

# GODINE



READER'S CATALOG  
Fall–Winter 2025

## Singular Standouts from Godine



"In a season full of books that showcase the sway of trends in publishing," the prestigious *Library Journal* recently said, highlighting the best new books from all publishers, "there are also a few singular standout titles not to miss, such as Mark Kurlansky's latest, *The Boston Way*, which considers a number of citizens of Boston who, as pacifists, fought to end enslavement and examines what their struggle wrought."

No praise could please us more—that is exactly how we think of all the titles we hope to bring to your attention this Fall.

*Time's Bounty* (just over there to the right) provides unique insight into aging by a retired professor of literature who draws wisdom from literature: Shakespeare, Yeats, Proust, Faulkner, Eliot, Beckett, and others. *Alive* (page 2) is a surgeon's holistic view of the human body and the miracle of life.

Art lovers will find a treasure in *Rethinking American Art* (page 6) by a retired museum curator and advisor to major collectors. *The Etcher* (page 11) tells the incredible story of a virtually unknown artist. And there's perhaps the most unusual book about art this season, *The Art of Tennis* (page 7), by a distinguished biographer who here examines the sport's early influence on all the arts.

Anyone who appreciates the contributions small presses bring to our culture will be delighted by *A River Dream* (page 10)—both an anthology and tribute to Montana's legendary Clark City Press.

Of course, those are only a few of the highlights of what's in store throughout this catalog. Don't overlook Godine's ongoing bestsellers—*The Lioness of Boston* (page 4), *Sipsworth* (page 5), and the invaluable Ward Farnsworth (pages 8–9).

Lastly, it seems necessary these days to stress that all our work, everything in these pages, has been created, crafted, and curated by actual human beings. Give us a call during business hours—you'll never find an AI chatbot at Godine.

David Allender, Publisher

Follow us on:  

### Three ways to order

1. Shop online for even more selection and special sales at [Godine.com](http://Godine.com).
2. Call us at 1-800-344-4771. We're open Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM (EST).
3. Mail your order using the order form on the inside back cover.

Questions? Email us at [order@godine.com](mailto:order@godine.com).

### OUR GUARANTEE

Every Godine book is produced with pride and is unconditionally guaranteed. You can return any purchase within 30 days and we will send a refund.

## Time's Bounty: Rethinking Aging

by Philip Weinstein

"A delightful meditation on growing old. It's not all bad."

—Evan Friss,

author of *The Bookshop*

Change your perspective about aging. Here is a bracing view of surprises as age enkindles in us new expressions of life.

Our culture isn't kind toward getting old. The dominant drive is to celebrate youth, and striving for more and more of everything, while age, we're told, brings only depletion and loss. Even as Americans live longer, most consider old age with dread. It's time to challenge these assumptions.

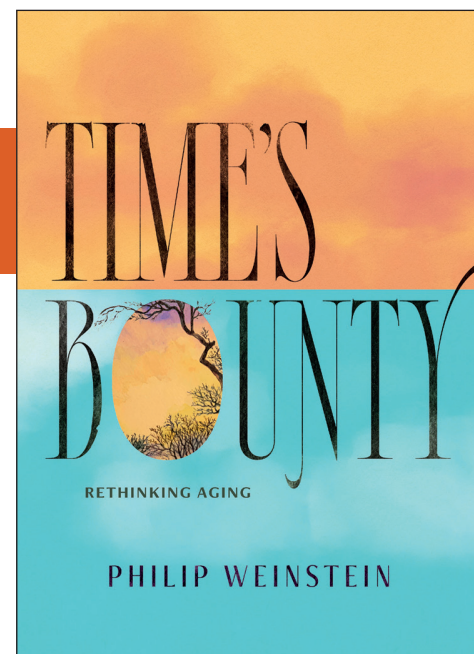
As author Philip Weinstein writes, "Old-age situations, assumed to announce the end-of-the-road, actually generate fresh life-moves. As we age, we tend to become 'lighter' in more senses than one. . . . Indeed, we may find ourselves catapulted into late-stage 'adventures' the young never dream of."

*Time's Bounty* offers a view of age that is surprising, emancipating, sometimes even joyful. In five brief chapters, the author takes us from the discoveries that age occasions to the freedom that comes in life's late chapters, when no one and nothing any longer owns us. At last, we are our own, in ways we could not imagine when younger.

Weinstein, a retired professor of English, draws not only on his own insights but on the insights found in writers he taught for decades: Shakespeare, Yeats, Proust, Faulkner, Eliot, Beckett, and others. Brief forays into their imaginative works add further illumination to the author's own discoveries regarding the dramas—both the trials and the gifts—of old age.

Whatever your own life's season, still in Spring or deep into life's Winter, *Time's Bounty* will change the way you think about age.

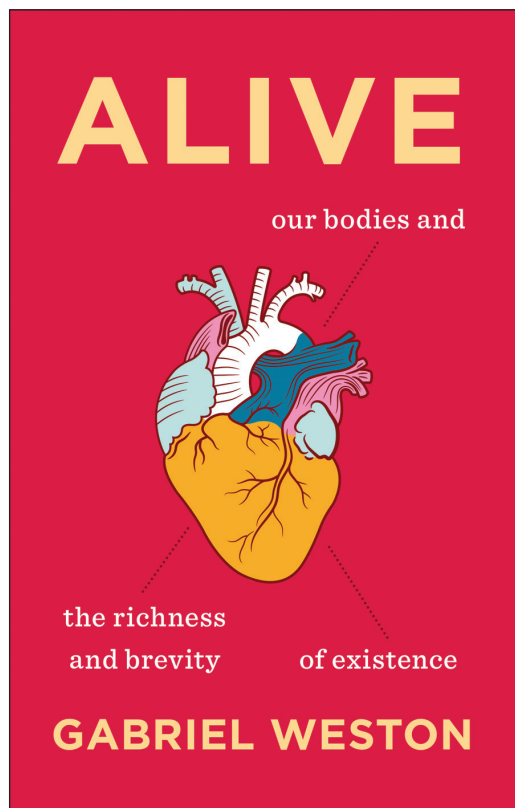
**NEW** · 152 PAGES · HARDCOVER · \$26.95



Find more at [Godine.com](http://Godine.com)







**Alive: Our Bodies and the Richness and Brevity of Existence**  
by Gabriel Weston

**"This captivates."  
—Publishers Weekly,  
starred review**

A profound and provocative journey through the human body from a surgeon and award-winning writer.

What does it mean to live in a body? For Gabriel Weston, there was always something missing from the anatomy she was taught at medical school. She'd forged an unconventional path, first studying humanities and getting an entry-level job in publishing, before a spark of inspiration set her on the path to becoming a doctor.

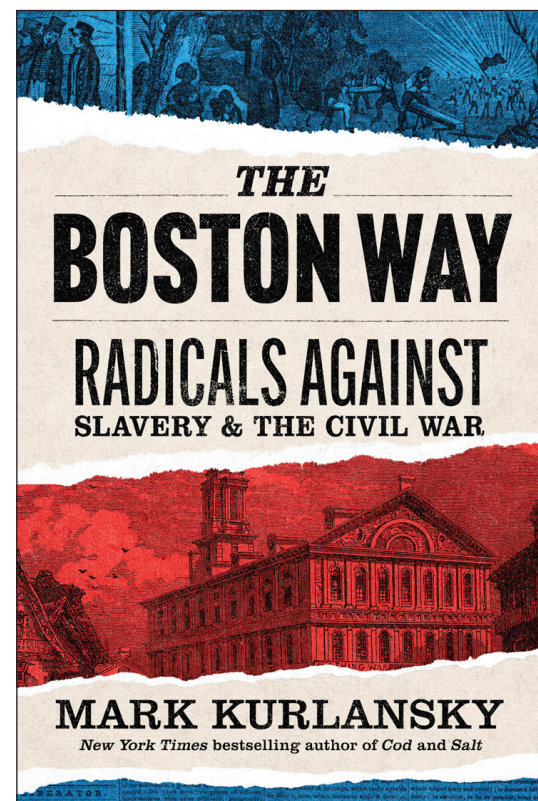
Medicine teaches us how a body functions, but it doesn't help us

navigate the reality of living in one. As Weston became a surgeon, a mother, and ultimately a patient herself, she found herself grappling with the gap between scientific knowledge and unfathomable complexity of human experience.

In this captivating exploration of the body, Weston dissolves the boundaries that usually divide surgeon and patient, pushing beyond the limit of what science has to tell us about who we are and leaning on her roots in the humanities. Focusing on our individual organs, not just under the intense spotlight of the operating theatre, but in the central role they play in the stories of our lives, a fuller and more human picture of our bodies emerges: more fragile, frightening and miraculous than we could have imagined.

Intimate, penetrating and original, *Alive* is about our bodies and bonds, the miracle of existence, and the thread of mortality that connects us all.

**NEW** · 304 PAGES · HARDCOVER · \$30.00



**The Boston Way: Radicals Against Slavery and the Civil War**  
by Mark Kurlansky

**"Fascinating."—Library Journal, starred review**

How do good people find the courage to resist and end the greatest evil in their country? An untold story of the Civil War era: pacifists in Boston who led the fight to end slavery without violence and war.

Has there ever been good violence or a good war? The American Civil War is likely considered to be so since there seemed to be no alternative. Or was there? Before the war, Bostonian abolitionist William Lloyd Garrison correctly predicted that fighting would not bring about real freedom and

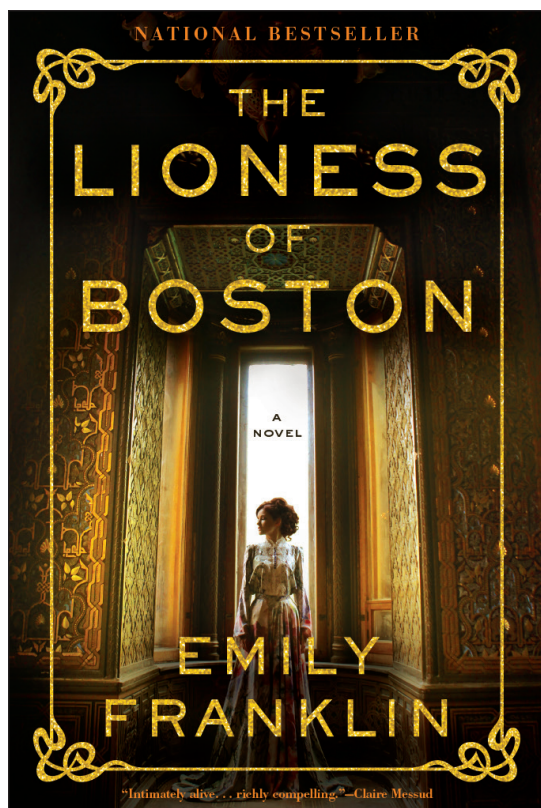
justice. If emancipation came about through violence, he believed, it would take at least a century for Black people to get their rights. As we now know, it has taken even longer than that.

Here is the story of Garrison and other abolitionists, Black and white, male and female, who advocated a peaceful end to slavery and the start of human rights for Black people. Persuasion was, these pacifists believed, the only means to lasting change.

While history has little memory of abolitionists, and even less for pacifists, nothing can be learned from that which is not remembered. What if the Civil War had never been fought? Might we now live in a world of far greater justice and peace? What does this mean today as we still pursue "righteous" violence? This is the story of a road not taken.

**NEW** · 240 PAGES · HARDCOVER · \$28.95





## The Lioness of Boston

by Emily Franklin

"Brings Isabella Stewart Gardner fully, intimately alive—irrepressible and avid for life. In this richly compelling novel, Emily Franklin beautifully conjures this extraordinary woman and her world."

—Claire Messud

A deeply evocative portrayal of the life of a daring trailblazer who not only created an inimitable legacy in American art but also transformed a city. By the time Isabella Stewart Gardner opened her Italian palazzo-style home as a museum in 1903 to showcase her collection of old masters, antiques, and objects d'art, she was already well-known

for scandalizing Boston's polite society. But when Isabella first arrived in Boston in 1861, she was twenty years old, newly married to a wealthy trader, and unsure of herself. Puzzled by the frosty reception she received from stuffy bluebloods, she strived to fit in. After two devastating tragedies and rejection from upper society, Isabella discovered her spirit and cast off expectations.

Freed by travel, Isabella explores the world of art, ideas, and letters, meeting such kindred spirits as Henry James and Oscar Wilde. From London and Paris to Egypt and Asia, she develops a keen eye for paintings and objects and meets feminists ready to transform nineteenth-century thinking in the twentieth century. Isabella becomes her own person, painted by John Singer Sargent in a portrait of daring décolletage, and fond of such stunts as walking a pair of lions in the Boston Public Garden. And, finally, becomes the first woman to open a museum in the United States.

*The Lioness of Boston* is a portrait of what society expected a woman's life to be, shattered by a courageous soul who rebelled and was determined to live on her own terms.

408 PAGES · SOFTCOVER · \$18.95 · HARDCOVER · \$28.95



## Sipsworth

by Simon Van Booy

"Beautiful and enchanting."  
—*Washington Post*

Sometimes a second chance comes in the most unexpected way. Following the loss of her husband and son, Helen Cartwright returns to the village of her childhood after living abroad for six decades. Her only wish is to die quickly and without fuss. She retreats into her home on Westminster Crescent, becoming a creature of routine and habit: "Each day was an impersonation of the one before with only a slight shuffle—as though even for death there is a queue."

Then, one cold winter night, a chance encounter with a mouse sets Helen on a surprising journey. Over the course of two weeks in a small English town, this reclusive widow discovers an unexpected reason to live.

*Sipsworth* is a reminder that there is always reason for hope. No matter what we have planned for ourselves, sometimes life has plans of its own. With profound compassion Simon Van Booy illuminates not only a deep friendship forged between two lonely creatures but the reverberations of goodness that ripple out from that unique bond.

"Countless passages beguile and move us."

—*Washington Post*

"In its quiet, loving way, *Sipsworth* feels as rare and special as a friend."

—*Minneapolis Star Tribune*

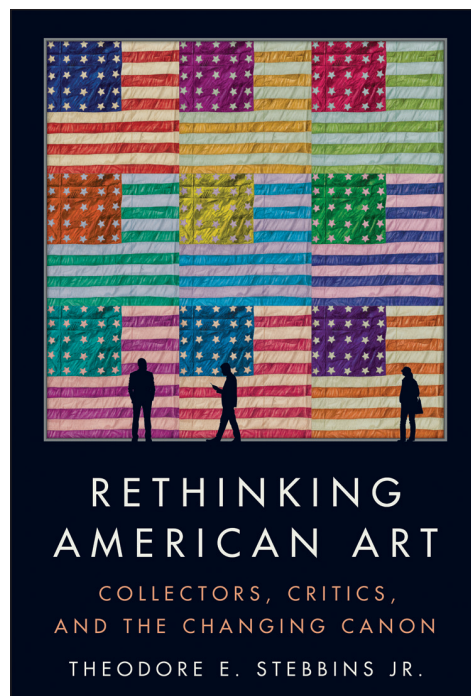
"*Sipsworth* is a love story about a woman and a mouse. Reason suggests that such a relationship couldn't possibly work, and yet I found myself pulling for this unlikely duo on every page. Simon Van Booy's characters are loaded with charm, resilience, and the deep desire for connection that all mammals share. I loved it."

—Ann Patchett

240 PAGES · HARDCOVER · \$26.95







## Rethinking American Art: Collectors, Critics, and the Changing Canon

by Theodore E. Stebbins Jr.

**"A book the field of American art has been waiting for."**  
—Dr. Kathleen Foster,  
Philadelphia Museum of Art

A sweeping history of changing critical standards and values in American art across 200 years. Art lovers, perplexed by why their favorite artists are no longer on the walls of their local museums, will find an incisive view of why change is constant. All art lovers will find a cautionary lesson about the unpredictable future.

Each generation of experts believes that their own taste is the last word, confident in their opinions about the art that was the best of their time.

As the author writes, "People are inclined to view past changes in taste as unique misjudgments that will not happen again. . . . How unthinking, how stupid, they think, not realizing that the pattern has been repeated again and again in the past and will be in the future. . . . Many of the favored artists of any period including our own will drop from favor, something that art dealers never tell their clients, or museum curators their boards."

Theodore E. Stebbins Jr. was in the center of every development in American art collecting and exhibitions from 1960 well into the 2000s. He is uniquely able to put recent shifts in the canon within the context of a regular, generational shift in taste that tells us much about the value that is placed on art—including who decides what matters and what does not.

Profusely illustrated, deeply informed, *Rethinking American Art* is for anyone who wants a greater understanding of the forces that shape the world of art.

"Stebbins is our guide to the shifting canon of painters that he actively helped redefine. Stebbins's shrewd purchases for museums, his original exhibitions, his teaching and his persuasive writing have changed the field of American studies. His sharp portraits of collectors and dealers, competitors and colleagues, make for entertaining reading."

—John Walsh, Director Emeritus, Getty Museum

**NEW** · 432 PAGES · ILLUSTRATED THROUGHOUT · HARDCOVER · \$55.00

## The Art of Tennis

by Nicholas Fox Weber

**"A masterpiece. Of graceful writing. Of history. Of nuance."**  
—L. Jon Wertheim,  
author of *Glory Days*

Tennis has long inspired extraordinary paintings, ballets, music, fiction, poetry, theatre, and clothing design. *The Art of Tennis* presents riveting exemplars from all the arts, elucidating their grace and power and the seminal role of the sport. It also lovingly portrays the game of tennis as an art form of its own. And it profiles magnetic and colorful champions now nearly forgotten who come back to life with all their verve and panache.

This book explores the spell the sport cast on the likes of Nabokov, Jean Patou, Katharine Hepburn, Caravaggio, Shostakovich, and Bonnard. It takes you inside a Renaissance tennis court and to a front row seat at a ballet where players clad by Chanel dance to the music of Milhaud with the scenario by Cocteau. And, while presenting the charismatic players who gave the sport its special magic in its early years, it brings you right to courtside to witness their magical serves, lacing groundstrokes, and deft volleys.

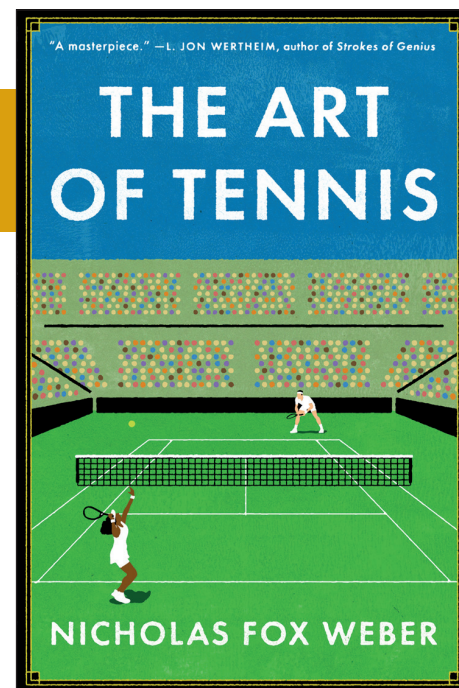
Weber has been a lifelong tennis player and takes us through his own relationship with the sport: from his college-age summers in the 1960s working at New Hampshire's Tamarack Tennis Camp to a pickup game on a court in Guangzhou, China, where he was struck, yet again, that tennis is its own language, understood by all who play it.

Whether a reader is fluent in the lingo of tennis or just admires tennis as an outsider, *The Art of Tennis* will delight all lovers of the game.

"Nicholas Fox Weber knows tennis but also a lot more than tennis, which makes him just the right person to write a book about the game. He's also a lovely writer. More than an ode to tennis, this book is about the best things in life—and about the best people."

—Simon Kuper, author of *World Cup Fever*

**NEW** · 400 PAGES · ILLUSTRATED THROUGHOUT · HARDCOVER · \$40.00

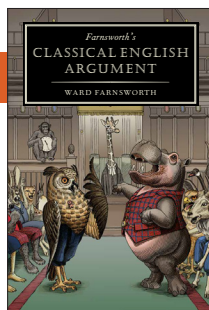


## Farnsworth's Classical English Argument

"Instructive and entertaining."—*Wall Street Journal*

A complete course on the art of argument, taught by its greatest practitioners: Churchill, Lincoln, and hundreds of others from the golden age of debate. The syllogism and the slippery slope, the *argumentum ad hominem* and *reductio ad absurdum*. Farnsworth illustrates them with examples that are instructive and fun to read.

264 PAGES · HARDCOVER · \$28.95

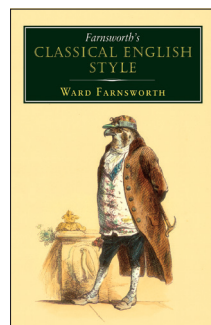


## Farnsworth's Classical English Style

"An original and absorbing guide to English style."  
—*Wall Street Journal*

Say it with style. This book explains why the best writing sounds that way, with hundreds of examples that have stood the test of time from masters of the language. Farnsworth shows how small choices about types of words and sentence structure puts force into writing and speech.

168 PAGES · HARDCOVER · \$28.95

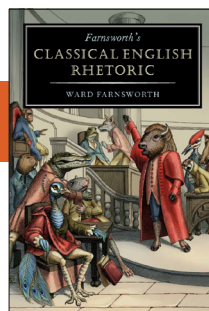


## Farnsworth's Classical English Rhetoric

"Heightens appreciation of the craft of great writers and speakers."—*Wall Street Journal*

Farnsworth is your guide to patterns that can make your words more emphatic, memorable, and effective. Drawing on examples from masters of prose, all apply to the composition of a simple sentence or paragraph—repetition and variety, suspense and relief, concealment and surprise, the creation of expectations.

256 PAGES · SOFTCOVER · \$18.95 · HARDCOVER · \$28.95

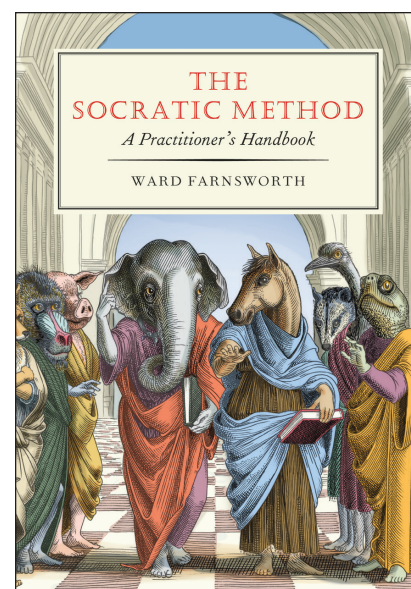
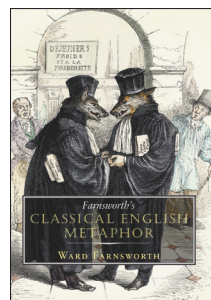


## Farnsworth's Classical English Metaphor

"A book to dip in and savor."—*Boston Globe*

Make your writing and speech shine like the sun! Here's the most entertaining and instructive book about enlivening and clarifying communication by comparing one thing to another. Using hundreds of examples, Farnsworth demonstrates all the ways that points can be unforgettably made—along with commentary on how they bring power to words.

256 PAGES · HARDCOVER · \$28.95



## The Socratic Method: A Practitioner's Handbook

A thinking person's guide to  
a better life.

About 2,500 years ago, Plato wrote a set of dialogues that depict Socrates in conversation. The way Socrates asks questions, and the reasons why, amount to a whole way of thinking. This is the Socratic method—one of humanity's great achievements. More than a technique, the method is an ethic of patience, inquiry, humility, and doubt. It is an aid to better thinking, a remedy for bad habits of mind.

Easy to grasp yet challenging to master, the method will change the way you think about life's big questions. As Farnsworth achieved with *The Practicing Stoic* and the

Farnsworth's Classical English series, ideas of old are made new and vital again. This book is for those coming to philosophy the way Socrates did—as the everyday activity of making sense out of life and how to live it.

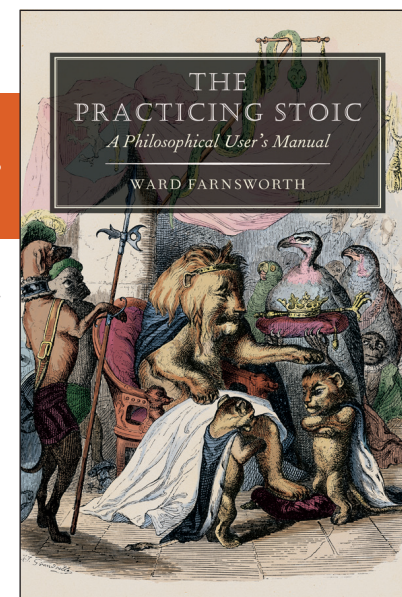
264 PAGES · HARDCOVER · \$28.95 · SOFTCOVER · \$18.95

## The Practicing Stoic: A Philosophical User's Manual

"A book that will provide  
perspective and consolation at  
times of heartbreak or calamity."  
—*Washington Post*

See more clearly, live more wisely, and bear the burdens of this life with greater ease—here are the greatest insights of the Stoics, in their own words, presented in twelve lessons. Ward Farnsworth systematically presents the heart of Stoic philosophy accompanied by commentary that is clear and concise. Here is the most valuable wisdom about living a good life from ages past, now made available for our time.

256 PAGES · HARDCOVER · \$30.00  
SOFTCOVER · \$18.95





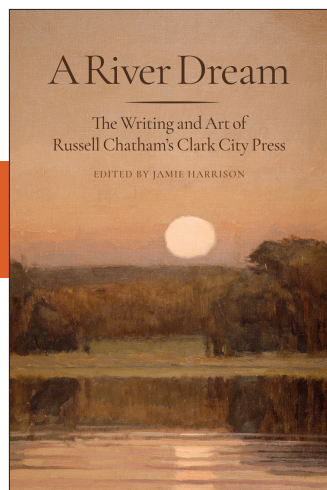
**A River Dream: The Writing and Art of Russell Chatham's Clark City Press**  
edited by Jamie Harrison

**"A beautiful dream of life by the best writers I know."—Terry McDonell, author of *The Accidental Life***

Here's an anthology and tribute to a unique independent publisher, Clark City Press.

In 1987, the painter and author and fly fisherman Russell Chatham, renowned for his stunning landscape paintings and his appetite for life, decided to take control of his own career by creating a publishing house in Livingston, Montana.

As one does, at least if they are Russell Chatham. "Control" was probably the wrong concept—for the next five years, Clark City Press was the chaotic home of beautifully produced works by an eclectic, talented collection of writers and artists, many of them given a painting in lieu of a publishing advance. What began as an effort to publish Chatham's own work and that of his friends (a large and varied group) in elegant trade softcovers morphed into something grander and more wayward. Chatham could talk almost anyone into anything, and before the press imploded, all sorts of people said yes: Barry Gifford signed on for *A Good Man to Know*, a fictionalized memoir about his gangster father, Jim Harrison traded paintings for *The Theory & Practice of Rivers* and *Just Before Dark*, and Rick Bass wrote about the first wolves to resettle the continental United States in *The Ninemile Wolves*. Clark City Press published Thomas McGuane on fishing and memory, Guy de la Valdene on hunting woodcock, Richard Hugo's only mystery, James Crumley's short stories, and Peter Stackpole's *Life* photos from the golden age of Hollywood.



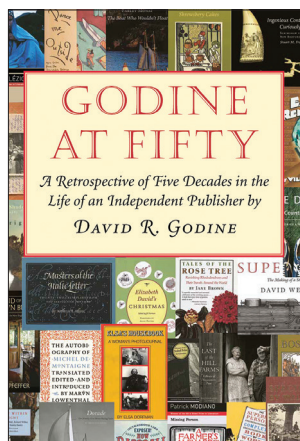
In *A River Dream*, Clark City's former editor, novelist Jamie Harrison, has collected some of the best of the press's prose, art, and poetry in a glorious celebration of a small and lost world.

**NEW** · 208 PAGES · ILLUSTRATED · HARDCOVER · \$45.00

ALSO AVAILABLE

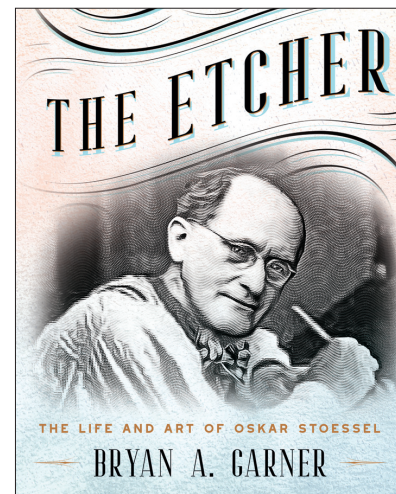
**Godine at Fifty**  
by David R. Godine

292 PAGES · HARDCOVER · \$60.00



**The Etcher: The Life and Art of Oskar Stoessel**  
by Bryan A. Garner

**"A richly textured resurrection of the life of a great artist."—Philip Bobbitt, Professor of Jurisprudence, Columbia Law School**



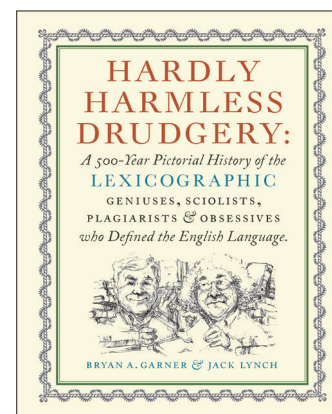
This is the remarkable story of Oskar Stoessel, a gifted Austrian portraitist who arrived in America as a penniless refugee—and soon found himself painting icons such as President Franklin D. Roosevelt, the Supreme Court Justices, and the first director of the National Gallery of Art. Thoroughly researched, beautifully written, and richly

illustrated, this definitive biography brings a forgotten master back into the spotlight.

"Who was Oskar Stoessel?" a Supreme Court justice asked the author, Bryan A. Garner, as they stood in front of one of the remarkable portraits bearing Stoessel's signature. That question started a search in which Garner first discovered the notable fact that in the 1940s Stoessel had etched portraits for the entire U.S. Supreme Court.

This account has been gleaned, over many years of research, from library archives of the eminent people whose portraits Stoessel etched, from contemporaneous newspapers, from museum archives in Europe and America, from small stashes of Oskar's work in European and American art galleries, from official government documents, and from the files of Oskar's only known living relative. Stoessel's story, as it emerges from these disparate sources, becomes a magnificent biography.

**NEW** · 320 PAGES · ILLUSTRATED · HARDCOVER · \$50.00



ALSO AVAILABLE BY BRYAN A. GARNER

**Hardly Harmless Drudgery:**  
**A 500-Year Pictorial History of the Lexicographic Geniuses, Sciolists, Plagiarists, and Obsessives Who Defined the English Language**  
by Bryan A. Garner and Jack Lynch

520 PAGES · HARDCOVER · \$65.00



## Reminders of the Day: A Bookshop Diary

“Sure to prove irresistible to fellow bibliophiles.”—*Publishers Weekly*

Through diary entries of daily life in his Scottish bookstore, Shaun Bythell has created an endearing and cozy world for booklovers. *Reminders of the Day* is filled with the pernickety warmth and humor that has touched readers around the world. As a bonus, this is the first of Shaun's books to be illustrated with photos.

376 PAGES · SOFTCOVER · \$19.95 · HARDCOVER · \$27.95

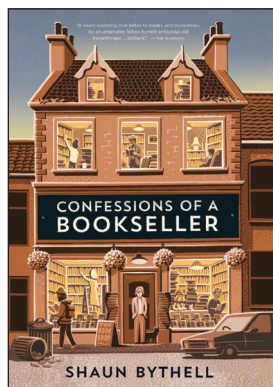


## Confessions of a Bookseller

“A full, appealing world populated with colorful characters . . . an endearing and thoughtful book.”—*Minneapolis Star Tribune*

Another funny year with a bookseller, Shaun Bythell, as he stays afloat managing staff, customers, and life in the village of Wigtown, Scotland. Shaun drives to distant houses to buy private libraries, seeking literary treasures and hidden gems. And, of course, finds books for himself because he's a reader, too.

324 PAGES · SOFTCOVER · \$17.95 · HARDCOVER · \$27.95



## Seven Kinds of People You Find in Bookshops

A very funny view of books and the people who love them.

A cantankerously funny view of books and the people who love them. It does take all kinds; and through the misanthropic eyes of a very grumpy bookseller, we see them all—from the “Person Who Doesn't Know What They Want (But Thinks It Might Have a Blue Cover)” to the “Parents Secretly After Free Childcare.”

128 PAGES · HARDCOVER · \$22.95



## Permission: The New Memoirist and the Courage to Create

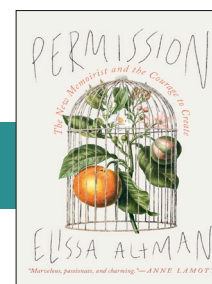
by Elissa Altman

“Marvelous, passionate and charming.”  
—Anne Lamott, author of *Somehow*

Almost every writer—new or experienced—has faced dire questions of permission and story ownership: there is something that they want to write about, that they need to write about. Yet: they can't. They might be paralyzed with shame, chastened into silence.

But what if they did? What if you did? *Permission* is a master course, not only on how to craft memoir, but how to transcend the fear that keeps vital stories from being written.

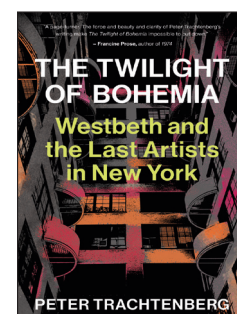
NEW · 232 PAGES · HARDCOVER · \$30.00



## The Twilight of Bohemia: Westbeth and the Last Artists of New York

by Peter Trachtenberg

“A fascinating story . . . local history as a preview of what the world can be.”—*Library Journal*



An intimate history of America's first publicly funded artists' housing project and its residents. Westbeth Artists Housing was founded in 1970 to provide affordable housing for artists and their families. Here is its story, a book for anyone who loves brilliantly written stories of passion, idealism, ambition, and community; for any reader interested in urban social history or the history of art; and for all who still believe in the old bohemian ethos: living for art's sake.

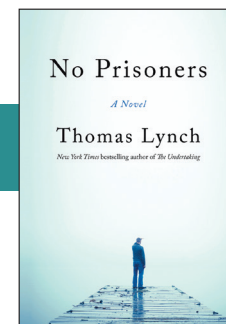
NEW · 344 PAGES · HARDCOVER · \$30.00

## No Prisoners by Thomas Lynch

“Gorgeous and profound.”  
—Alan Ball, creator of *Six Feet Under*

An aged trade embalmer discovers a new connection to life. As a husband, he promised his dying wife he'd write their story of love and grief, sweetness and sadness. Twenty-five years later, he may not have a first sentence for the story of their marriage, but he does have the start of a loving final chapter of his own. Here is a sprawling, enthralling novel about the pursuit of purpose, redemption, and forgiveness and the search for beauty in an imperfect world.

NEW · 272 PAGES · HARDCOVER · \$30.00



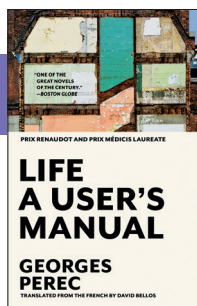


**Life: A User's Manual** by Georges Perec

"One of the great novels of the century."  
—*Boston Globe*

This spellbinding puzzle takes place in an apartment block where, chapter by chapter, room by room, a rich cast of characters is revealed. The observations become a manual for life, portraying the mixed marriages of fortunes, passions and despairs, and betrayals and bereavements of lives around the world.

**NEW EDITION** · 680 PAGES · SOFTCOVER · \$24.95

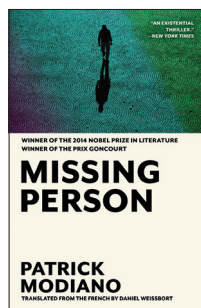


**Missing Person** by Patrick Modiano

Awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature

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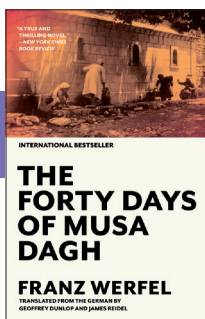


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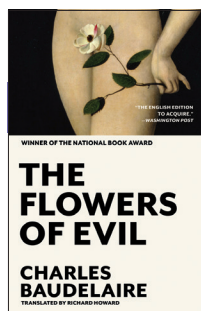
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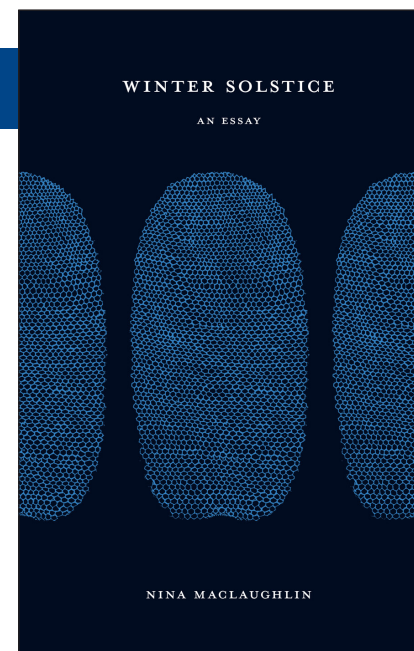
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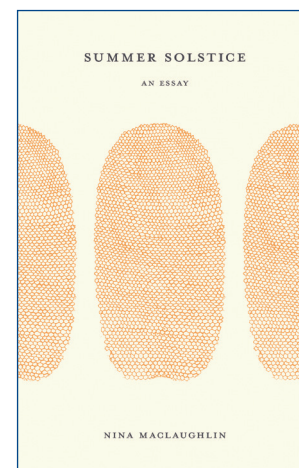


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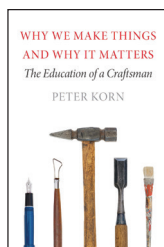
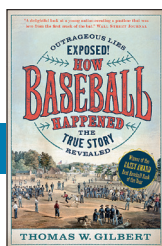
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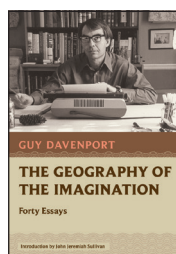
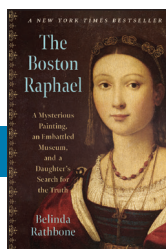
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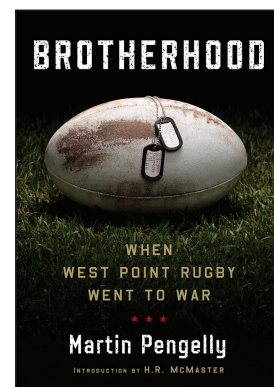
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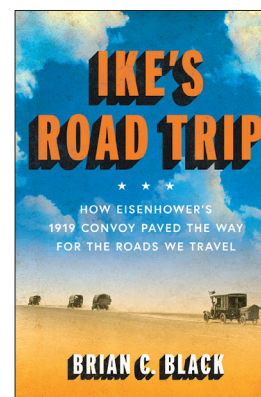
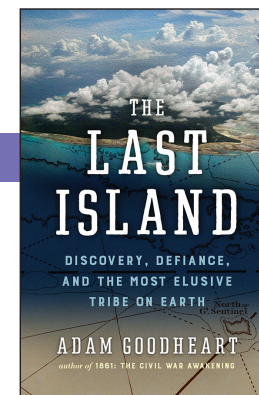
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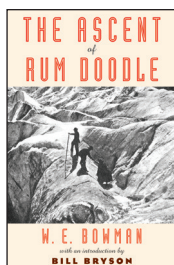
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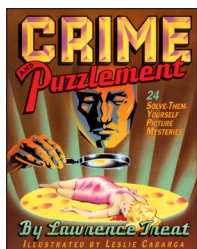
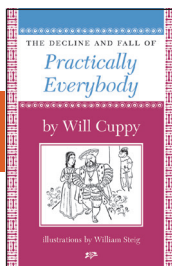
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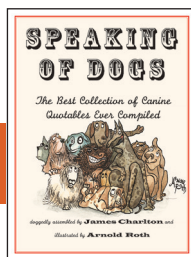
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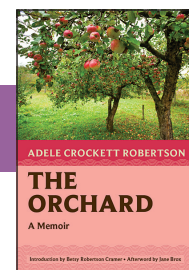
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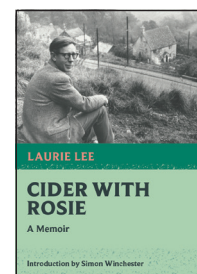
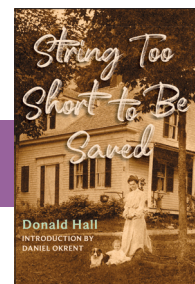
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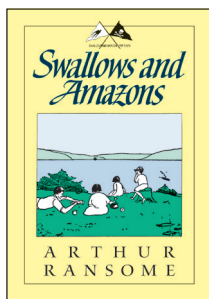
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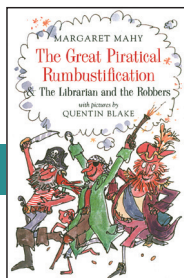
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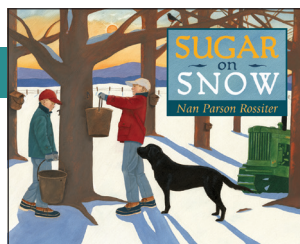
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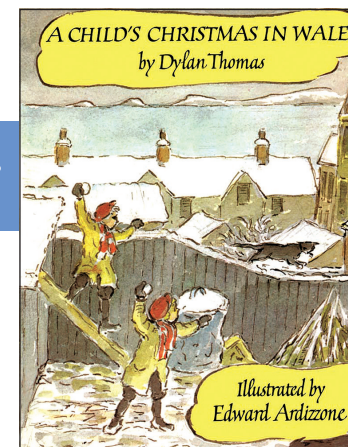
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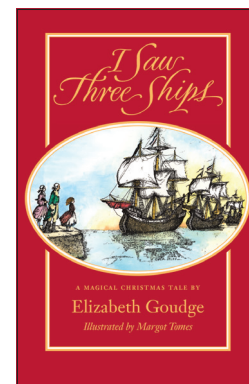
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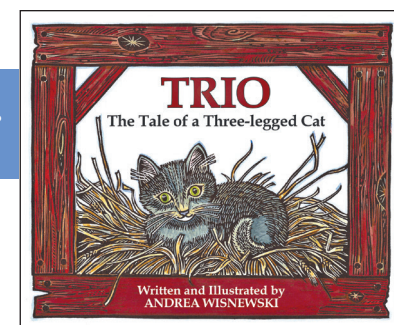


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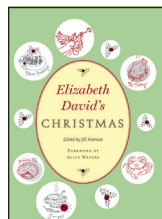
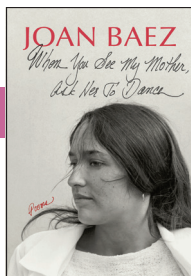
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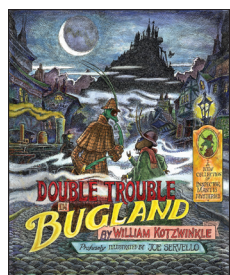
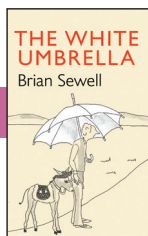
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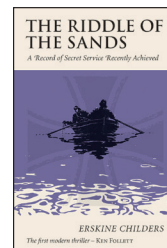
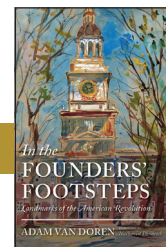
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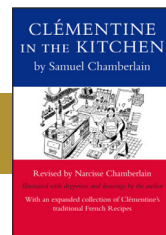
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