

# Dead Stars Bruce Wagner

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The New York Times Book of the Dead William McDonald 2016-10-18 The obituary page of The New York Times is a celebration of extraordinary lives. This groundbreaking book includes 300 of the most important and fascinating obituaries the Times has ever published. The obituary page is the section many readers first turn to not only see who died, but to read some of the most inspiring, insightful, often funny, and elegantly written stories celebrating the lives of the men and women who have influenced on our world. William McDonald, The Times' obituary editor who was recently featured in the award-winning documentary *Obit*, selected 320 of the most important and influential obits from the newspaper's archives. In chapters like "Stage and Screen," "Titans of Business," "The Notorious," "Scientists and Healers," "Athletes," and "American Leaders," the entries include a wide variety of newsmakers from the last century and a half, including Annie Oakley, Theodore Roosevelt, Joseph Stalin, Marilyn Monroe, Coco Chanel, Malcolm X, Jackie Robinson and Prince.

Closing Time Joseph Heller 2010-10-26 A darkly comic and ambitious sequel to the American classic *Catch-22*. In *Closing Time*, Joseph Heller returns to the characters of *Catch-22*, now coming to the end of their lives and the century, as is the entire generation that fought in World War II: Yossarian and Milo Minderbinder, the chaplain, and such newcomers as little Sammy Singer and giant Lew, all linked, in an uneasy peace and old age, fighting not the Germans this time, but The End. *Closing Time* deftly satirizes the realities and the myths of America in the half century since WWII: the absurdity of our politics, the decline of our society and our great cities, the greed and hypocrisy of our business and culture -- with the same ferocious humor as *Catch-22*. *Closing Time* is outrageously funny and totally serious, and as brilliant and successful as *Catch-22* itself, a fun-house mirror that captures, at once grotesquely and accurately, the truth about ourselves.

Where We Live Judith Keller 2006 This is a collection of more than 150 images from the Bruce and Nancy Berman Collection of contemporary photographs. These images concentrate on the American landscape and the people and structures to be found in it.

Still Holding Bruce Wagner 2003 In the wake of a fan attack and the events of September 11, a handsome movie star and practicing Buddhist spends a year recuperating in the care of his ruthlessly opportunistic father, an endeavor that is marked by a starlet's effort to make the most of her first big break. 40,000 first printing.

Blast from the Past Ben Elton 2009-10-14 Ready to follow Nick Hornsby and Helen Fielding as the next big thing from Cool Britannia to hit America is Ben Elton. Already known to a wide public television audience as the funnyman behind *Blackadder*, *The Young Ones*, and *The Thin Blue Line*, Elton, author of *Popcorn*, lights up the literary sky with *Blast from the Past*. Part noir thriller, part hilarious send-up of the politics of extremism, *Blast from the Past* is the new novel from English comedy phenomenon (stand-up, playwright, television writer, and author) Ben Elton--a name soon to be known in all circles once Joel Schumacher's film of his book *Popcorn* reaches the silver screen. In the early 80s, when Polly was a seventeen-year-old ideological peace protestor and Jack was a U.S. Army captain stationed at England's Greenham Common, the two had a secret and very unlikely affair. No two people could have had more to argue about, save that they couldn't live without each other, yet one day Jack came to the conclusion that he loved soldiering more than Polly and sacrificed their love to be a career army man. Now, sixteen years later, Polly is a lonely thirty-something social services employee and Jack is a four-star general who has returned to Britain to find her, his only true love. With only one night to resolve their differences, and a knife-wielding stalker lurking in the shadows, for everyone concerned this will be a night like no other.

Night Winds Karl Edward Wagner 2014-05-29 Where once the mighty Kane has passed, no one who lives forgets. Now, down the trail of past battles, Kane travels again. To the ruins of a devastated city peopled only with half-men and the waif they call their queen. To the half-burnt tavern where a woman Kane wronged long ago holds his child in keeping for the Devil. To the cave kingdom of the giants where glory and its aftermath await discovery. To the house of death itself where Kane retrieves a woman in love. The past, the future, the present - all these are one for Kane as he travels through the centuries. Contents: "Undertow" "Two Suns Setting" "The Dark Muse" "Raven's Eyrie" "Lynortis Reprise" "Sing a Last Song of Valdese"

The Armageddon Chord Jeremy Wagner 2019-05-02 "The music was a battle cry heard around the world and throughout Heaven and Hell. It would summon Sethis and call out his dark legions to destroy all those who had light in their hearts..." Deep beneath the Egyptian sands, an ancient, evil song written in hieroglyphics is discovered in the long lost, buried pyramid of the demonic pharaoh, Aknaseth. It is written that if this song is performed for the world to hear, it will unleash the Apocalypse upon the world of man, and Sethis—known commonly as Satan—will reign and grant immortality to the chosen. Nihilistic multi-billionaire, Festus Baustone III—with the help of the malevolent Egyptologist, Helmut Hartkopff—will do whatever it takes to bring the song to life at any cost...even if his only daughter, Mona, is to be sacrificed. Kirk Vaisto, known as the "God of Guitar" by his millions of fans, soon finds himself caught between the forces of divine good and monumental evil. Oblivious to the powerful darkness lurking in his guitar strings, Kirk agrees to work for Baustone and Hartkopff to turn Aknaseth's hieroglyphics into music. Kirk begins a musical journey that takes him from an unholy chapter in ancient Egyptian history to the remains of the true Holy Cross, to the concert stage and to the very edge of Hell itself. Kirk Vaisto will give the performance of a lifetime. Immortality, the end of the world, and the salvation of every mortal soul are the stakes in Jeremy Wagner's, *The Armageddon Chord*,

The Empty Chair Bruce Wagner 2014-12-30 A profound and heart-wrenching work of spiritual storytelling from the internationally acclaimed author of *Dead Stars* Celebrated for his "up-to-the-nanosecond insider's knowledge of the L.A. scene" (*The Washington*

Post), Bruce Wagner takes his storytelling in a radically new direction with two linked novellas. In *First Guru*, a gay Buddhist living in Big Sur achieves enlightenment in the horrific aftermath of his child's suicide. In *Second Guru*, Queenie, an aging wild child, returns to India to complete the spiritual journey of her youth. Told in ravaged, sensuous detail to a fictional Wagner by two strangers on opposite sides of the country, years apart from each other, these stories illuminate the random, chaotic nature of human suffering and the miraculous strength of the human spirit.

**Skeleton Key** David Shenk 2015-06-23 NOW AN EBOOK FOR THE FIRST TIME For fifty years and more than two thousand shows, the Grateful Dead have been earning the "dedication" of more than a million fans. Along the way, Deadheads have built an original and authentic American subculture, with vivid jargon and rich love, and its own legends, myths, and spirituality. *Skeleton Key: A Dictionary for Deadheads* is the first map of what Jerry Garcia calls "the Grateful Dead outback," as seen through the eyes of the faithful, friends, and family, including Bill Walton, Elvis Costello, Tipper Gore, Al Franken, Bob Bralove, Dick Latvala, Blair Jackson, David Gans, Bruce Hornsby, Rob Wasserman, and Robert Hunter. *Skeleton Key* puts you on the Merry Pranksters' bus behind the real Cowboy Neal, uncovers the origins of Cherry Garcia, follows the dancing bear on its trip from psychedelic artifact to trademarked icon, and unlocks the Dead's own tape vault. Informative reading for the new fan or the most grizzled "tourhead," *Skeleton Key* shines throughout with Deadheads' own stories, wit, insiders' knowledge, sincere appreciation of the music of the "band beyond description," and the diverse and soulful culture it inspires.

**After the Blast** Eric Wagner 2020-04-03 On May 18, 1980, people all over the world watched with awe and horror as Mount St. Helens erupted. Fifty-seven people were killed and hundreds of square miles of what had been lush forests and wild rivers were to all appearances destroyed. Ecologists thought they would have to wait years, or even decades, for life to return to the mountain, but when forest scientist Jerry Franklin helicoptered into the blast area a couple of weeks after the eruption, he found small plants bursting through the ash and animals skittering over the ground. Stunned, he realized he and his colleagues had been thinking of the volcano in completely the wrong way. Rather than being a dead zone, the mountain was very much alive. Mount St. Helens has been surprising ecologists ever since, and in *After the Blast* Eric Wagner takes readers on a fascinating journey through the blast area and beyond. From fireweed to elk, the plants and animals Franklin saw would not just change how ecologists approached the eruption and its landscape, but also prompt them to think in new ways about how life responds in the face of seemingly total devastation.

**Vatican Waltz** Roland Merullo 2013-12-03 The new novel from the award-winning author of *Breakfast with Buddha* and *Revere Beach Boulevard* tells the story of a young Catholic woman jolted from a quietly devout life in pursuit of a mysterious calling. Cynthia Piantedosi lives a quiet, unassuming life outside of Boston, guided by her Catholic faith. When she loses her beloved grandmother, she begins experiencing "spells" of such intense spiritual intimacy that she wonders about her sanity. Devoted to her elderly father and not particularly interested in dating and socializing, she develops a deep friendship with her parish priest. His congregation sees him as provocative and radical, but he encourages Cynthia to explore her faith—however it presents itself. When he is killed in a mysterious accident, a message begins to emerge from Cynthia's prayers: God is calling her to be the first female Catholic priest. Her revelation is met with ridicule by certain of the more reactionary officials she reaches out to within the Church. Unable to tune out the divine messages, she lets the power of unswerving faith drive her all the way to the Vatican in pursuit of a destiny she doesn't fully understand—and a turn of events that will inevitably bring long overdue change to the Catholic Church. From the Hardcover edition.

**I Met Someone** Bruce Wagner 2016-03-01 *I Met Someone* is the story of Academy Award-winning actress Dusty Wilding, her wife Allegra, a long-lost daughter, and the unspeakable secret hidden beneath the glamour of their lavish, carefully calibrated celebrity life. After Allegra suffers a miscarriage, Dusty embarks on a search for the daughter she lost at age sixteen, and uncovers the answer to a question that has haunted her for decades. With masterful suspense, Bruce Wagner moves among the perspectives of his characters, revealing their individual trauma and the uncanny connections to one another's past lives. *I Met Someone* plummets the reader down a rabbit hole of the human psyche, with Wagner's remarkable insights into our collective obsession with great wealth and fame, and surprises with unimaginable plot turns and unexpected fate. Alternately tender, shocking, and poetic, this is Wagner's most captivating and affecting novel yet.

**Prominent Families of New York** Lyman Horace Weeks 1898

**The Aztec Treasure House** Evan S. Connell 2003 [The author's] portraits of visionaries and eccentrics are, in the words of the critic Grover Sales, "celebrations of man's insatiable drive to probe unknown frontiers [that] read like superb novels." His subjects are people of passion and purpose, events of legend and desire. He offers stories of the Anasazi Indians, the "old ones" of the southwestern desert; of the grand explorers Marco Polo, Columbus, El Dorado, Magellan, Ibn Batuta; and of heretics, fanatics, scientists, cranks and geniuses. There are tales of fabulous advances made in anthropology, archaeology, astronomy and linguistics. In all, twenty essays appear in [this book].-<http://www.counterpointpress.com>

**Force Majeure** Bruce Wagner 2007-11-01 Bud Wiggins dreamed of achieving fame as a screenwriter. He almost made it. Instead, he finds himself free-falling through a world of hallucinatory absurdity, low comedy, and epic degradation. A Hollywood bottom-feeder who moonlights as a limo driver to pay the bills, both tormented and vicariously aroused by his contact with the industry's elite, Mr. Wiggins bears poignant, paranoid witness to the horror and hysteria that are by-products of "the Business." His phantasmagoric saga, by turns picaresque, pornographic, and poetic, *Force Majeure* is the first of a projected quartet called "Scriptures" that will chronicle the misadventures and transcendental fall and rise -- comic, tragic, and tragicomic -- of Bud Wiggins, Quixote of Babylon.

**Lucky Alan** Jonathan Lethem 2015-02-24 The incomparable Jonathan Lethem returns with nine stories that demonstrate his mastery of the short form. Jonathan Lethem's third collection of stories uncovers a father's nervous breakdown at SeaWorld in "Pending Vegan"; a foundling child rescued from the woods during a blizzard in "Traveler Home"; a political prisoner in a hole in a Brooklyn street in "Procedure in Plain Air"; and a crumbling, haunted "blog" on a seaside cliff in "The Dreaming Jaw, The Salivating Ear." Each of these locates itself in Lethem-land, which can be discovered only by visiting. As in his celebrated novels, Lethem finds the uncanny lurking in the mundane, the irrational self-defeat seeping through our upstanding pursuits, and the tragic undertow of the absurd world(s) in which we live. Devoted fans of Lethem will recognize familiar themes: the anxiety of influence taken to *reductio ad absurdum* in "The King of Sentences"; a hapless, horny outsider summoning bravado in "The Porn Critic"; characters from forgotten comics stranded on a desert island in "Their Back Pages." As always in Lethem, humor and poignancy work in harmony, humans strive desperately for connection, words find themselves misaligned to deeds, and the sentences are glorious.

**The Wilderness** Samantha Harvey 2009-02-17 An Orange Prize Finalist A Man Booker Prize Nominee Winner of the 2009 Betty

Trask Prize A Guardian First Book Award Nominee Jake is in the tailspin of old age. His wife has passed away, his son is in prison, and now he is about to lose his past to Alzheimer's. As the disease takes hold of him, Jake's memories become increasingly unreliable. What happened to his daughter? Is she alive, or long dead? Why is his son imprisoned? And why can't he shake the memory of a yellow dress and one lonely, echoing gunshot? Like Marilynne Robinson's Gilead, The Wilderness holds us in its grip from the first sentence to the last with the sheer beauty of its language and its ruminations on love and loss.

This Fissured Land Madhav Gadgil 1993-03-31 "A masterful study. . . . It does for ecological history what the writings of Marx and Engels did for the study of class relations and social production."—Michael Adas, Rutgers University  
Night in the Lonesome October Roger Zelazny 2017-09

I'm Losing You Bruce Wagner 2012-07-31 "A writer without mercy . . . this book is like a wire stretched across the throat." —Oliver Stone In an epic novel that does for Hollywood what Nashville did for Nashville, I'm Losing You follows the rich and famous and the down and out as their lives intersect in a series of coincidences that exposes the "bigger than life" ferocity of Hollywood—and proves that Bruce Wagner is a talent to be reckoned with. Wagner, author of the novel Dead Stars, examines the psychological complexities of Hollywood reality and fantasy, soaring far beyond the reaches of Robert Stone's Children of Light and Nathaniel West's The Day of the Locust.

Kings County David Goodwillie 2021-07-13 A Brooklyn love story, set to music: Kings County "crystallizes how it feels to be young and in love in New York City" (Stephanie Danler). It's the early 2000s and like generations of ambitious young people before her, Audrey Benton arrives in New York City on a bus from nowhere. Broke but resourceful, she soon finds a home for herself amid the burgeoning music scene in Williamsburg, Brooklyn. But the city's freedom comes with risks, and Audrey makes compromises to survive. As she becomes a minor celebrity in indie rock circles, she finds an unlikely match in Theo Gorski, a shy but idealistic mill-town kid who's struggling to establish himself in the still-patrician world of books. But then an old acquaintance of Audrey's disappears under mysterious circumstances, sparking a series of escalating crises that force the couple to confront a dangerous secret from her past. From the raucous heights of Occupy Wall Street to the comical lows of the publishing industry, from million-dollar art auctions to Bushwick drug dens, Kings County captures New York City at a moment of cultural reckoning. Grappling with the resonant issues and themes of our time—sex and violence, art and commerce, friendship and family—it is an epic coming-of-age tale about love, consequences, bravery, and fighting for one's place in an ever-changing world.

Dead stars Bruce Wagner 2014 Vous vous demandez quelle est l'influence d'Internet, de la pornographie et de la culture people sur les adolescents ? Disons qu'ils y gagnent en vivacité ce qu'ils y perdent en morale. Et que leur ambition peut désormais prendre des formes quelque peu baroques. Prenez Thelma, 13 ans, la plus jeune survivante au monde d'un cancer du sein, qui, après des années de gloire victimaire, doit maintenant penser à sa reconversion, son titre étant menacé par une toute jeune Canadienne. Son rêve ? Jouer dans une série télé. Pour cela, quoi de plus simple que d'appeler à l'aide un autre rescapé célèbre du cancer, Michael Douglas ? Passons à Reeyonna, 16 ans. Passionnée par les adolescents les plus célèbres d'Hollywood, Reeyonna rêve de faire un jour la une des magazines, comme son idole Rihanna. Alors qu'elle met tout en oeuvre pour y arriver, son petit ami, Rikki, passe quant à lui ses journées à regarder du porno sur Internet pendant que son frère, Jerzy, traque les photos de stars malades pour un site spécialisé. Autant de jeunes addicts à la célébrité, à l'argent, au spectacle, prêts à tout pour faire parler d'eux, quitte à avoir recours aux solutions les plus extrêmes. Leur parcours dans l'usine à rêve promet d'être explosif. Avec ce roman choral, qui évoque les meilleures séries américaines, d'Entourage à Californication, Bruce Wagner en contemporain absolu fait d'Hollywood la métaphore d'un monde obsédé par la notoriété et le voyeurisme. Son style remarquable emporte tel un tsunami des personnages réels ou imaginaires en plein naufrage spirituel. C'est en effet un véritable Enfer de Dante revu et corrigé qu'il nous propose ici, à cette différence près que les tourments des damnés n'avaient, à l'époque, rien d'aussi jubilatoire.

The Future Won't Be Long Jarett Kobek 2017-08-15 "A brilliant re-creation of a disappeared New York of cheap rents, club kids and Bret Easton Ellis. . . . You can't stop time's passage, this absorbing novel reminds us. You can only find someone to love to help you survive it." —Sam Sacks, The Wall Street Journal "Have you been pining for tales of drug-fueled big-city debauchery set in the pre-digital era, when MTV was king, people still used landlines and hookups were orchestrated on dance floors instead of dating apps? Look no further." —The Washington Post "Hard not to recommend. . . . Full of delightfully cynical aphorisms. . . . At the heart of The Future Won't Be Long is the friendship between Baby and Adeline—at once loving and destructive and convincingly drawn by Kobek." —Kevin Nguyen, GQ.com A euphoric, provocative novel about friendship, sex, art, clubbing, and ambition set in 1980s and '90s New York City, from the author of I Hate the Internet When Adeline, a wealthy art student, chances upon a young man from the Midwest known only as Baby in a shady East Village squat, the two begin a fiery friendship that propels them through a decade of New York life. In the apartments and bars of downtown Manhattan to the infamous nightclub The Limelight, Adeline is Baby's guardian angel, introducing him to a city not yet overrun by gentrification. They live through an era of New York punctuated by the deaths of Warhol, Basquiat, Wojnarowicz, and Tompkins Square Park. Adeline is fiercely protective of Baby, even bringing him home with her to Los Angeles, but he soon takes over his own education. Once just a kid off the bus from Wisconsin, Baby relishes ketamine-fueled clubbing nights and acid days in LA, and he falls deep into the Club Kid twilight zone of sexual excess. As Adeline develops into the artist she never really expected to become and flees to the nascent tech scene in San Francisco, Baby faces his own desire for artistic expression and recognition. He must write his way out of clubbing life, and their friendship, an alliance that seemed nearly impenetrable, is tested and betrayed, leaving each unmoored as the world around them seems to be unraveling. Riotously funny and wise, The Future Won't Be Long is an ecstatic, propulsive novel coursing with a rare vitality, an elegy to New York and to the relationships that have the power to change—and save—our lives.

I'll Let You Go Bruce Wagner 2012-06-20 "[Wagner] slices open the self-satisfied bosom of Los Angeles yet again in his third novel, a sprawling family saga that trades the usual mush-mouthed sentimentalities for cascading shards of knife-edged vignettes. A masterful, modern-day fantasy of millionaires and madmen, fathers and sons, reality and dreams." --Kirkus Reviews Bruce Wagner's I'm Losing You was hailed as "outrageous -- dead-on in every way" by Janet Maslin in The New York Times. New York magazine's Walter Kirn called it "the year's best book." And John Updike, in The New Yorker, wrote that Bruce Wagner "writes like a wizard." In I'll Let You Go, Wagner offers a stunning novel that surpasses anything he's done before. Twelve-year-old Toulouse "Tull" Trotter lives on his grandfather's vast Bel-Air parkland estate with his mother, the beautiful, drug-addicted Katrina, a landscape artist who specializes in topiary laby-rinths. He spends most of his time with his young cousins Lucy, the girl detective, and Edward, a prodigy undaunted by the disfiguring effects of Apert Syndrome. One day, an impulsive revelation from Lucy sets in motion a chain of events that changes Tull -- and the Trotter family -- forever. Though the story unfolds in contemporary Los Angeles, the reader hears echoes of Proust and 1,001 Nights as Toulouse seeks his lost father, a woman finds her lost love, and a

family of unimaginable wealth learns that its fate is tied to those of the orphan Amaryllis (who officially aspires to be a saint) and her protector, a courtly giant of a homeless schizophrenic -- both of them on the run from the law. Along a path shaded by murder and mysticism, we meet such unforgettable characters as Fitzsimmons, a deranged former social worker; the enterprising Monasterio family of servants (Candelaria, Epitacio, and Eulogio); "Someone-Help-Me", a streetwise devil; and Pullman, a seemingly ageless Great Dane. Complexly wrought, deeply moving, and scathingly ironic, *I'll Let You Go* dazzles the reader with the unique blend of gorgeous prose, acerbic wit, and deep emotion that are the specific province of Bruce Wagner. From the Hardcover edition.

The Adventures of Ford Fairlane Rex Weiner 2018-07 Before the movie about a rock n' roll detective there were Rex Weiner's noirish stories, capturing the punk rock 1970s in New York and Los Angeles in all their gritty glory. First published in the New York Rocker and the LA Weekly in 1979-1980, the stories became the basis for the 20th Century Fox motion picture starring Andrew Dice Clay. From CBGBs, the Mudd Club and Tier 3 in NYC to the Starwood, Zero Zero and Cuckoo's Nest in LA, Ford Fairlane takes you back to a sexy, violent and explosively creative time and place that live on in rock n' roll legend, brought authentically to life in these hardboiled stories.

A Guide for Murdered Children Sarah Sparrow 2018-03-20 "In her astonishing thriller, Sarah Sparrow has joined the ranks of Shirley Jackson and Stephen King. A warning: there is no safe place to read this book." —David Cronenberg Terrifying, thoroughly original and hauntingly written, *A Guide for Murdered Children* is a psychological thriller—and otherworldly surprise. We've heard it said that there is no justice in this world. But what if there really was? What if the souls of murdered children were able to briefly return, inhabit adult bodies and wreak revenge on the monstrous killers who stole their lives? Such is the unthinkable mystery confronting ex-NYPD detective Willow Wylde, fresh out of rehab and finally able to find a job running a Cold Case squad in suburban Detroit. When the two rookie cops assigned to him take an obsessive interest in a decades-old disappearance of a brother and sister, Willow begins to suspect something out of the ordinary is afoot. And when he uncovers a series of church basement AA-type meetings made up of the slain innocents, a new way of looking at life, death, murder—and missed opportunities—is revealed to him. Mystical, harrowing and powerfully moving, *A Guide for Murdered Children* is a genre-busting, mind-bending twist on the fine line between the ordinary... and the unfathomable.

Consumed David Cronenberg 2014-09-30 "An eye-opening dazzler" (Stephen King) about a pair of globetrotting, gore-obsessed journalists whose entanglement in a French philosopher's death becomes a surreal journey into global conspiracy from legendary filmmaker David Cronenberg. Stylish and camera-obsessed, Naomi and Nathan thrive on the yellow journalism of the social-media age. Naomi finds herself drawn to the headlines surrounding a famous couple, Célestine and Aristide, Marxist philosophers and sexual libertines. Célestine has been found dead, and Aristide has disappeared. Police suspect him of killing her and consuming parts of her body. Yet Naomi sets off to find him, and as she delves deeper into the couple's lives, she discovers the news story may only skim the surface of the disturbing acts they performed together. Journalist Nathan, meanwhile, is in Budapest photographing the controversial work of an unlicensed surgeon named Zoltán Molnár, once sought by Interpol for organ trafficking. After sleeping with one of Molnár's patients, Nathan contracts a rare STD called Roiphe's and travels to Toronto, determined to meet the man who discovered the syndrome. Dr. Barry Roiphe, Nathan learns, now studies his own adult daughter, whose bizarre behavior masks a devastating secret. These parallel narratives become entwined in a gripping, dreamlike plot that involves geopolitics, 3-D printing, North Korea, the Cannes Film Festival, cancer, and, in an incredible number of varieties, sex. *Consumed* is an exuberant, provocative debut novel from one of the world's leading film directors, a writer of "fierce sculptural intensity" (Jonathan Lethem, *The New York Times Book Review*) who makes it "impossible to look away" (Publishers Weekly).

Dead Stars Bruce Wagner 2013-07-30 "Dead Stars is the London Fields of Los Angeles, the Ulysses of TMZ culture—an immensely literate, fearsomely interior novel about people who are neither."—Tom Bissell, *GQ* At age thirteen, Telma is famous as the world's youngest breast cancer survivor until threatened with obscurity by a four-year-old who's just undergone a mastectomy.... Reeyonna believes that auditioning for pregnant teenage porn will help fulfill her dream of befriending Kanye West.... Jackie, a photographer once celebrated for arty nudes of her young daughter, is working at a Sears Family Portrait boutique.... And Oscar-winning Michael Douglas searches for meaning while his wife, Catherine, guest-stars on *Glee*. Moving forward with the inexorable force of a tsunami, *Dead Stars* is Bruce Wagner's most lavish and remarkable translation yet of the national zeitgeist: post-privacy porn culture, a Kardashianworld of rapid-cycling, disposable narrative where reality-show triumph is the new American narcotic.

Play It as It Lays Joan Didion 2017-05-09 A "scathing novel" of one woman's path of self-destruction in 1960s Hollywood—by the New York Times—bestselling author of *The White Album* (*The Washington Post Book World*). Spare, elegant, and terrifying, *Play It as It Lays* is the unforgettable story of a woman and a society come undone. Raised in the ghost town of Silver Wells, Nevada, Maria Wyeth is an ex-model and the star of two films directed by her estranged husband, Carter Lang. But in the spiritual desert of 1960s Los Angeles, Maria has lost the plot of her own life. Her daughter, Kate, was born with an "aberrant chemical in her brain." Her long-troubled marriage has slipped beyond repair, and her disastrous love affairs and strained friendships provide little comfort. Her only escape is to get in her car and drive the freeway—in the fast lane with the radio turned up high—until it runs out "somewhere no place at all where the flawless burning concrete just stopped." But every ride to nowhere, every sleepless night numbed by pills and booze and sex, makes it harder for Maria to find the meaning in another day. Told with profound economy of style and a "vision as bleak and precise as Eliot's in 'The Wasteland'," *Play It as It Lays* ruthlessly dissects the dark heart of the American dream (*The New York Times*). It is a searing masterpiece "from one of the very few writers of our time who approaches her terrible subject with absolute seriousness, with fear and humility and awe" (Joyce Carol Oates, *The New York Times Book Review*).

The Marvel Universe Bruce Wagner 2020-12 **THE MARVEL UNIVERSE: ORIGIN STORIES** tracks the hallucinatory, transcendent, interconnected lives and deaths of an ensemble - an orphaned billionaire, a black man wrongly convicted of murder, a schizophrenic child obsessed with the comic book character Wolverine, a cancelled television showrunner, a hustler pretending to be the love child of Elon Musk, an aging standup comedienne - as they slouch toward 2020. For some of them, that pandemic year of tectonic social unrest will be their last; for others, a watershed allowing them to flourish in the new reality, one that surpasses any Hollywood tent-pole franchise's imaginings. It is truly the time of horror and chaos, yet of astonishing marvels...

The Chrysanthemum Palace Bruce Wagner 2013-03-26 *The Chrysanthemum Palace* introduces Bertie Krohn, the only child of Perry Krohn, creator of TV's longest running space opera, *Starwatch: The Navigators* (which counts Jennifer Aniston and Donald Rumsfeld among its obsessed fans). Bertie recounts the story of the last months in the lives of his two companions: Thad Michelet, author, actor, and son of a literary titan; and Clea Freemantle, emotionally fragile daughter of a legendary movie star, long dead.

Scions of entertainment greatness, they call themselves the Three Musketeers; between them, as Bertie says, "there was more than enough material to bring psychoanalysis back into vogue." As the incestuous clique attempts to scale the peaks claimed by their sacred yet monstrous parents over a two-week filming of a Starwatch episode in which they costar, Bertie scrupulously chronicles their highs and lows -- as well as their futile struggles against the ravenous, narcissistic, Convulsive and poignant, The Chrysanthemum Palace is a tragic tale of friendship and fate writ large -- a tour de force by a major writer whose narrative delivers devastating emotional impact.

Caterpillars of Eastern North America David L. Wagner 2010-04-25 This lavishly illustrated guide will enable you to identify the caterpillars of nearly 700 butterflies and moths found east of the Mississippi. The more than 1,200 color photographs and two dozen line drawings include numerous exceptionally striking images. The giant silk moths, tiger moths, and many other species covered include forest pests, common garden guests, economically important species, and of course, the Mescal Worm and Mexican Jumping Bean caterpillars. Full-page species accounts cover almost 400 species, with up to six images per species including an image of the adult plus succinct text with information on distribution, seasonal activity, foodplants, and life history. These accounts are generously complemented with additional images of earlier instars, closely related species, noteworthy behaviors, and other intriguing aspects of caterpillar biology. Many caterpillars are illustrated here for the first time. Dozens of new foodplant records are presented and erroneous records are corrected. The book provides considerable information on the distribution, biology, and taxonomy of caterpillars beyond that available in other popular works on Eastern butterflies and moths. The introductory chapter covers caterpillar structure, life cycles, rearing, natural enemies, photography, and conservation. The section titled "Caterpillar Projects" will be of special interest to educators. Given the dearth of accessible guides on the identification and natural history of caterpillars, Caterpillars of Eastern North America is a must for entomologists and museum curators, forest managers, conservation biologists and others who seek a compact, easy-to-use guide to the caterpillars of this vast region. A compact guide to nearly 700 caterpillars east of the Mississippi, from forest pests to garden guests and economically important species 1,200 color photos and 24 line drawings enable easy identification Full-page species accounts with image of adult insect for almost 400 species, plus succinct text on distribution and other vital information Many caterpillars illustrated here for the first time Current information on distribution, biology, and taxonomy not found in other popular works A section geared toward educators, "Caterpillar Projects" An indispensable resource for all who seek an easy-to-use guide to the caterpillars of this vast region

The Big Goodbye Sam Wasson 2020-02-04 From the New York Times bestselling author of *Fifth Avenue, Five A.M.* and *Fosse* comes the revelatory account of the making of a modern American masterpiece *Chinatown* is the Holy Grail of 1970s cinema. Its twist ending is the most notorious in American film and its closing line of dialogue the most haunting. Here for the first time is the incredible true story of its making. In Sam Wasson's telling, it becomes the defining story of the most colorful characters in the most colorful period of Hollywood history. Here is Jack Nicholson at the height of his powers, as compelling a movie star as there has ever been, embarking on his great, doomed love affair with Anjelica Huston. Here is director Roman Polanski, both predator and prey, haunted by the savage death of his wife, returning to Los Angeles, the scene of the crime, where the seeds of his own self-destruction are quickly planted. Here is the fevered dealmaking of "The Kid" Robert Evans, the most consummate of producers. Here too is Robert Towne's fabled script, widely considered the greatest original screenplay ever written. Wasson for the first time peels off layers of myth to provide the true account of its creation. Looming over the story of this classic movie is the imminent eclipse of the '70s filmmaker-friendly studios as they gave way to the corporate Hollywood we know today. In telling that larger story, *The Big Goodbye* will take its place alongside classics like *Easy Riders*, *Raging Bulls* and *The Devil's Candy* as one of the great movie-world books ever written. Praise for Sam Wasson: "Wasson is a canny chronicler of old Hollywood and its outsize personalities...More than that, he understands that style matters, and, like his subjects, he has a flair for it." - *The New Yorker* "Sam Wasson is a fabulous social historian because he finds meaning in situations and stories that would otherwise be forgotten if he didn't sleuth them out, lovingly." - Hilton Als

Gould's Book of Fish Richard Flanagan 2014-09-23 Winner of the Commonwealth Prize New York Times Book Review—Notable Fiction 2002 Entertainment Weekly—Best Fiction of 2002 Los Angeles Times Book Review—Best of the Best 2002 Washington Post Book World—Raves 2002 Chicago Tribune—Favorite Books of 2002 Christian Science Monitor—Best Books 2002 Publishers Weekly—Best Books of 2002 The Cleveland Plain Dealer—Year's Best Books Minneapolis Star Tribune—Standout Books of 2002 Once upon a time, when the earth was still young, before the fish in the sea and all the living things on land began to be destroyed, a man named William Buelow Gould was sentenced to life imprisonment at the most feared penal colony in the British Empire, and there ordered to paint a book of fish. He fell in love with the black mistress of the warder and discovered too late that to love is not safe; he attempted to keep a record of the strange reality he saw in prison, only to realize that history is not written by those who are ruled. Acclaimed as a masterpiece around the world, *Gould's Book of Fish* is at once a marvelously imagined epic of nineteenth-century Australia and a contemporary fable, a tale of horror, and a celebration of love, all transformed by a convict painter into pictures of fish.

After Bruce Greyson 2022-03-15 The world's leading expert on near-death experiences reveals his journey toward rethinking the nature of death, life, and the continuity of consciousness. Cases of remarkable experiences on the threshold of death have been reported since ancient times, and are described today by 10% of people whose hearts stop. The medical world has generally ignored these "near-death experiences," dismissing them as "tricks of the brain" or wishful thinking. But after his patients started describing events that he could not just sweep under the rug, Dr. Bruce Greyson began to investigate. As a physician without a religious belief system, he approached near-death experiences from a scientific perspective. In *After*, he shares the transformative lessons he has learned over four decades of research. Our culture has tended to view dying as the end of our consciousness, the end of our existence—a dreaded prospect that for many people evokes fear and anxiety. But Dr. Greyson shows how scientific revelations about the dying process can support an alternative theory. Dying could be the threshold between one form of consciousness and another, not an ending but a transition. This new perspective on the nature of death can transform the fear of dying that pervades our culture into a healthy view of it as one more milestone in the course of our lives. *After* challenges us to open our minds to these experiences and to what they can teach us, and in so doing, expand our understanding of consciousness and of what it means to be human.

Vagablonde Anna Dorn 2020-05-26 A hilarious and scathing look at the tensions between creativity and success in the era of Instagram

Leeds House T/James Reagan 2014-11-25 *Leeds House* is a post-Empire horror novel about the millennial generation. The question this novel answers is, "How do you scare a group of kids who have already seen everything on the internet?" T/James

Reagan, after satirizing celebrities and the fashion industry, moves on to the horror genre for his most twisted novel yet. In Leeds House, members of the metalcore band "Lies As Language" end up in New Jersey's Pine Barrens, where they're confronted with every millennial's ultimate fear... being held accountable for their own actions. With no one else to blame, each character is forced to pay the debts they've accrued through their selfish, narcissistic decisions. Drawing inspiration from sources like *Eastbound & Down* and *The Evil Dead*, the novel aggressively explores such topics as Christianity, homosexuality, and the crumbling music business. Filled with offensive humor, VHS horror movie nostalgia, and a story that demands you become part of the journey, Reagan's novel offers a unique experience for those readers willing to step inside Leeds House.

**The Real Anthony Fauci** Robert F. Kennedy 2021-11-16 Pharma-funded mainstream media has convinced millions of Americans that Dr. Anthony Fauci is a hero. He is anything but. As director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), Dr. Anthony Fauci dispenses \$6.1 billion in annual taxpayer-provided funding for scientific research, allowing him to dictate the subject, content, and outcome of scientific health research across the globe. Fauci uses the financial clout at his disposal to wield extraordinary influence over hospitals, universities, journals, and thousands of influential doctors and scientists—whose careers and institutions he has the power to ruin, advance, or reward. During more than a year of painstaking and meticulous research, Robert F. Kennedy Jr. unearthed a shocking story that obliterates media spin on Dr. Fauci . . . and that will alarm every American—Democrat or Republican—who cares about democracy, our Constitution, and the future of our children's health. *The Real Anthony Fauci* reveals how "America's Doctor" launched his career during the early AIDS crisis by partnering with pharmaceutical companies to sabotage safe and effective off-patent therapeutic treatments for AIDS. Fauci orchestrated fraudulent studies, and then pressured US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulators into approving a deadly chemotherapy treatment he had good reason to know was worthless against AIDS. Fauci repeatedly violated federal laws to allow his Pharma partners to use impoverished and dark-skinned children as lab rats in deadly experiments with toxic AIDS and cancer chemotherapies. In early 2000, Fauci shook hands with Bill Gates in the library of Gates' \$147 million Seattle mansion, cementing a partnership that would aim to control an increasingly profitable \$60 billion global vaccine enterprise with unlimited growth potential. Through funding leverage and carefully cultivated personal relationships with heads of state and leading media and social media institutions, the Pharma-Fauci-Gates alliance exercises dominion over global health policy. *The Real Anthony Fauci* details how Fauci, Gates, and their cohorts use their control of media outlets, scientific journals, key government and quasi-governmental agencies, global intelligence agencies, and influential scientists and physicians to flood the public with fearful propaganda about COVID-19 virulence and pathogenesis, and to muzzle debate and ruthlessly censor dissent.

**Turn of the Century** Kurt Andersen 2011-03-09 As big and exciting as the next century, this is a novel of real life at our giddy, feverish, topsy-turvy edge of the millennium. *Turn of the Century* is a good old-fashioned novel about the day after tomorrow—an uproarious, exquisitely observed panorama of our world as the twentieth century morphs into the twenty-first, transforming family, marriage, and friendship and propelled by the supercharged global businesses and new technologies that make everyone's lives shake and spin a little faster. As the year 2000 progresses, George Mactier and Lizzie Zimbalist, ten years married, are caught up in the whirl of their centrifugally accelerating lives. George is a TV producer for the upstart network MBC, launching a truly and weirdly groundbreaking new show that blurs the line between fact and fiction. Lizzie is a software entrepreneur dealing with the breakneck pleasures and pains of running her own company in an industry where the rules are rewritten daily. Rocketing between Los Angeles and Seattle, with occasional stopovers at home in Manhattan for tag-team parenting of their three children, George and Lizzie are the kind of businesspeople who, growing up in the sixties and seventies, never dreamed they would end up in business. They're too busy to spend the money that's rolling in, and too smart not to feel ambivalent about their crazed, high-gloss existences, but nothing seems to slow the roller-coaster momentum of their inter-secting lives and careers. However, after Lizzie, recovering from a Microsoft deal gone awry, becomes a confidante and adviser to George's boss, billionaire media mogul Harold Mose, the couple discovers that no amount of sophisticated spin can obscure basic instincts: envy, greed, suspicion, sexual temptation--and, maybe, love. When they and their children are finally drawn into a thrilling, high-tech corporate hoax that sends Wall Street reeling (and makes one person very, very rich), George and Lizzie can only marvel at life's oversized surprises and hold on for dear life. Like Tom Wolfe's *Bonfire of the Vanities*, Kurt Andersen's *Turn of the Century* lays bare the follies of our age with laser-beam precision, creating memorable characters and dissecting the ways we think, speak, and navigate this new era of extreme capitalism and mind-boggling technology. Entertaining, imaginative, knowing, and wise, *Turn of the Century* is a richly plotted comedy of manners about the way we live now.

**David Cronenberg** David Schwartz 2021-03-15 From his early horror movies, including *Scanners*, *Videodrome*, *Rabid*, and *The Fly*—with their exploding heads, mutating sex organs, rampaging parasites, and scientists turning into insects—to his inventive adaptations of books by William Burroughs (*Naked Lunch*), Don DeLillo (*Cosmopolis*), and Bruce Wagner (*Maps to the Stars*), Canadian director David Cronenberg (b. 1943) has consistently dramatized the struggle between the aspirations of the mind and the messy realities of the flesh. "I think of human beings as a strange mixture of the physical and the non-physical, and both of these things have their say at every moment we're alive," says Cronenberg. "My films are some kind of strange metaphysical passion play." Moving deftly between genre and arthouse filmmaking and between original screenplays and literary adaptations, Cronenberg's work is thematically consistent and marked by a rigorous intelligence, a keen sense of humor, and a fearless engagement with the nature of human existence. He has been exploring the most primal themes since the beginning of his career and continues to probe them with growing maturity and depth. Cronenberg's work has drawn the interest of some of the most intelligent contemporary film critics, and the fifteen interviews in this volume feature remarkably in-depth and insightful conversations with such acclaimed writers as Amy Taubin, Gary Indiana, David Breskin, Dennis Lim, Richard Porton, Gavin Smith, and more. The pieces herein reveal Cronenberg to be one of the most articulate and deeply philosophical directors now working, and they comprise an essential companion to an endlessly provocative and thoughtful body of work.