

MERCER

UNIVERSITY PRESS



fall / winter / 2025

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Reader,

I love anniversaries of all kinds: people and events. For example, it was 250 years ago that Jane Austen was born. Also 250 years ago the second novel I ever read was first published: *Tom Sawyer* by Mark Twain. In September I have an anniversary of my time at Mercer University. And I love Christmas countdown every year!

The one event that initiated my appreciation of such celebrations was in 1976: I was sixteen and our country celebrated 200 years of Independence. I still have three special minted coins that came out that year. For a time I collected coins but was better at spending than collecting. I remember wondering then if I would add to my coin collection in 2026.

My friends in Concord, Massachusetts, are quick to remind that the Revolutionary War began in 1775 with the Battle of Lexington and Concord. So, this year marks the 250th anniversary of the beginning of the War for Independence from the British.

As a philosophy professor the central idea I address with students is the cultivation of the soul: how do we live a life. While I read a lot of Revolutionary history, my mind is always focused on the character of the individuals I read about.

One of the main figures in the American Revolution was Samuel Adams. (He is more than a beer label.) I have come across two statements about Adams that I found stunningly inspiring.

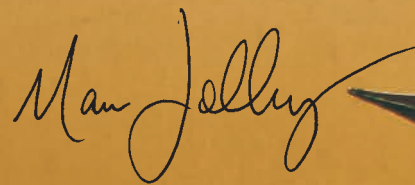
Nathaniel Philbrick writes of Adams: "Sam Adams lived and inhabited his truth."

Stacy Schiff writes of Adams: "Suffused in and affirmed by his faith, he offers up religious wisdom for any occasion. He carries himself with the serenity of someone on intimate terms with another world."

Henry David Thoreau wrote in "Slavery in Massachusetts": "The fate of the country does not depend on how you vote at the polls—the worst man is as strong as the best at that game; it does not depend on what kind of paper you drop into the ballot-box once a year, but on what kind of man you drop from your chamber into the street every morning."

The best revolution, in other words, is within our souls. One's character or soul is everything. Cultivate it.

I learned that best from Jane Austen.



Marc Jolley
26 June 2025

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On the Cover: *Portrait of a Black Bear*
(iStock: credit Matt Cuda)



MORE THAN A PRESIDENT

Sundays with Jimmy Carter

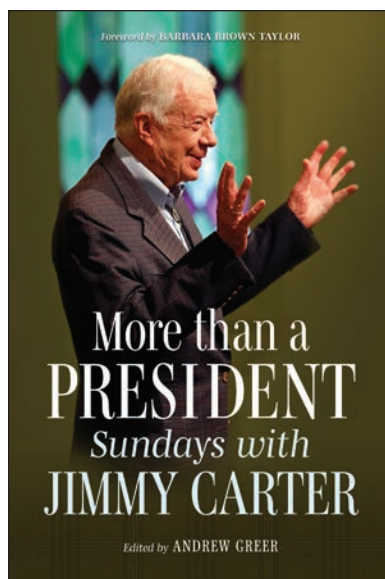
edited by *Andrew Greer*

foreword by *Barbara Brown Taylor*

afterword by *Jason Carter*

OCTOBER 2025

Religion/Southern Culture



“In teaching these Sunday School lessons, Jimmy Carter invites us to learn of God and lighten our load.” —Andrew Young

OVER THE COURSE OF NEARLY FOUR DECADES, THOUSANDS OF SPIRITUAL seekers from around the globe made the unusual pilgrimage to the rural whistlestop of Plains, Georgia, for a remarkable opportunity to glean enduring lessons from Scripture taught by one of the world’s most unlikely Sunday School teachers—the 39th President of the United States, Jimmy Carter.

In 1981, having been defeated for a second term in the White House, President Carter returned to his hometown of Plains—a humble agricultural community of almost 600 folks nestled inside the quiet pines of Southwest Georgia—where the faith-focused former leader of the Free World began opening the pages of his well-worn Bible for a weekly audience of all kinds of people, from all around the world.

Through the open-door hospitality of Maranatha Baptist Church, the Plains congregation where Jimmy maintained a membership for his entire post-presidential life, “Jimmy Carter’s Sunday School Class” welcomed crowds of curious folks from a vast variety of faiths, lifestyles, and cultural backgrounds on the search for a once-in-a-lifetime experience to witness a national treasure share his relevant insights from time-tested Scriptures. Always thoughtful, never pretentious, Carter’s lessons illustrate how Scripture-inspired love can reach the world beginning right at home. Also included are selected lessons taught at The First Baptist Church of the City of Washington, D.C., during President Carter’s four years in the Oval Office.

More than a President: Sundays with Jimmy Carter is destined to become a treasured edition of transformative truths from one of the most beloved human beings in the world.

OCTOBER 2025 | RELIGION/SOUTHERN CULTURE
THE JAMES N. GRIFFITH ENDOWED SERIES IN BAPTIST STUDIES
 6 x 9 | 300 pp. | Hardback, \$30.00t | 978-0-88146-974-5 | H1052 | Index | Photographs

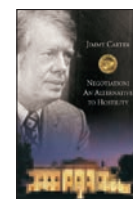
Author, musician, and filmmaker **Andrew Greer** has published two books, released multiple chart-topping recordings, and directed the documentary *Plainspoken*—a film inspired by the lives of Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter and their neighbors in Plains, Georgia. A Texas native, Greer now makes his home in Plains. Learn more about him at andrew-greer.com.

TITLES OF INTEREST



The Craftsmanship of Jimmy Carter

Hardback | \$30.00t | H948
 978-0-88146-644-7



*Negotiation

The Alternative to Hostility
 Paperback | 978-0-86554-882-4

NOT IN STOCK

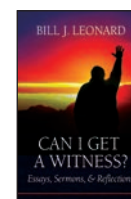
Order Only from Bookshop.org or Amazon.com



As You Go, Remember

Selected Sermons of
 John Claypool

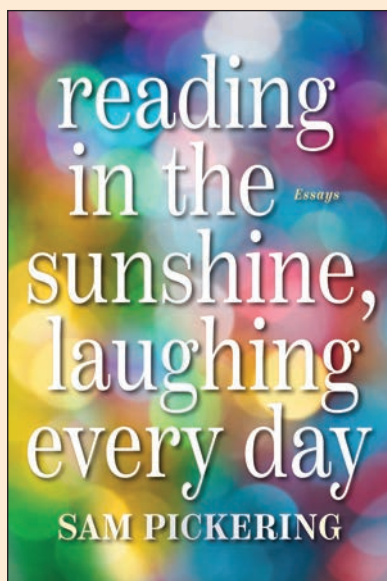
edited by J. Dwayne Howell
 Paperback | \$20.00t | P718
 978-0-88146-968-4



Can I Get a Witness? Essays, Sermons, and Reflections

Bill J. Leonard
 Paperback | \$30.00t | P479
 978-0-88146-468-9

Sam Pickering was born and raised in Nashville, Tennessee. He taught English for forty-five years, the last thirty-five at the University of Connecticut. Pickering has written over thirty books ranging across several genres, but he is best-known for familiar essays.



READING IN THE SUNSHINE, LAUGHING EVERY DAY

Essays

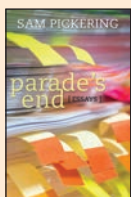
Sam Pickering

OCTOBER 2025

Essays

"I don't tell stories to win, but like the ingredients of fruit cakes, anecdotes layer my pages." —Sam Pickering

TITLES OF INTEREST



Parade's End Essays

Sam Pickering
Paperback | \$18.00t | P569
978-0-88146-665-2



The Splendour Falls Essays

Sam Pickering
Paperback | \$20.00t | P470
978-0-88146-449-8
e-book available online



The Devil's Pulpit & Other Mostly True Scottish Misadventures [Poetry & Essays]

*E.J. Wade and
Karen Spears Zacharias*
Paperback | \$20.00t | P708
978-0-88146-017-9
e-book available online



Local Signs & Wonders Essays about Belonging to a Place

Richard Rankin
Paperback | \$20.00t | P691
978-0-88146-924-0
e-book available online

SAM PICKERING HAS SPENT DECADES WRITING ABOUT THINGS THAT GO bump in the night and in the day: forgotten books and corn fields, rescue dogs, islands in and out of the stream, flat moments and thoughts gravelly with worry—the miscellaneous common things that compose the well-lived life.

His essays are curiosity shops, their pages stocked with observations and anecdotes that startle and awaken. “Look out. Here comes Mayhem,” a young mother warns friends when her little boy races into her dining room. “When you were young,” a Chinese student tells a doddery teacher, “you must have been very handsome.” A phoebe darts from a dead limb and swoops through an oval and snaps insects from the air. Ospreys sail from cliffs above a bay and glide billowing until suddenly like arrows they fall into the water. “I promised my sister that I’d scatter her ashes in the several places she designated,” a man recounts. “But good God, I’m not young and able to drive hundreds of miles. After her funeral, and as soon as I was out of sight of the church, I lowered my window and got rid of the ashes.”

Pickering’s essays are for adults, people who have slipped the leash of ambition and have the leisure and inclination to ponder, to be curious about their lives and the world, people who want to listen and observe the bright and the beautiful, and yes, the melancholy and the shadowy. Years ago, a critic called Pickering the “free spirit of literature.” His books are not self-help manuals, but they are freeing. They entertain and encourage readers to wonder and appreciate—indeed to imagine and enjoy.

OCTOBER 2025 | ESSAYS

5.5 x 8.5 | 232 pp. | Paperback, \$22.00t | 978-0-88146-983-7 | P723

A MERRY CHATTY CHRISTMAS

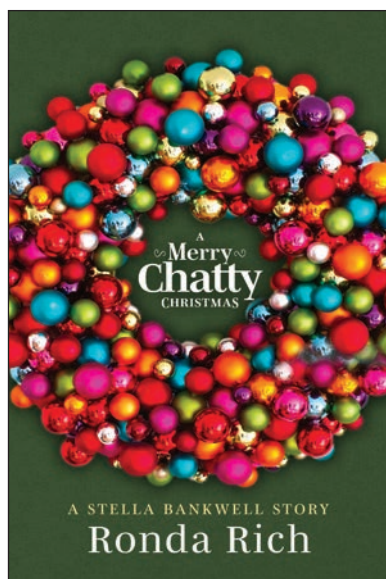
A Stella Bankwell Story

Ronda Rich

Also available in e-book format

OCTOBER 2025

Fiction



Join Stella, Chatty, and the gang as they celebrate Christmas in the mountains of North Georgia

STELLA BANKWELL IS GOING HOME FOR CHRISTMAS, LEAVING BEHIND HER quaint cottage on St. Simons Island and heading back to Turner's Corner, the farm where she happily grew up in the North Georgia mountains shadowed by the Appalachian Trail.

Her best friend, Chatham Balsam Colquitt IV, aka Chatty, will be left to have Christmas in one of his opulent mansions in Sea Island, Atlanta, or a plantation outside of Savannah. An only child orphaned as a teenager, he was bequeathed a vast fortune of old money. Though Chatty enjoys his wealth, his main delight is his best friend, Stella.

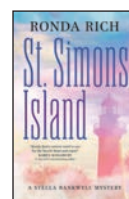
When Stella invites Chatty to join her, he worries about the rustic nature of the farm. "I'll make the best of an unseemly situation," he tells Stella and instructs his butler to deliver fine china, crystal, silver, and linens to the farm to enhance the holiday celebrations.

Joining them are their two mystery solving friends: former Governor McCager Burnett and his sweet wife, Alva, who also own a farm near Stella's family. Alva has secretly invited Stella's crush, U.S. Marshal Jackson "Pepper" Culpepper. Expecting a relaxing, non-eventful Christmas, they find that it is anything but. The snowy Christmas they spend at Turner's Corner is surprising and challenging but will leave them deeply satisfied. For Chatty, it's nothing less than stunningly shocking.

In the end, they all agree there will never be another Christmas like it—a sweetly meaningful holiday and celebration of life.

Ronda Rich is a bestselling author, syndicated Southern columnist, and award-winning journalist. She is in love with her characters Stella Bankwell and Chatham Balsam Colquitt IV almost as much as her readers. An eleventh-generation Georgian, Rich is the author of two Stella Bankwell Mysteries: *St. Simon's Island* and *Sapelo Island*. Learn more about her at rondarich.com.

TITLES OF INTEREST



Saint Simons Island
A Stella Bankwell

Mystery

Ronda Rich

Hardback | \$27.00t | H1037

978-0-88146-896-0

e-book available online



Sapelo Island
A Stella Bankwell

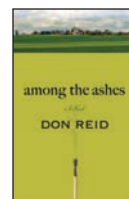
Mystery

Ronda Rich

Hardback | \$26.00t | H1046

978-0-88146-936-3

e-book available online



Among the Ashes

A Novel

Don Reid

Hardback | \$25.00t | H1045

978-0-88146-934-9

e-book available online



Piano Days

A Novel

Don Reid

Hardback | \$25.00t | H1023

978-0-88146-840-3

Paperback | \$18.00t | P658

978-0-88146-869-4

e-book available online

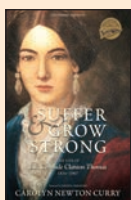
OCTOBER 2025 | FICTION

5 x 8 | 198 pp. | Hardback, \$22.00t | 978-0-88146-981-3 | H1055

e-book | 978-0-88146-982-0

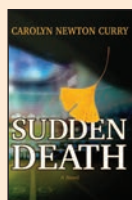
Carolyn Newton Curry is the author of *Suffer and Grow Strong: The Life of Ella Gertrude Clanton Thomas, 1834–1907*, which won the Georgia Author of the Year Award and was chosen as One of the Ten Books All Georgians Should Read by Georgia Center for the Book. Her first novel, *Sudden Death*, was a murder mystery set in the world of football. In 2002, Curry founded Women Alone Together® and served as executive director for twenty-two years. Learn more at carolyncurry.com.

TITLES OF INTEREST



***Suffer and Grow Strong**
The Life of Ella Gertrude Clanton Thomas, 1834–1907
Carolyn Newton Curry
POD Paperback | \$19.00 | P508

*NOT IN STOCK
*Order Only from Bookshop.org,
Amazon.com, or B&N.com



Sudden Death
A Novel
Carolyn Newton Curry
Paperback | \$20.00t | P659
978-0-88146-870-0
e-book available online



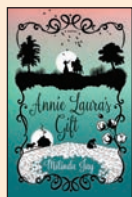
Secrets in a House Divided
A Novel of Civil War Richmond
Clara Silverstein
Hardback | \$25.00t | H963
978-0-88146-669-0
e-book available online



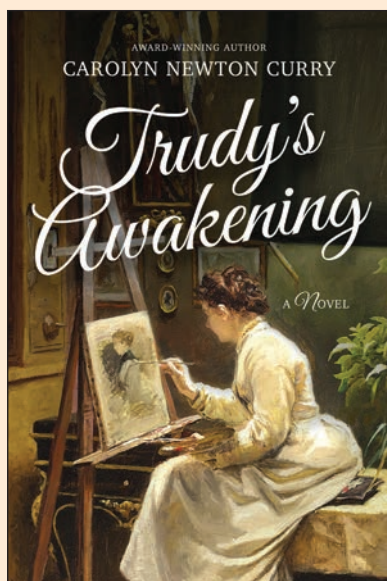
The Truth Keepers
A Novel
June Hall McCash
Hardback | \$27.00t | H1015
978-0-88146-818-2
e-book available online



Annie Laura's Triumph
A Novel
Milinda Jay
Paperback | \$16.00t | P539
978-0-88146-595-2
e-book available online



Annie Laura's Gift
A Novel
Milinda Jay
Paperback | \$18.00t | P618
978-0-88146-778-9
e-book available online



TRUDY'S AWAKENING

A Novel

Carolyn Newton Curry

Also available in e-book format

SEPTEMBER 2025

Historical Fiction

A tapestry of the lives of three nineteenth-century women who endure great loss but in the end triumph through friendship and love

TRUDY'S AWAKENING IS A HISTORICAL NOVEL SET IN THE LATTER HALF OF nineteenth-century Georgia that tells the story of three women whose lives were intermingled as they worked to overcome society's barriers to their progress and success. Gertrude Thomas, "Trudy" to her friends and family, grew up in wealth and privilege but lost it all in the aftermath of the war. Amanda "Mae," along with her mother Lurany, were enslaved to Gertrude's family and yearned for freedom. Lizzie Jeter was a middle-class young woman who dreamed of being a professional artist. All three faced tremendous obstacles in a world that wished to limit and suppress their talents.

Carolyn Curry uses her own research from the award-winning biography, *Suffer and Grow Strong: The Life of Ella Gertrude Clanton Thomas, 1834–1907*, to imagine the way these women's different paths crossed in their fight for freedom, civil rights, and successful careers. As their lives intersect, they form close bonds and become friends. While their talents are unique, they share a common experience: they are survivors determined to make life better for themselves and other women.

Readers will encounter the history of Atlanta and Georgia in the difficult years after the Civil War and learn how women coped and succeeded in that changing world. "More than anything," Curry says, "I want women to know that when bad things happen—and they always do—they can find a way through to a better place with their love and commitment to one another."

"... an inspiring and highly readable novel." —*Marie Bostwick*, bestselling author of *The Book Club for Troublesome Women*

SEPTEMBER 2025 | HISTORICAL FICTION

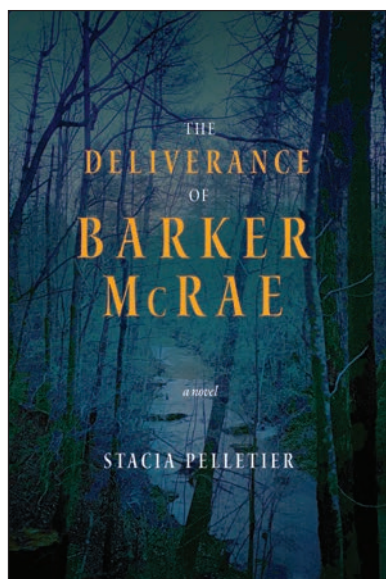
5.5 x 8.5 | 288 pp. | Hardback, \$27.00t | 979-8-89736-003-1 | H1059
e-book | 979-8-89736-004-8

THE DELIVERANCE OF BARKER McRAE

A Novel
Stacia Pelletier

Also available in e-book format

SEPTEMBER 2025
Historical Fiction



"...one of the most entertaining and edifying novels on Georgia's history I've read in years." —Julia Franks, author of The Say So

IT'S A WINTRY APRIL 1833 IN WATKINSVILLE, GEORGIA. FOURTEEN-YEAR-OLD Barker McRae is stuck living with her odious uncle, militia captain Wiley Wood, as she waits for her father, a Methodist circuit rider, to return. Instead, a stranger arrives.

Matthew Higgenbotham, a land lottery messenger who dreams of leaving Georgia, shows up at Wiley's farm with unexpected news: Barker has won forty acres in the latest state lottery. His announcement sets in motion an act of unimaginable violence, a harrowing escape, and a cat-and-mouse chase across frontier Georgia during America's first gold rush and the illegal seizure of Cherokee lands.

With Higgenbotham as her reluctant ally, Barker's mission is clear: escape her uncle and reunite with her father. Or—should she free herself from them both? And what about the troubled aunt she has left behind?

Set against the backdrop of the Georgia Gold Rush, alongside the era of Methodist circuit riders and early nineteenth-century evangelists, *The Deliverance of Barker McRae* weaves fiction and meticulously researched history to introduce readers to two travelers, thrown together by luck and duty, on an adventure neither of them wanted. This is a tale about trespass, frontier religion, fathers and daughters, and friendships between unlikely companions. It's also about what it means to make a moral choice in a profoundly immoral historical moment.

"With incredible detail and unflinching honesty, this novel exemplifies the very best of historical fiction, illuminating the past with heart, depth, and undeniable power. I'm in awe." —*Jamie Ford, New York Times* bestselling author of *The Many Daughters of Afong Moy*

SEPTEMBER 2025 | HISTORICAL FICTION

5.5 x 8.5 | 336 pp. | Hardback, \$27.00 | 978-0-88146-972-1 | H1058
e-book | 978-0-88146-973-8

Stacia Pelletier is the author of *Accidents of Providence* and *The Half Wives*, both short-listed for the Townsend Prize for Fiction. She earned an MDiv and a PhD in Religion from Emory University and has been a Keck Foundation fellow, a Woodruff fellow, and a 2025 American Antiquarian Society fellow.

TITLES OF INTEREST



Wofford's Blood
A Novel

Donna Coffey Little
Paperback | \$20.00 | P698
978-0-88146-940-0
e-book available online



Conjuror
A Novel

Holly Sullivan McClure
Paperback | \$20.00 | P512
978-0-88146-537-2
e-book available online



No Perfect Mothers
A Novel

Karen Spears Zacharias
Hardback | \$25.00 | H1042
978-0-88146-919-6
e-book available online



Mother of Rain
A Novel

Karen Spears Zacharias
Paperback | \$17.00 | P469
978-0-88146-448-1
e-book available online



Burdy
A Novel

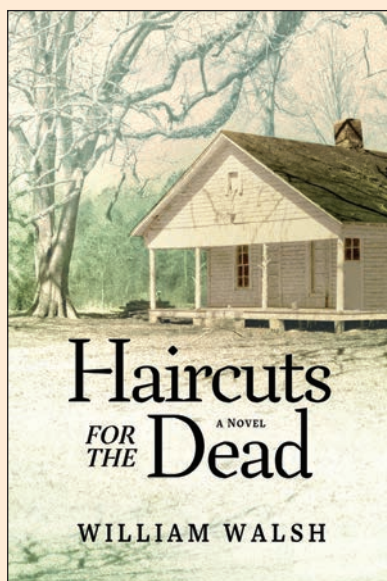
Karen Spears Zacharias
Paperback | \$15.00 | P514
978-0-88146-539-6
e-book available online



Christian Bend
A Novel

Karen Spears Zacharias
Paperback | \$17.00 | P548
978-0-88146-623-2
e-book available online

William Walsh is the author of ten books and is the editor of the *James Dickey Review*. He teaches at Reinhardt University and directs the undergraduate creative writing program, as well as the low-residency MFA program. Walsh lives in Sandy Springs, Georgia. *Haircuts for the Dead* is his second novel.



HAIRCUTS FOR THE DEAD

A Novel

William Walsh

Also available in e-book format

AUGUST 2025

Fiction

TITLES OF INTEREST

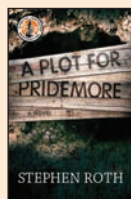


Easter Weekend

A Novel

David Bottoms

Paperback | \$17.00t | P563
978-0-88146-654-6



A Plot for Pridemore

A Novel

Stephen Roth

Paperback | \$20.00t | P484
978-0-88146-482-5
e-book available online



Set List

A Novel

Raymond L. Atkins

Hardback | \$27.00t | H953
978-0-88146-666-9
e-book available online

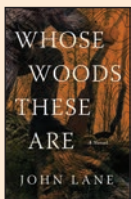


Sweetwater Blues

A Novel

Raymond L. Atkins

Paperback | \$18.00t | P495
978-0-88146-507-5
e-book available online



Whose Woods These Are

A Novel

John Lane

Hardback | \$24.00t | H993
978-0-88146-761-1
e-book available online



Fate Moreland's Widow

A Novel

John Lane

Paperback | \$18.00t | P630
978-0-88146-800-7

“You will be moved by this novel of the search for home and love, to be found in unexpected places.” —Robert Morgan, author of Gap Creek

WHEN TWENTY-ONE-YEAR-OLD HANNAH GARDNER’S FATHER SELLS THE family farm, she is cast onto the streets of Sundown, Georgia, where, having left her fundamentalist church, she grapples with the weight of her family’s racist past.

Working as a shampoo girl at a rinky-dink salon, Hannah tries to make ends meet cutting hair at the local funeral home. After finding herself in a precarious situation where she is raped by Hawkshaw Bales, a local criminal, Hannah is blackmailed by Bales to take custody of the resulting child.

When Hannah is befriended by Margaret, the Black librarian, their interracial friendship develops into a love affair where Hannah finds the tenderness and protection she needs. Despite all the trials Hannah endures, she keeps a journal, her “Document of Life,” and records Bible verses to show that even when you turn away from “God’s steady light, He lives within you.” When the family farm is destroyed, Hannah saves some apple seeds in the hope of planting an orchard on new land and building a future with Margaret. With each haircut she gives at the funeral home, Hannah sends her customers to the hereafter with honor.

Haircuts for the Dead is a modern retelling of the Fall of Man in a small-town Peyton Place where Hannah is kicked out of Eden and forced to deal with race issues, her sexual identity, the burdens of her family’s past, and challenges to her faith.

“...a rollicking tale of a charming heroine healing an injured heart and conquering a small part of a great big world.” —Jessica Handler, author of The Magnetic Girl

“Walsh is one of our most imaginative novelists ever—his every word is arresting...”

—Rosemary Daniell, author of Fatal Flowers

AUGUST 2025 | FICTION

6 x 9 | 288 pp. | Paperback, \$20.00t | 978-0-88146-975-2 | P732
e-book | 978-0-88146-976-9

HERMITS DIE ON THURSDAY

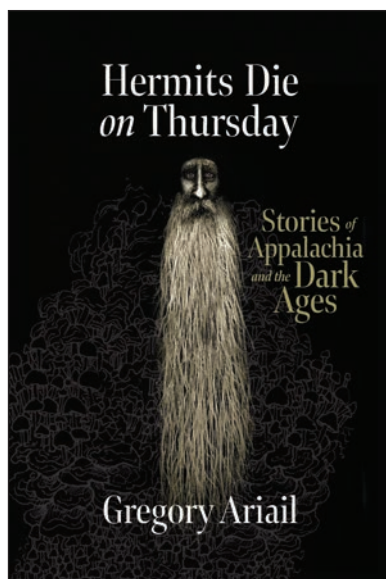
Stories of Appalachia and the Dark Ages

Gregory Ariail

Also available in e-book format

SEPTEMBER 2025

Fiction/Short Stories



Follow hermits and solitary wanderers as these tales transport you to the frontiers of your imagination

IN THIS COLLECTION OF SHORT STORIES, TRANSGRESSION IS THE RULE, AND the profane and the sacred share a bed. Follow hermits and solitary wanderers as they encounter the weird in the Appalachian Mountains and wild spaces of medieval England and Iceland.

Prepare for an unsettling procession of entities and objects: a queen turned to fungus, a hermit with a waterfall-sized beard, a goat's head growing from a cliff, a devilish Pied Piper, a god trapped inside a glacier, a gnome on the moon, bog bodies clinging obstinately to an Iron Age monument, and an ancient cloud worshipped deep underground, among many others. These tales will transport you to the frontiers of the imagination.

Illustrations by James Hutton and Aleksandra Apocalisse enhance each story.

"There is a cold clarity to the world of *Hermits Die on Thursday*, as if each story were etched into a slab of mountain quartz and left to hum under moonlight. At times Ariail's characters emerge familiarly from Appalachia. At other times they seem to rise up from the old, slow-ticking cosmos where grief is currency and time runs crooked.

Ariail has written a book that feels ancient and freshly struck all at once."

—Grey Wolfe LaJoie, author of *Little Ones*

"These stories feel like they were found on the underside of a rock that's probably never been moved in a remote part of the world, the old world, the world underneath our own that we forgot the name of a hundred years ago. I approach them with caution, myself. They changed me. Read them slowly and at your own risk."

—Ander Monson, author of *Predator: A Memoir, a Movie, an Obsession*

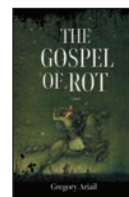
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Gregory Ariail is an assistant professor at the University of West Alabama. He is the author of *The Gospel of Rot* and the forthcoming *Gnomes: A Strange History* (Reaktion Books). In 2019, he thru-hiked the Appalachian Trail. Learn more at gregoryariail.com.

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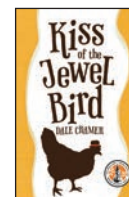
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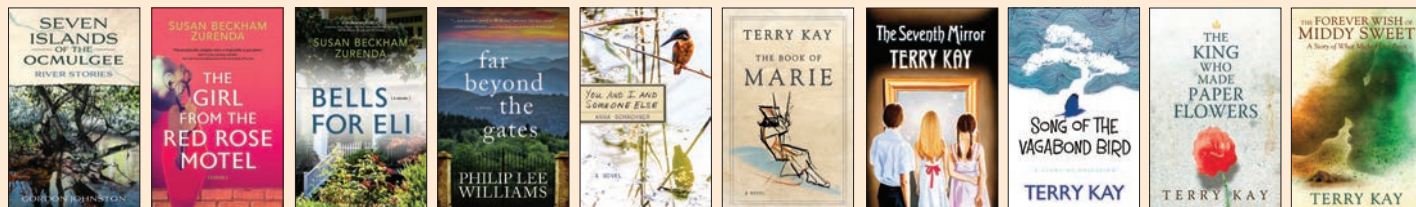
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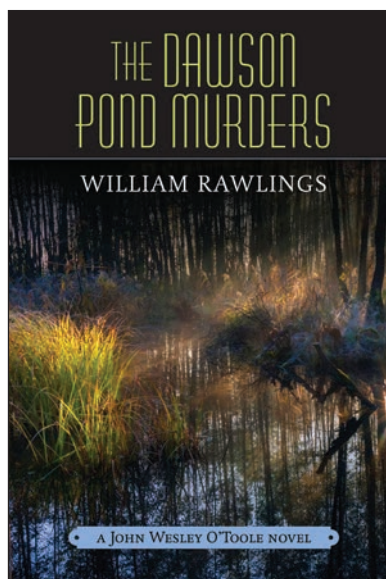
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Join O'Toole as he finds himself in a tangled web of murder and mystery on a small south Georgia farm

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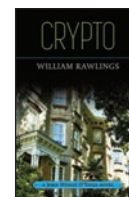
William Rawlings is a sixth-generation resident of Washington County, Georgia. A retired physician, he is an avid world traveler, photographer, and prolific writer of works of both fiction and nonfiction, including suspense, Southern history, and true crime. Rawlings is the recipient of three Georgia Author of the Year awards. Learn more about him at williamrawlings.com.

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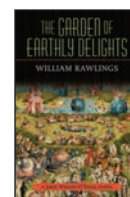
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Denton Loving is the author of the poetry collections *Crimes Against Birds* and *Tamp*, recipient of the inaugural Tennessee Book Award for Poetry. He is a cofounder and editor at EastOver Press and its literary journal *Cutleaf*. His writing has appeared in numerous publications including *The Kenyon Review*, *Iron Horse Literary Review*, and *Ecotone*. Learn more at dentonloving.com.

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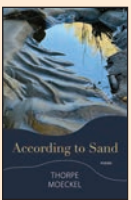
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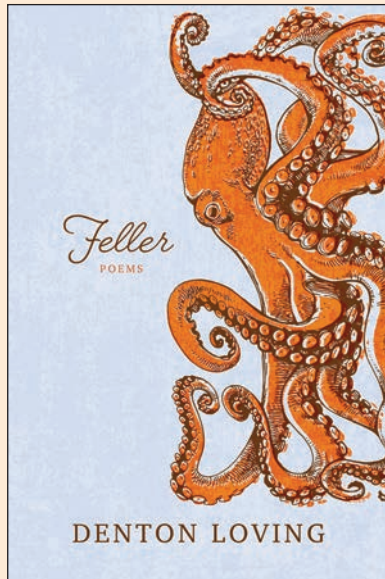
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—Matt W. Miller, author of *Tender the River*

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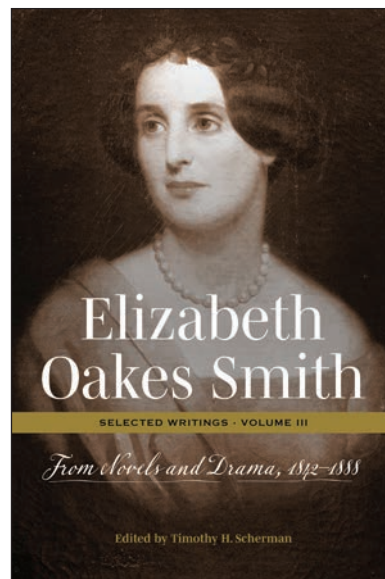
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Timothy H. Scherman is distinguished professor of English at Northeastern Illinois University. A graduate of Dartmouth College and Duke University, his career-long recovery of the life and work of Elizabeth Oakes Smith began in 1991 and continues to the present day. Scherman is founder and president of the Elizabeth Oakes Smith Society and editor of the most comprehensive and current collection of her work. Learn more at www.oakes-smith.org.

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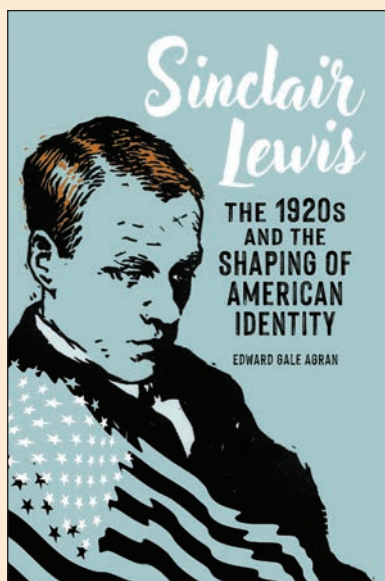
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Edward Gale Agran is professor emeritus of History at Wilmington College. He holds a PhD in American History from the University of Wisconsin. Agran is the author of *"Too Good a Town": William Allen White, Community, and the Emerging Rhetoric of Middle America* and *Herbert Hoover and the Commodification of Middle-Class America: An American Promise*. He resides in Iowa City, Iowa.



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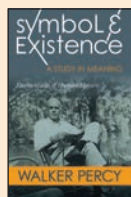
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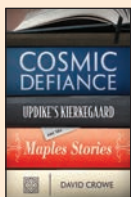
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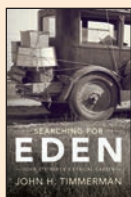
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SINCLAIR LEWIS: THE 1920S AND THE SHAPING OF AMERICAN IDENTITY argues the importance of words, ideas, and values in sculpting twentieth-century identity. Literary scholars should, given the perspective of historians, allot more weight to Lewis's contribution to the formation of middle-class ideology.

Lewis (1885–1951) was a phenomenon in the 1920s. Novelist and critic E. M. Forster in 1922 caught the draw: "I persist in exclaiming, for what Mr. Lewis has done for myself and thousands of others, is to lodge a piece of a continent in our imaginations." Lewis had just published *Babbitt*, two years after stunning the nation with *Main Street*. Three more powerful novels followed: *Arrowsmith*, *Elmer Gantry*, and *Dodsworth*. Contemporary reviews, criticism across decades, and a century of literary and historical scholarship tell an intriguing story.

Here, Agran encourages literary scholars and all students of American culture to recognize that Lewis's reception in the twenties was formidable because of his sensitivity to the nation's history, its promise, and at points its troubling trajectory. By broadening the perspective, Agran demonstrates why the Nobel Award recipient's novels resonated so strongly one hundred years ago and why his books still sell—he speaks to identity in the United States with a style all his own.

This study will interest scholars and educators in literature, history, and American studies; students; and readers intrigued by twentieth-century culture.

DECEMBER 2025 | LITERARY CRITICISM

6 x 9 | 344 pp. | Paperback, \$35.00t | 978-0-88146-996-7 | P730 | Bibliography | Index | Illustrations
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AMERICAN PROTEUS

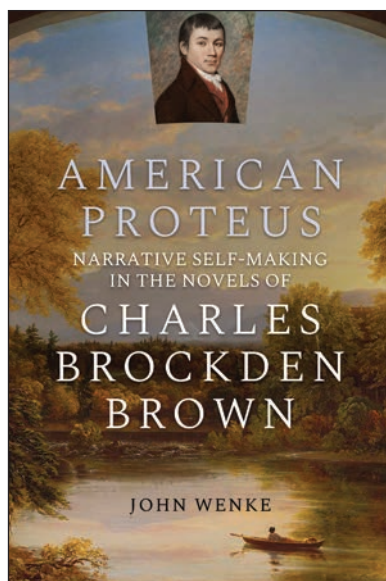
Narrative Self-Making in the Novels of
Charles Brockden Brown

John Wenke

Also available in e-book format

OCTOBER 2025

Literary Criticism



"I learned much about Brown the writer from Wenke's exemplary study." —Robert S. Levine, University of Maryland, College Park

AMERICAN PROTEUS SEEKS TO EXPLAIN WHAT IT MEANS FOR CHARLES Brockden Brown (1771–1810) to have created out of his life-experiences and encompassing cultural milieu a novel kind of fiction for a new kind of country. As a work of biographical criticism, this study charts the emergence of Brown's authorial voice as it developed throughout an amorphous, multifaceted, and conflicted apprenticeship. This eleven-year period of literary experimentation established the foundation for his brief yet momentous career as a publishing novelist that lasted from 1798 through 1801. Throughout such novels as *Wieland* (1798), *Ormond* (1799), *Arthur Mervyn* (1799–1800), and *Edgar Huntly* (1799), Brown dramatizes how authorship and self-making constitute reciprocal processes.

Throughout his novels, authorship appears variously as a compositional act, a histrionic activity, and an expression of political provocation and domination. This concern with authorship achieves its most complex manifestation via the agency of narrative self-making. From this perspective, the poetics and politics of self-making have distinct personal, cultural, and political ramifications, especially considering how Brown constructs synergistic versions of the "American Tale" out of the importation and transfiguration of transatlantic literary and ideational materials.

By drawing on and reconfiguring Gothic and epistolary aesthetics as well as Enlightenment principles, Brown reveals how his subversive artist-figures reject ideological confinements of attending social forms, whether theological, cultural, or political. In their attempts to control the social stage, these incendiary antiheroes seek to challenge, disrupt, or destroy those conventional modes that allow society to operate.

OCTOBER 2025 | LITERARY CRITICISM

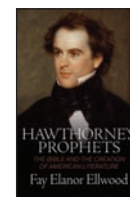
6 x 9 | 336 pp. | Paperback, \$35.00t | 978-0-88146-992-9 | P729 | Bibliography | Index
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John Wenke has authored books on Charles Brockden Brown, Herman Melville, and J.D. Salinger, a collection of short stories, and numerous chapters, essays, notes, and reviews. He teaches American literature and writing at Salisbury University, where he is professor of English and has twice won the Distinguished Faculty Award.

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I AM A GEORGIA GIRL

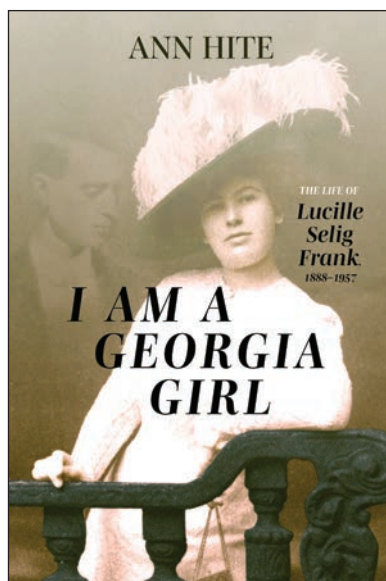
The Life of Lucille Selig Frank, 1888–1957

Ann Hite

Also available in e-book format

SEPTEMBER 2025

Biography/Georgia History



An intimate portrait of early twentieth-century antisemitism, the marginalization of women, and mob justice in Georgia

TWENTY-FIVE-YEAR-OLD LUCILLE SELIG FRANK’S WHOLE LIFE CHANGED ON April 26, 1913, as the Confederate Memorial Parade marched through Atlanta, Georgia. Lucille was attending the opera matinee with her mother. Her husband, Leo Frank, sat in his office in the National Pencil Company, where he was superintendent, working on a financial report. The brutal murder of fourteen-year-old Mary Phagan, an employee of Leo’s, took place in the pencil factory that day. Lucille’s husband would be the last known person to see Mary alive.

While much has been written about Mary Phagan’s murder and Leo Frank’s subsequent trial over the past 115 years, very little has given voice to Lucille Selig Frank and other women connected to the horrific events that took place between 1913–1915. Lucille was part of a mission to make Governor John Slaton aware of the antisemitism being shown to Leo during his arrest and trial. She paid a heavy price for her courage. The story of Lucille and the women connected to this case is as timely today as it was in the early 1900s.

This book has many diverse characters, including *place* which influences the outcome. Within this complexity, Hite’s telling of Lucille’s story will help others see that antisemitism, the marginalization of women, and mobs taking justice into their own hands cannot be tolerated.

How many people were complicit in Leo and Lucille’s journey? Was justice truly served? This book leaves the reader to answer these questions.

Ann Hite has written six novels and two nonfiction books. Her short story collection, *Haints on Black Mountain*, was the bronze winner in the 2022 Foreword Indies Book Awards. She has been shortlisted for the Townsend Prize and nominated for the Pushcart. Her passion for history and Appalachia heavily influences her writing.

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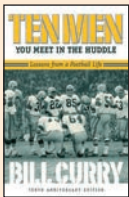
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Jerry Gentry is a former hospice chaplain drawn to people who starkly and honestly describe their lives. He holds an MDiv in Pastoral Care and a PhD in Social Ethics from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Gentry writes about culture, religion, and politics, and is the author of *Grady Baby: A Year in the Life of Atlanta's Grady Hospital*.

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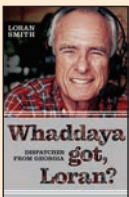
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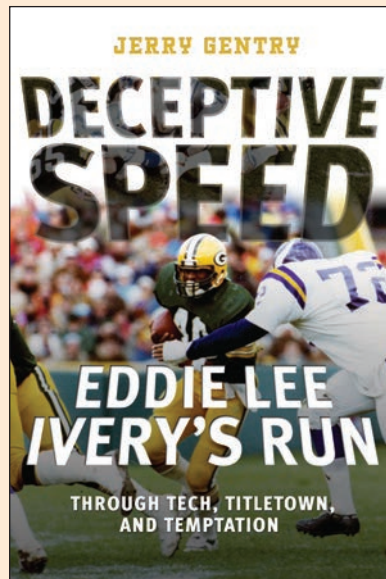
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DECEPTIVE SPEED

Eddie Lee Ivery's Run Through Tech, Titledown, and Temptation

Jerry Gentry

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SEPTEMBER 2025

Biography

A compelling portrait of the rise to athletic stardom, the fall into drug addiction, and the redemption of recovery

DECEPTIVE SPEED VIVIDLY TELLS THE COMPELLING, INSPIRING STORY OF Eddie Lee Ivery's journey from a tiny ramshackle home with no plumbing, to a prestigious engineering university, to an NFL storied franchise—where he played for the team's venerated former superstar Bart Starr, who struggled to field a winning team as head coach. After two devastating injuries to the same knee, how did Ivery will his way to a 9-year NFL career? How did he become homeless? How did he climb out of his self-destructive drug addiction?

Ivery broke almost every Georgia Tech rushing record, including his spectacular NCAA-record-breaking single-game 356 yards. His fingers were so cold they burned, the fierce wind whipped frigid air across frozen ground, and—nauseous throughout the game—he was the sickest he had ever been yet rushed for more yards than any collegian in history. In 1979, the Green Bay Packers picked Ivery in the first round and expected him to help restore glory to Titledown. One veteran said, "We couldn't believe how good he was."

Living an exhilarating star athlete life, Ivery lied to and manipulated family and friends for years. The addiction program where he finally became clean began with a counselor saying of Ivery's many gridiron accomplishments, "Eddie Lee, we don't care who you were before." Only then did true recovery begin.

SEPTEMBER 2025 | BIOGRAPHY

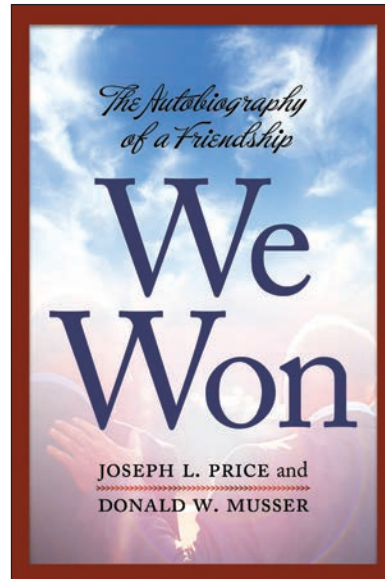
6 x 9 | 320 pp. | Paperback, \$25.00t | 978-0-88146-984-4 | P724 | Bibliography | Index | Images

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WE WON

The Autobiography of a Friendship
Joseph L. Price and Donald W. Musser†

NOVEMBER 2025
Autobiography



*The very human story of a friendship that personified
the fullness of all life has to offer*

WE WON IS A FORTUITOUS CELEBRATION OF THE HALF-CENTURY FRIENDSHIP of two puckish professors who bonded during graduate school at the University of Chicago and cultivated their allegiance while spending their careers at institutions on opposite coasts.

Unlike other books about friendship, this work is jointly authored by friends who blend their voices throughout the story. Yet because a relationship is strengthened when friends share their distinct preferences and perspectives, Joe Price and Don Musser intersperse the account with their individual voices and discrete views. *We Won* is also unconventional as an autobiography since it tells the story of their relationship, not a person's memoir, and since it shuns a chronological approach in favor of a narrative organized around their intersecting interests and interactions.

Routinely playful and thoughtful, *We Won* features stories about Price and Musser's common love for books and dogs, their passion for sports and fandom for favorite teams, their commitment to theological education, their collaborative efforts in teaching and editing, and their engagement in multiple forms of ministry and public service. They also recount how they regularly schemed to meet, especially to rendezvous for professional opportunities throughout the country. These vignettes about their friendship display a vibrant spiritual dimension in ways that detail a very human story about two guys while simultaneously reflecting on their relationship as a vehicle of grace.

Joseph L. Price taught religious studies at Whittier College for more than thirty years, and Donald W. Musser† similarly served on the faculty at Stetson University. Together they edited widely used theological handbooks, and separately Price authored *From Season to Season: Sports as American Religion* and Musser edited *War or Words?: Interreligious Dialogue as an Instrument of Peace*.

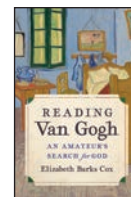
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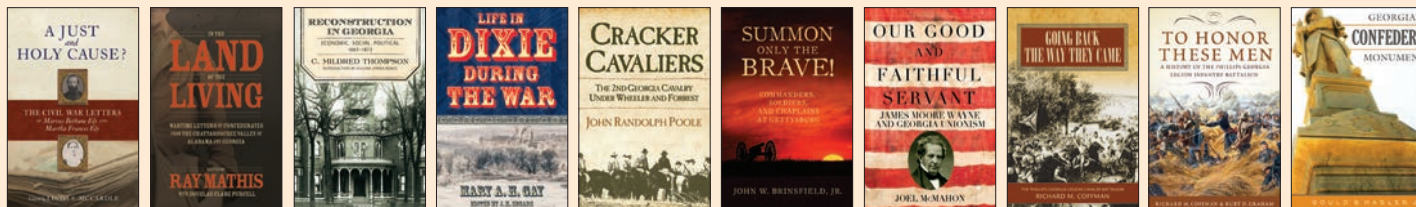
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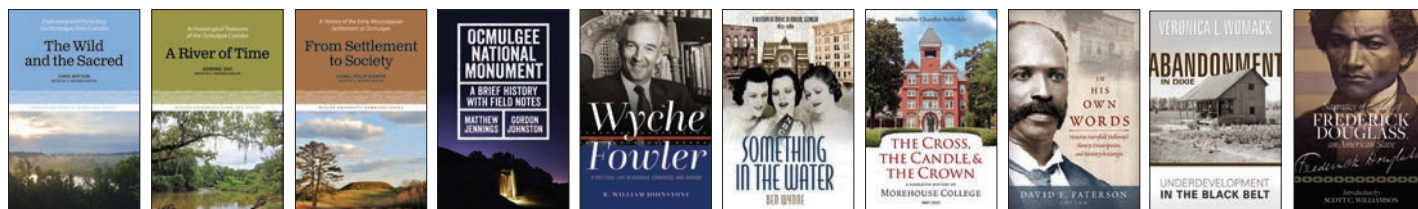


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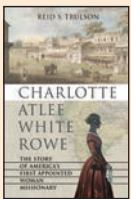
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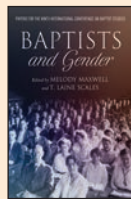


Reid S. Trulson is the retired executive director/CEO of International Ministries. He previously worked in Europe, the Middle East, and Ghana, and served as an American Baptist pastor in California and Wisconsin. He is the author of *Charlotte Atlee White Rowe: The Story of America's First Appointed Woman Missionary*.

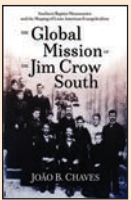
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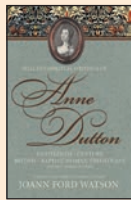
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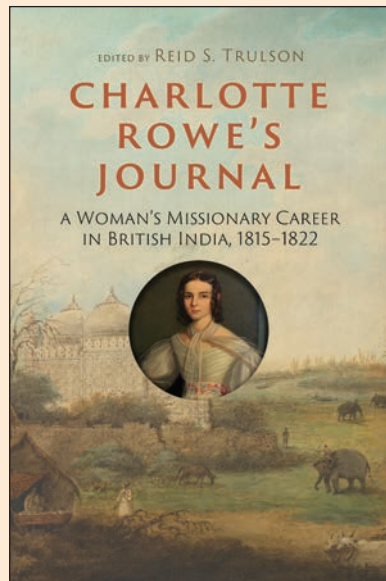
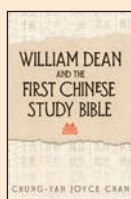


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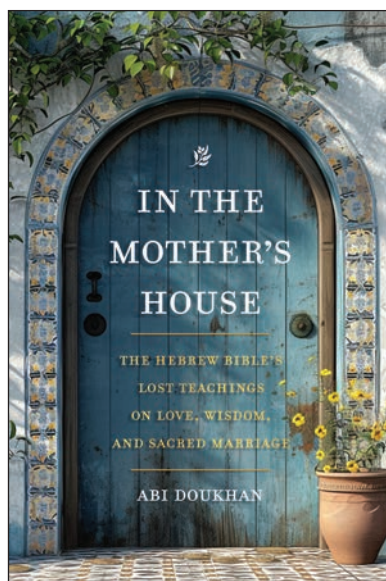
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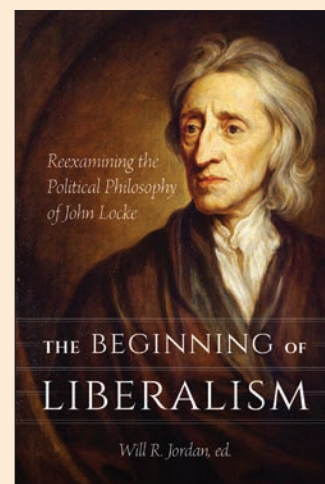
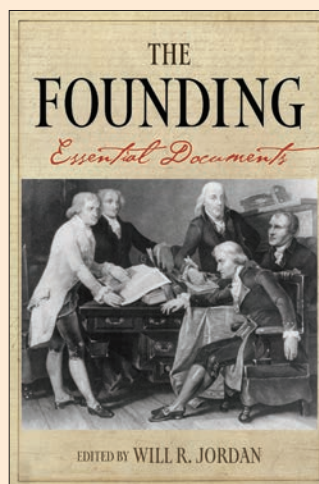
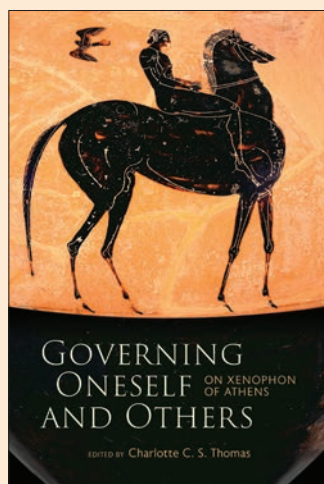
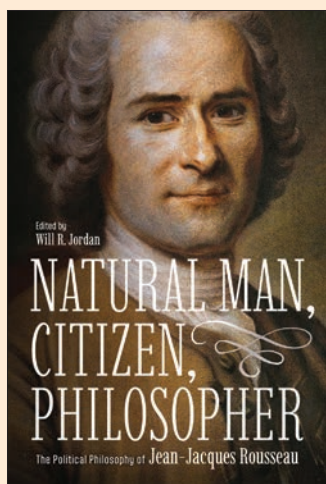
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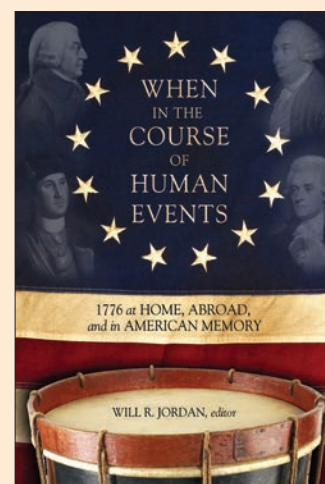
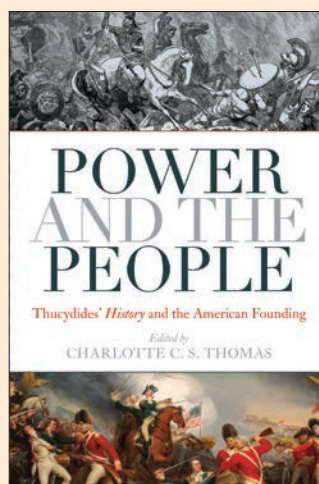
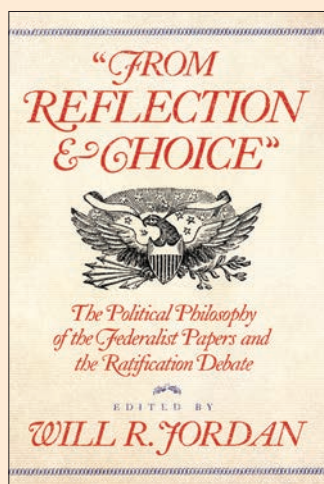
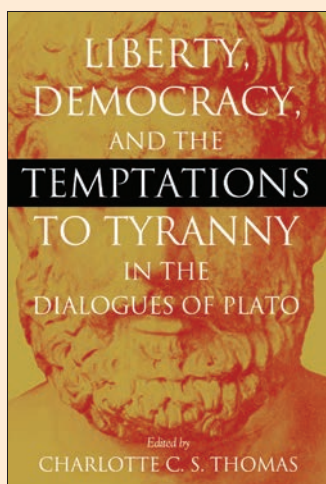


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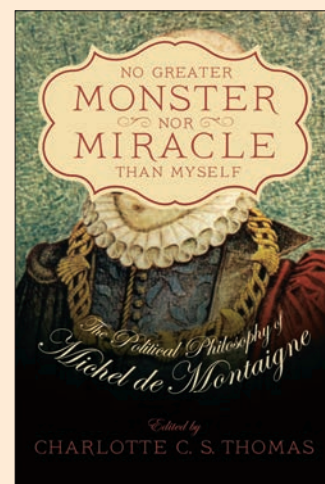
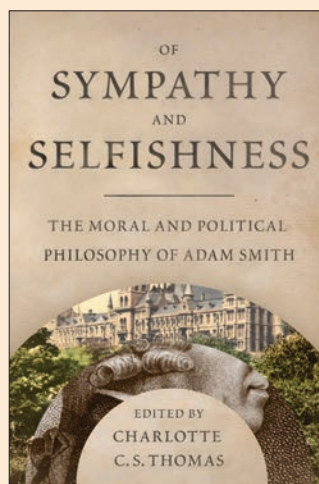
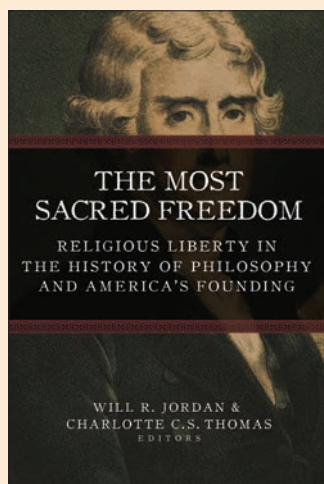
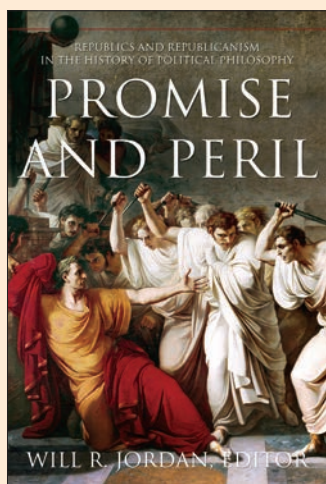


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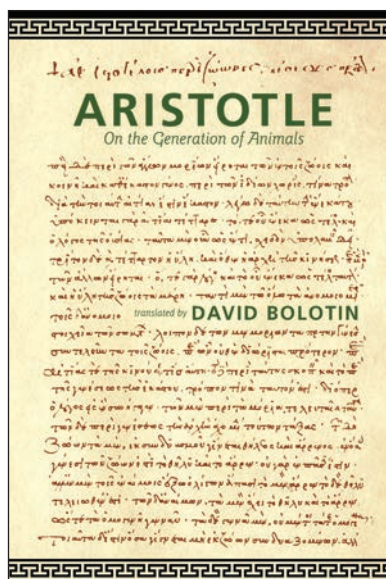
ON THE GENERATION OF ANIMALS

Aristotle

translated by David Bolotin

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Philosophy



David Bolotin is a retired teacher from St. John's College in Santa Fe, New Mexico. He is the author of *Plato's Dialogue on Friendship* and *An Approach to Aristotle's Physics*. He is also the translator of Aristotle's *De Anima* and *Parva Naturalia*: with *On the Motion of Animals*.

This translation tries to convey the meaning—to the extent possible in English—of Aristotle's every word

THIS TRANSLATION OF ARISTOTLE'S *ON THE GENERATION OF ANIMALS* by David Bolotin aims above all at fidelity to the Greek. He translates on the assumption that Aristotle has something of importance to teach us about his subject matter. Hence, he tries to convey the meaning, to the extent possible in English, of his every word.

Bolotin's translation is a sequel to his translation of Aristotle's *De Anima* (*On Soul*) and, more immediately, to his translation of his *Parva Naturalia*: with *On the Motion of Animals*. As Bolotin argues in his Introduction, it seems likely that, at least at some point, Aristotle intended for this treatise to be read immediately after *On the Motion of Animals* and before the final two treatises of the *Parva Naturalia*. At all events, the beginning of the treatise explicitly links its theme of the generation of animals to the question of the cause of motion as such, a question that is brought into focus in *On the Motion of Animals*.

Bolotin has examined the available evidence from the surviving manuscripts, and he has sometimes chosen to translate the reading present in one or more of them in passages where modern editors—in a misguided attempt, in his view, to smooth over difficulties—have emended the text. For those who wish to study *On the Generation of Animals* with care, this translation offers access that has hitherto been unavailable in English to the meaning of Aristotle's treatise.

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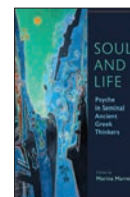
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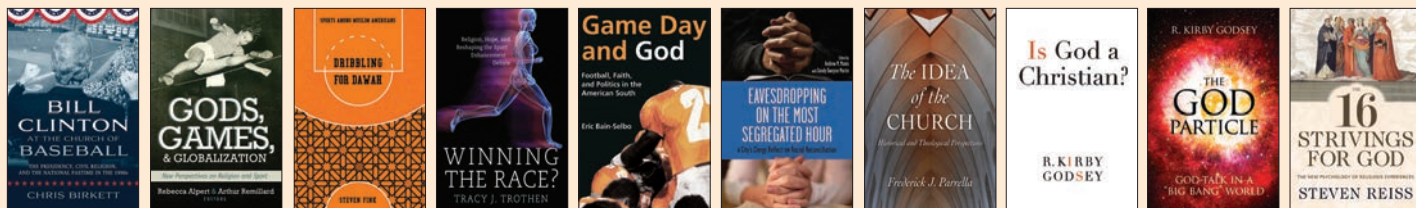
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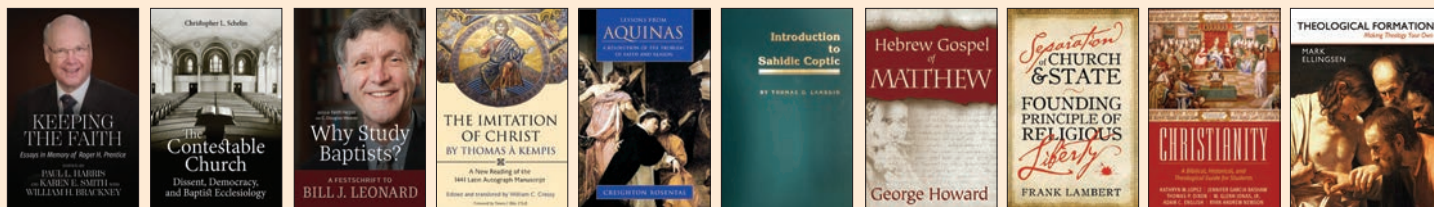
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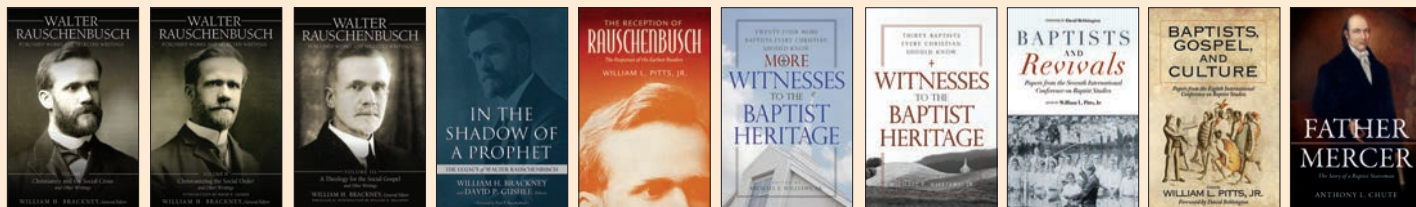
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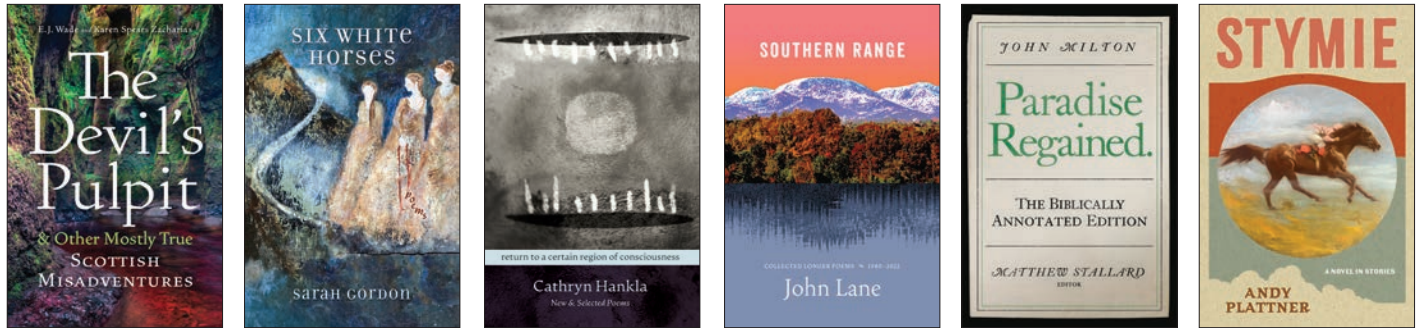
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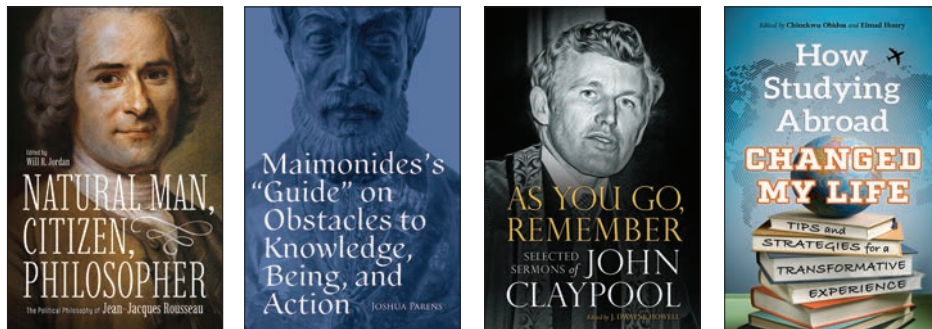
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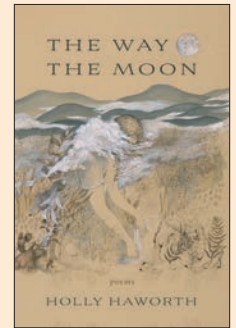
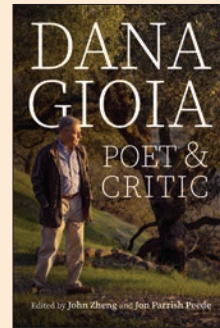
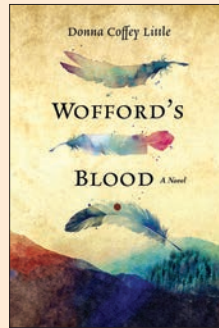
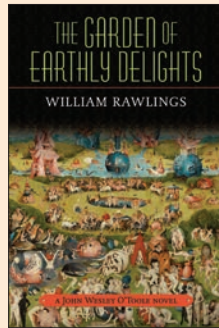
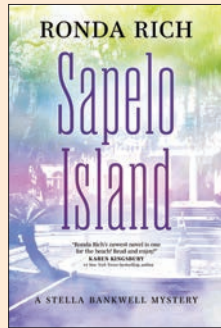
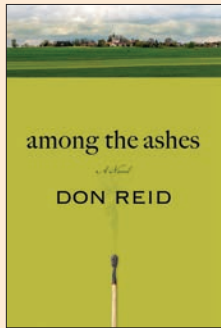
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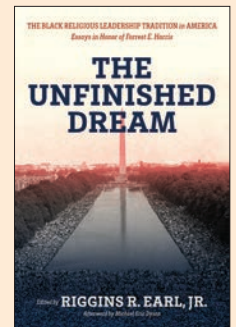
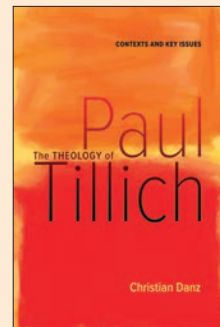
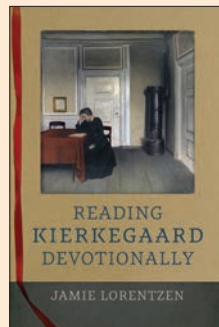
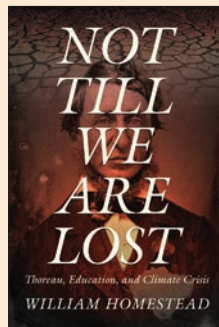
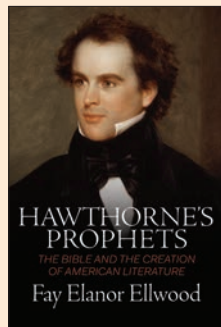
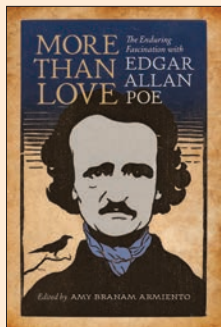
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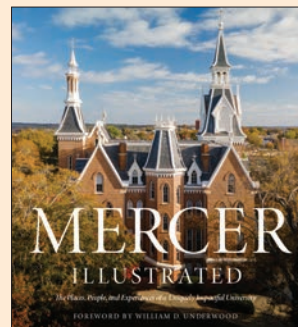
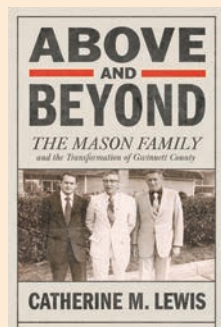
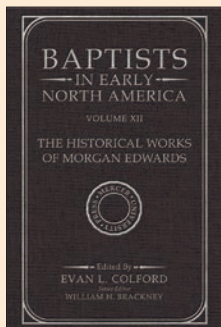
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