

CASSIDY PUCKETT

Redefining Geek

Bias and the Five Hidden Habits of Tech-Savvy Teens

APRIL | 320 p. | 18 halftones, 10 tables | 6 x 9 | Cloth \$95.00 Paper \$18.00

Picture a typical computer geek. Likely white, male, and someone you'd say has a "natural instinct" for technology. Yet, after six years teaching technology classes to first-generation, low-income middle school students in Oakland, California, Cassidy Puckett has seen firsthand that being good with technology is not something people are born with—it's something they learn. In *Redefining Geek*, she overturns the stereotypes around the digitally savvy and identifies the habits that can help everyone cultivate their inner geek.

Drawing on observations and interviews with a diverse group of students around the country, Puckett zeroes in on five technology learning habits that enable tech-savvy teens to learn new technologies: a willingness to try and fail, management of frustration and boredom, use of models, and the abilities to use design logic and identify efficiencies. In *Redefining Geek*, she shows how to measure and build these habits, and she demonstrates how many teens historically marginalized in STEM are already using these habits and would benefit from recognition for their talent, access to further learning opportunities, and support in career pathways. She argues that if we can develop, recognize, and reward these technological learning habits in all kids—especially girls and historically marginalized racial and ethnic groups—we can address many educational inequities and disparities in STEM.

Revealing how being good with technology is not about natural ability but habit and persistence, *Redefining Geek* speaks to the ongoing conversation on equity in technology education and argues for a more inclusive technology learning experience for all students.

"*Redefining Geek* will serve as an essential guide for a generation of educators who are grappling with how best to teach and lead in this technological age. Puckett draws on a deep data set to redefine what it means to be competent with technology, bust a pile of myths much in need of busting, and offer clear steps for helping students develop the habits they need to succeed in life, work, and play. This book will guide how we tackle digital inequality and support the learning process of young people of all races, ethnicities, and genders for years to come."
—John Palfrey, president, John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

Cassidy Puckett is assistant professor of sociology at Emory University.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

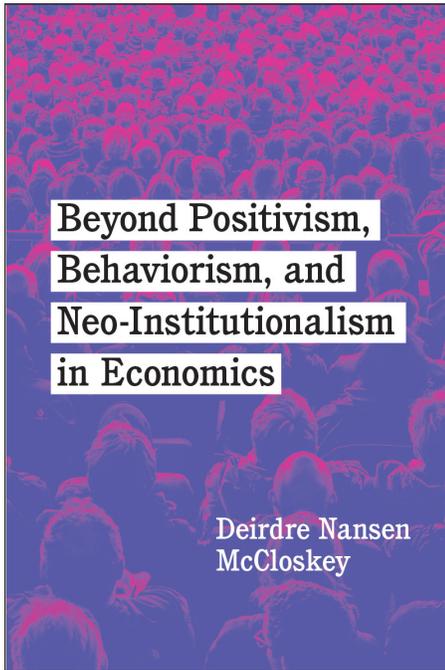
Introduction: Why Are Some People So Good with Technology?
 Chapter 1. Why Does Digital Inequality Persist?
 Chapter 2. What Helps People Learn: Three General Technology Learning Habits
 Chapter 3. Techie Tricks: The Two Technology-Specific Habits
 Chapter 4. Recognizing the Five Habits: The Digital Adaptability Scale
 Chapter 5. The Five Habits, Teens' Futures, and Digital Inequality
 Chapter 6. Tackling Digital Inequality: Gatekeepers
 Conclusion: Envisioning an Equitable Future
 Acknowledgments
 Appendix: A Reflection on Mixed-Methods Research
 Notes
 Index

EDUCATION

DEIRDRE NANSEN MCCLOSKEY

Beyond Positivism, Behaviorism, and Neoinstitutionalism in Economics

JUNE | 192 p. | 6 x 9 | Cloth \$97.50 Paper \$30.00



Deirdre Nansen McCloskey is distinguished professor emerita of economics and history and professor emerita of English and communication, at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

In *Beyond Positivism, Behaviorism, and Neoinstitutionalism in Economics*, Deirdre Nansen McCloskey zeroes in on the authoritarian cast of recent economics, arguing for a re-focusing on the liberated human. The behaviorist positivism fashionable in the field since the 1930s treats people from the outside. It yielded in Williamson and North a manipulative neo-institutionalism. McCloskey argues that institutions as causes are mainly temporary and intermediate, not ultimate. They are human-made, depending on words, myth, ethics, ideology, history, identity, professionalism, gossip, movies, what your mother taught you. Humans create conversations as they go, in the economy as in the rest of life.

In engaging and erudite prose, McCloskey exhibits in detail the scientific failures of neo-institutionalism. She proposes a “humanomics,” an economics with the humans left in. Humanomics keeps theory, quantification, experiment, mathematics, econometrics, though insisting on more true rigor than is usual. It adds what can be learned about the economy from history, philosophy, literature, and all the sciences of humans. McCloskey reaffirms the durability of “market-tested innovation” against the imagined imperfections to be corrected by a perfect government. With her trademark zeal and incisive wit, she rebuilds the foundations of economics.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction The Argument in Brief

Part I. Economics Is in Scientific Trouble

Chapter 1. An Antique, Unethical, and Badly Measured Behaviorism Doesn't Yield Good Economic Science or Good Politics
Chapter 2. Economics Needs to Get Serious about Measuring the Economy

Chapter 3. The Number of Unmeasured “Imperfections” Is Embarrassingly Long
Chapter 4. Historical Economics Can Measure Them, Showing Them to Be Small
Chapter 5. The Worst of Orthodox Positivism Lacks Ethics and Measurement

Part II. Neoinstitutionalism Shares in the Troubles

Chapter 6. Even the Best of Neoinstitutionalism Lacks Measurement
Chapter 7. And “Culture,” or Mistaken History, Will Not Repair It

Chapter 8. That Is, Neoinstitutionalism, Like the Rest of Behavioral Positivism, Fails as History and as Economics

Chapter 9. As It Fails in Logic and in Philosophy

Chapter 10. Neoinstitutionalism, in Short, Is Not a Scientific Success

Part III. Humanomics Can Save the Science

Chapter 11. But It's Been Hard for Positivists to Understand Humanomics
Chapter 12. Yet We Can Get a Humanomics
Chapter 13. And Although We Can't Save Private Max U

Chapter 14. We Can Save an Ethical Humanomics

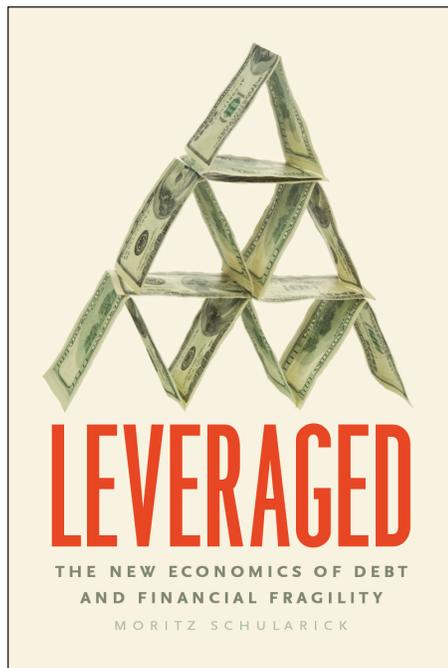
Acknowledgments

Notes

Works Cited

Index

ECONOMICS



Moritz Schularick is professor of economics at Sciences Po in Paris and at the University of Bonn, Germany. He is a fellow of the Institute for New Economic Thinking and has held appointments at New York University and the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

Edited by **MORITZ SCHULARICK**

Leveraged

The New Economics of Debt and Financial Fragility

JULY | 336 p. | 79 line drawings, 17 tables | 6 x 9 | Cloth \$55.00

The 2008 financial crisis was a seismic event that laid bare how financial institutions' instabilities can have devastating effects on societies and economies. COVID-19 brought similar financial devastation at the beginning of 2020 and once more massive interventions by central banks were needed to head off the collapse of the financial system. All of which begs the question: why is our financial system so fragile and vulnerable that it needs government support so often?

For a generation of economists who have risen to prominence since 2008, these events have defined not only how they view financial instability, but financial markets more broadly. *Leveraged* brings together these voices to take stock of what we have learned about the costs and causes of financial fragility and to offer a new canonical framework for understanding it. Their message: the origins of financial instability in modern economies run deeper than the technical debates around banking regulation, countercyclical capital buffers, or living wills for financial institutions. *Leveraged* offers a fundamentally new picture of how financial institutions and societies coexist, for better or worse.

The essays here mark a new starting point for research in financial economics. As we muddle through the effects of a second financial crisis in this young century, *Leveraged* provides a road map and a research agenda for the future.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction | *The New Economics of Debt and Financial Fragility*

Moritz Schularick, University of Bonn and Institute for New Economic Thinking

PART 1: FINANCE UNBOUND: THE RISE OF FINANCE AND THE ECONOMY

Chapter 1 | *How to Think About Finance*

Atif Mian, Princeton University

Chapter 2 | *Reconsidering the Costs and Benefits of Debt Booms for the Economy*

Emil Verner, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Sloan School of Management

PART 2: RISK-TAKING: INCENTIVES, INVESTORS, INSTITUTIONS

Chapter 3 | *Are Bank CEOs to Blame?*

Rüdiger Fahlenbrach, Swiss Finance Institute

Chapter 4 | *A New Narrative of Investors, Subprime Lending, and the 2008 Crisis*

Stefania Albanesi, University of Pittsburgh

Chapter 5 | *Bank Capital Before and After Financial Crises*

Óscar Jordà, University of California, Davis

Björn Richter, Pompeu Fabra University

Moritz Schularick, University of Bonn

Alan M. Taylor, University of California, Davis

PART 3: MISPRICING RISKS: CREDIT BOOMS AND RISK PREMIA

Chapter 6 | *Beliefs and Risk Taking*

Alessia De Stefani, Danmarks Nationalbank

Kaspar Zimmermann, University of Bonn

Chapter 7 | *A New Approach to Measuring Banks' Risk Exposure*

Juliane Begenau, Stanford University

Chapter 8 | *Is Risk Mispriced in Credit Booms?*

Tyler Muir, University of California, Los Angeles

PART 4: FINANCIAL CRISES: RECONSIDERING THE ORIGINS AND CONSEQUENCES

Chapter 9 | *Historical Banking Crises: A New Database and a Reassessment of their Incidence and Severity*

Matthew Baron, Johnson Graduate School of Management, Cornell University

Daniel Dieckelmann, Freie Universität Berlin

Chapter 10 | *Was the US Great Depression a Credit Boom Gone Wrong?*

Natacha Postel-Vinay, London School of Economics

Chapter 11 | *Sectoral Credit Booms and Financial Stability*

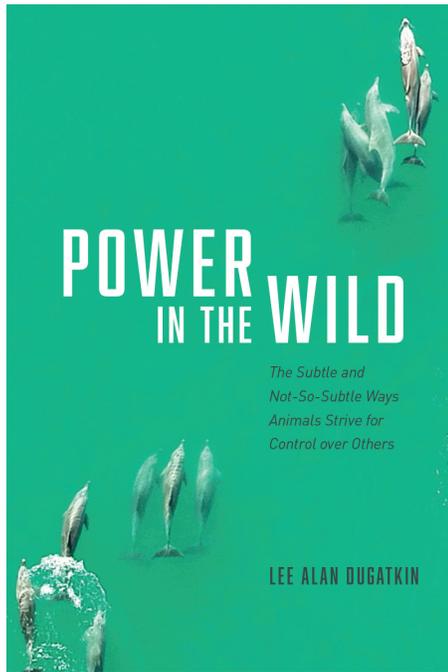
Karsten Müller, Princeton University

LEE ALAN DUGATKIN

Power in the Wild

The Subtle and Not-So-Subtle Ways
Animals Strive for Control over Others

APRIL | 208 p. | 8 color plates, 1 halftone, 1 table | 6 x 9 | Cloth \$25.00



Praise for *How to Tame a Fox (and Build a Dog)*

“A story that is part science, part Russian fairy tale, and part spy thriller. . . . Sparkling.”—*New York Times Book Review*

“Extraordinary.”—*Times Literary Supplement*

“If you read only two biology books this year, this is one of those two that you simply must read.”—*Forbes*

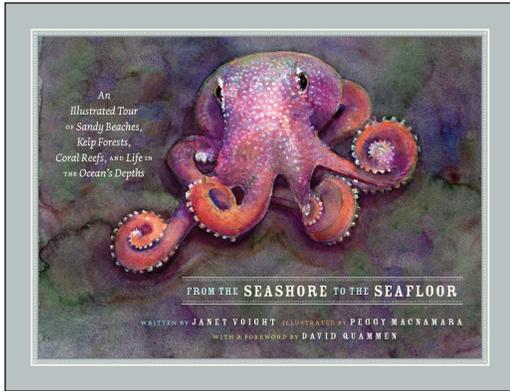
Lee Alan Dugatkin is a behavioral ecologist and historian of science in the Department of Biology at the University of Louisville. Among his ten books are *How to Tame a Fox (and Build a Dog)*, *Mr. Jefferson and the Giant Moose*, and *Principles of Animal Behavior*, all published by the University of Chicago Press.

The quest for power in animals is so much richer, so much more nuanced than who wins what knock-down, drag-out fight. Indeed, power struggles among animals often look more like an opera than a boxing match. Tracing the path to power for over thirty different species on six continents, writer and behavioral ecologist Lee Alan Dugatkin takes us on a journey around the globe, shepherded by leading researchers who have discovered that in everything from hyenas to dolphins, bonobos to field mice, cichlid fish to cuttlefish, copperhead snakes to ravens, and meerkats to mongooses, power revolves around spying, deception, manipulation, forming alliances, breaking up alliances, complex assessments of potential opponents, building social networks, and more. Power pervades every aspect of the social life of animals: what they eat, where they eat, where they live, who they mate with, how many offspring they produce, who they join forces with, and who they work to depose. In some species, power can even change an animal’s sex. Nor are humans invulnerable to this magnificently intricate melodrama: Dugatkin’s tales of the researchers studying power in animals are full of unexpected pitfalls, twists and turns, serendipity, and the pure joy of scientific discovery.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Preface
- 1 Chart a Path to Power
- 2 Weigh Costs and Benefits
- 3 Assess Thy Rivals
- 4 Watch and Be Watched
- 5 Build Alliances
- 6 Cement the Hold
- 7 Survive the Battles
- 8 Rise and Fall
- Afterword
- Acknowledgments
- Notes
- Index

SCIENCE



JANET VOIGHT and PEGGY MACNAMARA

From the Seashore to the Seafloor

An Illustrated Tour of Sandy Beaches, Kelp Forests, Coral Reefs, and Life in the Ocean's Depths

With a Foreword by David Quammen

MAY | 208 p. | 76 color plates | 8 x 6 | Cloth \$25.00

From the foreword

“Look closely, dear people. Look with sympathy and fascination and awe. Look upon these majesties of marine life, read about them, learn something about them—and be grateful you were born on the blue planet. . . . The minds and the eyes of these two journeying women will take you places you haven’t been.”

—David Quammen

Janet Voight is the Women’s Board Associate Curator for Invertebrate Zoology at the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago. **Peggy Macnamara** is an artist-in-residence at the Field Museum and an adjunct associate professor at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

Have you ever walked along the beach and wondered what kind of creatures can be found beneath the waves? Have you pictured what it would be like to see the ocean not from the shore, but from its depths? These questions drive Janet Voight, an expert on mollusks who has explored the seas in the submersible *Alvin* that can dive some 14,000 feet below the water’s surface. In this book, she partners with artist Peggy Macnamara to invite readers to share her undersea journeys of discovery.

With accessible scientific description, Voight introduces the animals that inhabit rocky and sandy shores, explains the fragility of coral reefs, and honors the extraordinary creatures that must search for food in the ocean’s depths, where light and heat are rare. These fascinating insights are accompanied by Macnamara’s stunning watercolors, illuminating these ecosystems and other scenes from Voight’s research. Together, they show connections between life at every depth—and warn of the threats these beguiling places and their eccentric denizens face.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Map
- Foreword by David Quammen
- Introductions by Janet Voight and Peggy Macnamara
- 1 Sandy Shores
- 2 Rocky Shores
- 3 Gulf of California
- 4 Northeast Pacific
- 5 Kelp Forest
- 6 Coral Reefs
- 7 Indo-West Pacific
- 8 Research Cruise Experience
- 9 Open Ocean
- 10 Subsea Vehicles
- 11 Gulf of Mexico
- 12 Midwater Depths
- 13 Deep Scattering Layer
- 14 Hydrothermal Vents
- 15 Food Falls
- 16 Deep-Sea Floor
- Epilogue
- Acknowledgments

SCIENCE

JANE MAIENSCHIN and KATE MACCORD

What Is Regeneration?

MARCH | 184 p. | 18 halftones | 5 1/2 x 8 1/2 | Paper \$20.00

Convening Science: Discovery at the Marine Biological Laboratory

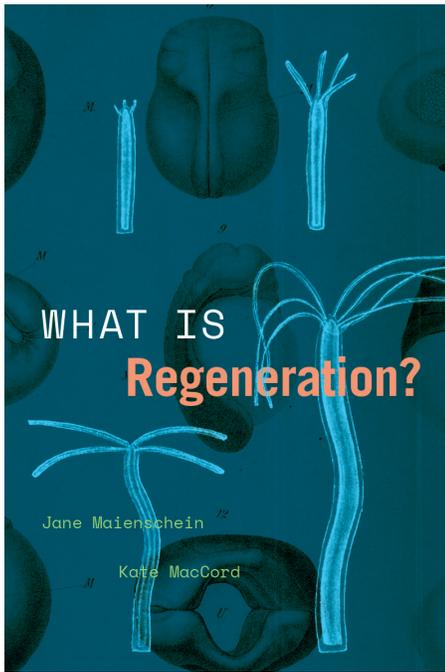
In punishment for his stealing fire, the Greek gods chained Prometheus to a rock, where every day an eagle plucked out his liver, and every night the liver regenerated. While Prometheus may be a figure of myth, scholars today ask whether ancient Greeks knew that the human liver does, in fact, have a special capacity to regenerate. Some organs and tissues can regenerate, while others cannot, and some organisms can regenerate more fully and more easily than others. Cut an earthworm in half, and two wiggly worms may confront you. Cut off the head of a hydra, and it may grow a new head. Cut off a human arm, and the human will be missing an arm. Why the differences? What are the limits of regeneration, and how, when, and why does it occur?

In this book, historians and philosophers of science Jane Maienschein and Kate MacCord explore biological regeneration, delving into a topic of increasing interest in light of regenerative medicine, new tools in developmental and neurobiology, and the urgent need to understand and repair damage to ecosystems brought on by climate change. Looking across scales, from germ, nerve, and stem cells to individual organisms and complex systems, this short and accessible introduction poses a range of deep and provocative questions: What conditions allow some damaged microbiomes to regenerate where others do not? Why are forests following a fire said to regenerate sometimes but not always? And in the face of climate change in the era called the Anthropocene, can the planet regenerate to become healthy again, or will the global ecosystem collapse?

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PREFACE

- 1 The Idea of Regeneration
- 2 Observations and Experiments
- 3 Mechanisms of Regeneration
- 4 Living Systems and Different Scales

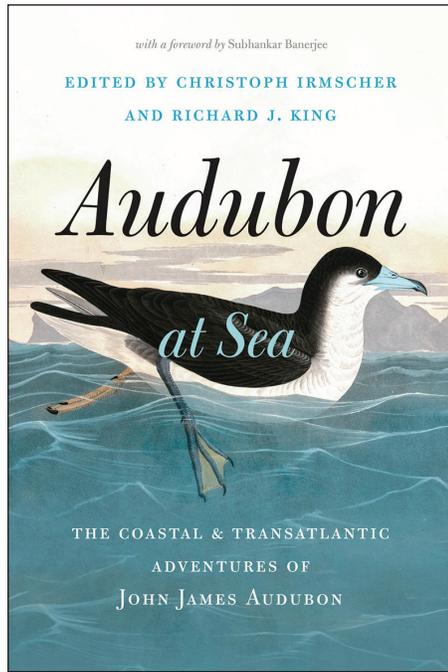


“The book shows exceptional strengths and represents a unique approach that is not only beneficial for a wide audience, but also is needed to face current challenges to humanity and global ecological developments. An essential contribution.”—Hanna Lucia Worliczek, University of Vienna, Austria

**“A truly thought-provoking book, meant not only for students and scientists, but also politicians and laypersons.”
—Eric Röttinger, Institute for Research on Cancer and Aging, Université Côte d’Azur, France**

Jane Maienschein is University Professor, Regents Professor, and President’s Professor at Arizona State University, where she also directs the Center for Biology and Society. She also serves as fellow and director of the History and Philosophy of Science Project at the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, Massachusetts. She is coeditor of *Why Study Biology by the Sea?*, also published by the University of Chicago Press. **Kate MacCord** is an instructor in the School of Life Sciences at Arizona State University and the program administrator of the McDonnell Initiative at the Marine Biological Laboratory, where she also serves as the McDonnell Fellow.

SCIENCE



“These excellent selections are a wonderful reminder of why Audubon’s writing deserves to be more widely read. *Audubon at Sea* is a delightful, captivating book, one that ranges to different regions and seasons, and features not only birds but fish, marine mammals, and many passages of interest concerning fishing, hunting, and collecting practices. Irmscher and King’s expertise is impressive, and their introductions are helpful, informative, and beautifully written. The notes section is also truly remarkable: extremely well-informed, instructive, and detailed. This is a superb read.”—Michael P. Branch, author of *On the Trail of the Jackalope*

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Foreword by Subhankar Banerjee

Sources for the Texts

Introduction

I. Journal of a Sea Voyage from New Orleans to Liverpool aboard the *Delos* (1826)

II. Ornithological Biography (1831–1839)

III. Journal of a Collecting Voyage from Eastport to Labrador aboard the *Ripley* (1833)

Coda

HISTORY

Edited by **CHRISTOPH IRMSCHER** and **RICHARD J. KING**

Audubon at Sea

The Coastal and Transatlantic Adventures of John James Audubon

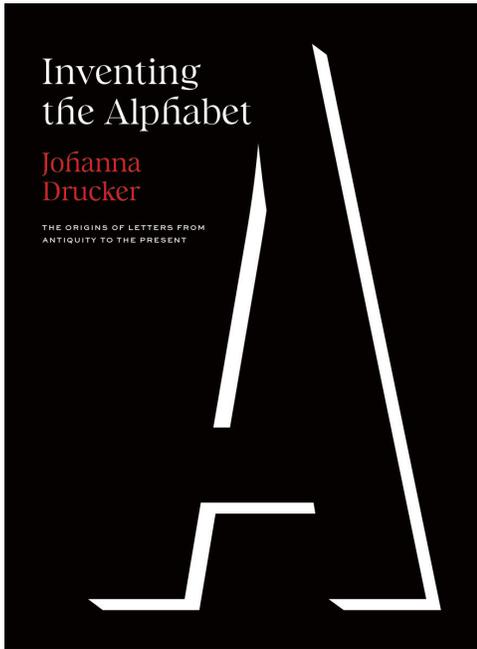
With a Foreword by Subhankar Banerjee

MAY | 352 p. | 20 color plates, 38 halftones | 6 x 9 | Cloth \$30.00

The American naturalist John James Audubon (1785–1851) is widely remembered for his iconic paintings of American birdlife. But as this anthology makes clear, Audubon was also a brilliant writer—and his keen gaze took in far more than creatures of the sky. Culled from his published and unpublished writings, *Audubon at Sea* explores Audubon’s diverse observations of the ocean, the coast, and their human and animal inhabitants. With Audubon expert Christoph Irmscher and scholar of the sea Richard J. King as our guides, we set sail from the humid expanses of the American South to the shores of England and the chilly landscapes of the Canadian North. We learn not only about the diversity of sea life Audubon documented—birds, sharks, fish, and whales—but also about life aboard ship, travel in early America, Audubon’s work habits, and the origins of beloved paintings. And as we face an unfathomable loss of sea-birds today, Audubon’s warnings about the fragility of birdlife in his time are prescient and newly relevant.

Charting the course of Audubon’s life and work, from his birth in Haiti to his death in Manhattan, Irmscher and King’s wide-ranging introduction and carefully drawn commentary confront the challenges Audubon’s legacy poses for us today, including his participation in American slavery and the thousands of birds he killed for his art. Beautifully illustrated, with a foreword by distinguished photographer and conservationist Subhankar Banerjee, and rounded out by hundreds of historical and ornithological notes, *Audubon at Sea* is the most comprehensively annotated collection of Audubon’s work ever published.

Christoph Irmscher directs the Wells Scholars Program at Indiana University Bloomington, where he is also distinguished professor of English. Among his many books are *The Poetics of Natural History* and *Louis Agassiz: Creator of American Science*. For more information, visit <http://christophirmscher.com>. **Richard J. King** is visiting associate professor of maritime literature and history at the Sea Education Association in Woods Hole, Massachusetts. He is the author, most recently, of *Ahab’s Rolling Sea: A Natural History of “Moby-Dick.”* For more information, visit <http://www.richardjking.info/>.



Johanna Drucker is the Breslauer Professor of Bibliographical Studies and a distinguished professor in the Department of Information Studies at the University of California, Los Angeles. She has been the recipient of Fulbright, Mellon, and Getty Fellowships and in 2019 was the inaugural Distinguished Senior Humanities Fellow at the Beinecke Library, Yale University. Her artist books are included in museums and libraries in North America and Europe, and her creative work was the subject of a traveling retrospective, *Druckerworks 1972-2012: 40 Years of Books and Projects*. Her publications include *Visualizing Interpretation*, *Iliad: Meta-biography of a Modernist*, and *The Digital Humanities Coursebook*.

JOHANNA DRUCKER

Inventing the Alphabet

The Origins of Letters from Antiquity to the Present

MAY | 384 p. | 100 halftones | 7 x 10 | Cloth \$40.00

- A sweeping history of humans' relationship to their own alphabets
- Ranges widely from ancient inscriptions to the medieval and modern/digital eras
- Will appeal widely to readers interested in language, writing, art, and visual culture

Inventing the Alphabet provides the first account of two-and-a-half millennia of scholarship on the alphabet. Drawing on decades of research, Johanna Drucker dives into sometimes obscure and esoteric references, dispelling myths and identifying a pantheon of little-known scholars who contributed to our modern understandings of the alphabet, one of the most important inventions in human history.

Beginning with Biblical tales and accounts from antiquity, Drucker traces the transmission of ancient Greek thinking about the alphabet's origin and debates about how Moses learned to read. The book moves through the centuries, finishing with contemporary concepts of the letters in alpha-numeric code used for global communication systems. Along the way, we learn about magical and angelic alphabets, antique inscriptions on coins and artifacts, and the comparative tables of scripts that continue through the development of modern fields of archaeology and paleography.

This is the first book to chronicle the story of the intellectual history through which the alphabet has been “invented” as an object of scholarship.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction

1. When Did the Alphabet Become “Greek”?
 2. Divine Gifts: Original Letters, Moses, and the Tablets at Mount Sinai
 3. Medieval Copyists: Magical Letters, Mythic Scripts, and Exotic Alphabets
 4. The Confusion of Tongues and Compendia of Scripts
 5. Antiquity Explained: The Origin and Progress of Letters
 6. The Rhetoric of Tables and the Harmony of Alphabets
 7. Modern Archaeology: Putting the Evidence of the Alphabet in Place
 8. Reading the Early Alphabet: Epigraphy and Paleography
 9. Alphabet Effects and the Politics of Script
- Coda: Alphabetic Agency and Global Hegemony

Notes

Selected Bibliography

Index

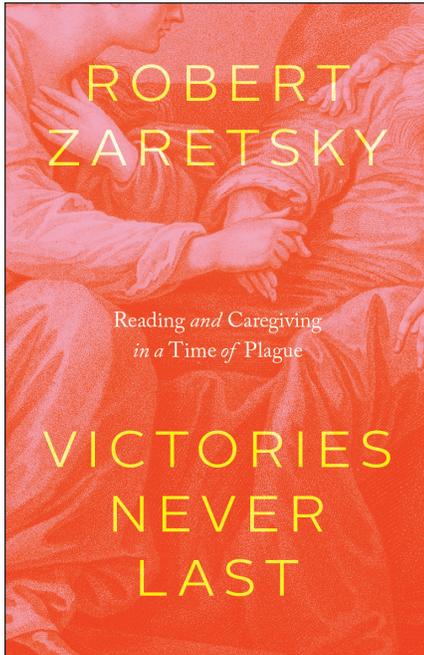
HISTORY

ROBERT ZARETSKY

Victories Never Last

Reading and Caregiving in a Time of Plague

APRIL | 208 p. | 5 1/2 x 8 1/2 | Cloth \$22.50



“It’s magical how much Zaretsky covers while zigzagging swiftly and deftly through the literature, history, and philosophy of plagues. Interludes about his volunteer work in a nursing home add a real-life, charming, absurdist atmosphere to the big ideas of thinkers like Marcus Aurelius or Albert Camus. For those of us who’ve been trying to face and process what we’ve just gone through, *Victories Never Last* serves to kick our thinking up a notch. His writing is a model of scholarship at its finest: lucid, learned, down-to-earth, and honest.”—Scott Samuelson, author of *Seven Ways of Looking at Pointless Suffering*

Robert Zaretsky’s books include *Boswell’s Enlightenment*, *A Life Worth Living*, *Catherine & Diderot*, and *The Subversive Simone Weil*, the latter also published by the University of Chicago Press. A columnist for the *Jewish Daily Forward*, he is also a frequent contributor to the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, *Foreign Affairs*, the *Times Literary Supplement*, the *Los Angeles Review of Books*, and *Slate*. Zaretsky lives in Houston with his wife and children. Zaretsky teaches at the University of Houston.

In any time of disruption, grief, or uncertainty, many of us seek comfort or wisdom in the work of great writers who endured similar circumstances. During the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic, historian and biographer Robert Zaretsky did much the same while also working as a volunteer in a nursing home in south Texas. When not caring for those isolated by the health crisis, he turned to great novelists, essayists, and historians of the past to help him make sense of his experiences at the residence and the emotional and physical enormity of the pandemic.

In *Victories Never Last* Zaretsky weaves his reflections on the pandemic siege of his nursing home with the experiences of five writers during their own times of plague: Thucydides, Marcus Aurelius, Michel de Montaigne, Daniel Defoe, and Albert Camus, whose *The Plague* provides the title of this book. Zaretsky delves into these writers to uncover lessons that can provide deeper insight into our pandemic era. At the same time, he goes beyond the literature to invoke his own experience of the tragedy that enveloped his Texas nursing home, one which first took the form of chronic loneliness and then, inevitably, the deaths of many residents whom we come to know through Zaretsky’s stories. In doing so, Zaretsky shows the power of great literature to connect directly to one’s own life in a different moment and time.

For all of us still struggling to comprehend this pandemic and its toll, Zaretsky serves as a thoughtful and down-to-earth guide to the many ways we can come to know and make peace with human suffering.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Introduction
- One Thucydides and the Great Plague of Athens
- Two Marcus Aurelius and the Antonine Plague
- Three Michel de Montaigne and the Bubonic Plague
- Four Daniel Defoe and the Great Plague of London
- Five Albert Camus and *la peste brune*
- Epilogue: From *The Last Man* to *The First Man*
- Acknowledgments
- Notes
- Index

LITERATURE AND LITERARY CRITICISM

EMILY OGDEN

On Not Knowing

How to Love and Other Essays

APRIL | 136 p. | 5 1/2 x 8 1/2 | Cloth \$95.00 Paper \$16.00



“Ranging among subjects as various as parenthood and desire, psychoanalysis and poetry, the essays in *On Not Knowing* move by surprise, often veering in directions they hadn’t let you see they were going. The only certainty in reading them is that every arrival is worth it. Ogden has a knack for developing single words and small inklings into full-blown ideas and philosophies. Her anecdotes are as unexpected, her sentences as exquisite, and her conclusions as moving as Emerson’s. Surely this book secures Ogden’s place as one of our finest writers: thinking with her is exhilarating.”—Erica McAlpine, author of *The Poet’s Mistake*

Emily Ogden is associate professor of English at the University of Virginia and the author of *Credulity: A Cultural History of US Mesmerism*, also published by the University of Chicago Press. You can find her on Twitter at @ENOGden. She lives in Charlottesville, VA.

Moments of clarity and revelation are rare and fleeting; how can we become comfortable outside of them, in the more general condition of uncertainty and irresolution within which we make our lives? Amid the drudgery of daily responsibilities and under a cloud of political foreboding, there’s beauty in errancy, in meandering, in tracking perception’s bright thread without knowing where it leads. Written by English professor Emily Ogden while her children were small, *On Not Knowing* forays into this rich, ambivalent space. Each of her brief, sharply observed essays invites the reader to think with her about questions she can’t set aside: not knowing how to give birth, to listen, to hold it together, to love.

Unapologetically capacious in her range of reference and idiosyncratic in the canon she draws on, Ogden moves nimbly among the registers of experience, from the operation of a breast pump to the art of herding cattle; from one-night stands to the stories of Edgar Allan Poe; from kayaking near a whale to a psychoanalytic meditation on drowning. Committed to the accumulation of knowledge, Ogden nonetheless finds that knowingness for her can be a way of getting stuck, a way of not really living. Rather than the defensiveness of willful ignorance, *On Not Knowing* celebrates the defenselessness of not knowing yet—possibly of not knowing ever. Ultimately, this book shows, beautifully, how resisting the temptation of knowingness and embracing the position of not knowing becomes a form of love.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

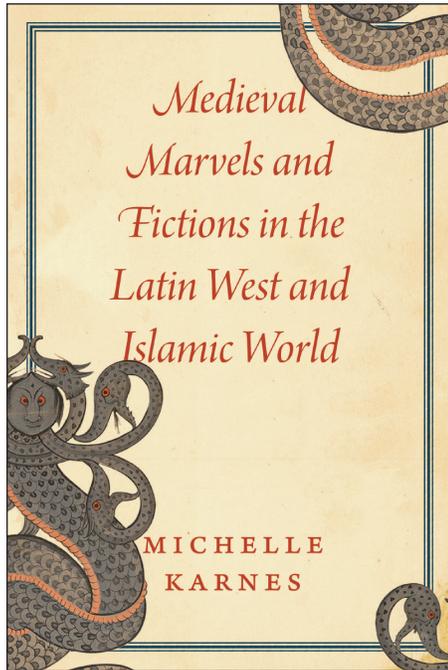
How to Catch a Minnow
 How to Swim
 How to Hold It Together
 How to Give Birth
 How to Milk
 How to Step over a Snake
 How to Herd
 How to Riff
 How to Turn the Corner
 How to Have a One-Night Stand
 How to Listen
 How to Have a Breakthrough
 How to Love
 How to Elude Your Captors
 How to Hope
 How to Come Back to Life
 How to Stay
 Acknowledgments
 Notes

LITERATURE AND LITERARY CRITICISM

MICHELLE KARNES

Medieval Marvels and Fictions in the Latin West and Islamic World

JULY | 272 p. | 6 x 9 | Cloth \$105.00 Paper \$30.00



Michelle Karnes is an associate professor of English and the history of philosophy and science at the University of Notre Dame. She is the author of *Imagination, Meditation, and Cognition in the Middle Ages* and is editor of *Studies in the Age of Chaucer*.

Marvels like enchanted rings and sorcerers' stones were topics of fascination in the Middle Ages, not only in romance and travel literature but also in the period's philosophical writing. Rather than constructions of belief accepted only by simple-minded people, Michelle Karnes shows that these spectacular wonders were near impossibilities that demanded scrutiny and investigation.

This is the first book to analyze a diverse set of writings on such wonders, comparing texts from the Latin West—including those written in English, French, Italian, and Castilian Spanish—with those written in Arabic as it works toward a unifying theory of marvels across different disciplines and cultures. Karnes tells a story about the parallels between Arabic and Latin thought, reminding us that experiences of the strange and the unfamiliar travel across a range of genres, spanning geographical and conceptual space and offering an ideal vantage point from which to understand intercultural exchange. Karnes traverses this diverse archive, showing how imagination imbues marvels with their character and power, making them at once enigmatic, creative, and resonant. Skirting the distinction between the real and unreal, these marvels challenge readers to discover the highest capabilities of both nature and the human intellect. Karnes offers a rare comparative perspective and a new methodology to study a topic long recognized as central to medieval culture.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	Chapter 3 Philosopher's Fables
Chapter 1 Marvels and the Philosophy of Imagination: True Dreams, Prophecy, and Possession	Chapter 4 Imaginative Geography
Chapter 2 Marvels and the Philosophy of Imagination: Bewitchment, Telekinesis, and the Moving of Mountains	Chapter 5 Marvelous Trials
	Chapter 6 <i>Mutatis Mirabilibus</i>

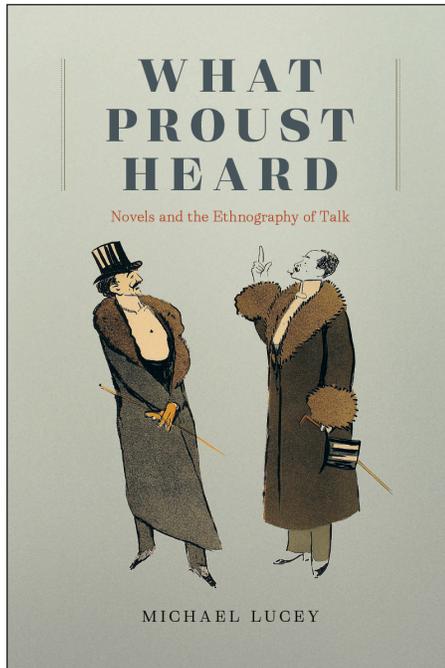
LITERATURE AND LITERARY CRITICISM

MICHAEL LUCEY

What Proust Heard

Novels and the Ethnography of Talk

APRIL | 352 p. | 6 x 9 | Cloth \$105.00 Paper \$35.00



Michael Lucey is the Sydney and Margaret Ancker Professor of Comparative Literature and French at the University of California, Berkeley. He is the author of many books, including *Someone: The Pragmatics of Misfit Sexualities, from Colette to Hervé Guibert*, also published by the University of Chicago Press.

What happens when we talk? This deceptively simple question is central to Marcel Proust's monumental novel *In Search of Lost Time*. Both Proust's narrator and the novel that houses him devote considerable energy to investigating not just what people are *saying* or *doing* when they talk, but also what happens socio-culturally through their use of language. Proust, in other words, is interested in what linguistic anthropologists call language-in-use.

Michael Lucey elucidates Proust's approach to language-in-use in a number of ways: principally in relation to linguistic anthropology, but also in relation to speech act theory, and to Pierre Bourdieu's sociology. The book also includes an interlude after each of its chapters that contextualizes Proust's social-scientific practice of novel writing in relation to that of a number of other novelists, earlier and later, and from several different traditions, including Honoré de Balzac, George Eliot, Virginia Woolf, Nathalie Sarraute, and Rachel Cusk. Lucey is thus able to show how, in the hands of quite different novelists, various aspects of the novel form become instruments of linguistic anthropological analysis. The result introduces a different way of understanding language to literary and cultural critics and explores the consequences of this new understanding for the practice of literary criticism more generally.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

On Citations

Introduction

1 Proust the Linguistic Anthropologist

Interlude: Talk in Balzac and Eliot

2 Idiotic Speech (Acts?) and the Form of *In Search of Lost Time*

Interlude: Harmonizing Habitus in Woolf

3 Proust and Bourdieu: Distinction and Form

Interlude: Indexical Force in Sarraute and Cusk

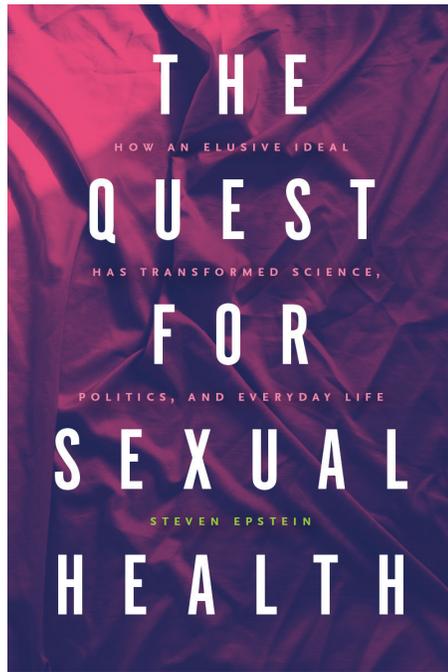
Conclusion: Animation and Statistics

Acknowledgments

Notes

Bibliography

Index



“This book is rich, thought provoking, and timely. Epstein provides an insightful and meticulous analysis that brings together the multiple layers of social, cultural, political, and institutional processes that shape the amorphous and ubiquitous term of sexual health.”—Jennifer Reich, University of Colorado Denver

Steven Epstein is professor of sociology and the John C. Shaffer Professor in the Humanities at Northwestern University. He is the author of several award-winning books, including *Impure Science: AIDS, Activism, and the Politics of Knowledge* and *Inclusion: The Politics of Difference in Medical Research*, the latter also published by the University of Chicago Press.

SOCIAL SCIENCE

STEVEN EPSTEIN

The Quest for Sexual Health

How an Elusive Ideal Has Transformed Science, Politics, and Everyday Life

JULY | 400 p. | 7 halftones, 4 line drawings, 2 tables | 6 x 9 | Cloth \$95.00 Paper \$30.00

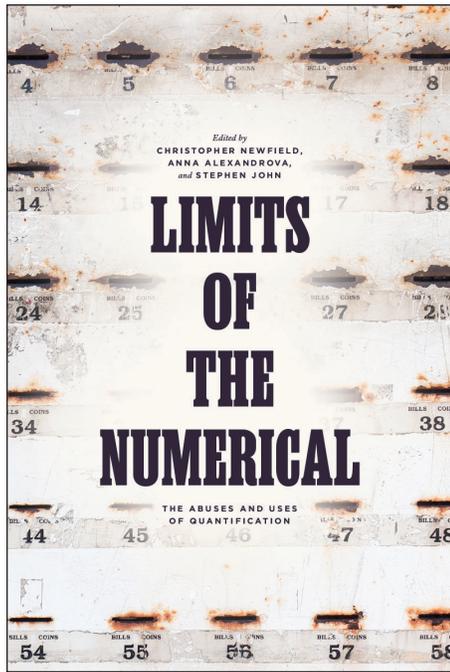
Since the 1970s, health professionals, researchers, governments, advocacy groups, and commercial interests have invested in the pursuit of something called “sexual health.” Under this expansive banner, a wide array of programs have been launched, organizations founded, initiatives funded, products sold—and yet, no book before this one asks: What does it mean to be sexually healthy? When did people conceive of a form of health called sexual health? And how did it become the gateway to addressing a host of social harms and the reimagining of private desires and public dreams?

Conjoining “sexual” with “health” changes both terms: it alters how we conceive of sexuality and transforms what it means to be healthy, prompting new expectations of what medicine can provide. Yet the ideal of achieving sexual health remains elusive and open-ended, and the benefits and costs of promoting it are unevenly distributed across genders, races, and sexual identities. Rather than a thing apart, sexual health is intertwined with nearly every conceivable topical debate—from sexual dysfunction to sexual violence, from reproductive freedom to the practicalities of sexual contact in a pandemic. In this book Steven Epstein analyzes the rise, proliferation, uptake, and sprawling consequences of sexual health activities, offering critical tools to assess those consequences, expand capacities for collective decision making, and identify pathways that promote social justice.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

List of Abbreviations
List of Illustrations
Introduction: Catching Sexual Health
Part One: Making Sexual Health: Invention, Dispersion, and Reassembly
Chapter 1: A New Definition and the Backstory: Inventing Sexual Health
Chapter 2: Proliferation and Ambiguity: The Buzzwording of Sexual Health
Chapter 3: New Projects of Health, Rights, and Pleasure: Recombining Sexual Health
Part Two: Operationalizing Sexual Health: Enabling Science, Medicine, and Health Care
Chapter 4: Sexuality in the Medical Encounter: Standardizing Sexual Health
Chapter 5: Diagnostic Reform and Human Rights in the ICD: Classifying Sexual Health

Chapter 6: Surveys and the Quantification of Normality: Enumerating Sexual Health
Chapter 7: The New Sexual Health Experts: Evaluating Sexual Health
Part Three: Under the Sign of Sexual Health: Beyond the Worlds of Science and Medicine
Chapter 8: The Pursuit of Wellness: Optimizing Sexual Health
Chapter 9: Social Risks, Rights, and Duties: Governing via Sexual Health
Chapter 10: Bridges to the Future: Repoliticizing Sexual Health
Conclusion: Whither Sexual Health?
Acknowledgments
Notes
Index



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Edited by **CHRISTOPHER NEWFIELD,**
ANNA ALEXANDROVA, and **STEPHEN JOHN**

Limits of the Numerical

The Abuses and Uses of Quantification

MAY | 304 p. | 2 halftones, 5 tables | 6 x 9 | Cloth \$95.00 Paper \$30.00

Numbers may seem fragile—they are, after all, frequent objects of obfuscation or outright denial—but they have also never been more influential in our society, figuring into everything from college rankings to vaccine efficacy rates. This timely collection by a diverse group of humanists and social scientists challenges undue reverence or skepticism toward quantification and shows how it can be a force for good despite its many abuses.

Limits of the Numerical focuses on quantification in several contexts: the role of numerical estimates and targets in explaining and planning for climate change; the quantification of outcomes in teaching and research; and numbers representing health, the effectiveness of medical interventions, and well-being more broadly. The authors complicate our understanding of these numbers, uncovering, for example, epistemic problems with some core numbers in climate science. But their theme is less the problems revealed by case studies than the methodological issues common to them all. This volume shows the many ways that qualitative and quantitative approaches can productively interact—how the limits of the numerical can be overcome through equitable partnerships with historical, institutional, and philosophical analysis.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

List of Figures, Tables, and Box

Introduction: The Changing Fates of the Numerical
Christopher Newfield, Anna Alexandrova, and Stephen John

Part I Expert Sources of the Revolt against Experts

Part II Can Narrative Fix Numbers?

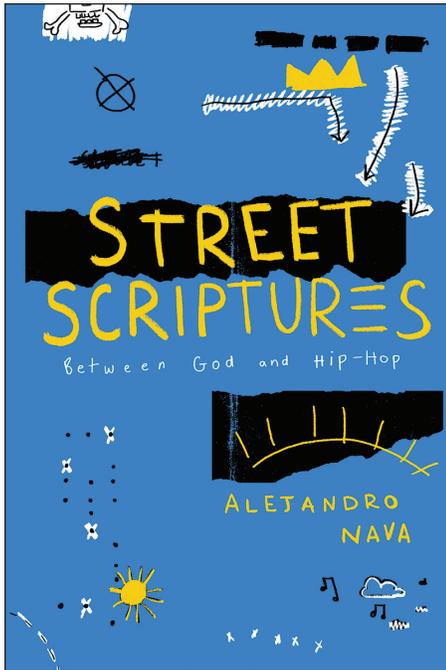
Part III When Bad Numbers Have Good Social Effects

Part IV Acknowledgments

References

Contributors

Index



Alejandro Nava is professor of religious studies at the University of Arizona. He is the author of *The Mystical and Prophetic Thought of Simone Weil and Gustavo Gutiérrez*, *Wonder and Exile in the New World*, and *In Search of Soul*. He has discussed hip-hop and religion on NPR, Fox News, HuffPost Live, and MSNBC, among other outlets.

ALEJANDRO NAVA

Street Scriptures

Between God and Hip-Hop

MAY | 256 p. | 5 halftones | 6 x 9 | Cloth \$95.00 Paper \$27.50

- An engaging, accessible look at religion in rap and hip-hop music
- Includes examples from artists such as Nas, Kendrick Lamar, and Cardi B
- Will appeal to readers interested in Black and Latinx art, religion, and culture

The world of hip-hop is saturated with religion, but rarely is that element given serious consideration. In *Street Scriptures*, Alejandro Nava focuses our attention on this aspect of the music and culture in a fresh way, combining his profound love of hip-hop, his passion for racial and social justice, and his deep theological knowledge. *Street Scriptures* offers a refreshingly earnest and beautifully written journey through hip-hop's deep entanglement with the sacred.

Nava analyzes the religious heartbeat in hip-hop, looking at crosscurrents of the sacred and profane in rap, reggaeton, and Latinx hip-hop today. Ranging from Nas, Kendrick Lamar, Chance the Rapper, Lauryn Hill, and Cardi B to St. Augustine and William James, Nava examines the ethical-political, mystical-prophetic, and theological qualities in hip-hop, probing the pure sonic and aesthetic signatures of music, while also diving deep into the voices that invoke the spirit of protest. The result is nothing short of a new liberation theology for our time, what Nava calls a “street theology.”

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction

Chapter One A Street Theology: Between God and Hip-Hop

Chapter Two A Brief Sonic History of Hip-Hop

Chapter Three Prophets and Emcees: Righteous Rappers

Chapter Four The Return of God in Hip-Hop: Kendrick Lamar's Street Theology

Chapter Five The Dirty Latin South: Breaking, Reggaeton, and the Rise of the Global South

Chapter Six Native Tongues

Notes

Index