Conversations with RBG
Ruth Bader Ginsburg on Life, Love, Liberty, and Law
by Jeffrey Rosen

An intimate look at the life and career of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, in her own words, through an extraordinary series of conversations with the head of the National Constitution Center.

Conversations with RBG is a remarkable and unique book, an informal portrait of Ruth Bader Ginsburg, drawing on a series of her conversations with Jeffrey Rosen, starting in the 1990s and continuing through the Trump era. Rosen, a veteran legal journalist, scholar, and president of the National Constitution Center, shares with us the justice’s observations on a variety of topics, and her intellect, compassion, sense of humor, and humanity shine through. The affection they have for each other as friends is apparent in their banter and in their shared love for the Constitution and for opera.

With Justice Ginsburg’s approval, Rosen has collected her wisdom from their many conversations in which she discusses the future of the Supreme Court and Roe v. Wade, her favorite dissents, the cases she would most like to see overruled, the #MeToo movement, how to be a good listener, and how to lead a productive, compassionate life. These frank exchanges illuminate the steely determination, self-mastery, and wit that have inspired women and men of all ages to embrace the Notorious RBG.

Whatever the topic, Justice Ginsburg always has something interesting - and often surprising - to say. And while few of us will ever have the opportunity to chat with her face-to-face, Jeffrey Rosen brings us by her side as never before. Conversations with RBG is a deeply felt portrait of an American hero.

Author Bio

Jeffrey Rosen is the author of six books, most recently Louis D. Brandeis and William Howard Taft. He is the president and chief executive officer of the National Constitution Center, a law professor at George Washington University, and a contributing editor for The Atlantic. He was previously the legal affairs editor of The New Republic and a staff writer for The New Yorker.
**Black Wave**
The Saudi-Iran Wars on Religion and Culture that Destroyed the Middle East
by Kim Ghattas

The bestselling author of *The Secretary* tells the gripping story of the real roots of the Sunni-Shia conflict in Middle East, in the 1979 Iran Revolution that changed the region forever.

*Black Wave* is a paradigm-shifting recasting of the modern history of the Middle East, telling the largely unexplored story of the rivalry between Sunni Saudi Arabia and Shia Iran - a rivalry born out of the sparks of the 1979 Iranian revolution - that has dramatically transformed the culture, identity and collective memory of millions of Muslims over four decades. Like George Packer did in *The Unwinding*, Ghattas follows everyday citizens whose lives have been affected by the geopolitical drama, making her account both immediate and intimate.

Most Americans assume that extremism, Sunni-Shia antagonism, and anti-Americanism have always existed in the Middle East, but prior to 1979, Saudi Arabia and Iran were working allies. It was only after that year - a remarkable turning point - that Shia Iran and Sunni Saudi Arabia began to use religion as a tool in their competition for dominance in the region, igniting the culture wars that led to the 1991 American invasion of Iraq, the September 11th terrorist attacks, and the rise of ISIS.

Ghattas shows how Saudi Arabia and Iran went from allies against the threat of communism from Russia, with major roles in the US anti-Soviet strategy, to mortal enemies that use religious conservatism to incite division and unrest from Egypt to Pakistan. *Black Wave* will significantly influence both perception of and conversation about the modern history of the Middle East.

**Author Bio**

Kim Ghattas is a BBC radio and TV correspondent. Author of *The Secretary: A Journey with Hillary Clinton from Beirut to the Heart of American Power*, she was previously a Middle East correspondent for the *Financial Times* and part of an Emmy Award-winning BBC team covering the Lebanon-Israel conflict of 2006. Her work has appeared in *Time Magazine*, the *Washington Post*, and more. Born in Beirut, she currently lives in Washington, D.C.
Poisoner in Chief
Sidney Gottlieb and the CIA Search for Mind Control
by Stephen Kinzer

The bestselling author of All the Shah’s Men and The Brothers tells the astonishing story of the man who oversaw the CIA’s secret drug and mind-control experiments of the 1950s and ’60s.

The visionary chemist Sidney Gottlieb was the CIA’s master magician and gentlehearted torturer - the agency’s poisoner in chief.” As head of the MK-ULTRA mind control project, he directed brutal experiments at secret prisons on three continents. He made pills, powders, and potions that could kill or maim without a trace - including some intended for Fidel Castro and other foreign leaders. He paid prostitutes to lure clients to CIA-run bordellos, where they were secretly dosed with mind-altering drugs. His experiments spread LSD across the United States, making him a hidden godfather of the 1960s counterculture. For years he was the chief supplier of spy tools used by CIA officers around the world.

Stephen Kinzer, author of groundbreaking books about U.S. clandestine operations, draws on new documentary research and original interviews to bring to life one of the most powerful unknown Americans of the twentieth century. Gottlieb’s reckless experiments on "expendable" human subjects destroyed many lives, yet he considered himself deeply spiritual. He lived in a remote cabin without running water, meditated, and rose before dawn to milk his goats.

During his twenty-two years at the CIA, Gottlieb worked in the deepest secrecy. Only since his death has it become possible to piece together his astonishing career at the intersection of extreme science and covert action. Poisoner in Chief reveals him as a clandestine conjurer on an epic scale.

Author Bio

Stephen Kinzer is the author of nine books, including The True Flag, The Brothers, Overthrow, and All the Shah’s Men. An award-winning foreign correspondent, he served as the New York Times bureau chief in Nicaragua, Germany, and Turkey. He is a senior fellow at the Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs at Brown University, and writes a world affairs column for the Boston Globe. He lives in Boston.
A Heart for Change
The Tension Inside Pope Francis's Reform
by Austen Ivereigh

Following his critically acclaimed *The Great Reformer*, Ivereigh's colorful, clear-eyed portrait of Pope Francis takes us inside the Vatican's urgent debate over the future of the church.

This deeply contextual biography centers on the tensions generated by the pope's attempt to turn the Church away from power and tradition and outwards to engage humanity with God's mercy. Through battles with corrupt bankers and worldly cardinals, in turbulent meetings and on global trips, history's first Latin-American pope has attempted to reshape the Church to evangelize the contemporary age. At the same time, he has stirred other leaders' deep-seated fear that the Church is capitulating to modernity - leaders who have challenged his bid to create a more welcoming, attentive institution.

Facing rebellions over his allowing sacraments for the divorced and his attempt to create a more ecological Catholicism, as well as a firestorm of criticism for the Church's record on sexual abuse, Francis emerges as a leader of remarkable vision and skill with a relentless spiritual focus - a leader who is at peace in the turmoil surrounding him.

With entertaining anecdotes, insider accounts, and expert analysis, Ivereigh's journey through the key episodes of Francis's reform in Rome and the wider Church brings into sharp focus the frustrations and fury, as well as the joys and successes, of one of the most remarkable pontificates of the contemporary age.

Author Bio

Austen Ivereigh is a British writer, journalist, and commentator on religious and political affairs who holds a PhD from Oxford University. His work appears regularly in the Jesuit magazine *America* and in many other periodicals. He is well-known as a Catholic commentator for the BBC, Sky, ITV, and Al-Jazeera.
Life Isn't Everything
Mike Nichols As Remembered By 103 Of His Closest Friends by Sam Kashner

An up close and personal portrait of one of the greatest filmmakers of all time, drawing on candid conversations with his closest friends and family - from Meryl Streep and Natalie Portman to Lorne Michaels and Stephen Sondheim.

The work of Mike Nichols pervades American cultural consciousness - from *The Graduate* and *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* to *Angels in America, The Birdcage, Working Girl,* and *Primary Colors,* not to mention the hit plays, *Barefoot in the Park* and *The Odd Couple.* His varied, wide-reaching accomplishments have defined American theater and cinema. Since Nichols never wrote his memoirs and seldom appeared on television, most fans have very little sense of his searching intellect or his devastating wit. They don't know that Mike Nichols was born Mikail Igor Peschkowsky and came to America from Berlin, speaking no English, to flee the Nazis. They don't know that Nichols was once a solitary medical student, or that he had been rendered hairless in childhood by a defective vaccine. They don't know that he was divorced three times before he finally got it right, "in his words, and married Diane Sawyer. Here, authors Sam Kashner and Ash Carter offer an intimate look behind the scenes of Nichols' life. *Life Isn’t Everything* is a true oral history, as told by the Hollywood stars, high powered producers, fellow directors, crews and employees who stayed loyal to Nichols for years. A mosaic portrait of a brilliant director known for his charm, vitality, and genius for friendship, this volume is a snapshot of a life spent loving and making art in the 20th century.

Author Bio

The Arab of the Future 4
by Riad Sattouf

The penultimate installment in the bestselling French graphic memoir series - hailed as exquisitely illustrated" and "irresistible" - covering the years of Riad Sattouf's adolescence, from 1987-1992.

In the fourth volume of The Arab of the Future, little Riad has grown into a teenager. In the previous books, his childhood was complicated by the pull of his two cultures - French and Syrian - and his parents' deteriorating relationship. Now his father, Adbel-Razak, has left to take a job in Saudi Arabia, and after making a pilgrimage to Mecca, turns increasingly towards religion. But after following him from place to place and living for years under the harsh conditions of his impoverished village, Riad's mother Clementine has had enough. Refusing to live in a country where women have no rights, she returns with her children to live in France with her own mother. . . until Adbel-Razak shows up unexpectedly to drag the family on yet another journey.

As the series builds to a climax, we see Riad struggle with problems both universal (bullies at school) and specific (his mother's sudden illness, the judgment of his religious relatives). And as Adbel-Razak returns again to the same fantastical dreams he pursued in previous books, we see him become more and more unhinged, until ultimately he crosses the line from idealism to fanaticism, leading to a dramatic breaking point.

Full of the same gripping storytelling and lush visual style for which Sattouf's previous works have won numerous awards, The Arab of the Future 4 continues the saga of the Sattouf family and their peripatetic life in France and the Middle East.

Author Bio

Riad Sattouf is a best-selling cartoonist and filmmaker who grew up in Syria and Libya and now lives in Paris. The author of four comics series in France and a former contributor to the satirical publication Charlie Hebdo, Sattouf is now a weekly columnist for l'Obs. He also directed the films The French Kissers and Jacky in the Women's Kingdom.
The Europeans
Three Cosmopolitan Lives and the Making of a European Culture
by Orlando Figes

From the master of historical narrative" (Financial Times), a dazzling, richly detailed, panoramic work - the first to document the genesis of a continent-wide European culture.

The nineteenth century in Europe was a time of unprecedented artistic achievement. It was also the first age of cultural globalization - an epoch when mass communications and high-speed rail travel brought Europe together, overcoming the barriers of nationalism and facilitating the development of a truly European canon of artistic, musical, and literary works. By 1900, the same books were being read across the continent, the same paintings reproduced, the same music played in homes and heard in concert halls, the same operas performed in all the major theatres.

Drawing from a wealth of documents, letters, and other archival materials, acclaimed historian Orlando Figes examines the interplay of money and art that made this unification possible. At the center of the book is a poignant love triangle: the Russian writer Ivan Turgenev; the Spanish prima donna Pauline Viardot, with whom Turgenev had a long and intimate relationship; and her husband Louis Viardot, an art critic, theater manager, and republican activist. Together, Turgenev and the Viardots acted as a kind of European cultural exchange - they either knew or crossed paths with Delacroix, Berlioz, Chopin, Brahms, Liszt, the Schumanns, Hugo, Flaubert, Dickens, and Dostoyevsky, among many other towering figures.

As Figes observes, nearly all of civilization's great advances have come during periods of heightened cosmopolitanism - when people, ideas, and artistic creations circulate freely between nations. Vivid and insightful, The Europeans shows how such cosmopolitan ferment shaped artistic traditions that came to dominate (…)

Author Bio

Orlando Figes is the author of A People’s Tragedy, Natasha’s Dance, and The Crimean War, among other books. His works have been translated into twenty-seven languages. A professor of history at Birkbeck, University of London and a frequent contributor to The New York Review of Books, Figes is the recipient of the Wolfson History Prize, the W. H. Smith Literary Award, and the Los Angeles Times Book Prize. He lives in London.

Notes

Promotion
The Age of Illusions
How America Squandered Its Cold War Victory, 1989 - 2016
by Andrew J. Bacevich

A thought provoking and penetrating account of the post-Cold war follies and delusions that culminated in the age of Donald Trump, from the bestselling author of The Limits of Power.

When the Cold War ended with the fall of the Berlin Wall, the Washington establishment felt it had prevailed in a world-historical struggle. Our side had won, a verdict that was both decisive and irreversible. For the world's indispensable nation, “its “sole superpower,” the future looked very bright. History, having brought the United States to the very summit of power and prestige, had validated American-style liberal democratic capitalism as universally applicable.

In the decades to come, Americans would put that claim to the test. They would embrace the promise of globalization as a source of unprecedented wealth, while embarking on wide-ranging military campaigns to suppress disorder and enforce American values abroad, confident in the ability of U.S. forces to defeat any foe. Meanwhile, they placed all their bets on the White House to deliver on the promise of their Cold War triumph: unequalled prosperity, lasting peace, and absolute freedom.

In The Age of Illusions, bestselling author Andrew Bacevich takes us from that moment of seemingly ultimate victory to the age of Trump, telling an epic tale of folly and delusion. Writing with his usual eloquence and vast knowledge, he explains how, within a quarter of a century, the United States ended up with gaping inequality, permanent war, moral confusion, and an increasingly angry and alienated population, as well, of course, as the strangest president in American history.

Author Bio

Andrew J. Bacevich is professor emeritus of history and international relations at Boston University. A graduate of both the U.S. Military Academy and Princeton University, he served in the U.S. Army for twenty-three years prior to becoming an academic. Among his recent books are The Limits of Power, America’s War for the Greater Middle East, and Twilight of the American Century. His writings have appeared in the New York Times, Harper’s, the London Review of Books, and the American Conservative, among other publications. He lives with his wife Nancy in Walpole, Massachusetts.
New York Times Essential Library: Rock Music
by Jon Pareles

A top critic offers his 100 picks for the best and most influential rock albums

Rock and roll has engendered a whole myriad of subgenres—from metal to reggae, folk rock to funk, country rock to hip-hop, punk to grunge, rockabilly to soul. In assertive and original essays, Jon Pareles, the rock music critic for The New York Times, addresses what he calls the panopticon of genres that grew out of the early traditions. He includes several of these seminal artists who laid the groundwork for later experimentation—Elvis, Chuck Berry, and Buddy Holly, for example. But he also ranges widely over some more unusual favorites: Marvin Gaye, Joni Mitchell, James Brown, Public Enemy, Parliament-Funkadelic, Nirvana, U2, and Talking Heads.

Pareles bases his selection of the hundred best albums on their innovativeness, historical significance, and pure listening pleasure. He tells us not just what the album sounds like but why it is so influential, and in many cases, why it’s still a thrill to hear after all of these years. This latest volume in the Essential Library series captures perfectly the way that rock has shaped and shaken both our culture and our minds.

Author Bio

Jon Pareles is a rock critic for The New York Times. He lives in New York City.
Brzezinski
A Life on the Grand Chessboard of Power
by Patrick Vaughan

The first biography of the influential national security adviser and strategic thinker whose ideas have helped shape American foreign policy for five decades.

Drawing on exclusive access to Zbigniew Brzezinski’s private archives and diaries as well as original interviews with his colleagues and rivals, Patrick Vaughan shows how this Polish-born professor willed himself and his ideas to the center of U.S. foreign policy, setting America on the course that would eventually triumph in the Cold War.

At the center of the narrative are two pivotal relationships: Brzezinski’s lifelong rivalry with Henry Kissinger, another emigre strategist who was the first to ascend the heights of power; and his unlikely political partnership with Jimmy Carter, who brought Brzezinski to the White House. Vaughan also reveals the surprising behind-the-scenes influence that Brzezinski has wielded after leaving office, as well as his ongoing success in shaping public opinion.

Zbigniew Brzezinski’s legacy is palpable in Eastern Europe, Afghanistan, Iran, and the Middle East, and he remains a leading player on the world stage. Vaughan’s definitive biography reveals the extraordinary story of how one remarkable thinker changed the world.

Author Bio

Patrick Vaughan is a professor at Jagiellonian University in Poland, where he teaches American history and the Cold War. Born in Seattle and raised in California, he holds a Ph.D. in history from West Virginia University. He has won numerous awards for his foreign policy research, including the Fulbright Scholarship, the John L. Snell Memorial Prize, and the Kazimierz Dziewanowski Award. He lives in Krakow, Poland.
The Autobiography
by Elton John

Henry Holt & Co
Strict On Sale: Oct 15/19
6.12 x 9.25 • 320 pages
9781250147608 • $38.50 • cl
Biography / Entertainment & Performing Arts

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Promotion
A rare, insider’s look at the life of Donald Trump from Bill O’Reilly, the bestselling author of the Killing series, based on exclusive interview material and deep research.

Readers around the world have been enthralled by journalist and New York Times bestselling author Bill O’Reilly’s Killing series—riveting works of nonfiction that explore the most famous events in history. Now, O’Reilly turns his razor-sharp observations to his most compelling subject thus far—President Donald J. Trump. In this thrilling narrative, O’Reilly blends primary, never-before-released interview material with a history that recounts Trump’s childhood and family and the factors from his life and career that forged the worldview that the president of the United States has taken to the White House.

Not a partisan pro-Trump or anti-Trump book, this is an up-to-the-minute, intimate view of the man and his sphere of influence—of “how Donald Trump’s view of America was formed, and how it has changed since becoming the most powerful person in the world”—from a writer who has known the president for thirty years. This is an unprecedented, gripping account of the life of a sitting president as he makes history.

As the author will tell you, “If you want some insight into the most unlikely political phenomenon of our lifetimes, you’ll get it here.

Author Bio

Bill O'Reilly is a trailblazing TV journalist who has experienced unprecedented success on cable news and in writing thirteen national number-one bestselling nonfiction books. There are currently more than 17 million books in the Killing series in print. He lives in Long Island.