

Why I Write

BY IRA SUKRUNGRUANG

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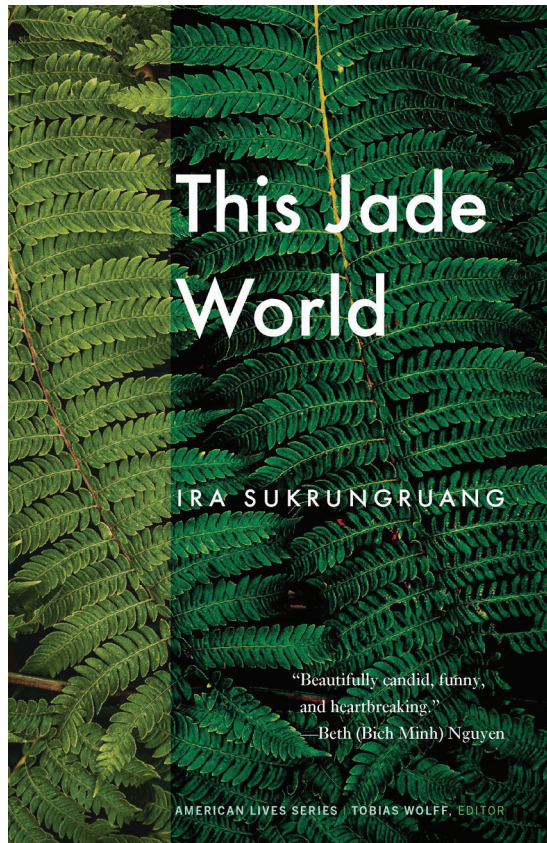
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When I was five or six, at a playground in south Chicago, an older white boy came up to me and said, “You don’t belong here.” I don’t remember much of what he looked like, but in this memory it is his hair I recall—brilliant blonde, so shiny in the sunlight. I was sitting in a sandbox doing what I usually do in sandboxes, grabbing handfuls of sand and letting it sift through my fingers. The boy didn’t seem malicious in any way. He said what he needed to say and went off toward the swings. I heeded his words though. I’d heard them before; my entire Thai immigrant family had. We heard them when racial slurs were hurled at us. We heard them every time our mailbox was hit off its post. We heard them when police officers didn’t come when we called to report a group of teenagers were dancing in the wet cement of our newly paved driveway. *You don’t belong here.*



Ira Sukrungruang

There were other spaces I didn’t belong in. I didn’t belong in school. I wasn’t supposed to go to college and get a degree, let alone two. I wasn’t supposed to be a writer or professor. I didn’t belong at the higher education institutions I’ve taught at. My kind—whatever that meant—were not meant to venture outside our predetermined lane.



I believed this. I believed I didn't belong anywhere.

The freest space I knew was the page. Here twined possibility and impossibility. Here I confronted the questions I had about the world and my place in it. I had so many questions. Endless questions. Here I voiced the things my family—who had been made voiceless—wanted to say. Here I ventured into spaces that were closed off, restricted. The page eliminated the artificial lines of boundaries and borders. There were no confines, whereas in the world I felt closed in, trapped. I felt, sometimes, as if I were being squeezed of all my breath. In the world I believed that white boy on the playground. I didn't belong, would never belong, could never belong. On

the page I wrote myself into belonging, my loud announcement to those who believed otherwise. I wrote myself into a self.

Writing saved my life. It's what I tell my students at the end of every semester. Find the thing that will save your life. I think a lot about the boy I was, playing in the sandbox, the boy who needed saving, the boy who needed to know that his existence on this planet matters, that his thoughts and ideas and fears matter. Why do I write? I write to tell that boy and others like him, *You belong. Don't let them tell you otherwise.*

IRA SUKRUNGRUANG is the author of five books, including *Buddha's Dog and Other Meditations*, *Southside Buddhist*, an American Book Award winner, and *Talk Thai: The Adventures of Buddhist Boy*. He is the president of *Sweet: A Literary Confection* (sweetlit.com) and is the Richard L. Thomas Professor of Creative Writing at Kenyon College.



UNP Welcomes New Director Jane Ferreyra

UNP welcomes its new director, Jane Ferreyra, who took the reins following the retirement of Donna Shear. Jane is a seasoned professional, having served as director of Wayne State University Press in Detroit for fifteen years. Most recently she was executive director of the Hawk Migration Association of North America.

“I am honored to be returning to the world of academic publishing as the director of the University of Nebraska Press. UNP has a long, rich history of publishing stellar books and journals within the Press’s areas of specialization that contribute to scholarly discourse and have regional, national, and global appeal,” said Ferreyra. “It is a privilege to join this talented staff and a university that so values and celebrates its Press, and I am excited to work to further build on its reputation and success.”

Jane holds a bachelor’s degree in English from Wayne State University and a master’s in English from Indiana University. Jane is an avid reader, puzzler (crossword and jigsaw), hiker,



Jane Ferreyra

and amateur birder and printmaker. She and her husband, Cristian, arrived in Lincoln in late August and have busied themselves with exploring the city and the campus and getting settled in their downtown apartment with their animals.

“Cristian and I are excited about all the interesting and fun things there are to do in

Lincoln,” she said. “We’re really happy to be right downtown, in the middle of everything. We’ve loved discovering more about campus and visiting the many campus-based cultural institutions like the Sheldon, the Lied, and the State Museum.”

In addition to learning about her new city, Jane has plunged head-on into her new duties as Press director, including working with the NU Foundation on its new campaign. “I’m pleased that I’m able to work with the Foundation at the start of this significant fundraising campaign,” she says. “I have extensive

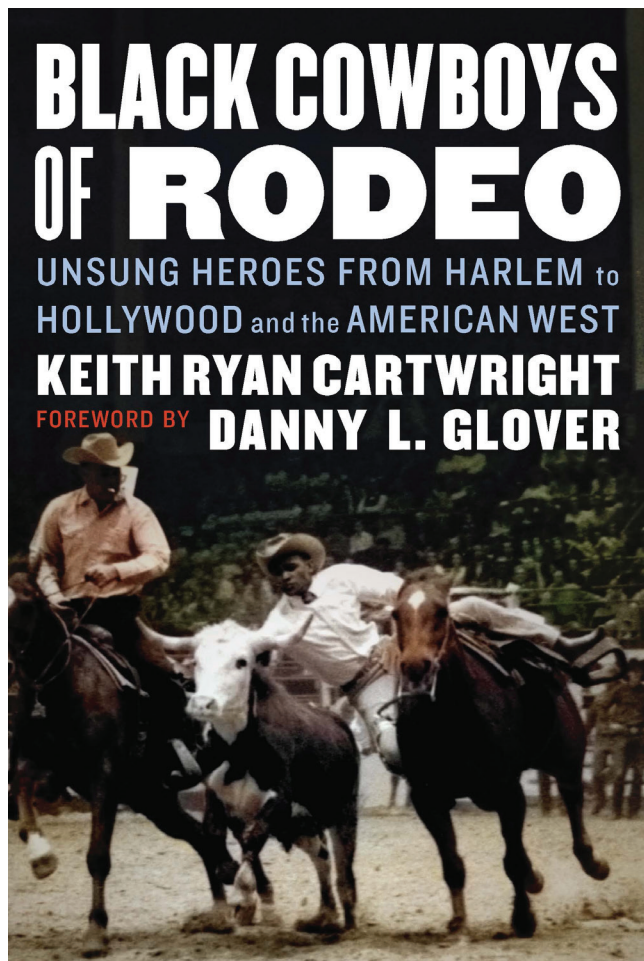
experience in fundraising and I look forward to traveling the state and the country to meet with donors and potential donors to tell them the compelling story of UNP.”

Jane has also spent the past few weeks meeting UNL faculty, including members of the Press Advisory Board, as well as series editors, authors, and contributors. “What an interesting and formidable faculty UNP works with,” she says. “I’m looking forward to meeting more of them in the coming weeks and months and to collaborating on the important work of the Press.”



Behind the Book

BY KEITH RYAN CARTWRIGHT, author
of *Black Cowboys of Rodeo: Unsung Heroes from
Harlem to Hollywood and the American West*



Black Cowboys of Rodeo: Unsung Heroes from Harlem to Hollywood and the American West, my new book from UNP, reveals how, much like Jackie Robinson and other Black athletes throughout the twentieth century, Black cowboys stood up in the face of adversity, enduring hardships and collectively breaking through many racial barriers and glass ceilings in pursuit of their sport. Through more than one hundred years' worth of cowboy stories set against the backdrop of Reconstruction, Jim Crow, segregation, the civil rights movement, and, eventually, the integration of a racially divided country, the narratives I was fortunate enough to capture here give a vibrant, unvarnished, and comprehensive look at a seldom-documented segment of the African American experience.

In pursuit of these hidden stories, I conducted more than eight hundred hours of interviews over three years with more than 130 subjects, including African American scholars, civil

rights leaders, and Black cowboys, along with the cowboys' friends and family. Thirty-five of the thirty-eight chapters are intimate first-hand accounts.

I found many of these Black cowboys from the late 1800s and early 1900s—their stories, family members, and descendants—through social media. Facebook in particular proved to be a modern-day time capsule when it came to uncovering their often-overlooked and mostly untold stories. More than half the book's chapters are a direct result of meeting Black cowboys, their family members, friends, and fellow cowboys online.

As a former television producer, I began this project in spring of 2017 by doing what we would refer to as pre-production. I started by writing a logline. Just two sentences describing what I *thought* the story was and then followed with a list of bullet points outlining anything I already knew along with a list of people, museums, and libraries that might prove useful. I noted anything that might re-



Keith Ryan Cartwright

late to the subject of Black cowboys and made a calendar of potential trips.

Not one time in this pre-production stage did I mention using social media platforms as part of my process. However, after the first of several trips I made to Texas and later Oklahoma, I began sharing photos, anecdotes, and other short essays online from the interviews and conversations I had recorded. The more I learned, the more I posted—and I continued this practice right up through my last pre-pandemic trip to Harlem and Brooklyn.

The online comments people left (and still leave) proved to me there is an overwhelming curiosity when it comes to the subject of Black cowboys. I pressed on. Soon enough, I had Facebook friends who messaged me ask-

“The myths and legend of the American West meet the real-life struggles and triumphs of Black cowboys in this fascinating account from journalist Cartwright. . . . This stirring history will have readers rethinking the very definition of Americana.”—Publishers Weekly, starred review

ing if I had heard of the LeBlanc family from Okmulgee, Oklahoma? I hadn't. I have now, and they are a big part of the book.

Eventually people went from sharing new info with me to asking if I had the answers to their questions. I was even bringing some of the cowboys, who had not seen one another in years, back together. My experience using social media as a primary research tool was made even better by a friendship I developed with Reginald T. Dorsey that resulted in the book's foreword by the actor, film director, and activist Danny L. Glover.

Without all those connections, *Black Cowboys of Rodeo* would have been a very different book. Thanks to social media and the cooperation of so many willing participants in the research process, it became an up-close and personal view of an important and long-overlooked narrative in American history. I'm thrilled to be able to share it with all the people I interviewed and with readers everywhere.

**UNP SENIOR ACQUISITIONS EDITOR
ROB TAYLOR RESPONDS:**

Just as Keith writes about developing his book with the help of social media, social media also was a part of how UNP ended up as his publisher. I didn't know Keith when he sent me a Twitter message in May 2020, complimenting UNP on a book jacket that he had seen. It was good timing because just prior to hearing from him, I'd seen a story of his on the all-Black rodeo in Harlem in 1971. I'd wondered if he had a book-length work in mind, so when we connected, I asked him, and in fact he had nearly finished his book and was now seeking a publisher. Just a couple of weeks after hearing from him, we had signed with him to publish *Black Cowboys of Rodeo*.

What makes this book so special are all the cowboys who shared their stories with Keith, many for the first time in print. Among the larger-than-life characters in the book are Cleo Hearn, the first Black cowboy to professionally rope in the Rodeo Cowboy Associa-

“The narratives I was fortunate enough to capture here give a vibrant, unvarnished, and comprehensive look at a seldom-documented segment of the African American experience.”

tion; Myrtis Dightman, who’s been described as the “Jackie Robinson of rodeo” after being the first Black cowboy to qualify for the National Finals Rodeo; and Tex Williams, the first Black cowboy to become a state high school rodeo championship in Texas, just to name a few. I wanted to publish *Black Cowboys of Rodeo* because it reveals a timely and vitally important aspect of American culture, telling that largely hidden history through the words and stories of these revolutionary Black pioneers themselves.

KEITH RYAN CARTWRIGHT is a communications specialist for the Rutherford County Board of Education in Tennessee, an adjunct professor at Middle Tennessee State University, and a journalist. He previously served as editorial director and senior writer for Professional Bull Riders Inc.



The author with Myrtis Dightman Sr. (left) and Myrtis Dightman Jr. during a lecture on Black cowboy history given to youth at the Buffalo Soldiers National Museum in Houston, Texas, February 2021.

UNP Press Advisory Board Member Mark Scherer Exemplifies Commitment to Teaching, Research, and Service

*BY MATT BOKOVOY, UNP
SENIOR ACQUISITIONS EDITOR*

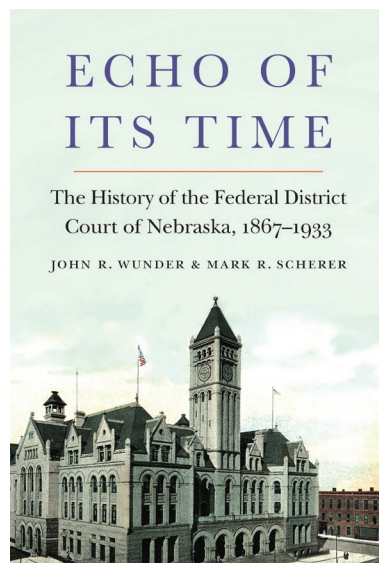
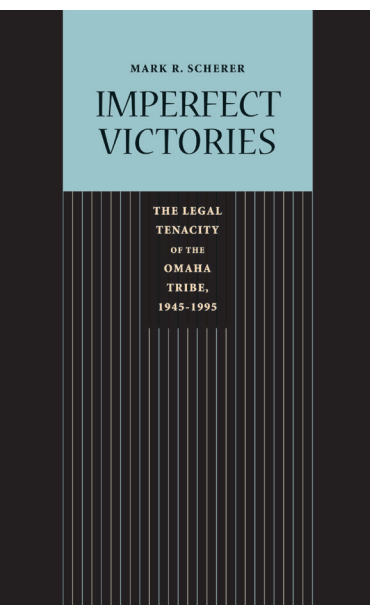
Mark Scherer has spent his twenty-two-year career at the University of Nebraska–Omaha’s Department of History enjoying the three main duties of his professorship: teaching, research, and service. Currently the Charles and Mary Caldwell Martin Professor of Western American History at UNO, Mark spent his early professional career as a lawyer in Columbus, Ohio. With a J.D. from the Ohio State University College of Law, Mark has argued cases in the Supreme Courts of Nebraska and Ohio, as well as in many federal district and circuit courts. But a part of his family history and upbringing in southern Ohio’s rural lands eventually convinced him to dedicate his life to teaching, research, and service.

Growing up on traditional Shawnee Indian Nation homelands, “I was always fascinated by the historic folklore of that region and the indigenous artifacts that we occasionally came across on the family farm,” he recalls. “My attraction to history was nurtured by a grandmother who was a long-time teacher in a two-room country schoolhouse.” With



Mark Scherer

a family background in education and as the spouse of a new UNO faculty member in the late 1980s, Mark made the decision to enroll at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln to pursue a PhD in history (American legal, Nebraska, great plains, western, and Native American). Working with mentors Dr. Michael Tate,



Dr. Jerry Simmons, and Dr. John Wunder, he was able to turn a lifelong passion for history into a new vocation when he began work at UNO in 1999.

Mark is the author of four books, including *Rights in the Balance: Free Press, Fair Trial, and Nebraska Press Association v. Stuart* (Texas Tech University Press, 2008); *Imperfect Victories: The Legal Tenacity of the Omaha Tribe* (UNP, 1999); and his most recent book, coauthored with John Wunder, *Echo of Its Time: The History of the Federal District Court of Nebraska* (UNP, 2019). At the University of Nebraska–Omaha, Mark teaches courses in legal and constitutional history, Native American and Indigenous studies, and Nebraska and great plains history among other related subjects.

Due to his research and teaching interests, Mark has appeared on Nebraska Public Media (formerly NETV), PBS, History Channel, C-Span, and other media outlets. He has been invited to deliver talks at institutions such as the First Amendment Center of the Newseum in Washington DC. Mark's work has

been supported by grants from the American Society for Legal History, the National Press Foundation, the Center for Great Plains Studies, the UNO Martin Fund, the First Amendment Center, the Nebraska State Bar Association, and the Omaha Bar Association, among other institutions and organizations.

In his spare time Mark enjoys team sports such as baseball and football and also singular games like golf. He played baseball in college for the Ohio State University and has been a coach for his sons' baseball and other sports teams. The mentoring aspect of coaching fits well with the main aspect of teaching and pedagogy.

Despite all his accomplishments and recognition, Mark finds the most satisfaction in both teaching and service, particularly in the classroom engaging with his colleagues and students at UNO. "The most satisfying aspects of my career have been the relationships I've developed with my colleagues," says Mark, "and the reminders of the impact that we can all have on the lives and minds of our students." His service on the UNP Press Advisory Board has been rewarding as well as eye-opening, another reason Mark enjoys his role on the board. "The exposure to the new manuscripts being evaluated by the Press provides a welcome and much-needed 'recharging' effect on my own work," he notes, "as I am reminded of the dynamic, diverse, and multidisciplinary new approaches that are being advanced by the current generation of scholars and writers."



In Memoriam

Paul A. Johnsgard

1931–2021



GWYNETH ROBERTS, LINCOLN JOURNAL STAR

Paul Johnsgard sits for a portrait in 2019 at Holmes Lake in Lincoln, one of his favorite places to spend time watching birds. The prolific author and University of Nebraska professor emeritus died in May 2021 at age 89.

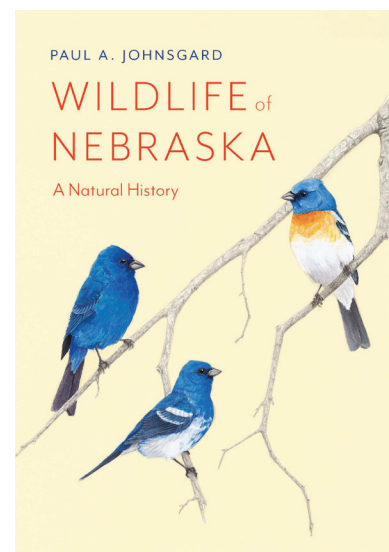
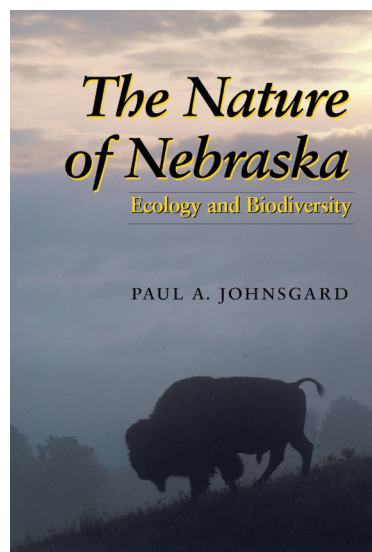
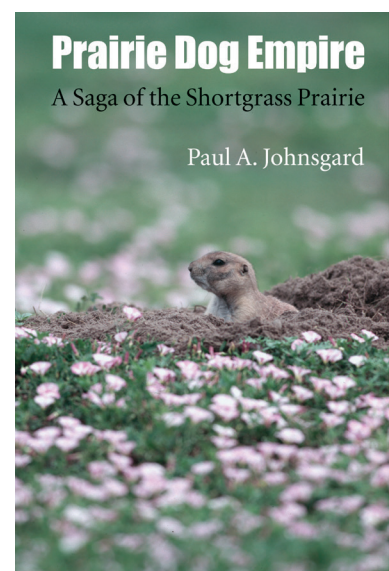
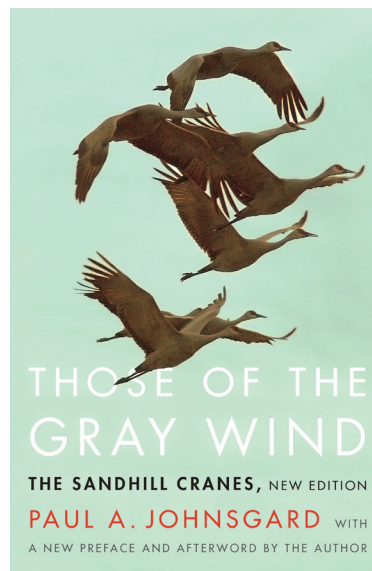
Paul A. Johnsgard, an internationally respected naturalist and UNP author, passed away on May 28, 2021, at the age of eighty-nine.

Johnsgard was a professor emeritus of biological sciences at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Alongside his teaching, his writing and photography helped raise public awareness to the value of the Nebraska wildlife, especially the sandhill crane migration. His work contributed to the conservation efforts taking place along the Platte River and helped Nebraskans understand the importance of the state's grasslands and prairies for sustaining biodiversity.

He received conservation and research awards from the National Audubon Society, the American Ornithologists' Union, the National Wildlife Federation, and other state and national organizations. Johnsgard was the author of more than one hundred books on natural history, including *Those of the Gray Wind: The Sandhill Cranes* (Bison Books,

2017), *Prairie Dog Empire: A Saga of the Shortgrass Prairie* (Bison Books, 2014), *The Nature of Nebraska: Ecology and Biodiversity* (Bison Books, 2005), and *Wildlife of Nebraska: A Nebraska History* (Bison Books, 2020).

“Paul was a prolific UNP author whose love of the Nebraska wildlife came through in all his books. He will be missed by the Press and the wider university community,” said UNP director Jane Ferreyra.



UNP Mourns Loss of Scholars DeMallie and Parks

The University of Nebraska Press lost two of its most renowned scholars this spring with the passing of both Raymond J. DeMallie (October 16, 1946–April 25, 2021) and Douglas R. Parks (August 28, 1942–May 20, 2021).

As Senior Editor Matthew Bokovoy said in remembering them: “Ray DeMallie and Douglas Parks’s distinguished careers in the fields of anthropological linguistics, ethnohistory, and cultural anthropology left an important legacy in these fields. By establishing and cultivating long-term networks among many great plains Native nations, they were some of the first scholars in the 1960s and 1970s to pioneer collaborative research and elevate oral traditions to a first-order primary source with which to revise Frederick Jackson Turner’s frontier thesis. This effort situated Native peoples’ points of view and historical consciousness into the center of both ethnohistory and Native American and Indigenous studies. Their PhD students became the leading great plains ethnohistorians of their generations as well.”

Both DeMallie and Parks were prolific scholars and researchers and many of their major works were published by UNP. In addition, Parks served as editor of the UNP journal *Anthropological Linguistics* from 1991 until his death. He founded and coedited with DeMallie the three book series *Studies in the Anthropology of North American Indians*, *Studies in the Native Languages of the Americas*, and *Sources of American Indian Oral*



Raymond J. DeMallie

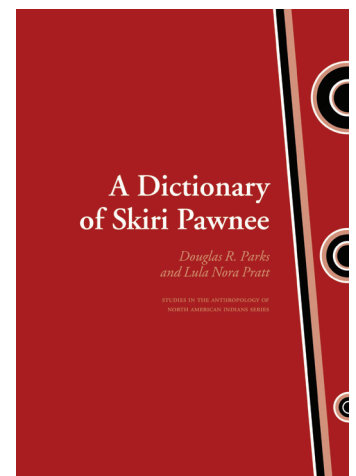
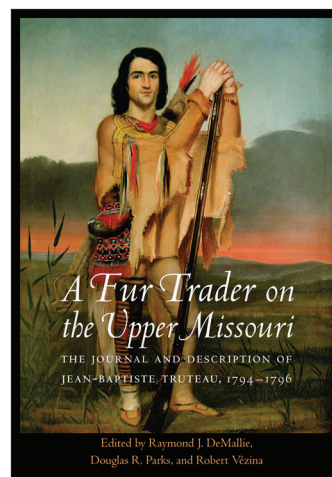
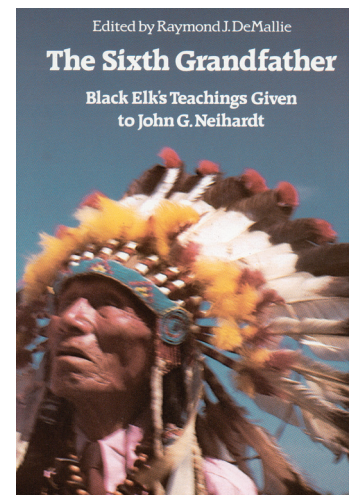
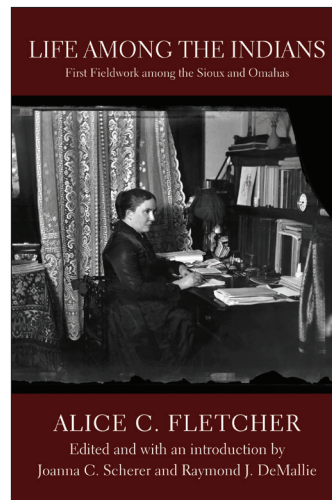
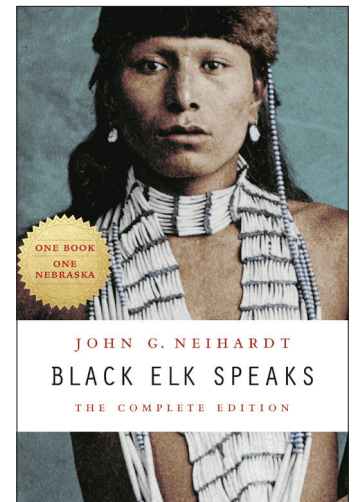
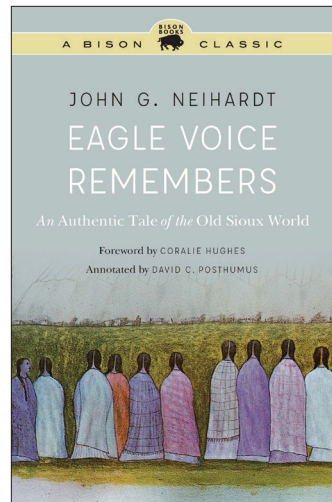
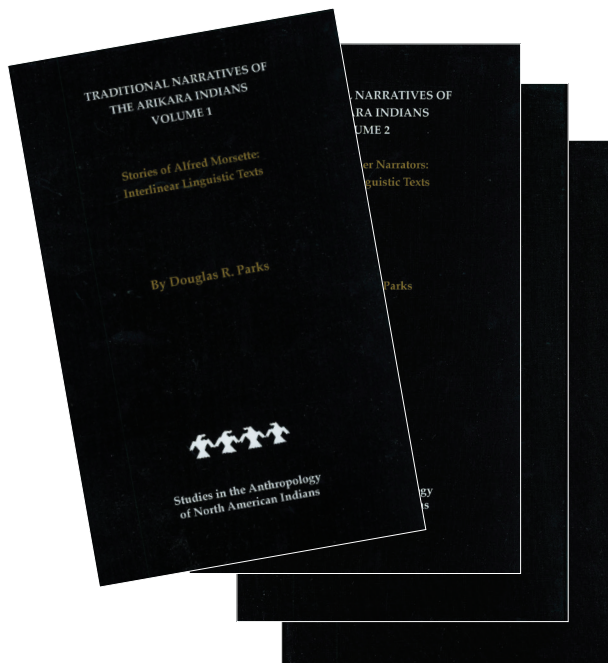


Douglas R. Parks

Literature, all published by UNP. Among his many publications is his four-volume set of traditional Arikara narratives, also published by UNP. DeMallie contributed a number of edited volumes, introductions, forewords, and annotations to UNP works, including his annotation of *Black Elk Speaks*.

Perhaps one of their most lasting and significant achievements was the establishment in 1984 of the American Indian Studies Institute at Indiana University, which would go on to become one of the leading interdisciplinary institutes on American Indian culture, linguistics, and history.

“UNP will sorely miss the contributions and scholarship of these two great men,” said Jane Ferreyra, director of the Press, “but their work published here will continue to be available to new generations of scholars.”

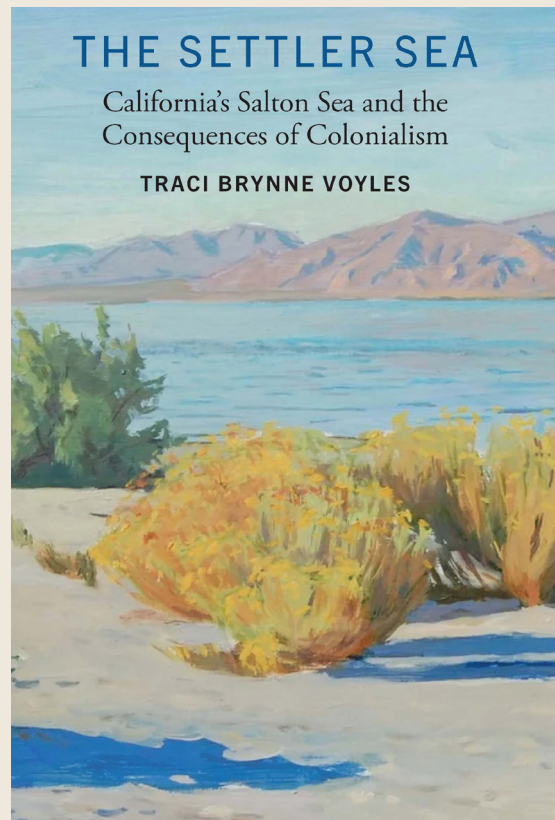


UNP Publishes New Book Series: Many Wests

The University of Nebraska has long been a leading publisher in the history and culture of the American West and its borderlands. That's why we are thrilled to announce Many Wests, a new book series that builds upon UNP's tradition of excellence in this discipline. Many Wests will publish distinguished scholarship that advances western history's methods and topics in new directions and will make a major impact on its scholarly field. Further, through strong narrative and engaging writing style, the books in Many Wests will capture for scholars and general readers alike evolving interpretations of the history of the American West.

In a creative move for a history book series, all authors accepted into the Many Wests series participate in a manuscript workshop with the series editors and other scholars. The workshops, generously funded by the McCabe Greer Book Manuscript Workshop, the George and Ann Richards Civil War Era Center, and the Pennsylvania State University Department of History, provide a collaborative and constructive environment for authors to receive assistance with their manuscripts and foster an intellectual community around the series. We have seen excellent results from the workshops in the upcoming books.

The first book in the series, *The Settler Sea: California's Salton Sea and the Consequences of Colonialism* by Traci Brynne Voyles, published this month. *The Settler Sea* is an original exploration of the Salton Sea, Southern California's largest inland body of water that is



“Drawing on deep research, Voyles analyzes her subject matter brilliantly. Moreover, her prose is evocative, giving the reader a deep sense of both place and change over time. Consistently absorbing, The Settler Sea offers a powerful and disturbing history of a place that illuminates the costs of centuries of colonialism and points to the future.”—Christina Snyder, author of Great Crossings: Indians, Settlers, and Slaves in the Age of Jackson

both human-maintained and long considered a looming environmental disaster.

“We are delighted to have Traci Brynne Voyles’s innovative new book as the inaugural work for our Many Wests series,” said series editor Mary E. Mendoza. “Chapter by chapter, Voyles traces the history of the sea from its convoluted beginnings to its equally fraught development and change over time. Along the way, she skillfully disentangles the complicated web of relationships woven by settler colonialism that worked to reinforce white supremacy, telling stories of both dispossession and resilience. This work is the future of environmental history and essential for historians of the west.”

Forthcoming books in the series will explore diverse topics including nature and the American empire, American Indian and American art of twentieth-century New Mexico, Indigenous foodways, the coal industry, and Black Hills tourism.

We are delighted to present the Many Wests series and look forward to seeing it grow and expand in the coming years.



**Many Wests is edited
by five award-winning
and renowned western
history scholars:**

Thomas G. Andrews

*(University of
Colorado–Boulder)*

Ari Kelman *(University*

of California–Davis)

Amy Lonetree *(University of*

California–Santa Cruz)

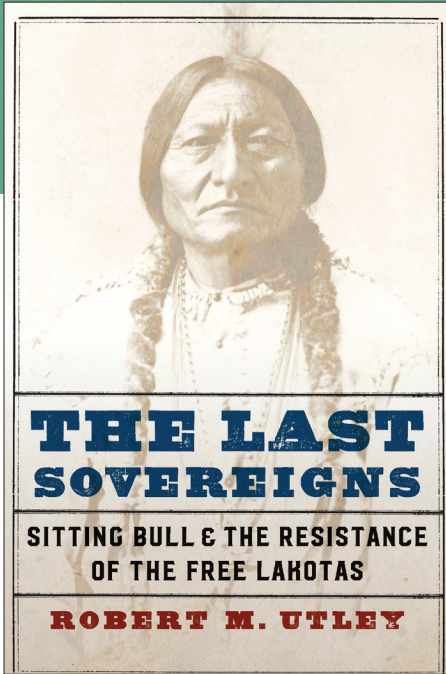
Mary E. Mendoza

*(Pennsylvania State
University)*

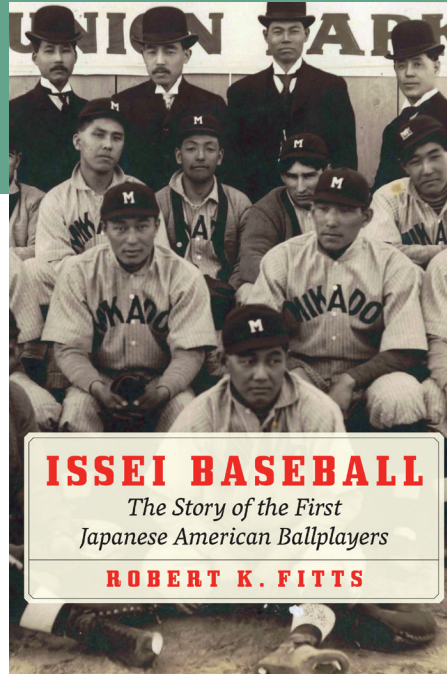
Christina Snyder

*(Pennsylvania State
University)*

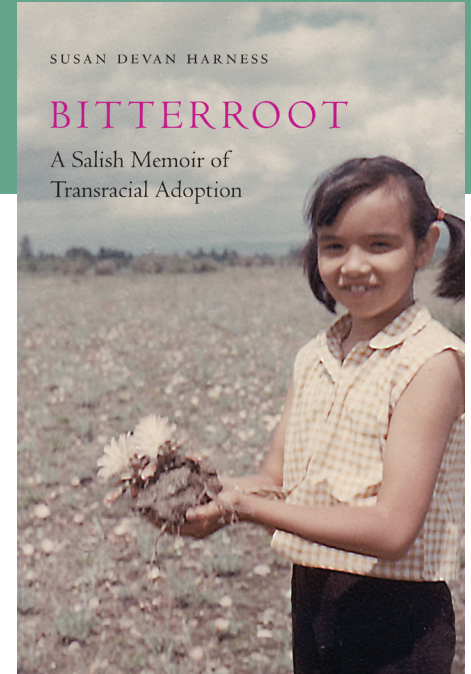
Awards



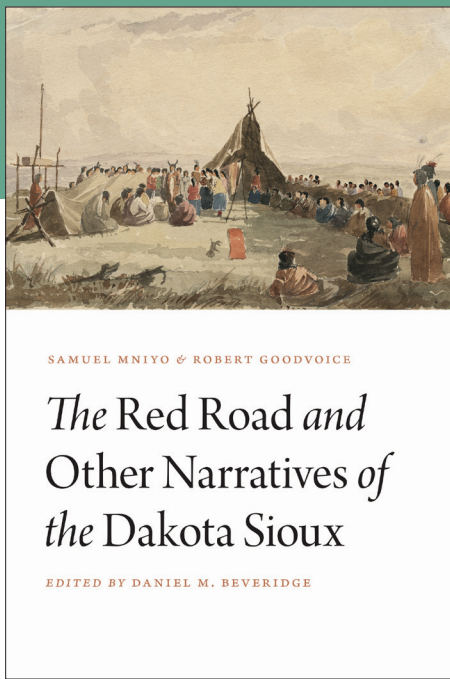
The Last Sovereigns: Sitting Bull and the Resistance of the Free Lakotas, by Robert M. Utley, won the 2021 Spur Award for Best Historical Nonfiction from the Western Writers of America.



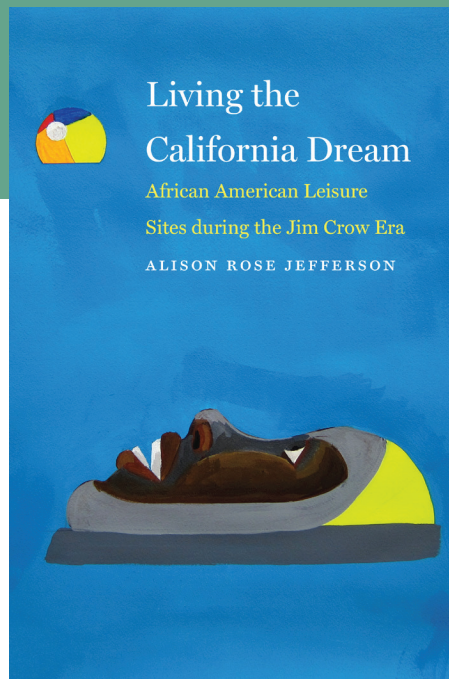
Issei Baseball: The Story of the First Japanese American Ballplayers, by Robert K. Fitts, won a 2021 SABR Baseball Research Award from the Society for American Baseball Research.



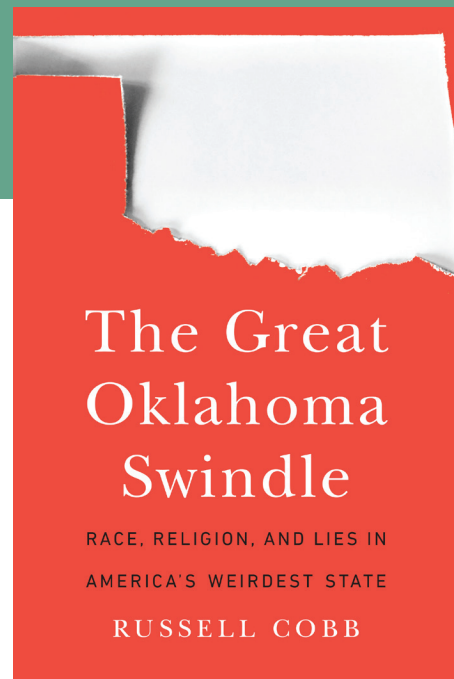
Bitterroot: A Salish Memoir of Transracial Adoption, by Susan Devan Harness, won the 2021 Barbara Sudler Award from History Colorado and two 2019 High Plains Book Awards, one each in the Creative Nonfiction and Indigenous Writer categories.



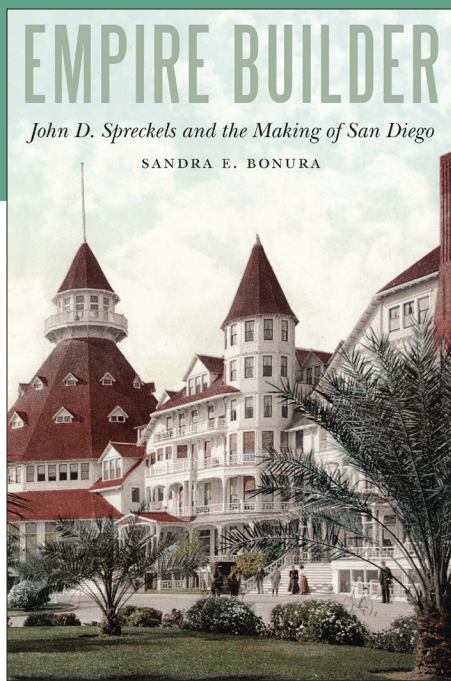
The Red Road and Other Narratives of the Dakota Sioux, by Samuel Mniyo and Robert Goodvoice, edited by Daniel M. Beveridge with Jurgita Antoine, won the 2021 University of Regina Faculty of Arts/University of Saskatchewan College of Arts and Science Jennifer Welsh Scholarly Writing Award in the Saskatchewan Book Awards.



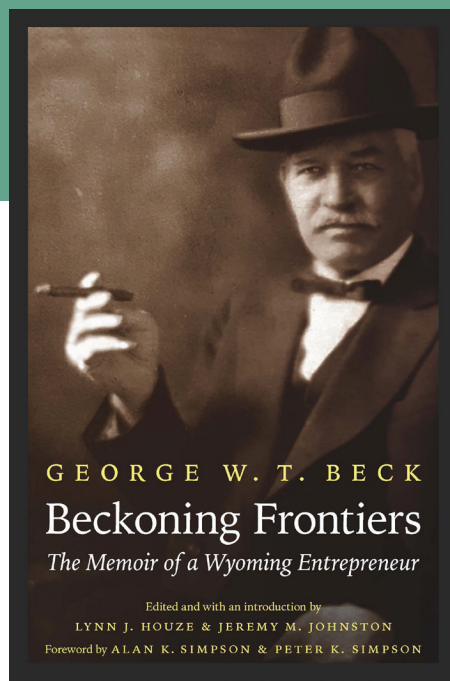
Living the California Dream: African American Leisure Sites during the Jim Crow Era, by Alison Rose Jefferson, won the 2020 Miriam Matthews Ethnic History Award from the Los Angeles City Historical Society.



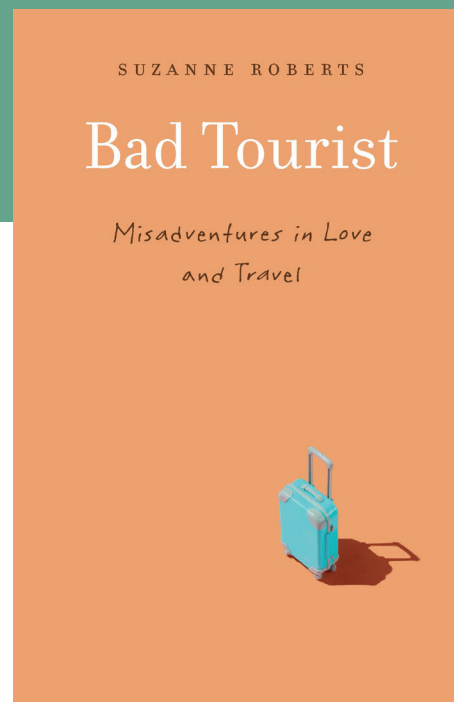
The Great Oklahoma Swindle: Race, Religion, and Lies in America's Weirdest State, by Russell Cobb, won the 2021 Director's Award in the Oklahoma Book Awards.



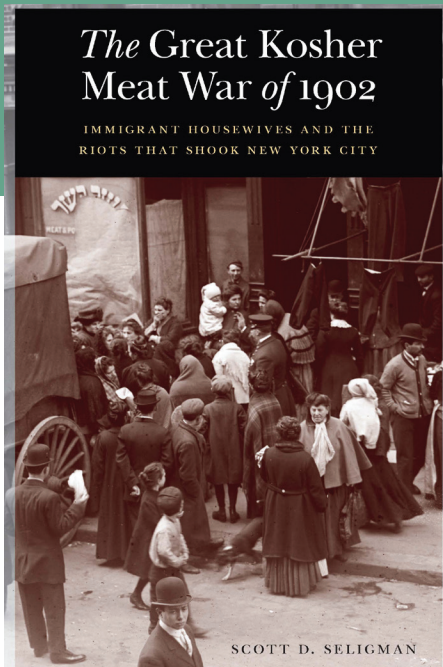
Empire Builder: John D. Spreckels and the Making of San Diego, by Sandra E. Bonura, won the 2021 San Diego Book Award in the category of General Nonfiction.



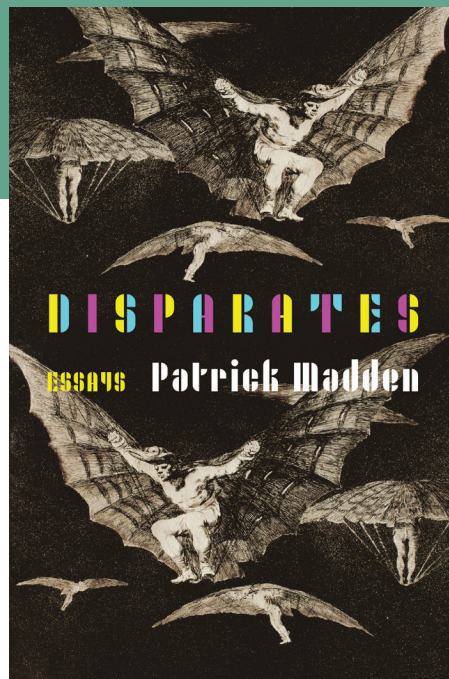
Beckoning Frontiers: The Memoir of a Wyoming Entrepreneur, by George W. T. Beck, edited and with an introduction by Lynn J. Houze and Jeremy M. Johnston, won the 2021 Publication Award in Biography from the Wyoming State Historical Society and received second place in the Westerners International Co-Founders Book Award.



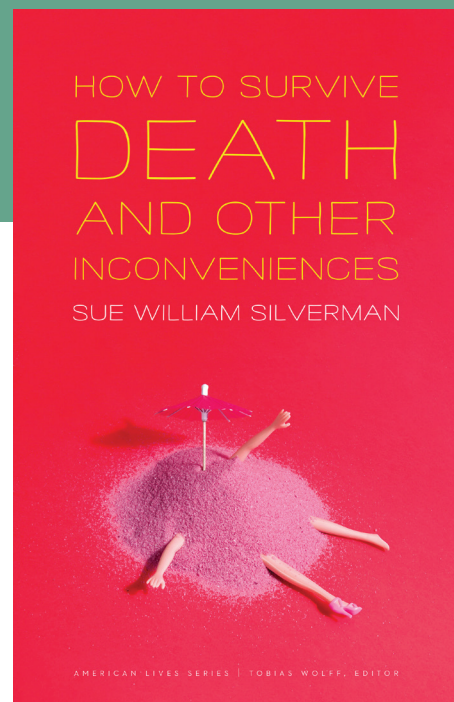
Bad Tourist: Misadventures in Love and Travel, by Suzanne Roberts, won a Gold Medal in the 2021 Independent Publisher Book Awards (IPPY) and a 2020 Bronze Award for Travel Book or Guide from the North American Travel Journalists Association. It was the 2020 Bronze Winner for Travel in the *Foreword* INDIES Book of the Year Award and a 2021 National Indie Excellent Awards Finalist.



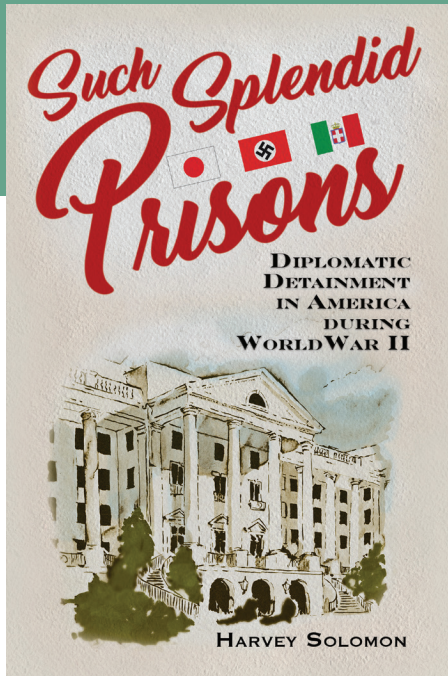
The Great Kosher Meat War of 1902: Immigrant Housewives and the Riots That Shook New York City, by Scott D. Seligman, won a Gold Medal in the 2021 Independent Publisher Book Awards (IPPY) and the Gold Medal for History in the 2020–2021 Reader Views Literary Awards. It was also a 2020 Finalist for a *Foreword* INDIES Book of the Year Award in the History category.



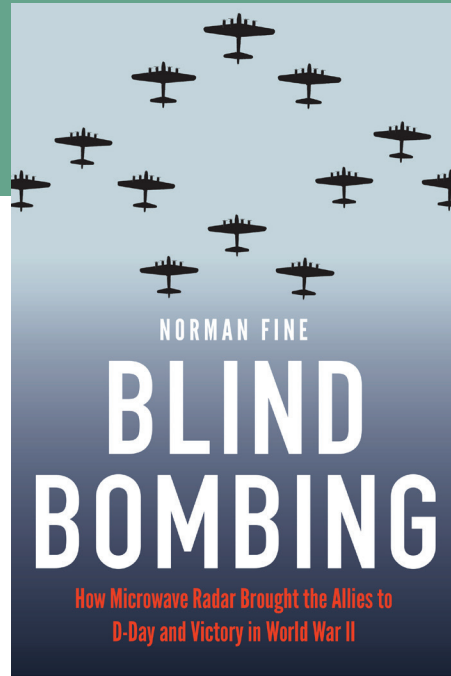
Disparates: Essays, by Patrick Madden, won a Gold Medal in the 2021 Independent Publisher Book Awards (IPPY) and was a 2020 Finalist for a *Foreword* INDIES Book of the Year Award in the Essays category.



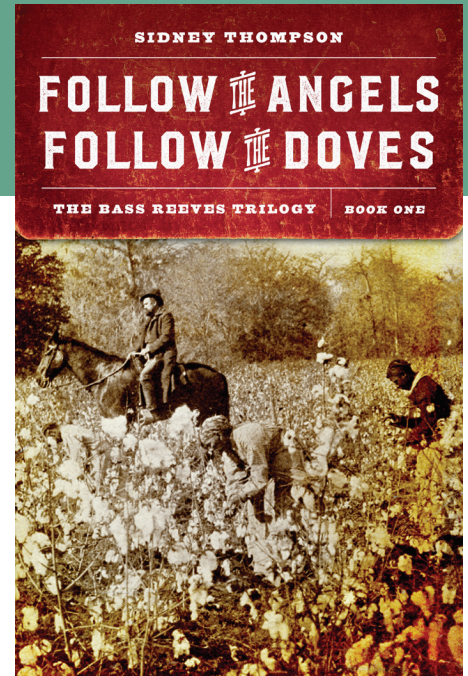
How to Survive Death and Other Inconveniences, by Sue William Silverman, was the 2020 Gold Winner for Autobiography and Memoir in the *Foreword* INDIES Book of the Year Award.



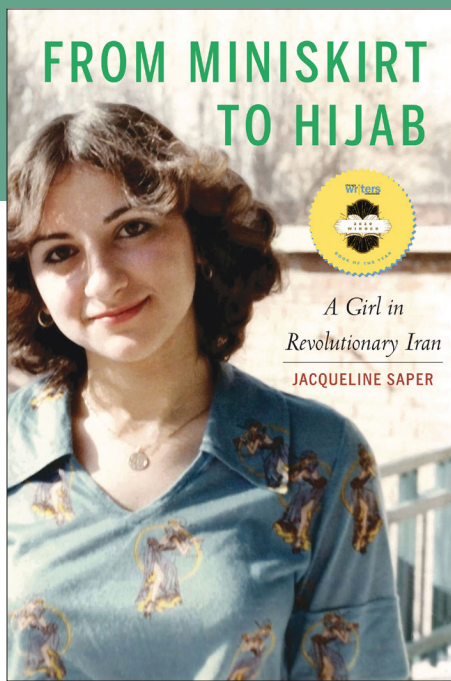
Such Splendid Prisons: Diplomatic Detainment in America during World War II, by Harvey Solomon, won a Silver Medal in the 2021 Independent Publisher Book Awards (IPPY) and the Bronze Medal for History in the 2020–2021 Reader Views Literary Awards.



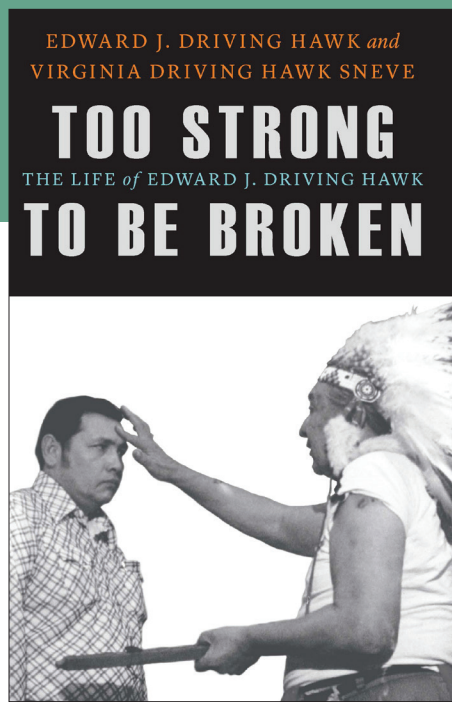
Blind Bombing: How Microwave Radar Brought the Allies to D-Day and Victory in World War II, by Norman Fine, won a Silver Medal in the 2021 Independent Publisher Book Awards (IPPY).



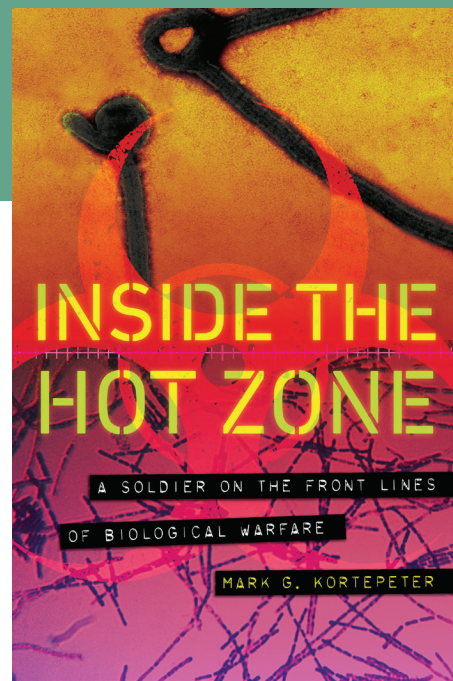
Follow the Angels, Follow the Doves: The Bass Reeves Trilogy, Book One, by Sidney Thompson, was a 2021 Finalist for the Next Generation Indie Book Awards in Historical Fiction, a 2021 Finalist for the Oklahoma Book Award in Fiction from the Oklahoma Center for the Book, a 2021 Spur Award Finalist for Historical Novel from the Western Writers of America, a 2021 Finalist for the Peacemaker Award for Best First Western Novel from Western Fictioneers, and a 2020 Arkansas Gem from the Arkansas Center for the Book.



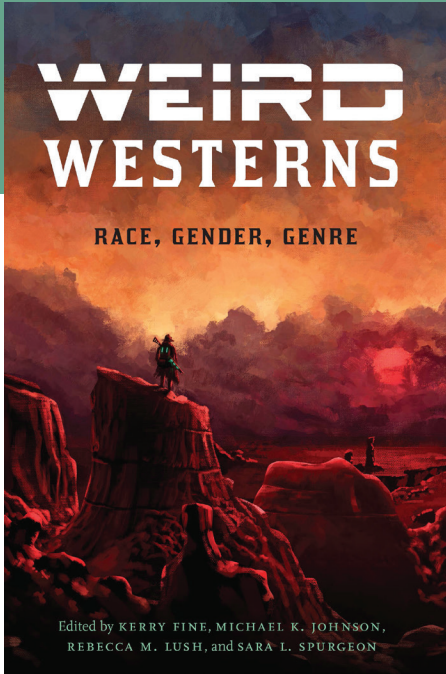
From Miniskirt to Hijab: A Girl in Revolutionary Iran, by Jacqueline Saper, was a 2021 Finalist for the Feathered Quill Book Award in the category of Memoir and Biography and a 2021 Finalist in the Eric Hoffer Awards.



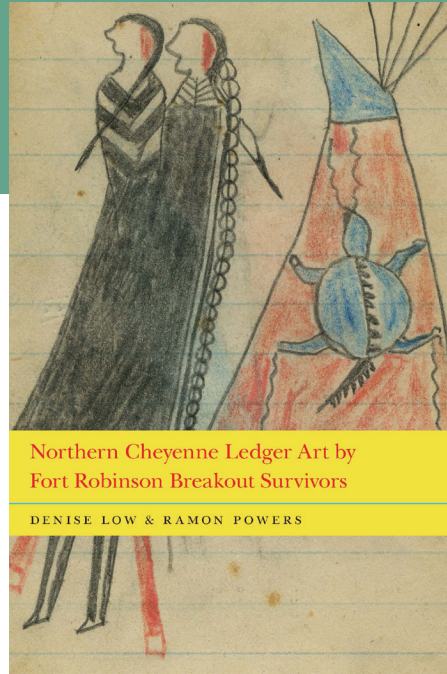
Too Strong to Be Broken: The Life of Edward J. Driving Hawk, by Edward J. Driving Hawk and Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve, was a 2021 Finalist for the Stubbendieck Great Plains Distinguished Book Prize.



Inside the Hot Zone: A Soldier on the Front Lines of Biological Warfare, by Mark G. Kortepeter, was a 2021 William E. Colby Award Finalist.

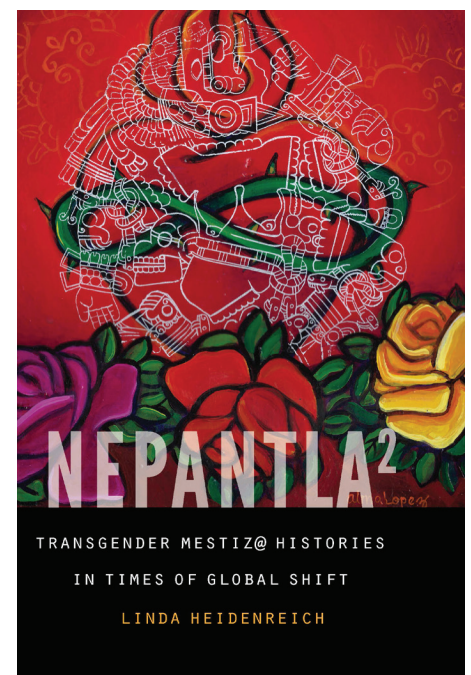
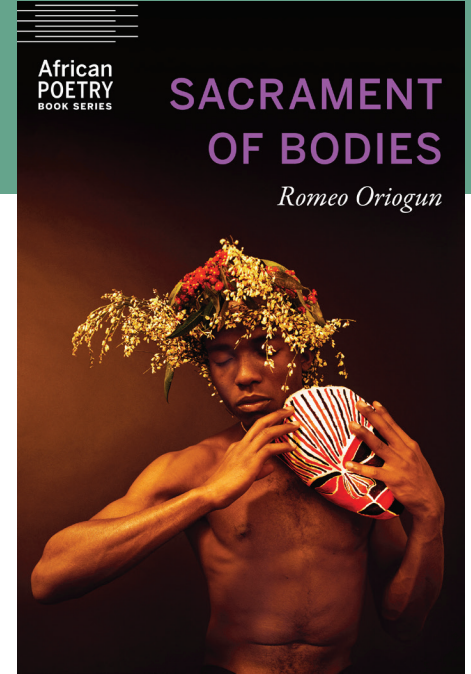


Weird Westerns: Race, Gender, Genre, edited by Kerry Fine, Michael K. Johnson, Rebecca M. Lush, and Sara L. Spurgeon, was a 2021 Top Ten Finalist for the Locus Awards in Nonfiction.

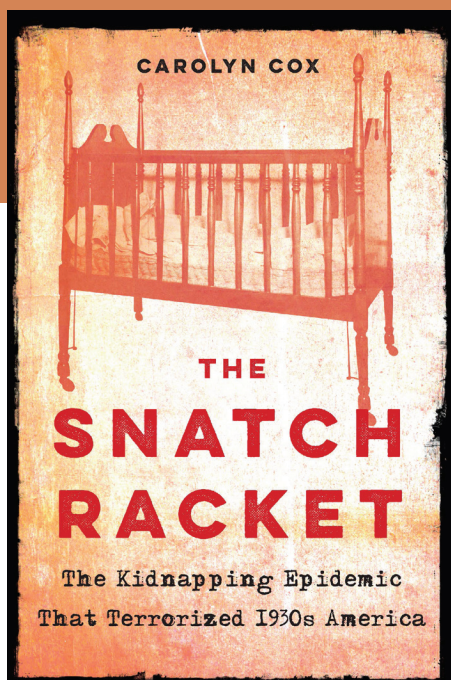


Northern Cheyenne Ledger Art by Fort Robinson Breakout Survivors, by Denise Low and Ramon Powers, was a 2021 Kansas Notable Book.

Two UNP books were 2021 Lambda Literary Awards Finalists: *Sacrament of Bodies*, by Romeo Oriogun, in the Gay Poetry category, and *Nepantla Squared: Transgender Mestiz@ Histories in Times of Global Shift*, by Linda Heidenreich, in the Transgender Nonfiction category.



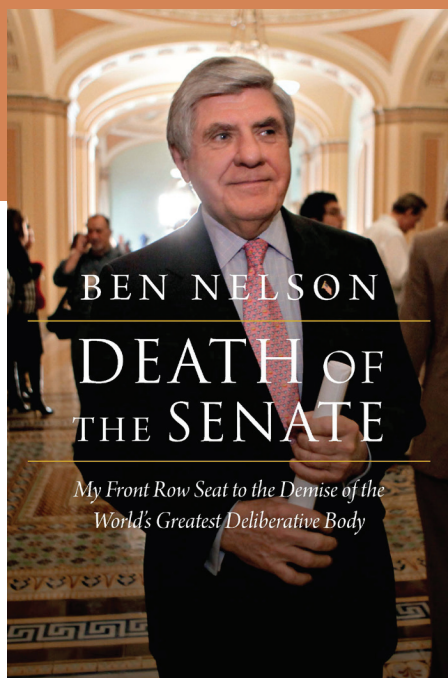
Select Publicity Highlights



The Snatch Racket: The Kidnapping Epidemic That Terrorized 1930s America by Carolyn Cox

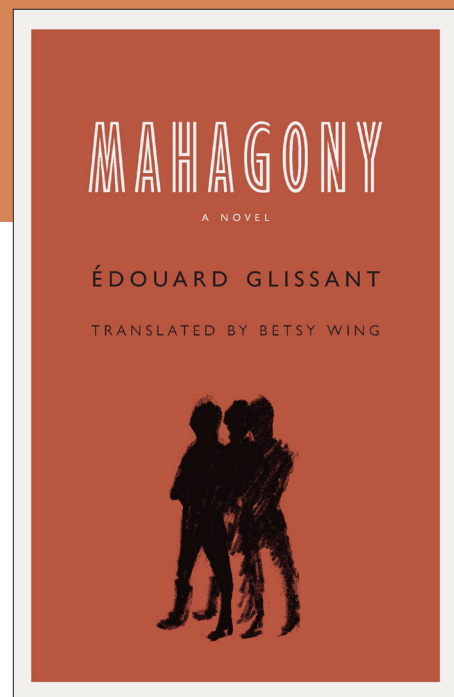
“Crisp, zesty, and free of the clichés of most true-crime writing, Ms. Cox’s book interweaves her case narratives with the inside story of how Hoover exploited the crisis to launch a ‘crusade’ against organized crime, even coining the term ‘G-men’ to glamorize his agents.”—*Wall Street Journal*

“[Cox’s] accounts of the kidnappings make for good true-crime readings.”—*St. Louis Post-Dispatch*



Death of the Senate: My Front Row Seat to the Demise of the World's Greatest Deliberative Body by Senator Ben Nelson

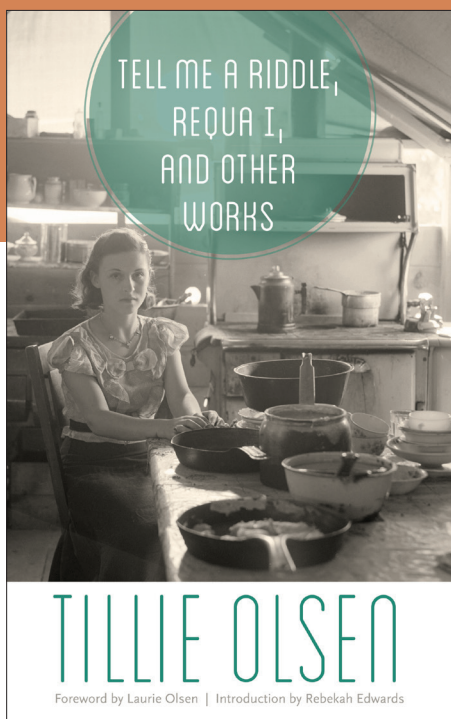
“Although Mr. Nelson concedes that the institution still has a pulse, he sees it as gasping for breath even as Mr. Biden and some current centrist members struggle to produce a semblance of bipartisanship.”—*New York Times*



Mahagony: A Novel by Édouard Glissant, translated by Betsy Wing

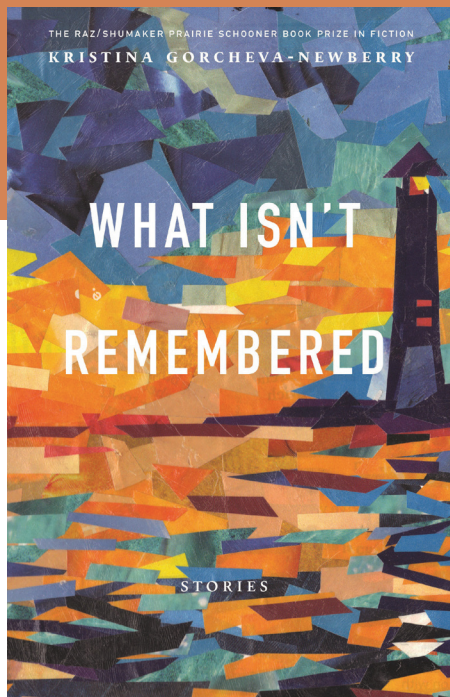
“A centuries-old tree in Martinique witnesses generations of resistance, striving, and social collapse in this novel by the island’s foremost post-colonial writer.”—*New York Times*

“Glissant . . . offers a dazzling history of colonialism in Martinique. . . . This is a transcendent work of art.”—*Publishers Weekly*, starred review



***Tell Me a Riddle, Requa I, and Other Works* by Tillie Olsen**

“As dense, as rich, as packed with life and feeling and ‘all that compounds a human being’ as something 10 or 100 times as long. . . . [A]n honest assessment of the psychological and physical costs of living.”—*New York Times*

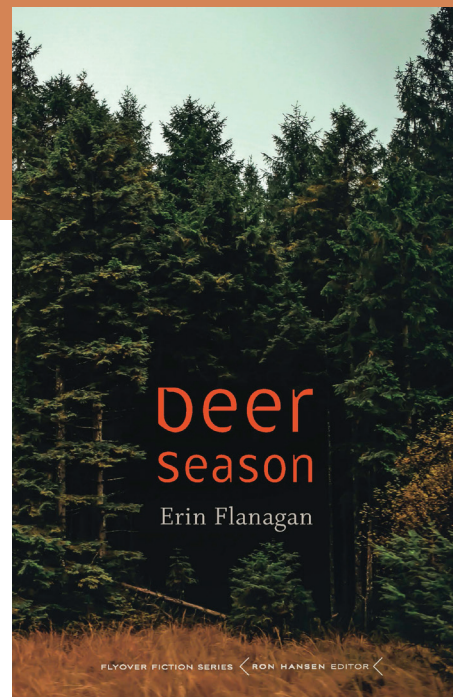


***What Isn't Remembered: Stories* by Kristina Gorcheva-Newberry**

“The situations are arresting and the images indelible. Gorcheva-Newberry’s luminous prose will remain vivid in the reader’s mind.”—*Publishers Weekly*, starred review

“Every reader who treasures powerful, surprising, and memorable short stories will find much to appreciate in this stunning first book.”—*Booklist*, starred review

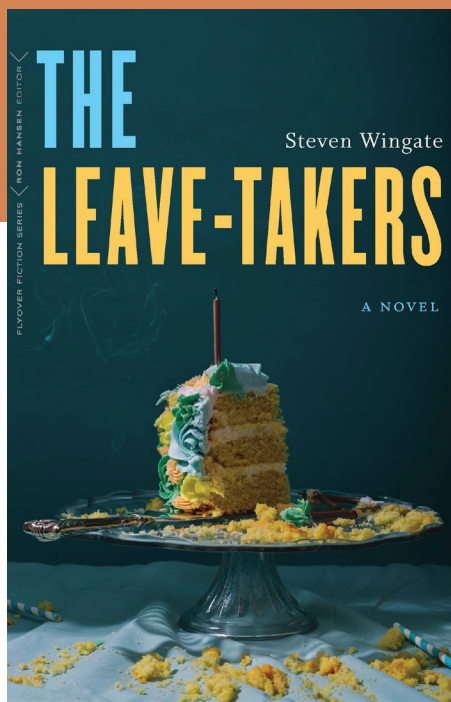
“The book excels at juxtapositions without resolutions, that stretch and linger long after their stories



are finished. . . . The stories of *What Isn't Remembered* run an emotional marathon. They are virtuosic, bold, and unsparing.”—*Foreword Reviews*, starred

***Deer Season* by Erin Flanagan**

“This is a standout novel of small-town life, powered by the characters’ consequential determination to protect their loved ones at any cost.”—*Publishers Weekly*, starred review

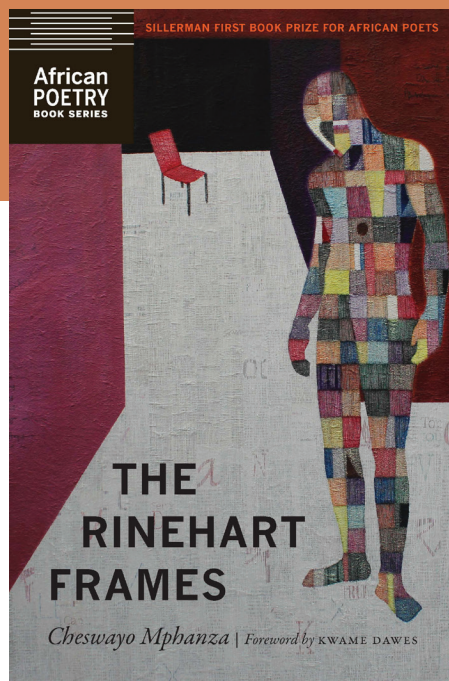


The Leave-Takers: A Novel
by Steven Wingate

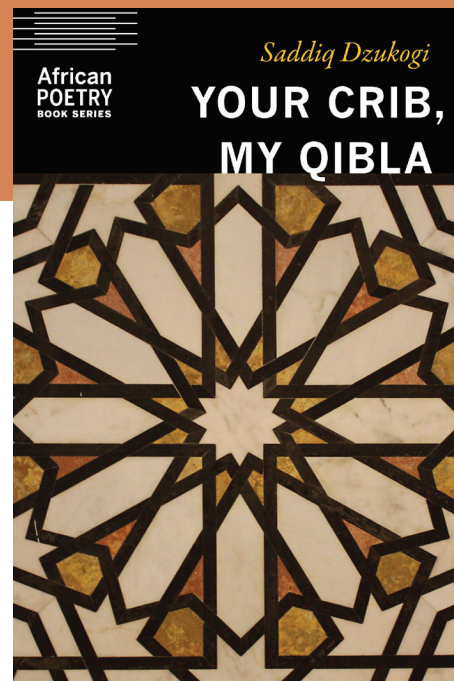
“This is overwhelmingly a love story, and a surprisingly sweet one.”—*Minneapolis Star Tribune*

The Rinehart Frames by
Cheswayo Mphanza

“In his electrifying debut, Mphanza presents a sustained project of ekphrasis and pastiche inspired by the work of African artists, Iranian film director Abbas Kiarostami, and the life and death of Congolese prime minister Patrice Lumumba. . . . This debut marks the arrival of a brilliant and intrepid voice.”—*Publishers Weekly*, starred review



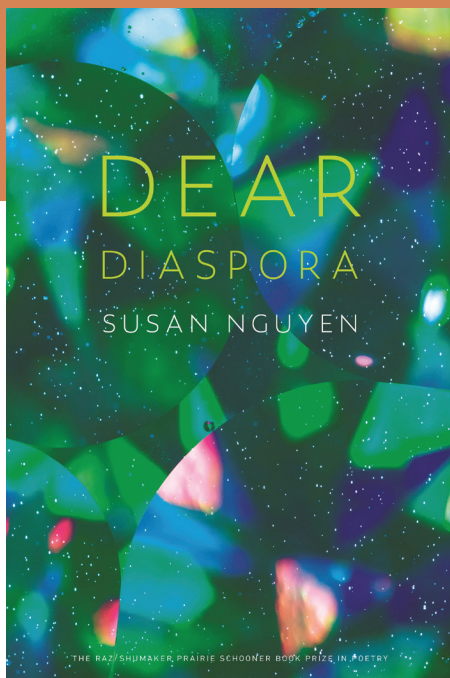
“Mphanza has assembled an archive from a dizzying array of sources, re-mixing input to create an astute study in intertextuality that is immediately personal and deeply engaged with art and African, American, and world history.”—*Booklist*



Your Crib, My Qibla by
Saddiq Dzukogi

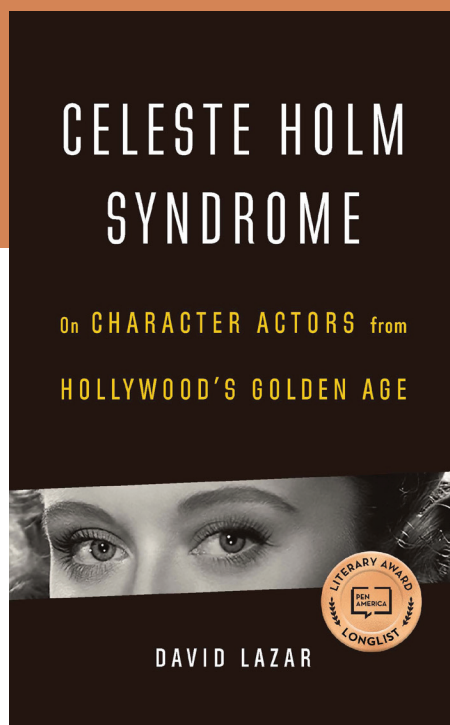
“A heartbreaking book of poems, *Your Crib, My Qibla* journeys through a father’s grief after the loss of his beloved daughter. It takes admirable courage and striking language to seek solace after experiencing the unimaginable.”—*Oprah Daily*

“*Your Crib, My Qibla* is perfect for someone who needs to be held in the body until the ‘mind feels like a mind.’”—*Kenyon Review*



Dear Diaspora by Susan Nguyen

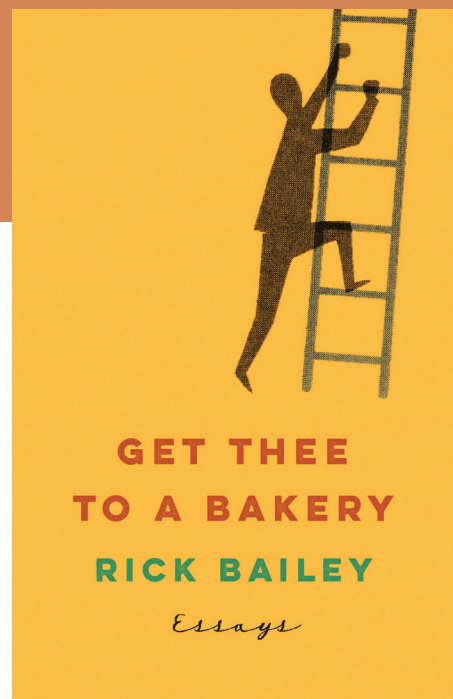
“Migratory, devastating, unyielding.”—*Ms. Magazine*



Celeste Holm Syndrome: On Character Actors from Hollywood's Golden Age by David Lazar

“Well-observed reflections for true fans of the silver screen.”—*Kirkus Reviews*

“Fans of Hollywood’s Golden Age will delight in this affecting look at what makes actors truly memorable, even if they’re not in the spotlight.”
—*Publishers Weekly*



Get Thee to a Bakery: Essays
by Rick Bailey

“Rick Bailey’s essay collection is rich and refreshing, fun and jubilant, and an overall joy to read.”—*Colorado Review*

“I wanted to hang out with Bailey’s essays longer than I was afforded. In them I felt comfort, inspiration, joy.”—*Brevity*

“Whether you love to people watch, enjoy virtual traveling, enjoy a spot of humour, or are simply looking for a great read, this is the book for you.”
—*Midwest Book Review*

SUZANNE ROBERTS

Bad Tourist

*Misadventures in Love
and Travel*

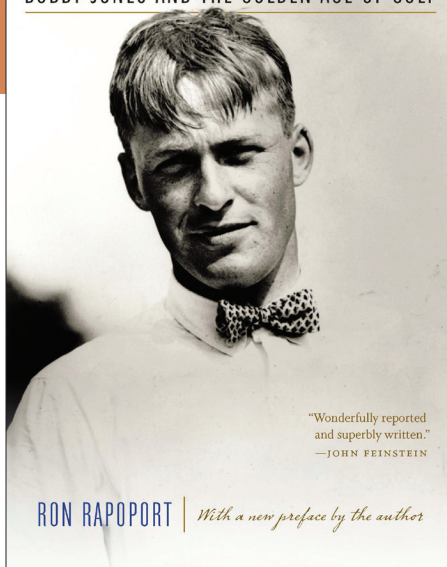


***Bad Tourist: Misadventures in Love
and Travel*** by Suzanne Roberts

“In this collection of essays, Roberts recounts her adventures while traveling mostly solo to fifteen countries. Along the way she navigates mishaps both large and small, from a dangerous mudslide in Peru to a tricky romantic entanglement in Greece. Each experience offers a chance to probe her inner ‘bad tourist,’ as she wrestles with issues of privilege, cultural blind spots, and her own insecurities on a journey to self-discovery.”—*National Geographic*

THE IMMORTAL BOBBY

BOBBY JONES AND THE GOLDEN AGE OF GOLF



“Wonderfully reported
and superbly written.”
—JOHN FEINSTEIN

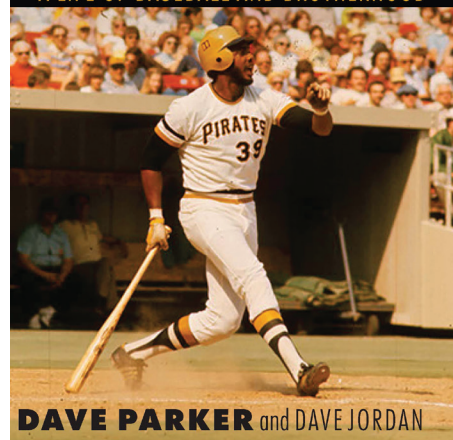
RON RAPOPORT | *With a new preface by the author*

***The Immortal Bobby: Bobby
Jones and the Golden Age of Golf,
New Edition*** by Ron Rapoport

“[An] engrossing golf read. . . . The book deserves a wide audience for its lively depiction of both golf and society early in the last century and for several surprising revelations about the most beloved sportsman of his day.”—*Wall Street Journal*

COBRA

A LIFE OF BASEBALL AND BROTHERHOOD

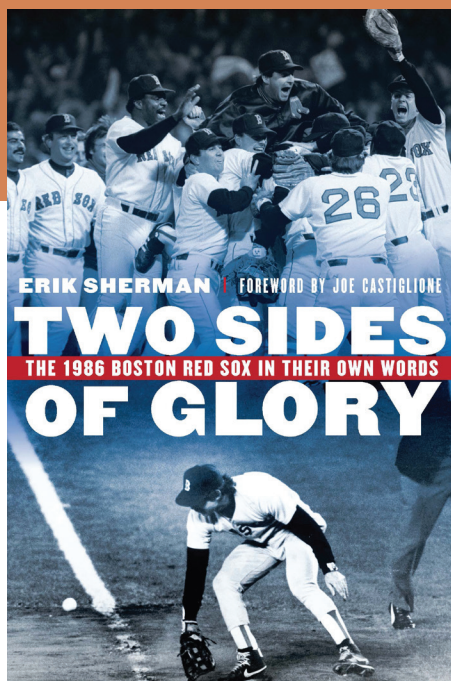


DAVE PARKER and DAVE JORDAN

***Cobra: A Life of Baseball
and Brotherhood*** by Dave
Parker and Dave Jordan

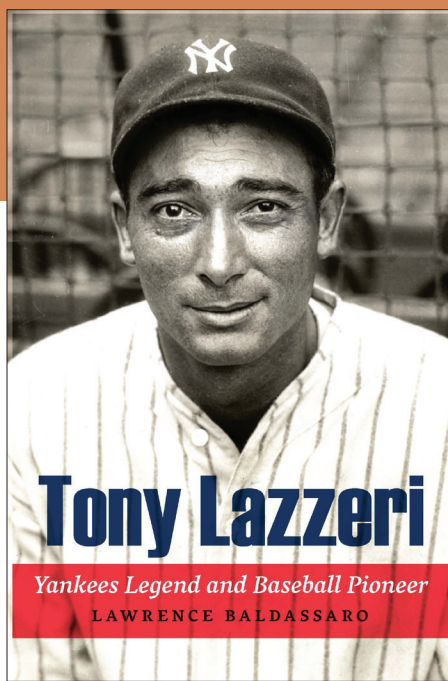
“*Cobra* is one of the most gripping and revealing baseball memoirs I’ve ever read.”—*New York Times*

“A delight for baseball fans of all stripes.”—*Library Journal*



***Two Sides of Glory: The 1986 Boston Red Sox in Their Own Words* by Erik Sherman**

“For nearly two decades, the failure of the ’86 team to record that final out was a wound that wouldn’t heal. Then, in 2004, the Sox finally won a title. Stanley, Buckner, and Company could now be remembered as heroes, not heels. In *Two Sides of Glory: The 1986 Boston Red Sox in Their Own Words* . . . the baseball writer Erik Sherman burnishes their legend.”
—*New York Times*

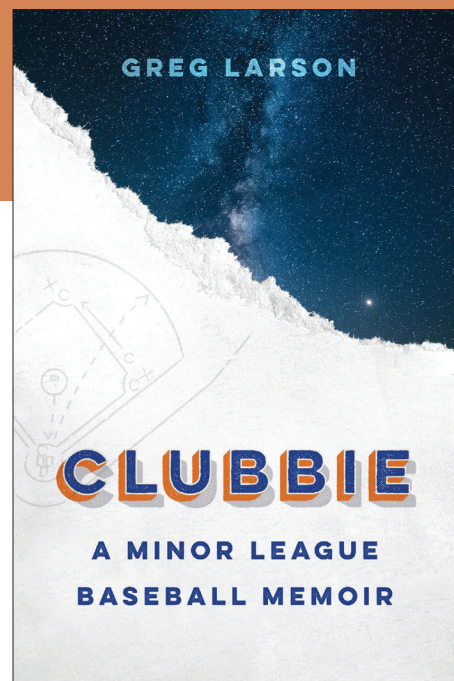


***Tony Lazzeri: Yankees Legend and Baseball Pioneer* by Lawrence Baldassaro**

“Well-known Joe DiMaggio biographer Baldassaro has scored a gem with this biography of baseball star Tony Lazzeri.”—*Library Journal*, starred review

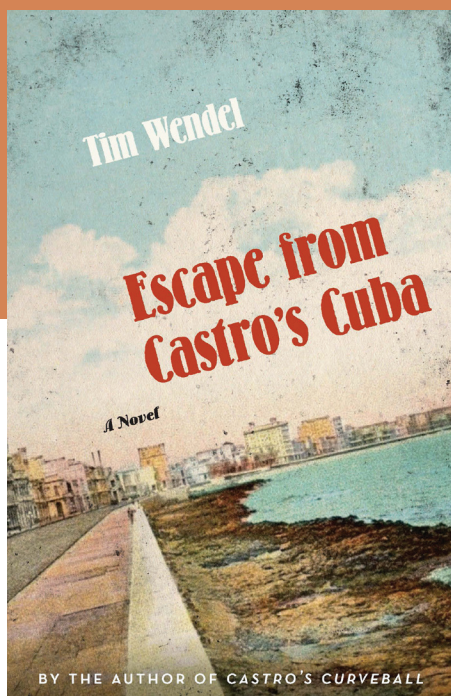
***Clubbie: A Minor League Baseball Memoir* by Greg Larson**

“An emotional backstage look at what it’s like to be the clubhouse manager for a minor-league team.”—*Los Angeles Times*



“[A] well-written, realistic, and necessary addition to current baseball literature.”—*Library Journal*

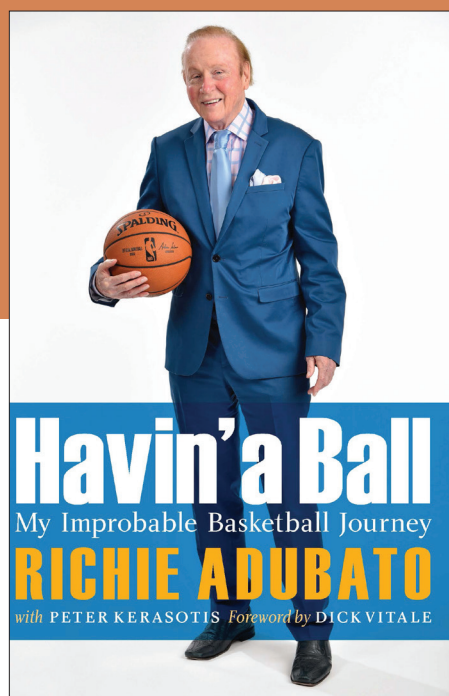
“Seeing the players and coaches at their most vulnerable moments, Larson grew to learn minor league baseball wasn’t the fantasy he imagined as a kid. It was cold and bleak, just like the clubhouse floor he swept nightly. His two years behind the scenes forced Larson to grow up and confront his own truths.”—*Forbes*



Escape from Castro's Cuba:
***A Novel* by Tim Wendel**

"Wendel has hit this book—his 14th—out of the park. . . . You don't have to be a major-league fan to fully immerse yourself in Wendel's story. . . . A story of payback . . . set against the backdrop of a post-Castro Havana."—*Washington Independent Review of Books*

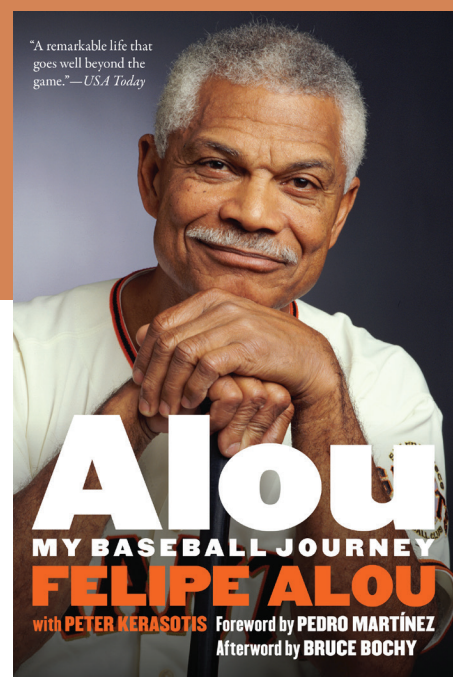
"A breezy read with just enough twists and turns to keep the reader turning the pages and hoping that Wendel will find another story to involve the old catcher in."—*Spitball*



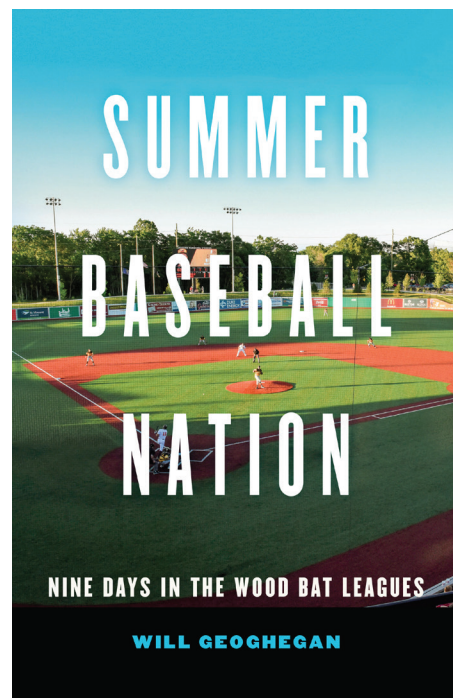
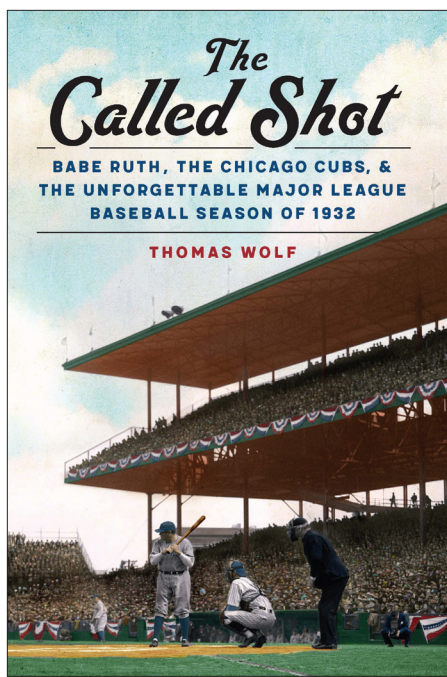
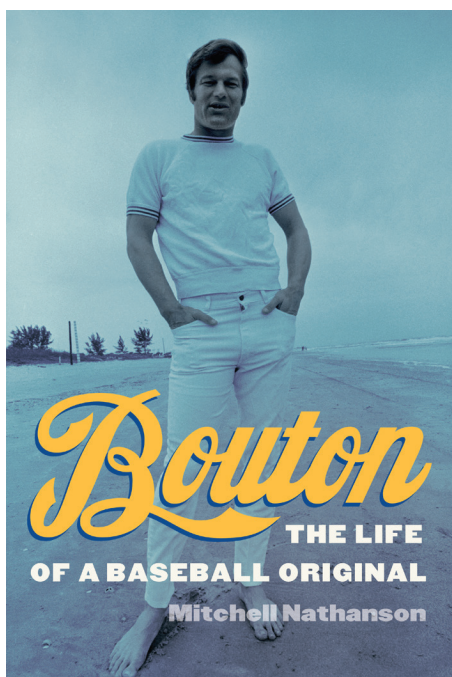
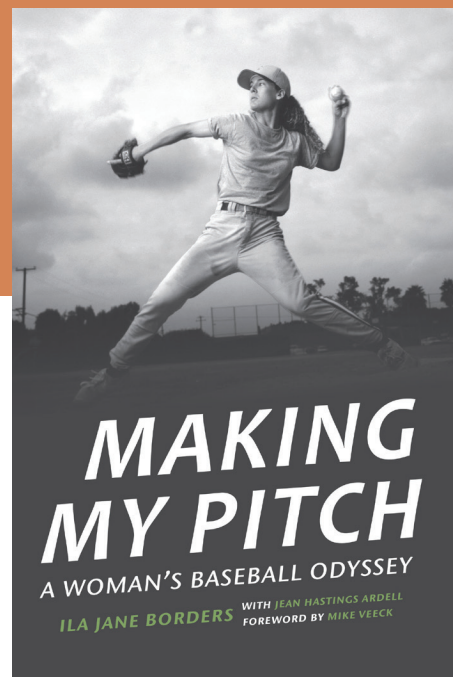
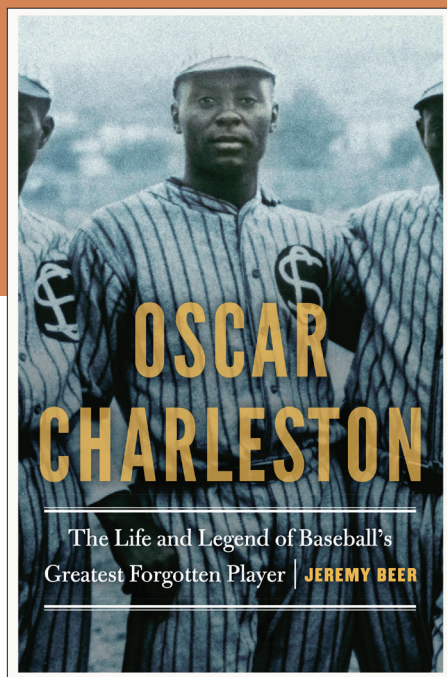
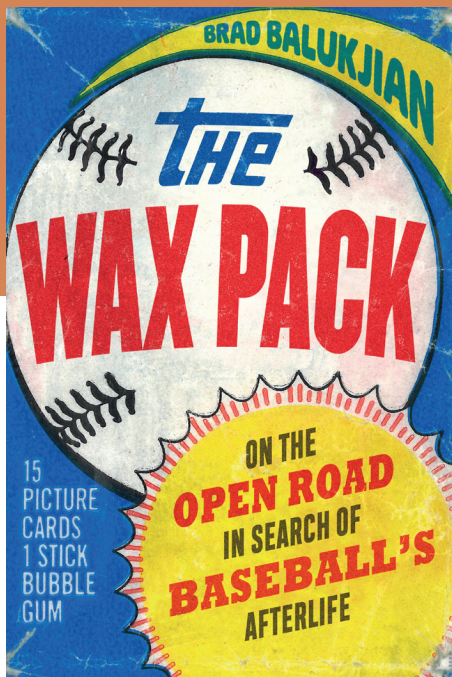
***Havin' a Ball: My Improbable Basketball Journey* by Richie Adubato with Peter Kerasotis**

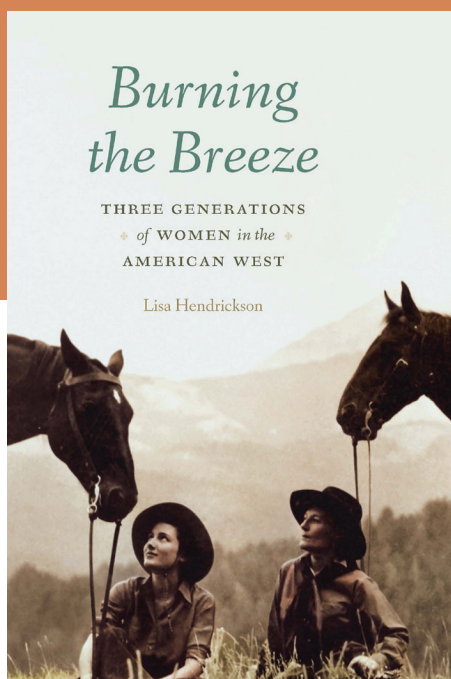
"[*Havin' a Ball* is an] appealing account that blends Adubato's own memories with basketball's growth over five decades. Recommended for all sports collections."—*Library Journal*

"If you're a fan of the Magic in particular and the NBA in general, this is a must-read with Adubato taking us on a colorful, nomadic odyssey through his sixty years as a high school, college, NBA, and WNBA head coach."—*Orlando Sentinel*



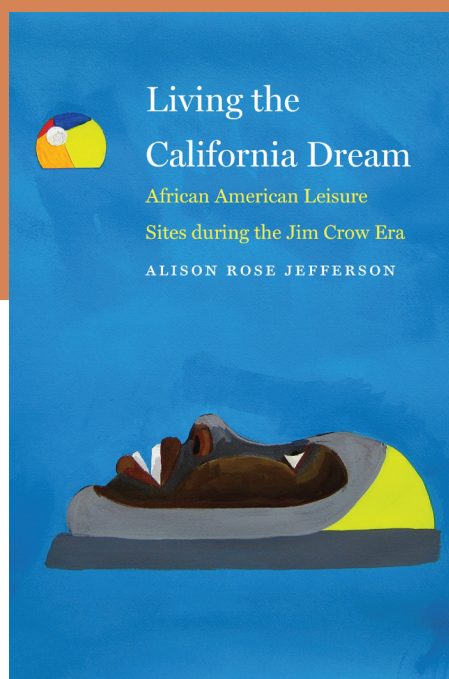
Seven UNP titles are among the "100 Best Baseball Books of All Time" as named by *Book Authority*. They are: ***Alou: My Baseball Journey*** by Felipe Alou with Peter Kerasotis; ***The Wax Pack: On the Open Road in Search of Baseball's Afterlife*** by Brad Balukjian; ***Bouton: The Life of a Baseball Original*** by Mitchell Nathanson; ***Oscar Charleston: The Life and Legend of Baseball's Greatest Forgotten Player*** by Jeremy Beer; ***The Called Shot: Babe Ruth, the Chicago Cubs, and the Unforgettable Major League Baseball Season of 1932*** by Thomas Wolf; ***Making My Pitch: A Woman's Baseball Odyssey*** by Ila Jane Borders with Jean Hastings Ardell; and ***Summer Baseball Nation: Nine Days in the Wood Bat Leagues*** by Will Geoghegan.





***Burning the Breeze: Three Generations of Women in the American West* by Lisa Hendrickson**

“Women’s history buffs will find plenty of drama and adventure in this thoroughly researched account of how one family’s ‘spirit of resilience’ helped form the character of the American West.”—*Publishers Weekly*

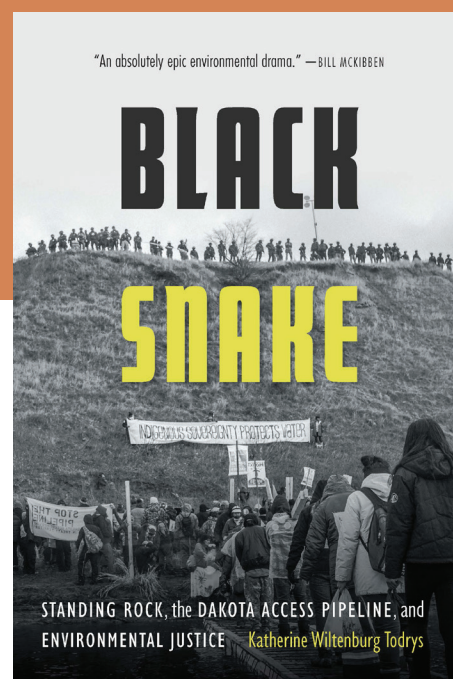


***Living the California Dream: African American Leisure Sites during the Jim Crow Era* by Alison Rose Jefferson**

“Her book is a credit and an homage to the Black folk who toughed it out, bearing the indignity of police surveillance, arson, and financial and psychological violence so that their descendants could prosper.”—*Los Angeles Review of Books*

***Black Snake: Standing Rock, the Dakota Access Pipeline, and Environmental Justice* by Katherine Wiltenburg Todrys**

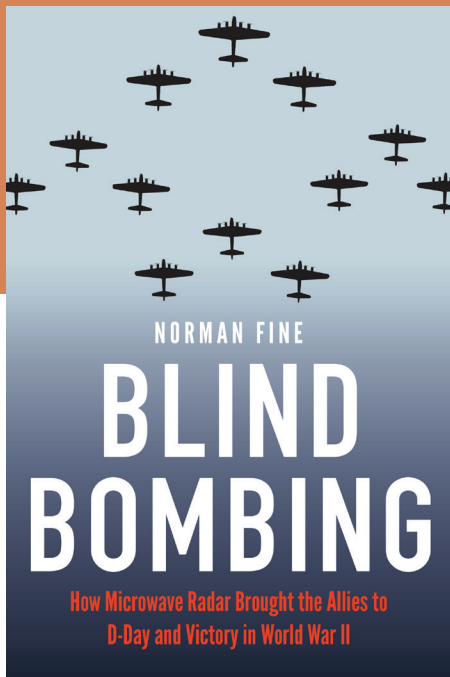
“An important work of environmental and legal reportage on a contest that will likely continue for years.”
—*Kirkus Reviews*



“In *Black Snake* Todrys blends wide-ranging research with solid on-the-ground reporting to tell a compelling and important story—one whose full impact is yet to be felt.”—*Christian Science Monitor*

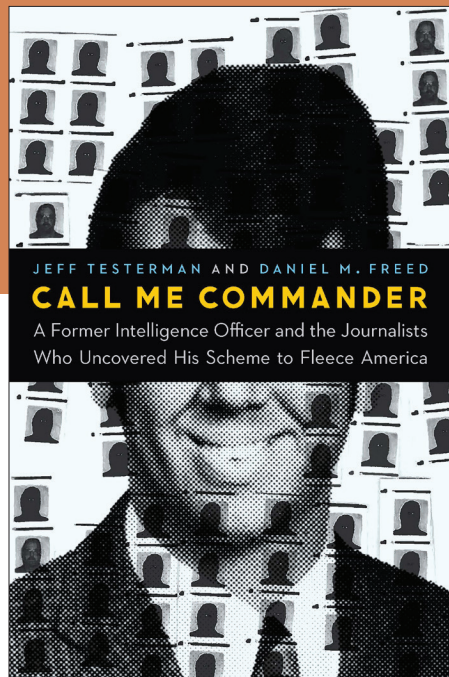
“All Americans who care about the fate of Native Americans and about clean water, clean air, and a nontoxic earth will find Todrys’s book inspiring.”—*New York Journal of Books*

“From the first page I was sorry I couldn’t read fast enough. . . . I highly recommend this book.”—*Lakota Times*



Blind Bombing: How Microwave Radar Brought the Allies to D-Day and Victory in World War II by Norman Fine

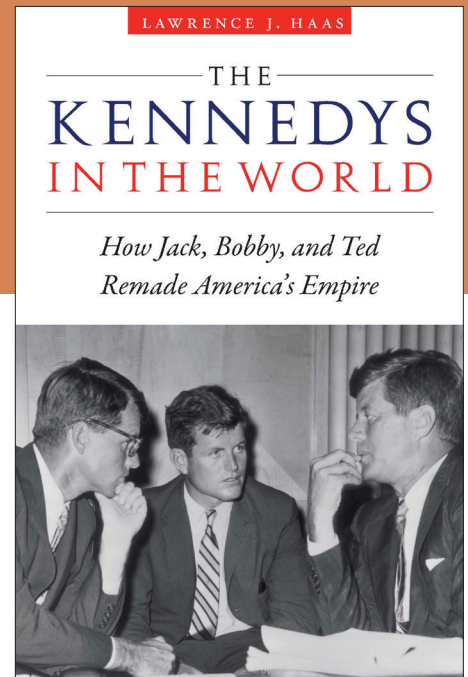
“A riveting addition to the literature on scientific innovation during the Second World War.”—*Kirkus*



Call Me Commander: A Former Intelligence Officer and the Journalists Who Uncovered His Scheme to Fleece America by Jeff Testerman and Daniel M. Freed

“An exhilarating yet intricate tale of mind-boggling fraud. Readers will be rapt.”—*Library Journal*

“[C]learly written and crisply paced, with a structure that keeps it suspenseful all the way.”—*Tampa Bay Times*



The Kennedys in the World: How Jack, Bobby, and Ted Remade America's Empire by Lawrence J. Haas

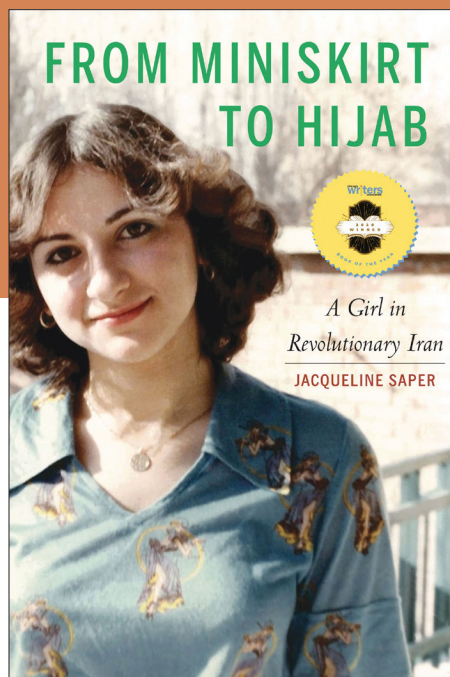
“This extensively researched and engaging book will appeal to anyone interested in postwar American history, foreign policy, and the Kennedy family.”—*Library Journal*



101 Pat-Downs: An Undercover Look at Airport Security and the TSA, by Shawna Malvini Redden, received a lengthy review article by Scott McLemee in *Inside Higher Education* just in time for the travel-heavy Memorial Day weekend.

From Miniskirt to Hijab: A Girl in Revolutionary Iran by Jacqueline Saper

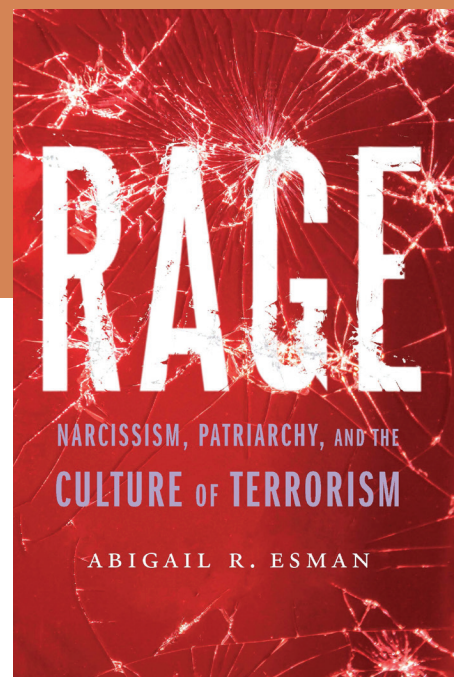
“In addition to being a memoir of resiliency and courage, *From Miniskirt to Hijab* offers glimpses into Iran’s history and customs, its arts and laws, how its social institutions operate and how its people think.”—*San Diego Jewish World*



“*From Miniskirt to Hijab* will leave readers with the ability to understand the deeper issues related to post-revolutionary Iran. Simply put, anyone who wants to understand the human element behind American policy vis-à-vis Iran should read (and quote) this book, which should be read widely in college classrooms, among other places.”—*Jewish Journal*

Rage: Narcissism, Patriarchy, and the Culture of Terrorism by Abigail R. Esmán

“[G]ripping, fast paced, deeply personal, and thoroughly shreds social decorum. Esmán, a contributor to the Investigative Project on Terror-



ism, lays bare the personal traits and domestic abuse that can be used to forecast radicalization and accurately assess intent to commit acts of terrorism.”—*The Algemeiner*

“Erudite, insightful, alarming, recognizable, informative, timely, and timeless . . . a fully absorbing read and an invaluable contribution to our ongoing dialogue with respect to the kinds of issues that are tearing our families and our country apart with the rising tide of American home-grown radicalization leading to insurrectionist attacks on democracy itself. Deserving of as wide a readership as possible.”—*Midwest Book Review*

Native Provenance

The Betrayal of Cultural Creativity | Gerald Vizenor

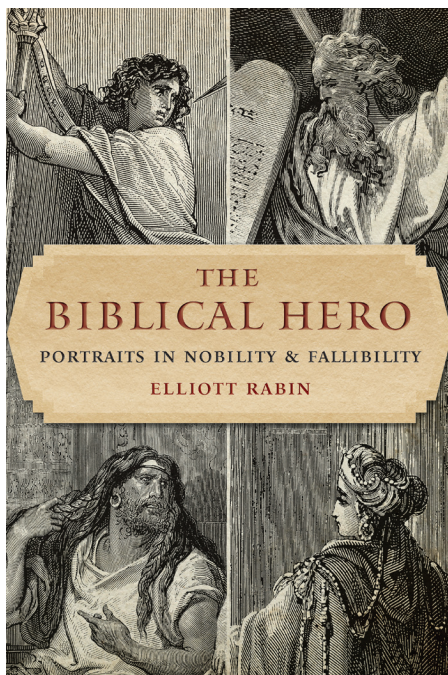
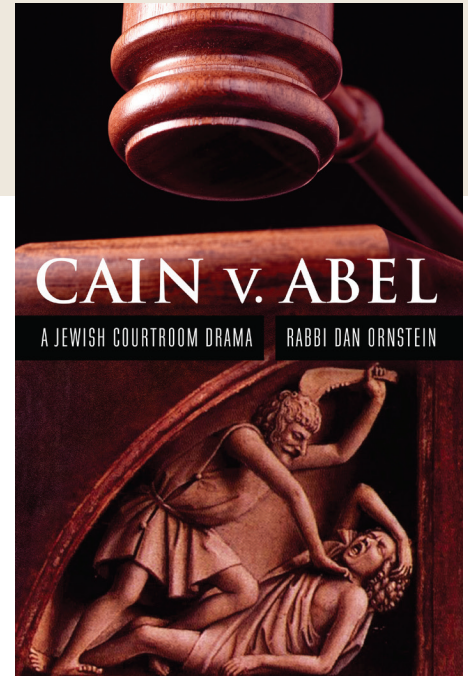


***Native Provenance: The
Betrayal of Cultural Creativity***
by Gerald Vizenor

“In these essays Vizenor presents a way of seeing as compelling as his fiction.”—*Choice*

“Poet, novelist, and critic Gerald Vizenor is arguably the most accomplished and prolific intellectual in the field of Native American studies. . . . The world needs more independent minds of Vizenor’s caliber.”—*Great Plains Quarterly*

JPS Awards and Select Publicity



Thinking about God: Jewish Views, by Rabbi Kari H. Tuling, was named a Top Ten Book for Parish Ministry by the Academy of Parish Clergy.

The Biblical Hero: Portraits in Nobility and Fallibility by Elliott Rabin

“Rabin excavates how the Bible’s unique perspective on heroism can address our own deep-seated need for human-scale heroes.”—*Jewish Ledger*

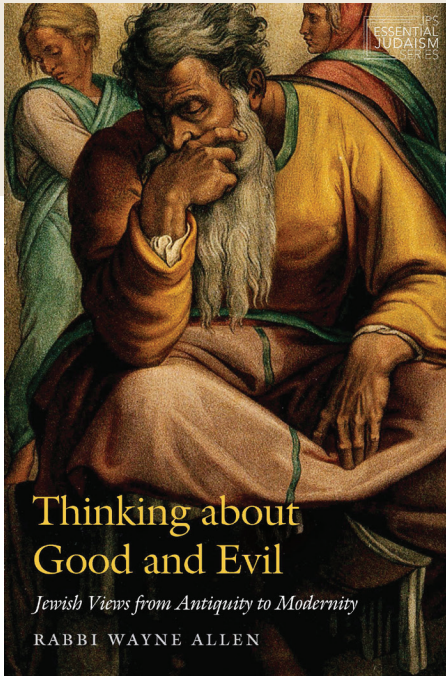
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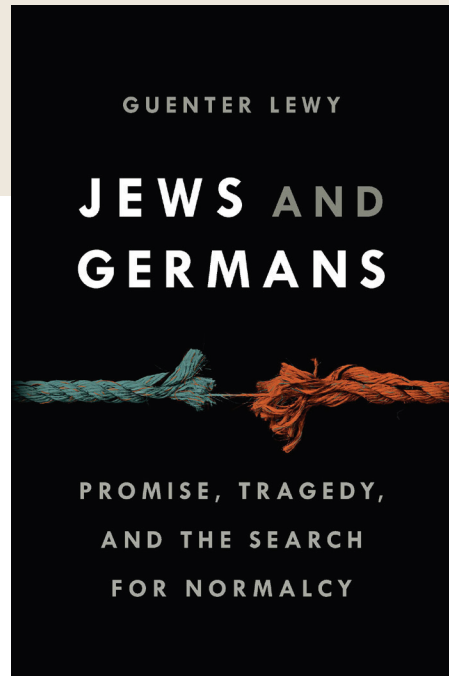
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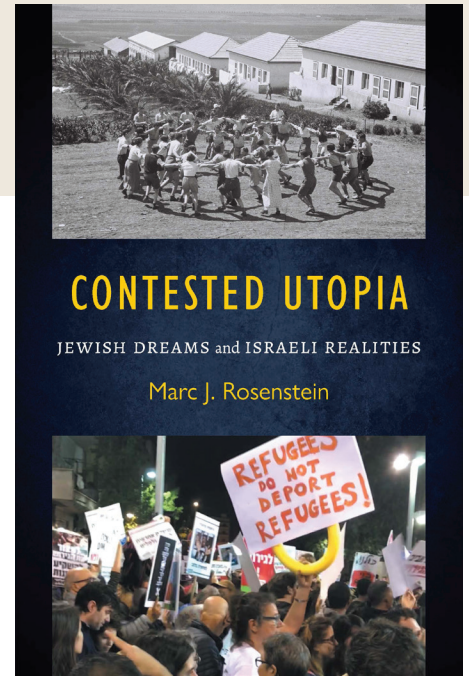
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“Allen’s work as a congregational rabbi enables him to imbue this sophisticated yet accessible guide with heartfelt emotion. This remarkable guide will be of interest to any Jewish reader contemplating God’s role in suffering.”—*Publishers Weekly*



***Jews and Germans: Promise,
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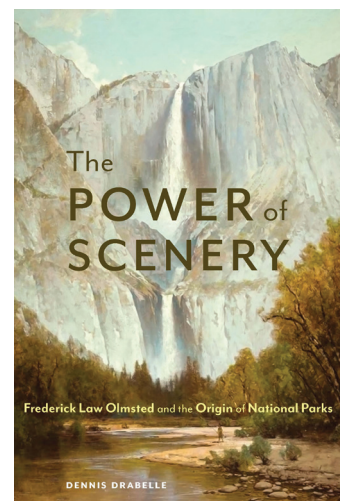
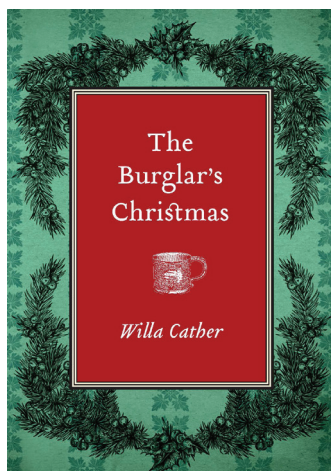
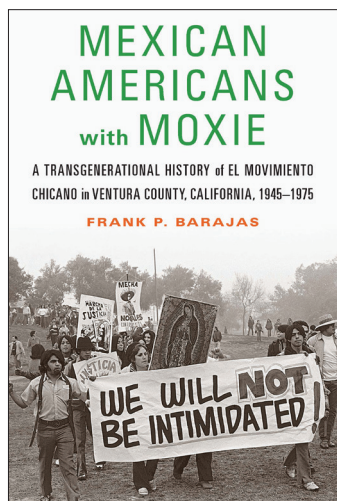
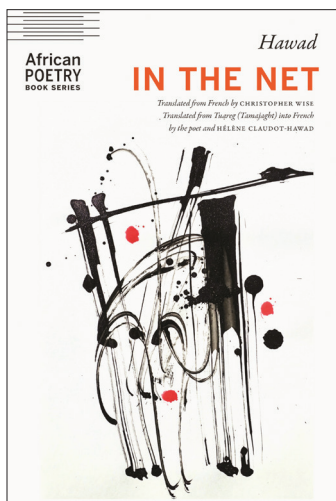
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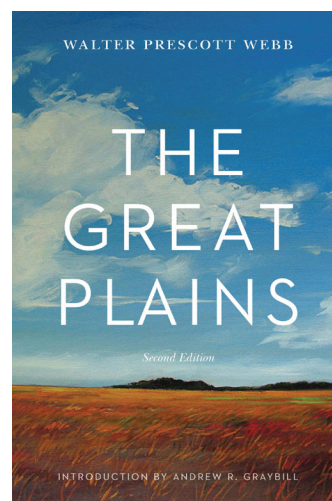
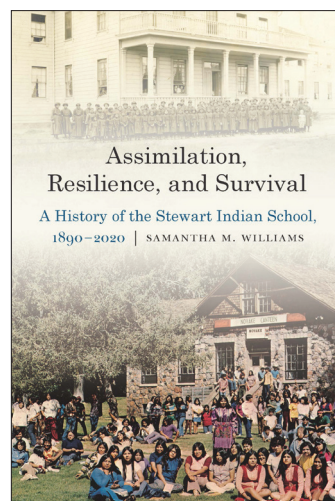
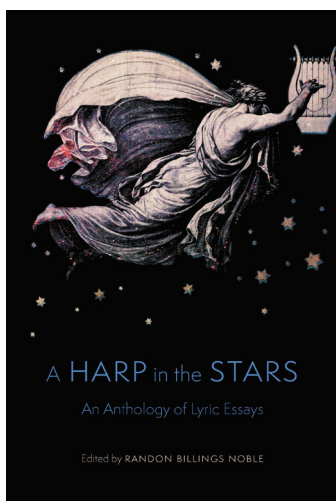
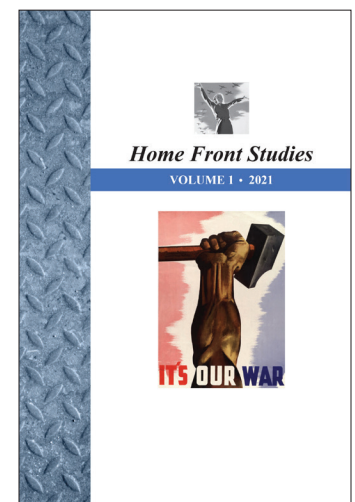
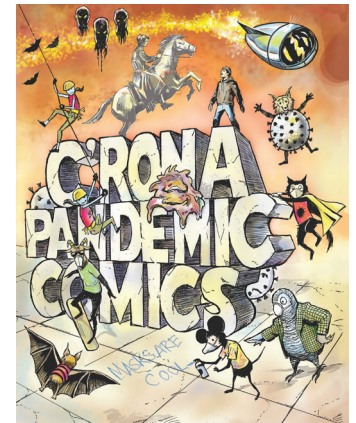


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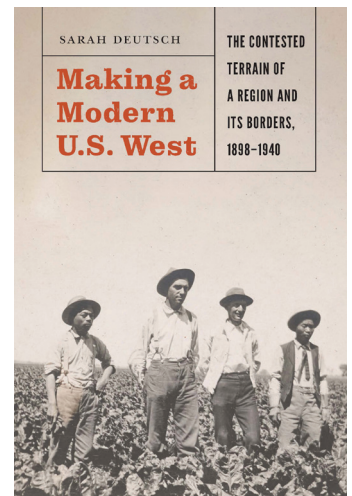
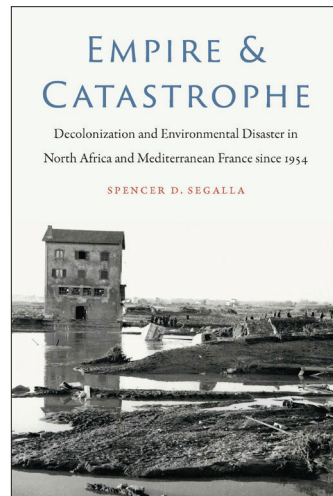
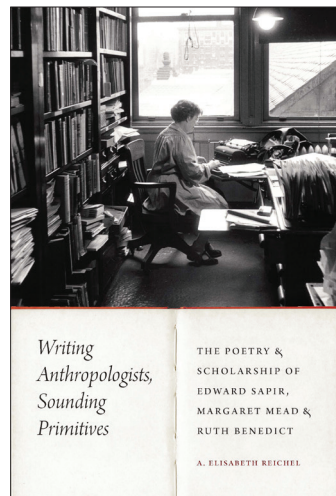
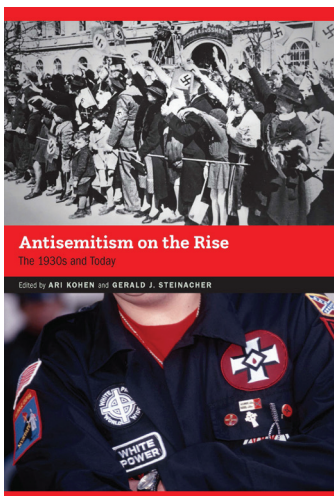
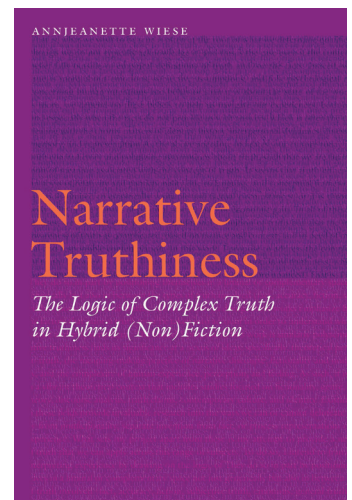
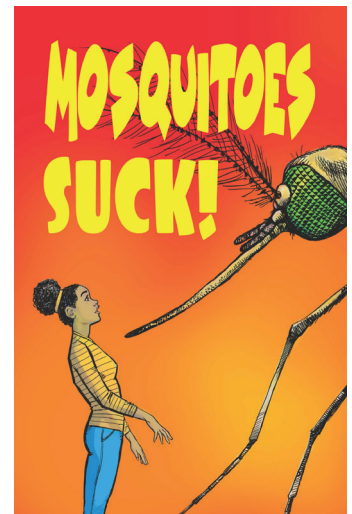
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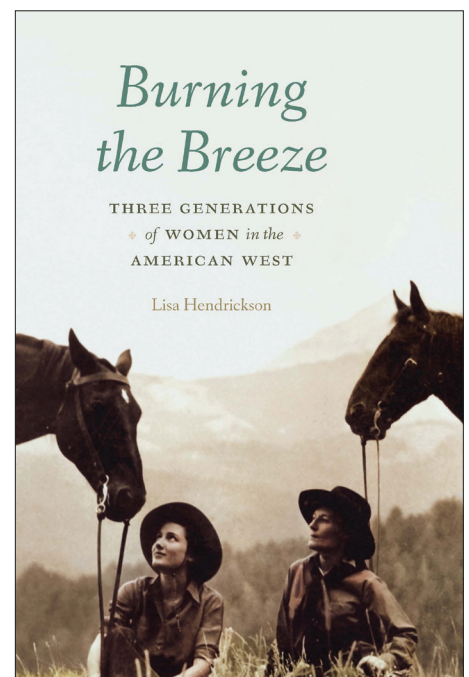
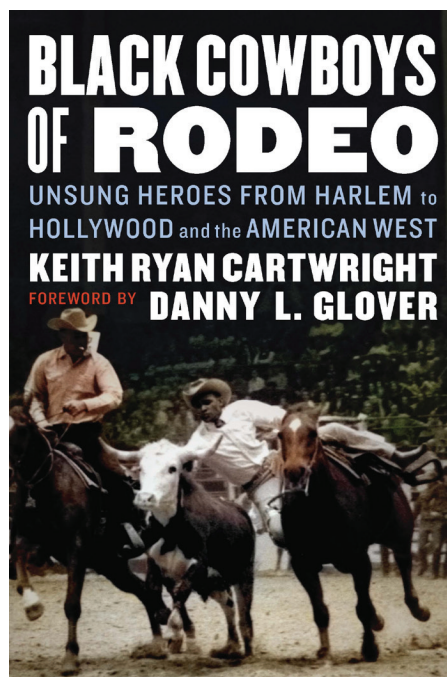
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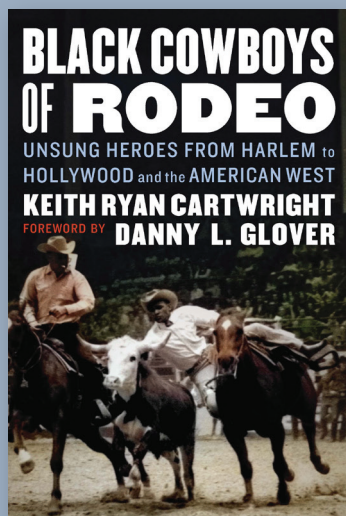
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The building that housed UNP's former office at 1111 Lincoln Mall was torn down this summer to make way for a new development.

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In June the Press moved to Centre Terrace at 1225 L Street, just a few blocks from our old home.



The conference room in our new office looks out on downtown Lincoln.