



# THE OVERLOOK PRESS

## SPECIFICATIONS

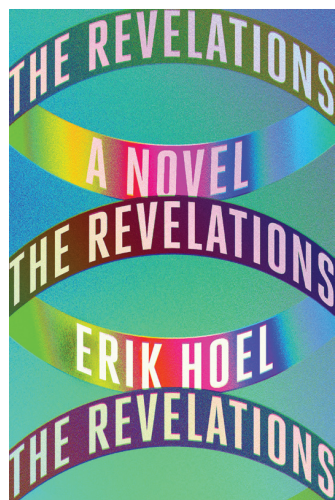
- 132,000 words
  - 416 pages
  - 229 × 152 mm
  - **Hardcover with jacket**
- PUB MONTH:  
**NOVEMBER 2020**
- FICTION

ISBN 978-1-4197-5022-9  
US \$27.00

## The Revelations

A NOVEL

● BY ERIK HOEL



Monday, Kierk wakes up. Once a rising star in neuroscience, Kierk Suren is now homeless, broken by his all-consuming quest to find a scientific theory of consciousness. But when he's offered a spot in a prestigious postdoctoral program, he decides to rejoin society and vows not to self-destruct again. Instead of focusing on his work, however, Kierk becomes obsessed with another project—investigating the sudden and suspicious death of a colleague. As his search for truth brings him closer to Carmen Green, another postdoc, their list of suspects grows, along with the sense that something sinister may be happening all around them.

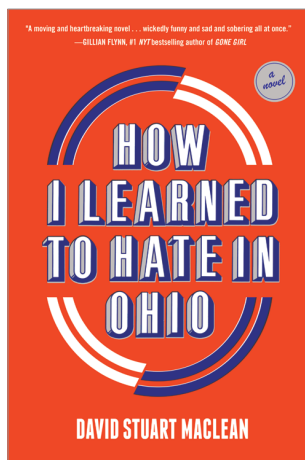
*The Revelations*, not unlike its main character, is ambitious and abrasive, challenging and disarming. Bursting with ideas, ranging from Greek mythology to the dark realities of animal testing, to some of the biggest unanswered questions facing scientists today, *The Revelations* is written in muscular, hypnotic prose, and its cyclically dreamlike structure pushes the boundaries of literary fiction. Erik Hoel has crafted a stunning debut of rare power—an intense look at cutting-edge science, consciousness, and human connection.

**Erik Hoel** received his PhD in neuroscience from the University of Madison-Wisconsin. He is a research assistant professor at Tufts University and was previously a postdoctoral researcher at Columbia University in the NeuroTechnology Lab, and a visiting scholar at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton. Hoel is a 2018 *Forbes* “30 under 30” for his neuroscientific research on consciousness and a Center for Fiction Emerging Writer Fellow. *The Revelations* is his debut novel. He lives in Massachusetts.

# How I Learned to Hate in Ohio

A NOVEL

● BY DAVID MACLEAN



"A moving and heartbreaking novel about what it means to be an outsider in America. David Stuart MacLean's penetrating look at growing up in the American Midwest in the 1980s is wickedly funny and sad and sobering all at once, a book that will spur endless conversation and thought."

—Gillian Flynn

In late-1980s rural Ohio, bright but mostly friendless Barry Nadler begins his freshman year of high school with the goal of going unnoticed as much as possible. But his world is upended by the arrival of Gurbaksh, Gary for short, a Sikh teenager who moves to his small town and instantly befriends Barry. As their friendship deepens, Barry's classmates and neighbors react to the presence of a family so different from theirs. Through darkly comic and biting intelligent asides and wry observations, Barry reveals how the seeds of xenophobia and racism find fertile soil in this insular community.

*How I Learned to Hate in Ohio* shines an uncomfortable light on the roots of white middle-American discontent and the beginnings of the current cultural war. It is at once bracingly funny, dark, and surprisingly moving, an undeniably resonant debut for our divided world.

David MacLean teaches creative writing at the University of Chicago. His work has appeared widely in places such as the *New York Times*, *Ploughshares*, *Guernica*, and on the radio program *This American Life*. He is the winner of the PEN Emerging Writing Award for Nonfiction, and he is the author of the award-winning memoir *The Answer to the Riddle Is Me*. He grew up in central Ohio and now lives in Chicago.

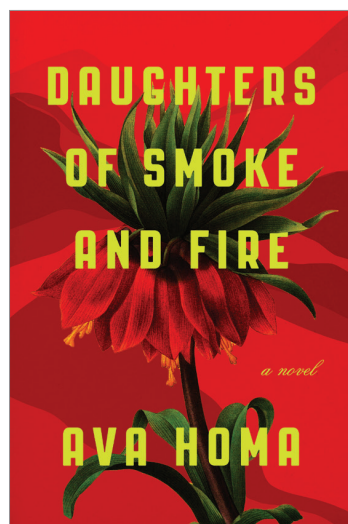
## SPECIFICATIONS

- 70,000 words
- 272 pages
- 216 × 140 mm
- Hardcover with jacket
- PUB MONTH: **OCTOBER 2020**
- FICTION
- ISBN 978-1-4197-4719-9
- US \$26.00

# Daughters of Smoke and Fire

A NOVEL

● BY AVA HOMA



Set in Iran, this extraordinary debut novel—the first novel published in English by a female Kurdish writer—takes readers into the everyday lives of the Kurds. Leila dreams of making films to bring the suppressed stories of her people onto the global stage, but obstacles keep piling up. Leila's younger brother Chia, influenced by their father's past torture, imprisonment, and his deep-seated desire for justice, begins to engage with social and political affairs. But his activism grows increasingly risky and one day he disappears in Tehran. Seeking answers about her brother's whereabouts, Leila fears the worst and begins a campaign to save him. But when she publishes Chia's writings online, she finds herself in grave danger as well.

*Daughters of Smoke and Fire* is an evocative portrait of the lives and stakes faced by 40 million stateless Kurds and a haunting, powerful story that brilliantly illuminates the meaning of identity and the complex bonds of family, perfect for fans of Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner* and Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's *Half of a Yellow Sun*.

Ava Homa is a writer, journalist, and activist specializing in women's issues and Middle Eastern affairs. She holds an MA in English and Creative Writing from the University of Windsor in Canada. Her collection of short stories, *Echoes from the Other Land*, was longlisted for the Frank O'Connor International Prize, and she is the inaugural recipient of the PEN Canada-Humber College Writers-In-Exile Scholarship. She was born and raised in the Kurdistan Province in Iran and now divides her time between Toronto and the Bay Area. *Daughters of Smoke and Fire* is her debut novel.

## SPECIFICATIONS

- 80,000 words
- 320 pages
- 229 × 152 mm
- Hardcover with jacket
- PUB MONTH: **MAY 2020**
- RIGHTS SOLD:  
AUDIO (AUDIBLE)  
GREEK (BRAINFOOD MEDIA)
- FICTION
- ISBN 978-1-4197-4309-2
- US \$26.00



# ABRAMS PRESS

## SPECIFICATIONS

- 90,000 words
  - 304 pages
  - 229 × 152 mm
  - **Hardcover with jacket**
- PUB MONTH: **SPRING 2021**
- SCIENCE**

ISBN 978-1-4197-4847-9  
US \$26.00

## Fast

THE COUNTERINTUITIVE STORY OF THE WORLD'S OLDEST CURE

● BY STEVE HENDRICKS



COVER NOT FINAL

An increasing number of adults tried intermittent fasting during 2019, and they may be on to something. The latest research shows that fasting repairs cellular damage, improves the outcomes for chemotherapy patients, and helps keep down weight--leading to fasting resurgence in recent years. Journalist Steve Hendricks' *Fast* will tell the history of fasting, the story of the people who are reviving this long-lost remedy, the science behind the counterintuitive concept of going without food for our health, and chronicle Steve's own forays into fasting. This is a smart, narrative look at a very hot topic in the food/diet world.

**Steve Hendricks** is a freelance reporter and the author of two previous books, *A Kidnapping in Milan* and *The Unquiet Grave*. He has written for *Harpers*, *Slate*, *Salon*, *Outside*, *The Columbia Journalism Review*, and *The New Republic* among others. He was raised in Arkansas and Texas, educated at Yale, and lives in Boulder, Colorado, with his teenage son and his wife, a law professor.

# Technically Food

THE BUSINESS OF PLANT-BASED MEAT AND THE BATTLE TO CONTROL WHAT WE EAT

● BY LARISSA ZIMBEROFF



COVER NOT FINAL

Ultra-processed and secretly produced foods are roaring back into vogue, cheered by consumers and investors because they are vegetarian—often vegan—and help address societal issues. And as our food system leaps ahead to a sterilized lab of the future, we think we know more about our food than we ever did, but because so much is happening so rapidly, we actually know less. This isn't stopping the companies or the consumers, however. We want a more transparent food system—but we don't know what questions to ask. In *Technically Food*, investigative reporter Larissa Zimmeroff pokes holes in the marketing mania behind today's changing food landscape and clearly shows the trade-offs of replacing real food with technology-driven approximations.

Larissa Zimmeroff is a well-known freelance journalist who covers the intersection of food, technology, and business. Her work has appeared in publications including the *New York Times*, the *Wall Street Journal*, *Bloomberg Businessweek*, and many others. Zimmeroff's reporting ranges from the business of food to sustainability, science, food systems, and the new rush of technology into food. She is often called in to present, moderate, and lead panels on food tech including at Stanford, reThink Food at CIA/Napa, and IACP.

## SPECIFICATIONS

- 15 color illustrations
- 75,000 words
- 288 pages
- 229 × 152 mm
- Hardcover with jacket
- PUB MONTH: **NOVEMBER 2020**
- BUSINESS**

ISBN 978-1-4197-4709-0  
US \$27.00

# Knockout

● BY MIA KANG



Mia Kang is many things: a sought-after model, an immigrant, an eating disorder survivor, and a Muay Thai fighter. Her first book, *Knockout*, is the story of how she eschewed normative body standards and learned to use sport to redefine her sense of self-worth. In a charming, fierce, and intimate voice, Kang invites readers into her world. She once lived and died by her weight, but she is now defined by her confidence in being a woman who lives outside the mold of what we're taught is acceptable femininity. After dealing with bullying, addiction, body dysmorphia, anxiety, depression, and even suicidal thoughts, Mia acknowledges that she is lucky to still be alive to tell readers what she's learned: to not let anyone else dictate who you are supposed to be.

Mia Kang is a South Korean and British Hong-Kong-born model and Muay Thai fighter. She is known for her work with Chanel, Nike, Max Factor, *Harper's Bazaar*, *Elle*, and much more. Mia is currently one of two cohosts for the new Bravo show *Spy Games*. She lives in New York City.

## SPECIFICATIONS

- 20 color photographs
- 80,000 words
- 304 pages
- 229 × 152 mm
- Hardcover with jacket
- PUB MONTH: **OCTOBER 2020**
- MEMOIR**

ISBN 978-1-4197-4332-0  
US \$26.00

## SPECIFICATIONS

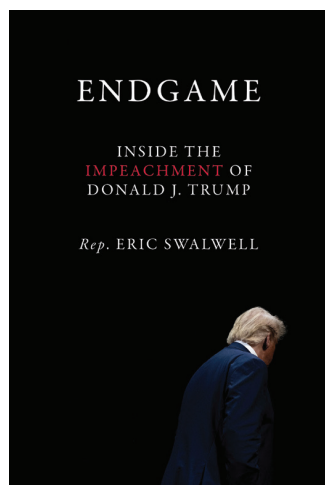
- 90,000 words
- 320 pages
- 229 × 152 mm
- **Hardcover with jacket**  
PUB MONTH: **APRIL 2020**  
RIGHTS SOLD:  
**AUDIO (PENGUIN  
RANDOM HOUSE AUDIO)**  
**MEMOIR**

ISBN 978-1-4197-4540-9  
US \$27.00

# Endgame

INSIDE THE IMPEACHMENT OF DONALD J. TRUMP

● BY ERIC SWALWELL



How do you stop a rogue president? How do you protect a country from a man who lies, who obstructs justice, and who seeks to cheat to get re-elected? The US constitution offers one remedy: impeachment. Thanks to the courageous actions of public servants who came forward to report his abuses of power, on December 18, 2019, President Donald J. Trump became just the third president in US history to be impeached by the House of Representatives.

In *Endgame*, Congressman Eric Swalwell offers his personal account of his path to office and how he and his colleagues resisted, investigated, and impeached a rogue president. From Mueller Day on Capitol Hill, where Trump seemed to have avoided all consequences, through his disgraceful phone call the very next day with the Ukrainian president, Swalwell takes readers inside Congress and through the impeachment process, from depositions in the SCIF, to caucus meetings and conversations with the Speaker, to the bombshell public hearings and the historic vote. And then what followed next—the holding of the articles, the news of more possible witnesses, and the sham trial in the Senate. *Endgame* is fascinating, a gripping read by a unique witness to extraordinary events.

**Eric Swalwell** grew up in California's East Bay. After earning undergraduate and law degrees at the University of Maryland, he served as a prosecutor in the Alameda County District Attorney's Office. Elected to Congress in 2012 to represent the East Bay, he is now in his fourth term and serves on the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and the House Judiciary Committee.

## SPECIFICATIONS

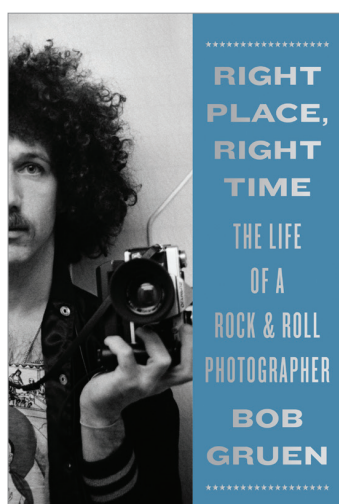
- 75 black-and-white and color photograph
- 75,000 words
- 352 pages
- 241 × 165 mm
- **Hardcover with jacket**  
PUB MONTH: **OCTOBER 2020**  
**ENTERTAINMENT**

ISBN 978-1-4197-4213-2  
US \$30.00

# Right Place, Right Time

THE LIFE OF A ROCK & ROLL PHOTOGRAPHER

● BY BOB GRUEN



Bob Gruen is one of the most well-known and connected photographers in rock and roll. For more than 50 years, he has documented the music scene in pictures that have captured the world's attention. *Right Place, Right Time* is Gruen's first written account of his winding, adventure-filled journey. He takes us on visits to John and Yoko's downtown apartment, on a cross-country road trip with the Ike and Tina Turner Band, to Glasgow with Debbie Harry, backstage with KISS, and on the bus as he swaps steel-toed boots with Sid Vicious. In fast-paced stories and iconic images, Gruen gives the reader a unique window into the evolution of American music culture over the last five decades.

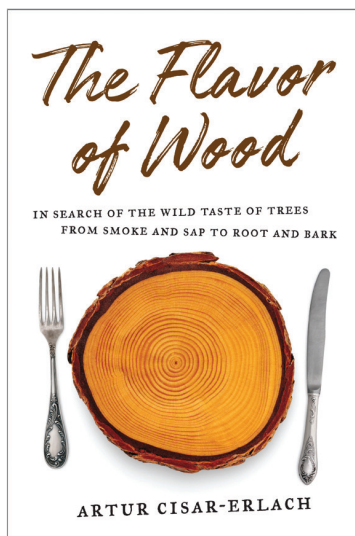
**Bob Gruen** is a world-renowned rock and roll photographer. For almost 50 years, his images have appeared around the world in every form imaginable. He is the author of *John Lennon: The New York Years*, *Rock Seen*, *New York Dolls*, and *Green Day: Photographs by Bob Gruen*, among others. He lives in New York City.



# The Flavor of Wood

IN SEARCH OF THE WILD TASTE OF TREES FROM SMOKE AND SAP TO ROOT AND BARK

• BY ARTUR CISAR-ERLACH



Wood has a far greater influence over our plate and palate than you might think—it has been used in cooking, distilling, fermenting, and even perfume creation to produce a unique flavor and smell. But does it have its own unique taste? Artur Cisar-Erlach embarked on a global journey to answer just that. Over three years, he tasted everything from pizza, whisky, cheese, and tea, to quinine, wine, maple syrup, blue yogurt, and more. Along the way, Cisar-Erlach introduces readers to a colorful cast of characters including Modenese balsamic vinegar producers, Piedmontese truffle hunters, South Tyrolean winemakers, wild mountain pine chefs, Austrian whisky distillers, Bavarian brewers, avant-garde central London tea merchants, and Indian tea exporters. A world trip brimming with fascinating encounters, unexpected turns, beautiful landscapes, scientific discoveries, and historic connections, *The Flavor of Wood* offers readers unparalleled access to some of the world's highest-quality cuisine and unknown tree flavors.

Artur Cisar-Erlach is a woodland ecologist and food communications expert whose work spans the fields of food and ecotourism.

## SPECIFICATIONS

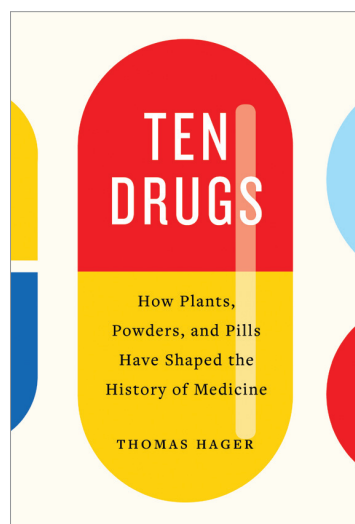
- 24 color photographs in one insert
- 76,000 words
- 256 pages
- 210 × 140 mm
- **Paperback**  
PUB MONTH: **FEBRUARY 2020**  
RIGHTS SOLD:  
**FRENCH (LA MAISNIE)**  
**GERMAN (MALIK VERLAG)**  
**KOREAN (MATI BOOKS)**  
**AUDIO (BRILLIANCE)**  
**NONFICTION •**  
**FOOD & DRINK • TRAVEL**

ISBN 978-1-4197-4235-4  
US \$16.00

# Ten Drugs

HOW PLANTS, POWDERS, AND PILLS HAVE SHAPED THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE

• BY THOMAS HAGER



Behind every landmark drug is a story. It could be an oddball researcher's genius insight, a catalyzing moment in geopolitical history, a new breakthrough technology, or an unexpected but welcome side effect discovered during clinical trials. Piece together these stories, as Thomas Hager does in this remarkable, century-spanning history, and you can trace the evolution of our culture and the practice of medicine.

Beginning with opium, the "joy plant," which has been used for 10,000 years, Hager tells a captivating story of medicine. His subjects include the largely forgotten female pioneer who introduced smallpox inoculation to Britain, the infamous knockout drops, the first antibiotic, which saved countless lives, the first antipsychotic, which helped empty public mental hospitals, Viagra, statins, and the new frontier of monoclonal antibodies. This is a deep, wide-ranging, and wildly entertaining book.

Thomas Hager's award-winning books on the history of science and medicine include *The Demon Under the Microscope* and *The Alchemy of Air*. He is a courtesy associate professor of journalism and communication at the University of Oregon.

## SPECIFICATIONS

- 100,000 words
- 304 pages
- 229 × 152 mm
- **Hardcover with jacket**  
PUB MONTH: **MARCH 2019**  
RIGHTS SOLD:  
**AUDIO (AUDIBLE)**  
**CHINESE COMPLEX (LINKING)**  
**CHINESE SIMPLIFIED (CITIC)**  
**BOOK CLUB (BOOKSPAN)**  
**ESTONIAN (HELIOS)**  
**POLISH (REBIS)**  
**GERMAN (BENEVENTO)**  
**JAPANESE (SUBARUYSA)**  
**KOREAN (EAST-ASIA)**  
**PORTUGUESE SA (TODAVIA)**  
**RUSSIAN (EXMO)**  
**SPANISH (CRITICA)**  
**UKRAINIAN (KM BOOKS)**  
**VIETNAMESE (TRE)**  
**NONFICTION • SCIENCE •**  
**HISTORY**

ISBN 978-1-4197-3440-3  
US \$26.00

# One Last Lunch

A FINAL MEAL WITH THOSE WHO MEANT SO MUCH TO US

● BY ERICA HELLER

## SPECIFICATIONS

- 65,000 words
- 352 pages
- 210 × 140 mm
- **Hardcover**
- PUB MONTH: **MAY 2020**
- ESSAYS & MEMOIR**

ISBN 978-1-4197-3532-5  
US \$25.00



In this heartwarming collection edited by Joseph Heller's daughter, dozens of contributors imagine one last lunch with someone they cherished.

A few years ago, Erica Heller realized how universal the longing is for one more moment with a lost loved one. It could be a parent, a sibling, a mentor, or a friend, but who wouldn't love the opportunity to sit down, break bread, and just talk? Who wouldn't jump at the chance to ask those unasked questions, or share those unvoiced feelings?

In *One Last Lunch*, Heller, an acclaimed memoirist herself, has asked friends and family of authors, artists, musicians, comedians, actors, and others, to recount one such fantastic repast. Muffie Meyer and her documentary subject Little Edie Beale go to a deli in Montreal. Kirk Douglas asks his father what he thought of him becoming an actor. Sara Moulton dines with her friend Julia Child. The Anglican priest George Pitcher has lunch with Jesus. These richly imagined stories are endlessly revealing, about the subject, the writer, the passage of time, regret, gratitude, and the power of enduring love.

Erica Heller is the author of the memoir *Yossarian Slept Here*; a novel, *Splinters*; and *300 Ways to Say No to a Man*, a humor book illustrated by Seymour Chwast. She has contributed to the *New York Observer*, *Huffington Post*, and other publications.

# Au Revoir, Tristesse

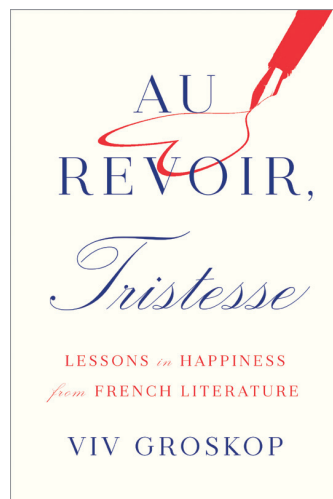
LESSONS IN HAPPINESS FROM FRENCH LITERATURE

● BY VIV GROSKOP

## SPECIFICATIONS

- 50,000 words
- 256 pages
- 210 × 140 mm
- **Hardcover with jacket**
- PUB MONTH: **JUNE 2020**
- NONFICTION • LITERATURE • CULTURAL STUDIES**

ISBN 978-1-4197-4298-9  
US \$25.00



## PRAISE FOR *THE ANNA KARENINA FIX*

"Hilarious, candid, and thought-provoking." — Gretchen Rubin, author of the #1 *New York Times* bestseller *The Happiness Project*

"Witty, likeable, and lighthearted." — Lionel Shriver

Like many people the world over, Viv Groskop wishes she was a little more French. A writer, comedian, and journalist, Groskop studied the language obsessively starting at age 11, and spent every vacation in France, desperate to escape her Englishness and to have some French chic rub off on her. In *Au Revoir, Tristesse*, Groskop mixes literary history and memoir to explore how the classics of French literature can infuse our lives with joie de vivre and teach us how to say goodbye to sadness. From the frothy hedonism of Colette and the wit of *Cyrano de Bergerac* to the intoxicating universe of Marguerite Duras and the heady passions of *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*, this is a love letter to great French writers. With chapters on Marcel Proust, Victor Hugo, Gustave Flaubert, Stendhal, Honoré de Balzac, Albert Camus, and of course Françoise Sagan, this is a delectable read for book lovers everywhere.

Viv Groskop is an award-winning comedian, writer, and broadcaster based in London. She is the author of *The Anna Karenina Fix: Life Lessons From Russian Literature* (Fig Tree in the UK and Abrams Press in the US).

## ALSO AVAILABLE



by Viv Groskop  
*Anna Karenina Fix*  
ISBN 978-1-4197-3272-0  
US \$25.00  
RIGHTS SOLD:  
FINNISH (ATENA KUSTANNUS)  
ROMANIAN (EDITURA GLOBO)  
RUSSIAN (INDIVIDUUM)  
KOREAN (E\*PUBLIC)

## ABRAMS PRESS BOOKS ABOUT BOOKS SERIES

### In Search of the Color Purple

THE STORY OF ALICE WALKER'S MASTERPIECE

● BY SALAMISHAH TILLET



COVER NOT FINAL

Alice Walker made history in 1982 when she became the first Black woman to win the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award, both for *The Color Purple*. Published in the Reagan era amid a severe backlash to civil rights, the jazz age novel tells the story of an African American woman haunted by domestic and sexual violence.

Prominent academic and activist Salamishah Tillet combines cultural criticism, history, and memoir to explore Walker's epistolary novel, and shows how it has influenced and been informed by the zeitgeist of the time. Through interviews with Walker, Oprah Winfrey, Quincy Jones, and others, as well as archival research, Tillet studies Walker's life and the origins of her subjects, including violence, sexuality, gender, and politics. *The Color Purple* continues to resonate with Tillet—as a sexual violence survivor, as a teacher of the novel, and as an accomplished academic. Provocative and personal, *In Search of the Color Purple* is a bold work from an important public intellectual.

Salamishah Tillet is a scholar, cultural critic, and activist. A professor at Rutgers University-Newark, she is a regular contributor to the *New York Times*. She lives in New Jersey.

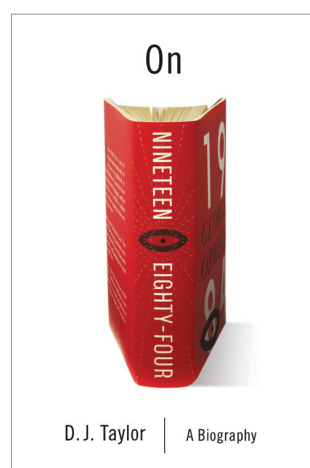
#### SPECIFICATIONS

- 50,000 words
- 256 pages
- 210 × 140 mm
- Hardcover with jacket
- PUB MONTH:  
**JANUARY 2021**
- RIGHTS SOLD:  
**AUDIO (DREAMSCAPE)**  
**LITERARY CRITICISM**
- ISBN 978-1-4197-3530-1**  
**US \$26.00**

### On Nineteen Eighty-Four

A BIOGRAPHY

● BY D. J. TAYLOR



Since its publication nearly 70 years ago, George Orwell's *1984* has been regarded as one of the most influential novels of the modern age. Politicians have testified to its influence on their intellectual identities, rock musicians have made records about it, TV viewers watch a reality show named after it, and a White House spokesperson tells of "alternative facts." The world we live in is often described as an Orwellian one, awash in inescapable surveillance and invasions of privacy.

*On Nineteen Eighty-Four* dives deep into Orwell's life to chart his earlier writings and key moments in his youth, such as his years at a boarding school, where the strict and charismatic headmaster shaped the idea of Big Brother. Taylor tells the story of the writing of the book, taking readers to the Scottish island of Jura, where Orwell, newly famous thanks to *Animal Farm* but coping with personal tragedy and rapidly declining health, struggled to finish *1984*. Published during the cold war—a term Orwell coined—Taylor elucidates the environmental influences on the book. Then he examines *1984*'s post-publication life, including its role as a tool to understand our language, politics, and government.

In a current climate where truth, surveillance, censorship, and critical thinking are contentious, Orwell's work is necessary. Written with resonant and reflective analysis, *On Nineteen Eighty-Four* is both brilliant and remarkably timely.

D. J. Taylor is a British critic, novelist, and biographer. Taylor contributes to many newspapers including the Guardian and the *Daily Telegraph*. Taylor resides in Norwich, England.

#### SPECIFICATIONS

- 50,000 words
- 208 pages
- 210 × 140 mm
- Hardcover with jacket
- PUB MONTH:  
**OCTOBER 2019**
- RIGHTS SOLD:  
**AUDIO (DREAMSCAPE)**  
**COMPLEX CHINESE (CHINA TIMES)**  
**POLISH (BELLONA)**  
**LITERARY CRITICISM**
- ISBN 978-1-4197-3800-5**  
**US \$24.00**