

The Trauma Cleaner

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Everybody Died, So I Got a Dog - Emily Dean 2019-03-07

'Like a master class in memoir writing. Honest, perceptive and properly funny' Neil Gaiman 'A wonderful and very special book' Adam Kay, author of *This is Going to Hurt* 'Glamorous. Heart-breaking. Hilarious. Feminist. Life-changing' Katherine Ryan 'Heartwarming and heartbreaking all at the same time! Genuinely couldn't put it down' Alan Carr 'Incredibly moving, always funny and brilliantly written. I urge everyone to read it' Frank Skinner 'I can't begin to express how much I love it' Caroline Criado-Perez, author of *Invisible Women* 'LOVELY. Sad and funny and warm and DOGS' Marian Keyes 'I read it in one sitting - it's so blinking good' Lorraine Kelly 'Funny, sparkingly honest and heart-breaking' Bel Mooney, Daily Mail 'A book that will leave you smiling but with a lump in your throat' Mail on Sunday, '100 Hottest Summer Books 2019' * * * The funny, heart-breaking, wonderfully told story of love, family and overwhelming loss which led Emily Dean to find hope and healing in the dog she always wanted. Growing up with the Deans was a fabulous training ground for many things: ignoring unpaid bills, being the most entertaining guest at dinner, deconstructing poetry. It was never home for the dog Emily craved. Emily shared the lively chaos with her beloved older sister Rachael, her rock. Over the years the sisters bond grew ever closer. As Rachael went on to have the cosy family and treasured dog, Giggle, Emily threw herself into unsettled adventure - dog ownership remaining a distant dream. Then, tragically, Rachael is diagnosed with cancer. In just three devastating years Emily loses not only her sister but both her parents as well. This is the funny heart-breaking, wonderfully told story of how Emily discovers that it is possible to overcome the worst that life can throw at you, that it's never too late to make peace with your past, and that the right time is only ever now, as she finally starts again with her very own dog - the adorable Shih-tzu named Raymond.

This Really Isn't About You - Jean Hannah Edelstein 2018-08-23

'A most magnificent, beautifully written memoir' - Nina Stibbe 'Deft, witty and profound . . . had me turning the pages all night' - Jessie Burton Jean Hannah Edelstein was looking for love on OKCupid the night she lost her father. She had recently moved back to America to be closer to her parents, leaving behind the good friends, bad dates and questionable career moves that defined her twenties. But six weeks after she arrived in New York, her father died of cancer - and six months after that she learnt she had inherited the gene that determined his fate. Heartbreaking, hopeful and disarmingly funny, *This Really Isn't About You* is a book about finding your way in life, even when life has other plans.

Aftermath, Inc. - Gil Reavill 2007-05-17

A look into the disturbing but fascinating new field of bio-recovery, as a critically acclaimed crime writer rolls up his sleeves and delves into the world of *Aftermath, Inc.* The best way to understand the world of *Aftermath, Inc.* is to imagine life before it. Grief-stricken families of suicide or homicide victims were left to cope on their own. Sometimes police would leave a can of ground coffee behind to soak up the mess. Sometimes local church groups offered to help with the horrific chaos of the scene. Into this void stepped Tim Reifsteck and Chris Wilson, who filled a desperate need by founding their bio-remediation company. Gil Reavill traces their history, introducing us to their clients and employees, and the cops, coroners, and detectives they encounter in their work. Their stories are stranger than fiction, and utterly human and compelling.

One Last Dance - Emma Jane Holmes 2021-03-01

A sassy, heart-breaking and jaw-dropping memoir of life behind the scenes in a funeral home and strip club, written with all the panache, honesty and sensitivity of Rosie Waterland's *The Anti-Cool Girl* and Sarah Krasnostein's *The Trauma Cleaner*. Emma Jane Holmes had her dream job, working in the funeral industry, caring for those who could no longer

care for themselves. But when the bills mounted after her marriage breakdown, she turned to her other dream - dancing on stage as a showgirl - and her glittering alter ego Madison was born. Emma Jane kept Madison a secret. Madison kept Emma Jane an even bigger one. But what happens when death touches the neon world of the strip club? And sex - in the form of a cute co-worker - encroaches on the funeral home? Could the answer be life, lived in the day, because that's the only day you have? Emma Jane Holmes' debut will take you into the mortuary, cemetery and crematorium - and behind the scenes in night clubs - and answer all the questions you never wanted to ask ... PRAISE 'A beautiful insight into two industries we're all curious about, full of warmth and wit' - Carly Findlay OAM, author of *Say Hello* 'Meet Australia's most outrageous mortician ... her stories are deadly' - news.com.au 'Emma Jane Holmes shines a beautiful light on love, death and connection' - Samantha X, author of *Hooked* 'We're all going to die sometime ... Emma Jane Holmes brings so much light to the subject' - Andy Dowling, Andy Social podcast

Found, Wanting - Natasha Sholl 2022-02-02

On Valentine's Day, after a night of red wine and pasta and planning for their future, Natasha Sholl and her partner Rob went to bed. A few hours later, at the age of 27, his heart stopped. *Found, Wanting* tells the story of Natasha's attempt to rebuild her life in the wake of Rob's sudden death, stumbling through the grief landscape and colliding with the cultural assumptions about the 'right way' to grieve. It is a memoir about falling in love in the aftermath of loss, and what it means to build a life in the space that death leaves. Furious and passionate, bracingly honest and beautiful, *Found, Wanting* is above all, a memoir about living and making sense of the multitude of lives within us. PRAISE FOR FOUND, WANTING 'Sholl has given us a beautifully written memoir that powerfully delivers the wisdom each of us will need at some point about how a human life is spacious enough to accommodate both grief and joy.' - Sarah Krasnostein, author of *The Trauma Cleaner* 'Sholl is a stunning writer and observer of the human condition. Gripping, candid and tender, *Found, Wanting* is for anyone who knows the loneliness of loss.' - Jessie Stephens, author of *Heartsick*

18 Tiny Deaths - Bruce Goldfarb 2020-02-04

A captivating blend of history, women in science, and true crime, *18 Tiny Deaths* tells the story of how one woman changed the face of forensics forever. Frances Glessner Lee, born a socialite to a wealthy and influential Chicago family in the 1870s, was never meant to have a career, let alone one steeped in death and depravity. Yet she developed a fascination with the investigation of violent crimes, and made it her life's work. Best known for creating the Nutshell Studies of Unexplained Death, a series of dollhouses that appear charming—until you notice the macabre little details: an overturned chair, or a blood-spattered comforter. And then, of course, there are the bodies—splayed out on the floor, draped over chairs—clothed in garments that Lee lovingly knit with sewing pins. *18 Tiny Deaths*, by official biographer Bruce Goldfarb, delves into Lee's journey from grandmother without a college degree to leading the scientific investigation of unexpected death out of the dark confines of centuries-old techniques and into the light of the modern day. Lee developed a system that used the Nutshells dioramas to train law enforcement officers to investigate violent crimes, and her methods are still used today. The story of a woman whose ambition and accomplishments far exceeded the expectations of her time, *18 Tiny Deaths* follows the transformation of a young, wealthy socialite into the mother of modern forensics... "Eye-opening biography of Frances Glessner Lee, who brought American medical forensics into the scientific age...genuinely compelling."—Kirkus Reviews "A captivating portrait of a feminist hero and forensic pioneer." —Booklist

The Gentle Art of Swedish Death Cleaning - Margareta Magnusson 2018-01-02

A charming, practical, and unsentimental approach to putting a home in order while reflecting on the tiny joys that make up a long life. In Sweden there is a kind of decluttering called *döstädning*, *dö* meaning “death” and *städning* meaning “cleaning.” This surprising and invigorating process of clearing out unnecessary belongings can be undertaken at any age or life stage but should be done sooner than later, before others have to do it for you. In *The Gentle Art of Swedish Death Cleaning*, artist Margareta Magnusson, with Scandinavian humor and wisdom, instructs readers to embrace minimalism. Her radical and joyous method for putting things in order helps families broach sensitive conversations, and makes the process uplifting rather than overwhelming. Margareta suggests which possessions you can easily get rid of (unworn clothes, unwanted presents, more plates than you’d ever use) and which you might want to keep (photographs, love letters, a few of your children’s art projects). Digging into her late husband’s tool shed, and her own secret drawer of vices, Margareta introduces an element of fun to a potentially daunting task. Along the way readers get a glimpse into her life in Sweden, and also become more comfortable with the idea of letting go.

Hazardous Duty - Christy Barritt 2006

A forensic scientist wannabe becomes a remarkable crime solver in this CSI-type mystery. Guaranteed fiction!

The Harper Effect - Taryn Bashford 2018-05-15

A sizzling coming of age story set in the world of professional tennis about a girl who learns to win from a boy who has lost everything. Sixteen-year-old Harper was once a rising star on the tennis court—until her coach dropped her for being “mentally weak.” Without tennis, who is she? Her confidence at an all-time low, she secretly turns to her childhood friend, next-door neighbor Jacob—who also happens to be her sister’s very recent ex-boyfriend. If her sister finds out, it will mean a family war. But when Harper is taken on by a new coach who wants her to train with Colt, a cold, defensive, brooding young tennis phenom, she hits the court all the harder, if only to prove to Colt she has it in her to be a champion. As the two learn to become a team, Harper gets glimpses of the vulnerable boy beneath the surface, the boy who was deeply scarred by his family’s dark and scandalous past. The boy she could easily find herself falling for. As she walks a fine line between Colt’s secrets, her forbidden love, and a game that demands nothing but the best, Harper must choose between her past and her future and between two boys who send her head spinning. Turns out, the biggest battle she needs to win, is the one against herself.

Maggie - Maggie Tabberer 1999

New in paperback the hugely successful, frank, forthright, no-holds-barred story of one of Australia's few genuine, larger-than-life, enduring legends, Maggie Tabberer. Features a new Afterword: Leaving Greenville.

Mop Men - Alan Emmins 2009-01-20

Neal Smither doesn't hide his work. The side of his van reads: "Crime Scene Cleaners: Homicides, Suicides and Accidental Death." Whenever a hotel guest permanently checks out, the cops finish an investigation, or an accidental death is reported, Smither's crew pick up the pieces after the police cruisers and ambulances have left. Alan Emmins offers a glimpse at this little-known aspect of America's most gruesome deaths. Filled with details as fascinating as they are gory, *Mop Men* examines not just the public fascination with murder but also how a self-made success like Smither can make a fortune just by praying for death.

The Shape of Sound - Fiona Murphy 2021-03-30

A vivid and essential memoir of deafness, disability and identity by Australian writer Fiona Murphy

The Trauma Cleaner - Sarah Krasnostein 2018-04-10

"A woman who sleeps among garbage she has not put out for forty years. A man who bled quietly to death in his living room. A woman who lives with rats, random debris, and terrified delusion. The still life of a home vacated by accidental overdose. Sarah Krasnostein has watched ... Sandra Pankhurst bring order and care to these, the living and the dead"--Dust jacket flap.

The Cleaner of Chartres - Salley Vickers 2013-06-27

"If you enjoy the work of Marilynne Robinson, Penelope Fitzgerald, James Salter...you should be reading Vickers." —Michael Dirida, *The Washington Post Book World* There is something very special about Agnès Morel. A quiet presence in the small French town of Chartres, she can usually be found cleaning the famed medieval cathedral or doing odd jobs for the townspeople. No one knows where she came from or why. Not diffident Abbé Paul, nor lonely Professor Jones, nor even Alain Fleury, whose attention she catches with her tawny eyes. She has

transformed all their lives in her own subtle way, yet no one suspects the dark secret Agnès is hiding. Then an accidental encounter dredges up the specter of her past, and the nasty meddling of town gossips forces Agnès to confront her tragic history and the violent act that haunts it.

Gory Details - Erika Engelhaupt 2021-03-02

Uses humour and real science to illuminate the gross, strange, morbid, and outright absurd realities of our bodies, our earth, and our universe.

Maid - Stephanie Land 2019-01-22

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER AND INSPIRATION FOR THE NETFLIX LIMITED SERIES, HAILED BY ROLLING STONE AS "A GREAT ONE." "A single mother's personal, unflinching look at America's class divide, a description of the tightrope many families walk just to get by, and a reminder of the dignity of all work." -PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA, Obama's Summer Reading List At 28, Stephanie Land's dreams of attending a university and becoming a writer quickly dissolved when a summer fling turned into an unplanned pregnancy. Before long, she found herself a single mother, scraping by as a housekeeper to make ends meet. *Maid* is an emotionally raw, masterful account of Stephanie's years spent in service to upper middle class America as a "nameless ghost" who quietly shared in her clients' triumphs, tragedies, and deepest secrets. Driven to carve out a better life for her family, she cleaned by day and took online classes by night, writing relentlessly as she worked toward earning a college degree. She wrote of the true stories that weren't being told: of living on food stamps and WIC coupons, of government programs that barely provided housing, of aloof government employees who shamed her for receiving what little assistance she did. Above all else, she wrote about pursuing the myth of the American Dream from the poverty line, all the while slashing through deep-rooted stigmas of the working poor. *Maid* is Stephanie's story, but it's not hers alone. It is an inspiring testament to the courage, determination, and ultimate strength of the human spirit.

Amateur - Thomas Page McBee 2019-05-14

*Shortlisted for the Baillie Gifford Prize for Nonfiction *Shortlisted for the Lambda Literary Award in Transgender Memoir/Biography *Shortlisted for the Wellcome Book Prize One of The Times UK's Best Memoirs of 2018, BuzzFeed's Best Nonfiction of 2018, Autostraddle's Best LGBT Books of 2018, Book Riot's Best Queer Books of 2018, and 52 Insight's Favorite Nonfiction Books of 2018 A "no-holds-barred examination of masculinity" (BuzzFeed) and violence from award-winning author Thomas Page McBee. In this "refreshing and radical" (*The Guardian*) narrative, Thomas McBee, a trans man, sets out to uncover what makes a man—and what being a "good" man even means—through his experience training for and fighting in a charity boxing match at Madison Square Garden. A self-described "amateur" at masculinity, McBee embarks on a wide-ranging exploration of gender in society, examining sexism, toxic masculinity, and privilege. As he questions the limitations of gender roles and the roots of masculine aggression, he finds intimacy, hope, and even love in the experience of boxing and in his role as a man in the world. Despite personal history and cultural expectations, "Amateur is a reminder that the individual can still come forward and fight" (*The A.V. Club*). "Sharp and precise, open and honest," (*Women's Review of Books*), McBee's writing asks questions "relevant to all people, trans or not" (*New York Newsday*). Through interviews with experts in neuroscience, sociology, and critical race theory, he constructs a deft and thoughtful examination of the role of men in contemporary society. *Amateur* is a graceful and uncompromising look at gender by a fearless, fiercely honest writer.

Trauma - Shoshana Ringel 2011-04-06

Trauma: Contemporary Directions in Theory, Practice, and Research is a comprehensive text on trauma, including such phenomena as sexual abuse, childhood trauma, PTSD, terrorism, natural disasters, cultural trauma, school shootings, and combat trauma. Addressing multiple theoretical systems and how each system conceptualizes trauma, the book offers valuable information about therapeutic process dimensions and the use of specialized methods and clinical techniques in trauma work, with an emphasis on how trauma treatment may affect the clinician. Intended for courses in clinical practice and psychopathology, the book may also be useful as a graduate-level text in the allied mental health professions.

Gyn/Ecology - Mary Daly 2016-07-26

This revised edition includes a New Intergalactic Introduction by the Author. Mary Daly's *New Intergalactic Introduction* explores her process as a Crafty Pirate on the Journey of Writing *Gyn/Ecology* and reveals the autobiographical context of this "Thunderbolt of Rage" that she first hurled against the patriarchs in 1979 and no hurls again in the Re-

Surging Movement of Radical Feminism in the Be-Dazzling Nineties.

A Manual for Cleaning Women - Lucia Berlin 2015-08-18

"I have always had faith that the best writers will rise to the top, like cream, sooner or later, and will become exactly as well-known as they should be—their work talked about, quoted, taught, performed, filmed, set to music, anthologized. Perhaps, with the present collection, Lucia Berlin will begin to gain the attention she deserves." -Lydia Davis *A MANUAL FOR CLEANING WOMEN* compiles the best work of the legendary short-story writer Lucia Berlin. With the grit of Raymond Carver, the humor of Grace Paley, and a blend of wit and melancholy all her own, Berlin crafts miracles from the everyday, uncovering moments of grace in the Laundromats and halfway houses of the American Southwest, in the homes of the Bay Area upper class, among switchboard operators and struggling mothers, hitchhikers and bad Christians. Readers will revel in this remarkable collection from a master of the form and wonder how they'd ever overlooked her in the first place.

All the Living and the Dead - Hayley Campbell 2022-08-16

A deeply compelling exploration of the death industry and the people—morticians, detectives, crime scene cleaners, embalmers, executioners—who work in it and what led them there. We are surrounded by death. It is in our news, our nursery rhymes, our true-crime podcasts. Yet from a young age, we are told that death is something to be feared. How are we supposed to know what we're so afraid of, when we are never given the chance to look? Fueled by a childhood fascination with death, journalist Hayley Campbell searches for answers in the people who make a living by working with the dead. Along the way, she encounters mass fatality investigators, embalmers, and a former executioner who is responsible for ending sixty-two lives. She meets gravediggers who have already dug their own graves, visits a cryonics facility in Michigan, goes for late-night Chinese with a homicide detective, and questions a man whose job it is to make crime scenes disappear. Through Campbell's incisive and candid interviews with these people who see death every day, she asks: Why would someone choose this kind of life? Does it change you as a person? And are we missing something vital by letting death remain hidden? A dazzling work of cultural criticism, *All the Living and the Dead* weaves together reportage with memoir, history, and philosophy, to offer readers a fascinating look into the psychology of Western death.

Prettiest Horse in the Glue Factory, The - Corey White 2020-08

Corey White was a golden child. He knew this because his father would hit his mother and his sisters but not him. And his mother adored him so much she let him drop out of primary school. After losing his father to jail and his mother to heroin, though, he became a target for cruelty and dysfunction in foster homes. A scholarship to a prestigious boarding school lifted him out of foster care and awakened a love of learning and reading for him, but this was soon overwhelmed by a crushing depression and drug addiction. Through it all, he kept thinking - sometimes hoping, sometimes fearing - that he was destined for something bigger. Would he find salvation in the halls of a university, or a poetically grimy crack den, or through love? Or would the golden glow that had been in him since childhood ultimately fade, leaving only darkness and ruin? *The Prettiest Horse in the Glue Factory* is a memoir of trauma and survival that will break your heart and then show you how to rebuild it. It is a powerful, lyrical and darkly funny debut from one of Australia's brightest young comedians. 'Equal parts hilarious and horrifying, Corey's story is one of the most powerful I have ever read.' Wil Anderson 'Look back in anger. Look around in acceptance. Look forward in love. Harrowing, and yet hopeful.' Tim Rogers

The Trauma Cleaner - Sarah Krasnostein 2017-10-02

Winner, The 2018 Victorian Prize for Literature, and the Prize for Non-Fiction Before she was a trauma cleaner, Sandra Pankhurst was many things: husband and father, drag queen, gender reassignment patient, sex worker, small businesswoman, trophy wife... But as a little boy, raised in violence and excluded from the family home, she just wanted to belong. Now she believes her clients deserve no less. A woman who sleeps among garbage she has not put out for forty years. A man who bled quietly to death in his lounge room. A woman who lives with rats, random debris and terrified delusion. The still life of a home vacated by accidental overdose. Sarah Krasnostein has watched the extraordinary Sandra Pankhurst bring order and care to these, the living and the dead—and the book she has written is equally extraordinary. Not just the compelling story of a fascinating life among lives of desperation, but an affirmation that, as isolated as we may feel, we are all in this together. Sarah Krasnostein is a writer. She is admitted to legal practice in Australia and America, and holds a doctorate in criminal law. She is the

best-selling author of *The Trauma Cleaner* which won the Victorian Prize for Literature, the Victorian Premier's Prize for Non-Fiction, the Australian Book Industry Award for General Non-Fiction, the Dobbie Literary Award, jointly won the Douglas Stewart Prize for non-fiction at the NSW Premier's Literary Awards, was longlisted for the Walkley Book Award and was shortlisted for the National Biography Award, the Melbourne Prize for Literature and the Wellcome Book Prize (UK). Her work has appeared in a variety of publications and academic journals in Australia, the UK and America. 'Amazing...I couldn't put this book down, and I can't wait to recommend it to everyone I know.' Readings 'A book that is as hard to read as it is hard to put down. A story of pain and loss and loneliness, of trauma and transformations and sassy humour. And cleaning...It is a hilarious and poignant tale of a woman who defies all labels...Krasnostein is a very fine writer. Her debut book is a compelling and honest story of human survival, and love.' Australian 'Krasnostein's playful yet heartfelt debut is one of the most arresting works of biography you will read in a long time.' Guardian 'A wondrous portrait of an inspiring character.' Saturday Paper '[Pankhurst's] story is probably one of the most touching, thoughtful and thought-provoking you will ever read...Sarah Krasnostein tells it with moving compassion, even love.' New Zealand Herald 'An extraordinarily impressive debut, in terms of both quality of writing and treatment of the subject matter...Krasnostein handles her material with respect, grace and compassion.' Sydney Morning Herald 'Compelling reading...This book reads like an unabashed love letter to Pankhurst with the first-time author, embedded for years in her subject's life, effusive in her adoration.' Courier-Mail 'Deep empathy for complex individuals...Explore[s] the best and worst of who we are.' Graeme Simsion, Sydney Morning Herald's Year in Reading 2017 'One of the strangest, most fascinating books I've read, and a standout of the year. Krasnostein's command of language is exquisite, and the complexity of Sandra Pankhurst's life story unfolds seamlessly with the current-day narrative of her unique business and the people she meets with it.' Feminist Writers Festival, Favourite Reads of 2017 'Deeply moving...The book reads as a love letter from Krasnostein to Sandra...I treasured every word.' Australian Women's Weekly 'Intriguing...A complex protagonist makes for engaging material.' Publishers Weekly

The Best We Could Do - Thi Bui 2017-03-07

National bestseller 2017 National Book Critics Circle (NBCC) Finalist ABA Indies Introduce Winter / Spring 2017 Selection Barnes & Noble Discover Great New Writers Spring 2017 Selection ALA 2018 Notable Books Selection An intimate and poignant graphic novel portraying one family's journey from war-torn Vietnam, from debut author Thi Bui. This beautifully illustrated and emotional story is an evocative memoir about the search for a better future and a longing for the past. Exploring the anguish of immigration and the lasting effects that displacement has on a child and her family, Bui documents the story of her family's daring escape after the fall of South Vietnam in the 1970s, and the difficulties they faced building new lives for themselves. At the heart of Bui's story is a universal struggle: While adjusting to life as a first-time mother, she ultimately discovers what it means to be a parent—the endless sacrifices, the unnoticed gestures, and the depths of unspoken love. Despite how impossible it seems to take on the simultaneous roles of both parent and child, Bui pushes through. With haunting, poetic writing and breathtaking art, she examines the strength of family, the importance of identity, and the meaning of home. In what Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Viet Thanh Nguyen calls "a book to break your heart and heal it," *The Best We Could Do* brings to life Thi Bui's journey of understanding, and provides inspiration to all of those who search for a better future while longing for a simpler past.

The Trauma Cleaner - Sarah Krasnostein 2018-04-10

Winner of the Victorian Prize for Literature, Sarah Krasnostein's *The Trauma Cleaner: One Woman's Extraordinary Life in the Business of Death, Decay, and Disaster* is the fascinating biography of one of the people responsible for tidying up homes in the wake of natural—and unnatural—catastrophes and fatalities. Homicides and suicides, fires and floods, hoarders and addicts. When properties are damaged or neglected, it falls to Sandra Pankhurst, founder of Specialized Trauma Cleaning (STC) Services Pty. Ltd. to sift through the ashes or sweep up the mess of a person's life or death. Her clients include law enforcement, real estate agents, executors of deceased estates, and charitable organizations representing victimized, mentally ill, elderly, and physically disabled people. In houses and buildings that have fallen into disrepair, Sandra airs out residents' smells, throws out their weird porn, their photos, their letters, the last traces of their DNA entombed in soaps and toothbrushes. The remnants and mementoes of these people's lives resonate with

Sandra. Before she began professionally cleaning up their traumas, she experienced her own. First, as a little boy, raised in violence and excluded from the family home. Then as a husband and father, drag queen, gender reassignment patient, sex worker, small businesswoman, and trophy wife. In each role she played, all Sandra wanted to do was belong. The Trauma Cleaner is the extraordinary true story of an extraordinary person dedicated to making order out of chaos with compassion, revealing the common ground Sandra Pankhurst—and everyone—shares with those struck by tragedy.

The Mystic Arts of Erasing All Signs of Death - Charlie Huston 2009-12-29

With his teaching career derailed by tragedy and his slacker days numbered, Webster Fillmore Goodhue makes an unlikely move and joins Clean Team, charged with tidying up L.A.'s grisly crime scenes. For Web, it's a steady gig, and he soon finds himself sponging a Malibu suicide's brains from a bathroom mirror and flirting with the man's bereaved and beautiful daughter. Then things get weird: The dead man's daughter asks a favor. Every cell in Web's brain tells him to turn her down, but something makes him hit the Harbor Freeway at midnight to help her however he can. Soon enough it's Web who needs the help when gun-toting California cowboys start showing up on his doorstep. What's the deal? Is it something to do with what he cleaned up in that motel room in Carson? Or is it all about the brewing war between rival trauma cleaners? Web doesn't have a clue, but he'll need to get one if he's going to keep from getting his face kicked in. Again. And again. And again.

Journey of Hope - J. Michael Davey 2011

The extraordinary story of a man's survival in the face of great adversity. Fostered as a baby and placed in four state-run institutions, Michael was kidnapped by his father and returned home to an abusive mother. He managed to survive the horrors of his early years and went on to university and a successful career.

Just Don't Die - Sam Anthony and Rachel Lucania 2021-09-20

Have you ever battled with depression, anxiety, addiction, abuse, self-harm, insecurities, fear, or thoughts of suicide? If you said "yes", there is help for you and we can find it together if you Just Don't Die! Author Sam Lucania almost died before writing this book. Anyone who's heard his story knows he literally had one foot in the grave after his overdose. He also died dozens of spiritual and emotional deaths battling his demons, causing him to lose sight and hope. Yes, the title of this book is raw and deliberate, but that's what he needed to save his life. After every physical and emotional relapse, he'd receive messages from his support network and even strangers saying things like: Glad you came back. Don't leave us. Get another day! What they really meant was, Just Don't Die.

Mind on Fire - Arnold Thomas Fanning 2019-04-23

Shortlisted for the Wellcome Book Prize 2019 '[A] painfully intense, courageous and gripping account of [Fanning's] journey to the underworld of madness and back. This is a brave and instructive book.' Irish Times 'Extraordinary. An account of mental illness, grief, delusions, homelessness, a fractured family relationship ... and all while trying to recover and create. Superb writing on a frequently difficult subject.' Sinéad Gleeson Arnold Thomas Fanning had his first experience of depression during adolescence, following the death of his mother. Some ten years later, an up-and-coming playwright, he was overcome by mania and delusions. Thus began a terrible period in which he was often suicidal, increasingly disconnected from family and friends, sometimes in trouble with the law, and homeless in London. Drawing on his own memories, the recollections of people who knew him when he was at his worst, and medical and police records, Arnold Thomas Fanning has produced a beautifully written, devastatingly intense account of madness - and recovery, to the point where he has not had any serious illness for over a decade and has become an acclaimed playwright. Fanning conveys the consciousness of a person living with mania, psychosis and severe depression with a startling precision and intimacy. Mind on Fire is the gripping, sometimes harrowing, and ultimately uplifting testament of a person who has visited hellish regions of the mind. 'Arnold Thomas Fanning offers the most vivid and unflinching window into the mind of someone who is in the throes of madness ... It was like nothing I'd read before' Rick Edwards 'Mind on Fire is a truly powerful, arresting, haunting account. Arnold Thomas Fanning has reckoned with the darkest matter of his heart and mind, and I challenge anyone not to be moved by that.' Sara Baume, author of Spill Simmer Falter Wither and A Line Made by Walking 'In this strange and singular book, Arnold Thomas Fanning mercilessly excavates the infernal underworld of his own years of madness. As reminiscent as it occasionally is of John Healy's The Grass Arena, and even of Orwell's Down and Out in Paris and London, the book

is ultimately not quite like anything else I've read, and brought me as close to the lived reality of mental illness as I have ever been. It's a significant achievement: a painful, inexorable work of autobiography, whose existence is its own form of redemption.' Mark O'Connell, Baillie Gifford Prize-shortlisted author of To Be a Machine 'This is an extraordinary memoir about how it feels to be depressed, delusional, desperate' The Observer 'Incredibly important' Emilie Pine, author of Notes to Self 'A ratcheting pace, a tight first-person immediacy, and utterly staggering to be a passenger over its entire warped course ... An indelible, ground-shaking account' Hilary A White, Irish Independent, Memoir of the Year, Best Reads of 2018 'A spellbinding memoir that should prove both moving and hopefully cathartic for the reader.' RTE Culture 'Told in tight and immediate first-person, and imbued with a startling momentum that ratchets unnervingly, Fanning's publishing debut ... is a significant achievement and should be a talking point in publishing this year.' Irish Independent 'Fanning's debut book lays it on the line in a deeply personal and compelling chronicle of his descent into depression and his way back out.' RTE Guide 'Wonderful' Joseph O'Connor, Irish Times Books of the Year 'Unsparingly direct, searing and honest ... It is gripping to read and must have been exhausting to live' Medical Independent 'One of the most gripping and revealing memoirs I've read in a long time. A controlled and artful exploration of absolute loss of control, an unsettling and at times very moving reconstruction of a period of serious mental illness, Mind on Fire is a beautiful book about a terrifying thing.' Mark O'Connell, Irish Times Books of the Year 'Gripping' Sinéad Gleeson, Irish Times Books of the Year 'Shocking' Liz Nugent, Irish Times Books of the Year 'Poignant, beautifully detailed memoir' Sarah Gilmartin, Irish Times, Best debuts of 2018 'Brave and illuminating' Sunday Business Post 'This is the type of account that not only grips you wholesale as the pages flutter past, it also changes your very perception of psychology' Hilary A White, Sunday Independent Memoir of the Year

The Believer - Sarah Krasnostein 2021-03-02

The second book by the bestselling, award-winning author of The Trauma Cleaner. With her trademark compassion, observational rigour and unique humanity, Sarah Krasnostein takes us into the lives of people who believe in something extraordinary, despite the odds.

Bloodstains and Ball Gowns - Donna Nayler 2016-02-23

"I felt pain in my heart for this man. It's sad when someone leaves this earth, but the ones left behind are the most affected. We are the ones who go on living ... and remembering."What is left in the silent moments after the grim reaper has come and gone?The author discovers the answer once she leaves a glamorous life in the beauty industry to begin her 'secret life' in the underworld of crime scene cleaning. She enters a world that tells what happens in the neighbourhood when the sun goes down, when blood is spilt and lives are lost. Her world becomes one of caravan parks, views of dried grass and withered trees through smashed windows, and the blood, gore and aftermath of tragedies when love goes wrong. Her job is to make it look as though it never happened.

Smoke Gets in Your Eyes: And Other Lessons from the Crematory - Caitlin Doughty 2014-09-15

"Morbid and illuminating" (Entertainment Weekly)—a young mortician goes behind the scenes of her curious profession. Armed with a degree in medieval history and a flair for the macabre, Caitlin Doughty took a job at a crematory and turned morbid curiosity into her life's work. She cared for bodies of every color, shape, and affliction, and became an intrepid explorer in the world of the dead. In this best-selling memoir, brimming with gallows humor and vivid characters, she marvels at the gruesome history of undertaking and relates her unique coming-of-age story with bold curiosity and mordant wit. By turns hilarious, dark, and uplifting, Smoke Gets in Your Eyes reveals how the fear of dying warps our society and "will make you reconsider how our culture treats the dead" (San Francisco Chronicle).

Cleaning Up Your Mental Mess - Dr. Caroline Leaf 2021-03-02

Toxic thoughts, depression, anxiety--our mental mess is frequently aggravated by a chaotic world and sustained by an inability to manage our runaway thoughts. But we shouldn't settle into this mental mess as if it's just our new normal. There's hope and help available to us--and the road to healthier thoughts and peak happiness may actually be shorter than you think. Backed by clinical research and illustrated with compelling case studies, Dr. Caroline Leaf provides a scientifically proven five-step plan to find and eliminate the root of anxiety, depression, and intrusive thoughts in your life so you can experience dramatically improved mental and physical health. In just 21 days, you can start to clean up your mental mess and be on the road to wholeness,

peace, and happiness.

See What I Have Done - Sarah Schmidt 2017-08-01

"One of America's most notorious murder cases inspires this feverish debut" novel that goes inside the mind of Lizzie Borden (The Guardian). On the morning of August 4, 1892, Lizzie Borden calls out to her maid: Someone's killed Father. The brutal ax-murder of Andrew and Abby Borden in their home in Fall River, Massachusetts, leaves little evidence and many unanswered questions. In this riveting debut novel, Sarah Schmidt reimagines the day of the infamous murders as an intimate story of a family devoid of love. While neighbors struggle to understand why anyone would want to harm the respected Borden family, those close to the family have a different tale to tell—of a father with an explosive temper, a spiteful stepmother, and two spinster sisters desperate for their independence. As the police search for clues, Lizzie's memories of that morning flash in scattered fragments. Had she been in the barn or the pear arbor to escape the stifling heat of the house? When did she last speak to her stepmother? Were they really gone and would everything be better now? Shifting among the perspectives of the unreliable Lizzie, her older sister Emma, the housemaid Bridget, and the enigmatic stranger Benjamin, the events of that fateful day are slowly revealed through a high-wire feat of storytelling.

How to Keep House While Drowning - KC Davis 2022-04-26

If you're tired of staring at the same mess every day, but struggling to find the time and willpower to clean it, you probably have a very good reason: anxiety, fatigue, depression, ADHD, or lack of support. Designed by therapist KC Davis, this revolutionary method of cleaning and organizing helps end the stress-mess cycle. After KC Davis gave birth to her second child, she didn't fold a single piece of laundry for seven months. Between postpartum depression and ADHD, she felt numb and overwhelmed. She regained her sanity—and the functionality of her home—after one life-changing realization: You don't work for your home; your home works for you. In other words, messiness is not a moral failing. A new sense of calm washed over her as she let go of the shame-based messaging that interpreted a pile of dirty laundry as "I can never keep up" and a chaotic kitchen as "I'm a bad mother." Instead, she looked at unwashed clothes and thought, "I am alive," and at stacks of dishes and thought, "I cooked my family dinner three nights in a row." Building on this foundation of self-compassion, KC devised the powerful practical approach that has exploded in popularity through her TikTok account, @domesticblisters. The secret is to stop following perfectionist rules that don't make sense for you—like folding clothes that don't wrinkle anyway, or thinking that every room has to be clean at the same time—and to find creative solutions that accommodate your needs, pet peeves, daily rhythms, and attention span. Inside, you'll learn exactly how to customize your approach and rebuild your relationship with your home, including: -How to stop seeing care tasks as a reflection of your worth, but rather as kindnesses to your future self -How to use calming rituals to keep you from feeling overwhelmed when you look at a big mess -How to stagger tasks that are easy to procrastinate throughout the week and month -How to quickly transform a room from messy to fully functional through the "5 Things" tidying method, and other shortcuts requiring minimal energy Read this book to make home feel like a sanctuary again: where you can move with ease, where guilt, self-criticism, and endless checklists have no place, and where you always have permission to rest, even when things aren't finished.

The Hoarder in You - Robin Zasio 2012-11-13

We all have treasured possessions—a favorite pair of shoes, a much-beloved chair, an ever-expanding record collection. But sometimes, this emotional attachment to our belongings can spiral out of control and culminate into a condition called compulsive hoarding. From hobbyists and collectors to pack rats and compulsive shoppers—it is close to impossible for hoarders to relinquish their precious objects, even if it means that stuff takes over their lives and their homes. According to psychologist Dr. Robin Zasio, our fascination with hoarding stems from

the fact that most of us fall somewhere on the hoarding continuum. Even though it may not regularly interfere with our everyday lives, to some degree or another, many of us hoard. The Hoarder In You provides practical advice for decluttering and organizing, including how to tame the emotional pull of acquiring additional things, make order out of chaos by getting a handle on clutter, and create an organizational system that reduces stress and anxiety. Dr. Zasio also shares some of the most serious cases of hoarding that she's encountered, and explains how we can learn from these extreme examples—no matter where we are on the hoarding continuum.

Surviving Survival: The Art and Science of Resilience - Laurence Gonzales 2012-09-10

Highlights the survivors of various traumas and describes their lives both before and after and offers a detailed discussion of the fear, courage and the flexibility of the spirit that drives people onward after a life-threatening experience.

Trauma - Graham Masterton 2014-06-24

Bonnie's job - cleaning up after violent homicides - is not for the faint hearted. But for Bonnie it's a business she has built from the ground up; a service that she can be proud of. By day she sells make-up under her rather too amorous boss, a strange but necessary contrast to her gruesome night job. Working two jobs isn't easy, but with a husband like Duke, an unemployed drunk, she needs the money. Blood soaked carpets and bullet holed plaster work might have become the norm, but when she notices a connection between a spate of senseless murders in which people inexplicably kill their loved ones, her tough exterior starts to crack. The links she sees sound crazy even to her, and can only be explained by the supernatural. Winner of the Mystery Writers of America Edgar Allan Poe award 2003 "One of the few true masters of the horror genre." -James Herbert "Masterton is a crowd pleaser, filling his pages with sparky, appealing dialogue and visceral grue." -Time Out, London "Masterton's novels are charming, dangerous, and frightening...but all based on enormous erudition." - L'Express

The Believer - Sarah Krasnostein 2022-03-01

"Deeply beautiful, and never simple." — James Gleick, author of Time Travel: A History An unforgettable tour of the human condition that explores our universal need for belief to help us make sense of life, death, and everything in between. For Sarah Krasnostein it begins with a Mennonite choir on a subway platform, a fleeting moment of witness that sets her on a fascinating journey to discover why people need to believe in absolute truths and what happens when their beliefs crash into her own. Some of the people Krasnostein interviews believe in things many people do not: ghosts, UFOs, the literal creation of the universe in six days. Some believe in things most people would like to: dying with dignity and autonomy; facing up to our transgressions with truthfulness; living with integrity and compassion. By turns devastating and uplifting, and captured in snapshot-vivid detail, these six profiles — a death doula, a geologist who believes the world is six thousand years old, a lecturer in neurobiology who spends his weekends ghost hunting, the fiancé of a disappeared pilot and UFO enthusiasts, a woman incarcerated for killing her husband after suffering years of domestic violence, and Mennonite families in New York — will leave you convinced that the most ordinary-seeming people are often the most remarkable and that deep and abiding commonalities can be found within the greatest differences. Vivid, unconventional, entertaining, and full of wonder, The Believer interweaves these stories with compassion and empathy, culminating in an unforgettable tour of the human condition that cuts to the core of who we are as people, and what we're doing on this earth.

Westography - Warren Kirk 2022-07-19

In Westography, the renowned photographer Warren Kirk gains exclusive access to the homes and businesses of the last of a generation, capturing once-bustling industrial areas and the old inhabitants of back-street suburbia, along with garages, barber shops, fish and chip shops, milk bars, front gardens, sheds, and everything in between.