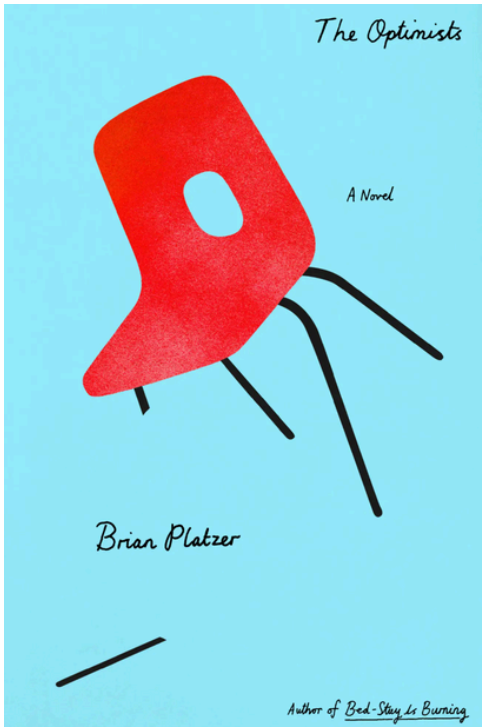


# PAGE 1

PUBLICITY & MARKETING CAMPAIGNS



## Fiction

**Little, Brown and Company**

**February 24, 2026**

**9780316576956 | \$29.00**

Hardcover | 304 pages

**Brian Platzer** was the education columnist for *The Atlantic* and has written frequently for *The New York Times*, *The New Yorker*, *New York Magazine*, and many other publications. He currently teaches and lives with his family in Brooklyn and Paris.

Publicity:  
Isabella Nugent  
isabella@page1m.com

# **The Optimists**

A Novel

Brian Platzer

**“This is a highly original novel, full of affection and intelligence, and of insights into the world of teachers, eighth graders, parents and children, teenagers and the story of love. Read it!”**

— Roxana Robinson, author of *Leaving*, NYT Editors’ Choice

**“*The Optimists* is engaging and propulsive from the outset, and the novel deepens and surprises along the way, gathering itself up into a work of startling poignancy. Brian Platzer writes with grace and witty precision about the varieties of human feeling, and he’s a font of above-average knock-knock jokes to boot.”**

— Sam Lipsyte, author of *The Ask* and *No One Left to Come Looking for You*

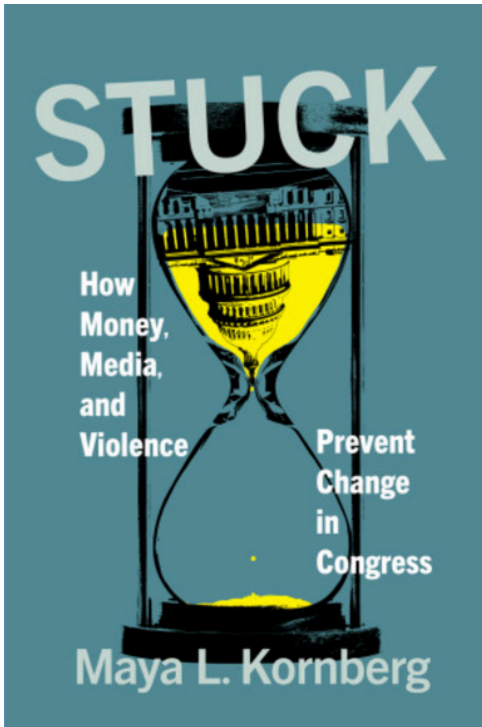
A beloved schoolteacher chronicles the meteoric rise of his most dazzling student in this ambitious, big-hearted work of literary fiction, perfect for fans of Nathan Hill, Susan Choi, and Tess Gunty.

Mr. Keating is an extraordinary teacher: brilliant, dedicated, and possibly a few pages ahead in a book no one else is reading. He’s a magician able to enchant fourteen-year-olds into a love of writing and literature. Yet no student has lived up to the promise of their potential more than Clara Hightower. Over the course of three decades, Clara is a kindergarten thief, a high school genius, a Silicon Valley celebrity, and an animal rights activist turned terrorist.

To tell Clara’s story, Mr. Keating must tell his own, including his courtship and marriage, his dreams of writing and comedy, his days in the classroom in lower Manhattan along with the rivalry and friendship with his Head of School, and his eventual stroke and the isolation that follows.

*The Optimists* is a love story, a joke book, and a meditation on the meaning of life and death. But mostly it’s a fiercely original novel for anyone who has ever had a teacher or student profoundly affect their life.





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## Nonfiction | Politics

Johns Hopkins University Press

March 10, 2026

9781421454580 | \$32.95

Hardcover | 280 pages

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**Maya L. Kornberg** is a senior research fellow at the NYU Law's Brennan Center for Justice. She is the author of *Inside Congressional Committees: Function and Dysfunction in the Legislative Process* (Columbia University Press, 2023).

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Publicity:  
Poppy Hatrick  
poppy@page1m.com

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## ***Stuck***

How Money, Media, and Violence Prevent Change in Congress  
Maya L. Kornberg

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**“For every American frustrated with a Congress that has become ‘stuck,’ this book is vital. Maya Kornberg provides a spirited analysis of changemaking cohorts of legislators, with special attention to the transformative impact of the Watergate babies’ class of 1974, and offers a roadmap to revitalize Congress while curbing excessive presidential power.”**

— Julian E. Zelizer, author of *In Defense of Partisanship*

**“*Stuck* is a powerful reminder that the existence of political violence is not new, but in today’s political environment, campaign money and media (especially social media) have added fuel to the burning fire... A must-read to understand the barriers to change in today’s Congress while also offering seeds of hope for getting unstuck.”**

— Donna Edwards, former member of Congress and Executive Director of the Center for a New Democracy

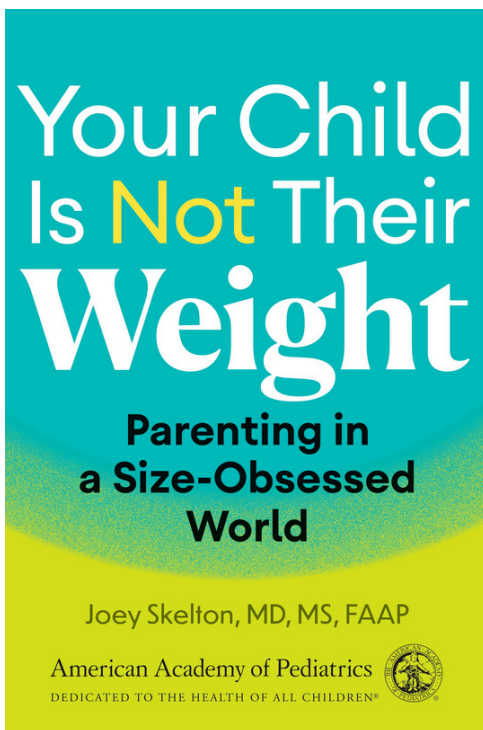
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Congress, the central democratic institution in the United States, is hanging on by a thread. On January 6, 2021, a violent attack on the Capitol Building left five people dead, and threats and attacks against politicians are on the rise. In *Stuck*, Maya Kornberg chronicles the efforts of congressional reformers over the last fifty years and documents the mounting forces that have kept their reforms from creating meaningful change.

Political violence, astronomical campaign costs, relentless fundraising demands, shrinking staff, and centralized party leadership all constrain the ability of new members to legislate and represent their constituents. Social media, while offering new platforms for political expression, has also heightened harassment and fed a performative culture that rewards spectacle over substance.

Bolstered by dozens of interviews, congressional records, and the voices of lawmakers past and present—including Henry Waxman, Toby Moffett, Phil English, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, and Lauren Underwood—*Stuck* offers a sobering portrait of a legislative body paralyzed by its own internal dynamics. Kornberg outlines tangible reforms that could restore Congress’s capacity to function and amplify the power of its newest members. At a time when Americans are losing faith in democracy’s most representative institution, *Stuck* makes the case for how it could be saved.

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**Nonfiction | Health, Parenting**

**American Academy of Pediatrics**

**March 17, 2026**

**9781610028547 | \$19.95**

Paperback | 240 pages

**Joey Skelton**, MD, MS, FAAP, is a professor of pediatrics, and of epidemiology and prevention, at Wake Forest University School of Medicine. He is the founder and director of Brenner FIT(R) (Families In Training), an interdisciplinary pediatric obesity program. He is also the director of the Center for Prevention Science in Child and Family Health, vice chair of research for the department of pediatrics, and serves as editor in chief of the journal *Childhood Obesity*. He is the father of two young adults and lives with his wife in North Carolina.

Publicity:

Laura Di Giovine

[laura@page1m.com](mailto:laura@page1m.com)

## ***Your Child Is Not Their Weight***

Parenting in a Size-Obsessed World

Joey Skelton, M.D., M.S., FAAP

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**"A salve for parents trying to raise children who are happy, enjoy eating healthy food and physical activity, and love their bodies. This book addresses weight and food issues of children and teens in a sensitive, caring and affirming way and provides parents with advice and support for building healthy habits for a lifetime."**

— Mary Story, Ph.D., RD, professor and director of healthy eating research at Duke University

**"Nuanced and practical ... Parents will find this a boon."**

— *Publishers Weekly*

**"A compassionate, evidence-based guide that helps families support their children's health without focusing on the scale. This thoughtful and timely book reflects the American Academy of Pediatrics' commitment to promoting children's physical and emotional well-being free from stigma or shame."**

— Aaron S. Kelly, Ph.D., professor of pediatrics and co-director of the University of Minnesota Center for Pediatric Obesity Medicine

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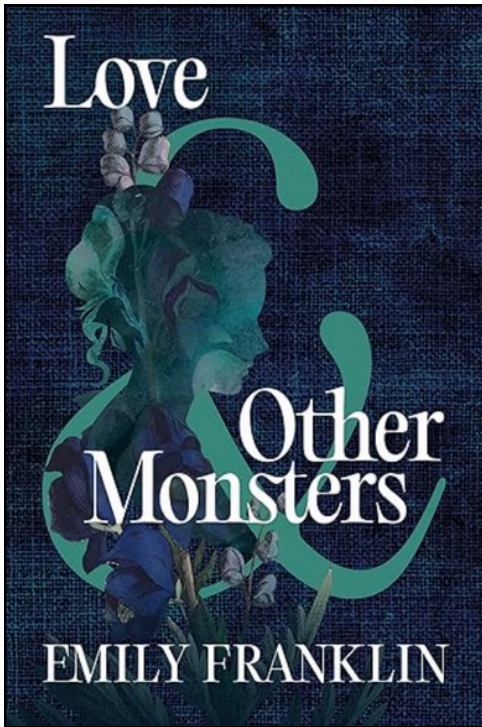
When parents are told their child needs to lose weight, it can color all aspects of their family, creating tension in the household, surfacing parents' own body issues, and even damaging their child's self-esteem.

In this compassionate and realistic guide, a leading childhood obesity expert takes a family-focused approach to help children be healthy AND happy, regardless of their body size. Dr. Skelton explores the causes of childhood obesity, the complexities of managing it, the challenges of addressing weight and health issues with children, and the goal of raising children to be healthy without being obsessed with their weight. Parents will learn how to best interact with their kids about these issues so that children will know they are loved and wonderful, regardless of the unrealistic body images and weight bias that the world so often perpetuates.

*Your Child Is Not Their Weight* will help families discover a better way forward that emphasizes family meals, active play, and parents' unconditional love for their children.

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## Historical Fiction

Godine

April 7, 2026

978-1567928563 | \$32.00

Hardcover | 472 pages

**Emily Franklin** is the bestselling author of *The Lioness of Boston*, based on the life of trailblazer Isabella Stewart Gardner, and more than twenty other books including a poetry collection, *Tell Me How You Got Here*. Her work has been published in *The New York Times*, *The Boston Globe*, *The Kenyon Review*, and *The Journal of the American Medical Association*, among many other places, as well as featured and read aloud on National Public Radio, and named notable by the Association of Jewish Libraries.

Publicity:

Isabella Nugent

isabella@page1m.com

## Love & Other Monsters

A Novel

Emily Franklin

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**“Love & Other Monsters is the reason to read historical fiction: a completely immersive voice and experience... Every time I picked up this book I felt like I was knocking on a door to another world.”**

— Ben Shattuck, author of *The History of Sound*

**“A rare literary achievement with prose as beautiful as a painting and a story that is propulsively page-turning.”**

— Jennifer Rosner, author of *Once We Were Home*

**“A gorgeous tour de force... With her masterful gift for storytelling, Emily Franklin breathes life into an untold history that feels entirely relevant to our world today. With electric insight, she maps the shifting tensions between creativity and passion; artistic ambition, familial betrayal, and the risks of desire.”**

— Dawn Tripp, author of *Jackie*

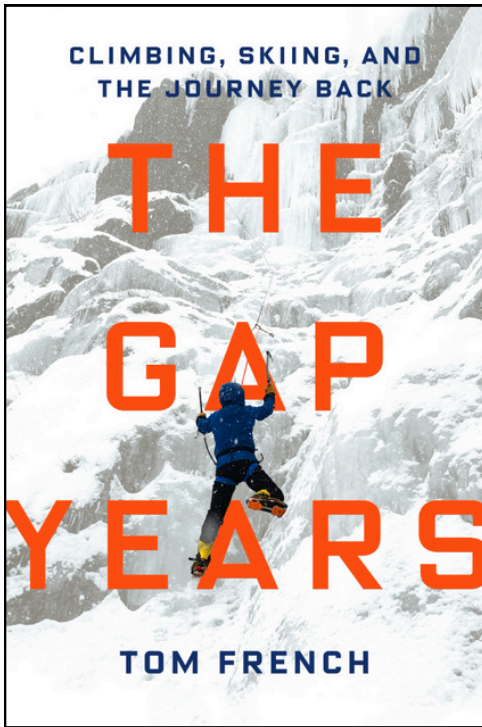
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Maggie O'Farrell's *Hamnet* meets Jane Austen's *Pride & Prejudice* in this intense and propulsive story of love, lust, art and betrayal, based on the important—and forgotten—real life story of eighteen-year-old Claire Clairmont, who changed the course of literature forever.

In the bizarrely cold, scandalous summer of 1816, a group of famous young writers gathered at a mansion on the shores of Lake Geneva, Switzerland. Brilliant Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley, her fiery fiancé Percy Shelley, the famously promiscuous Lord Byron, and John Polidori, his sexually tormented personal physician all sheltered together during the storms of what would become known as The Year Without Summer. Those months of desire, betrayal, and creative passion gave the world the works of *Frankenstein*, the modern vampire legend, and the mythic image of these Romantic literary giants. But they were not alone. Claire Clairmont, Mary's impressionable, clever, and dangerously loyal step-sister was the one who brought them all together.

With searing relevance to our here and now—of celebrity worship, climate disaster, of complicated femininity, *Love & Other Monsters* is a tale of sisters, survival, and the creation of monsters—both those on the page and those who walk among us.

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## Memoir | Nature

Brandeis University Press

April 20, 2026

9781684583027 | \$35.00

Hardcover | 256 pages

**Tom French** is a lifelong mountaineer, cross-country skier, and lover of the outdoors. A senior partner emeritus of McKinsey & Company, he is currently board chair of the Trustees of Reservations, a director of Corning Incorporated, and serves on several other nonprofit boards. He lives in Massachusetts with his wife, Jill.

Publicity:  
Poppy Hatrick  
poppy@page1m.com

## **The Gap Years**

Climbing, Skiing, and The Journey Back

Tom French

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**“The Gap Years is engaging, exciting, and revelatory—an adventure story that will take the reader to some of the remotest places in the world and yet remains grounded in the more familiar terrain of the human heart.”**

— Nathaniel Philbrick, National Book Award-winning author of *In The Heart of the Sea: The Tragedy of the Whale Ship Essex*

**“It's not too late for extraordinary adventure! Tom French makes a compelling case, I think, that trying hard things when you're older offers different rewards than in one's youth--this is a beautiful account that will almost certainly get you out the door!”**

— Bill McKibben, author of *Long Distance* and founder of Third Act

**“A story not just about the power of determination, but more importantly about the restorative power of the outdoors.”**

— Nicole Zussman, President and CEO of the Appalachian Mountain Club

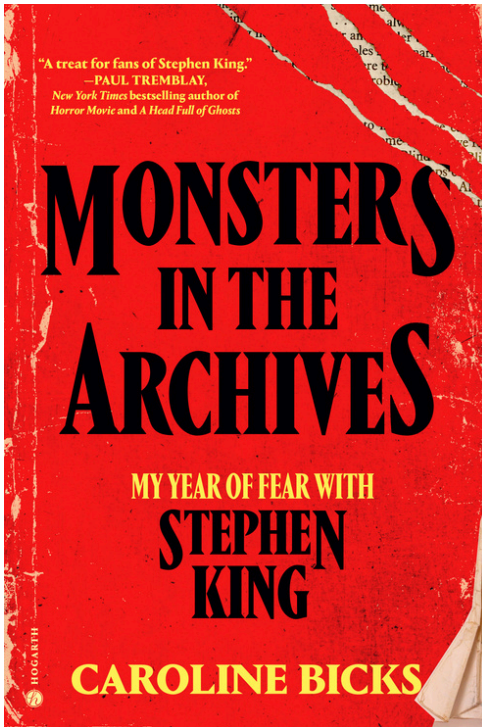
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At the end of 2019, Tom French retired from a four-decade career in business, determined to return to interests that had defined his youth and see what meaning they still held. One of these interests was mountaineering. Another was adventure travel, with a particular focus on Nepal. A third was cross-country ski racing. Having taken “gap years” between school and university, and again before he started work, he decided to take a gap year before settling into the expectations of retirement. One year turned into three as he rebuilt his athletic strength, competed in cross-country ski marathons, and climbed some of the world’s highest mountains, including two expeditions to Mount Everest. On the first Everest climb, a cyclone forced him to turn around high on the mountain and descend the treacherous Lhotse Face in a blizzard. On the second, he approached the mountain through the remote Makalu Barun region, the first climber ever to do so, and climbed to the summit on a moonlit night.

But this is a book about much more than Everest. It is about beauty and joy found in wild places, about cross-country ski racing and mountaineering more broadly, and—most of all—about a journey to find meaning in life and reconnect with the passions of youth.

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## Memoir | Literary Criticism

Hogarth

April 21, 2026

9780593736722 | \$29.00

Hardcover | 304 pages

**Caroline Bicks** is the Stephen E. King Chair in Literature at the University of Maine, where she teaches courses in Shakespeare, early modern culture, and horror fiction. She is the author of *Cognition and Girlhood in Shakespeare's World* (2021) and *Midwiving Subjects in Shakespeare's England* (2003); co-author of *Shakespeare Not Stirred: Cocktails for Your Everyday Dramas* (2015); and co-host of the Everyday Shakespeare podcast. Her essays and humor pieces have appeared in the Modern Love column of the *New York Times*, *McSweeney's Internet Tendency*, and the show *Afterbirth*. She lives in Blue Hill, Maine, with her family.

Publicity:

Laura Di Giovine

[laura@page1m.com](mailto:laura@page1m.com)

# Monsters in the Archives

My Year of Fear with Stephen King

Caroline Bicks

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**“A treat for fans of Stephen King.”**

— Paul Tremblay, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Cabin at the End of the World* and *Horror Movie: A Novel*

**“A master class in craft—and a peek behind the curtain.”**

— Stephen Graham Jones, Locus Award-winning author of *My Heart is a Chainsaw* and *The Only Good Indians*

**“Illuminating and original.”**

— Amy Tan, author of *The Joy Luck Club* and National Humanities Medal recipient

**“It will be treasured by admirers of King’s novels and is a must read for anyone curious about how great books get written.”**

— James Shapiro, Professor of English, Columbia University

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After Caroline Bicks was named the University of Maine’s inaugural Stephen E. King Chair in Literature, she became the first scholar to be granted extended access by King to his private archives, a treasure trove of manuscripts that document the legendary writer’s creative process—most of them never before studied or published. The year she spent exploring King’s early drafts and hand-written revisions was guided by one question millions of King’s enthralled and terrified readers (including her) have asked themselves: What makes Stephen King’s writing stick in our heads and haunt us long after we’ve closed the book?

Bicks focuses on five of his most iconic early works—*The Shining*, *Carrie*, *Pet Sematary*, *‘Salem’s Lot*, and *Night Shift*—to reveal how he crafted his language, storylines, and characters to cast his enduring literary spells. While tracking King’s margin notes and editorial changes, she discovered scenes and alternative endings that never made it to print, but that King is allowing her to publish now. The book also includes interviews Bicks had with King along the way that reveal new insights into his writing process and personal history.

Part literary master class, part biography, part memoir and investigation into our deepest anxieties, *Monsters in the Archives*—authorized by Stephen King himself—is unlike anything ever published about the master of horror. It chronicles what Bicks found when she set out to unearth how King crafted some of his scariest, most iconic moments. But it’s also a story about a grown-up English professor facing her childhood fears and getting to know the man whose monsters helped unleash them.

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## Memoir | Medicine

Texas Tech University Press

May 12, 2026

9781682833087 | \$26.95

Paperback | 312 pages

**Fazlur Rahman** was born and brought up in what is now Bangladesh. After his medical education in Dhaka, New York, and Houston, he practiced cancer medicine for thirty-five years in San Angelo, Texas. He is an adjunct professor at Angelo State University, a senior trustee of Austin College, and an advisory council member of the Charles E. Cheever Jr. Center for Medical Humanities and Ethics at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio.

His writings on medical, ethical, social, and scientific issues have appeared in many national and international publications, including the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Guardian Weekly*, *Harvard Review*, and *Lancet*.

Publicity:

Isabella Nugent

isabella@page1m.com

## ***The Temple Road***

A Doctor's Journey

Fazlur Rahman, M.D.

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**“In a time when doublespeak and the colonization of memory prevails, Fazlur Rahman’s memoir is a refreshing balm of deep and crystalline remembering. To see the world through Rahman’s eyes is to remember that the earliest maps we make are sometimes the truest... Through his vivid and thoughtful prose, we too are allowed to delight and wonder in our own earliest understandings of what it is to be a self, and what it is to be alive and living in the middle of our own powerful story.”**

—Tarfia Faizullah, author of *Seam*

**“His story is the story of countless strivers who, through strength of character, hard work, and the maintenance of core cultural values, find professional success in today’s globalized society. Dr Rahman writes with luxurious detail, great poignancy, and hard-earned wisdom. If you take this journey with him, I promise it will be one you will never forget.**

— Jerald Winakur, M.D., MACP, and author of *Memory Lessons: A Doctor’s Story*

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A veteran cancer physician, Dr. Fazlur Rahman’s story is astonishing. He was born and raised in a Mullah family, an old-line Muslim clan, in a remote village in what is now Bangladesh, with its hardships and heartaches, its myths and superstitions. The people, places and cultures that he was a part of have almost entirely disappeared. The temples, mosques and palaces, though gone, come alive again in this beautifully written memoir.

And the tales of love, suffering and fate of the village occupants are intertwined with Dr. Rahman’s unlikely story of finding medicine and success in America. As a young boy, Dr. Rahman lost his mother, the heart of his family, and soon after, barely survived kala-azar, a parasitic illness.

*The Temple Road: A Doctor’s Journey* is an inspiring story of love, joy, suffering, medicine and achievement that takes readers from the jungles of Bangladesh to Dr. Rahman’s training in leading medical centers in New York and Houston, and the overwhelming emotions that come with his work as one of the most talented oncologists in the US.

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## Nonfiction | Anthology

## Restless Books

# June 2, 2026

**9781632064196 | \$26.00**

Paperback | 512 pages

**Ilan Stavans** is the publisher of Restless Books and the Lewis-Sebring Professor of Humanities and Latin American and Latino Culture at Amherst College. His books include *On Borrowed Words*, *Spanglish*, *Dictionary Days*, *The Disappearance*, and *A Critic's Journey*. He has edited The Norton Anthology of Latino Literature, the three-volume set Isaac Bashevis Singer: Collected Stories, The Poetry of Pablo Neruda, among dozens of other volumes. He is the recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship, Chile's Presidential Medal, the International Latino Book Award, and the Jewish Book Award. Stavans's work, translated into twenty languages, has been adapted to the stage and screen. A cofounder of the Great Books Summer Program at Amherst, Stanford, Chicago, Oxford, and Dublin, he is the host of the NPR podcast "In Contrast."

Publicity:

Poppy Hatrick

poppy@page1m.com

# ***A Nation Wrestles with God***

# American Prophets, Philosophers, and Firebrands

Edited by Ilan Stavans

A landmark collection of the philosophers and firebrands who sparked a country's journey through divinity—praising, challenging, and redefining the sacred.

Spanning more than 400 years of spiritual transformation and imagination, *A Nation Wrestles With God* collects diverse writers—poets, novelists, theologians, scientists, musicians, politicians, comedians, artists, mavericks, naturalists, futurists, and more—whose daring texts incited change and continue to influence a growing nation. In this anthology, you will find the stories, poems, letters, speeches, sermons, essays, song lyrics, comic strips, newspaper columns, and commentaries that awoke new generations to free religious thought, from the pre-colonial to the present day.



## Fiction

Henry Holt and Co.

August 18, 2026

9781250420794 | \$18.99

Paperback | 416 pages

**Malavika Kannan** (b. 2001) is a Tamil American writer whose work appears in *The Nation*, *Washington Post*, *Teen Vogue*, and elsewhere. Her villain origin story is that, as a teenager in Florida, she organized for generational movements such as March for Our Lives and the Women's March. Her YA novel *All the Yellow Suns* was published in 2023. She graduated from Stanford University and now moonlights as a gay socialite in Brooklyn, where she co-hosts the popular mutual aid supper club Girls Eat Girls. You can follow her on Instagram @malavika.kannan and on TikTok @literarymal.

Publicity:  
Poppy Hatrick  
poppy@page1m.com

# Unprecedented Times

A Novel

Malavika Kannan

**"I've rarely read a novel so unapologetically situated within the mindset of the earliest years of adulthood, when making your way in the world is as thrilling as it is terrifying, and all of experience feels unprecedented. Kannan writes with such sharp perceptiveness about the wild confusion of youth—the aimlessness and ambition, the simultaneous desire for independence and for communion—that, night after night while reading this novel, I dreamt of being back there myself. I couldn't put this book down."**

—Vauhini Vara, Pulitzer Prize finalist and author of *The Immortal King Rao*

**"Unprecedented Times holds all the youth and assurance of a fresh new day... A deeply propulsive read, as well as wonderfully insightful and funny."**

— Kristen Arnett, bestselling author of *Stop Me if You've Heard This One*

**"Unprecedented Times made me laugh, cry, and rage—often within the same paragraph... Kannan's voice is hilarious and generous, and her incisive portrayal of navigating college as a second-generation immigrant kept me up late into the night. I absolutely could not put this book down."**

— Lanya H, award-winning author of *Hijab Butch Blues*

Which comes first: experience or narrative? Rishi thinks she knows the answer as she arrives on campus for her first year at Stanford. A burnt-out youth climate activist, Rishi used to want to save the world, but now she just wants to have gay sex. Her plan is set—she's going to leave behind the strict trappings of her Indian American childhood in Florida, study literature, experiment with love, and write all about it. Within a few months, she makes her first best friend, falls in love with her situationship, and promptly gets her heart broken.

What is not a part of Rishi's plan, however, is the onset of the COVID pandemic. As the outside world becomes a terrifying place, she increasingly finds solace in the friendships she's made. Instead of virtual college, Rishi and her classmates join a farm collective and grapple with America's political situation and growing disillusionment—along with sexual tension and responsibility. It's only when those relationships start fracturing under the stress of careless decisions, unrequited crushes, jealousies, and, yes, unprecedented times, that Rishi begins to question her own story.

*Unprecedented Times* captures the beauty, humor, pain, and straight-up chaos that exist in relationships between best friends and lovers, mothers and daughters, and between storytellers and themselves. Malavika Kannan's fresh, arresting novel is a testament to the power of self-narrative for Gen Z American women: of writing oneself into existence where no previous script exists.





## ***Bronwen Carroll, M.D.***

*Pediatric Emergency Medicine  
Physician and Child Protection  
Advocate*

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Dr. Bronwen Carroll, MD, is a board-certified pediatric emergency medicine physician at Boston Medical Center and an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at Boston University Chobanian and Avedisian School of Medicine.

With more than 20 years of experience working with children and families who have experienced sexual abuse and assault, Dr. Carroll is currently writing a book about how to talk to our kids about preventing sexual abuse. One in 10 children experience sexual abuse before the age of 18<sup>1</sup>—making it more common than any childhood illness or injury that parents routinely hear about preventing. This is a public health crisis that can be changed through education, and yet families are not equipped to talk about it, and kids are not prepared to protect themselves. Dr. Carroll is working to reshape the cultural dialogue and is on a mission to empower parents and make child protection a priority.

**Public Health | Child Welfare  
Sexual Health | Harm  
Prevention**

Publicity:

Laura Di Giovine

[laura@page1m.com](mailto:laura@page1m.com)

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### ***Themes and ideas that Dr. Carroll can discuss:***

- How child sexual abuse is not just a tragedy, but a public health emergency—and what we can do about it
- Why talking about sexual abuse and sexual assault should be a standard part of child development
- Age-appropriate strategies for talking to kids from preschool through high school
- What children should know about online safety and pornography
- What young adults should know about sexual assault before heading off to college
- How to talk to teens about healthy relationships

**For more topics Dr. Carroll can provide expert commentary on, please visit her [Expert Materials](#) page and [website](#)**

**<https://www.bronwencarrollmd.com/>**



## **Lindsay Chervinsky, Ph.D.** *Presidential Historian and Author*

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Dr. Lindsay M. Chervinsky is a presidential historian and Executive Director of the George Washington Presidential Library. Previously, she was a non-resident Senior Fellow at the Center for Presidential History at Southern Methodist University, a historian at the White House Historical Association, and a fellow at the Kluge Center at the Library of Congress.

Dr. Chervinsky is the author of the award-winning books *Making the Presidency: John Adams and the Precedents that Forged the Republic* (Oxford University Press, 2024) and *The Cabinet: George Washington and the Creation of an American Institution* (Harvard University Press, 2020), and co-editor of *Mourning the Presidents: Loss and Legacy in American Culture* (University of Virginia Press, 2023). Dr. Chervinsky received her BA from George Washington University and her master's and Ph.D. from the University of California, Davis.

### **American History | Government and Politics**

Publicity:

Isabella Nugent

isabella@page1m.com

Dr. Chervinsky regularly writes for public audiences in publications like *The Wall Street Journal*, *TIME*, *Washington Monthly*, and *The Bulwark*. She frequently offers her insights on national TV and radio, including *CBS News*, *CBS News Sunday Morning*, *MSNBC*, *Live Now Fox*, *PBS News Hour*, and *C-SPAN*. She writes a monthly newsletter, called *Imperfect Union*, on Substack.

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### **Themes and ideas that Dr. Chervinsky can discuss:**

- Impeachment in history, as well as current methods, norms, and protocols
- John Adams's role in protecting the nation from foreign attacks and promoting fair elections
- The importance of a smooth presidential transition
- The purpose of impeachment and its use in this current political moment
- The history of government institutions and how they come to bear on the present
- The purpose of the Presidential Cabinet and why it is still vital today

**For more topics Dr. Chervinsky can provide expert commentary on, please visit her [Expert Materials page and website](#)**

**<https://www.lindsaychervinsky.com>**





## **Corinna Barrett Lain, J.D.**

### ***Death Penalty Expert, Law Professor, and Author***

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Corinna Barrett Lain is the George E. Allen Chair in Law at the University of Richmond School of Law of Law. She is one of the nation's leading authorities on the death penalty, and has published numerous articles, essays, and blog posts about lethal injection over the last decade. Her work has appeared in the most prestigious law journals in the country, including the *Stanford Law Review*, *University of Pennsylvania Law Review*, *Duke Law Journal*, *UCLA Law Review*, *Vanderbilt Law Review*, and *Georgetown Law Journal*, among other venues, and has been cited in a concurring opinion of the United States Supreme Court.

Lain's meticulously researched and utterly compelling exposé, *Secrets of the Killing State: The Untold Story of Lethal Injection* (NYU Press, 2025), takes readers on an unprecedented journey into the notoriously secretive world of American executions, using shocking revelations about lethal injection to shine a light on the American death penalty more broadly and show that the state at its most powerful moment is also the state at its worst.

Lain has published opinion pieces in *The Guardian*, *The Christian Science Monitor*, *The Conversation*, and *The Richmond Times-Dispatch*, and has been quoted in numerous venues, including *The Washington Post*, *ABA Journal*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *Scientific American*, and *Slate*. She has been interviewed by the *BBC*, *NBC News*, *NPR's All Things Considered*, and numerous podcasts.

#### **Law | Criminal Justice | Death Penalty**

Publicity:

Laura Di Giovine

[laura@page1m.com](mailto:laura@page1m.com)

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### ***Themes and ideas that Professor Lain can discuss:***

- What Donald Trump's executive order on "Restoring the Death Penalty" means, and what it can and cannot do both legally and as a practical matter
- Why states are turning to the firing squad, and why prisoners may choose it
- What the problems with lethal injection are, how they came about, and why they matter
- What prison officials have done behind closed doors: broken state and federal laws, falsified prescriptions, injecting the wrong drugs, and more
- What we know about the newest execution innovation—nitrogen gas
- How executions impose trauma on the prison personnel forced to conduct them, and the implications of that phenomenon
- How states use secrecy—including but not limited to secrecy statutes—to hide the reality of lethal injection from the American public

**For more topics Professor Lain can provide expert commentary on, please visit her Expert Materials page and website**

**<https://corinnalain.com>**



## **Gretchen Sisson, Ph.D.** *Sociologist, Abortion and Adoption Researcher, Author*

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Dr. Gretchen Sisson is a researcher at [Advancing New Standards in Reproductive Health](#) in the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences at the University of California, San Francisco. Her research focuses on social constructions of parenthood, specifically examining how poverty, race, religion, and politics shape abortion and pregnancy decision-making, teen pregnancy and young parenthood, infertility and assisted reproductive technologies, and adoption and birth/first motherhood. In our post-Dobbs world, Gretchen's work speaks to larger ideas of reproductive autonomy and justice, and the question of how we support (or fail to support) American families on a broad scale.

### **Abortion | Adoption | Sociology of Pregnancy and Parenthood**

Publicity:

Isabella Nugent

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Her first book, *Relinquished: The Politics of Adoption and the Privilege of American Motherhood* (St. Martin's Press, 2024), is a powerful study of domestic adoption during the age of Roe v. Wade, drawing on hundreds of in-depth interviews with women who have relinquished infants for domestic adoption over the past sixty years. *Relinquished* was positively reviewed by [Washington Post](#), [Publishers Weekly](#), [Kirkus Booklist](#), [San Francisco Chronicle](#), and many other outlets. Additionally, Gretchen has been published or quoted in in [AP News](#), [Atlantic](#), [BBC](#), [Good Morning America](#), [Ms Magazine](#), [NBC News](#), [Refinery29](#), [Salon](#), [The Cut](#), [The Nation](#), [The New York Times](#), [TIME](#), [Vox](#), and [Washington Post](#), among others.

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### **Themes and ideas that Dr. Sisson can discuss:**

- Why adoption is not a solution to America's abortion access crisis, and what adoption might look like in the post-Roe era
- The history of adoption and family separation in the United States, including its roots in American slavery, the forced assimilation of Native American children, and the post-WWII "baby scoop" era
- Adoption agencies and the aggressive strategies they employ to meet the demands of waiting families
- Debunking the feel-good narrative surrounding adoption, and the coercive messaging pregnant women receive
- The role race, class, and religion play in pregnancy decision-making and adoption

**For more topics Dr. Sisson can provide expert commentary on, please visit her [Expert Materials](#) page and [website](#)**

**<https://www.gretchensisson.com>**