

## City Of Nets A Portrait Of Hollywood In The 1940s

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### KAYLEY SHANIYA

**The Image of the City** Fromm International Letters of Note, the book based on the beloved website of the same name, became an instant classic on publication in 2013, selling hundreds of thousands of copies. This new edition sees the collection of the world's most entertaining, inspiring and unusual letters updated with fourteen riveting new missives and a new introduction from curator Shaun Usher. From Virginia Woolf's heart-breaking suicide letter to Queen Elizabeth II's recipe for drop scones sent to President Eisenhower; from the first recorded use of the expression 'OMG' in a letter to Winston Churchill, to Gandhi's appeal for calm to Hitler; and from Iggy Pop's beautiful letter of advice to a troubled young fan, to Leonardo da Vinci's remarkable job application letter, Letters of Note is a celebration of the power of written correspondence which captures the humour, seriousness, sadness and brilliance that make up all of our lives.

**Letters of Note** Chronicle Books  
 History of Hollywood in the 1940's  
*India Calling* Anchor

With this eye-opening autobiography, one of Hollywood's most durable personalities reveals a surprisingly dramatic private life that's scarcely suggested by her glamorous screen image. The exotic costumes of the Road pictures hid a woman of extraordinary versatility: beauty contest winner, comedienne, radio star, fashion model, nightclub singer, vaudeville trouper, war bond saleswoman, dramatic actress, musical comedy star, divorcee, stuntwoman--and dedicated wife and mother. Few movie buffs know that Dorothy Lambour was voted Miss New Orleans only after a successful tour on the Fanchon and Marco circuit--only to wind up running an elevator for a living. She sang with Rudy Vallee and Herbie Kay (who became her first husband)--and was one of the most reluctant stars Hollywood ever created. She never accepted Louis B. Mayer's offer of a screen test. Cast as star of her first film, *The Jungle Princess*, she was mortified by her sarong costume, her appearance in the rushes, and by the outrageous publicity Paramount created to launch her career. She hit her stride during Hollywood's heyday, when off-camera events often eclipsed what the public saw on screen. Here she reveals her experiences with co-workers like Betty Grable, John Wayne, Jack Oakie, Fred MacMurray, Anthony Quinn, Ray Milland, Alan Ladd, Mae West, Cecil B. DeMille, Carole Lombard, John Ford and Robert Preston. Why *The Hurricane's* crew held a grudge against Jon Hall, and how they exacted their revenge; how love scenes with William Holden and Tyrone Power were ruined by an

appendectomy and a whoopee cushion, respectively; the violent and oft-censored behavior of her chimpanzee co-stars; how she doffed her sarong for serious dramatic roles in *Wild Harvest*, *Manhandled*, and *A Medal for Benny*; the inspired wisecrackery on Bing, Bob, and Dorothy's first Road to Singapore, the bitter wrangles over the final Road to Hong Kong--and the name of the woman identified as Dorothy Lamour at Crosby's funeral. After her wartime marriage to Air Corps Lieutenant William Howard, she raised two sons while expanding her career into personal appearances, nightclubs, and the legitimate theater. Even as her film career seemed to dim, she appeared at the London Palladium and later undertook a grueling national tour in the title role of *Hello, Dolly!* Now, she shares the tragic story of her husband's final illness, and her resolve to keep on fulfilling her duties to her public, her family--and ultimately, to herself. Illustrated with photographs from her personal collection, this is the self-portrait of an artist whose rare honesty and character, warmth and courage have, until now, been known only to a privileged few.--From dust jacket.

**The Mirage Factory** Vintage

I am deeply terrified by the obsessions crawling over my body, whether they come from within me or from outside. I fluctuate between feelings of reality and unreality. I, myself, delight in my obsessions.'Yayoi Kusama is one of the most significant contemporary artists at work today. This engaging autobiography tells the story of her life and extraordinary career in her own words, revealing her as a fascinating figure and maverick artist who channels her obsessive neuroses into an art that transcends cultural barriers. Kusama describes the decade she spent in New York, first as a poverty stricken artist and later as the doyenne of an alternative counter-cultural scene. She provides a frank and touching account of her relationships with key art-world figures, including Georgia O'Keeffe, Donald Judd and the reclusive Joseph Cornell, with whom Kusama forged a close bond. In candid terms she describes her childhood and the first appearance of the obsessive visions that have haunted her throughout her life. Returning to Japan in the early 1970s, Kusama checked herself into a psychiatric hospital in Tokyo where she resides to the present day, emerging to dedicate herself with seemingly endless vigour to her art and her writing. This remarkable autobiography provides a powerful insight into a unique artistic mind, haunted by fears and phobias yet determined to maintain her position at the forefront of the artistic avant-garde. In addition to her artwork, Yayoi Kusama is the author of numerous volumes of poetry and fiction, including *The Hustler's Grotto of Christopher Street*, *Manhattan Suicide Addict* and *Violet Obsession*.

**The Bad & the Beautiful** W. W. Norton & Company  
 Photographer Lauren Greenfield captures often shocking, always

startling images of children at school, at play, or at home in the precocious city of Los Angeles. The stunning color photographs range from the children of the gang culture of South Central and East L.A. to the affluent, often show-business world of the Westside. Underlying is the overwhelming importance of image and celebrity, with its materialistic trappings of fast cars and expensive clothes. 80 full-color photos.

**Men's Lives** Vintage

A finalist for the Pulitzer Prize, *The Plague of Doves*--the first part of a loose trilogy that includes the National Book Award-winning *The Round House* and *LaRose*--is a gripping novel about a long-unsolved crime in a small North Dakota town and how, years later, the consequences are still being felt by the community and a nearby Native American reservation. Though generations have passed, the town of Pluto continues to be haunted by the murder of a farm family. Evelina Harp--part Ojibwe, part white--is an ambitious young girl whose grandfather, a repository of family and tribal history, harbors knowledge of the violent past. And Judge Antone Bazil Coutts, who bears witness, understands the weight of historical injustice better than anyone. Through the distinct and winning voices of three unforgettable narrators, the collective stories of two interwoven communities ultimately come together to reveal a final wrenching truth. Bestselling author Louise Erdrich delves into the fraught waters of historical injustice and the impact of secrets kept too long.

**Crazy Town** Univ of California Press

Documents the cultural revolution behind the making of 1967's five Best Picture-nominated films, including *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner*, *The Graduate*, *Doctor Doolittle*, *In the Heat of the Night*, and *Bonnie and Clyde*, in an account that discusses how the movies reflected period beliefs about race, violence, and identity. 40,000 first printing.

**The Grave of Alice B. Toklas** Blacksmith Books(JP)

A biography of the prominent film director and screenwriter follows him from his days in Germany as a paid escort and dancing partner through his years in Hollywood as an award-winning director

**An Empire of Their Own** Crown

The bestselling, masterful account of one American family's passage through the turbulent landscape of the postwar era, 1945-1990, illuminating the interplay between private life and the profound cultural changes of the times.

**Drowned City** Hal Leonard Corporation

Reversing his parents immigrant path, a young writer returns to India and discovers an old country making itself new. Anand Giridharadas sensed something was afoot as his plane prepared to land in Bombay. An elderly passenger looked at him and said, 'Were all trying to go that way, pointing to the rear. You, you're

going this way. Giridharadas was...

[China](#) Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

Looks at the scandals, morals and sleaze of 1950's Hollywood.

*Fast Forward* W. W. Norton & Company

Now the TNT Original Series MOB CITY Midcentury Los Angeles. A city sold to the world as "the white spot of America," a land of sunshine and orange groves, wholesome Midwestern values and Hollywood stars, protected by the world's most famous police force, the Dragnet-era LAPD. Behind this public image lies a hidden world of "pleasure girls" and crooked cops, ruthless newspaper tycoons, corrupt politicians, and East Coast gangsters on the make. Into this underworld came two men—one L.A.'s most notorious gangster, the other its most famous police chief—each prepared to battle the other for the soul of the city.

[On Gold Mountain](#) Cornell University Press

An original study of exile, told through the biography of Austrian writer Stefan Zweig By the 1930s, Stefan Zweig had become the most widely translated living author in the world. His novels, short stories, and biographies were so compelling that they became instant best sellers. Zweig was also an intellectual and a lover of all the arts, high and low. Yet after Hitler's rise to power, this celebrated writer who had dedicated so much energy to promoting international humanism plummeted, in a matter of a few years, into an increasingly isolated exile—from London to Bath to New York City, then Ossining, Rio, and finally Petrópolis—where, in 1942, in a cramped bungalow, he killed himself. *The Impossible Exile* tells the tragic story of Zweig's extraordinary rise and fall while it also depicts, with great acumen, the gulf between the world of ideas in Europe and in America, and the consuming struggle of those forced to forsake one for the other. It also reveals how Zweig embodied, through his work, thoughts, and behavior, the end of an era—the implosion of Europe as an ideal of Western civilization.

**The Plague of Doves** Amber Books

The classic work on the evaluation of city form. What does the city's form actually mean to the people who live there? What can the city planner do to make the city's image more vivid and memorable to the city dweller? To answer these questions, Mr. Lynch, supported by studies of Los Angeles, Boston, and Jersey City, formulates a new criterion—imageability—and shows its potential value as a guide for the building and rebuilding of cities. The wide scope of this study leads to an original and vital method for the evaluation of city form. The architect, the planner, and certainly the city dweller will all want to read this book.

[My Side of the Road](#) Prentice Hall

WINNER OF THE CBCA PICTURE BOOK OF THE YEAR AWARD 2019

Cicada work in tall building. Data entry clerk. Seventeen year. No sick day. No mistake. Tok Tok Tok! Cicada works in an office, dutifully toiling day after day for unappreciative bosses and being bullied by his coworkers. But one day, cicada goes to the roof of the building, and something truly extraordinary happens ... A story for anyone who has ever felt unappreciated, overlooked or overworked, from Australia's most acclaimed picture book creator.

[The Star Machine](#) Penguin

A meditation on race and identity from one of our most provocative cultural critics. A reckoning with the way we choose to see and define ourselves, *Self-Portrait in Black and White* is the searching story of one American family's multigenerational transformation from what is called black to what is assumed to be white. Thomas Chatterton Williams, the son of a "black" father from the segregated South and a "white" mother from the West, spent his whole life believing the dictum that a single drop of "black blood" makes a person black. This was so fundamental to his self-conception that he'd never rigorously reflected on its foundations—but the shock of his experience as the black father of two extremely white-looking children led him to question these long-held convictions. It is not that he has come to believe that he is no longer black or that his kids are white, Williams notes. It is that these categories cannot adequately capture either of them—or anyone else, for that matter. Beautifully written and bound to upset received opinions on race, *Self-Portrait in Black and White* is an urgent work for our time.

**Upstate Girls** Other Press, LLC

Sibert Honor Medalist • Kirkus' Best of 2015 list • School Library Journal Best of 2015 • Publishers Weekly's Best of 2015 list • Horn Book Fanfare Book • Booklist Editor's Choice On August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina's monstrous winds and surging water overwhelmed the protective levees around low-lying New Orleans, Louisiana. Eighty percent of the city flooded, in some places under twenty feet of water. Property damages across the Gulf Coast topped \$100 billion. One thousand eight hundred and thirty-three people lost their lives. The riveting tale of this historic storm and the drowning of an American city is one of selflessness, heroism, and courage—and also of incompetence, racism, and criminality. Don Brown's kinetic art and as-it-happens narrative capture both the tragedy and triumph of one of the worst natural disasters in American history. A portion of the proceeds from this book has been donated to Habitat for Humanity New Orleans.

[Around the World with Mouk](#) Hachette UK

The Beijing Olympics focused the world's eyes on China. But despite increased tourism and rampant foreign investment, the cultural distance between China and the West remains as vast as

the oceans that separate them. The Middle Kingdom is still relatively unknown by Westerners. China is in fact made up of 33 distinct regions populated by 56 ethnic groups -- and photojournalist Tom Carter has visited them all. This little book is a visual tribute to the People's Republic of China, with an ardent emphasis on the People.

*Cicada* Harper Collins

\*Finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in Biography\* \*Winner of the 2020 National Book Critics Circle Award\* \*Winner of the PEN/Jacqueline Bograd Weld Award for Biography\* A "captivating" (The Washington Post) work of history that explores the life of an unconventional woman during the first half of the 19th century in Edo—the city that would become Tokyo—and a portrait of a city on the brink of a momentous encounter with the West. The daughter of a Buddhist priest, Tsuneno was born in a rural Japanese village and was expected to live a traditional life much like her mother's. But after three divorces—and a temperament much too strong-willed for her family's approval—she ran away to make a life for herself in one of the largest cities in the world: Edo, a bustling metropolis at its peak. With Tsuneno as our guide, we experience the drama and excitement of Edo just prior to the arrival of American Commodore Perry's fleet, which transformed Japan. During this pivotal moment in Japanese history, Tsuneno bounces from tenement to tenement, marries a masterless samurai, and eventually enters the service of a famous city magistrate. Tsuneno's life provides a window into 19th-century Japanese culture—and a rare view of an extraordinary woman who sacrificed her family and her reputation to make a new life for herself, in defiance of social conventions. "A compelling story, traced with meticulous detail and told with exquisite sympathy" (The Wall Street Journal), *Stranger in the Shogun's City* is "a vivid, polyphonic portrait of life in 19th-century Japan [that] evokes the Shogun era with panache and insight" (National Review of Books). *Better Must Come* Henry Holt and Company

At a time when the studio is making a stunning comeback, film historian Thomas Schatz provides an indispensable account of Hollywood's traditional blend of business and art. This book lays to rest the persistent myth that businesspeople and producers stifle artistic talent and reveals instead the genius of a system of collaboration and conflict. Working from industry documents, Schatz traces the development of house styles, the rise and fall of careers, and the making-and unmaking-of movies, from *Frankenstein* to *Spellbound* to *Grand Hotel*. Richly illustrated and highly readable, *The Genius of the System* gives the definitive view of the workings of the Old Hollywood and the foundations of the New.

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