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## 2RXGWM - SILAS MCGEE

We who live at the end of the twentieth century are better informed--and more quickly informed--than any people in history. So why do we also seem more confused, divided and foolish than ever before? Some pundits criticize the news media for political bias. Other analysts worry that up-to-the-minute news reports on radio and television oversimplify complex realities. Still more critics point out that today's reporters can't possibly be experts on the wide variety of subjects they cover. Historian C. John Sommerville thinks the problem with news is more basic. Focusing his critique on the news at its best, he concludes that even at its best it is beyond repair. Sommerville argues that news began to make us dumber when we insisted on having it daily. Now millions of column inches and airtime hours must be filled with information--every day, every hour, every minute. The news, Sommerville says, becomes the driving force for much of our public culture. News schedules turn politics into a perpetual campaign. News packaging influences the timing, content and perception of government initiatives. News frenzies make a superstition out of scientific and medical research. News polls and statistics create opinion as much as they gauge it. Lost in the tidal wave of information is our ability to discern truly significant news--and our ability to recognize and participate in true community. This eye-opening book is for everyone dissatisfied with the state of the news media, but especially for those who think the news really informs them about and connects them with the real world. Read it and you may never again know the tyranny of the daily newspaper or the nightly news broadcast.

Celebrates the cartoonists who have helped define "The New Yorker," including Sam Gross, Lee Lorenz, and Edward Koren, and provides a brief history of the cartoon's role in the publication.

With an uncanny relevance to today's world and inspired by the life of its author, *Karl's Story*, is a WW II child refugee's tale of resilience, hope and courage as told through the narrative of her beloved teddy bear, Karl. A story perfect for all ages: read to children by parents, grandparents and teachers alike. It has been read many times to middle elementary grades. A book to be handed down from parent to child to child for generations to come. Karl, "a very old teddy bear," has a magic gift- he can tell stories to children who are still young enough to understand toy talk. *Karl's Story* begins in Europe. It's about Karl, the young girl Karin, and Mimi the mind reading cat, ... how the three friends experience and survive WW II and then escape from communism to a new and hope-filled life with his beloved friend Karin. Their journey, their story, enchants children but in the sense of *The Little Prince* speaks timelessly to adults as well. *Karl's Story* tells of European refugees and is as relevant today as then. The chaos of the time turned the world of the three friends upside down, slowly at first, from no more whipped cream at birthday parties to ev-

er more frequent air raids, crashing bombs, and a harrowing train ride, with Karl and Mimi stuffed in Karin's old wicker trunk. In the journey Karin loses all she ever knew or loved, but goes on to rebuild her world in America. The book is categorized as Children's Fiction because of its charming cover and talking stuffed animals but is inspirational to young and old alike, and a perfect antidote in these still troubled times; this is indeed a book for all.

"Sublime . . . Kalman's elegantly witty and at times melancholy narrative runs arm in arm with her unmistakable paintings on a serendipitous romp through the history of the world." —Vanity Fair "Wildly original . . . there's nothing else even remotely like it . . . This hilarious, wise, and deeply moving volume [is] the ultimate picture book for grown-ups." —O Magazine Maira Kalman paints her highly personal worldview in this inimitable combination of image and text An irresistible invitation to experience life through a beloved artist's psyche, *The Principles of Uncertainty* is a compilation of Maira Kalman's New York Times columns. Part personal narrative, part documentary, part travelogue, part chapbook, and all Kalman, these brilliant, whimsical paintings, ideas, and images - which initially appear random - ultimately form an intricately interconnected worldview, an idiosyncratic inner monologue.

Janetta loves to read more than anything else. However, one day something bad happens to her books and she worries that the books will disappear forever. Then, a book fairy appears and invites Janetta to fairyland for a special mission. It's up to Janetta to solve the mystery and restore the books she loves!

*The Black Swan* is a standalone book in Nassim Nicholas Taleb's landmark *Incerto* series, an investigation of opacity, luck, uncertainty, probability, human error, risk, and decision-making in a world we don't understand. The other books in the series are *Fooled by Randomness*, *Antifragile*, and *The Bed of Procrustes*. A black swan is a highly improbable event with three principal characteristics: It is unpredictable; it carries a massive impact; and, after the fact, we concoct an explanation that makes it appear less random, and more predictable, than it was. The astonishing success of Google was a black swan; so was 9/11. For Nassim Nicholas Taleb, black swans underlie almost everything about our world, from the rise of religions to events in our own personal lives. Why do we not acknowledge the phenomenon of black swans until after they occur? Part of the answer, according to Taleb, is that humans are hardwired to learn specifics when they should be focused on generalities. We concentrate on things we already know and time and time again fail to take into consideration what we don't know. We are, therefore, unable to truly estimate opportunities, too vulnerable to the impulse to simplify, narrate, and categorize, and not open enough to rewarding those who can imagine the "impossible." For years, Taleb has studied how we fool ourselves into thinking we know more than we actual-

ly do. We restrict our thinking to the irrelevant and inconsequential, while large events continue to surprise us and shape our world. In this revelatory book, Taleb explains everything we know about what we don't know, and this second edition features a new philosophical and empirical essay, "On Robustness and Fragility," which offers tools to navigate and exploit a Black Swan world. Elegant, startling, and universal in its applications, *The Black Swan* will change the way you look at the world. Taleb is a vastly entertaining writer, with wit, irreverence, and unusual stories to tell. He has a polymathic command of subjects ranging from cognitive science to business to probability theory. *The Black Swan* is a landmark book—itsself a black swan. Praise for Nassim Nicholas Taleb "The most prophetic voice of all."—GQ Praise for *The Black Swan* "[A book] that altered modern thinking."—*The Times* (London) "A masterpiece."—Chris Anderson, editor in chief of *Wired*, author of *The Long Tail* "Idiosyncratically brilliant."—Niall Ferguson, *Los Angeles Times* "The *Black Swan* changed my view of how the world works."—Daniel Kahneman, Nobel laureate "[Taleb writes] in a style that owes as much to Stephen Colbert as it does to Michel de Montaigne. . . . We eagerly romp with him through the follies of confirmation bias [and] narrative fallacy."—*The Wall Street Journal* "Hugely enjoyable—compelling . . . easy to dip into."—*Financial Times* "Engaging . . . The *Black Swan* has appealing cheek and admirable ambition."—*The New York Times Book Review* From the Hardcover edition.

"This might be one of the month's, if not the year's, sweetest books — zaniest, too." —*The Washington Post* "A hilarious addition to the dogoir canon." —*People* "Perhaps the greatest love story ever told." —*Refinery29* "The feel-good book the world needs." —*PopSugar* From one of the Internet's most original voices, a hilarious journey through the odd corners of obsessive dog ownership and the author's own infatuation with her perfect dog Peter. The author met Peter in the spring of 2017. He -- calm, puppy-eyed, with the heart of a poet and the soul of, also, a poet -- came to her first as a foster. He was unable to stay with his previously assigned foster for reasons that are none of your business, but which we will tell you were related to frequent urination. The rescue needed someone free of the sort of responsibilities that would force her to regularly leave the house for either work or socializing, and a writer was the natural choice. Thus began a love story for the ages. *The Particulars of Peter* is a funny exploration of the joy found in loving a dog so much it makes you feel like you're going to combust, and the author's potentially codependent relationship with her own sweet dog, Peter. Readers will follow Peter and his owner to Woofstock, "the largest outdoor festival for dogs in North America," and accompany them to lessons in Canine Freestyle, a sport where dogs perform a routine set to music, creating the illusion that they're dancing with their owners. From learning about Peter's DNA, to seeing if dogs can sense the presence of ghosts, *The Particulars of Peter* will give readers a smart, entertaining respite from the harsh world of humans into the funny little world of dogs. Readers will accompany this lovable duo through exciting trips, lessons, quiet moments of connection, and probably a failure or two. By fusing memoir and infotainment, *The Particulars of Peter* promises to refresh the perennially popular dog lit category in a scrumptiously bighearted barnstormer of a book.

The final book of the Bible, Revelation prophesies the ultimate judgement of mankind in a series of allegorical visions, grisly images and numerological predictions. According to these, empires will fall, the "Beast" will be destroyed and Christ will rule a new Jerusalem. With an introduction by Will Self.

Grasp of essential concepts of grammar and their modern usage in day-to-day personal and professional life is a major challenge

faced by young learners at all levels and streams of higher education in India. *Concise English Grammar* has been designed and created to suit the needs of first-year undergraduate students of the arts as well as professional courses, and to equip them for advanced usage of English in their higher studies. This book brings together the core concepts of theoretical and descriptive grammar, both modern and conventional; elements of remedial English; vocabulary; and academic writing, in a single compilation, and provides numerous examples and exercises which call for the application of the student's knowledge of grammar enabling them to assess their own progress. Each chapter is thoroughly cross-referenced, and written in an accessible, user-friendly manner, making it possible for students to derive maximum benefit from the book. Though created keeping the students of Kerala in mind, its wide-ranging coverage should be of value to all students and teachers of English as second language elsewhere as well.

"Christian Collier's poems of witness have the kind of keen insight that slices to the heart of the subject. *The Gleaming of the Blade* examines Black masculinity in the contemporary American South, alongside the lingering ghosts of the past, and how it feels to be Black in a country whose divisions and struggles could signal the end of civilization. These poems never shy away, interrogating harsh injustices and contending with the truth of today's America, a truth sometimes beautiful, sometimes biting"--

This elegant, 120-page, 6x9 in, glossy-finish notebook is perfect for any travel lover. It can be used for travel planning or as a journal - to keep record of those priceless experiences- as one constantly opens new doors and discovers the beauty our world has to offer.

ORPHAN, CLOCK KEEPER, AND THIEF, twelve-year-old Hugo lives in the walls of a busy Paris train station, where his survival depends on secrets and anonymity. But when his world suddenly interlock with an eccentric girl and her grandfather, Hugo's undercover life, and his most precious secret, are put in jeopardy. A cryptic drawing, a treasured notebook, a stolen key, a mechanical man, and a hidden message from Hugo's dead father form the backbone of this intricate, tender, and spellbinding mystery.

Winner of the Pulitzer Prize "A masterwork . . . the novel astonishes with its inventiveness . . . it is nothing less than a grand comic fugue."—*The New York Times Book Review* *A Confederacy of Dunces* is an American comic masterpiece. John Kennedy Toole's hero, one Ignatius J. Reilly, is "huge, obese, fractious, fastidious, a latter-day Gargantua, a Don Quixote of the French Quarter. His story bursts with wholly original characters, denizens of New Orleans' lower depths, incredibly true-to-life dialogue, and the zaniest series of high and low comic adventures" (Henry Kisor, *Chicago Sun-Times*).

Forty very short stories that reimagine the genre of crime writing from some of today's most imaginative and thrilling writers "An intriguing take on crime/noir writing, this collection of 40 very short stories by leading and emerging literary voices—Amelia Gray, Brian Evenson, Elizabeth Hand, Carmen Maria Machado, Benjamin Percy, Laura van den Berg and more—investigates crimes both real and imagined. Despite their diminutive size, these tales promise to pack a punch." —*Chicago Tribune*, 1 of 25 Hot Books for Summer *Tiny Crimes* gathers leading and emerging literary voices to tell tales of villainy and intrigue in only a few hundred words. From the most hard-boiled of noirs to the coziest of mysteries, with diminutive double crosses, miniature murders, and crimes both real and imagined, *Tiny Crimes* rounds up all the usual suspects, and some unusual suspects, too. With illustrations by Wesley Allsbrook and flash fiction by Carmen Maria Machado, Benjamin Percy, Amelia Gray, Adam Sternbergh, Yuri Herrera, Julia Elliott, Elizabeth Hand, Brian Evenson, Charles Yu, Laura van den

Berg, and more, *Tiny Crimes* scours the underbelly of modern life to expose the criminal, the illegal, and the depraved.

A collection of advice for the aspiring manager draws on the Mafia's reputation for understanding the dynamics of human nature, offering such maxims as "If you must lie, be brief" and "Keep your friends close, but keep your enemies closer"

"Social Justice Parenting offers guidance and grace for parents who want to teach their children how to create a fair and inclusive world."—Diane Debrovner, deputy editor of *Parents* magazine "Replete with excellent examples and advice that can help parents raise children with a healthy self-image and regard for the welfare of others."—Jane E. Brody, *New York Times* An empowering, timely guide to raising anti-racist, compassionate, and socially conscious children, from a diversity and inclusion educator with more than thirty years of experience. As a global pandemic shuttered schools across the country in 2020, parents found themselves thrust into the role of teacher—in more ways than one. Not only did they take on remote school supervision, but after the murder of George Floyd and the ensuing Black Lives Matter protests, many also grappled with the responsibility to teach their kids about social justice—with few resources to guide them. Now, in *Social Justice Parenting*, Dr. Traci Baxley—a professor of education who has spent 30 years teaching diversity and inclusion—will offer the essential guidance and curriculum parents have been searching for. Dr. Baxley, a mother of five herself, suggests that parenting is a form of activism, and encourages parents to acknowledge their influence in developing compassionate, socially-conscious kids. Importantly, Dr. Baxley also guides parents to do the work of recognizing and reconciling their own biases. So often, she suggests, parents make choices based on what's best for their children, versus what's best for all children in their community. Dr. Baxley helps readers take inventory of their actions and beliefs, develop self-awareness and accountability, and become role models. Poised to become essential reading for all parents committed to social change, *Social Justice Parenting* will offer parents everywhere the opportunity to nurture a future generation of humane, compassionate individuals.

"The definitive work on the West's water crisis." --*Newsweek* The story of the American West is the story of a relentless quest for a precious resource: water. It is a tale of rivers diverted and dammed, of political corruption and intrigue, of billion-dollar battles over water rights, of ecological and economic disaster. In his landmark book, *Cadillac Desert*, Marc Reisner writes of the earliest settlers, lured by the promise of paradise, and of the ruthless tactics employed by Los Angeles politicians and business interests to ensure the city's growth. He documents the bitter rivalry between two government giants, the Bureau of Reclamation and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, in the competition to transform the West. Based on more than a decade of research, *Cadillac Desert* is a stunning expose and a dramatic, intriguing history of the creation of an Eden—an Eden that may only be a mirage. This edition includes a new postscript by Lawrie Mott, a former staff scientist at the Natural Resources Defense Council, that updates Western water issues over the last two decades, including the long-term impact of climate change and how the region can prepare for the future.

Advice from the *Bike Peddler* shares with readers a collection of stories that helped shape the young author and entrepreneur, Garen T. Takessian. Through over a dozen failed business ventures and many life struggles, he decided that he needed to stop learning things the hard way. Instead, he takes an unconventional path to learning and achieving success and self improvement. This book is designed to be a step-by-step guide to improving your awareness, social abilities, and business skills. Message

from the author: Hello all, Throughout my life, I had a deeply founded dislike for reading anything at all, especially books. I avoided reading chapters in textbooks in school and I only read chapters of books that I knew would be on our tests. As I grew up and went through many personal struggles in both life and in business, I knew that I needed to change my approach to those things. Stumbling into a book store one day, I picked up a copy of *Rich Dad Poor Dad* and could not put the book down. The book got me hooked on reading. Since reading this book, I have not been able to put the habit to rest. Finally discovering something that I had interest in reading lead me to setting a goal of reading one book a week for a year. After realizing this goal, I understood that books really are written by everyday-average people. I knew that it was time to write my story down and share it with people to help them. The single goal of this book is to convince readers to take a different and more aware path than those around them. Thank you and best wishes, Garen T. Takessian

The old saying goes, "To the man with a hammer, everything looks like a nail." But anyone who has done any kind of project knows a hammer often isn't enough. The more tools you have at your disposal, the more likely you'll use the right tool for the job - and get it done right. The same is true when it comes to your thinking. The quality of your outcomes depends on the mental models in your head. And most people are going through life with little more than a hammer. Until now. *The Great Mental Models: General Thinking Concepts* is the first book in *The Great Mental Models* series designed to upgrade your thinking with the best, most useful and powerful tools so you always have the right one on hand. This volume details nine of the most versatile, all-purpose mental models you can use right away to improve your decision making, productivity, and how clearly you see the world. You will discover what forces govern the universe and how to focus your efforts so you can harness them to your advantage, rather than fight with them or worse yet- ignore them. Upgrade your mental toolbox and get the first volume today. AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY Farnam Street (FS) is one of the world's fastest growing websites, dedicated to helping our readers master the best of what other people have already figured out. We curate, examine and explore the timeless ideas and mental models that history's brightest minds have used to live lives of purpose. Our readers include students, teachers, CEOs, coaches, athletes, artists, leaders, followers, politicians and more. They're not defined by gender, age, income, or politics but rather by a shared passion for avoiding problems, making better decisions, and lifelong learning. AUTHOR HOME Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

\*NOW AN INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLER\* A *Toronto Star* Best-selling Book of the Year "Witty and entertaining."—Sarah Knight "Laugh-out-loud."—Steve Brusatte AN EXHILARATING JOURNEY THROUGH THE MOST CREATIVE AND CATASTROPHIC F\*CK-UPS OF HUMAN HISTORY Modern humans have come a long way in the seventy thousand years they've walked the earth. Art, science, culture, trade—on the evolutionary food chain, we're true winners. But it hasn't always been smooth sailing, and sometimes—just occasionally—we've managed to truly f\*ck things up. Weaving together history, science, politics and pop culture, *Humans* offers a panoramic exploration of humankind in all its glory, or lack thereof. From Lucy, our first ancestor, who fell out of a tree and died, to General Zhou Shou of China, who stored gunpowder in his palace before a lantern festival, to the Austrian army attacking itself one drunken night, to the most spectacular fails of the present day, *Humans* reveals how even the most mundane mistakes can shift the course of civilization as we know it. Lively, wry and brimming with brilliant insight, this unique compendium offers a fresh take on world history and is one of the most entertaining reads of the year.

War brought them together. Love will tear them apart. Auranos has been conquered and the three kingdoms—Auranos, Limeros, and Paelsia—are now unwillingly united as one country called Mytica. But alluring, dangerous magic still beckons, and with it the chance to rule not just Mytica, but the world. . . . • CLEO is now a prisoner in her own palace, forced to be an ambassador for Mytica as the evil King Gaius lies to her people • MAGNUS stands to eventually inherit the new kingdom but is still obsessed with his feelings for his adopted sister, Lucia • LUCIA is haunted by the deadly outcome of her breathtaking display of magic that allowed her father to capture the kingdoms • JONAS watches at the palace gates, a troop of rebels behind him, waiting for him to tell them how he plans to overtake King Gaius When Gaius announces that a road is to be built into the Forbidden Mountains, formally linking all of Mytica together, he sets off a chain of cataclysmic events that will forever change the face of this land. Praise for *Falling Kingdoms* "From an opening dripping with blood, magic, and betrayal through complex interweaving plots detailing treachery, deceit, and forbidden love, this novel . . . will immediately engage readers and keep them intrigued."—Booklist "[It] will gut you emotionally . . . make you ache, cry, and beg for the sequel as you turn the last page. I absolutely loved it."—Julie Kagawa, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Iron Queen* "This triple-layered tale of bloodshed, heartbreak, and tangled court intrigue kept me turning pages very late into the night."—Lesley Livingston, author of *Wondrous Strange* and *Starling*

Expertly written to include all kinds of children and families, this reassuring book embraces the beauty in a range of physical types, personalities, and abilities. Kids will love discovering and recognizing themselves in these pages and they'll feel proud to see their special qualities acknowledged. Full color.

The #1 *New York Times* bestseller. Over 4 million copies sold! *Tiny Changes, Remarkable Results* No matter your goals, *Atomic Habits* offers a proven framework for improving--every day. James Clear, one of the world's leading experts on habit formation, reveals practical strategies that will teach you exactly how to form good habits, break bad ones, and master the tiny behaviors that lead to remarkable results. If you're having trouble changing your habits, the problem isn't you. The problem is your system. Bad habits repeat themselves again and again not because you don't want to change, but because you have the wrong system for change. You do not rise to the level of your goals. You fall to the level of your systems. Here, you'll get a proven system that can take you to new heights. Clear is known for his ability to distill complex topics into simple behaviors that can be easily applied to daily life and work. Here, he draws on the most proven ideas from biology, psychology, and neuroscience to create an easy-to-understand guide for making good habits inevitable and bad habits impossible. Along the way, readers will be inspired and entertained with true stories from Olympic gold medalists, award-winning artists, business leaders, life-saving physicians, and star comedians who have used the science of small habits to master their craft and vault to the top of their field. Learn how to: • make time for new habits (even when life gets crazy); • overcome a lack of motivation and willpower; • design your environment to make success easier; • get back on track when you fall off course; ...and much more. *Atomic Habits* will reshape the way you think about progress and success, and give you the tools and strategies you need to transform your habits--whether you are a team looking to win a championship, an organization hoping to redefine an industry, or simply an individual who wishes to quit smoking, lose weight, reduce stress, or achieve any other goal.

How to educate the next generation of college students to invent, to create, and to discover—filling needs that even the most so-

phisticated robot cannot. Driverless cars are hitting the road, powered by artificial intelligence. Robots can climb stairs, open doors, win Jeopardy, analyze stocks, work in factories, find parking spaces, advise oncologists. In the past, automation was considered a threat to low-skilled labor. Now, many high-skilled functions, including interpreting medical images, doing legal research, and analyzing data, are within the skill sets of machines. How can higher education prepare students for their professional lives when professions themselves are disappearing? In *Robot-Proof*, Northeastern University president Joseph Aoun proposes a way to educate the next generation of college students to invent, to create, and to discover—to fill needs in society that even the most sophisticated artificial intelligence agent cannot. A "robot-proof" education, Aoun argues, is not concerned solely with topping up students' minds with high-octane facts. Rather, it calibrates them with a creative mindset and the mental elasticity to invent, discover, or create something valuable to society—a scientific proof, a hip-hop recording, a web comic, a cure for cancer. Aoun lays out the framework for a new discipline, humanics, which builds on our innate strengths and prepares students to compete in a labor market in which smart machines work alongside human professionals. The new literacies of Aoun's humanics are data literacy, technological literacy, and human literacy. Students will need data literacy to manage the flow of big data, and technological literacy to know how their machines work, but human literacy—the humanities, communication, and design—to function as a human being. Life-long learning opportunities will support their ability to adapt to change. The only certainty about the future is change. Higher education based on the new literacies of humanics can equip students for living and working through change.

Feel overwhelmed by your thoughts? Struggling with anxiety about your daily tasks? Or do you want to stop worrying about life? The truth is...We all experience the occasional negative thought. But if you always feel overwhelmed, then you need to closely examine how these thoughts are negatively impacting your lifestyle. The solution is to practice specific mindfulness techniques that create more "space" in your mind to enjoy inner peace and happiness. With these habits, you'll have the clarity to prioritize what's most important in your life, what no longer serves your goals, and how you want to live on a daily basis. And that's what you'll learn in *Declutter Your Mind*. DOWNLOAD: Declutter Your Mind -- How to Stop Worrying, Relieve Anxiety, and Eliminate Negative Thinking The goal of this book is simple: We will teach you the habits, actions, and mindsets to clean up the mental clutter that's holding you back from living a meaningful life. You will learn: \*\* 4 Causes of Mental Clutter \*\* How to Reframe ALL Your Negative Thoughts \*\* 4 Strategies to Improve (or Eliminate) Bad Relationships \*\* The Importance of Decluttering the Distractions That Cause Anxiety \*\* A Simple Strategy to Discover What's Important to YOU \*\* 400 Words That Help Identify YOUR Values \*\* The Benefit of Meditation and Focused Deep Breathing (and How to Do Both) \*\* How to Create Goals That Connect to Your Passions *Declutter Your Mind* is full of exercises that will have an immediate, positive impact on your mindset. Instead of just telling you to do something, we provide practical, science-backed actions that can create real and lasting change if practiced regularly. Would You Like To Know More? Download now to stop worrying, deal with anxiety, and clear your mind. Scroll to the top of the page and select the buy now button.

*Only For Me* is an amazing picture book, which gently teaches young children that their body is private and that they have a right to protect their privacy. *Only For Me* instantly engages young children (aged 3 to 8) through its clever use of rhyme and

beautiful illustrations by former Disney artist Nicole Mackenzie. It tackles an extremely difficult topic in a sensitive and age appropriate manner, guiding parents through the critical information that they need to impart.

Presents the four novels and fifty-six short stories which comprise the entire Sherlock Holmes saga

"Vaclav Smil is my favorite author... Numbers Don't Lie takes everything that makes his writing great and boils it down into an easy-to-read format. I unabashedly recommend this book to anyone who loves learning."--Bill Gates, GatesNotes An essential guide to understanding how numbers reveal the true state of our world--exploring a wide range of topics including energy, the environment, technology, transportation, and food production. Vaclav Smil's mission is to make facts matter. An environmental scientist, policy analyst, and a hugely prolific author, he is Bill Gates' go-to guy for making sense of our world. In Numbers Don't Lie, Smil answers questions such as: What's worse for the environment--your car or your phone? How much do the world's cows weigh (and what does it matter)? And what makes people happy? From data about our societies and populations, through measures of the fuels and foods that energize them, to the impact of transportation and inventions of our modern world--and how all of this affects the planet itself--in Numbers Don't Lie, Vaclav Smil takes us on a fact-finding adventure, using surprising statistics and illuminating graphs to challenge conventional thinking. Packed with fascinating information and memorable examples, Numbers Don't Lie reveals how the US is leading a rising worldwide trend in chicken consumption, that vaccination yields the best return on investment, and why electric cars aren't as great as we think (yet). Urgent and essential, with a mix of science, history, and wit--all in bite-sized chapters on a broad range of topics--Numbers Don't Lie inspires readers to interrogate what they take to be true.

Widely considered to be the pantheon of single-panel cartooning, The New Yorker cartoonists' styles are richly varied, and their personal stories are surprising. Gehr's book features fascinating biographical profiles of such artists as Gahan Wilson, Sam Gross, Roz Chast, Lee Lorenz, and Edward Koren. Along with a dozen such profiles, Gehr provides a brief history of The New Yorker cartoon itself, touching on the lives and work of earlier illustrating wits, including Charles Addams, James Thurber, and William Steig.

An indispensable guide to welcoming children—from babies to teens—to a lifelong love of reading, written by Pamela Paul and Maria Russo, editors of The New York Times Book Review. Do you remember your first visit to where the wild things are? How about curling up for hours on end to discover the secret of the Sorcerer's Stone? Combining clear, practical advice with inspiration, wisdom, tips, and curated reading lists, How to Raise a Reader shows you how to instill the joy and time-stopping pleasure of reading. Divided into four sections, from baby through teen, and each illustrated by a different artist, this book offers something useful on every page, whether it's how to develop rituals around reading or build a family library, or ways to engage a reluctant reader. A fifth section, "More Books to Love: By Theme and Reading Level," is chockful of expert recommendations. Throughout, the authors debunk common myths, assuage parental fears, and deliver invaluable lessons in a positive and easy-to-act-on way.

A dramatic rethinking of the encounter between Montezuma and Hernando Cortés that completely overturns what we know about

the Spanish conquest of the Americas On November 8, 1519, the Spanish conquistador Hernando Cortés first met Montezuma, the Aztec emperor, at the entrance to the capital city of Tenochtitlan. This introduction—the prelude to the Spanish seizure of Mexico City and to European colonization of the mainland of the Americas—has long been the symbol of Cortés's bold and brilliant military genius. Montezuma, on the other hand, is remembered as a coward who gave away a vast empire and touched off a wave of colonial invasions across the hemisphere. But is this really what happened? In a departure from traditional tellings, When Montezuma Met Cortés uses "the Meeting"—as Restall dubs their first encounter—as the entry point into a comprehensive reevaluation of both Cortés and Montezuma. Drawing on rare primary sources and overlooked accounts by conquistadors and Aztecs alike, Restall explores Cortés's and Montezuma's posthumous reputations, their achievements and failures, and the worlds in which they lived—leading, step by step, to a dramatic inversion of the old story. As Restall takes us through this sweeping, revisionist account of a pivotal moment in modern civilization, he calls into question our view of the history of the Americas, and, indeed, of history itself.

Twenty-one genre-bending stories of bestial transformation, accidental murder, erotically-challenged dictatorship, and other tales of darkness, absurdity, and confusion.

When Grandma was a little girl in Mississippi, she sneaked into town one day. It was a hot day—the kind of hot where a firecracker might light up by itself. But when this little girl saw the "Whites Only" sign on the water fountain, she had no idea what she would spark when she took off her shoes and—wearing her clean white socks—stepped up to drink. Bravery, defiance, and a touch of magic win out over hatred in this acclaimed story by Elevelyn Coleman. Tyrone Geter's paintings richly evoke its heat, mood, and legendary spirit.

This book delivers stimulating input for a broad range of researchers, from geographers and ecologists to psychologists interested in spatial perception and physicists researching in complex systems. How can one decide whether one surface or spatial object is more complex than another? What does it require to measure the spatial complexity of small maps, and why does this matter for nature, science and technology? Drawing from algorithmics, geometry, topology, probability and informatics, and with examples from everyday life, the reader is invited to cross the borders into the bewildering realm of spatial complexity, as it emerges from the study of geographic maps, landscapes, surfaces, knots, 3D and 4D objects. The mathematical and cartographic experiments described in this book lead to hypotheses and enigmas with ramifications in aesthetics and epistemology.

Suddenly, comics are everywhere: a newly matured art form, filling bookshelves with brilliant, innovative work and shaping the ideas and images of the rest of contemporary culture. In Reading Comics, critic Douglas Wolk shows us why and how. Wolk illuminates the most dazzling creators of modern comics—from Alan Moore to Alison Bechdel to Chris Ware—and explains their roots, influences, and where they fit into the pantheon of art. As accessible to the hardcore fan as to the curious newcomer, Reading Comics is the first book for people who want to know not just which comics are worth reading, but ways to think and talk and argue about them.