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The Islamic World: A History in Objects
This extraordinary, illustrated introduction offers a fresh approach to the history of the Islamic world from its origins to the present day, illuminating the material culture produced from West Africa to Southeast Asia through art and artifacts, people, and places. It showcases pre-Islamic works that provided a foundation for the arts of Islam to masterpieces produced under the great empires and objects that continue to be made today. Texts accompany objects, including architectural decoration, ceramics, jewelry, metalwork, calligraphy, textiles, musical instruments, coins, illustrated manuscripts, and modern and contemporary art, all of which shed new light on the Islamic world both past and present. $39.95, hardcover.

The Deep History of Ourselves: The Four-Billion-Year Story of How We Got Conscious Brains
Now in paperback! The author argues that the key to understanding all human behavior lies in viewing evolution through the prism of the first living organisms. By tracking the chain of the evolutionary timeline he shows how even the earliest single cell organisms had to solve the same problems we and our cells have to solve today. Along the way, we see our place in nature, how the evolution of nervous systems enhanced the ability of organisms to survive and thrive, and how the emergence of what we humans understand as consciousness made our greatest and most horrendous achievements as a species possible. $18, paperback.
A century ago, everyone knew that people were fated by their race, sex, and nationality to be more or less intelligent, nurturing, or warlike. But anthropologist Franz Boas suggested that cultures did not come in neat packages labeled “primitive” or “advanced.” Boas’s students were some of the century’s most colorful figures and unsung visionaries: Margaret Mead; Ruth Benedict; Ella Deloria, the Dakota Sioux activist who preserved the traditions of Great Plains Native Americans; and Zora Neale Hurston, whose studies under Boas led to Their Eyes Were Watching God. Together, they unearthed an essential fact buried by centuries of prejudice: that humanity is an undivided whole. $17, paperback.

In March 1621, the Wampanoag sachem (or chief), Ousamequin, and Plymouth’s governor, John Carver, declared their people’s friendship for each other and a commitment to mutual defense. Later that autumn, the English gathered their first successful harvest and Ousamequin and 90 of his men visited Plymouth for the “First Thanksgiving.” The treaty remained until King Philip’s War in 1675, when 50 years of uneasy peace ended. Silverman sheds new light on the Wampanoag before 1620 and after the devastating war, tracing their ongoing struggle for self-determination to this day. This unsettling history reveals why some modern Native people hold a Day of Mourning on Thanksgiving. $20, paperback.

This is an exploration of the contemporary influence of the Ottoman Empire on the wider world, as the author uncovers the new Ottoman legacy across Europe and the Middle East. It’s a story of surprises: an acolyte of Erdogan in Christian-majority Serbia confirms the wide-reaching appeal of his authoritarian leadership; a Druze warlord explains the secretive religious faction in the heart of the Middle East; and in Turkish Cyprus, the author rediscovers a childhood home. Faced by questions of exile, diaspora, and collective memory, he searches for answers from the cafes of Beirut to the refugee camps of Lesbos. $27.95, hardcover.
The Europeans: Three Lives and the Making of a Cosmopolitan Culture

Drawing from a wealth of archival materials, historian Orlando Figes examines the interplay of money and art that produced the first age of cultural globalization. At the center of the story is a poignant love triangle: the Russian writer Ivan Turgenev; the Spanish prima donna Pauline Viardot, with whom Turgenev had a long relationship; and her husband Louis Viardot, an art critic, theater manager, and republican activist. Together, they acted as a kind of European cultural exchange: they either knew or crossed paths with Delacroix, Berlioz, Chopin, Brahms, Liszt, the Schumanns, Hugo, Flaubert, Dickens, and Dostoyevsky, among many other towering figures. $23, paperback.

Lakota America: A New History of Indigenous Power

This first complete account of the Lakota Indians traces their rich and often surprising history from the early 16th to the early 21st century. The book explores the Lakotas’ roots as marginal hunter-gatherers and reveals how they reinvented themselves as a horse people who ruled supreme on the vast high plains. Red Cloud, Crazy Horse, and Sitting Bull are iconic figures in the American imagination, but in this groundbreaking book they emerge as something different: the architects of Lakota America, an expansive and enduring Indigenous regime that commanded human fates in the North American interior for generations. $22, paperback.

The Louvre: The Many Lives of the World’s Most Famous Museum

More than 7,000 years ago, men and women camped on a spot called le Louvre for reasons unknown; a clay quarry and a vineyard supported a society there in the first centuries AD. A thousand years later, King Philippe Auguste of France constructed a fortress there in 1191, just outside the walls of a city far smaller than the Paris we know today. During the French Revolution, it first opened its doors to display the nation’s treasures. Throughout the centuries, the Louvre has expanded to become home to a legendary collection whose often complicated and mysterious origins enliven a colorful narrative that rivals the building’s grand stature. $30, hardcover.

Warfare: The Definitive Visual History

The most wide-ranging and visually arresting history of wars and warfare ever published, this beautiful oversize book documents every major war or significant period of conflict in over 5,000 years of human history. A must-have reference gift for military enthusiasts and general readers alike, no other book about warfare contains such a diverse selection of imagery including contemporary paintings and photographs, objects and artifacts, and specially commissioned artworks, maps, and diagrams. $40, hardcover.
Selected and assayed for adventurous readers by the former chief book critic for the New York Times, this handsomely bound and illustrated collection recommends the best novels and memoirs by some of the most gifted writers working today; favorite classics worth rereading; and nonfiction works that illuminate our social and political landscape and some of today's most pressing issues, from climate change to medicine to the consequences of digital innovation. There are essential works in American history (The Federalist Papers, speeches by Martin Luther King, Jr.); books that address timely cultural dynamics (Kolbert’s The Sixth Extinction, Boorstin’s The Image); classics of children’s literature (Harry Potter, Sendak); and novels by acclaimed contemporary writers like Don DeLillo, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, and Ian McEwan. $25, hardcover.

The poster is a versatile marketing tool widely used from the 19th century to today for everything from political events to movies. A good poster has many layers, going beyond advertising to make statements about style, history, fashion, and taste. It is these layers that can turn a poster into a work of art. This beautifully illustrated and comprehensive history showcases 480 posters by more than 200 artists and designers. The book includes Art Nouveau, Bauhaus, Pop Art, and contemporary posters from preeminent artists such as Alphonse Mucha, Egon Schiele, Pablo Picasso, and Andy Warhol as well as from noted designers ranging from Lucian Bernhard to Saul Bass. $60.

This important translation by one-of-a-kind author and critic Guy Davenport features a variety of works by seven Greek poets and philosophers who lived from the 8th to the 3rd century BC. Salvaged from shattered pottery vases and tattered scrolls of papyrus, everything decipherable from the remains of these ancient authors is assembled here. The collection features Archilochos; Sappho; Alkman; Anakreon; the philosophers Herakleitos and Diogenes; and Herondas. Davenport was described by Bookforum magazine as having left behind “an oeuvre that is one long lesson in the history of civilization, and to read any part of it—story, essay, or translation—is to be enthralled by his unflagging intellectual energy and engagement.” $17.95, paperback.

For the first time in seven years, Allie Brosh, beloved author and artist of the extraordinary #1 New York Times bestseller Hyperbole and a Half, returns with a new collection of comedic, autobiographical, and illustrated essays. Solutions and Other Problems includes humorous stories from Allie Brosh’s childhood: the adventures of her very bad animals; merciless dissection of her own character flaws; incisive essays on grief, loneliness, and powerlessness; as well as reflections on the absurdity of modern life. $30, hardcover.
The Aztecs

The Aztec Empire was known as an alliance between the three city-states of Mexico (Tenochtitlan, Texcoco, and Tlacopan) from 1428 to 1521. These three city-states oversaw the area in and around the valley of Mexico and controlled most of central Mexico. This beautifully illustrated book showcases the beauty and artistry of the Aztec culture with unpublished finds such as rare feather shields, impressive stone sculptures, precious mosaic masks, and gold works as well as brilliantly colored, illustrated manuscripts that bring the world of the Aztecs to life. $39.95, hardcover.

Philosophy in the Garden

This new British title explores one of literature’s most intimate relationships: authors and their gardens. For some, the garden provided a retreat from workaday labor, for others, solitude’s quiet counsel. For all, it played a philosophical role: giving their ideas a new life. What unites the authors discussed here—Proust, Woolf, Colette, Rousseau, Orwell, Emily Dickinson, Kazantzakis—is not any one ideal, but a devotion to the garden itself: to its philosophical fertility. Despite being bookworms and paper moths, they did some of their best thinking al fresco. (Even Jean-Paul Sartre, whose hero in Nausea was sickened by a chestnut tree.) $18, hardcover.

Palestine: A Four Thousand Year History

This rich work traces Palestine’s millennia-old heritage, uncovering cultures and societies of astounding depth that stretch back to the very beginnings of recorded history. Starting with the earliest references in Egyptian and Assyrian texts, the author explores how Palestine and its identity have evolved over thousands of years, from the Bronze Age to the present day. Drawing on a rich body of sources and the latest archaeological evidence, Masalha shows how Palestine’s multicultural past has been distorted and mythologized by biblical lore and the Israel-Palestinian conflict. $16.95, paperback.

Afropean: Notes from Black Europe

This UK import is an on-the-ground documentary of areas where Europeans of African descent are juggling their multiple allegiances and forging new identities. Here is an alternative map of the continent, taking the reader to places like Cova Da Moura, the Cape Verdean shantytown on the outskirts of Lisbon with its own underground economy, and Rinkeby, the area of Stockholm that is 80% Muslim. Johny Pitts visits the former Patrice Lumumba University in Moscow, where West African students are still making the most of Cold War ties with the USSR, and Clichy Sous Bois in Paris, which gave birth to the 2005 riots, all the while presenting Afropeans as lead actors in their own story. $21.95, paperback.
Megalith: Studies in Stone

How do you predict eclipses at Stonehenge? Why were stone monuments built where they are? What is the meaning of the designs in ancient rock art? In this lavishly illustrated volume, eight expert authors guide readers through the history of rock structures in France, Poland, America, and Africa. Packed with detailed information and rare and exquisite engravings, woodcuts, and drawings, Megalith is a timeless and valuable sourcebook for our world's oldest buildings and our earliest visual art. $22, hardcover.

Quadrivium: The Four Classical Liberal Arts of Number, Geometry, Music, & Cosmology

The quadrivium refers to the classical curriculum comprising the four liberal arts of number, geometry, music, and cosmology. This is the first volume to bring together these four subjects in many hundreds of years. Composed of six successful titles in the bestselling Wooden Books series—Sacred Geometry, Sacred Number, Harmonograph, The Elements of Music, Platonic & Archimedean Solids, and A Little Book of Coincidence—it makes ancient wisdom and its astonishing interconnectedness accessible to us today. $22, hardcover.

Designa: Technical Secrets of the Traditional Visual Arts

From the geometric patterns of Islamic art and design to the swirling floral motifs of Celtic art, this bestselling book brings together six elegant and insightful short volumes from the Wooden Books series on art and design including Islamic Design, Celtic Pattern, Curves, The Golden Section, Symmetry, and Perspective. Lavishly illustrated with engravings, woodcuts, and original drawings and diagrams, this anthology will inspire readers of all ages to take an interest in the interconnected knowledge of art and design from different cultures throughout the world. $22, hardcover.

Trivium: The Classical Liberal Arts of Grammar, Logic, & Rhetoric

The trivium refers to the three liberal arts considered in classical Greece to be the pillars of critical thought: grammar, logic, and rhetoric. Trivium is a compendium of writings on the classical subjects at the heart of a liberal education, bringing the wisdom of the past into the 21st century. $22, hardcover.
Spectacle of Illusion: Deception, Magic, and the Paranormal

Organized thematically within a broadly chronological trajectory, this compelling book explores how illusions perpetuated by magicians and fraudulent mystics since the early 18th century can not only deceive our senses but also teach us about the inner workings of our minds. Mesmerism and spiritualism gave rise to professional magicians such as Houdini who set out to debunk paranormal claims. The book also relates the interactions between magicians, mystics, and scientists over the past 200 years. Illustrated throughout with entertaining and bizarre drawings, this unnerving volume highlights how unreliable our minds can be. $35, hardcover.

Cities of the Classical World: An Atlas and Gazetteer of 120 Centres of Ancient Civilization

From Alexandria to York, this unique illustrated guide allows us to see the great centers of classical civilization afresh. The key feature of Cities of the Classical World is 120 specially drawn maps tracing each city’s thoroughfares and defenses, monuments and places of worship. Every map is to the same scale, allowing readers for the first time to appreciate visually the relative sizes of Babylon and Paris, London and Constantinople. There is also a clear, incisive commentary on each city’s development, strategic importance, rulers, and ordinary inhabitants. This compelling and elegant atlas opens a new window on to the ancient world and will transform the way we see it. $24.95, paperback.

The House of Islam: A Global History

This new book seeks to provide entry to the minds and hearts of Muslims the world over. It introduces us to the story of the prophet Mohammed; the aims of sharia law, to provide an ethical basis to life through commentary on scripture; the beauty of Islamic art and the permeation of the divine in public spaces; and the tension between mysticism and literalism that still threatens the House of Islam. How can Muslims confront issues destroying Islam from within, and what can the West do to help work towards that end? Author Ed Husain, a self-described “former teenaged Islamist radical” who rejected extremism and now serves as a scholar and advisor to think tanks and governments, guides us through the nuances of Islam and its people. $30, hardcover.

Underland: A Deep Time Journey

New in paperback! Acclaimed nature writer Macfarlane delivers an epic exploration of the Earth’s underworlds as they exist in myth, literature, memory, and the land itself. Traveling through the dizzying expanse of geologic time—from prehistoric art in Norwegian sea caves, to the blue depths of the Greenland ice cap, to a deep-sunk “hiding place” where nuclear waste will be stored for 100,000 years—he takes us on an extraordinary journey into our relationship with darkness, burial, and what lies beneath the surface of both place and mind. $17.95, paperback.
**Atlas of a Lost World: Travels in Ice Age America**  
Renowned writer Craig Childs blends science and personal narrative to upend our notions of where the first people in the Americas came from and who they were. The first people in the New World were few, and their encampments fleeting. How they got here, persevered, and ultimately thrived is a story that resonates from the Pleistocene to our modern era, and it reveals how much has changed since the time of mammoth hunters as well as how little. Through it, readers will see the Ice Age and their own age in a whole new light. $17, paperback.

**Owls of the Eastern Ice: A Quest to Find and Save the World’s Largest Owl**  
Despite a wingspan of six feet and a height of over two feet, looking like a small feathered bear, the Blakiston’s fish owl is one of the most mysterious birds on earth. Avian conservationist Jonathan Slaght and his team set out to locate the owls in the forests of eastern Russia to craft a conservation plan. This quest sends them on all-night monitoring missions in freezing tents, mad dashes across thawing rivers, and free-climbs up rotting trees to check nests for precious eggs. At the heart of this story are the fish owls themselves: cunning hunters, devoted parents, singers of eerie duets, and survivors in a harsh and shrinking habitat. Longlisted for the 2020 National Book Award. $28, hardcover.

**A History of Islam in 21 Women**  
Beginning in 17th-century Mecca and Medina, this new book takes us around the globe: through 11th-century Yemen and Khorasan, into 16th-century Spain, Istanbul, and India, to 19th-century Persia and the African savannah, through 20th-century Russia, Turkey, Egypt, and Iraq, before finally arriving in present-day Europe and America. From the first believer, Khadija, and the other women who witnessed the formative years of Islam to award-winning architect Zaha Hadid in the 21st century, Hossein Kamaly celebrates the lives and groundbreaking achievements of these extraordinary women in the history of Islam. $24.95, hardcover.

**Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents**  
Beyond race, class, or other factors, there is a powerful caste system that influences people’s lives and behavior and the nation’s fate. Linking the caste systems of America, India, and Nazi Germany, Wilkerson explores eight pillars that underlie caste systems across civilizations, including divine will, bloodlines, stigma, and more. Using riveting stories about people like Martin Luther King, Jr., baseball’s Satchel Paige, a single father and his toddler son, even Wilkerson herself, she shows the ways that the insidious undertow of caste is experienced every day. Beautifully written, original, and revealing. $32, hardcover.
Artcurious: Stories of the Unexpected, Slightly Odd, and Strangely Wonderful in Art History

Everyone knows Monet, thanks in no small part to ubiquitous reproductions of his water lilies on a million products. But did you know that Monet’s paintings were originally deemed unbelievably ugly and vulgar? And you probably know the tale of Vincent van Gogh’s suicide; were you aware there’s pretty compelling evidence that the artist didn’t die by his own hand but was accidentally killed, or even murdered. Or how about the fact that one of Andy Warhol’s most enduring legacies involves Caroline Kennedy’s moldy birthday cake and a collection of toenail clippings? Based on the popular ArtCurious podcast, this is a colorful look at the world of art history, revealing fascinating stories behind the world’s great artists and masterpieces. $17, paperback.

The War for Gaul: A New Translation

Here is a book about an unnecessary war written by the ruthless general of an occupying army, a dramatic propaganda piece that forces the reader to identify with the conquerors and designed, like the war itself, to fuel the political ambitions of the author. While letting Caesar tell his battle stories in his own way, classicist James O’Donnell also fills in the rest of the story in a substantial introduction and notes that explain why The War for Gaul is the “best bad man’s book ever written,” a great book that, as O’Donnell says, “gets war exactly right and morals exactly wrong.” $27.95, hardcover.

Collision of Worlds: A Deep History of the Fall of Aztec Mexico and the Forging of New Spain

Spaniards led by Cortes joined forces with tens of thousands of Mesoamerican allies to topple the mighty Aztec Empire, a template for the forging of much of Latin America and the globalized world. The violent clash and the Aztec-Spanish war of 1519-21 and the new colonial order it created were millennia in the making, entwining cultural developments of both sides of the Atlantic. Mesoamerican archaeologist David Carballo offers perspective with a focus on the physical world, similarities and differences in trans-Atlantic perspective, and their interweaving in conquest and colonialism as well as the resilience of Native peoples. $34.95, hardcover.

The Pandemic Century: One Hundred Years of Panic, Hysteria, and Hubris

How can we understand the COVID-19 pandemic? In The Pandemic Century, a lively account of scares both infamous and less known, a medical historian combines reportage with the history of science and medical sociology to artfully reconstruct epidemiological mysteries and the ecology of infectious diseases. We meet dedicated disease detectives, obstructive or incompetent public health officials, and brilliant scientists often blinded by their own knowledge of bacteria and viruses—and see how fear of disease often exacerbates racial, religious, and ethnic tensions. $17.95, paperback.
**Forgotten Peoples of the Ancient World**

The ancient world of the Mediterranean and the Near East saw the birth and collapse of great civilizations. While several of these are well known, for all those that have been recorded, many have been unjustly forgotten. This thorough guide explores those civilizations that have faded from the pages of our textbooks but played a significant role in the development of modern society. From the Hyksos to the Hethalites and everyone in between, this new book provides a unique overview of humanity’s history from approximately 3000 BC-550 AD. A wide range of illustrated artifacts and artworks as well as specially drawn maps help to tell the stories of 40 lost peoples and allow readers to take a direct look into the past. $34.95, hardcover.

**When Germs Travel: Six Major Epidemics That Have Invaded America and the Fears They Have Unleashed**

In this riveting account, medical historian Howard Markel takes an eye-opening look at the fragility of the American public health system. He tells the distinctive stories of six epidemics—tuberculosis, bubonic plague, trachoma, typhus, cholera, and AIDS—to show how our chief defense against diseases from outside the US has been to attempt to deny entry to carriers. He shows that such an approach is useless in today’s world of bustling international travel and porous borders, and makes a compelling case for a globally funded public health program that could stop the spread of epidemics and safeguard the health of everyone on the planet. $16, paperback.

**Life Changing: How Humans Are Altering Life on Earth**

We are now living through the “post-natural phase,” where the fate of all living things is irrevocably intertwined with our own. We domesticated animals to suit our needs and altered their DNA. And this was only the beginning. As our knowledge grew, we found new ways to tailor the DNA of animals more precisely; we’ve now cloned police dogs and created a little glow-in-the-dark fish. Through climate change, humans have now affected even the most remote environments and their inhabitants, and studies suggest that through our actions we are forcing some animals to evolve at breakneck speed. Today, it’s not just the fittest that survive; sometimes it’s the ones we decide to let live. $28, hardcover.

**Tales from the Ant World**

Animating his scientific observations with illuminating personal stories, Pulitzer Prize-winning author and naturalist Wilson homest in on 25 ant species to explain how they talk, smell, taste, and, more significantly, how they fight to determine who is dominant. Wryly observing that “males are little more than flying sperm missiles” or that ants send their “little old ladies into battle,” Wilson eloquently relays his brushes with ant species across the board. Richly illustrated throughout with depictions of ant species, as well as photos from Wilson’s expeditions throughout the world, this is a fascinating personal account by one of our greatest scientists. $26.95, hardcover.
The Heart of Awareness: A Translation of the Ashtavakra Gita

The Ashtavakra Gita conveys with beauty and simplicity the essential teachings of Advaita Vedanta, the most influential of the Hindu philosophical systems. Composed by an anonymous master of the school of the great sage Shankara, it is a book of practical advice for seekers of wisdom as well as an ecstatic expression of the experience of enlightenment. In this simple, aphoristic version, the translator conveys the clarity and lyricism of the Sanskrit original with fluency and precision. Psychologist-turned-spiritual-leader Baba Ram Dass said of this translation, “As water wears away stone, so these profoundly simple truths wear away illusion.” $19.95, paperback.

Chromatopia: An Illustrated History of Color

Did you know that the Egyptians created the first synthetic color and used it to create the famous blue crown of Queen Nefertiti? Or that the noblest purple comes from a predatory sea snail? Throughout history, pigments have been made from deadly metals, poisonous minerals, urine, cow dung, and even crushed insects. From grinding down beetles and burning animal bones to alchemy and pure luck, this book reveals the origin stories behind more than 50 of history’s most vivid color pigments. Featuring informative and detailed color histories, from the ancient world to modern leaps in technology, and vibrantly illustrated throughout, this book will add a little chroma to anyone’s understanding of the history of colors. $39.95, hardcover.

Enlightened Contemporaries: Francis, Dōgen, & Rūmī, Three Great Mystics of the Thirteenth Century and Why They Matter Today

Linking Christian, Buddhist, and Islamic mystical teachings within a vibrant historical context, this newly published study shows how these three spiritual masters, all alive during the same century, not only complement each other but also remain profoundly relevant in the 21st century. It also deftly examines how they all engaged the world in the context of five shared themes: spiritual love, nature, the body, the role of women, and balancing retreat from society with active involvement. $16.95, paperback.

The Philosopher and the Druids: A Journey Among the Ancient Celts

Early in the first century BC, a Greek philosopher named Posidonius began an ambitious and dangerous journey into the little-known lands of the Celts. A man of great intellectual curiosity and considerable daring, Posidonius traveled from his home on the island of Rhodes to Rome, the capital of the expanding empire that had begun to dominate the Mediterranean. From there Posidonius planned to investigate for himself the mysterious Celts, reputed to be cannibals and savages. His journey would be one of the great adventures of the ancient world. $17.95, paperback.
New! Stigmatized and relegated to the margins of Roman society, the Goths were violent “barbarians” who destroyed “civilization,” at least in the conventional story of Rome’s collapse. But a slight shift of perspective brings their history shockingly alive. Alaric grew up near the river border that separated Gothic territory from Roman. In stark contrast to the rising bigotry, intolerance, and zealotry among Romans during Alaric’s lifetime, the Goths, as practicing Christians, valued religious pluralism and tolerance. Marginalized and demonized, Alaric and the Goths rioted for three nights and struck fear into the hearts of the powerful. $26.95, hardcover.

This stunning new book includes more than 400 reproductions of treasures of Islamic art that span the world: from southern Europe, along the entire Mediterranean basin to sub-Saharan Africa through the Middle East, India, and Central Asia. Arranged geo-graphically, the objects include paintings, miniatures, ceramics, calligraphy, textiles, carpets, and metal works. Each region is given a detailed introduction that offers historical context and extensive descriptions of its artifacts. Accompanying essays offer guidance in interpreting the many themes that tie these works together, including typology, calligraphy, and religious beliefs. With its large format, exquisite reproductions, and extensive research, this book is a thorough introduction to the Islamic artistic tradition. $40, hardcover.

From Byzantine manuscripts right through to 19th-century masterpieces, through peonies, callas, and chrysanthemums, these exquisite reproductions dazzle in their accuracy and their aesthetics. Whether in gently furled leaves, precisely textured fruits, or the sheer beauty and variety of colors, we celebrate an art form as tender as it is precise, and ever more resonant amid our growing awareness of our ecological surroundings and the preciousness of natural flora. A gorgeous book from the art publisher Taschen. **Bargain price: $19.98**, hardcover.
Just published! In 668 BC, Ashurbanipal inherited the largest empire in the world, which stretched from the shores of the eastern Mediterranean to the mountains of western Iran, ruling from his massive capital at Nineveh in present-day Iraq. This survey features images of objects excavated from all corners of the empire and highlights the British Museum’s unrivaled collection of Assyrian reliefs, bringing to life the tumultuous story of Ashurbanipal’s reign: his conquest of Egypt, the crushing defeat of his rebellious brother, and his ruthless campaign against the Elamite rulers of southwest Iran. $45, paperback.

Follow an epic animal race, a quest for a disembodied hand, and an emu egg hunt in constellation stories from diverse cultures. A world expert on cultural understandings of cosmology, Anthony Aveni provides an unconventional atlas of the night sky, introducing readers to tales beloved for generations. The constellations included are not only the typical Greek and Roman myths but also star patterns conceived by a host of cultures, non-Western and indigenous, ancient and contemporary. $26, hardcover.

Just published! As the horrors of World War I come to a close, the stage is set for a great intellectual drama that will unfold across the next decade. The lives and ideas of this extraordinary philosophical quartet will converge as they become world historical figures. But as World War II looms on the horizon, their fates will be very different. This book, which features not only philosophers but some of the most important economists, politicians, journalists, and artists of the century, traces the paths of these remarkable lives, illuminating with rare clarity their challenging and brilliant ideas. $30, hardcover.
Carlos Museum best seller! This charmingly illustrated, highly informative field guide to understanding art history explains the aesthetics of schools of painting from the Renaissance masters and Impressionists to the Cubists and Modernists. In the first part of the book, the author reveals how to read paintings by considering five key areas: shape and support, style and medium, compositional devices, genre, and the meaning of recurring motifs and symbols. The second part explores fifty paintings through extracted details, accompanied by insightful commentary, training the reader and viewer to understand context and discover meaning within art. $18.95, paperback.

Despite a wingspan of six feet and a height of over two feet, looking like a small feathered bear, the Blakiston’s fish owl is one of the most mysterious birds on earth. Avian conservationist Jonathan Slaght and his team set out to locate the owls in the forests of eastern Russia to craft a conservation plan. This quest sends them on all-night monitoring missions in freezing tents, mad dashes across thawing rivers, and free-climbs up rotting trees to check nests for precious eggs. At the heart of this story are the fish owls themselves: cunning hunters, devoted parents, singers of eerie duets, and survivors in a harsh and shrinking habitat. Longlisted for the 2020 National Book Award. $28, hardcover.

Newly published! Mathematics has always been a way of understanding and ordering the world, from sacred ancient texts and pre-Socratic philosophers to 20th-century logicians such as Russell and Frege and beyond. Here, Italian mathematician Paolo Zellini offers a brief cultural and intellectual history of mathematics from ancient Greece to India to our contemporary obsession with algorithms, showing how mathematical thinking is inextricably linked with philosophical, existential, and religious questions—and indeed with our cosmic understanding of the world. $27.95, hardcover.

Historian Jean Manco makes the latest genetic data—typically only available in scholarly research—engaging and accessible to the general reader and reveals data that have overturned the suppositions of population continuity that until recently were popular among geneticists and archaeologists. The result is an exciting new history of the English people and an entertaining analysis of their development. Featuring illustrations and charts to explain the recent research, this book is for anyone who is interested in the history of English ancestry and language. $16.95, paperback.
Gustav Klimt: Drawings and Paintings

One of our best-selling books of all time! In this beautiful and inexpensively priced monograph from the German publisher Taschen, all of Klimt’s major works are gathered alongside authoritative art historical commentary to trace the evolution of his astonishing oeuvre. With top quality illustration, we follow Klimt through his prominent role in the Secessionist movement of 1897, his candid rendering of the female body, and his lustrous golden phase when gold leaf brought a shimmering tone and texture to such beloved works as The Kiss and Portrait of Adele Bloch Bauer I. **Bargain price: $19.98, hardcover.**

Vermeer: The Complete Works

His works – only 35 of them - draw record visitor numbers at art institutions from Amsterdam to Washington, DC, and special crowd-control measures at the Mauritshuis, The Hague, where thousands flock to catch a glimpse of Girl with a Pearl Earring. In his lifetime, however, Vermeer’s fame barely extended beyond his native Delft and a small circle of patrons. After his death, his name was largely forgotten, except by a few Dutch art collectors. This compact Taschen edition presents the calm yet compelling scenes so treasured in galleries across Europe and the United States in one high quality monograph. **Bargain price: $19.98, hardcover.**

Caravaggio: The Complete Works

Each painting of Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio (1571-1610) appears from recent top-quality photography, allowing for a vivid encounter with the artist’s ingenious repertoire of looks and gestures as well as numerous detail shots of his boundary-breaking naturalism, whether a grubby foot or the soft folds of a sagging stomach. Five accompanying chapters trace the complete arc of Caravaggio’s career from his first public commissions in Rome to his growing celebrity status, while the book’s detailed chronology traces his tempestuous personal life, in which drama loomed as prominently as in his chiaroscuro canvases. **Bargain price: $19.98, hardcover.**

What Great Paintings Say: 100 Masterpieces in Detail

This important addition to our understanding of art history’s masterworks puts some of the world’s most famous paintings under a magnifying glass to uncover their smallest and subtlest elements as well as what they reveal about a bygone time, place, and culture. Guiding our eye to the minutiae of subject and symbolism, this bestselling study allows even the most familiar of pictures to be rediscovered through myriad intricacies and intrigues. As we pick apart each painting and then reassemble it like a giant jigsaw puzzle, these celebrated canvases captivate not only in their sheer wealth of details but also in the witness they bear to the fashions and trends, people and politics, and loves and lifestyles of their time. **Bargain price: $19.98, hardcover.**
**20th Century Photography**

Cologne’s Museum Ludwig was the first museum of contemporary art to devote a substantial section to international photography. The L. Fritz Gruber collection, from which this book is drawn, is one of the most important in its diversity. From conceptual art to abstraction to reportage, all of the major movements and genres are represented via a vast selection of the century’s most remarkable photographs. From Ansel Adams to Piet Zwart, over 850 works are presented in alphabetical order by photographer, with descriptive texts and photographers’ biographical details. **Bargain price: $19.98, hardcover.**

**Frédéric Chaubin: CCCP**

Frédéric Chaubin’s award-winning architectural curiosity, *Cosmic Communist Constructions Photographed*, explores 90 buildings in 14 former Soviet Republics. In their puzzle of styles and their outlandish strategies, these buildings are extraordinary remnants of a collapsing Soviet Russian system. At the same time, they immortalize many of the ideological dreams of the country and its time, from an obsession with the cosmos to the rebirth of identity. **Bargain price: $19.98, hardcover.**

**Small Architecture**

Another beautiful Taschen art book! Whether in Japanese cities, where large sites are hard to come by or at the frontier between art and architecture, small buildings present many advantages and push their designers to do more with less. A dollhouse for Calvin Klein in New York, a playhouse for children in Trondheim, pop-up stores for fashion stars, vacation cabins, and housing for victims of natural disasters are all part of the new rush to develop the great small architecture. **Bargain priced at $20, hardcover.**

**Hieronymus Bosch: The Complete Works**

Carlos Museum Bookshop best seller! Only 20 paintings and eight drawings are confidently assigned to this Netherlandish painter, but in their fantastical visions they have secured his place as one of the most cultish artists in history. This beautiful compact edition offers the complete and haunting Bosch world through full spreads and carefully curated details, encountering his hybrid creatures, his nightmarish scenarios, his religious and moral framework, and his pictorial versions of contemporary proverbs and idioms. Along the way, art historian and Bosch expert Stefan Fischer reveals the most important themes and influences in these cryptic, mesmerizing masterpieces. **Bargain price: $19.98, hardcover.**
Beowulf: A New Translation

Nearly 20 years after Seamus Heaney’s translation of Beowulf, and 50 years after the standard translation that continues to torment high school students around the world, there is a radical new verse translation of the epic poem by author Maria Dahvana Headley, which brings to light elements that have never before been translated into English. From its jarringly contemporary opening words—“Bro! Tell me we still know how to talk about kings!”—her brash translation uses modern slang and social media slang to revitalize this ancient story, while recontextualizing the binary narrative of monsters and heroes into a tale in which the two categories often entwine, justice is rarely served, and dragons live among us. $15, paperback.

A Little History of Archaeology

This recent addition to the Yale Little History series tells the riveting stories of some of the great archaeologists and their amazing discoveries around the globe: ancient Egyptian tombs, Mayan ruins, the first colonial settlements at Jamestown, mysterious Stonehenge, the incredibly preserved Pompeii, and many, many more. In 40 brief, exciting chapters, the book recounts archaeology’s development from its 18th-century origins to its 21st-century technological advances. $15, paperback.

Dark Skies: A Journey Into the Wild Night

In this beautifully written narrative, the author explores nocturnal landscapes and investigates how our experiences of the night-time world have permeated our history, folklore, science, geography, art, and literature. She travels around Britain and Europe to learn more about nocturnal landscapes and humanity’s connection to the night sky, and delves into the history of the ancient rituals and seasonal festivals that for thousands of years humans have linked with the light and dark halves of our year. How has our relationship with darkness and the night sky changed over time? How have we used stars and other cosmic phenomena to tell stories about our lives and the land around us? $24, hardcover.

How the World Thinks: A Global History of Philosophy

Julian Baggini sets out to expand our horizons, exploring the philosophies of Japan, India, China, and the Muslim world as well as the lesser-known oral traditions of Africa and Australia’s first peoples. Interviewing thinkers from around the globe, Baggini asks questions such as: why is the West more individualistic than the East? What makes secularism a less powerful force in the Islamic world than in Europe? And how has China resisted pressures for greater political freedom? $12.99, paperback.
**The Sacred Wisdom of the Native Americans**

Despite their many differences, all Native Americans share a profound appreciation of the cycles of nature and a belief in the cosmic interconnectedness of all things. Professor Larry J. Zimmerman tells the tragic tale of their conquest and dispossession, followed by their survival against the odds and the renewal of pride in a distinctive cultural heritage. Learn about American Indian traditions that create a unique Native American identity. Their crafts and their reverence for the land are also both described in detail, inspiring us to turn our thoughts to the natural world and our own place in it. **Bargain price: $14.98, hardcover.**

**Long Live Latin: The Pleasures of a Useless Language**

From the acclaimed novelist and Oxford professor Nicola Gardini, a passionate look at the Latin language: its history, authors, essential role in education, and enduring impact on modern life. The author shares his deep love for the language, enriched by his tireless intellectual curiosity, and warmly encourages us to engage with a civilization that has never ceased to exist. The author suggests that, even without a single lick of Latin grammar, we can discover how this language is still capable of restoring our sense of identity with a power that only “useless” things can miraculously express. **$26, hardcover.**

**Freedom: The Overthrowing of the Slave Empires**

This new study focuses not on abolitionism or the brutality and suffering of slavery, but on the resistance of the enslaved themselves—from sabotage and absconding to full-blown uprisings—and its impact in overthrowing slavery. The author also looks at the whole Atlantic world, including the Spanish Empire and Brazil, all of which revolved around the enslavement of 12 million Africans. Yet it declined, collapsed, and was destroyed by a complexity of forces that, to this day, remains disputed, but there is no doubting that it was in large part defeated by those it had enslaved. **$27.95, hardcover.**

**Gingko: The Tree that Time Forgot**

Inspired by the historic ginkgo that has thrived in London’s Kew Gardens since the 1760s, renowned botanist Peter Crane explores the history of the ginkgo from its mysterious origin through its proliferation, drastic decline, and ultimate resurgence. Crane also highlights the cultural and social significance of the ginkgo: its medicinal and nutritional uses, its power as a source of artistic and religious inspiration, and its importance as one of the world’s most popular street trees. Readers of this book will be drawn to the nearest ginkgo, where they can experience firsthand the timeless beauty of the oldest tree on Earth. A living link to the age of dinosaurs, it survived the great ice ages as a relic in China, but it earned its reprieve when people first found it useful about a thousand years ago. **$25, paperback.**
This fascinating and intimate insight into ancient Egyptian sex and sexuality demystifies an ancient way of life, drawing on archaeological evidence and the written record to build a picture of what really went on in the bedrooms of the pharaohs and their subjects. Sex was a prominent part of ancient Egyptian society, featuring heavily in religion, mythology and artwork. Many of the trials and tribulations that were faced are as relevant today as they were in the past: marriage, divorce, and adultery are all discussed as well as prostitution, homosexuality, sexual health, and fertility. $16.95, paperback.

But wait, there’s more! Also available: In Bed with the Ancient Greeks, In Bed with the Romans, and In Bed with the Tudors.

Caravaggios, Rembrandts, Monets, the works of immortal artists … behind many of these brilliant paintings and sculptures are fascinating, unique histories, and award-winning writer Harvey Rachlin relates in exciting detail how nearly 30 of these works came to be created and how they survived burglary, forgery, revolutions, ransoms, vandals, scandals, religious sects, and shipwrecks to eventually come to their current resting places. $15, paperback.

What enabled us to go from simple stone tools to smart phones? How did bands of hunter-gatherers evolve into multinational empires? In Transcendence, Gaia Vince argues that modern humans are the product of a nuanced coevolution of our genes, environment, and culture that goes back into deep time. She explains how, through four key elements—fire, language, beauty, and time—our species diverged from the evolutionary path of all other animals, unleashing a compounding process that turned itself into something marvelous. $30, hardcover.

Newly published! In the ancient world, if you needed a love charm, wanted to contact your dead wife, or needed the ability to fly like a bird, the magicians of Egypt were the ones who could make it happen. Historian Christina Riggs explores how the Egyptians thought about magic, who performed it and why, and helps readers understand why we’ve come to think of ancient Egypt in such a mystical way. Here you can learn how to cure scorpion bites as well as ensure that an annoying neighbor gets his comeuppance, and learn how to save a fortune on pregnancy tests—urinating on barley grains will answer that question. $24.95, hardcover.
Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind

A runaway best seller around the world! Dr. Yuval Noah Harari spans the whole of human history, from the very first humans to walk the earth to the radical—and sometimes devastating—breakthroughs of the Cognitive, Agricultural, and Scientific Revolutions. He explores how the currents of history have shaped our human societies, the animals and plants around us, and even our personalities. Have we become happier? Can we ever free our behavior from the heritage of our ancestors? And what, if anything, can we do to influence the course of the centuries to come? $24.99, paperback.

The Rumi Prescription: How an Ancient Mystic Poet Changed My Modern Manic Life

To writer, activist, and Emory alumna, Melody Moezzi, Rumi’s writings became a lifeline. In The Rumi Prescription, we follow her path of discovery as she translates Rumi’s works for herself—to gain wisdom and insight in the face of a creative and spiritual roadblock. With the help of her father, who is a lifelong fan of Rumi’s poetry, she immerses herself in this rich body of work, and discovers a 13th-century prescription for modern life. $27, hardcover.

The Source of Self-Regard: Selected Essays, Speeches, and Meditations

Here is Toni Morrison in her own words—a rich gathering of her most important essays and speeches spanning four decades. These pages give us her searing prayer for the dead of 9/11, her Nobel lecture on the power of language, her searching meditation on Martin Luther King Jr., and her heart-wrenching eulogy for James Baldwin. She looks deeply into the fault lines of culture and freedom: the foreigner, female empowerment, the press, money, “black matter(s),” human rights, the artist in society, and the Afro-American presence in American literature. $16.95, paperback.

The Art Spirit

Carlos Museum best-seller! “Art when really understood is the province of every human being.” So begins The Art Spirit, the collected words, teachings, and wisdom of innovative artist and beloved teacher Robert Henri. Henri, who painted in the Realist style and was a founding member of the Ashcan School, believed in the interactive nature of creativity and inspiration, and in the enduring power of art. Since its first publication in 1923, this book has inspired artists and creatives from David Lynch to George Bellows. Filled with valuable technical advice as well as wisdom about the place of art and the artist in American society, this classic work continues to be a must-read for anyone interested in the power of creation and the beauty of art. $19.99, paperback.
**The Map of Knowledge: A Thousand-Year History of How Classical Ideas Were Lost and Found**

Best seller! This thrilling history tracks three crucial books as they were passed hand to hand through seven cities over a thousand years. After the great library at Alexandria was destroyed, Baghdad, Cordoba, Toledo, Salerno, and Palermo were rare outposts of knowledge in a dark world. We enter into the sparkling intellectual life that flourished there, especially noting the role played by Arab scholars in improving the cornerstone ideas of Western thought, and how foundational works on math, astronomy, and medicine by Euclid, Ptolemy, and Galen eventually reached Venice, the major center of scientific printing, where their legacy was assured. $17.95, paperback.

**The Shadow of Vesuvius: A Life of Pliny**

When Pliny the Elder perished at Stabiae during the eruption of Vesuvius in 79 AD, he left behind an enormous compendium of knowledge, his 37-volume *Natural History*, and a teenaged nephew who revered him as a father. Grieving his loss, Pliny the Younger inherited the Elder’s notebooks—filled with pearls of wisdom—and his legacy. Interweaving the younger Pliny’s *Letters* with extracts from the Elder’s *Natural History*, Daisy Dunn paints a vivid, compellingly readable portrait of two of antiquity’s greatest minds. $29.95, hardcover.

**Jungle of Stone: The Extraordinary Journey of John L. Stephens and Frederick Catherwood, and the Discovery of the Lost Civilization of the Maya**

This fascinating book recounts the remarkable story of the discovery of the ancient Maya. Enduring disease, war, and the torments of nature and terrain, Stephens and Catherwood meticulously uncovered and documented the remains of an astonishing civilization that had flourished in the Americas at the same time as classical Greece and Rome, and had been its rival in art, architecture, and power. They were the first to grasp the significance of the Maya remains, understanding that their antiquity and sophistication overturned the West’s assumptions about the development of civilization. $17.99, paperback.

**Cosmological Koans: A Journey to the Heart of Physical Reality**

Could there be a civilization on a mote of dust? How much of your fate have you made? Using pleasingly paradoxical vignettes known as koans, which follow the ancient Zen tradition and have a flair for explaining complex science, physicist Anthony Aguirre tackles cosmic questions from the meaning of quantum theory and the nature of time to the origin of multiple universes, inviting the reader into an intellectual adventure of the highest order. Bestselling author/physicist Carlo Rovelli calls this “a gem of a book.” $18.95, paperback.
Perhaps the most spectacular of all Greek vases, the Sarpedon krater—looted from an Etruscan tomb in 1971—depicts the body of Sarpedon, a hero of the Trojan War, being carried away to his homeland for burial. It was decorated some 2,500 years ago by Athenian artist Euphronios, and its subsequent history involves tomb raiding, intrigue, duplicity, litigation, international outrage, and possibly even homicide. Nigel Spivey explores this history in a concise, stylish book that braids together the creation and adventures of this extraordinary object with an exploration of its abiding influence as a stellar work of Greek art. $25, hardcover.

A Carlos Museum Bookshop best seller! In this fresh approach to the history of the Black Death, John Hatcher, a world-renowned scholar of the Middle Ages, recreates everyday life in a mid-14th-century rural English village. By focusing on the experiences of ordinary villagers as they lived and died during the Black Death (1345–50 AD), Hatcher vividly places the reader directly into those tumultuous years and describes in fascinating detail the day-to-day existence of people struggling with the tragic effects of the plague. Dramatic scenes portray how contemporaries must have experienced and thought about the momentous events—and how they tried to make sense of it all. $18, paperback.

This newly revised edition provides a readable and thorough overview of the Yoruba tradition and its influence in the West. The author describes the 16 Orisha, or spirit gods, and shows us how to work with divination, use the energy centers of the body to internalize the teachings of Yoruba, and create a sacred place of worship. The book also includes prayers, dances, songs, offerings, and sacrifices to honor the Orisha. $16.95, paperback.

Just published and imported from the UK! If you’ve ever wanted to learn how to read hieroglyphs, this book is the perfect guide, teaching the basics about deciphering Egyptian hieroglyphs with the help of hundreds of the most commonly used hieroglyphs arranged in easy-to-use tables with translations, plus examples from monuments, ancient documents, and museum exhibits. Fully illustrated throughout with line drawings, tables, and maps, this guide will enthrall anyone who craves the satisfaction of actually understanding the writing which adorns Egyptian monuments and artifacts. $24.95, hardcover.
In just three decades at the end of the 19th century, the heart of Africa was utterly transformed. Virtually closed to outsiders for centuries, by the early 1900s the rainforest of the Congo River basin was one of the most brutally exploited places on earth. Historian Robert Harms reconstructs the chaotic process by which this happened.

Beginning in the 1870s, traders, explorers, and empire builders from Arabia, Europe, and America moved rapidly into the region, where they pioneered a deadly trade in ivory and rubber for Western markets and in enslaved labor for the Indian Ocean rim. Beginning in the 1870s, traders, explorers, and empire builders from Arabia, Europe, and America moved rapidly into the region, where they pioneered a deadly trade in ivory and rubber for Western markets and in enslaved labor for the Indian Ocean rim. Ranging from remote African villages to European diplomatic meetings to Connecticut piano-key factories, this book reveals how equatorial Africa became enmeshed within our global world.

Boudica, or Boadicea, queen of the Iceni, led a famous revolt against Roman rule in Britain in 60 AD, sacking London, Colchester, and St. Albans, and throwing the province into chaos. Although later defeated by the governor, Suetonius Paulinus, her rebellion sent a shock wave across the empire. This book is an account of what we know about the real woman from classical literature written for the consumption of readers in Rome, from the archaeological evidence, and from her extraordinary posthumous career as the earliest famous woman in British history.

From the beautiful apsaras of Hindu myth to the swan maidens of European fairy tales, stories of flying women reveal the perennial fascination with and ambivalence about female power and sexuality. Anthropologist Serinity Young examines the motif of the flying woman in a wide variety of cultures and historical periods. She considers the Valkyries of Norse legend, who transport men to immortality; winged deities like the Greek goddesses Iris and Nike; figures of terror like the Furies, witches, and succubi. Throughout, Young demonstrates that female power has always been inextricably linked with female sexuality and how to control it.
This book by noted Egyptologist Toby Wilkinson includes stories of god-kings from great rulers such as Khufu and Ramesses II to less famous monarchs such as Amenemhat I and Osorkon; powerful queens such as Tiye, the beautiful Nefertiti, and the infamous Cleopatra as well as ordinary women who are often overlooked in official accounts: Hemira, a humble priestess from a provincial Delta town, and Naunakht, whose will reveals the trials and tribulations of family life. $16.95, paperback.

Hatshepsut, Nefertiti, and Cleopatra controlled the totalitarian state as power-brokers and rulers. Egyptologist Kara Cooney delivers a fascinating tale of female power, exploring the reasons why it has seldom been allowed through the ages—and why we should care. $16.99, paperback.

Imported from the UK. Life for the average Egyptian had little connection with the pharaonic splendor of royal courts. The author draws from ancient manuscripts to tell the history of the ordinary population of ancient Egypt: often strange, at times amusing, ultimately very recognizable. We meet a number of fascinating people, including a woman who married a man twice her age and turned to the god Imhotep to help her conceive a son; Kenhirkhopshef, a man seemingly obsessed with making lists; and Paneb, the “bad boy” of Deir el-Medina. $16.95, paperback.

The lives of pharaohs and commoners alike were dominated by the need to honor, worship, and pacify the huge pantheon of deities, from the benevolent to the malevolent. This book examines the evolution, worship, and eventual decline of the numerous gods and goddesses that made Egypt the most theocratic society of the ancient world and made Egyptians, according to Herodotus, “more religious than any other people.” With hundreds of illustrations and specially commissioned drawings, this title remains the most comprehensive and authoritative guide to the deities that lay at the heart of Egyptian religion and society. $26.95, paperback.
A Carlos Museum Bookshop favorite author! An endlessly fascinating work of scientific thought and synthesis, this is famed naturalist Edward O. Wilson’s 21st-century statement on Darwinian evolution. Asserting that religious creeds and philosophical questions can be reduced to purely genetic and evolutionary components, and that the human body and mind have a physical base obedient to the laws of physics and chemistry, Wilson demonstrates that the only way for us to fully understand human behavior is to study the evolutionary histories of nonhuman species, many of them found to have advanced societies based on altruism and cooperation. $15.95, paperback.

In 1763, the painter Joshua Reynolds proposed to his friend Samuel Johnson that they invite a few friends to join them every Friday at the Turk’s Head Tavern in London to dine, drink, and talk until midnight. The group came to include among its members Edmund Burke, Adam Smith, Edward Gibbon, and James Boswell. With the friendship of the “odd couple” Samuel Johnson and James Boswell at the heart of his narrative, Damrosch conjures up the exciting, often brutal world of late 18th-century Britain and an extraordinary group who helped to shape their age and our own. $20, paperback.

Many human beings have considered the powers and the limits of human knowledge, but few have wondered about the power that the idea of knowledge has over us. Here is the first book to investigate this emotional inner life of knowledge: the lusts, fantasies, dreams, and fears that the idea of knowing provokes; in-depth discussions of the imperious will to know; Freud’s epistemophilia (or love of knowledge); and the curiously insistent links between madness, magical thinking, and the desire for knowledge. $35, hardcover.

Carefully curated, these 200 plus poems feature Oliver’s work from her very first book of poetry, No Voyage and Other Poems, published in 1963 at the age of 28, through her most recent collection, Felicity, published in 2015. This timeless volume, arranged by Oliver herself, showcases the beloved poet at her edifying best. Within these pages, she provides us with an extraordinary and invaluable collection of her passionate, perceptive, and much-treasured observations of the natural world. $30, hardcover, or $20 paperback.