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Literary Fiction

Literary Fiction

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THE UNIVERSITY OF
ARKANSAS PRESS
SPRING 2022

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FEBRUARY

260 pages, 6 × 9, index

\$21.95 paper 978-1-68226-197-2

e-book 978-1-61075-764-5

A former curator at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History and an award-winning historian of the American South, **Pete Daniel** was the first full-time public historian to serve as president of the Organization of American Historians. He co-curated *Rock 'n' Soul: Social Crossroads* and *Official Images: New Deal Photography*, among several other major exhibitions. His books include *Lost Revolutions: The South in the 1950s* and *Dispossession: Discrimination against African American Farmers in the Age of Civil Rights*.

Curating the American Past

A Memoir of a Quarter Century at the Smithsonian National Museum of American History

PETE DANIEL

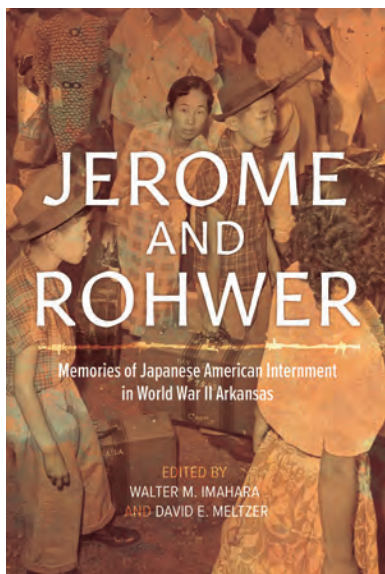
“In *Curating the American Past*, Pete Daniel narrates his passage from the tobacco fields of North Carolina to the presidencies of leading historical organizations by way of the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of American History, where he served as a curator for nearly three decades. His account is must-reading for public historians and every serious student of the rich, contested, and ever-unfolding American experience that Daniel’s life work explores so insightfully and compassionately.”

—**Joseph P. Reid**, author of *Illusions of Emancipation: The Pursuit of Freedom and Equality in the Twilight of Slavery*

“Pete Daniel is one of a kind, writing simultaneously as a veteran curator and a distinguished American historian. His lively memoir offers a sobering warning to the museum world and to all who study, teach, or care about American history.”

—**Barbara J. Fields**, Columbia University

In *Curating the American Past*, Pete Daniel draws on his decades at the Smithsonian National Museum of American History to reveal how curators collect objects, plan exhibits, and bring alive the country’s complex and exciting history. In vivid detail, Daniel recounts the exhilaration of innovative research, the joys of collaboration, and the rewards of mentoring new generations of historians. In a career distinguished by prize-winning publications and pathbreaking exhibitions, Daniel also confronted the challenges of serving as a public historian tasked with protecting a definitive American museum from the erosion of scholarly standards. *Curating the American Past* offers a wealth of museum wisdom, illuminating the crucial role that dedicated historians and curators serve within our most important repositories of cultural memory.



JANUARY

256 pages, 101 photographs, 6 × 9, index
\$29.95 paper 978-1-68226-188-0
e-book 978-1-61075-759-1

Walter Imahara was born in California, where his family were prominent members of the local Japanese American farming community before World War II. After being interned at Jerome and Rohwer, he became a US Army officer, the owner of a successful nursery and landscape business, and a national champion weightlifter. He is the author of *I Am an American: Japanese American, Asian Cajun*.

David Meltzer is associate professor in the College of Integrative Sciences and Arts at Arizona State University in Mesa.

Jerome and Rohwer

Memories of Japanese American Internment in World War II Arkansas

EDITED BY WALTER M. IMAHARA
AND DAVID E. MELTZER

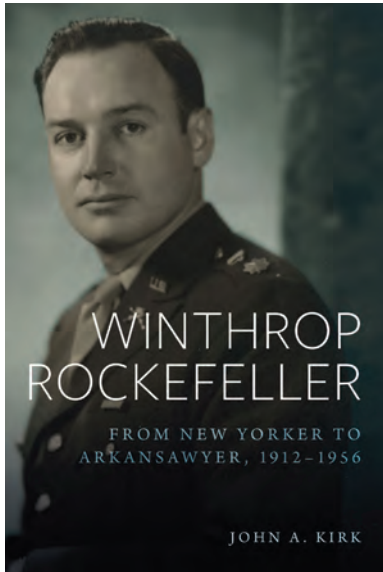
“This volume presents an intimate view of Japanese American incarceration in the South. It is a vital resource, preserving the voices and personal stories of the Imahara family and others who survived injustice at Rohwer and Jerome.”

—**Kimberly Guise**, senior curator and director for curatorial affairs, the National WWII Museum, New Orleans

Not long after the attack on Pearl Harbor that drew the United States into World War II, the federal government rounded up more than a hundred thousand immigrants and native-born citizens of Japanese descent and began one of the most horrific mass-incarceration events in US history. The program tore apart Asian American communities and destroyed livelihoods as it forced Japanese Americans to various “relocation centers” around the country. Two of these concentration camps—the Jerome and Rohwer War Relocation Centers—operated in Arkansas.

Jerome and Rohwer is a collection of brief memoirs written by former internees of the Arkansas camps and their close family members. Here dozens of individuals, almost all of whom are now in their eighties or nineties, share their personal accounts as well as photographs and other illustrations related to their life-changing experiences. The collection, likely to be one of the last of its kind, is the only work composed solely of autobiographical remembrances of life in Jerome and Rohwer, and one of the very few that gathers in a single volume the experiences of internees in their own words.

What emerges is a vivid portrait of life behind barbed wire, where inalienable rights were flouted and American values suspended to bring a misguided sense of security to a race-obsessed nation at war. The accounts here also describe how in the barracks and the fields, the mess halls and the makeshift gathering places, values of perseverance, tolerance, and dignity—the *gaman* the internees shared—gave significance to a transformative experience that changed forever what it means to call oneself an American.



MARCH

280 pages, 18 photographs, 6 × 9, index
\$34.95 cloth 978-1-68226-195-8
e-book 978-1-61075-763-8

John A. Kirk is the George W. Donaghey Distinguished Professor of History at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock and the author or editor of ten books, including *Beyond Little Rock: The Origins and Legacies of the Central High Crisis* and *Race and Ethnicity in Arkansas: New Perspectives*.

Winthrop Rockefeller

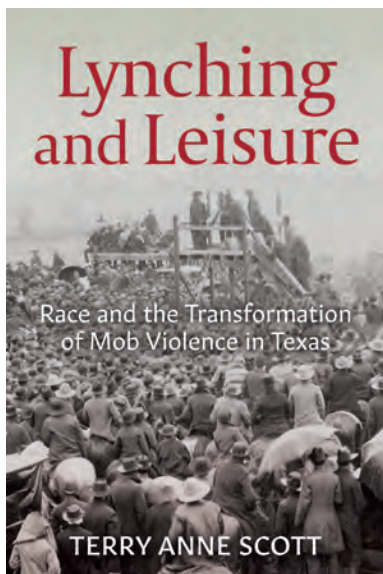
From New Yorker to Arkansawyer, 1912–1956

JOHN A. KIRK

“John A. Kirk’s incisive new biography overturns the familiar view of Winthrop Rockefeller as an outsider who decamped from a world of incomparable privilege to an underdeveloped state where he forged an unlikely political legacy. Kirk demonstrates through dogged research and astute judgment that Rockefeller’s landmark service in Arkansas extended from his engagement in a broad range of undertakings from youth to adulthood. A readable and intriguing portrait of a figure whose prelude to power distinguished him from other Southern leaders of the era.”

—**Ben F. Johnson, III**, author of *Arkansas in Modern America*

Why did Winthrop Rockefeller, scion of one of the most powerful families in American history, leave New York for an Arkansas mountaintop in the 1950s? In this richly detailed biography of the former Arkansas governor, John A. Kirk delves into the historical record to fully unravel that mystery for the first time. Kirk pursues clues threaded throughout Rockefeller’s life, tracing his family background, childhood, and education; his rise in the oil industry from roustabout to junior executive; his military service in the Pacific during World War II, including his involvement in the battles of Guam, Leyte, and Okinawa; his postwar work in race relations, health, education, and philanthropy; his marriage to and divorce from Barbara “Bobo” Sears; and the birth of his only child, future Arkansas lieutenant governor Win Paul Rockefeller. This careful examination of Winthrop Rockefeller’s first forty-four years casts a powerful new light on his relationship with his adopted state, where his legacy continues to be felt more than half a century after his governorship.



FEBRUARY

400 pages, 6 × 9, 44 photographs, index
\$34.95 cloth 978-1-68226-189-7
e-book 978-1-61075-761-4

Terry Anne Scott is associate professor of American history and Chair of the History Department at Hood College. She is the editor of *Seattle Sports: Play, Identity, and Pursuit in the Emerald City*.

Lynching and Leisure

Race and the Transformation of
Mob Violence in Texas

TERRY ANNE SCOTT

“This original and revealing examination of the puzzling practices and discourses that framed lynching as a leisure activity reveals a fundamental shift in the character of racial violence in the early twentieth century. A must-read for understanding how ordinary people could perpetrate the most barbaric racial atrocities.”

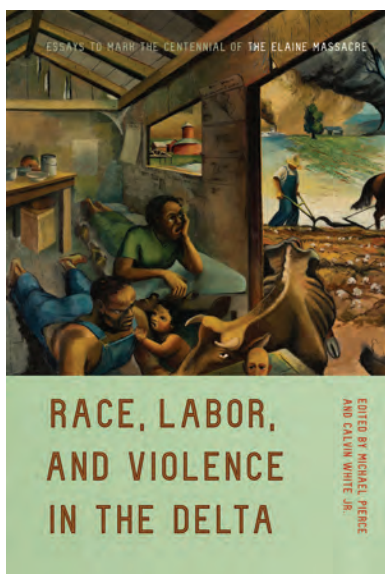
—**Thomas C. Holt**, author of *The Movement: The African American Struggle for Civil Rights*

“Terry Anne Scott speaks directly to our current moment by insisting that white supremacy infects every aspect of American life. Through painstaking archival data and vivid, gruesome storytelling, Scott explodes misconceptions about recreation and pleasure in modern times.

Lynching and Leisure is a spectacular revelation, showing how violence, justice, technology, fun, and profit bleed together to serve those in power. In the tradition of Ida B. Wells and legions of Black journalists, Scott documents these atrocities with courage and candor.”

—**Ellen D. Wu**, author of *The Color of Success: Asian Americans and the Origins of the Model Minority*

In *Lynching and Leisure*, Terry Anne Scott examines how white Texans transformed lynching from a largely clandestine strategy of extralegal punishment into a form of racialized recreation in which crowd involvement was integral to the mode and methods of the violence. Scott powerfully documents how lynchings came to function not only as tools for debasing the status of Black people but also as highly anticipated occasions for entertainment, making memories with friends and neighbors, and reifying whiteness. In focusing on the sense of pleasure and normality that prevailed among the white spectatorship, this comprehensive study of Texas lynchings sheds new light on the practice understood as one of the chief strategies of racial domination in the nineteenth- and twentieth-century South.



MAY

248 pages, 6 × 9, index

\$29.95 paper 978-1-68226-206-1

\$69.95 cloth 978-1-68226-205-4

e-book 978-1-61075-775-1

Michael Pierce is associate professor of history at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. He is the author of *Striking with the Ballot: Ohio Labor and the Populist Party*.

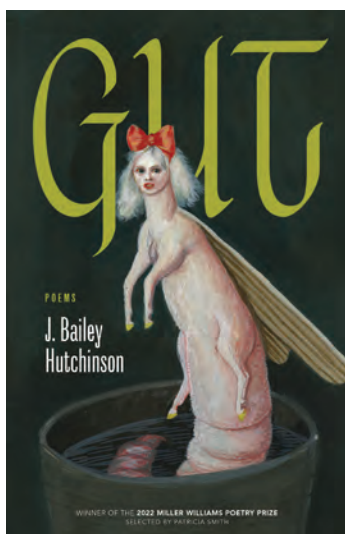
Calvin White Jr. is associate dean of the Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Arkansas, where he is also associate professor of history. He is the author of *The Rise to Respectability: Race, Religion, and the Church of God in Christ*.

Race, Labor, and Violence in the Delta

Essays to Mark the Centennial of the
Elaine Massacre

EDITED BY MICHAEL PIERCE AND CALVIN WHITE, JR.

Race, Labor, and Violence in the Delta examines the history of labor relations and racial conflict in the Mississippi Valley from the Civil War into the late twentieth century. This essay collection grew out of a conference marking the hundredth anniversary of one of the nation's deadliest labor conflicts—the 1919 Elaine Massacre, during which white mobs ruthlessly slaughtered over two hundred African Americans across Phillips County, Arkansas, in response to a meeting of unionized Black sharecroppers. The essays here demonstrate that the brutality that unfolded in Phillips County was characteristic of the culture of race- and labor-based violence that prevailed in the century after the Civil War. They detail how Delta landowners began seeking cheap labor as soon as the slave system ended—securing a workforce by inflicting racial terror, eroding the Reconstruction Amendments in the courts, and obstructing federal financial-relief efforts. The result was a system of peonage that continued to exploit Blacks and poor whites for their labor, sometimes fatally. In response, laborers devised their own methods for sustaining themselves and their communities: forming unions, calling strikes, relocating, and occasionally operating outside the law. By shedding light on the broader context of the Elaine Massacre, *Race, Labor, and Violence in the Delta* reveals that the fight against white supremacy in the Delta was necessarily a fight for better working conditions, fair labor practices, and economic justice.



MARCH

100 pages, 5 ½ × 8 ½

\$17.95 paper 978-1-68226-202-3

e-book 978-1-61075-771-3

Miller Williams Poetry Series
EDITED BY PATRICIA SMITH

J. Bailey Hutchinson is from Memphis, Tennessee. She earned her MFA from the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, where she served as assistant director of the Open Mouth Literary Center. She is an associate editor at Milkweed Editions, and her work can be found in *Muzzle Magazine*, *Beloit Poetry Journal*, and *Ninth Letter*, among other publications. She lives in Minneapolis.

Gut

Poems

J. BAILEY HUTCHINSON**Winner, 2022 Miller Williams Poetry Prize**

“I couldn’t be more energized and excited knowing that J. Bailey Hutchinson’s *Gut* is the first winning manuscript in my tenure as the Miller Williams series editor. In addition to snagging first place, *Gut* also grabs the honor for the most appropriate manuscript title ever—because the gut is exactly where this book hits, relentlessly, poem after poem, page after page. Here is family attending to its family business, its love, its suspicions, and its fears under an insisting sun or a cold and tenacious moon. Here is the thunderous Mississippi River coursing through it all, scrubbing some things blameless, washing away others. Here is bold southern sensibility, rapturous and addictive, crafting poems that are impossible to turn away from. Bailey touts a smoldering command of her slice of the world, and her astute ability to recreate all the delightful nuances of that world is fully at work in this winning book.”

—**Patricia Smith**, Series Editor

J. Bailey Hutchinson’s *Gut* is the dazzling debut of a born storyteller. In Hutchinson’s poems, which explore the substance of personal history, family attains the mysterious stature of folklore, while the vast worlds of nature and of the imagination abound with extraordinary creatures that likewise elude full understanding. For the voracious consciousness at work here, inheritance—what it means to be from a particular place and a particular people, no matter how one might strain against that—lies at the very heart of things.



MARCH

116 pages, 5 ½ × 8 ½

\$17.95 paper 978-1-68226-203-0

e-book 978-1-61075-772-0

Miller Williams Poetry Series

EDITED BY PATRICIA SMITH

Michael Mlekoday lives in the Putah Creek watershed of California, where they serve as poetry editor of *Ruminate* magazine and teach classes on hip-hop, gothic literature, and wilderness poetics. They have won the National Poetry Slam and served as cofounding editor of Button Poetry. Their first book, *The Dead Eat Everything*, won the Stan and Tom Wick Poetry Prize.

All Earthly Bodies

MICHAEL MLEKODAY

Finalist, 2022 Miller Williams Poetry Prize

“*All Earthly Bodies* begins ‘Even the gaze / is a kind of government.’ And that line comes back to me whenever I think of the possibilities of our work, the many places that work must go, and the hard work we must do to get it there. Michael Mlekoday is savvy at the task at hand—the poems in this book break intriguing new ground, each one rollicking with both their grasp of audience and their adroit handling of the line, the inflection, the resounding word. This is distinctly a people’s poetry, at once accessible and starkly original.”

—**Patricia Smith**, Series Editor

From cities and cross-country bus rides to swamps and fern forests, Michael Mlekoday’s *All Earthly Bodies* celebrates the ungentrifiable, ungovernable wildness of life. This is anarchist ecology, genderqueer environmentalism, an earthbound theology against empire in all its forms. These poems ask how our lives and language, our prayers and politics, might evolve if we really listened to the world and its more-than-human songs.

“Sometimes I wish I could / peel myself from myself / without discarding the shell,” Mlekoday writes. Through a kind of lyric dreamwork, Mlekoday sounds the depths—of ancestry and identity, race and gender, earth and self—to track the unbecoming and re-membling of the body.



MARCH

94 pages, 5 ½ × 8 ½

\$17.95 paper 978-1-68226-204-7

e-book 978-1-61075-773-7

Miller Williams Poetry Series

EDITED BY PATRICIA SMITH

Casey Thayer is the author of *Self-Portrait with Spurs and Sulfur* and *Love for the Gun*. His work has appeared in *AGNI*, *American Poetry Review*, *Poetry*, and elsewhere. He lives in Chicago.

Rational Anthem

CASEY THAYER

Finalist, 2022 Miller Williams Poetry Prize

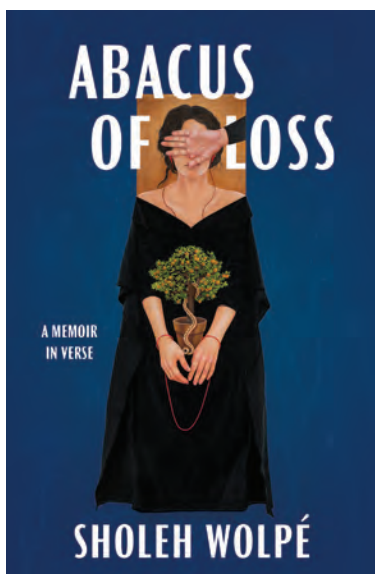
“Casey Thayer’s *Rational Anthem* tangles with the multifaceted specter of masculinity, yet veers into tenderness and insight with a deftness that startles. It’s a book of sharp, unforgiving edges and truths unveiled—all crafted with a canny lyricism that makes those truths shine new.”

—**Patricia Smith, Series Editor**

In a voice at times electrified by caustic cynicism, at other times stripped bare by grief, Casey Thayer’s *Rational Anthem* offers wry tribute to “the greatest country God could craft with the mules he had / on hand.” In seeking to tell the story of the ragged world around him, Thayer examines the links among flag-waving populism, religious fervor, and toxic masculinity. Here male intimacy—among childhood friends, between father and son, and in the tenuous bonds between young adults—generally finds acceptance only when expressed through a shared passion for guns and hunting: “I helped my father clean his hands with field grass, / convinced we had shared a moment / in rolling the internal organs out of the abdomen.”

In “How-To,” the book’s closer—a mash-up of instructions from active-shooter trainings attended by the poet—Thayer grasps at strategies for surviving a world where we have come to see school shootings as routine: “Grab a textbook, they instructed my child, and hug it to your chest over your heart.”

Formally deft and lyrically dense, *Rational Anthem* asks why we find it so hard to change the stories we keep repeating.



MARCH

124 pages, 5.5 × 8.5

\$24.95 paper 978-1-68226-198-9

e-book 978-1-61075-765-2

Sholeh Wolpé is an Iranian American poet, translator, and playwright. She is the award-winning author or editor of more than a dozen books, including *Keeping Time with Blue Hyacinths*, *Sin: Selected Poems of Forugh Farrokhzad*, and *The Conference of the Birds*. Currently a writer-in-residence at the University of California, Irvine, Wolpé has lived in Iran, Trinidad, and the United Kingdom. She presently resides in Los Angeles and Barcelona.

Abacus of Loss

A Memoir in Verse

SHOLEH WOLPÉ

“‘Exile is a suitcase with a broken strap,’ writes Sholeh Wolpé in this autobiographical story that takes us across borders of language and time, from ‘a hill high above Tehran’ to the valley in Los Angeles. It is a journey where—we soon learn—‘loss is a language’ and the ‘fastest way out of a labyrinth / is up.’ So much to love about this brave and musical storytelling. I for one admire how much Wolpé loves our days, how much tenderness and insight each moment’s turn offers. There is much gusto, too, and such style and verve. ‘Make my curly hair your flag,’ the poet tells us, as she guides us on the trip via ‘boats crusted with our stories.’ *Abacus of Loss* is a terrific book, thrilling with lyric as it casts a narrative spell. Bravo!”

—**Ilya Kaminsky**, author of *Deaf Republic* and *Dancing in Odessa*

“Sholeh Wolpé’s *Abacus of Loss* is a manual for living. How to stay permeable to wonder and joy in a world that so aggressively conspires against them? In a world that can be so corrosive to grace? In one poem Wolpé writes, ‘Our passports lie on the yellow Formica table / side by side, two countries at war.’ In another, ‘God is just a vagabond / peddling bombs and swords.’ There is a remarkable braid here of a woman’s journey through a world run by men drunk on their own power, through a cosmos governed by a God apparently hidden by his. *Abacus of Loss* is a remarkable achievement, an unforgettable text.”

—**Kaveh Akbar**, author of *Pilgrim Bell* and *Calling a Wolf a Wolf*

Albert Einstein said, “Not everything that can be counted counts, and not everything that counts can be counted.” It is in this vein that Sholeh Wolpé’s mesmerizing memoir in verse unfolds. In this lyrical and candid work, her fifth collection of poems, Wolpé invokes the abacus as an instrument of remembering. Through different countries and cultures, she carries us bead by bead on a journey of loss and triumph, love and exile. In the end, the tally is insight, not numbers, and we arrive at a place where nothing is too small for gratitude.

Reporting for Arkansas

The Documentary Films of Jack Hill

DALE CARPENTER AND ROBERT COCHRAN

Jack Hill was a pioneering Arkansas documentary filmmaker dedicated to sharing his state's history with a wider public. Following a decade as an award-winning investigative journalist and news anchor at KAIT in Jonesboro, Hill was pushed out by new management for his controversial reporting on corruption in a local sheriff's office. What seemed like a major career setback turned out to be an opportunity: he founded the production company TeleVision for Arkansas, through which he produced dozens of original films. Although Hill brought an abiding interest in education and public health to this work from the beginning, he found his true calling in topics based in Arkansas history. Convinced that a greater acquaintance with the state's most significant historical events would nurture a greater sense of homegrown pride, Hill tirelessly crisscrossed the state to capture the voices of hundreds of Arkansans recalling significant chapters in the state's history, such as the oil boom in El Dorado and Smackover, the crucial contributions of the Arkansas Ordnance Plant in Jacksonville during World War II, and the role of Rosenwald Schools in expanding educational opportunities.

In *Reporting for Arkansas*, Dale Carpenter and Robert Cochran present a biography of Hill alongside an annotated selected filmography designed to accompany sixteen of his best films on subjects related to Arkansas history—all newly hosted online by the David and Barbara Pryor Center for Arkansas Oral and Visual History.

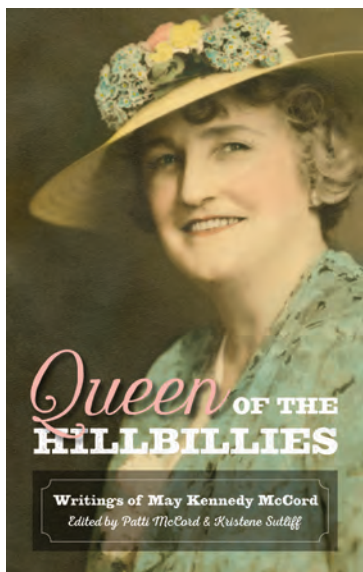
JUNE

200 pages, 5 × 9, 9 photographs, index
\$17.95 paper 978-1-68226-207-8
e-book 978-1-61075-776-8

THE ARKANSAS CHARACTER

nalism and documentary filmmaking at the University of Arkansas for a quarter century. His documentary films have been broadcast nationally on PBS and have garnered seven regional Emmy Awards.

Robert Cochran is professor of English and director of the Center for Arkansas and Regional Studies at the University of Arkansas. He is the author of several books on Arkansas culture, including *Lights! Camera! Arkansas!:* *From Broncho Billy to Billy Bob Thornton*, co-authored with Suzanne McCray.



APRIL

366 pages, 5 × 8, 29 photographs, index
\$24.95 paper 978-1-68226-199-6
e-book 978-1-61075-766-9

Chronicles OF THE *Ozarks*

Brooks Blevins, General Editor

Patti McCord is the granddaughter of May Kennedy McCord.

Kristene Sutliff is professor emerita at Missouri State University, where she directed the Ozarks Studies Institute for several years

Both were born and raised in the Missouri Ozarks.

Queen of the Hillbillies

Writings of May Kennedy McCord

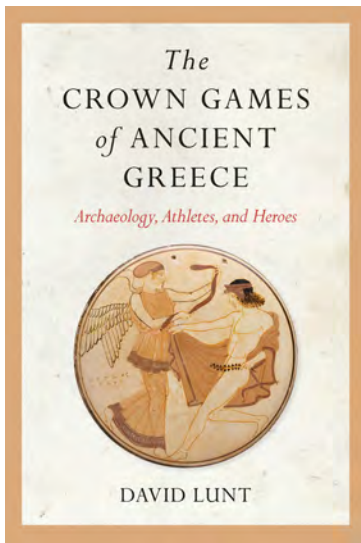
EDITED BY **PATTI MCCORD** AND **KRISTENE SUTLIFF**

“The distinctive culture of the Ozarks has been preserved through those who lived it and shared by those who love it. May Kennedy McCord did both of these things: her words, based on pure devotion to the region and its people, not only benefited her contemporaries but will also inspire new readers who can now see the Ozarks through her eyes.”

—**Kaitlyn McConnell**, founder of Ozarks Alive

May Kennedy McCord, lovingly nicknamed “First Lady of the Ozarks” and “Queen of the Hillbillies,” spent half a century sharing the history, songs, and stories of her native Ozarks through newspaper columns, radio programs, and music festivals. Though her work made her one of the twentieth century’s preeminent folklorists, McCord was first and foremost an entertainer—at one time nearly as renowned as the hills she loved.

Despite the encouragement of her contemporaries, McCord never published a collection of her work. In 1956, Vance Randolph wrote to her, “If you didn’t have such a mental block against writing books, I could show you how to make a book out of extracts from your columns. It would be very little work, and sell like hotcakes. . . . I could write a solemn little introduction, telling the citizens what a fine gal you are! The hell of it is, most of the readers know all about you.” In *Queen of the Hillbillies*, editors Patti McCord and Kristene Sutliff at last bring together the best of McCord’s published and previously unpublished writings to share her knowledge, humor, and inimitable spirit with a new generation of readers.



APRIL

184 pages, 6 × 9, 8 photographs, index
\$24.95 paper 978-1-68226-201-6
\$54.95 cloth 978-1-68226-200-9
ebook 978-1-61075-767-6



David Lunt is associate professor of history at Southern Utah University, where he teaches ancient history and conducts research on the role of sports in society. His scholarship on ancient athletics has appeared in numerous publications, including the *Journal of Olympic Studies*, the *Journal of Sport History*, and *The Bloomsbury Companion to the Philosophy of Sport*.

The Crown Games of Ancient Greece

Archaeology, Athletes, and Heroes

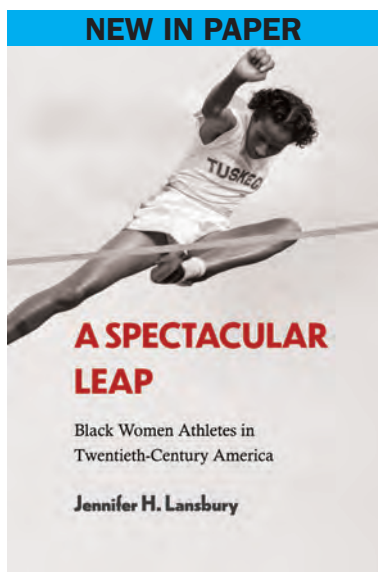
DAVID LUNT

“David Lunt has written a comprehensive introduction to the four major sport games in antiquity. Lunt combines archeological, religious, epigraphic, and literary sources and contemporizes them to the American context. A great compendium that expounds the history of discoveries and opens up new possibilities for research.”

—**Reyes Bertolín Cebrián**, author of *The Athlete in the Ancient Greek World*

The Crown Games were the apex of competition in ancient Greece. Along with prestigious athletic contests in honor of Zeus at Olympia, they comprised the Pythian Games for Apollo at Delphi, the Isthmian Games for Poseidon, and the Nemean Games, sacred to Zeus. For over nine hundred years, the Greeks celebrated these athletic and religious festivals, a rare point of cultural unity amid the fierce regional independence of the numerous Greek city-states and kingdoms.

The Crown Games of Ancient Greece examines these festivals in the context of the ancient Greek world, a vast and sprawling cultural region that stretched from modern Spain to the Black Sea and North Africa. Illuminating the unique history and features of the celebrations, David Lunt delves into the development of the contest sites as sanctuaries and the Panhellenic competitions that gave them their distinctive character. While literary sources have long been the mainstay for understanding the evolution of the Crown Games and ancient Greek athletics, archaeological excavations have significantly augmented contemporary understandings of the events. Drawing on this research, Lunt brings deeper context to these gatherings, which were not only athletics competitions but also occasions for musical contests, dramatic performances, religious ceremonies, and diplomatic summits—as well as raucous partying. Taken as a circuit, the Crown Games offer a more nuanced view of ancient Greek culture than do the well-known Olympian Games on their own. With this comprehensive examination of the Crown Games, Lunt provides a new perspective on how the ancient Greeks competed and collaborated both as individuals and as city-states.



APRIL 2022

352 pages, 6 × 9

\$24.95 paper 978-1-68226-211-5

e-book 978-1-61075-542-9



Jennifer Lansbury is a twentieth-century American cultural historian. She is the author of *More Than Words Can Ever Tell*.

A Spectacular Leap

Black Women Athletes in Twentieth-Century America

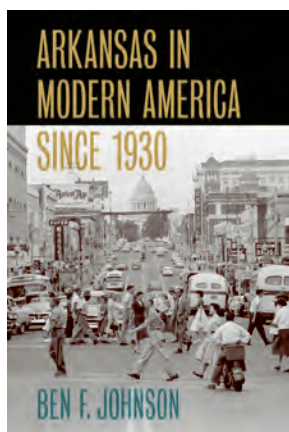
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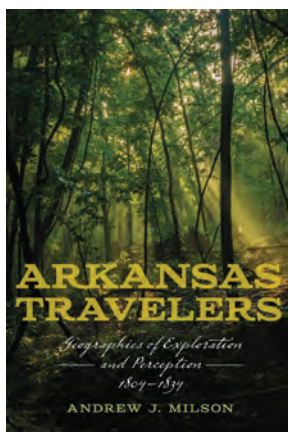
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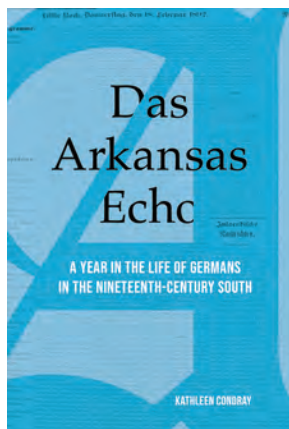
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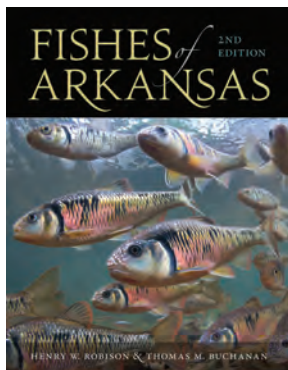
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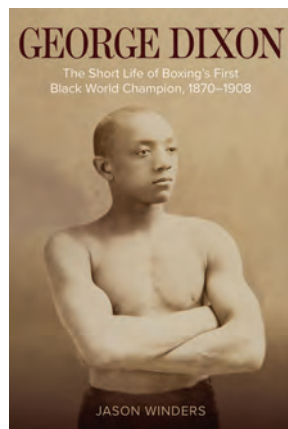
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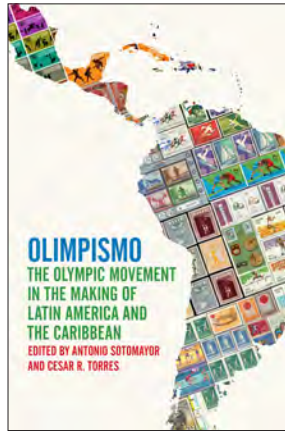
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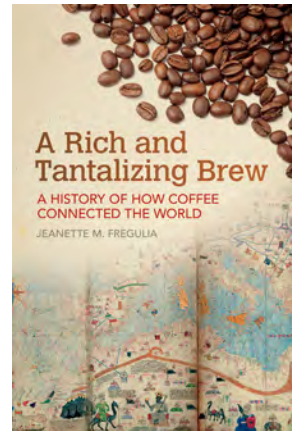
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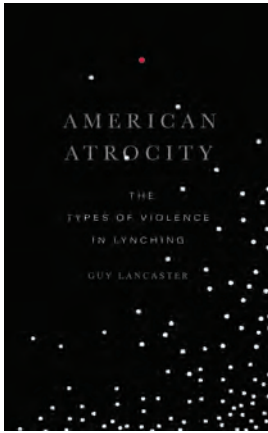
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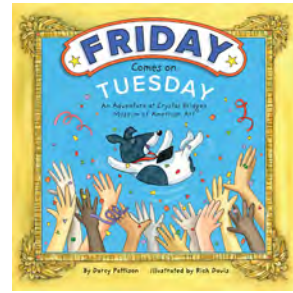
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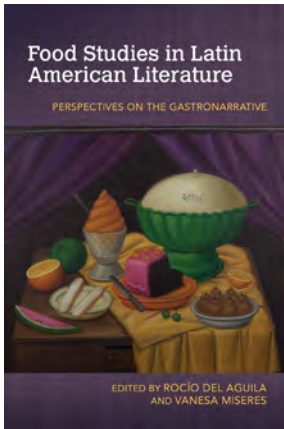
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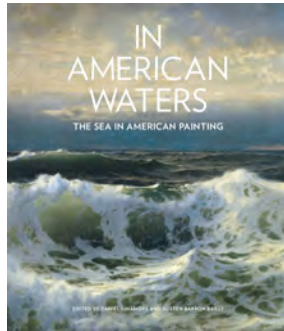
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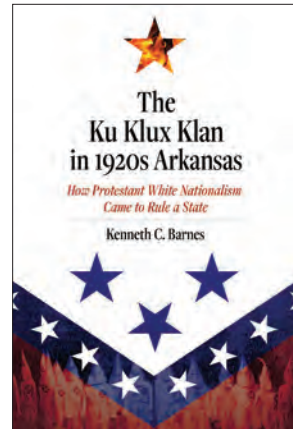
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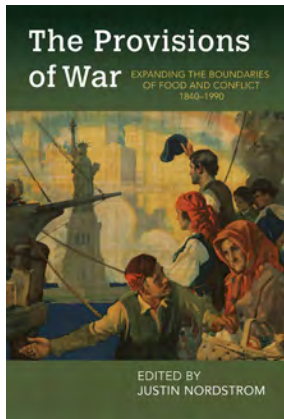
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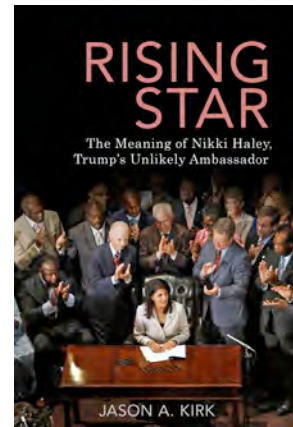
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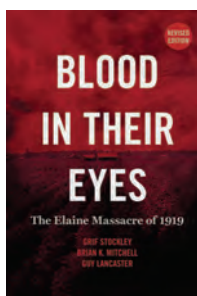
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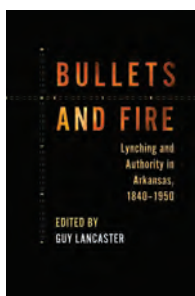
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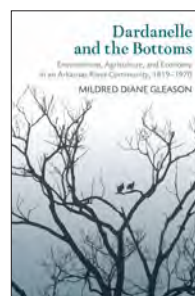
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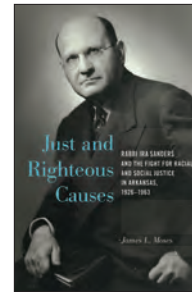
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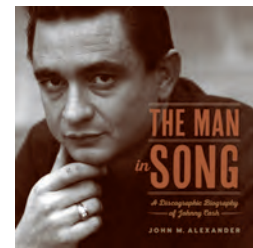
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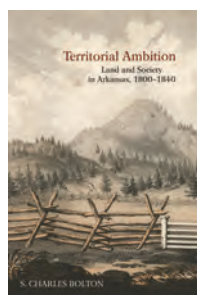
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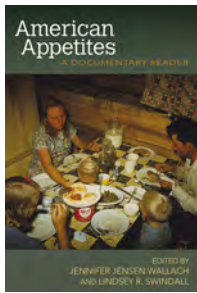
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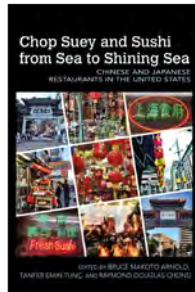
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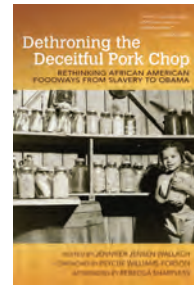
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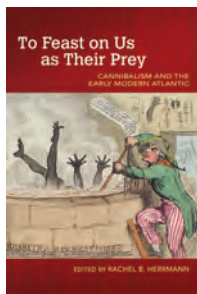
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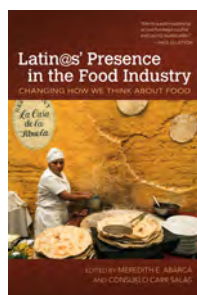
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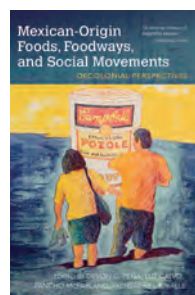
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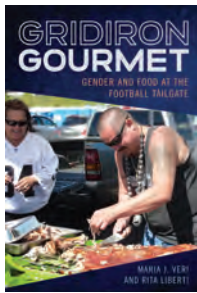
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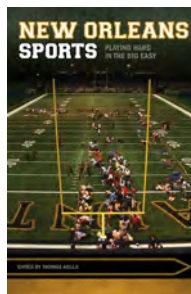
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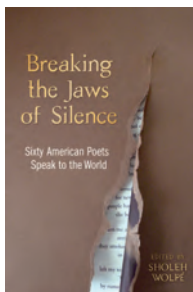
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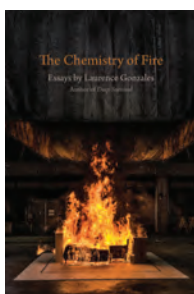
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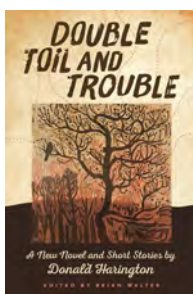
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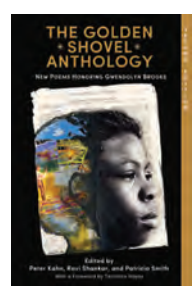
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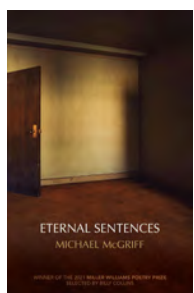
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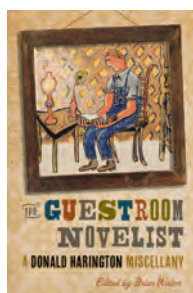
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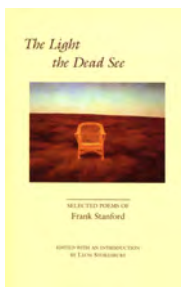
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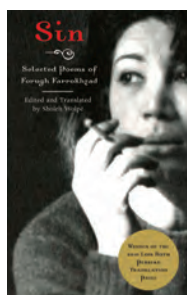
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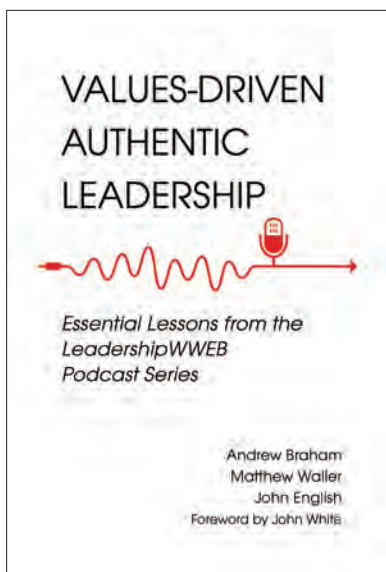
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Andrew Braham is associate professor of civil engineering at the University of Arkansas. He is the coauthor of *Fundamentals of Sustainability in Civil Engineering*.

Matthew Waller is dean of the Sam M. Walton College of Business at the University of Arkansas, where he also holds the Sam M. Walton Leadership Chair and is a professor of supply chain management. He is the coauthor of *The Definitive Guide to Inventory Management*, *Purple on the Inside: How J. B. Hunt Transport Set Itself Apart in a Field Full of Brown Cows*, *Integrating Blockchain into Supply Chain Management: A Toolkit for Practical Implementation*, and *The Dean's List: Leading a Modern Business School*.

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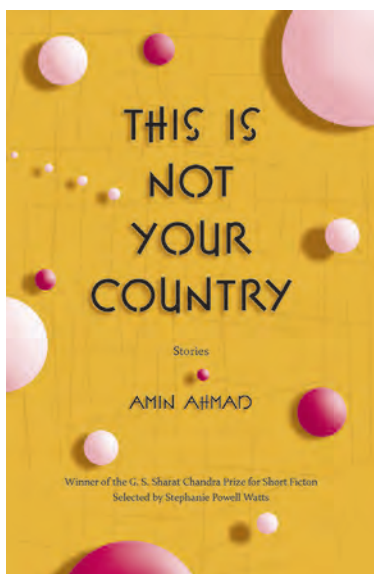
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AND JOHN ENGLISH
FOREWORD BY JOHN WHITE

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Amin Ahmad was raised in India, attended Vassar College and MIT, and has lived in Boston, New York, Washington DC, and Chicago. He worked as an architect before turning to fiction and now teaches creative writing at Duke University.

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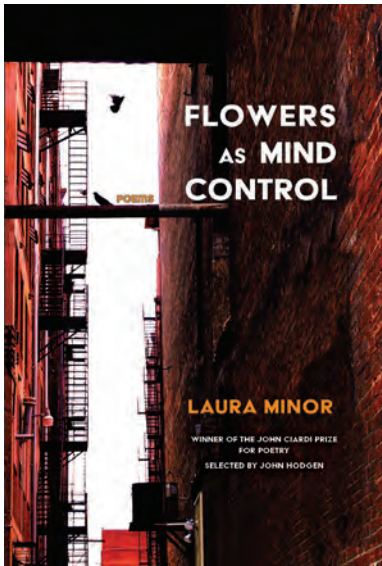
—**Chaitali Sen**, author of *The Pathless Sky*

“Ahmad is interested in dreamers, secret-harborers, country-leavers. They convince us that their world is not right, that much has happened before, that resolution and healing is close by. But Ahmad promises us nothing. Perhaps that is why we should read him, because he makes us want to believe.”

—**Deepak Unnikrishnan**, author of *Temporary People*

This Is Not Your Country by Amin Ahmad won the G. S. Sharat Chandra Prize from BkMk Press, selected by Stephanie Powell Watts. America has upended the lives of these Indian immigrants: a doctor addicted to the adrenaline rush of the ER, a genius computer programmer who always gets fired, a high-level bureaucrat outshone by his young wife, a teenage runaway, and a lonely livery driver who befriends a troupe of street acrobats. As they desperately seek solace in love, sex, and status, they discover that the journey to real belonging is much stranger than they had ever imagined.

Stories in *This Is Not Your Country* have appeared in such places as *The Missouri Review*, *Slice*, and *Asian American Literary Review*.



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Laura Minor won the Rita Dove Poetry Award (chosen by Marilyn Nelson), the Sassaman Graduate Creative Writing Award, the International Literary Award, and the Emerging Writers Spotlight Award, chosen by poet D.A. Powell. She was a finalist for the National Poetry Series. She was named one of the “10 Acclaimed FSU English Professors That Will Inspire You” by *collegemagazine.com*. Her poetry is forthcoming or has most recently appeared in *Ploughshares*, *North American Review*, *The Missouri Review*, *The Normal School*, *South Carolina Review*, *Quiddity International Literary Journal*, *Arc Poetry Magazine*, and the 2021 New Rivers Press anthology, *Wild Gods: The Ecstatic In Contemporary Poetry and Prose*. She was a Teachers College Fellow at Columbia University and was chosen by Denise Duhamel for a Sarah Lawrence Poetry Award. She holds a PhD from Florida State University and an MFA from Sarah Lawrence. She currently lives near the Appalachian Trail.

Flowers as Mind Control

Poems

LAURA MINOR

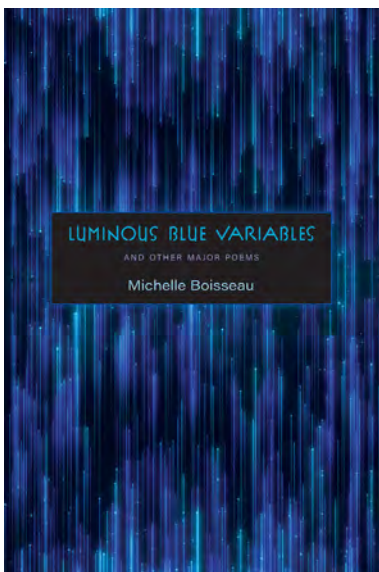
“This is the magnificent story of ruining things, weeping bottles, flying tuna-fish sandwiches,’ writes Minor in her panoramic debut that explores setting (mostly Florida), relationships with men and women, illness, friendship, depression, and suicidal ideation. Its dedication ‘to women everywhere who refuse to give up their dreams’ signals the collection’s interest in resilience. Readers will enjoy Minor’s fierce, unabashed voice.”

—*Publishers Weekly*

“One of the greatest pleasures I take in poetry is that feeling of camaraderie: the shared space of mutual humanity. That sense of belonging in the world, even with all its volatilities and uncertainties. And Laura Minor’s poems deliver on that pleasure. Achingly real and ever aspiring, this book is full of wonder, full of longing and its rewards. ‘I guess I just wanted to see snow falliing from the sky,’ she writes, and ‘I will open a small sea for you.’ I find these poems so gratifying, so necessary. Tender and awake to what’s possible.”

—**D.A. Powell**, author of *Useless Landscape, or a Guide for Boys*

This book, which was selected by poet John Hodgen for the John Ciardi Prize for Poetry, ranges across rural Florida and Georgia as well as Los Angeles and New York City, includes considerations of homesickness, memory, music, alcohol, love, and loss. With a voice at once inquisitive and prescient, Minor meditates on consumption, vice, homesickness, memory, family, and the landscape. Minor’s writing is unerringly lyric and blooming with elegant charm and keen description. This book is an alchemy of fortitude in the face of despair and all the transformative possibility that comes with the hope for a better future.



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Michelle Boisseau was the author of several books of poetry, including *Trembling Air*, a PEN USA finalist, *Understory*, winner of the Morse Prize, and her university textbook, *Writing Poems*, initiated by the late Robert Wallace and co-edited most recently with her colleague Hadara Bar-Nadav. Boisseau was a Guggenheim fellow and received two fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts. Prior to her untimely death in 2017, she taught in the MFA program at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. She was an associate editor for BkMk Press and a contributing editor of *New Letters* magazine.

Luminous Blue Variables

and Other Major Poems

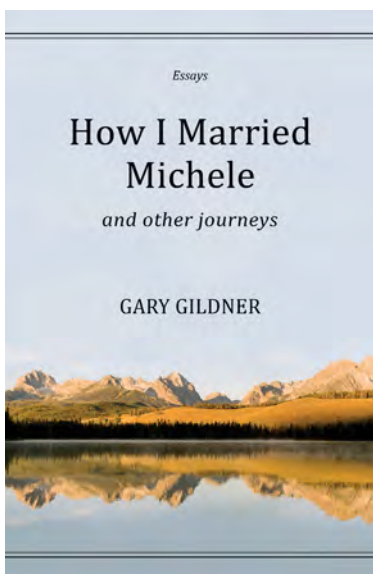
MICHELLE BOISSEAU

“I always said Michelle Boisseau was tough. In *Luminous Blue Variables: and Other Major Poems*, she stands witness to our guilt, cruelty, and inherent sadness. [H]ow little of history / is ever reeled in and put away? Of whom or what does she not speak? Pliny the Elder, the Stasi and the Berlin Wall, Voltaire, slavery, the Gestapo, her father, and, in a language that glistens, Danaë in her ‘tower of light’—the golden rain. Moving from the personal to the universal and back again, she shows, with an exquisite eye for detail, how ‘One life is so small its story fits everywhere.’ A wonderful read.”

—**Alice Friman**, author of *Zoo*

“My great friend in poetry for 40 years, Michelle and I shared a love of baseball, fathers in radio, and often an ambition for a longer symphonic poem that fully explored concepts and the permutations of imagery as they formed and amplified core emotion and thought. But always I admired her talent, equaled by few, for precision and economy in the longer forms that boosted the signal of the poem and made it resonate. I admired her poetic acumen which so subtly drove the poems, and especially her fierce and unflinching intelligence that produced and joined engaging images that took on larger metaphysical problems as well as our mortality. We both were survivors of Catholic school, yet somehow retained a subtext that attracted us to cosmology, what that might suggest about a life beyond the planet, or not. And yet, all her poems are accessible, grounded with specifics and a deep, compelling humanity that speak honestly to us for all of their brilliance. I loved her exceptional energy and love for poetry and life. This exceptional collection of her poems is a testament to that. As it’s written of *Luminous Blue Variables*: ‘. . . because of these stars’ . . . high luminosity, their lifetime is very short. . . . There was no shining like Michelle’s.”

—**Christopher Buckley**



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Gary Gildner has given readings at the 92 St. Y, Manhattan Theatre Club, Library of Congress, Shakespeare & Co. in Paris, and on the ferry crossing Lake Michigan. He's been writer-in-residence at Reed, Davidson, and Randolph colleges, Seattle University, and Michigan State. Among his many books are two memoirs, a novel, four collections of stories and eight of poems. He is the winner of a National Magazine Award, Pushcart prizes, NEA and other fellowships, the William Carlos Williams, Theodore Roethke, and Iowa Poetry awards. He and Michele have traded the Clearwater Mountains of Idaho for the foothills of the Catalina Mountains in Arizona.

How I Married Michele

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"The huge gift to the reader that hums through and grounds Gary Gildner's collection of essays is a particular shine of talent: Gildner engages this world with both a storyteller's and a poet's heart. It's a deep engagement vividly drawn in sensory and emotional realms, an exaltation of the everyday as well as the extraordinary. Gildner is a writer who embraces this bumptious life with the explorer's sense of wonder. Each essay is a gem, a dazzler."

—**Maureen McCoy**, author of *Junebug* and *Divining Blood*

In these fifteen personal essays, Gary Gildner comes of age at a Catholic school learning Latin, how the girls crossed their legs in algebra, and football in the school's bomb shelter by exchanging punches with his best friend. He goes to Communist Poland to teach American literature and, *in medias res*, teaches the Warsaw Sparks baseball team how to win. Living in Czechoslovakia when that country is splitting in half, he learns the meaning of "Where the Dog is Buried" and fathers a daughter. Gildner writes about his Polish-German family's immigrant story and his friendships with poet Richard Hugo and Raymond Andrews, his college roommate and the author of *Baby Sweet's* and other African American novels. He writes about 9/11, stealing, meeting a cougar up close, meeting Michele, felling his barn in Idaho's Clearwater Mountains with a crowbar, and boxing with Chuck Davey, a fellow Michigan State Spartan and one-time challenger for the World Welterweight title.

Essays from this collection have appeared in such venues as the *New York Times Magazine*, *The Southern Review*, and *New Letters*.



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Faraj Bayrakdar is a journalist and award-winning poet. In 1987 he was arrested on suspicion of belonging to the Party for Communist Action and remained in prison without trial until 1993 when he was sentenced to fifteen years hard labor for belonging to an unauthorized political organization.

Poet, novelist, translator, critic, and scholar **Ammiel Alcalay** teaches at Queens College and The Graduate Center, CUNY. His books include *After Jews and Arabs*, *Memories of Our Future*, *Islanders, neither wit nor gold: from then, from the warring factions*, and a little history.

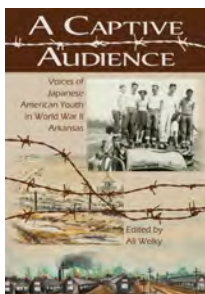
R. Shareah Taleghani is Assistant Professor and Director of Middle East studies at Queens College, the City University of New York.

Elias Khoury was born in Beirut, where he now lives. A major international author whose importance and stature only grows, Khoury has been Global Distinguished Professor of Middle Eastern and Arabic Studies at New York University, and taught at Columbia University, the Lebanese University, the American University of Beirut, and the Lebanese American University.

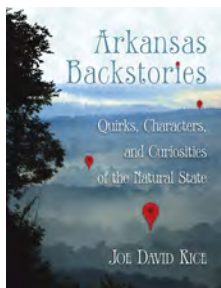
A Dove in Free Flight

FARAJ BAYRAKDAR
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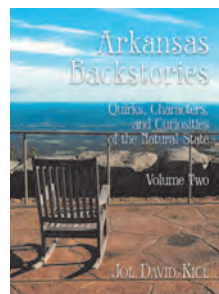
In 2002—just after 9/11 and prior to the US invasion of Iraq—a group inspired by Lebanese novelist Elias Khoury’s seminar on Arab prison literature decided to collectively translate Syrian poet Faraj Bayrakdar’s collection *A Dove in Free Flight*. Smuggled out of prison, the poems were published in Beirut without his knowledge, as a means of publicizing the poet’s plight as a political prisoner, and exerting pressure on public opinion to pay attention to his case. A French version, translated by the great Moroccan poet Abdellatif Laabi, himself a former political prisoner, followed. More than fourteen years after initial completion of the project, UpSet Press presents this extraordinary poetic, human, and historical document, featuring an introduction by editors Ammiel Alcalay and Shareah Taleghani, a preface by Elias Khoury, and a lengthy interview with the poet himself following his release on November 16, 2000, after thirteen years, seven months, and seventeen days in the Syrian carceral archipelago.



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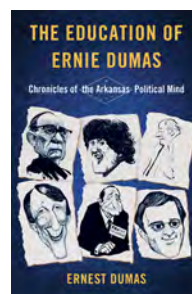
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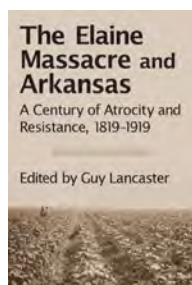
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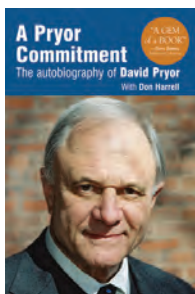
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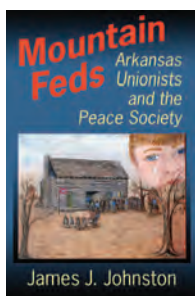
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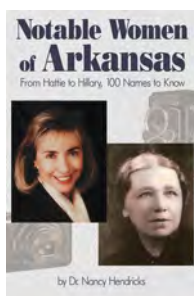
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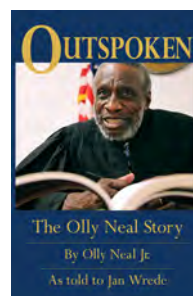
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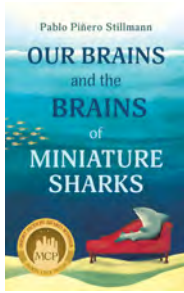
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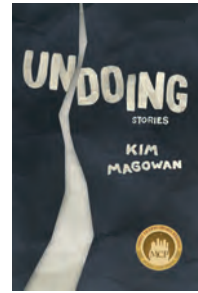
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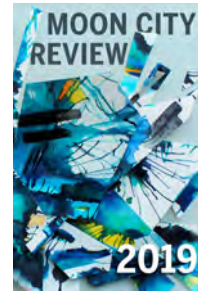
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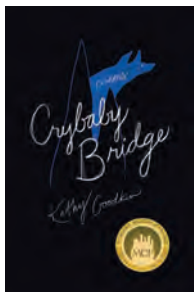
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