struggle. She provides helpful hints on how to be gutsy and take risks, the tricks to good auditioning and callbacks, and how not to fall for certain scams (auditions in a guy’s apartment are probably not legit—or at least not for the kind of part you’re looking for!). Her inspiring, helpful guidance feels like a trusted friend who’s made the journey, and has now returned to walk beside you, pointing out the pitfalls as you blaze your own path towards the life of a professional actor.

Parks and Recreation actor and *Making It* co-host Nick Offerman shares his humorous fulminations on life, manliness, meat, and much more in this New York Times bestseller. Growing a perfect moustache, grilling red meat, wooing a woman—who better to deliver this tutelage than the always charming, always manly Nick Offerman, best known as *Parks and Recreation*’s Ron Swanson? Combining his trademark comic voice and very real expertise in woodworking—he runs his own woodshop—*Paddle Your Own Canoe* features tales from Offerman’s childhood in small-town Minooka, Illinois—“I grew up literally in the middle of a cornfield”—to his theater days in Chicago, beginnings as a carpenter/actor and the hilarious and magnificent seduction of his now-wife Megan Mullally. It also offers hard-bitten battle strategies in the arenas of manliness, love, style, religion, woodworking, and outdoor recreation, among many other savory entrees. A mix of amusing anecdotes, opinionated lessons and rants, sprinkled with offbeat gaiety, *Paddle Your Own Canoe* will not only tickle readers pink but may also rouse them to put down their smart phones, study a few sycamore leaves, and maybe even hand craft (and paddle) their own canoes.

Bird Songs

The Bassoon King

As You Wish

The Office

The Summer Friend

Intimate Tales, Untold Secrets & Advice for Living Your Best Life

One Man's Fundamentals for Delicious Living

The Bassoon King *Art, Idiocy, and Other Sordid Tales from the Band Room* Penguin
INSTANT #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER An intimate, behind-the-scenes, richly illustrated celebration of beloved *The Office* co-stars Jenna Fischer and Angela Kinsey's friendship, and an insiders' view of Pam Beesly, Angela Martin, and the iconic TV show. Featuring many of their never-before-seen photos. Receptionist Pam Beesly and accountant Angela Martin had very little in common when they toiled together at Scranton's Dunder Mifflin Paper Company. But, in reality, the two bonded in their very first days on set and, over the nine seasons of the series' run, built a friendship that transcended the show and continues to this day. Sharing everything from what it was like in the early days as the show struggled to gain traction, to walking their first red carpet—plus exclusive stories on the making of milestone episodes and how their lives changed when they became moms—*The Office BFFs* is full of the same warm and friendly tone Jenna and Angela have brought to their *Office Ladies* podcast.

“I love everything about this hilarious book except the font size.” —Jon Stewart Although his career as a bestselling author and on *The Daily Show With Jon Stewart* was founded on fake news and invented facts, in 2016 that routine didn't seem as funny to John Hodgman anymore. Everyone is doing it now. Disarmed of falsehood, he was left only with the awful truth: John Hodgman is an older white male monster with bad facial hair, wandering like a privileged Sasquatch through three wildernesses: the hills of Western Massachusetts where he spent much of his youth; the painful beaches of Maine that want to kill him (and some day will); and the metaphoric haunted forest of middle age that connects them.

Vacationland collects these real life wanderings, and through them you learn of the horror of freshwater clams, the evolutionary purpose of the mustache, and which animals to keep as pets and which to kill with traps and poison. There is also some advice on how to react when the people of coastal Maine try to sacrifice you to their strange god.

Though wildly, Hodgmaniacally funny as usual, it is also a poignant and sincere account of one human facing his forties, those years when men in particular must stop pretending to be the children of bright potential they were and settle into the failing bodies of the wiser, weird dads that they are.

A haunted woman's reclusively ordered world is thrown into chaos by a houseguest who bullies her into reality and brings love into her life. A first novel by the best-selling author of *No One Belongs Here More Than You*. 125,000 first printing.

The Untold Story of the Greatest Sitcom of the 2000s: An Oral History

Scrappy Little Nobody

Yearbook

Stories (I Sort of Remember) from a Life Lived Out Loud

Is This Anything?

The Office BFFs

Retrospection and Introspection

An updated edition outlines 12 strategies for discovering creative approaches to goal fulfillment, combining the insights of a Boston Philharmonic conductor and a relationship psychotherapist while sharing inspirational stories, parables and anecdotes.

CAN MEN AND WOMEN REALLY BE “JUST FRIENDS? IF YOU ONLY HAD ONE HOUR LEFT TO LIVE, HOW WOULD YOU SPEND IT? WHAT PARALYZES YOUR CREATIVITY? WHAT FUELS IT? Somewhere over the course of history, chewing on *Life's Big Questions* lost its cool factor. Fortunately for mankind, Rainn Wilson (best known for playing Dwight Schrute on NBC's *The Office*) and a bunch of his friends are on a mission to change that. Based on the wildly successful website *SoulPancake.com*, this book urges you to explore philosophy, creativity, spirituality, love, truth, science, and so much more. With bold questions, intriguing challenges, and mind-bending art, *Soul Pancake* creates a space for you to stimulate your brain stem, spark your soul, and figure out what it means to be human.. **CRAMMED INSIDE:** + A revealing Introduction by Rainn Wilson + 180 *Life's Big Questions* (the ones that gnaw at your innards) + Visual masterpieces from 90+ artists + Unusual activities that launch you into the world + Exclusive commentary from the fascinating minds of: Amy Sedaris, David Lynch, Heather Armstrong (*Dooce.com*), Dr. Drew, Jesse Dylan, Justin Vernon (*Bon Iver*), Harold Ramis, Josh Ritter, and Saul Williams.

The multitalented writers, directors, producers, and actors (as seen on *The League*, *Transparent*, and *The Mindy Project*) share the secrets of their lifelong partnership in this unique memoir. “A book that anyone will love . . . You can enjoy it even if you have no idea who the Duplass brothers are.”—Janet Maslin, *The New York Times* Whether producing, writing, directing, or acting, the Duplass Brothers have made their mark in the world of independent film and television on the strength of their quirky and empathetic approach to storytelling. Now, for the first time,

Mark and Jay take readers on a tour of their lifelong partnership in this unique memoir told in essays that share the secrets of their success, the joys and frustrations of intimate collaboration, and the lessons they've learned the hard way. From a childhood spent wielding an oversized home video camera in the suburbs of New Orleans to their shared years at the University of Texas in early-nineties Austin, and from the breakthrough short they made on a three-dollar budget to the night their feature film *Baghead* became the center of a Sundance bidding war, Mark and Jay tell the story of a bond that's resilient, affectionate, mutually empowering, and only mildly dysfunctional. They are brutally honest about how their closeness sabotaged their youthful romantic relationships, about the jealousy each felt when the other stole the spotlight as an actor (Mark in *The League*, Jay in *Transparent*), and about the challenges they faced on the set of their HBO series *Togetherness*—namely, too much togetherness. But *Like Brothers* is also a surprisingly practical road map to a rewarding creative partnership. Rather than split all their responsibilities fifty-fifty, the brothers learned to capitalize on each other's strengths. They're not afraid to call each other out, because they're also not afraid to compromise. Most relationships aren't—and frankly shouldn't be—as intense as Mark and Jay's, but their brand of trust, validation, and healthy disagreement has taken them far. Part coming-of-age memoir, part underdog story, and part insider account of succeeding in Hollywood on their own terms, *Like Brothers* is as openhearted and lovably offbeat as Mark and Jay themselves. “Wright. Ringling. Jonas. I'm sure you could name a bunch of famous brother teams. They're all garbage compared to Mark and Jay. I can't wait for you to read this book.”—from the foreword by Mindy Kaling

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • In this collection of personal essays, the beloved star of *Gilmore Girls* and *Parenthood* reveals stories about life, love, and working as a woman in Hollywood—along with behind-the-scenes dispatches from the set of the new *Gilmore Girls*, where she plays the fast-talking Lorelai Gilmore once again. With a new bonus chapter *In Talking as Fast as I Can*, Lauren Graham hits pause for a moment and looks back on her life, sharing laugh-out-loud stories about growing up, starting out as an actress, and, years later, sitting in her trailer on the *Parenthood* set and asking herself, “Did you, um, make it?” She opens up about the challenges of being single in Hollywood (“Strangers were worried about me; that's how long I was single!”), the time she was asked to audition her butt for a role, and her experience being a judge on *Project Runway* (“It's like I had a fashion-induced blackout”). In “What It Was Like, Part One,” Graham sits down for an epic *Gilmore Girls* marathon and reflects on being cast as the fast-talking Lorelai Gilmore. The essay “What It Was Like, Part Two” reveals how it felt to pick up the role again nine years later, and what doing so has meant to her. Some more things you will learn about Lauren: She once tried to go vegan just to bond with Ellen DeGeneres, she's aware that meeting guys at awards shows has its pitfalls (“If you're meeting someone for the first time after three hours of hair, makeup, and styling, you've already set the bar too high”), and she's a card-carrying REI shopper (“My bungee cords now earn points!”). Including photos and excerpts from the diary Graham kept during the filming of the recent *Gilmore Girls: A Year in the Life*, this book is like a cozy night in, catching up with your best friend, laughing and swapping stories, and—of course—talking as fast as you can.

Dear Girls

Bravey

You're on an Airplane

250 North American Birds in Song

Chasing Dreams, Befriending Pain, and Other Big Ideas

You Are an Artist

The First Bad Man

From the guitarist of the pioneering band Sleater-Kinney, the book Kim Gordon says "everyone has been waiting for a New York Times Notable Book of 2015-- a candid, funny, and deeply personal look at making a life--and finding yourself--in music. Before Carrie Brownstein became a music icon, she was a young girl growing up in the Pacific Northwest just as it was becoming the setting for one the most important movements in rock history. Seeking a home and identity, she would discover both while moving from spectator to creator in experiencing the power and mystery of a live performance. With Sleater-Kinney, Brownstein and her bandmates rose to prominence in the burgeoning underground feminist punk-rock movement that would define music and pop culture in the 1990s. They have been cited as "America's best rock band" by legendary music critic Greil Marcus for their defiant, exuberant brand of music that resisted labels and limitations, and redefined notions of gender in rock. HUNGER MAKES ME A MODERN GIRL is an intimate and revealing narrative of her escape from a turbulent family life into a world where music was the means toward self-invention, community, and rescue. Along the way, Brownstein chronicles the excitement and contradictions within the era's flourishing and fiercely independent music subculture, including experiences that sowed the seeds for the observational satire of the popular television series Portlandia years later. With deft, lucid prose Brownstein presents herself as formidable on the page as on the stage. Accessibly raw, honest and heartfelt, this book captures the experience of being a young woman, a born performer and an outsider, and ultimately finding one's true calling through hard work, courage and the intoxicating power of rock and roll.

In her highly-anticipated nonfiction debut, humorist, popular blogger, and USA Today bestselling author, Susannah B. Lewis (Whoa! Susannah) uses dry wit and an eye for the absurd to find laughter in even the most challenging circumstances. Millions of online fans have flocked to Susannah B. Lewis's hysterical, take-no-prisoners videos that capture her uproarious yet deeply faithful view of the world. Now she brings to book form her keen eye for the absurd as she reveals her experiences growing up in a small Tennessee town. From the time an escaped albino panther wandered into her backyard to the Thanksgiving when an egg in the table's centerpiece hatched a baby chicken to the kind neighbors who brought casseroles in Tupperware for months—even years—after her father died when she was just 10 years old, the stories she tells delve deeply into the rich culture of the South that molded her. Clinging to the promise of God in times of grief and looking for every opportunity to laugh, Lewis is the wry yet wise girl next door who invites

sit a spell beside her on the front porch

“Nothing short of riveting...an engrossing first-person account by one of our finest actors” (Huffington Post)—both a coming-of-age story and a meditation on creativity, devotion, and craft—Bryan Cranston, beloved and acclaimed star of one of history’s most successful TV shows, *Breaking Bad*. Bryan Cranston began his acting career at the age of seven when his father, a struggling actor and sometime director, cast him in a commercial for United Way. By fifth grade he was starring in the school play, spending hours at the local movie theater, and re-enacting favorite scenes with his brothers in their living room. Cranston seemed destined to be an actor. But then his father left. And his family fell apart. Troubled by his father’s missteps, Cranston abandoned his acting aspirations and resolved to pursue a steadier career in law enforcement. Then, on a two-year cross-country motorcycle journey, Cranston re-discovered his talent for acting and found his mission and his calling. In this “must-read memoir” (The Philadelphia Inquirer), Cranston traces the many roles he inhabited throughout his remarkable life, both on and off screen. For the first time he shares the story of his early years as an actor on the soap opera *Loving*, his recurring spots on *Seinfeld*, and his time as bumbling father Hal on *Malcolm in the Middle*, to his tour-de-force, Tony-winning performance as Lyndon Baines Johnson in Broadway’s *All the Way*, to his most iconic role of all: *Breaking Bad*’s Walter White. “An illuminating window into the actor’s psyche” (People), Cranston has much to say about creativity, devotion, and craft, as well as innate talent and its challenges, the benefits and proper maintenance. “By turns gritty, funny, and sad” (Entertainment Weekly), ultimately a life in parts, this is a story about the joy, the necessity, and the transformative power of simple hard work.

Bret, a university student, struggles with emotional challenges arising from his past as he tries to find his right place in the world. He learns to love and understand himself with the help of some amazing people who come into his life when he least expects it.

Chew on Life's Big Questions

Where Do I Begin?

Can't Make This Stuff Up!

A Survival Guide

My Life in Art, Faith, and Idiocy

Hunger Makes Me a Modern Girl

Paddle Your Own Canoe

In Bird Songs, ornithologist Les Beletsky profiles 250 birds alongside colorful illustrations, and includes a digital audio player that provides the corresponding song for each of the 250 birds. Drawing from the collection of the world-renowned Macaulay

Library at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Bird Songs presents the most notable North American birds—including the rediscovered ivory-billed woodpecker—in a stunning format. Renowned ornithologist Les Beletsky provides a succinct description of each of the 250 birds profiled, with an emphasis on their distinctive songs. Lavish full-color illustrations accompany each account, while a sleek, built-in digital audio player holds 250 corresponding songs and calls. In his foreword, North American bird expert and distinguished natural historian Jon L. Dunn shares insights gained from a lifetime of passionate study. Complete with the most up-to-date and scientifically accurate information, Bird Songs is the first book to capture the enchantment of these beautiful birds in words, pictures, and song.

A playful reintroduction to the artist within us all—including hands-on exercises—from the renowned and inspirational teachers. According to contemporary artist and activist Bob and Roberta Smith, every human is an artist. Drawing is an important part of learning to communicate, and above all else, life is a conversation, making art a vital part of human existence. You Are an Artist helps the reader work out what kind of artist they are and what they can achieve, combining thought-provoking meditation on art practice with practical exercises and creative prompts that encourage creativity and self-expression. This collection of entertaining, at times startling, and often evocative narratives bring to life a series of lessons about the nature of art and inspiration. Providing ideas, tips, and practical examples from Bob's own work as an art teacher and activist, You Are an Artist is for everyone who wants to be an artist and needs a creative push to take the plunge.

AN INSTANT NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER The untold stories behind The Office, one of the most iconic television shows of the twenty-first century, told by its creators, writers, and actors When did you last hang out with Jim, Pam, Dwight, Michael, and the rest of Dunder Mifflin? It might have been back in 2013, when the series finale aired . . . or it might have been last night, when you watched three episodes in a row. But either way, long after the show first aired, it's more popular than ever, and fans have only one problem—what to watch, or read, next. Fortunately, Rolling Stone writer Andy Greene has that answer. In his brand-new oral history, The Office: The Untold Story of the Greatest Sitcom of the 2000s, Greene will take readers behind the scenes of their favorite moments and characters. Greene gives us the true inside story behind the entire show, from its origins on the BBC through its impressive nine-season run in America, with in-depth research and exclusive interviews. Fans will get the inside scoop on key episodes from "The Dundies" to "Threat Level Midnight" and "Goodbye, Michael," including behind-the-scenes details like the battle to keep it on the air when NBC wanted to pull the plug after just six episodes and the failed attempt to bring in James Gandolfini as the new boss after Steve Carell left, spotlighting the incredible, genre-redefining show created by the family-like team, who together took a quirky British import with dicey prospects and turned it into a primetime giant with true historical and cultural significance. Hilarious, heartwarming, and revelatory, The Office gives fans and pop culture buffs a front-row seat to the phenomenal sequence of events that launched The Office into wild popularity, changing the face of television and how we all see our office lives for decades to come.

Art, Idiocy, and Other Sordid Tales from the Band Room