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**CULTURE,  
SOCIETY &  
SCIENCE**

## Liberation Medicine

Ghassan Abu-Sittah



**A groundbreaking exploration of the emancipatory potential of medical care, by a major new thinker**

In the summer of 1982, Ghassan Abu-Sittah watched medical teams in Beirut treat the war-wounded during the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. In that moment, he decided he would study and practice medicine, with the purpose of returning to the Arab world whenever there was a war. For thirty-six years he worked in Yemen, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon and Palestine, culminating in his return to Gaza in the autumn of 2023.

It was in the clinic there that Abu-Sittah repeatedly saw violence inscribed on the bodies of his patients: violence that was not just physical or psychological, but economic, social and historical. Over time, his professional journey became one in which he sought to understand both the lived experience of the oppressed, and the wider forces that were shaping and distorting the lives of his patients.

Drawing on thousands of conversations with his patients, and the long tradition of anticolonial thought from Césaire to Fanon and Arendt to Du Bois, Abu-Sittah built a picture that would enable him to see clearly the structures that both inflict and perpetuate oppression. The provision of health care, as he shows in this groundbreaking book, has the potential to be a tool for building consciousness that resists oppression: *Liberation Medicine*.

At once a clear-sighted anatomy of the many different forms taken by colonial violence, and an exploration of the role of medicine as an affirmative project against all forms of oppression, *Liberation Medicine* is both an extraordinary personal journey and a transformative text on the emancipatory potential of healthcare.

An award-winning British-Palestinian Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeon, **Ghassan Abu-Sittah** is Professor of Conflict Medicine at the American University of Beirut, and Lord Rector of the University of Glasgow. In autumn 2023 he went to aid the injured in the attacks on Gaza and was besieged for 43 days in the now destroyed Al-Ahli and Al-Shifa hospitals. His work in Gaza is explored in the award-winning documentary *A State of Passion* and has been profiled extensively by media worldwide.

**Imprint:** Allen Lane

**Editor:** Thomas Penn

**Extent:** 400 pp

**Pub Date:** 27 January 2028

## Nine Lives

Clementine Stott



**Imprint:** Fig Tree

**Editor:** Ella Harold

**Extent:** 304 pp

**Pub Date:** 20 January 2028

**A heartbreaking, eye-opening and stunningly written exploration of organ donation, told through the breathtaking stories of nine transplant patients**

*'But in this patient's case, there's no way of knowing what was cause and what was effect. The situation as we know it is that she can't survive this. The worst has happened: her family have been told. They are on their way. When they arrive, I will be here to greet them; I will talk them through the sequence of events, help them adjust to the here and now, to absorb their motion-sickness and anger and nascent horror and turn these, somehow, into a positive outcome.'*

*Nine Lives* introduces us to nine stories of transplant: nine, because this is the number of organs that each donor can potentially donate; the number of lives that each donor can potentially save. Reflecting on her experiences working with these patients, Clementine Stott considers what it means to give the gift of life, and prompts us to think about the many challenging, sometimes uncomfortable questions that follow: how do I want to die? When I die, how do I pass on life and love? What kind of legacy do I want to leave behind – and is that even important?

Probing the seams between right and wrong, life and death, binaries fade into grey areas, and organ donation becomes a prism through which wider issues are illuminated.

*Nine Lives* is a profoundly moving and eye-opening exploration of the porous border between life and death, of ethical questions we struggle to answer, and of the way organ donation can transform a singular human experience into a collective expression of love.

**Clementine Stott** is a practicing NHS nurse with over a decade's experience of working in healthcare. Her career has covered a range of clinical specialisms, across cardiac surgery, intensive care, cancer services and organ donation. She has also worked as a senior academic, graduating from the University of Cambridge in 2009 where she read English Literature and Education Studies. *Nine Lives* is her first book.

## Living Stone

### The Hidden Birth, Life and Death of Stone

Nicholas Carter



**Imprint:** Viking

**Editor:** Evangeline Stanford

**Extent:** 304 pp

**Pub Date:** 16 March 2028

**A perspective-shifting journey into the surprisingly vital, complex and beautiful world of stone by Oxford academic Dr Nicholas Carter**

*A red kite whistles overhead and the spell's broken. The moment's passed on the wind, and my breathing slows. Once more, the lens rests at my heart. I look up at the soaring bird as it repeats its call, though still with the child's eyes, which have seemingly remained. Why do we see stone differently?*

Rooted in pioneering scientific research, in *Living Stone* Dr Nicholas Carter takes us on a globe-spanning adventure to tell the story of stone, from its meteoric origins to its 'decay' in ruined abbeys and quarries. From Croatia to Cornwall, Oxford to India, we meet scholars, artists and craftspeople helping to uncover the history and mystery of living stone.

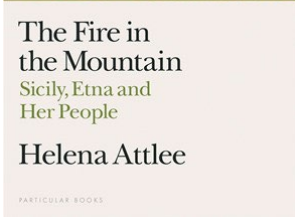
Whether surveying the grand building blocks of Blenheim Palace, ruined temple complexes of Hampi in India, Neolithic settlements in Orkney or the standing stones of the King's Men in Rollright, Carter returns to the same question: is stone alive? This book is the answer – a bold, transformative adventure to show that stone is much more alive and sentient than we ever thought.

**Dr Nicholas Carter** is lecturer and researcher at the University of Oxford. An expert on saxicolous (stone) lichens, his research focuses on the relationships between organisms and the physical environment, especially in the fields of weathering, landscape evolution and architectural heritage conservation. His writing has appeared in numerous scientific journals, in the media, on major heritage organisation's websites and on stage. He has been awarded Oxford University's Environment Prize, the Marcus Sedgwick Inspire Writing Prize and in 2025 he was the runner-up for the inaugural Conversation Writing Prize.

# The Fire in the Mountain

## Sicily, Etna and Her People

Helena Attlee



From the bestselling author of *The Land Where Lemons Grow* comes a luminous account of Sicilian history, geography, culture and cuisine, as seen from the slopes of Mount Etna

For centuries, Etna has sent lava to engulf the towns and villages, terraced fields, orchards, vineyards, and citrus groves that nestle across its slopes. But still it remains home to a quarter of Sicily’s population. Why?

In this extraordinary new book, Helena Attlee combines travel writing with history, mythology, geology, gastronomy and horticulture to tell a unique story of life in the shadow of Sicily’s most dangerous and alluring landmark. Venturing through lava-strewn fields and pistachio groves patrolled by armed guards; past dusky, basalt-built farmyards, and caves once used to store snow, Attlee gathers tales of the artists, writers, farmers, and scientists who have for centuries been drawn to this unpredictable landscape: from the early Roman, Arabic and Norman settlers, Romantic poets and Victorian geologists, to the local families who live and work there today.

*The Fire in the Mountain* is at once a compelling account of Sicily’s rich and varied past, and a powerful meditation on humanity’s ever-changing relationship with landscape.

**Helena Attlee** is the author of the award-winning *Sunday Times* bestseller *The Land Where Lemons Grow*. She has worked in Italy for much of her life, and it has been the inspiration for many of her books. Her previous books, *The Land Where the Lemons Grow* and *Lev’s Violin*, have sold in ten languages.

**Imprint:** Particular Books  
**Editor:** Chloe Currens  
**Extent:** 272 pp  
**Pub Date:** 16 April 2026  
**Rights Sold:**  
 US (Pegasus Books)



# Numbers Tell Stories

## How Data Reveals the Surprising Truths About Our World

Vaclav Smil



**Imprint:** Viking  
**Editor:** Alexandra Mulholland  
**Extent:** 320 pp  
**Pub Date:** 20 October 2026

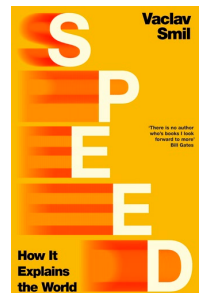
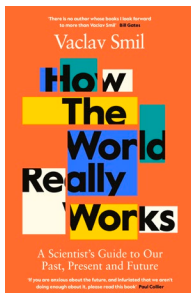
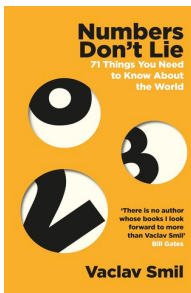
**From the internationally bestselling author, a revealing look at the surprising numbers that uncover the hidden forces shaping our world**

What do marriage, milk and the black market tell us about the state of humanity? Most people would say, not much at all. But the numbers reveal startling truths about who we are, how we live and where we're headed. For centuries we've told ourselves stories about how the world works – yet the data often point to a very different reality. In *Numbers Tell Stories*, Vaclav Smil shows how statistics challenge conventional thinking and illuminate the hidden forces shaping our lives.

Take marriage. Weren't people in the past married off as children? In fact, in 18<sup>th</sup> century France, the median age was 29 for men and 27 for women – not that different to today. When we consider climate change we understand the challenge is huge – but the real shock is the scale of the economic effort required to act in time. Cutting greenhouse gas emissions on the recommended timescale would demand 15 to 20 per cent of annual GDP in wealthy countries – roughly equivalent to the resources mobilised by the Allies to win the Second World War. Numbers on that scale are not abstract: they would transform daily life.

Behind every familiar story, Smil uncovers the statistics that can reframe the past, jolt our view of the present, and change how we think about the future.

**Vaclav Smil** is Distinguished Professor Emeritus at the University of Manitoba. He is the author of over 40 books, including the internationally bestseller *How the World Really Works*. No other living scientist has had more books (on a wide variety of topics) reviewed in *Nature*.



# The Terrors of the Earth

## Why We Ought to Leave this Planet – and Soon

Milan M. Cirkovic



**Imprint:** Allen Lane  
**Editor:** Keith Mansfield  
**Extent:** 384 pp  
**Pub Date:** 8 April 2027

**A leading astrobiologist and future thinker makes a compelling case for space settlement: leaving Earth to save humanity and our descendants**

The histories of our species and cultures appear long and complex, but science shows us they are the blink of an eye in comparison to the available cosmic futures. There are many positive reasons for humanity to spread into the Solar System, on into the Galaxy and the universe beyond, but insufficient attention has been devoted to the 'negative' case: our physical, cognitive, cultural, social, and moral peril if we remain Earthbound. Astrobiology, risk analysis and futures studies now tell us that only by vigorous and immediate space settlement can we hope to avoid those cataclysms and ensure the flourishing of humanity.

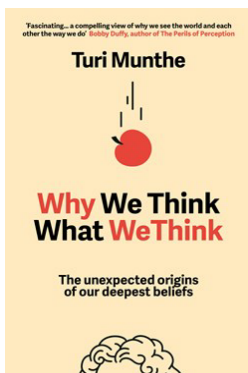
We have never truly finished the great Copernican Revolution – to the detriment of our future prospects and the very existence of our descendants. Our planet is neither the centre of the universe, nor unique in the panoply of creation.

Head on, *The Terrors of the Earth* confronts modern geocentrism and contemporary counter-Enlightenment forces, demanding that we leave Earth and soon, embarking upon the main sequence of our real life as a cosmic civilisation. It makes the case that this is not only the smartest, but also the most prudent, just, heroic, and only truly moral thing to do.

**Milan M. Cirkovic** is a Research Professor at the Astronomical Observatory of Belgrade. He obtained his PhD at the State University of New York in Stony Brook in 2000. His primary research interests are in the fields of astrobiology, futures studies and risk analysis. He has published around 200 research papers. With Nick Bostrom, Cirkovic co-edited the widely-cited anthology on *Global Catastrophic Risks* (Oxford University Press, 2008), has written three research monographs, as well as five popular science books in Serbian and Croatian.

## Why We Think What We Think

Turi Munthe



**Imprint:** Hutchinson Heinemann  
**Editor:** James Pulford  
**Extent:** 320 pp  
**Pub Date:** 14 May 2026

**An eye-opening journey through the secret forces shaping our opinions, this book reveals why we think what we think – and why disagreement matters**

Without knowing it, almost all our opinions – whether we believe in God or in ghosts, our views on sex, animal rights or immigration, our basic sense of what’s right – are shaped by an astounding web of hidden forces. The age-old idea that our views are forged by reason and evidence alone is wrong: we are influenced by everything from the quirks of distant history, through the lines of our genetic code, to the geology of where we grew up. This fascinating book takes us through culture, biology, geography, history, psychology and much more to uncover the hidden DNA of our opinions.

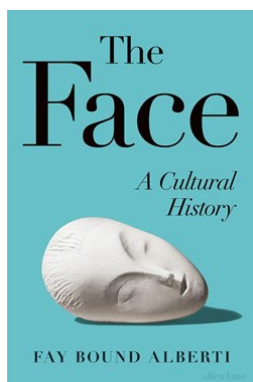
Packed with surprising stories and counterintuitive discoveries, *Why We Think What We Think* does more than reveal how our beliefs are formed. By showing where our beliefs really come from, it invites us to step outside our own assumptions – and learn how to think more clearly, and more generously, about the world we all share.

**Turi Munthe** is a journalist and policy analyst turned media entrepreneur, who has written for *The Economist*, *The Guardian* and the *TLS* and appeared on the BBC, CNN and Fox News. He founded Demotix, the largest network of photojournalists in the world, and Parlia, an encyclopaedia of opinion. He lives in Milan.

**Rights sold:** Italian (Corbaccio), Japanese (Toyo Keizai), Korean (Book21)

## The Face: A Cultural History

Fay Bound-Alberti



**Imprint:** Allen Lane  
**Editor:** Laura Stickney  
**Extent:** 288 pp  
**Pub Date:** 26 February 2026

**A pioneering study into how we interpret faces and what they reveal about us, from a world-renowned cultural historian**

The face is the only part of the body where all the senses come together and, over the course of human history, has come to represent who we are as individuals. We unlock our phones with facial recognition; we have our faces stamped in our passports; and although our faces may change over the course of our lives – whether through ageing, accident, illness or lifestyle – they remain a foundational marker of identity. In *The Face*, cultural historian Fay Bound-Alberti explores the ways humans have interpreted faces and how they have shaped our ideas of morality, social hierarchy, psychology and so much more, revealing some of the biases that inform our everyday lives.

Bringing together a wealth of fascinating research, interviews and illuminating personal narratives, Bound-Alberti probes beneath the surface to ask what our faces really say about us.

**Dr. Fay Bound-Alberti** founded the Centre for Technology and the Body at King’s College London where she leads Interface, the world’s first and only multi-million-pound project examining technologies of the face. Fay is often interviewed for TV and radio, and she has written for publications including *The Lancet*, *TIME* magazine, *The Guardian* and *Times Literary Supplement*. She lives with prosopagnosia, also known as face blindness.

**Rights sold:** Traditional Chinese (Commonwealth Publishing), US (Grand Central, Hachette US)

**POLITICS &  
CURRENT  
AFFAIRS**

# How to Argue with a Conspiracy Theorist

James Ball



**Imprint:** Viking  
**Editor:** Greg Clowes  
**Extent:** 256 pp  
**Pub Date:** 1 July 2027

**From Pulitzer-Prize winning investigative journalist James Ball comes a warning, a toolkit and a call to arms on the topic of our times – conspiracy theories**

What can you do when faced with somebody who won't even entertain your argument, because they're already so very sure of themselves? Should you even engage with such a person? Do you have a duty to do so? If so, why? What can you possibly hope to achieve?

It's very easy to assume that conspiracy theories and conspiracy theorists are a problem happening 'elsewhere' or are somebody else's problem. In fact, their resurgence is affecting all of us like never before, and none of us is immune to believing in them.

Just one part of their recent resurgence is our newfound ability to find like-minded people online. Whereas before you might simply be laughed out of your local pub for airing conspiracy theories, we now live in a society which gives life to dangerous, invasive and the most divisive theories on a scale never seen before in human history.

In this clear-eyed, considered book, James Ball provides a toolkit for people who want to rebut (or persuasively engage with) their grandparent, uncle or friend who's always peddling conspiracy theories. It's for those who want to understand what's going on, and how to fight back.

**James Ball** is an award-winning journalist, broadcaster and author. He was a special projects editor at *The Guardian*, where he played a key role in the Pulitzer Prize-winning coverage of the NSA leaks by Edward Snowden, as well as the offshore leaks, HSBC Files, Reading the Riots and Keep it in the Ground projects. At WikiLeaks he was closely involved in Cablegate – the publication of 250,000 classified US embassy cables in 2010 – as well as working on two documentaries based on the Iraq War Logs. James's journalism has been published in major outlets across the world, including *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Atlantic*, *Rolling Stone*, *The Sunday Times* and *The Observer*, among many others. He has a following of 80,000+ on X and 45,000+ on Bluesky. James's podcast, *The New Conspiracist*, ran for three series and charted top five on iTunes, achieving more than 500,000 downloads total.

## House Society

### Home on the Margin and the Making of the Modern World

Brett Christophers



**Imprint:** Allen Lane

**Editor:** Thomas Penn

**Extent:** 384 pp

**Pub Date:** 25 February 2027

**A leading geographer flips the global housing crisis on its head, showing how housing is not a symptom of our societal and economic problems, but instead their cause**

The world is in the throes of a deep, and worsening, housing crisis. It has caused rents to soar in Britain, millions to protest in Spain, and even a government to collapse in Sweden. Under a global ideology that exalts home ownership above all else, on every continent we see the greed of landlords trump the human need for housing.

Yet we still think of housing as a symptom of other problems in our societies: of inequality, wages, or regulation. Award-winning human geographer Brett Christophers turns our understanding of housing upside-down, showing instead that it's housing itself that drives these problems.

Journeying across both hemispheres – from the scapegoating of migrants in Canada, the turning of Brazilian *favelas* into investment opportunities, to American corporations taking advantage of depopulation in Japan – Christophers reveals in stark terms how relations between landlords and tenants marks all our lives, and how, everywhere, renting exists as marginalised in the shadow of homeownership.

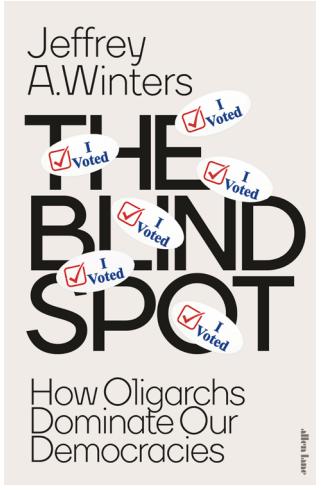
With incisive clarity and passion, *House Society* shows how different countries' housing crises have been made, and how, in turn, they are remaking our entire world. But Christophers shows that we can still choose to make housing – and our world – differently.

**Brett Christophers** is professor in human geography at the Institute for Housing and Urban Research at Uppsala University. His research includes climate change, housing, and investment institutions. He is the author of books including *The Price is Wrong: Why Capitalism Won't Save the Planet* (Verso, 2024) and *Rentier Capitalism: Who Owns the Economy, and Who Pays for It?* (Verso, 2020). His writing has appeared in *The Guardian*, *The New York Review*, *The Nation*, and *the London Review of Books*.

# The Blind Spot

## How Oligarchs Dominate Our Democracies

Jeffrey A. Winters



**Imprint:** Allen Lane  
**Editor:** Chloe Currens  
**Extent:** 256 pp  
**Pub Date:** 21 May 2026  
**Rights Sold:**

Korean (Booksea Publishing)  
 US (Scribner, Simon & Schuster)

**A gripping and counterintuitive new account of oligarchy from 'the most astute social scientist studying the phenomenon today' (*The Guardian*), which reveals how and why it has come to thrive in democracies everywhere**

The wealthy and powerful few have dominated the masses throughout most of human history. This is starkly visible now more than ever – today, the gulf between oligarchs and the average citizen is vastly larger than any gap that existed during European serfdom or the slave society of Imperial Rome.

Yet for the first time in history, this domination has been accomplished through democracy. Somehow, we aren't in open revolt against the system. In fact, we keep voting to prop it up. Why?

In *The Blind Spot*, political scientist Jeffrey A. Winters delivers an urgent, incisive account of how we reached this era of in-your-face oligarchy, exposing how modern democracy was designed to protect the interests of the ultra-rich. Tracing the evolution of oligarchy through the democratic era, he demonstrates how the power of the wealthy isn't just a flaw in our democracy but was built into its very foundations. Now, in an extraordinary paradox, we exist in a state of 'participatory inequality': a world in which 99.99% of us participate openly and freely – democratically, even – in our own ongoing economic exclusion.

But powerful change can begin when we have a clear understanding of where we are and where we deserve to be. As well as shining a light on just how bad our political reality has become, *The Blind Spot* introduces bold ideas for how we might shift the balance. Even though oligarchs may not cede power willingly, this period of shocking inequality is, Winters shows, an opportunity for genuine, enduring change.

**Jeffrey A. Winters** is a professor of political science at Northwestern University and the Director of the Equality Development and Globalization Studies Program at Northwestern's Buffett Institute for Global Affairs. Over the past three decades, he has gained an international reputation for his groundbreaking work on oligarchs and elites. His influential 2011 book *Oligarchy* reintroduced the term to modern audiences and won the prestigious Luebbert Prize.

# HISTORY

# The Habsburg Diamond

## The Pursuit of the Most Elusive Jewel in European History

Richard Bassett



**Imprint:** Allen Lane  
**Editor:** Stuart Proffitt  
**Extent:** 352 pp  
**Pub Date:** 10 June 2027

**Media Rights:** PRH UK

**The first full account of the extraordinary journey and influence of the Habsburg diamond across modern European history**

Brought from India to Rome by Portuguese Jesuits and purchased by the Grand Duke of Tuscany, the Habsburg Diamond earned its fame as the centrepiece of the Medici treasury in Florence. It was passed on to the future Holy Roman Emperor Francis Stephen upon the formation of the Habsburg-Lorraine dynasty in 1737 and preceded (by a few days) the last Emperor of Austria to exile in Switzerland. The book recounts how the diamond – thought to have been stolen or broken up in the aftermath of the First World War – evaded seizure by anarchists and Bolsheviks, and later by Hitler himself, thanks to the courage and determination of Empress Zita of Bourbon-Parma.

*The Habsburg Diamond* traces the diamond's extraordinary, controversial journey from the first records in the sixteenth century to its sensational 2025 rediscovery, showing how its fate entwined with that of the most powerful protagonists in European history.

Richard Bassett's gripping history builds on unique access to previously undisclosed Habsburg family papers, diaries, and archival material from Budapest, Rome, Paris, Tuscany, Vienna and Switzerland to reveal the place of this most sought-after gem in the history of Europe. It gives the first full account of how the Habsburg Empress Zita safeguarded its survival in war-torn Europe, and why she ensured that its existence remained a secret for 100 years following her husband's death. As competing claims for repatriation from Italy, France and Austria threaten to envelope the diamond in renewed international controversy, *The Habsburg Diamond* skilfully gathers the threads that have woven it so dramatically into Europe's past.

After reading Law and the History of Art at Cambridge, **Richard Bassett** set out for Central Europe and in 1983 became principal horn of the National Slovene Opera House in Ljubljana. In 1985 he was appointed Central European and then Eastern European correspondent for *The Times*. He is the author of many books on European history, including for Allen Lane, *Last Days in Old Europe* (2019). He is a Bye-Fellow of Christ's College, Cambridge, and Visiting Professor at the Central Europe University of Budapest.

## Gandhi's Tomb

### A History of India since Independence, 1947–2025

Pratinav Anil



**Imprint:** Allen Lane

**Editor:** Chloe Currens

**Extent:** 480 pp

**Pub Date:** 23 September 2027

#### An original and arresting new history of modern India

*Why does such a vast, dynamic country remain so poor? And why, in the twenty-first century, does caste still shape everyday life?*

The answers to both questions are of course interlinked. In *Gandhi's Tomb*, historian Pratinav Anil argues that the reason India remains such a poor country, ranking 139th in the world in per capita terms at last count, is because its lower orders have been kept ground down through an admixture of consent and coercion.

This is not the familiar story of post-independence idealism giving way to disappointment. *Gandhi's Tomb* is a counter-narrative that tells the history of modern India from the perspective of ordinary men and women – Salman Rushdie's 'midnight's children' – in, as far as possible, their own words. Drawing on more than 300 memoirs, diaries, biographies, and autobiographies, Anil conjures an India of stark contrasts and strenuous lives: politicians and proles, revolutionaries and industrialists, priests and prostitutes, beggars and the bourgeoisie, landlords and the lumpenproletariat, high society and *hoi polloi*.

What emerges from this chorus is a new way of seeing the world's largest democracy. Rather than nostalgically lamenting a lost 'golden age' Anil exposes the dark underbelly of postcolonial political life, revealing that democracy in the subcontinent has long been, in crucial respects, 'something of a sham'. Only by confronting this fact and hearing the voices of those locked out of power, can the work of imagining – and building – a better future begin.

Built on original, insightful research, *Gandhi's Tomb* is as alive to eye-catching detail as it is to the broadest, most urgent questions of statehood, democracy and social cohesion. The result is an explosive and important book: a bracing corrective to complacent – and outdated – accounts of postcolonial India, and a new lens on the political life of the postcolonial world.

**Pratinav Anil** is an historian at St Edmund Hall, University of Oxford, whose reviews frequently appear in *The Times* and *The Guardian*. He is the co-author, with Christophe Jaffrelot, of *India's First Dictatorship*, and his most recent book is *Another India*.

## The Wider War

### A History of the First World War

Nick Lloyd



**Imprint:** Viking  
**Editor:** Greg Clowes  
**Extent:** 448 pp  
**Pub Date:** 18 March 2027  
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 Polish (Znak)  
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 Science Academic Press)  
 US (W. W. Norton)

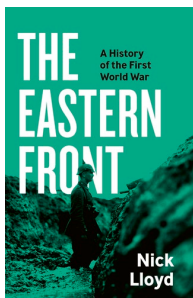
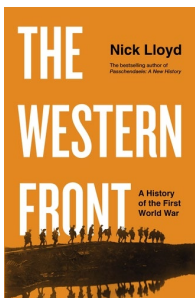
**The final volume of the definitive, landmark trilogy of the First World War, covering Africa and the Middle East, from the acclaimed *Sunday Times* and *New York Times* bestselling military historian**

*The Wider War* will tell the story of the oft-forgotten struggle in Africa and the Middle East during the First World War. Although the ill-fated Gallipoli expedition of 1915 remains well-known (and has been much mythologised), the rest of the campaign against Ottoman Turkey, which spanned from Egypt and Mesopotamia to the dramatic mountains of the Caucasus, is only half-remembered in fragments.

But Allied fighting against Germany in Africa and against the Ottoman Empire across the Middle East was ranged on a vast global scale, which this account seeks to capture for the very first time. European empires were suddenly thrust into an enormous war that demanded huge amounts of resources and manpower, fatally unbalancing the structures of imperial rule, and raising the tantalising prospect of wider political reform after the war.

From epic naval battles on the high seas to Lawrence of Arabia's campaign in the desert, *The Wider War* shows how far-reaching and truly global the impact of the First World War would be.

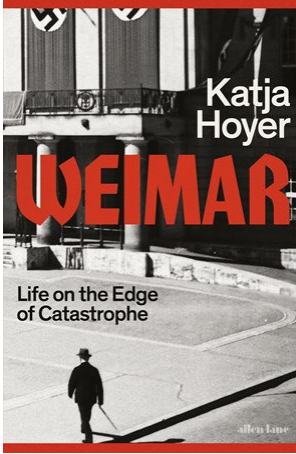
**Nick Lloyd** is Professor of Modern Warfare at King's College London, based at the Defence Academy UK in Shrivenham, Wiltshire. His previous books include *The Western Front* and *The Eastern Front* which have sold in six territories.



## Weimar

### Life on the Edge of Catastrophe

Katja Hoyer



**Imprint:** Allen Lane

**Editor:** Casiana Ionita

**Extent:** 480 pp

**Pub Date:** 7 May 2026

**Rights Sold:**

Dutch (Singel Uitgeverijen)

French (Passés Composés)

Korean (Booksea Publishing)

German (Hoffmann und Campe)

Italian (Mondadori)

Greek (Papadopoulos Publishing)

Polish (Marginesy)

Portuguese (PRH Portugal)

Turkish (VakıfBank Kültür)

US (Basic Books, Hachette US)

**From bestselling historian Katja Hoyer comes a gripping story of life during the rise and reign of Hitler through the eyes of the people of Weimar**

Weimar looms large in German history: a crucible of democracy and dictatorship. This ancient town nestled in the heart of the country was home to some of Europe's greatest thinkers: Goethe and Schiller, Liszt and Nietzsche among them. It gave its name to the ambitious Weimar Republic crafted in the aftermath of the First World War. But it was also where fascism took hold. Where Bauhaus architects first experimented with new ways of living, Buchenwald was dug out of a beech forest.

*Weimar* shows us a town and its people on the edge of catastrophe. Drawing on a wealth of new archival research, acclaimed historian Katja Hoyer takes us from 1919 to 1939 as she tells the stories of the men and women who lived through the new republic and Hitler's regime. We encounter a vividly drawn cast of characters, from bookbinder Carl Weirich and hotel owners Rosa and Arthur Schmidt, to Friedrich Nietzsche's sister Elisabeth. Here are fascists and socialists, artists and workers, politicians and citizens, who, as the events of history swept them up, became witnesses, perpetrators, victims and bystanders.

An unforgettable picture of lives and choices in extraordinary circumstances, *Weimar* takes us deep into the heart of the storm – to the town that dreamt of a better world and awoke to tyranny.

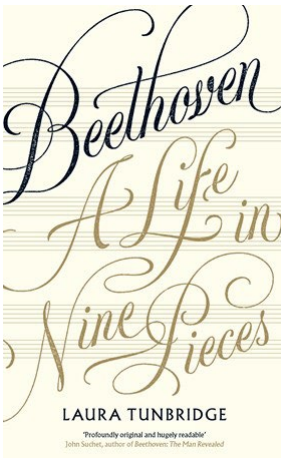
**Katja Hoyer** is a German-British historian, journalist and the author of the international bestseller *Beyond the Wall: East Germany 1949–1990* as well as *Blood and Iron*. A visiting Research Fellow at King's College London and a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society, she writes for *Bloomberg* and *Berliner Zeitung* and regularly on German current affairs. She was born in East Germany and is now based in the UK. Rights to *Beyond the Wall* have sold in 18 languages.

# **MEMOIR & BIOGRAPHY**

# Beethoven

## A Life in Nine Pieces

Laura Tunbridge



**Imprint:** Viking

**Editor:** Daniel Crewe

**Extent:** 288 pp

**Pub Date:** 16 July 2020

**Rights Sold:**

Czech (Kalich)

Dutch (Unieboek Het Spectrum)

Korean (Marco Polo Korea)

US (Yale University Press)

**Media Rights:** PRH UK

**Originally published in 2020 – 2027 will mark 200 years since Beethoven's death**

Ludwig van Beethoven: to some, simply the greatest ever composer of Western classical music. Yet his life remains shrouded in myths, and the image persists of him as an eccentric genius shaking his fist at heaven.

*Beethoven* by Oxford professor Laura Tunbridge cuts through the noise in a refreshing way. Each chapter focuses on a period of Beethoven's life, a piece of music and a revealing theme, from family to friends, from heroism to liberty. It's a winning combination of rich biographical detail, insight into the music and surprising new angles, all of which can transform how you listen to his works. We discover, for example, Beethoven's oddly modern talent for self-promotion, how he was influenced by factors from European wars to instrument building, and how he was heard by contemporaries.

This tour de force provides a fresh overview and a wealth of material that has never been revealed to the wider public before. It's a compelling, human portrayal of Beethoven and a fascinating journey into one of the world's most amazing creative minds.

'A concise, subtly revealing survey... emphasizing the many-sidedness of the composer's spirit' *The New Yorker*

'Full of thought-provoking detail [...] in this far-ranging discussion, [Beethoven's] life and revolutionary music never feel stale' *The Times*

**Laura Tunbridge** is Professor of Music and Henfrey Fellow of St Catherine's College at the University of Oxford. She is the author of three monographs and the recipient of a three-year Major Research Fellowship from the Leverhulme Trust for a project on string quartets. She has spoken about Beethoven on BBC Radio and at major events, including at the Southbank Centre.

**HEALTH,  
WELLBEING &  
PERSONAL  
DEVELOPMENT**

## The Five Seasons

### A Modern Guide to Traditional Chinese Medicine

Ada Ooi



**Imprint:** Penguin Life

**Editor:** Pippa Wright

**Extent:** 304 pp

**Pub Date:** 7<sup>th</sup> October 2027

**A guide to seasonal living in harmony with nature, according to the principles of Traditional Chinese Medicine**

With interest in Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) soaring online and viral TCM recipes all over the internet, *The Five Seasons* is an accessible entry into this trend for readers.

*There is a Chinese saying: 上工治未病 'The highest physician treats illness that hasn't yet formed.'*

Chinese medicine was not developed for illness, it was developed for health. And it delivers this by helping individuals tune into the natural rhythms of nature through the five seasons of the Chinese calendar. Spring, summer, long/late-summer, autumn and winter are not merely seasons: in TCM they are the distillation of thousands of years of insight into nature's ever-evolving directions of energy that exist both outside and within ourselves.

In *The Five Seasons* Ada Ooi creates a manual for how humans can live well with nature and rediscover the natural rhythms that are a part of every human life, whether we recognise it or not. Structured around the seasons, each chapter explores the cultural context of the season, what you will see and feel, and how your body and mind may be affected. Ada will offer advice alongside discussion of the latest scientific research, giving you actionable advice on diet, movement, emotional regulation, lifestyle adjustments and more.

**Ada Ooi** was born in Hong Kong and grew up in Macau, spending childhood weekends in her grandfather's pharmacy as he, a Western-trained pharmacist, combined the prescription of modern pharmaceuticals with Chinese herbal medicine tailored to the individual. Ada trained at the College of Chinese Medicine and the Chinese Medical Institute and Register in association with Beijing University of Chinese Medicine. Alongside her Chinese Medicine training, Ada holds an MSc in Psychology and is a qualified member of the British Psychological Society.

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Fig Tree was founded in 2005 to publish well-written, narrative-driven, entertaining and occasionally provocative books that tap into the zeitgeist. Most of its readers and authors are women. As well as fiction, it also publishes history, art history, memoir, and beautifully designed and produced illustrated cookery titles.



### **HAMISH HAMILTON**

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**allen lane**

## ALLEN LANE

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## PELICAN

The Pelican imprint, originally founded in 1936 by Allen Lane, was relaunched in May 2014. It publishes accessible and intelligent books of lasting value about essential topics, from economics to evolution. As authoritative, democratic and approachable guides to intellectual subjects, written by leading experts and expert communicators, its introductions are the first books to turn to on any given topic.



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