

Akashic Books

London Rights List 2020

ADULT FICTION

Out of Mesopotamia

A NOVEL BY **SALAR ABDUH**

Creatures of Passage

A NOVEL BY **MOROWA YEJIDÉ**

The Nicotine Chronicles

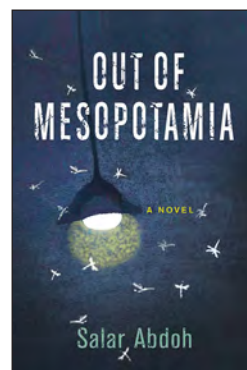
EDITED BY **LEE CHILD**

(FEATURING: **ERIC BOGOSIAN, JOYCE CAROL OATES, JONATHAN AMES, HANNAH TINTI, AND MORE.**)

*Cutting Edge: New Stories of Mystery and
and Crime by Women Writers*

EDITED BY **JOYCE CAROL OATES**

(FEATURING: **MARGARET ATWOOD, AIMEE BENDER, EDWIDGE DANTICAT, VALERIE MARTIN, AND MORE.**)

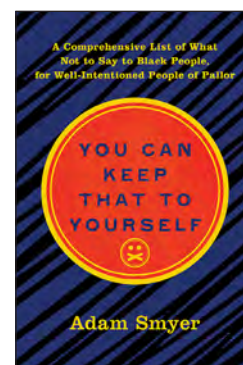


HUMOR

You Can Keep That to Yourself:

A Comprehensive List of What Not to Say to Black People, for Well-Intentioned People of Pallor

BY **ADAM SMYER**



CHILDREN'S PICTURE BOOK

How Did Humans Go Extinct?

WRITTEN BY **JOHNNY MARCIANO**; ILLUSTRATED BY **PAUL HOPPE**

NONFICTION

*Little Wonder: The Fabulous Story of Lottie Dod,
The World's First Female Sports Superstar*

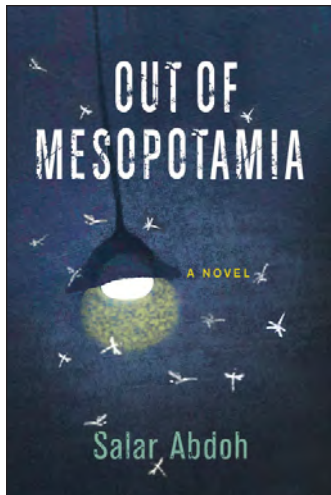
A BIOGRAPHY BY **SASHA ABRAMSKY**



Out of Mesopotamia

A NOVEL BY **Salar Abdoh**

Informed by firsthand experience on the battlefronts of Iraq and Syria, Abdoh captures the horror, confusion, and absurdity of combat from a seldom-glimpsed perspective that expands our understanding of the war novel.



BOOK DETAILS: 1 September 2020, 256 pages; fiction/literature

COMP TITLES: *The Things They Carried* by Tim O'Brien; *Redeployment* by Phil Klay; *The Association of Small Bombs* by Karan Mahajan

HIGHLIGHTS: *Tehran at Twilight*, Salar Abdoh's previous novel was licensed into: **Arabic:** Sefsafa Culture & Publishing; **Armenian:** Antares; **Lithuanian:** Versus Aureus; **Malaysian:** Buki Fix; **Polish:** Sonia Draga; **Turkish:** Matbuat

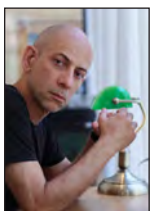
"*Out of Mesopotamia* is a brutally realistic look at war and love and fear and everything else that humans do. The writing is impossibly good. The characters aren't characters at all—they seem to have emerged fully formed from the blood-soaked soil of Syria and Iraq. And they rise up to live out a story that is as old as history and yet somehow could only have happened today. I'm stunned by how good this book is."

—**Sebastian Junger**, author of *Tribe: On Homecoming and Belonging*

Saleh, the narrator of *Out of Mesopotamia*, is a middle-aged Iranian journalist who moonlights as a writer for one of Iran's most popular TV shows but cannot keep himself away from the front lines in neighboring Iraq and Syria. There, the fight against the Islamic State is a proxy war, an existential battle, a declaration of faith, and, for some, a passing weekend affair.

After weeks spent dodging RPGs, witnessing acts of savagery and stupidity, Saleh returns to his civilian life of Tehran bookstore readings and trendy art openings and finds it to be an unbearably dislocating experience. Pursued by the woman who broke his heart, his official handler from state security (who wants him for questioning over a suspicious volume of Proust), and the screenwriters with whom he is supposed to be collaborating, Saleh has reason to flee again from everyday life—but not necessarily to discard it. Surrounded by men whose willingness to achieve martyrdom both fascinates and appalls him, Saleh struggles to make sense of himself and the turmoil that surrounds him.

An unprecedented glimpse into the fight against the Islamic State from a Middle Eastern perspective, *Out of Mesopotamia* follows in the tradition of the Western "canon" of martial writers—from Hemingway and Orwell to Tim O'Brien and Kevin Powers—but then subverts and expands upon the genre and form before completely blowing it apart. Drawing from his firsthand experience of being embedded with Shia militias on the ground in Iraq and Syria, Abdoh gives agency to the voiceless while offering a meditation on war that is moving, humane, darkly funny, and resonantly true.



SALAR ABDOH was born in Iran and splits his time between Tehran and New York City. He is the author of the novels *Tehran at Twilight*, *The Poet Game*, and *Opium*; and he is the editor of *Tehran Noir*. He teaches in the MFA program at the City College of New York.

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The Nicotine Chronicles

EDITED BY **LEE CHILD**

Warning: Some of these stories may be hazardous to your mental health



BOOK DETAILS: Fall 2020, 300 pages; fiction anthology

COMP TITLE: *Face Off* edited by David Baldacci

HIGHLIGHTS: : **Lee Child's** Jack Reacher series has been licensed into 30+ languages. The first Jack Reacher movie, based on the novel *One Shot* and starring Tom Cruise and Rosamund Pike, was released in December 2012. There are 24 novels in the Jack Reacher series, including *Blue Moon* (Oct. 2019). Several of the contributors (see list below) have been translated into numerous languages. This is newest addition to The Drug Chronicles series: *The Cocaine Chronicles* was licensed to the UK (No Exit), Turkey (Aytasi), and Serbia (Cenzura). *The Speed Chronicles* & *The Heroin Chronicles* were licensed to UK (No Exit), and *The Marijuana Chronicles* was licensed to UK (No Exit) and Turkey (Altikirkbes Yayinlari).

Featuring brand-new stories by: Lee Child, Joyce Carol Oates, Eric Bogosian, Cara Black, Jonathan Ames, Hannah Tinti, Michael Imperioli (*The Sopranos*), Ariel Gore, Jerry Stahl, Lauren Sanders, Robert Arellano, Peter Kimani, Christopher Sorrentino, Achy Obejas, Bernice McFadden, and David L. Ulin.

Inspired by the ongoing international success of the city-based Akashic Noir Series (*Brooklyn Noir*, *Boston Noir*, *Paris Noir*, etc.), Akashic created the Drug Chronicles Series. On the heels of *The Marijuana Chronicles* (Joyce Carol Oates, Lee Child, Linda Yablonsky, etc.), *The Speed Chronicles* (Sherman Alexie, William T. Vollmann, Megan Abbott, James Franco, Beth Lisick, Tao Lin, etc.), *The Cocaine Chronicles* (Lee Child, Laura Lippman, etc.), and *The Heroin Chronicles* (Eric Bogosian, Jerry Stahl, Lydia Lunch, etc.), comes *The Nicotine Chronicles*. Lee Child, Joyce Carol Oates, Jonathan Ames, Hannah Tinti, and others explore the ins and outs of nicotine addiction.



LEE CHILD has been a television director, union organizer, theater technician, and law student. He is the author of the Jack Reacher novels. He was born in England but now lives in New York City and leaves the island of Manhattan only when required to by forces beyond his control. Visit www.leechild.com for more information on his books, short stories, and the *Jack Reacher* movie starring Tom Cruise.

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How Did Humans Go Extinct?

WRITTEN BY **Johnny Marciano**; ILLUSTRATED BY **Paul Hoppe**

A new picture book from New York Times best-selling author and grandson of the creator of the Madeline series.



BOOK DETAILS: Spring 2021; 32 pages; children's fiction

COMP TITLE: *Madeline* by Ludwig Bemelmans

HIGHLIGHTS: Continuing his grandfather's legacy, John wrote and illustrated several picture books in the Madeline series, including: *Madeline at the White House* (licensed to **Japan**, Tsai Fong Books) and *Madeline Says Merci* (licensed to **Japan**, BL Shuppan). *Mischief Season: A Twins Story* (part of The Witches of Benevento series authored by Marciano) was licensed to **Italy** (Edizioni Primavera)

One day on a future planet earth, a young Nøørflbløøk child named Plib is going with his classmates on a trip to one of his favorite places—the Natural History Museum! Some kids love the exhibits on outer space. Others love the evolution room. Could Nøørflbløøks really have descended from frogs?

But Plib's favorite displays are of human beings. Plib loves humans. At home, Plib's favorite stuffed animal is a human named Frank, and

Plib's bedroom is full of books on humans. Plib's greatest dream is to actually hang out with a human being. There is only one problem: humans went extinct ten million years ago!

But later that night, as Plib lies in bed trying to fall asleep, he is troubled by a question that has been on his mind all day: *How did humans go extinct?*

Some of the theories Plib learns are quite silly, others severe; but all will allow children of today—human children, that is—to consider how their actions affect the common good. Johnny Marciano's hilarious story, as illustrated by Paul Hoppe—from Plib's ingeniously drawn Nøørflbløøk perspective—is a perfect platform for parents to broach tricky topics about class, war, the environment, and extinction, in a laugh-out-loud setting.

JOHNNY MARCIANO is a *New York Times* best-selling author and illustrator. His books for children include, The Witches of Benevento series, *The No-Good Nine*, and KLAUDE: Evil Alien Warlord Cat series (cowritten with Emily Chenoweth). Continuing his grandfather's legacy, John wrote and illustrated *Madeline and the Old House in Paris*, *Madeline and the Cats of Rome*, and *Madeline Says Merci*.



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CONTACT: JOHANNA INGALLS | johanna@akashicbooks.com

Creatures of Passage

A NOVEL BY **Morowa Yejidé**

With echoes of Toni Morrison's Beloved, Yejidé's novel explores a forgotten quadrant of Washington, DC, and the ghosts that haunt it.



BOOK DETAILS: 6 October 2020, 304 pages, fiction/literature

COMP TITLES: *Beloved* by Toni Morrison; *John Crow's Devil* by Marlon James

HIGHLIGHTS: Yejidé's debut novel, *Time of the Locust*, was a finalist for the PEN/Bellwether Prize, long-listed for the PEN/Bingham Award, and an NAACP Image Award nominee; *Time of the Locust* received glowing praise in the *Washington Post*, *Kirkus Reviews*, *Essence*, *Ebony*, and more!

"In this beautifully written and gloriously conceived novel, Morowa Yejidé reveals her mastery yet again. This novel is both contemporary and ancient, frightening and stirring, playful and wise, an unforgettable blurring of reality and genres from its haunted Plymouth automobile to the mysteries in the fog in this alternate America and hidden Washington, DC. With its lyricism and bold imagination, *Creatures of Passage* is unlike anything you've ever read."
—Tananarive Due, author of *Ghost Summer: Stories*

Nephthys Kinwell is a taxi driver of sorts in Washington, DC, ferrying ill-fated passengers in a haunted car: a 1967 Plymouth Belvedere with a ghost in the trunk. Endless rides and alcohol help her manage her grief over the death of her twin brother, Osiris, who was murdered and dumped in the Anacostia River.

Unknown to Nephthys when the novel opens in 1977, her estranged great-nephew, ten-year-old Dash, is finding himself drawn to the banks of that very same river. It is there that Dash—reeling from having witnessed an act of molestation at his school, but still questioning what and who he saw—has charmed conversations with a mysterious figure he calls the "River Man," who somehow appears each time he goes there.

When Dash arrives unexpectedly at Nephthys's door one day bearing a cryptic note about his unusual conversations with the River Man, Nephthys must face both the family she abandoned and what frightens her most when she looks in the mirror.

Creatures of Passage beautifully threads together the stories of Nephthys, Dash, and others both living and dead. Morowa Yejidé's deeply captivating novel shows us an unseen Washington filled with otherworldly landscapes, flawed super-humans, and reluctant ghosts, and brings together a community intent on saving one young boy in order to reclaim themselves.



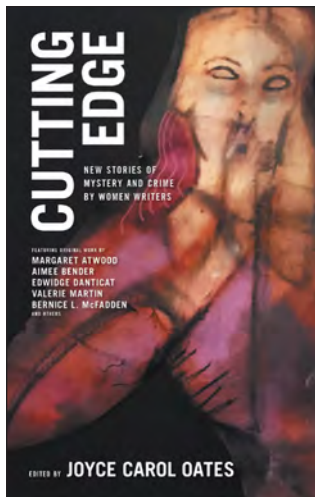
MOROWA YEJIDÉ, a native of Washington, DC, is the author of the critically acclaimed novel *Time of the Locust*, which was a 2012 finalist for the PEN/Bellwether Prize, long-listed for the 2015 PEN/Bingham Prize, and a 2015 NAACP Image Award nominee. She lives in the DC area with her husband and three sons. *Creatures of Passage* is her second novel.

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Cutting Edge

EDITED BY **Joyce Carol Oates**

Joyce Carol Oates pulls out all the stops in this chilling female-centric noir collection featuring brand-new writing from Margaret Atwood, Aimee Bender, Valerie Martin, and more.



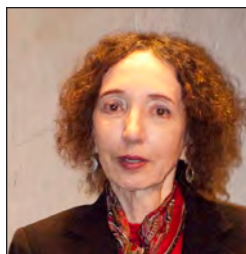
BOOK DETAILS: 5 Nov. 2019, 288 pages; crime fiction anthology

COMP TITLES: *Dangerous Women* edited by George R. R. Martin & Gardner Dozois; *The Female of the Species: Tales of Mystery and Suspense* by Joyce Carol Oates.

HIGHLIGHTS: *Cutting Edge* was licensed to the **UK** (Pushkin Vertigo), **Brazil** (print to DarkSide & audio to Ubook), and **Turkey** (Bilgi Yayinevi). **Joyce Carol Oates's** novels and short stories are international best sellers that have been translated into numerous languages, including: Italian, French, Swedish, Norwegian, Spanish, Greek, German, Estonian, etc.; several of Oates's novels have been adapted for film/TV (*We Were the Mulvaney's*, *Smooth Talk*, *Foxfire*)

Several of the contributors are also international best sellers, including award-winning author **Margaret Atwood** whose work has been translated into numerous languages and adapted for film/TV (*The Handmaid's Tale*, etc.). **Valerie Martin's** best-selling novel, *Mary Reilly* was translated into: Italian, Portuguese, Finnish, French, Spanish, Greek, German, etc. **Elizabeth McCracken** and **Aimee Bender** have also been translated widely . . . and these are just a few of the authors in this star-studded lineup! See below for full list.

Featuring brand-new stories by: Joyce Carol Oates, Margaret Atwood (poems), Valerie Martin, Aimee Bender, Edwidge Danticat, Sheila Kohler, S.A. Solomon, S.J. Rozan, Lucy Taylor, Cassandra Khaw, Bernice L. McFadden, Jennifer Morales, Elizabeth McCracken, Livia Llewellyn, Lisa Lim, and Steph Cha.



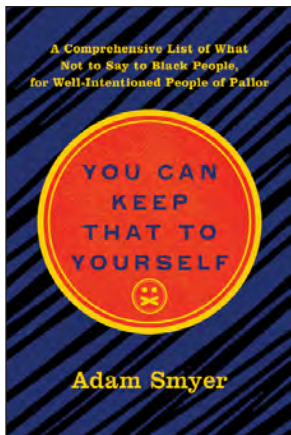
JOYCE CAROL OATES is the author of a number of works of fiction, poetry, and nonfiction, including *We Were the Mulvaney's*, *Blonde*, *The Accursed*, *The Gravedigger's Daughter*, *The Falls*, *Zombie*, and *Foxfire*. She is the editor of *New Jersey Noir* and *Prison Noir* and a recipient of the **National Book Award**, the **PEN America Lifetime Achievement Award**, the **National Medal in the Humanities**, and a **World Fantasy Award for Short Fiction**. She has been **nominated several times for a Pulitzer Prize**. She lives in Princeton, New Jersey, and was recently inducted into the American Philosophical Society.

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You Can Keep That to Yourself *A Comprehensive List of What Not to Say to Black People, for Well-Intentioned People of Pallor*

BY **Adam Smyer**

At long last, a much-needed guidebook for well-intentioned people of pallor on what not to say to their black “friends.”



BOOK DETAILS: 1 September 2020, 120 pages; humor

COMP TITLE: *Go the Fuck to Sleep* by Adam Mansbach; *Dear White People* by Justin Simien

Greetings, well-intentioned person of pallor.

Your good intentions used to be enough. But in these diverse and divisive times, some people would hold you accountable for your actions. You were not raised for such unfairness. You need help. And help you now have.

Let Daquan—that black coworker you are referring to when you claim to have black friends—help you navigate perilous small talk with black people with this handy field guide. This portable bit of emotional labor puts at your fingertips a tabbed and alphabetized list of things not to say to black people. Finally!

How to use: Keep this handbook close. Whenever you are confronted with a black person and you feel compelled to blurt out an observation about her hair or to liken your Tesla lease to slavery, ask for a moment to consult this reference. She’ll wait. If the keen insight you want to share is listed herein, *You Can Keep That to Yourself*. It truly is that easy!

SAMPLE ENTRIES INCLUDE:

H Hair: Do not ask to touch our hair. Do not comment on our hair. You can look at our hair. But keep your childlike wondrous observations to yourself. Hold them in like a fart.

I I Don’t See Color: You lying, intelligence-insulting motherfucker.

P Pronounce: Don’t complain to me that you don’t know how to pronounce Kwame or spell Nzinga. Motherfucker, your name is Seamus O’Shaughnessy. Shut the fuck up.



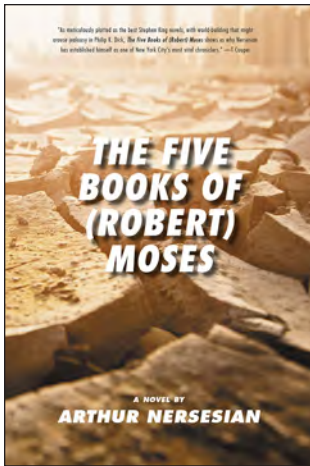
ADAM SMYER is an attorney, martial artist, and mediocre bass player. His nonfiction has appeared in the *Johannesburg Review of Books*, and his debut novel, *Knucklehead*, was the sole title short-listed for the 2018 Ernest J. Gaines Award for Literary Excellence. Smyer lives in the San Francisco Bay Area with his wife and cats.

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The Five Books of (Robert) Moses

A NOVEL BY **Arthur Nersesian**

A dramatic, playful, brutal, sweeping, and always entertaining reimagining of New York City history, presaging today's political tyranny.



BOOK DETAILS: 7 July 2020, 1,510 pages; fiction/literature

COMP TITLES: *The Plot Against America* by Philip Roth; *The Man in the High Castle* by Philip K. Dick

HIGHLIGHTS: Previous licensing deals for Arthur Nersesian's novels: *The Fuck-Up*: Germany (Europa), Greece (Akti Oxy), Japan (Tokyo Sogensha), Korea (Daekyo Bertelsmann), Spanish (TF Editores), Turkey (Pia / Say Yaynirlari); *Manhattan Loverboy*: Germany (Europa) and Greece (Electra); *Chinese Takeout*: Greece (Electra), Spain (Modernos y Classicos de Aleph), and the UK (Marion Boyars); *Dogrun*: Germany (VGS), Japan (Tokyo Sogensha).

"Nersesian is one of my favorite New York authors; this tome is one to lose yourself in." —**Bob Odenkirk**, actor, *Breaking Bad*

"As meticulously plotted as the best **Stephen King** novels, with world-building that might arouse jealousy in **Philip K. Dick** . . ." —**T Cooper**, coauthor of **Changers YA Series**

After a domestic terrorist unleashes a dirty bomb in Manhattan in 1970, making the borough uninhabitable, FBI agent Uli Sarkisian finds himself in a world that is suddenly unrecognizable, as the United States faces its greatest immigration crisis ever: finding housing for millions of its own citizens. The federal government hastily retrofits an abandoned government installation in the Nevada desert. Despite the government's best intentions, as the military pulls out of "Rescue City," the residents are increasingly left to their own devices, and tribal gang warfare fuses with democracy, forming a frightening new political system: the gangocracy.

The Five Books of (Robert) Moses alternates between the outrageous present of Rescue City and earlier in the twentieth century, detailing the events leading up to the destruction of Manhattan. We simultaneously follow legendary urban planner Robert Moses through his early years and are introduced to his equally ambitious if somewhat unbalanced older brother Paul, a brilliant electrical engineer whose jealousy toward Robert and anger at the devastation caused by the man's urban "renewal" projects leads to a dire outcome.



Arthur Nersesian's most important work to date examines the political chaos of today's world through the lens of the past. Fictional versions of real historical figures populate the pages, including Allen Ginsberg, Abbie Hoffman, and many more.

ARTHUR NERSESIAN is the author of fourteen books, including the cult-classic national best seller *The Fuck-Up*. He is a native New Yorker who runs a writing workshop in the East Village and can be reached on Facebook.

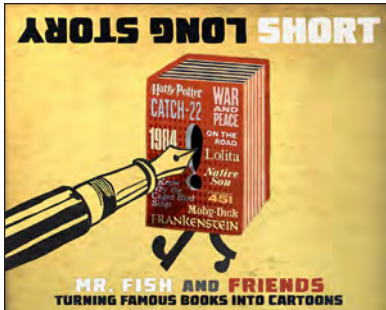
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Long Story Short

Turning Famous Books into Cartoons

BY Mr. Fish and Friends

A collection of cartoons, illustrations, and paintings that condense the complicated narratives of famous books into one-page works of art.



BOOK DETAILS: 7 July 2020, 140 pages; Humor/pop culture/art

HIGHLIGHTS: *Go Fish* by Mr. Fish was licensed to Finland (Into).

Contributors' licensing sales: *As the World Burns* (graphic novel that **Stephanie McMillan** illustrated)—translated into French (La Boîte à Bulles) and Turkish (Kaos). **Siri Dokken** is a Norwegian illustrator; she illustrated a Norwegian book that Aschenhoug published, *Rim det har rablet* by Christian Løchstør; she's included in a Swedish book, *Serier om den första kärleken* that Bonnier Carlsen published; and she's included in a Finnish book, *Tarinoita ensirakkaudesta* that Semic published. **Gary Dumm** has collaborated with Harvey Pekar (*American Splendor*); he was a contributing illustrator to *The Beats: A Graphic History*, translated into Spanish (451 Editores), Dutch (Parvenu), Portuguese (Benvirá), Greek (Magic Box & Fata Morgana), and German (Walde und Graf).

The Catcher in the Rye. Lolita. Moby-Dick. One Hundred Years of Solitude. On Narcissism. A Room of One's Own. Frankenstein.

These are but a handful of classic works spectacularly distilled into single pages by Mr. Fish and his talented Friends. By boiling down the big pictures of well-known works of both fiction and nonfiction, the contributing cartoonists, have, with *Long Story Short*, literally made long stories short by abridging their essence and encapsulating their meaning into succinct snapshots that are at times funny, sad, inspiring, rude, crude, beautiful, profound, stomach-turning, and mind-blowing.

Includes original artwork from: Mr. Fish, Ted Rall, Stephanie McMillan, Sarah Awad, Eli Valley, Wes Tyrell, Tamara Knoss, Keith Henry Brown, Sam Henderson, Lodi Marasescu, Surag Ramachandran, Tami Knight, Eric J. Garcia, John Kovalski, Marissa Dougherty, Siri Dokken, John G., Andy Singer, Tara Seibel, Gary Dumm, Clare Kolat, Nate Ulsh, Benjamin Slyngstad, Ron Hill, JP Trostle, and Beth McCaskey.



One Hundred Years of Solitude
Gabriel García Márquez



Catch-22
Joseph Heller

MR. FISH (A.K.A. DWAYNE BOOTH) has been a freelance writer and an award-winning cartoonist whose work has appeared in *Harper's Magazine*, the *Los Angeles Times*, the *Atlantic*, *Vanity Fair*, *Mother Jones*, as well as in international publications such as *Information for Social Change* (England), *Umanità Nova* (Italy), and *Internazionale* (Italy).

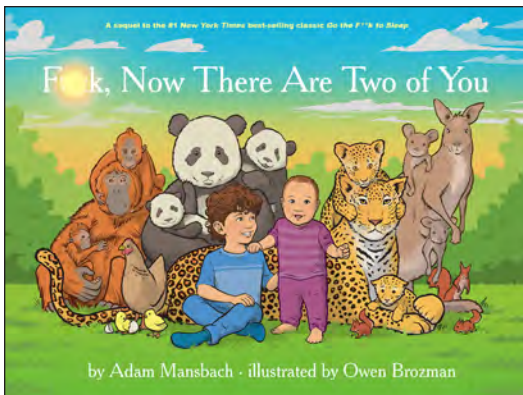


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Fuck, Now There Are Two of You

BY **Adam Mansbach**, ILLUSTRATED BY **Owen Brozman**

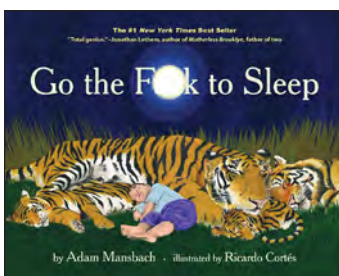
The third installment in Adam Mansbach's international best-selling Go the Fuck to Sleep series addresses, with radical honesty, the family implosion that occurs when a second child arrives.



BOOK DETAILS: 1 Oct. 2019, 32 pages; humor

COMP TITLES: *Go the Fuck to Sleep* by Adam Mansbach; *You Have to Fucking Eat* by Adam Mansbach

HIGHLIGHTS: *Fuck, Now There Are Two of You* was licensed to UK (Canongate), Australia & New Zealand (Text), and Finland (Into). *Go the Fuck to Sleep* has sold **over 3 million copies** worldwide and was translated into **over 30 languages**, including: Afrikaans: Penguin*, Australia: Text, Brazil: Sextante*, Catalan: RH Mondadori*, China: ThinkKingdom, Croatia: Sandorf, Czech Republic: Bionaut*, Denmark: Carlsen*, Estonia: Media Incognito*, Finnish: Into Publishing, France: Grasset, Germany: DuMont, Greece: Papadopoulos*, Holland: Leopold*, Hungary: Kossuth/Ventus Libro, India: Roli, Israel:



Modan*, Italy: Mondadori, Jamaican patois: Akashic, Japan: Tatsumi*, Korea: Book21*, Latin America & U.S. (Spanish-language): Penguin, Latvia: Media Incognito*, Lithuania: Media Incognito*, Norway: Cappelen Damm*, Nynorsk: Cappelen Damm*, Poland: Albatros*, Portugal: Arteplural/Grupo Bertrand Circulo*, Russia: Magic Bookroom, Serbia: Booka*, Slovakia: Giftpack, Ltd.*, Slovenia: Filargo*, Spain: RH Mondadori (Spain only)*, Sweden: Epix Bokförlag (orig. deal w/Lind & Co.), Taiwan: Sun Color*, Turkey: Arkadas Yayinlari*, UK: Canongate, Ukraine: Vydavnytstvo (***pls. note that deals that have expired, with rights reverting back to Akashic, are listed in red**). *You Have to Fucking Eat* has sold **half a million copies** worldwide and was licensed to:

Australia: Text, Finnish: Into Publishing, France: Grasset, Germany: DuMont, Hungary: Kossuth, Portugal: Saida De Emergencia, and UK: Canongate

Adam Mansbach famously gave voice to two of parenting's primal struggles in *Go the Fuck to Sleep* and *You Have to Fucking Eat*—the often-imitated, never-duplicated pair of *New York Times* best sellers that ushered in a new era of radical honesty in humor books for parents.

Fuck, Now There Are Two of You is a loving monologue about the new addition to the family, addressed to a big sibling and shot through with Adam's trademark profane truth-telling. Gorgeously illustrated and chock-full of unspoken sentiments channeled directly from the brains of parents worldwide, *Fuck, Now There Are Two of You* articulates all the fears and frustrations attendant to the simple, math-defying fact that two is a million more kids than one.

ADAM MANSBACH is an award-winning novelist, screenwriter, humorist, and cultural critic. Mansbach was nominated for an Independent Spirit Award for his screenplay for the Netflix Original *Barry*, and is currently adapting his middle-grade novel *Jake the Fake Keeps It Real* for the Disney Channel. His work has appeared in the *New Yorker*, the *New York Times Book Review*, *Esquire*, and on National Public Radio.



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Little Wonder *The Fabulous Story of Lottie Dod, the World's First Female Sports Superstar* BY **Sasha Abramsky**

A groundbreaking biography of the world's first female sports superstar, the pioneering and uncompromising Lottie Dod.



BOOK DETAILS: 2 June '20, 280 pgs; biography/sports/women's studies

HIGHLIGHTS: **Tens of millions watch Wimbledon** on TV. Previous sales for Abramsky's past books: *The House of Twenty Thousand Books*, published by NY Review of Books, was translated into Spanish (Periférica), German (dtv), and licensed to UK publisher (Halban); *Inside Obama's Brain*, was translated into Indonesian (Elex Media Komputindo).

"Lottie Dod is one of the world's great unsung sporting heroes. There wasn't a glass ceiling she didn't succeed in breaking, and in *Little Wonder*, Sasha Abramsky takes readers on an amazing journey across continents and decades as she shattered records and destroyed stereotypes along the way." —**Billie Jean King**

Little Wonder is a biography of a truly extraordinary sports figure who blazed trails of glory from the late 1800s into the early 1900s. The third woman to win the Ladies' Championships at the Wimbledon tennis tournament, she did so for the first time in 1887, at age fifteen. She remains the youngest person ever to have won a singles trophy in what would become known as the big-four Grand Slam tennis tournaments.

Dod won Wimbledon five times, grew bored with tennis, and moved on to myriad other sports: she became the world's leading female ice skater; won the British ladies' golf championship; and won an Olympic silver medal in archery.

In her time, she had a huge following, but by the outset of World War I, she was largely a forgotten figure; she died alone and without fanfare in 1960.

Little Wonder brings this remarkable woman's story to life. As a pioneer, she paved the way for the likes of Billie Jean King and Serena Williams, believing she could compete with the top men in whatever sport she set her sights on.

SASHA ABRAMSKY is a freelance journalist who has written for the *Atlantic*, the *New Yorker*, the *New York Times*, etc. Abramsky's *The House of Twenty Thousand Books* was a *Kirkus Reviews* Best Nonfiction Books of 2015. Abramsky teaches writing at the University of California, Davis.



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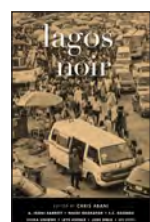
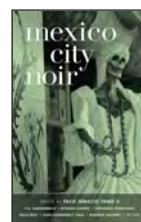
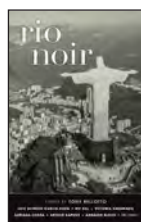
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Maaza Mengiste's novel *Beneath the Lion's Gaze* was published by W.W. Norton in the US and was licensed to UK (Jonathan Cape); Italy (Neri Pozza); Portugal (Record); Spain (La mirada salvaje); Sweden (Forum); Netherlands (Anthos); Germany (Wunderhorn). *Beneath the Lion's Gaze*, was selected by the Guardian as one of the 10 best contemporary African books and named one of the best books of 2010 by Christian Science Monitor, Boston Globe and other publications.

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