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July 2019

We Review the
Best of the Latest
Books

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Arts / Music / Poetry

[Debussy's Vocal Music and Its Poetic Evocations](#) by Siglind Bruhn, edited by Mark DeVotto (**Dimension and Diversity: Studies in 20th-Century Music Series, No. 13:** Pendragon Press)

In fin-de-siècle Paris, composers encountered an artistic atmosphere that was crucially determined by a number of poets who met regularly in the famous cabaret "Le Chat Noir" and at Stéphane Mallarmé's Tuesday soirées. According to Paul Dukas, these poets conceived their texts like musicians or painters: "Verlaine, Mallarmé, and Laforgue presented us with new tones, new sounds. They projected lights onto their words as had never been seen before," thus developing an aesthetics that Charles Baudelaire had termed "la correspondance des arts."

Claude Debussy (1862-1918), an avid reader of contemporary poetry, became a member of these circles when still in his early twenties. While as a student at the Paris conservatoire he had primarily set texts by poets from the generation of his parents and grandparents, he now turned to the lyric

works of his contemporaries. The vocal cycles he composed in the course of the 30 years between 1885 and 1915 trace the path of his compositional development, which particularly since his encounter with the poetry of Paul Verlaine was defined by the quest for liberation from conventions handed down for too long.

[Debussy's Vocal Music and Its Poetic Evocations](#), the first of two intended complements to *Images and Ideas in Modern French Piano Music*, offers background information, analyses, and interpretations of his seminal cycles for voice and piano – *Ariettes oubliées* (1885-1887), *Cinq poèmes de Charles Baudelaire* (1887-1889), *Trois mélodies de Verlaine* (1891), *Fêtes galantes I & II* (1891-1892/1904), *Proses lyriques* (1892-1893), *Trois chansons de Bilitis* (1897-1898), *Trois ballades de François Villon* (1910), and *Trois poèmes de Stéphane Mallarmé* (1913) – complemented by the cantata *La damoiselle élue* (1887-1888) and Debussy's only completed opera, *Pelléas et Mélisande* (1902).

Author Siglind Bruhn was born in Hamburg, studied piano performance and comparative literature and philosophy before earning a doctorate at the University of Vienna in music analysis / musical hermeneutics. After years of teaching in Germany and at the University of Hong Kong, she has been since 1993 a Life Research Associate at the University of Michigan's Institute for the Humanities.

Bruhn's research in **[Debussy's Vocal Music and Its Poetic Evocations](#)** focuses

on concert and operatic music of the 20th and 21st centuries, particularly in its relationship to literature, the fine arts, and religion. In addition to numerous essays and articles, Siglind has published more than 25 book-length monographs and five anthologies.

Not included are the numerous individual songs, the twelve works for soloist(s) and/or choir with orchestra, and the four a cappella pieces. Other compositions in which Debussy was significantly inspired by poetry without however entrusting the words to a voice are the piano pieces "Claire de lune" from the *Suite bergamasque* and nos. 1/4, 1/8, and 1 1/2 of the *Preludes*, addressed in *Images and Ideas*, as well as several works reserved for a study on Debussy's instrumental music to be published next year.

[Debussy's Vocal Music and Its Poetic Evocations](#) provides English translations for all poems cited. <>

Art / Sketchbook / Nature

[Draw, Color, and Sticker Nature Sketchbook: An Imaginative Illustration Journal](#) illustrated by Katie Vernon (Quarry Books)

[Draw, Color, and Sticker Nature Sketchbook](#) series offers page after page of beautiful inspiration designed to get aspiring artists drawing, coloring, and creating their own personal works of art. Stickers and partially illustrated pages provide a canvas to encourage them to practice drawing various themes and elements. Each illustrated

spread is followed by a prompt with the same theme, ready for readers to fill in with their own designs and stickers. Black and white drawings with touches of color get them started and invite further experimentation. The uncoated paper stock is perfect for drawing, painting, and coloring with any variety of materials. The included stickers are printed on soft uncoated paper so they can take color or additional drawing on top.

Author/illustrator Katie Vernon is an illustrator who has spent most of her life in the Midwest but whose heart belongs in the mountains. She is a master watercolorist, and winner of the 2015 Lilla Rogers Global Talent Search. Her inspiration comes from being a florist, working with alpacas, and living on a bus.

With [Draw, Color, and Sticker Nature Sketchbook](#), artists warm up with coloring pages, each of which is followed by a partial illustration in a similar theme, ready to be finished by them. They then draw in their own details, embellish with coordinated stickers, and finally add color. Themes such as prairie flowers, butterflies, and nature mandalas inspire readers to take their art skills to the next level.

Other books in the series include:

- *Just Add Color: Flora and Fauna*
- *Draw, Color, and Sticker Enchanted Sketchbook*
- *100 Things to Draw with a Circle*

The designs featured in [Draw, Color, and Sticker Nature Sketchbook](#) are set up in

pairs. The first two pages contain a full drawing, ready to color. Readers color with crayons, colored pencils, colored markers, or even with watercolors. If they are feeling adventurous, they can draw in a few extra details with a permanent marker, and embellish with stickers before they color. The second two pages in the pair contain a partial drawing with a similar design. They can look at the finished drawings from the previous spread for inspiration, or doodle from their own imagination.

Readers can feel free to draw using any tools and colors that appeal to them. Each design theme has a coordinated sticker page in the back of the book. The last two sticker pages are extras that can be used anywhere. They can use the coordinated stickers, or mix and match throughout the book to create unique designs in their own vision.

[Draw, Color, and Sticker Nature Sketchbook](#) is a simple, yet beautiful creative outlet for anyone learning to draw. They follow the prompts as they draw, color, and sticker their way through the sketchbook. <>

Building / Sustainable / Design & Construction / Do-It-Yourself

[Straw Bale Building Details: An Illustrated Guide for Design and Construction by CASBA](#) (California Straw Building Association) (New Society Publishers)

As we are all too aware, the world is facing many challenges. These include global climate change, economic inequality, homelessness and a lack of

affordable housing, and a general longing for a greater sense of community.

While straw building cannot by itself solve all of these problems, remarkably, it offers solutions that have the potential to address each of them. As a highly insulating material, straw can help create housing that is comfortable, affordable, safe, and ecological for a large number of people – in California, the US, and worldwide. The thick walls are beautiful. They are also strong and fire resistant; this has been proven by earthquake testing, rebuilding efforts in Pakistan and Nepal, and the survival of several homes after devastating wildfires in the western US.

Straw bale buildings promise superior insulation and flexibility across a range of design aesthetics, while using a typically local and abundant low-embodied energy material that sequesters carbon – an important part of mitigating climate change. However, some early straw bale designs and construction methods resulted in buildings that failed to meet design goals for energy efficiency and durability. This led to improved building practices and a deeper understanding of the building science underlying this building system.

Distilling two decades of site-built straw bale design and construction experience, [Straw Bale Building Details](#) is an illustrated guide that covers:

- Principles and process of straw bale design and building, options, and alternatives.
- Building science of straw bale wall systems.
- How design impacts cost, building efficiency, and durability.
- Avoiding costly mistakes and increasing construction efficiency.
- Dozens of time-tested detailed drawings for straw bale wall assemblies, including foundations, windows and doors, and roofs.

Straw bale construction is at a unique nexus of many needs, and it is also poised for rapid expansion into more and bigger buildings. Along with now being in the code and thoroughly tested, this detail book is another step toward getting this esoteric but well-vetted information out there to many people. [Straw Bale Building Details](#) is rare because it represents consensus among many professionals; it is a compilation of far-flung, hard-won knowledge.

Within the last two decades, the resurgence and evolution of straw bale building has exceeded expectations. The California Straw Building Association (CASBA), whose members authored [Straw Bale Building Details](#), was formed 20 years ago on the Carrizo Plain of South Central California by a small group of dedicated and inspired building professionals. Since then, it has grown in size and influence. CASBA is devoted to furthering the practice of straw building by facilitating the exchange of current information and

practical experience, promoting and conducting research and testing, and making that body of knowledge available to working professionals and the public at large.

[Straw Bale Building Details](#) is not a step-by-step guide to building a straw bale structure – although it offers plenty of guidance for designing, engineering, and building one. Instead, the authors crafted the book to inform designers and builders about the many choices they have on the journey to creating a beautiful, healthy, energy-efficient, long-lasting structure.

The first chapter explains why people are drawn to this building system and explains the building science behind it. The second chapter covers design considerations for building with bales. Chapter 3 discusses structural issues unique to straw bale structures. The next few chapters offer practical guidance on installing utilities, stacking the straw bale walls, and finally, applying protective coats of plaster. Conveniently, the final chapter includes the often-referenced straw bale building code.

*To anyone contemplating building with bales: Start here! CASBA's **[Straw Bale Building Details](#)** is an unparalleled resource, representing decades of cumulative wisdom from dozens of top architects, engineers and contractors. Much more*

*than the title suggests, included are structural options and finishing details for varying climates, plus instruction on stacking bales, plastering walls, and even to how to hang up a picture. Attractive photos and illustrations offer inspiring aesthetic possibilities. Thank you, CASBA! – Catherine Wanek, author/photographer, *The New Strawbale Home* and *The Hybrid House*; former editor, *The Last Straw Journal*; and co-editor, *The Art of Natural Building**

[Straw Bale Building Details](#) is an incredibly comprehensive explanation of how and why so many of us are utilizing this housing typology. I'm grateful to the authors of this book for coming together to publish the answers to our straw bale FAQs, and I am indebted to them for creating a text I plan to share with young, emerging professionals as well as experienced conventional builders. Sharing the details will surely lead to the growth of our industry. – Emily

Niehaus, founder,
Community Rebuilds

This is the book I have been waiting for – the complete guide to straw bale construction. A remarkable group effort to bring lessons learned from architects, builders owner-builders together in one volume. Detailed illustrations and photos clearly show how it is done, and it's also excellent for working with building inspectors, banks, and insurance companies. For a more fire resistant, comfortable and efficient home – read this book. – David Bainbridge, sustainability consultant, co-author, The Straw Bale House

Get this book, read it immediately. Co-created by some of the greatest ecoarchitects and builders who have ever lived, it is highly readable, comprehensive, and absolutely relevant to the immense challenges of our time. More, it will inspire every reader to see how we can engage small and large issues through the power of design, beauty, and inspired action. – Mark Lakeman, founder,

communitecture,
architecture and planning;
and cofounder, City
Repair and the Village
Building Convergence

Straw Bale Building Details
*is a must-have for anyone interested in building with bales. A collaboration of many experts, the book provides multiple options for building a high quality, long lasting straw bale structure with enough flexibility in design practice to allow for differing approaches to that same end. Whether you're a professional or owner-builder, **Straw Bale Building Details** will prove invaluable in the development of your dream straw bale home. – Andrew Morrison; Straw Bale Mentor/Consultant, StrawBale.com*

Whether readers are architects, engineers, contractors, or owner-builders interested in making informed choices, **Straw Bale Building Details** is the indispensable guide to current practice in straw bale design and construction. Whatever the reasons for building with straw, the book will help guide decisions about both architectural and structural design, and offer proven details, methods, and insights into building with bales. In fact, this book is a new 'standard,' and it may

well become a textbook for workshops, natural building programs, and green building courses taught in trade schools and universities. <>

Computers & Internet / Business / Leadership & Management / Culture

[Everyday Chaos: Technology, Complexity, and How We're Thriving in a New World of Possibility](#) by David Weinberger (Harvard Business Review Press)

From the earliest days of the World Wide Web, David Weinberger has been a pioneering thought leader about the Internet's effect on people's lives, on their businesses, and most of all, on their ideas. He has contributed to fields ranging from marketing to libraries to politics to journalism and more as a strategic marketing VP and consultant; an Internet adviser to presidential campaigns; an early social-networking entrepreneur; a writer-in-residence at Google; a senior researcher at Harvard's Berkman Klein Center for Internet & Society, a fellow at Harvard's Shorenstein Center on Media, Politics and Public Policy, and a Franklin Fellow at the US State Department.

Now that technology is enabling people to take advantage of all the chaos it's revealing, people's understanding of how things happen is changing – and with it their deepest strategies for predicting, preparing for, and managing the world. This affects everything, from how they approach their everyday lives to how they make moral decisions and how they run

businesses. All of these new possibilities have led to more unpredictability, which naturally makes everyone uneasy. How do they navigate this new reality where one prediction about the future can result in multiple outcomes, none of which they truly understand?

Through stories from history, business, and technology, philosopher and technologist Weinberger in [Everyday Chaos](#) finds the unifying truths lying below the surface of the tools people take for granted – and a future in which the best strategy often requires holding back from anticipating and instead creating as many possibilities as one can. [Everyday Chaos](#)'s imperative for business and beyond is simple: Make. More. Future.

Weinberger notes that for all the benefits that machine learning has brought us, "we need to give up on our insistence on always understanding our world and how things happen in it." To illustrate this point, he uses the example of Deep Patient, an AI program developed by Mount Sinai Hospital in New York in 2015. Deep Patient was fed medical records of seven hundred thousand patients as jumbled data, with no framework to organize it or any instructions as to how the data should be used. Yet, even with just these incomplete pieces to analyze, Deep Patient was able to diagnose the likelihood of patients developing some diseases more accurately than doctors themselves can.

Using the story of Deep Patient as a jumping off point, Weinberger shows how the Internet and now machine learning are giving readers a different paradigm of how the future unfolds. He examines the before and after of these significant changes people are experiencing in all aspects of their lives and businesses. He shows readers not only how their ways of managing the future have changed from trying to reduce possibilities, to creating more possibilities than ever, and what this means for business.

Weinberger in [Everyday Chaos](#) also discusses the broad and deep implications of these changes:

- The Evolution of Prediction
- Unanticipating the Future
- The New Causality
- Strategy and Possibility
- What Progress Looks Like Now
- The Paradox of the Future

As Weinberger in [Everyday Chaos](#) explains, amidst their caution, people should embrace the complexity and richness of this new world order they are experiencing. "The hope of this book is that we can catch a glimpse of an epochal change in our understanding that makes sense of an array of phenomena that are puzzling on their own, and more so because we've so easily come to take them as normal," "It is a change in how we think things happen, which means it is a change in how we think the future arises from the present, the next from the now. And that changes everything."

My copy is filled with notes on the margins of every page. This is what books are for – a mind blowing, game changing, fun-to-read race into the future. Wow. – Seth Godin, Author, [This Is Marketing](#)

If you want to better understand the possibilities that machine learning and other forms of AI are creating – and harness the power of these breakthroughs – read this lively and illuminating book! – Reid Hoffman, Cofounder, LinkedIn; Partner, Greylock

Weinberger's thought-provoking call to action is a must-read for business leaders pushing the envelope on innovation, for policy-makers seeking to protect the public from undue harm, and for the rest of us who are keen to live better lives but mindful of any unintended consequences. – Aneesh Chopra, Former (and first) US Chief Technology Officer, Obama Administration

David's writing is just so pleasing, and his ideas so interesting and useful, that I found myself reveling in

his words, nudging my partner and saying, 'let me read you this bit. – Robin Chase, Cofounder and former CEO, Zipcar

With classic Weinberger wit and brilliant insight, this book shatters the myth of predictability while delivering grounded, actionable advice for anyone trying to thrive in the everyday chaos that has become our world. A page-turner must-read for everyone. – Joiohi Ito, Director, MIT Media Lab

Through stories from history, business, and technology, [Everyday Chaos](#) shows how our changing perception is deeply affecting human ideas, including the complexifying of stories, the role of explanations as tools, and our increasing comfort with non-rational motivators. The book reveals the unifying truths lying below the surface of what we take for granted – a future in which our best strategy often requires holding back from anticipating and instead creating as many possibilities as we can. <>

Cooking, Food & Wine / Italian

[Italian Food](#) by Elizabeth David (Grub Street)

Basil was no more than the name of bachelor uncles, courgette was printed in italics as an alien word,

and few of us knew how to eat spaghetti or pick a globe artichoke to pieces.... Then came Elizabeth David like sunshine, writing with brief elegance about good food, that is, about food well contrived, well cooked. She made us understand that we could do better with what we had. – Jane Grigson

Originally published in 1954, the importance of [Italian Food](#), which required a full year's research in Italy, can only be appreciated when people realize that Elizabeth David was working in a post-rationing England which regarded Italian cuisine as nothing more than variations on pasta and veal. What she discovered was an enormous wealth of regional diversity in ingredients, methods, and even language, where the same pasta shape can be called three or four names in different parts of the country. She understood that all Italian cooking is regional; there is no 'national' cuisine and so there are eight recipes for aubergines (eggplant), fourteen for artichokes, five for fennel and seven for lentils, all from different regions. But if such descriptions seem to today's readers overly thorough it is because many of her 1950's audience would have never heard of risotto, gorgonzola, prosciutto or even olive oil, let alone been able to purchase them. [Italian Food](#) is a critical and analytical look at Italian food – David's personality

and point of view come out on almost every page – organized by type of dish rather than by region – and is full of details of kitchens and cooking by painters from the 14th, 15th and 18th centuries. The book is filled with asides and quotes from Italian writers and thinkers and as confirmation that this is more a work of scholarship than a simple book on cooking, there are appendices of bibliographies and notes on wine.

David (1913-1992) lived and kept house in France, Italy, Greece, Egypt and India, learning the local dishes and cooking them in her own kitchens. She found not only the practical side but also the literature of cookery of absorbing interest. Her first book, *Mediterranean Food*, appeared in 1950. In 1951 *French Country Cooking* was published and in 1954, after a year of research in Italy, [Italian Food](#). This was followed by *Summer Cooking* (1955), *French Provincial Cooking* (1960) and *Spices, Salt and Aromatics in the English Kitchen* (1970). In 1973 she concentrated on study and experiment for *English Bread and Yeast Cookery*, for which she won the 1977 Glenfiddich Writer of the Year Award. Honorary doctorates were conferred on her by the universities of Essex and Bristol. In 1982 she was elected Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature. She died on 22 May 1992.

The Elizabeth David recipe that I love and remember the most is the delicious ragu from her [Italian Food](#) book.... Elizabeth David is

up there with the best. – Jamie Oliver

More than a collection of recipes, this book is in effect a readable and discerning dissertation on Italian food and regional dishes, and their preparation in the English kitchen. – The Times Literary Supplement

You don't turn to Elizabeth David for nannying, step-by-step instruction, or precise amounts and timing. She assumes you know the basics, and is a writer who offers inspiration, and wonderful, opinionated prose. Her recipes are timeless, and all her books wonderful works of reference (and tirelessly researched) as well as beautiful reads. – Tom Parker Bowles

I tell all our students to read her books. Not only does she write wonderful prose but the books and the recipes are still very of the now. – Darina Allen

Dozens of the young chefs who have brought glory to American cooking over the last two decades are indebted to Mrs David. – Marian Burros, The New York Times

If readers want to explore the authentic regional roots of the Italian kitchen, David's masterpiece is the place to start. And the joy and relevance of [Italian Food](#) today is that recipes that could only be read 60 years ago can now be cooked and savored. David's acclaimed writings are often cited as an inspiration by many of today's leading chefs, as well as home cooks, and are essential to any serious cookbook collection. <>

Criticism / Art / Literature

[Hot, Cold, Heavy, Light](#), **100 Art Writings 1988-2018** by Peter Schjeldahl, edited with an introduction by Jarrett Earnest (Abrams Press)

[Hot, Cold, Heavy, Light](#) collects 100 writings – some long, some short – that taken together form a group portrait of many of the world's most significant and interesting artists. From Pablo Picasso to Cindy Sherman, Old Masters to contemporary masters, paintings to comix, and saints to charlatans, Peter Schjeldahl ranges widely through the diverse and confusing art world, an expert guide to a dazzling scene.

Schjeldahl has been the art critic for the *New Yorker* since 1998. Prior to that he wrote art criticism for *7 Days* and the *Village Voice*. Among his many honors is the 2008 Clark Prize for Excellence in Arts Writing.

Schjeldahl's reviews are more essay than criticism, and he offers engaging and informative accounts of artists and their work. For more than three

decades, he has written about art with Emersonian openness and clarity. A fresh perspective, an unexpected connection, a lucid gloss on a big idea awaits readers on every page of this big, absorbing, buzzing book.

Implicit in Schjeldahl's role as a frontline critic is a focus on artists, issues, and events of urgent relevance to the culture at large. [Hot, Cold, Heavy, Light](#) tells readers why they still care about Rembrandt and Mantegna, Matisse and Picasso; takes the measure of contemporaries Basquiat and Holzer, Polke and Kiefer, Sherman and Koons; introduces readers to newcomers Kerry James Marshall and Laura Owens; and salutes rediscoveries of Florine Stettheimer, Hello Oiticica, and Peter Hujar.

The pieces in [Hot, Cold, Heavy, Light](#) were compiled and arranged by the critic Jarrett Earnest, with an ear attuned to Schjeldahl's range of voices. "The effect of reading him in depth, over time," Earnest says in his introduction, "is like that of great literature. You come away not only with new insights and ideas, but with a feeling of having been granted an extra life." Earnest, a frequent lecturer on contemporary art, is the author of *What It Means to Write about Art: Interviews with Art Critics* (2018).

*Our best – our most
perspicacious and wittiest
– art critic. – Sanford
Schwartz, New York
Review of Books*

Schjeldahl is the finest journalistic art critic at work today. – Christopher Knight, *Los Angeles Times*

He can do things with words on which other critics can only look with wonder ... – Barry Schwabsky, *The Nation*

A masterly personal voice, flamboyant, witty, lyrical. – Julian Bell, *Times Literary Supplement*

To read Peter Schjeldahl is not to agree or disagree, but rather to enter the enchanting flow of a fertile imagination. – Ken Johnson, *Art in America*

In this unfailingly lucid guide to an art world in constant, dramatic flux, Schjeldahl addresses new artists and Old Masters with the same pitch of acuity, empathy, and wit. No other writer enhances readers' experience of art in precise, jargon-free prose as Schjeldahl does, with reviews that are as much essay as criticism. [Hot, Cold, Heavy, Light](#) provides essential knowledge to anyone curious about the character, quality, and consequence of art today. <>

Education & Learning / Teaching /
Preschool / Outdoors & the Environment

[Preschool beyond Walls: Blending Early Childhood Education and Nature-Based Learning](#) by Rachel A. Larimore
(Gryphon House)

Children are spending less time being outside in nature, playing, imagining, and learning about their surroundings. Instead, they are spending more time with tablets, televisions, and overly structured routines. [Preschool beyond Walls](#) shows practical and strategic ways educators can create rich, explorative, and interdisciplinary learning through extensive outdoor experiences.

Educators learn how to develop and implement a nature-based curriculum to support children's optimal learning, from start to finish. Whether they are creating a new curriculum or transitioning from a traditional approach, they learn how to:

- Create a program philosophy.
- Infuse nature into all aspects of their program.
- Prepare teachers for a nature-centered approach.
- Implement curriculum and pedagogy that emphasize inquiry-based learning through play and hands-on discovery.
- Maintain high-quality early childhood practices that support children's development.

Author Rachel Larimore worked for 15 years as director of education at the Chippewa Nature Center in Midland, Michigan.

According to Claire Warden in the foreword to [Preschool beyond Walls](#), this comprehensive book, written by an experienced, deeply reflective colleague, supports educators in increasing the profile of the natural world in their early childhood setting. It

creates a thought-provoking journey not only for people who are new to the field, but also for those who have been in this field for some time.

According to [Preschool beyond Walls](#), children need experiences in nature for their physical, cognitive, social-emotional, and spiritual health. Reciprocally, the natural world needs children to protect and care for it. These seem like lofty statements, but there is mounting evidence that both are undeniably true.

The great news is there are many parents and educators throughout the world vowing to do better for young children – to reverse the trend of children's disconnect from nature. One such effort is the integration of nature into early childhood education, particularly through the implementation of nature-based preschools (NBPs). These schools have the dual goals of educating children in developmentally appropriate ways and fostering environmentally sustainable behavior.

Hopefully, as educators read [Preschool beyond Walls](#), the possible small changes in practice will become evident. Perhaps readers will start by adding more natural elements indoors, shift to starting their day outside in the natural play area, or hire someone to provide a workshop for the staff about the nature-based approach. It does not matter where they begin, just that they begin. So Larimore advises readers to identify the underlying philosophy, their desired vision, and gaps between their

current practice and their vision; establish measurable goals to achieving the vision; and then get to work in changing the practice. This is the essence of being an intentional teacher and administrator.

There are chapters in [Preschool beyond Walls](#) focused on the teacher and families, but there is no chapter focused on the child. The reason for this is quite simple: Children are primed and ready for learning outdoors. From the child's perspective, it's really simple – let's go outside and play. Adults, on the other hand, have had a lifetime to worry, analyze, and create worst-case scenarios in their heads. In other words, if programs are going to be more nature-based, the energy is most likely going to be focused on changing the adults' attitudes and behaviors.

[Preschool beyond Walls](#) focuses on helping early childhood professionals, administrators and teachers alike, to change practices to more fully integrate nature into their programs. Larimore believes that any program can increase its integration of nature and reap the benefits. This book provides these teachers and administrators with real, tangible ideas for integrating nature into preschool programs that are already in operation.

To accomplish this goal, [Preschool beyond Walls](#) starts broad and then narrows as it goes. It starts by discussing the overall theory and philosophy behind NBPs. Then it moves into discussing the pedagogy in more detail,

including structuring the physical environment. Finally, it pulls everything together in terms of daily planning and working with families. Each chapter includes background information, tangible examples of those concepts in action, answers to frequently asked questions, and "Reflections on Practice" prompts to encourage readers to think about their current practice and opportunities to move toward a nature-based approach.

Part I starts by creating a clear foundation to raise awareness and understanding of nature-based preschools. These chapters examine the philosophical and pedagogical values that drive and guide the practice in these settings and the impact those values have on operational aspects. This section of [Preschool beyond Walls](#) also acknowledges that the natural world increases the complexity of spaces, and various sections discuss risk management and hazard minimization.

The whole of part II explores the three classroom areas of inside, outside, and beyond. Each space has a unique way of shaping the relationship between the child and the environment. Larimore guides readers through the steps required to create nature-based spaces that explore opportunities for all the developmental domains.

Collaboration – between teachers and children, between members of teaching teams, and between teachers and families – supports the connection between children's experiences at

school and their leisure time. It is fitting that Larimore places this section last, as she practices her belief that educators need to set both children and families up for success in nature-based preschools.

*Rachel's voice comes
clearly through this
wonderful book, which
gave me a sense of being
with her on the journey to
increase the time our
youngest children spend in
the natural world. I
thoroughly recommend
this book to you and hope
you enjoy reading it as
much as I have. – Claire
Warden*

[Preschool beyond Walls](#) helps teachers turn their traditional classrooms into adventurous and stimulating learning environments no child can ignore, and it provides steps for educators to integrate nature into their teaching to enhance the high-quality early childhood practices they are already implementing. <>

History / Philosophy

[Out of Our Minds: What We Think and How We Came to Think It](#) by Felipe Fernández-Armesto (Oneworld Publications)

To imagine – to see that which is not there – is the startling ability that has fuelled human development and innovation through the centuries. As a species we stand alone in our

remarkable capacity to refashion the world after the pictures in our minds.

Traversing the realms of science, politics, religion, culture, philosophy and history, Felipe Fernández-Armesto in [Out of Our Minds](#) reveals the thrilling and disquieting tales of human's imaginative leaps – from the first Homo sapiens to the present day.

Fernández-Armesto is an award-winning British historian and the author of several bestselling books, including *1492, Ideas that Changed the World* and *The Americas*. He is a professor of history at the University of Notre Dame.

Through groundbreaking insights in cognitive science, he explores how and why we have ideas in the first place, providing a tantalizing glimpse into who we are and what we might yet accomplish. Fernández-Armesto shows that bad ideas are often more influential than good ones; that the oldest recoverable thoughts include some of the best; that ideas of Western origin often issued from exchanges with the wider world; and that the pace of innovative thinking is under threat.

To understand the present and unlock possible futures, we need true accounts of what we think and of how and why we think it: the cognitive processes that trigger the reimaginings we call ideas; the individuals, schools, traditions, and networks that transmit them; the external influences from culture and nature that color, condition, and tweak them. [Out of Our Minds](#) is an attempt to provide such an account. It is not

meant to be comprehensive. It deals only with ideas from the past that are still around today, forming and informing the world, making and misleading it. By 'ideas' he says he means thoughts that are products of imagination – exceeding experience and excelling mere anticipation. They are different from ordinary thoughts not only because they are new but because they involve seeing what has never before been seen. Those covered in [Out of Our Minds](#) may take the form of visions or inspiration, but are different from mental 'trips' – incoherent transports or ecstasies – or mental music (unless or until words are set to it) because they constitute models for changing the world.

Instead of following the usual routine and relying only on written records, Fernández-Armesto starts the story in deep layers of evidence, reconstructing thoughts of our Palaeolithic ancestors and even, in the limited degree the sources permit, reaching for ideas that came out of the minds of cognate or preceding species of hominids and hominids. Among revelations that will surprise most readers are: the antiquity of much of the toolkit of ideas on which we rely; the subtlety and profundity of the thinking of early Homo sapiens; and how little we have added to the stock of ideas we inherited from the remote past.

He departs from the convention of writing the history of ideas as if it were a parade of the thoughts of individual thinkers. He says he cannot avoid

mentioning Confucius and Christ, Einstein and Epicurus, Darwin and Diogenes. But in [Out of Our Minds](#), the disembodied ideas are the heroes and the villains.

The story matches the matrix of history in general, as ideas, like cultures, multiply and diverge, pullulate and perish, exchange and reconverge, without ever – in any sustained fashion – progressing or developing or evolving, or gaining in simplicity or complexity, or fitting any other formula.

In the early phases of the story, all the ideas we know about seem to be the common property of humankind, carried, unforgotten, from a single culture of origin over time and across migrants' changing environments. Increasingly, however, for reasons Fernández-Armesto tries to explore, some regions and some cultures demonstrate peculiar inventiveness. The focus of [Out of Our Minds](#) therefore narrows, first to privileged parts of Eurasia, later to the West. Toward the end of the book, other parts of the world figure mainly as receptors of ideas most of which originate in Europe and North America.

Even in the long passages that focus on the West, [Out of Our Minds](#) is not primarily about Western ideas but about those that, wherever they originated, have spread so widely as to become fully intelligible, for good and ill, only as part of the intellectual heritage of humankind.

*An Argonaut of an author, indefatigable and daring.
– Washington Post*

Felipe Fernandez-Armesto has set out to write a history of all human thought – mankind's big ideas from the earliest times to the present – and the result is a triumph. Preternaturally erudite, always intelligible, often witty, [Out of Our Minds](#) should be essential reading not just for historians of ideas, but for all readers interested in the human past. It is a celebration of intellectual diversity – and a condemnation of the homogenization of thought that is such a feature of our own time, not least in academia. – Niall Ferguson, Milbank Family Senior Fellow, the Hoover Institution, Stanford

*Written with zing and flair, and a willingness to provoke, [Out of Our Minds](#) is a sparkling account of how imagination and ideas have shaped the strange history of Homo sapiens over more than two hundred thousand years. – David Christian, author of *Origin Story**

Brilliant and profound, [Out of Our Minds](#) is a masterly survey of humanity's unique imaginative leaps, from hominid cannibalism to our current global convergence. Fernandez-Armesto is the leading practitioner of big history, and here he takes on no less than the entire span of human history. Gone are the great men, replaced instead by the ideas – good and bad – that have made us human. Written with his trademark panache and wry humour, this book challenges every assumption you've ever had about who we are and where we came from. – Jerry Brotton, Professor of Renaissance Studies, Queen Mary University of London, and author of *A History of the World in 12 Maps*

[Out of Our Minds](#) is an extraordinary journey through the history of the human imagination, from the dawn of civilization to the present day. A magisterial paean to the human imagination from a wonderfully elegant thinker, it is a unique history of the species in the vein of Yuval Noah Harari's *Sapiens* and Peter Frankopan's *The Silk Roads*. Fernández-Armesto puts what he knows of the history of ideas together in an unprecedented way, weaving strands into a global narrative,

and threading among them mental events he has never touched before. <>

History / U.K. / Gender

[Suffragettes](#) by Lauren Willmott (**Images of The National Archives Series: Pen & Sword History**)

2018 was the 100th anniversary of the first women's vote in Britain. That was the year of the publication of [Suffragettes](#) in England. Now the book is being released in North America and distributed by Casemate IPM.

1918 was a watershed moment for the development of British democracy: for the first time some women could vote. The occasion marked the culmination of a fifty-year long, arduous struggle of thousands of women and men up and down the country.

Using unique documents and images held at The National Archives, [Suffragettes](#) delves into the world of suffrage and traces the journey of thousands of individuals, fighting to achieve women's rights in a man's world, and how they were ultimately able to emerge largely victorious.

Author Lauren Willmott spent four years at The National Archives as a records specialist. She has an active interest in gender history, and particularly the changing role of women in British society from the Victorian era to the Second World War. She now works as a curator in a major museum.

On 20 June 1837, Princess Alexandrina Victoria was pronounced Queen

Victoria of Britain. With an annual income of £385,000 and an Empire that soon encompassed one-fifth of the world's population, she became the richest and most powerful woman not only in Britain, but in the world.

Elsewhere in Britain, married women were not even able to own property, let alone an Empire, nor were respectable women expected to work. A woman's place, as dictated by the patriarchal ruling of Victorian Britain, was in the home, nurturing a family. Respectable men, on the other hand, were the 'breadwinners', the providers and protectors of the family. Despite the young Queen heading the government, she was considered a temporary anomaly; with her male advisors, male MPs and male Prime Minister – as voted for by a small number of men – politics remained very much a man's world.

Yet, as told in [Suffragettes](#), some women were not content to remain in these distinct and prescribed spheres. One by one, the restrictions imposed on them were gradually challenged. In 1859, the Society for Promoting Women's Employment was established, followed by the Married Women's Property Committee. The Ladies' National Association for the Repeal of the Contagious Diseases Act was founded, led by Josephine Butler. The Association campaigned to overturn the double standards of the Contagious Diseases Act of 1864, which aimed to check venereal disease in the army by arresting and examining prostitutes only. It took twenty years of campaigning

before the act was finally repealed in 1886.

Perhaps, though, the most iconic element of this emerging Victorian feminism was the struggle for the vote. The first claim for women's votes came in response to the expansion of male suffrage in 1867 for more working-class men than ever before. If they can vote, some women began to ask, why can't we? John Stuart Mill's bold suggestion to change 'man' to 'person' in amendments to the Reform Act was thoroughly quashed by an overwhelming majority of MPs. This setback, however, did not deter Lydia Becker, Millicent Fawcett and hundreds of others, who were about to embark upon a fifty-year arduous journey to transform women's lives. To do this, they demanded the vote, a say in the political arena to enable moral, social and cultural improvements for women. With this, women's suffragism was born.

Throughout [Suffragettes](#), Willmott delves into the world of suffrage. Using documents and images from The National Archives, she traces this journey and gains a unique insight into the trials, tribulations and turmoil of the suffrage struggle. The story of the Pankhursts' headstrong leadership and the dramatic Derby Day death of Emily Wilding Davison has become embedded in popular consciousness, but the story of suffragism is much bigger than a few fervent militants. [Suffragettes](#) follows the story of thousands of individual women (and men), in dozens of organizations across

the nation, each of whom contributed to the long fight against patriarchal rule and oppression – and how they were ultimately able to emerge victorious.

Documents from The National Archives are rare and historic, and photos and drawings help tell the story of

[Suffragettes](#). <>

History / U.S. / War / Collections

[FDR at War \(Boxed Set\): The Mantle of Command, Commander in Chief, and War and Peace, 3 volumes](#) by Nigel Hamilton (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)

[FDR at War \(Boxed Set\)](#) is the definitive three-volume history that FDR did not live to write: the story of World War II from his perspective, showing his mastery of strategy, his vision, and how he overcame resistance from Churchill and his own generals to set the course for victory. [Mantle of Command](#), [Commander in Chief](#), and [War and Peace](#) have been celebrated as 'masterly' (*The Wall Street Journal*).

The author, Nigel Hamilton, is a best-selling and award-winning biographer of President John F. Kennedy, General Bernard Montgomery, and President Bill Clinton, among other subjects. His book [Mantle of Command: FDR at War, 1941–1942](#) was long-listed for the National Book Award. Hamilton's [Mantle of Command](#) draws on years of archival research and interviews to portray FDR in a tight close up, as he determined Allied strategy in the crucial initial phases of World War II.

In [Commander in Chief](#) Hamilton tells the astonishing story of FDR's year-long, defining battle with Churchill, as the war raged in Africa and Italy. It reveals the story – suppressed by Winston Churchill in his memoirs – of Roosevelt's battles with Churchill to maintain that strategy. Roosevelt knew that the Allies should take Sicily but avoid a wider battle in southern Europe, building experience but saving strength to invade France in early 1944. Churchill seemed to agree at Casablanca – only to undermine his own generals and the Allied command, testing Roosevelt's patience to the limit. Churchill was afraid of the invasion planned for Normandy, and pushed instead for disastrous fighting in Italy, thereby almost losing the war for the Allies. In a dramatic showdown, FDR finally set the ultimate course for victory by making the ultimate threat. [Commander in Chief](#) shows FDR in top form at a crucial time in the modern history of the West.

Hamilton's celebrated trilogy [FDR at War](#) culminates with a story of triumph and tragedy. Just as FDR was proven right by the D-day landings he had championed, so was he found to be mortally ill in the spring of 1944. He was the architect of a victorious peace that he would not live to witness. Using hitherto unpublished documents and interviews, Hamilton in [War and Peace](#) rewrites the famous account of World War II strategy. Seventy-five years after the D-day landings readers finally get to see, close-up and in dramatic detail, who was responsible for rescuing, and insisting upon, the great American-

led invasion of France in June 1944, and why the invasion was led by Eisenhower. As FDR's D-day triumph turns to personal tragedy, they watch with heartbreaking compassion the course of the disease, and how, in the months left him as US commander in chief, the dying president attempted at Hawaii, Quebec, and Yalta to prepare the United Nations for an American-backed postwar world order. Now readers know: even on his deathbed, FDR was the war's great visionary.

Praise for [Mantle of Command](#):

*FDR has frequently been underestimated as a military leader, yielding, in the historical imagination, to George Marshall and Winston Churchill, among others. Nigel Hamilton attacks this view with his characteristic verve, portraying a president with the reins of war fully, if often subtly, in his hands. The conventional wisdom will never be the same. – H.W. Brands, author of *Traitor to His Class: The Privileged Life and Radical Presidency of Franklin Delano Roosevelt**

Nigel Hamilton's [Mantle of Command](#) is a stirring and noteworthy book about Roosevelt's crucial role as commander-in-chief during World War II. Hamilton writes with

*insight, passion, and a great grasp of history. I believe this book will become the standard by which other books about FDR's role in World War II will be measured. – Carlo D'Este, author of *Patton: A Genius for War* and *Warlord: A Life of Churchill at War, 1874–1945**

*Nigel Hamilton in [Mantle of Command](#) presents a very different wartime Franklin Delano Roosevelt than the one we are used to seeing. Whether or not one agrees with all his conclusions, Hamilton clearly shows that FDR was an extremely strong and effective commander-in-chief. This volume should go a long way to dispelling popular myths about Roosevelt as a naïve and weak war leader. – Mark Stoler, editor of the *George C. Marshall Papers* & Professor Emeritus of History, University of Vermont*

Nigel Hamilton has written a spirited and thoughtful 'revisionist' study of Franklin Delano Roosevelt as commander-in-chief during the first phase of U.S. involvement in the Second World War. Hamilton's narrative skill

brings alive the human dramas, logistic hurdles, and strategic debates to show how FDR's indispensable drive and forward-looking leadership tamed his own 'team of rivals' and set the United States and its Allies on the road to victory over the Axis... – Michael Schaller, author of *Douglas MacArthur & Regent*, Professor of History, University of Arizona

Praise for [Commander in Chief](#):

Aby dramatizes Roosevelt's wranglings with Churchill during World War II ... Provocative ... It is stimulating to follow Hamilton as he lays out his argument. – Thomas E. Ricks, *New York Times Book Review*
Superb. – Fareed Zakaria
A detailed look at Franklin Roosevelt's role in the Allied strategy midway through World War II, with an emphasis on his relations with Winston Churchill. Hamilton shows Roosevelt's clear vision of how to win the war and how to create a postwar society that would prevent such wars from recurring. ... The author offers plenty of colorful period detail,

including the kinds of cocktails Roosevelt served Churchill and his family and the furnishings of the lavish private home Roosevelt occupied in Casablanca while attending the Allied summit during the North African campaign. As a result, the book presents a convincing portrait of its main subject, strengthening readers' confidence in the author's conclusions. – Kirkus Reviews, starred

Praise for [War and Peace](#):

A first class, lens-changing work. – James N. Mattis, former United States Secretary of Defense
Thorough and deliberate... vividly recreates FDR's decline and makes his accomplishments all the more impressive. Like its predecessors in the trilogy, this volume will reward readers of WWII and presidential history. – Publishers Weekly
Significant study... of considerable interest to students of presidential and American military history. – Kirkus
With deft storytelling and impeccable scholarship Nigel Hamilton completes

his essential trilogy of FDR and World War II with a bang. [War and Peace](#) is a masterful reevaluation of D-Day, Hitler's demise, and the Yalta Conference. A stunning achievement! – Douglas Brinkley, author of *Rightful Heritage: Franklin D. Roosevelt and the Land of America*

On the occasion of the 75th anniversary of D-Day, [War and Peace](#) is the dramatic culmination of Nigel Hamilton's magnificent trilogy of FDR's wartime leadership as commander in chief. It is also a vivid example of the critical importance of presidential leadership in times of national crisis. This sweeping narrative of Roosevelt's triumphs and the tragedy of his untimely death in 1945 is history and biography at its very finest. –Carlo D'Este, author of *Patton: A Genius for War* and *Warlord: A Life of Winston Churchill at War, 1874-1945*

With deft storytelling and impeccable scholarship, using astonishing and dramatic detail, [FDR at War](#) becomes the definitive story of Roosevelt's wartime leadership.

Literature & Fiction / Historical

[Mistress of the Ritz: A Novel](#) by Melanie Benjamin (Delacorte Press)

[Mistress of the Ritz](#) is a novel based on the story of the extraordinary real-life American woman who secretly worked for the French Resistance during World War II – while playing hostess to the invading Germans at the iconic Hôtel Ritz in Paris.

Author Melanie Benjamin, *The New York Times* bestselling author of *The Swans of Fifth Avenue*, *The Aviator's Wife*, and *Alice I Have Been*, is best known for her impeccable research and compelling, vivid characters. She also actively pursues stories of independent women who have been lost to history or overshadowed by men in their lives. Benjamin delivers once again with this stunning World War II historical novel set from the perspective of a little-known heroine of the French Resistance – an American woman who used her prestige at the Hotel Ritz in Paris to help others survive the German occupation.

In [Mistress of the Ritz](#), nothing bad can happen at the Ritz; inside its gilded walls every woman looks beautiful, every man appears witty. Favored guests like Ernest Hemingway, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Coco Chanel, and the Duke and Duchess of Windsor walk through its famous doors to be welcomed and pampered by Blanche Auzello and her husband, Claude, the hotel's director. The Auzellos are the mistress and master of the Ritz, allowing the glamour and glitz to take their minds off their troubled marriage, and off the secrets that they keep from their guests – and each

other.

Until June 1940, when the German army sweeps into Paris, setting up headquarters at the Ritz. Suddenly, with the likes of Hermann Goëring moving into suites once occupied by royalty, Blanche and Claude must navigate a terrifying new reality. One that entails even more secrets and lies. One that may destroy the tempestuous marriage between this beautiful, reckless American and her very proper Frenchman. For in order to survive – and strike a blow against their Nazi ‘guests’ – Blanche and Claude in [Mistress of the Ritz](#) must spin a web of deceit that ensnares everything and everyone they cherish.

But one secret is shared between Blanche and Claude alone – the secret that, in the end, threatens to imperil both of their lives, and to bring down the legendary Ritz itself.

A compelling portrait of a marriage and a nation at war from within.... At the glittering height of the twenties and thirties, suave French hotel manager Claude Auzello has turned the Ritz into the jewel of Paris, installing his brash American wife, Blanche, as queen among the movie stars, fashion icons, and crowned heads who make up the hotel guests. But the Auzello marriage is rocked by infidelity and turmoil even as the Nazi shadow rises in Germany,

and when the Ritz becomes Third Reich headquarters in occupied Paris, France's ultimate power couple must decide if they will weather the storm together or crumble under the oppression and brutality of war. High fashion, royal gossip, political scheming, and French Resistance sabotage all swirl together to make [Mistress of the Ritz](#) a cocktail as irresistible as anything served at the hotel's bar! – Kate Quinn, New York Times bestselling author of The Alice Network

No one writes of the complexities of women's lives and loves like Melanie Benjamin. [Mistress of the Ritz](#), Benjamin brings wartime Paris brilliantly to life – and brings home the terrible dilemmas and moral conundrums forced upon occupied citizens by the war. Blanche Auzello is a martini-soaked flapper with a heart of steel. Benjamin's fascinating story brings this forgotten heroine vividly to life without flinching from the high price paid by those who fought back against the Nazi scourge. Intense, illuminating, and ultimately

inspiring! – Elizabeth Letts,
New York Times bestselling
author of *Finding Dorothy*

*Benjamin's new novel is a
lively portrait of the
opulent grand hotel which
drew Picasso, Hemingway,
Cole Porter – and
Hermann Goring. – Kirkus
Review*

*Woke up early to finish
reading this... loved it... So
well done!* – Carol
Fitzgerald, BookReporter

*Set against the splendor of
the Ritz and full of larger-
than-life characters,
Benjamin delivers another
great piece of historic
fiction. She captured the
atmosphere and the
opulence, and I enjoyed
rubbing elbows with Coco
Chanel and Ernest
Hemingway at the bar. –
Julz Reads*

*For fans of historical fiction,
Melanie Benjamin doesn't
disappoint. – Theresa Alan*

*This impeccably
researched, lyrically told
historical about a brash
American woman and her
French husband during
WWII is a remarkable
achievement... Even
readers who aren't big
fans of historical fiction*

*might be swayed by this
outstanding tale. –
Publishers Weekly, starred
review*

*In [Mistress of the Ritz](#),
Melanie Benjamin
illuminates the little-known
story of Blanche Auzello,
the fiery American who,
along with her French
husband, secretly worked
for the French Resistance
while hosting senior
German officials at their
storied hotel. This
meticulously researched
and richly told story could
only have been penned
by Melanie Benjamin –
already an icon of
historical fiction, she has
truly outdone herself.
Important and inspiring! –
Pam Jenoff, New York
Times bestselling author of
*The Lost Girls of Paris**

[Mistress of the Ritz](#) offers a riveting story that explores two overlooked historical figures and the sacrifices it takes to have the courage to stand up and fight back. Based on true events, it is a taut tale of suspense wrapped up in a love story for the ages, the inspiring story of a woman and a man who discover the best in each other amid the turbulence of war. <>

Politics / Public Policy / Climate Change

[Climate and Society, Transforming the Future](#), 1st edition by Robin Leichenko & Karen O'Brien (Polity Press)

This important new book presents current and emerging thinking on the social dimensions of climate change. Using powerful examples, **[Climate and Society](#)** introduces key concepts and frameworks for understanding the multifaceted connections between climate and society.

Authors Robin Leichenko and Karen O'Brien frame climate change as a social issue that calls for integrative approaches to research, policy, and action. They explore dominant and relevant discourses on the social drivers and impacts of climate change, highlighting the important roles that worldviews and beliefs play in shaping responses to climate challenges. Situating climate change within the context of a rapidly changing world, **[Climate and Society](#)** demonstrates how dynamic political, economic, and environmental contexts amplify risks yet also present opportunities for transformative responses.

Leichenko is Professor of Geography at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. O'Brien is Professor in the Department of Sociology and Human Geography at the University of Oslo.

Along with increasing awareness of the reality of climate change, there is growing recognition that the sooner people take action, the lower the risks of severe, widespread, and irreversible global impacts. But how should people

respond? What can they do? Answering these questions begins with seeing climate change as more than an environmental issue. People need to look more broadly at social, economic, political, and cultural processes that are both driving climate change and influencing responses. They also need to look more deeply at how they see themselves in the world, how they relate to others, and how individual and collective decisions and actions are shaping the future for generations to come.

[Climate and Society](#) explores social causes, consequences, and responses to climate change. The point of departure is that there are many different perspectives on the problem of climate change and many different approaches to solutions. According to Leichenko and O'Brien, when climate change is viewed as an environmental problem, the solutions are usually technical or behavioral, such as managing greenhouse gas emissions and promoting environmentally friendly lifestyles. When climate change is viewed as a social problem, the solutions expand to include economic, political, cultural, and institutional changes, some with the potential for transforming society in ways that address multiple global challenges, including poverty and inequality, food insecurity, biodiversity loss, and health crises. The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for 2030 recognize that all of these global issues are linked, including SDG Goal 13: "Take

urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts".

[Climate and Society](#) presents an integrative framing of climate change, exploring the many lenses through which one can view the issue and its social dimensions. The book helps readers think about climate change in new and different ways, to see not only the problems but also the possibilities and potentials for transformative responses. Some of the key messages that emerge as readers read this book:

- **Science is not enough to stimulate action on climate change.** Chapter 2 discusses how climate science provides overwhelming evidence that humans are causing climate change.
- **Discourses have power.** Different ways of defining, describing, and discussing the problem of climate change lead to different solutions. Chapter 3 presents some of the key discourses related to climate change and describe the types of responses that they prioritize.
- **Worldviews shape perspectives.** Chapter 4 explores how worldviews represent the lenses through which people understand reality; like discourses, they are shaped by social processes, institutions, and relations, as well as by everyday experiences.
- **Greenhouse gas emissions and energy use are driven by social processes.** Chapters 5 and 6 show that the rising emissions from the production and consumption of fossil fuels are

intertwined with long-term processes of development, globalization, and urbanization.

- **Climate change impacts are highly unequal but affect everyone.** Chapters 7 and 8 demonstrate that climate change is having profound yet highly uneven impacts on individuals, households, communities, nations, and cultures, as well as on other species and ecosystems.
- **Adaptation to climate change is necessary but insufficient.** Chapter 9 turns to responses to climate change, focusing on adaptation.
- **Transformations to sustainability are possible and underway.** Chapter 10 emphasizes that the future people experience will, to a large extent, depend on human choices, decisions, and actions.

Many questions remain about whether and how society can make the profound changes needed to avoid dangerous climate change, especially when it remains an abstract or irrelevant issue to many people, when other concerns are considered priorities, and when people with vested interests and power are committed to the status quo, regardless of the implications for others, including future generations. As Leichenko and O'Brien emphasize throughout [Climate and Society](#), climate change is a global challenge that requires acknowledging the diverse ways that change is understood and addressed. Meeting the challenge of climate change can open new opportunities and possibilities for a better world.

Climate and Society finds the world at a crossroads. It explains the profound implications of the roads ahead. It documents the benefits of transformative action, the individual and the political reasons for inaction, and the consequences for society and the wider environment. These powerful ideas come from two of the most influential scholars of the social dilemmas of climate change and illuminate the necessary choices in a rigorous and methodical manner. – Neil Adger, University of Exeter

This book takes a deeply human view on the challenge of global warming, highlighting critical issues of values, discourses, equity, political economy, vulnerability, and justice, while also providing a comprehensive overview of the human dimensions of climate change. It engages with the emotional, cultural, and embodied experiences of a changing climate and asks readers to consider their own feelings and views. The authors' call for individual and collective

transformation offers information, action, hope, and opportunities to students who may feel despairing about our future. – Diana Liverman, University of Arizona

Climate and Society is bold and important; it uses clear language and powerful examples to make its case. Aimed at undergraduate students and others concerned with a critical challenge of these times, this informative and engaging book empowers readers with a range of possibilities for equitable and sustainable transformations in a changing climate. <>

Religion & Spirituality / Christianity / Study Guide

Discovering Joy in Philippians: A Creative Devotional Study Experience by Pam Farrel & Jean E. Jones, with Karla Dornacher as author & illustrator (Harvest House Publishers)

Even though Paul was no stranger to hardship, he weaves threads of joy, unity, and Christlikeness throughout his letter to the Philippians. The keys to why are in this letter that Paul wrote while chained to a Roman guard and awaiting a trial that could result in his execution. Aware that this correspondence could be his last, he wrote to beloved friends on how to stand firm in the Lord.

If difficult days have ever left them discouraged, the interactive 11-week

journey in [Discovering Joy in Philippians](#) will help readers engage creatively with God's Word and establish habits that lead to greater joy and peace. Readers can refresh their delight in the Lord through:

- Daily Lessons with an introduction and key questions for each chapter to help them dive deeper into the heart of Scripture and incorporate it into their lives with joy-builder activities.
- Choosing Joy Devotions and inspirational quotes to stir hope even in difficult times as they learn to trust God's faithfulness and rest in his strength no matter what circumstance they find themselves in.
- Creative Connections including bookmarks and coloring pages that provide an outlet to knit their hearts to God and explore their faith through artistic expression "...that your joy may be full." John 15:11 .

[Discovering Joy in Philippians](#) has three authors, Pam Farrel, Jean E. Jones and Karla Dornacher. Farrel and her husband are the authors of 46 books. They are co-directors of Love-Wise, where they help people connect love and wisdom to their relationships. Jones is a Bible teacher, a contributing writer for Crosswalk.com, and a member of Women in Apologetics. Dornacher has written and illustrated 15 Christian gift books.

Farrel, Jones and Dornacher in [Discovering Joy in Philippians](#) say that, with their different paths and gifts, they have connected over their love for interacting with God's Word and

encouraging others to experience the hope of his promises and faithfulness.

In each chapter of [Discovering Joy in Philippians](#) readers will find:

Daily Lessons. Jones shares an introduction to each chapter and the key question that they will answer in the five daily lessons. Each will take about 20-25 minutes to finish. Each chapter's final lesson on Day 5 explains how to plan for one or two joy builders over the coming days. It finishes by guiding readers in a private time of worship and prayer.

Choosing Joy. Farrell says she has discovered that choosing joy is a spiritual practice of trusting God's faithfulness and power... no matter what is going on in her or around her. Her Choosing Joy devotions invite readers to rest in God's strength and peace. Life is a wild ride, so she shares some of her go-to ways to remember and hold on to the promises of Jesus.

Scattered Joy. Throughout [Discovering Joy in Philippians](#), in the margins, Farrell has placed highlighted quotes from the content along with inspiring quotes of joy. She advises readers to take a pause with these when a word or phrase speaks to what they need right now and share it with a friend or their social media community to encourage others.

Creative Connection. Readers hear from Dornacher at the end of each chapter. Through personal stories and real-life examples, she encourages them to connect creatively with God and others

as they delight in the joy of the Lord throughout this study.

Illustrations. The bookmarks and coloring pages in each chapter helps readers connect with God's Word as they spend time coloring and meditating on each verse. The bookmarks in the back of the book are for readers to color, to copy and color, or to slip under a page in their Bible, sketchbook, or art journal for tracing.

Jones, Farrel and Dornacher designed this discovery book for both small groups and individual study. They advise readers to have an introductory meeting to hand out discovery books, go over what to expect, and introduce each member. At each meeting, allow time for people to share their creative expressions if they want. Consider providing demonstrations of ways to interact creatively with Scripture. If readers do this journey at their own pace, they are not alone. The authors encourage readers to share their creative endeavors on social media so they benefit from the joy of community.

[Discovering Joy in Philippians](#) helps readers learn from God's Word, apply what they have learned, and embrace habits that build joy and peace. This unique discovery book includes ideas for group studies, verse-inspired artwork to color, fascinating details about the Bible, and online connections and communities so readers can build up their joy and build up others.

Religion & Spirituality / Christianity

[Romans Disarmed](#) by Sylvia C. Keesmaat & Brian J. Walsh (Brazos Press)

Globalization. Homelessness. Ecological and economic crisis. Conflicts over sexuality. Violence. These crisis-level issues may seem unique to today, but Paul's Letter to the Romans has something to say to all of them. Following their successful *Colossians Remixed*, Sylvia Keesmaat and Brian Walsh unpack the meaning of Romans for its original context and for today in **[Romans Disarmed](#)**. The authors demonstrate how Romans disarms the political, economic, and cultural power of the Roman Empire and how this ancient letter offers hope in today's crisis-laden world.

Keesmaat is adjunct professor of biblical studies at Trinity College and Wycliffe College and biblical scholar in residence at St. James Anglican Church in Fenelon Falls, Ontario. Walsh serves as a Christian Reformed campus minister at the University of Toronto and is an adjunct professor of theology at Trinity College and Wycliffe College. Keesmaat and Walsh live on an off-grid permaculture farm with a fluctuating number of animals and people.

[Romans Disarmed](#) helps readers enter the world of ancient Rome and see how Paul's most radical letter transforms the lives of the marginalized then and now. Intentionally avoiding abstract debates about Paul's theology, Keesmaat and Walsh move back and forth between the present and the past as they explore themes of home, economic justice, creation care, the violence of

the state, sexuality, and Indigenous reconciliation. They show how Romans engages with the lived reality of those who suffer from injustice, both in the first century and in the midst of today's imperial realities.

According to Keesmaat and Walsh in [Romans Disarmed](#), as those who have read their previous book, **Colossians Remixed**, will know, they seek to ground their reading of Paul in the minutiae of daily life, both in the first century and today. Such a grounding takes time, not only to read the extensive literature on first-century Roman life and the Epistle to the Romans but also to explore the parallels in the issues of today to the issues that Paul was addressing. The result is a book that firmly places the Bible in the messiness of daily life.

Sylvia and Brian are two of my favorite Bible scholars. Whether you're over-churched or under-churched, they stir in you a fresh curiosity for the Bible. This new book is perfect for scholars and new Bible readers alike, and for everyone in between. – Shane Claiborne, author, activist, and cofounder of Red Letter Christians

If you want to hear – and experience – Paul's letter to the Jewish and gentile Christ-followers in Rome as you never have, read this book. And re-read it.

Keesmaat and Walsh bring the message of Romans into dialogue with our lives today, as we struggle to be faithful to the good news of Messiah Jesus in our own imperial context. – J. Richard Middleton, Northeastern Seminary at Roberts Wesleyan College

Keesmaat and Walsh write into the headwinds of Trumpism, deepening social disparity, ecological crisis, and endless war. Building on recent scholarship, this brilliant study engages the original audience, who labored under the shadow of empire, in a way that brings its message to life for similarly struggling North American Christians. The result is a fresh and committed reading by two of our generation's best interpreters of Word and world. – Ched Myers, Bartimaeus Cooperative Ministries

You (and I!) have never read Romans like this before. It has been weaponized by some and reduced to abstraction by others as has perhaps no other biblical book. Keesmaat and Walsh have disarmed such uses and

*returned it to the real,
flesh-and-blood world. –
Greg Paul, Sanctuary
Toronto community
member and author of
God in the Alley and
Resurrecting Religion*

*Keesmaat and Walsh use
an artistic mix of story,
poetry, imaginative
discourse, and solid
biblical and social-cultural-
historical background that
allows the reader to
understand the book of
Romans from an
alternative, and I believe
more accurate, point of
view. – Randy S. Woodley,
author of Shalom and the
Community of Creation:
An Indigenous Vision*

Romans Disarmed provides an embodied reading of Romans in many ways: through the eyes of first-century hearers of the letter, by means of *targum*, and through dialogue with a present-day interlocutor. All of these genres are in service of making Romans come alive for readers both as a vivid, challenging letter in the first century and as an engaging and compelling letter today. <>

Religion & Spirituality / Occult / Magic

Infernal Geometry and the Left-Hand Path: The Magical System of the Nine Angles by Toby Chappell, with a foreword by Michael A. Aquino and

an afterword by Stephen E. Flowers
(Inner Traditions)

Infernal Geometry and the Left-Hand Path is a comprehensive guide to the history and practice of Angular Magic.

Revealing the magical uses of number and geometry as tools for introspection, self-development, and creating change in both the inner and outer worlds, Toby Chappell in **Infernal Geometry and the Left-Hand Path** explores the rites, history, and potent practices of Angular Magic and Infernal Geometry, the Left-Hand Path of Sacred Geometry.

Chappell is a musician, writer and lecturer. A member of the Temple of Set since 2000, he has served since 2015 as the Grand Master of the Order of the Trapezoid.

Focusing on the advanced magical system of the Nine Angles, Chappell details the system's development by the early Church of Satan and later the Temple of Set, as well as its internal body, the Order of the Trapezoid. He shows how the system first emerged in the *Ceremony of the Nine Angles*, written by Michael Aquino and published in Anton Szandor LaVey's *The Satanic Rituals*. He explores historical influences on Angular Magic, including Pythagorean number mysticism, John Dee's Enochian magic, the theories of William Mortensen, and, most importantly, the writings of H. P. Lovecraft as well as other contributors to his Cthulhu mythos.

In **Infernal Geometry and the Left-Hand Path** Chappell analyzes the 3 key rites of

Angular Magic: Die Elektrischen Vorspiele, the Ceremony of the Nine Angles, and the Call to Cthulhu, and expanding upon them. He examines the Nine Angles individually, detailing their keywords, powers, and related deities, and explains how each can be used in magical practices and as part of an ongoing initiatory process. He offers practical examples, including use of Angular Magic in divination, sigils, and magical symbols, and guidance on creating their own practices – a core component of the ever-evolving Left-Hand Path.

Chapters in [Infernal Geometry and the Left-Hand Path](#) include:

Chapter 1 is an overview of the Nine Angles as a magical system, including further background about its conception in The Ceremony of the Nine Angles.

Chapters 2 and 3 explore the historical antecedents of the Nine Angles and the development of the system within the Church of Satan and Temple of Set.

Chapter 4 covers various geometric concepts that are the basis for understanding the symbolism of the Nine Angles.

Chapter 5 discusses the semiotic theory of magic, placing it in the context of historical theories of magic as well as delving into the 'Command to Look' of photographer William Mortensen, which was a primary influence on Anton LaVey's Law of the Trapezoid.

Chapter 6 draws on the historical, geometrical, and theoretical material presented in the previous chapters to analyze in detail Die Elektrischen Vorspiele, The Ceremony of the Nine Angles, and The Call to Cthulhu. These three rituals are the foundational works of angular magic, and are critical to understand and study for their inspiration in crafting readers' own rituals.

Chapter 7 establishes the foundations for magical work with the Nine Angles. This groundwork includes suggestions for preparing and dedicating a chamber to the practice of angular magic, as well as the basis for daily practices that will awaken readers to the possibilities within this system.

Chapter 8 presents a variety of examples of illustrative and operative uses of the Angles. The illustrative operations – that is, the introspective and reflective applications of the Angles – explore such topics as a uniquely Left-Hand Path form of divination, sigils and symbols, and developing mindfulness. The operative applications focus on the use of the Angles to facilitate discernible change within the Self or in the objective universe.

[Infernal Geometry and the Left-Hand Path](#) concludes with the appendices that provide deeper historical context about angular magic through some of the rituals and essays that have been profound influences on its development within the Order of the Trapezoid.

Chappell says his desire is to empower and inform those who may resonate with this system. Above all, the Nine Angles must be worked with and experienced in order to gain the most from their study. True transformation cannot come from reflection alone, and a system such as the Angles, which is dynamic and ever-evolving, must be approached with an equally dynamic, flexible, and experimental mind-set.

Toby Chappel has revealed a pragmatic, powerful, and magical secret of the Western Left-Hand Path, according to a strict and hidden calendar. Great forces are made available for the talented and daring magician who uses this book. Greater forces still are unleashed upon the sleeping world with its publication. At times the face of the serpent is seen among men. This is such a time. This erudite and practical book is such a veil render. This is literally a moment when Western magic will be changed forever. – Don Webb, Author of Overthrowing the Old Gods: Aleister Crowley and The Book of The Law and Coauthor of Set: The Outsider

Our existence is built out of 11 dimensions, as Benoit B.

Mandelbrot (1924–2010) has shown, but humankind is only aware of 4 – space (3D) and time (4D). The research of Mandelbrot was paradigm-shifting and gave birth to chaos mathematics and the fractal theories. To most people interested in these fields, it stays as a theory, but for the true magician it is a call that there are 7 dimensions unexplored. These unexplored dimensions are dealt with in H. P. Lovecraft's horror fiction, which echoes a genuine description of the worlds beyond the Newtonian laws of physics – dark unknown worlds that Toby Chappell, the author of Infernal Geometry and the Left Hand Path, gives us access to through a system developed by the Church of Satan and the Temple of Set but that has a history that goes back in time to the mystery cults of ancient days. – Thomas Karlsson, Ph.D., Author of Nightside of the Runes: Uthark, Adulruna, and The Gothic Cabbala

[Infernal Geometry and the Left-Hand Path](#), a comprehensive book with its practical examples, daily practices and guidance, will help readers create their

own rituals. Offering a self-directed path of magic and empowerment, previously unavailable to those outside the Temple of Set, Chappell shows how the Nine Angles must be worked with and experienced personally in order to effect true transformation and change.

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Science / Technology / Reference

[The Handy Science Answer Book](#), 5th edition compiled by The Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, edited by James Bobick & Naomi E. Balaban (**The Handy Answer Book Series**: Visible Ink Press)

Science is everywhere, and it affects everything. DNA and CRISPR. Artificial sweeteners. Sea level changes caused by melting glaciers. Gravitational waves. Bees in a colony. The human body. Microplastics. The largest active volcano. Designer dog breeds. Molecules. The length of the Grand Canyon. Viruses and retroviruses. The weight of a cloud. Forces, motion, energy, and inertia. It can often seem complex and complicated, but it does not need to be so difficult to understand. Celebrating its twenty-fifth year and with over one million copies sold, the newly updated and completely revised **5th edition** of **[The Handy Science Answer Book](#)** makes science and its impact on the world easy to understand.

Originally published in 1993, **[The Handy Science Answer Book](#)** gets its first makeover in more than eight years. It was born from the most common and fascinating science questions asked of

the sci-tech reference desk at the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, and it still poses a rich and diverse set of science questions on topics ranging from physics, chemistry, astronomy, geology, climatology, biology, genetics, botany, zoology, and more – all brought up to date to cover the latest science and technology insights and breakthroughs.

Established in 1902, The Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh was the first major library to devote a separate department to science and technology. James Bobick helped compile **[The Handy Science Answer Book](#)** during his sixteen years as Head of the Science and Technology Department at the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, and he has been instrumental in every revision since it first published over twenty-five years ago. Naomi E. Balaban, a reference librarian for more than twenty-five years at the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh has edited, with James Bobick, this and all the previous editions of **[The Handy Science Answer Book](#)**.

With over 200 photos and illustrations, this informative primer covers hundreds of intriguing topics, from the basics of math, physics, and chemistry to the discoveries being made about the human body, stars, outer space, rivers, mountains, and the entire planet. It covers plants, animals, computers, planes, trains, and cars. This friendly resource answers more than 1,600 of the most frequently asked, most interesting, and most unusual science questions, including ...

- When was a symbol for the concept of zero first used?
- How large is a google?
- Why do golf balls have dimples?
- What is a chemical bond?
- What is a light year?
- What was the grand finale of the Cassini mission?
- How many exoplanets have been discovered?
- Where is the deepest cave in the United States?
- How long is the Grand Canyon?
- What is the difference between weather and climate?
- What causes a red tide?
- What is cell cloning and how is it used in scientific research?
- How did humans evolve?
- Do pine trees keep their needles forever?
- What is the most abundant group of organisms?
- How do insects survive the winter in cold climates?
- Which animals drink seawater?
- Why do geese fly in formation?
- What is FrogWatch?
- Why do cats' eyes shine in the dark?
- Which industries release the most toxic chemicals?
- What causes most wildfires in the United States?
- Which woman received the Nobel Prize in two different fields (two different years)?
- What is the difference between science and technology?

For anyone wanting to know how the universe, Earth, plants, animals, and human beings work and fit into this world, [The Handy Science Answer Book](#) also includes a helpful bibliography, and an extensive index, adding to its usefulness. Statistical data have been

updated for this new edition. The editors say they are pleased and excited about the various changes, including additions and improvements in this new **5th edition**, which continues to add to and enhance the original publication.

Praise for the previous editions:

...a superior source on essential science data ... –
American Reference
Books Annual

A user-friendly guide explaining scientific concepts in plain English. Recommended. –
Christian Library Journal

Here's a way to answer those burning questions you wonder about or the ones your teacher asks for homework. – Dallas
Morning News

Recommended. – Library
Journal

Easily read by students in grades 4-12, this resource invites the curious mind to explore. – National
Science Teachers
Association

Fascinating stuff. –
Pittsburgh Magazine

... will resolve arguments, support homework assignments, provide engaging trivia, and help

satisfy readers' curiosity. –
SciTech Book News

Clear, concise and straightforward, with a wide range of information, [The Handy Science Answer Book](#) is the ideal source for anyone looking to get a better understanding of science. It is a wonderful resource for the curious as well as a friendly guide easily read from cover to cover. This newly updated **5th edition** continues to be an educational resource that is both informative and enjoyable. The questions are interesting, unusual, frequently asked, or difficult to answer. Entertaining and enlightening, [The Handy Science Answer Book](#) answers burning questions, supports homework assignments, provides engaging trivia, and helps satisfy an innate thirst for knowledge. <>

Sports & Entertainment / Crafts & Hobbies / Sailing

[Training to Win: Training exercises for solo boats, groups & those with a coach \(Sail to Win\)](#) by Jon Emmett (Fernhurst Books, distributed by Casemate IPM)

Gold medal winning coach, Jon Emmett works with sailors and coaches around the world and is frequently asked things like: 'What is a good exercise to improve this?' 'Why do we do this exercise?' 'How do we make the exercise more / less difficult?' [Training to Win](#) is the answer to those frequently asked questions. It contains training exercises for each element of a sailing race. As well as describing and illustrating the exercise, it tells readers what skills they are trying to improve,

and why and how to make the exercise harder or easier.

Emmett is a successful Laser Radial sailor representing the UK internationally for over 15 years. A professional coach and expert dinghy sailor, he is a National, European and World champion, impressively having won the UK National Championships three times. He is also a yacht racing tactician who lectures on tactics and racing, and is the training officer for the UK Laser Association.

In [Training to Win](#) readers learn all about:

- Starting
- Tacking
- Gybing
- Covering
- Mark rounding
- Upwind
- Reaching
- Downwind

According to Emmett, most Olympic or America's Cup teams spend much more time training than they do racing in competitions. But the Club sailor, at the other end, tends to do no training at all – just going out and competing in their club race every week. Some countries have great training programs for certain youth classes, but most adult and many youth classes miss out. In other countries, there are few or no formal training programs.

It is for this vast number of sailors who have little or no training available to them, and their coaches, that Emmett says he has written this book, [Training to Win](#). It covers over 50 different training exercises, each of which is classified as to whether it can be done by boats on

their own, groups of boats or boats with a coach boat.

Iain Percy, Olympic Gold Medalist, World Champion & America's Cup Challenger, in the foreword says that [Training to Win](#) can be used by a boat training on its own, a group of boats wishing to train together, or a coach training one or more boats. Doing these exercises will, without doubt, improve readers' sailing and their race results. They include exercises that Percy has used regularly in his sailing career and ones which he uses with his Olympic-hopeful trainees. Masses of diagrams and photos from coaching sessions that Emmett has run around the world bring it all to life and make the exercises clear, while his text explains what the exercise is trying to achieve.

Success is about focus: readers need to know what their aim is and how they intend to achieve it. Therefore, contained in [Training to Win](#) are many exercises used by World Champions to grassroots sailors which have been shown to be successful, but more than just the 'how', he has included the 'why' because when everyone clearly understands the aims and objectives, both motivation and understanding are improved.

Documenting the best way to train is so important, not just for sailing federations and training schools, but also for all sailors. This is true not only for those coming through the youth programs, but also for the adult sailors – it is never too late to teach an old dog new tricks.

Each and every one can improve their racing performance through good training.

There are a number of exercises for each area because different exercises achieve different objectives. It also helps to have variety. Some of the exercises in [Training to Win](#) are ones which can be done by one boat on its own, many can be done by groups of boats without a coach or coach boat, while some need a coach.

The majority of coach-run exercises should feel 'race-like' because this means that, when sailors experience something similar in a race, they recognize that they have been in the situation before and feel more comfortable, whether it be having to do a sudden tack, reversing out of a situation or whatever.

Another benefit of a more race-like situation is that the sailors will be more motivated. This motivation is highlighted if the coach says they are recording the race results. Even if there are no prizes (or penalties... e.g. last place cooks the dinner), it inspires sailors to do their best. It is certainly worth having the more race-like exercises towards the end of a session, when the motivation may be on the decline.

[Training to Win](#) is written for sailors and coaches to get the most out of their training. It enables coaches to deliver better, more focused, training sessions, but it also helps sailors who don't have the benefit of a coach to practice and improve their sailing skills. Through using

the tools included in the book, readers and their trainees can have better sailing seasons and have a better chance of achieving their desired goals.

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