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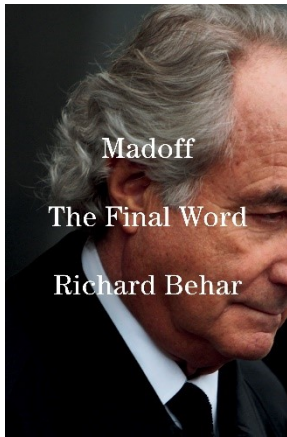
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Behar, Richard

MADOFF: The Final Word

July 2024



The product of fifteen years of reporting by investigative journalist Richard Behar, *Madoff: The Final Word* uncovers the story of the infamous criminal behind the largest Ponzi scheme and the longest-running fraud in history. Thousands of people lost \$65 billion to Bernie Madoff's fraud. Two people who suffered substantial losses committed suicide. Behar reveals that his theft actually began in the early 1960s—far earlier than Madoff claimed. How did his crimes go undetected for so long? Why did he start and how did his greed grow so large?

Richard Behar is the Contributing Editor of Investigations for *Forbes* magazine, and an Associate Producer and narrator of *Bandits and Grifters* —a six-part Netflix hit documentary about the Russian mafia (2024). He previously worked on the staffs of *Fortune*, *Time*, and *Forbes*, and carried out probes for *Fast Company*, CNN, and BBC. In 1998, he conducted the only prison interview of Dennis Helliwell, who ran the longest-known Ponzi scheme prior to Madoff's. In 2005, Behar launched Project Klebnikov, a global media alliance committed to shedding light on the Moscow murder of his friend and colleague, *Forbes* editor Paul Klebnikov. Over a four-decade career, Behar has garnered more than 20 journalism awards. He tunes out financial scams by collecting old coins and smacking baseballs at batting ranges.

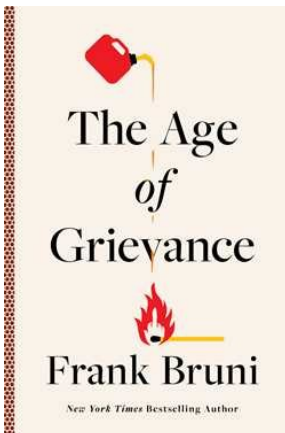
Territory: World

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Bruni, Frank

THE AGE OF GRIEVANCE

April 2024



One could argue that America is a nation born of grievance, arising from the revolt of royal subjects given an unfair shake. And across the nearly 250 years of its existence as a country, grievance has been the engine of necessary change. Yet our current culture has taken grievance to the far extreme, *New York Times* columnist Frank Bruni argues. Grievance run amok is what escalates disappointment with the results of a presidential election to the conviction that the process was rigged, the prize was stolen, and the victor is illegitimate. Grievance unchecked is the gateway to the conspiratorial thinking so prevalent in America now. Grievance makes centrism unfashionable, compromise unthinkable, common cause impossible. We're a culture in self-pitying, self-righteous crisis, seen everywhere from Samuel Alito's *Roe v. Wade* decision to Marjorie Taylor Greene's zealous extremism, Tucker Carlson's fearmongering, the

crusading January 6 mob, and even escalating celebrity feuds such as Will Smith’s shocking slap mid–Oscar’s broadcast. *The Age of Grievance* examines these critical questions and charts a path forward for a nation that’s growing tired of outrage.

Frank Bruni has been a prominent journalist for more than three decades, including more than 25 years at the *New York Times*, the last 10 of them as a nationally renowned Op-Ed columnist who appeared frequently as a television commentator. He was also a White House correspondent for the *Times*, its Rome bureau chief and, for five years, its chief restaurant critic. He is the author of four *New York Times* bestsellers. In July 2021, he became a full professor at Duke University, teaching media-oriented classes in the school of public policy. He continues to write his popular weekly newsletter for the *Times*, which has more than 200,000 subscribers, and to produce occasional essays as one of the newspaper’s official Contribution Opinion Writers.

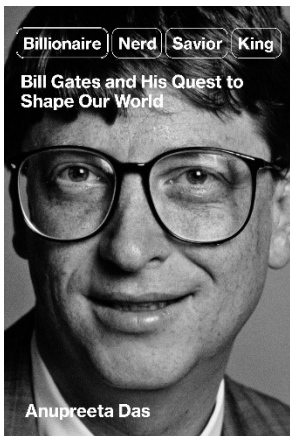
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Das, Anupreeta

BILLIONAIRE, NERD, SAVIOR, KING: Bill Gates and His Quest to Shape Our World

August 2024



Anupreeta Das, finance editor of *The New York Times*, examines Bill Gates—a nerdy entrepreneur with a canny grip on business strategy who became the world’s first technology billionaire, then a godlike philanthropist—to explore our national love affair with billionaires, who wield excessive influence and use philanthropic aims to create heroic narratives, wash sullied reputations, and bend democratic wills.

In a world overrun by laptops, internet-connected devices, cellphones and wristwatches with more computing power than an early PC, it is hard to imagine just how instrumental Bill Gates was in kickstarting the personal computing revolution, with his mission to put a computer in every home. When Gates cofounded Microsoft in 1975, computers existed largely in government offices and big organizations. Software as a product didn’t exist. In 1987, Bill Gates became the first tech billionaire. In 2021, eight of the top 10 billionaires in the *Forbes* list of the world’s richest people were tech billionaires—Jeff Bezos, Elon Musk, Mark Zuckerberg, Bill Gates, Larry Page, Sergey Brin, Larry Ellison, and Steve Ballmer.

As technology has become ascendant, upending our entire lives, and changing our personal behaviors, the founders of these companies have acquired immense power and wealth. The new tech fortunes are seen as deserved, as opposed to extracted. Their wealth creation is seen as a byproduct of them having improved lives, not a function of greed. We have bought into Silicon Valley’s unofficial motto that those companies do indeed want to make the world a better place.

In 2000, Gates turned his full-time attention to philanthropy and remade himself as a global do-gooder and thinker, a saint, and a savior. Today, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation is the world’s largest private philanthropic donor. Its work has touched millions of lives, and Bill and Melinda have been honored with the *Time* Persons of the Year Award and the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Anupreeta Das is the finance editor of *The New York Times*, overseeing broad coverage of Wall Street, including banking, investing, markets, insurance, and consumer finance. Previously, Das helped run the *Wall Street Journal's* coverage of business and technology, focusing on corporations and the issues affecting them. Between 2010 and 2018, Das was a reporter at the *Journal*. She wrote highly read stories about finance, investing and Wall Street, including a groundbreaking series she conceived and co-authored about family offices, the private investment firms of the extremely wealthy. She is the recipient of two breaking news awards from the Society for Advancing Business Editing and Writing and is a two-time Loeb Award finalist. She holds degrees from Boston University, the London School of Economics, and the University of Delhi. She is an avid hiker, having hiked across a Himalayan glacier as a teenager and summitting Mount Kilimanjaro in 2019.

Territory: World

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Davidson, Richard J., and Cortland Dahl

BORN TO FLOURISH: How to Thrive in a Challenging World

Spring 2026

Cover TBD

Born to Flourish draws on neuroscience and psychological research to show that flourishing is actually a skill, four skills to be exact—awareness, insight, connection, and purpose—and teach us simple practices designed to cultivate them.

The audience for Angela Duckworth's *Grit* and Judson Brewer's *Unwinding Anxiety* will be drawn to the message of living well and performing at a high level despite anxiety and stress, and readers of Waldinger and Schulz's *The Good Life* will be attracted to a research-based book on how to live a rich and full life.

Dr. Davidson is the *New York Times* bestselling coauthor of *The Emotional Life of Your Brain*. He is the recipient of numerous awards, including the most distinguished award for science given by the American Psychological Association, and he was named one of the 100 most influential people in the world by Time magazine in 2006. His vast body of research from the internationally renowned Center for Healthy Minds at The University of Wisconsin, Madison, where Dr. Dahl also works, has revealed extraordinary insight into our ability to flourish.

Dr. Davidson and Dr. Dahl are the creators of the Healthy Minds Program, a groundbreaking program to cultivate well-being. The Healthy Minds Program app, which allows the general public to access this program for free, was recently selected by the *New York Times* as one of their top three recommended meditation apps.

Territory: World

Rights: Serial/Audio/British/Electronic/Translation

Klein, Ezra, and Derek Thompson

ABUNDANCE

January 2025

Cover TBD

From two reporter-columnists, one at *The New York Times* and the other at *The Atlantic*, a book on how to rethink big, entrenched problems that seem mired in systemic scarcity: from climate change to housing, education to healthcare. Thompson is a staff writer at The Atlantic, where he has worked for the last 14 years. Writing on economics, technology, and society, Derek is known for breaking down complicated trends in simple and fun language and for coining terms that become part of the national discourse—like *abundance agenda*, *the everything shortage*, and *workism*. In the first half of 2022—the same year he published his popular “abundance agenda” thesis and launched his series on progress—he was the most-read writer at The Atlantic. His book *Hit Makers* sold in the UK (Penguin), Germany (Redline), Netherlands (Scriptum), Portuguese/Brazil (Harper), Spanish/Latin America (Oceano Mexico), China/simplified (CITIC), Chinese/complex (Business Weekly), Korean (Book 21), Czech Republic (Jan Melvil), Romania (Publica), Russian (Azbooka-Atticus).

Ezra Klein is an Opinion columnist and podcast host at the New York Times. His podcast, “The Ezra Klein Show,” receives more than a half-million downloads per episode and is routinely in the top 25 podcasts on Apple’s charts. In 2021, Time, New York Magazine, and the Atlantic all named it one of the podcasts of the year. He’s among the Times’s most-read columnists, where he’s merged traditional opinion writing and explanatory reporting to bring clarity to policy debates often mired in complexity. In 2020, Klein published *Why We’re Polarized*, a bestselling examination of the forces driving polarization, and paralyzing politics, in the United States.

Derek Thompson is a staff writer at *The Atlantic*, where he has worked for the last 14 years. Writing on economics, technology, and society, he is known for breaking down complicated trends in simple and fun language and for coining terms that become part of the national discourse. In the first half of 2022—the same year he published his popular “abundance agenda” thesis and launched his series on progress—he was the most-read writer at *The Atlantic*. A news analyst with NPR, Derek appears weekly on the national news show “Here and Now” and is a contributor to CBS News. He is the author of the national bestseller *Hit Makers*.

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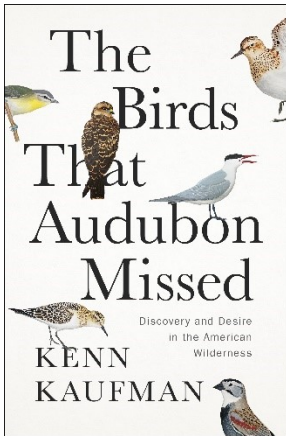
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Kaufman, Kenn

BIRDS THAT AUDUBON MISSED: Discovery and Desire in the American Wilderness

May 2024



The most famous pioneer ornithologist was John James Audubon, who painted spectacular portraits of birds. Although his compositions were beautiful, creating great art was not his main goal. Instead, he aimed to illustrate (and write about) as many different species as possible, obsessed with trying to outdo his predecessor and rival, Alexander Wilson. George Ord, a fan and disciple of Wilson, held a bitter grudge against Audubon for years, claiming he had faked much of his information—which was true. A few of Audubon’s birds were pure fictions, and some of his writing was invented or plagiarized. Other naturalists of the era, including Charles Bonaparte (nephew of Napoleon), John Townsend, and Thomas Nuttall, got tangled in the controversies more than once.

Despite this intense competition, a few species—including some surprisingly common ones—managed to evade discovery for years. Renowned bird expert and artist Kenn Kaufman explores this period in history from a new angle, by considering the birds these people discovered and, especially, the ones they missed. By attempting to create, in Audubon’s own style, portraits of those birds the artist never saw, he also provides a unique look inside the history of nature art.

An avid naturalist since the age of six, **Kenn Kaufman** burst onto the national birding scene as a teenager in the 1970s, hitchhiking all over North America in pursuit of all the bird species he could find—an adventure later chronicled in his cult-classic book *Kingbird Highway*. A field editor for *Audubon Magazine* and a regular contributor to every major birding magazine, he is the youngest person ever to receive the highest honor of the American Birding Association—and the only person to receive it twice. He has authored or co-authored 13 books about birds and nature; the books have included his own series of Kaufman Field Guides, with titles on birds, butterflies, mammals, insects, advanced birding, and more. His natural history pursuits have taken him to all seven continents. Since the 1980s he has been an editor and consultant on birds for the National Audubon Society, and he’s been a Fellow of the American Ornithological Society since 2013/ Kenn lives in Oak Harbor, Ohio, with his wife, Kimberly Kaufman, who is also a dedicated naturalist and the director of a local bird observatory.

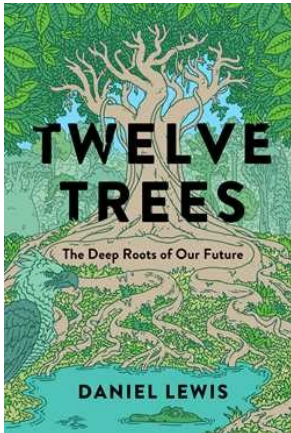
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Rights: Serial/Audio/British/Electronic

Lewis, Daniel

TWELVE TREES: The Deep Roots of Our Future

March 2024



Twelve Trees introduces us to a dozen species of trees that epitomize the challenges facing the planet, and the ways that scientists and others are working with a growing sense of urgency to save them. Scientists, ethnobotanists, indigenous peoples, and collectives of all kinds are studying trees and their workings, using a host of new tools, to learn how trees function individually and collectively, and why they do what they do. *Twelve Trees* will take readers to plant breeding labs, botanical gardens, deep into the field, to the tops of tall trees, and around the planet, to provide a perspective that reaches across the globe. To study the science of trees is to study not just the present. It's a story of the world, its past, and its future.

1. ***Sophora toromiro*: The Lost Tree of Easter Island.** When a once-common tree goes extinct in the wild, but still survives in botanical gardens and other places, what happens next? What are our responsibilities, and what can science do to reconstruct or resurrect?
2. **The Coastal Redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*):** What roles do art and illustration—in particular, scientific illustration—play in the conservation of trees?
3. ***Lepidodendron selaginoides* [no common name]:** How can a fossil tree millions of years old tell us anything about the future?
4. **The Longleaf Pine (*Pinus palustris*):** What are the actual logistics involved in saving a species?
5. **East Indian Sandalwood (*Santalum album*):** How does science turn folk knowledge into modern medicine?
6. **The Oldest Living Thing: The Bristlecone Pine (*Pinus longaeva*):** The Bristlecone Pine—at nearly 5,000 years old, the most ancient of living things—calls forth the question: how does the tree manage to live so long, and what can we learn from its antiquity?
7. **A Guitar Too Far: Madagascar Ebony (*Diospyros perrieri*): An exotic wood and music story.** This is a story of consumption and redemption, and it asks: why and how do our cultural obsessions with wood matter for humanity's next steps?
8. **Belonging and Evolution: The Tasmanian Blue Gum Eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus globulus*):** When is an organism from somewhere else welcome, and when it is not; why isn't it welcome; and what do the changing currents of "belonging" mean for the future of this species and its allies?
9. **Olive tree (*Olea europaea*):** How does science account for the survival of one species at the expense of others?
10. **Baobab (*Adansonia digitata*):** Africa's most iconic tree is dying, and scientists want to know why.
11. **Açaí-do-amazonas (*Euterpe precatoria*):** Where do the extremely plentiful fit into the broad schema of survival?
12. **Waterlogged: The Bald Cypress (*Taxodium distichum*).** What can we learn from hostile environments, and what can we do to make them less hostile from the tree's perspective?

Daniel Lewis is the Dibner Senior Curator for the History of Science and Technology at the Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens in Southern California, and a writer, college

professor, and environmental historian. He writes about the biological sciences and their intersections with extinction, policy, culture, history, politics, law, and literature. Lewis holds the PhD in history and has held post-doctoral fellowships at Oxford, the Smithsonian, the Rachel Carson Center in Munich, and elsewhere. Lewis also serves on the faculty at Caltech, where he teaches environmental humanities courses, as well as at the Art Center College of Design in Pasadena. He is also currently serving a five-year term on the IUCN's Species Survival Commission, as a Bird Red List Authority member. His previous books include *Belonging on an Island: Birds, Extinction, and Evolution in Hawai'i* and *The Feathery Tribe: Robert Ridgway and the Modern Study of Birds*.

Territory: World

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Oakes, John

UNTITLED ON INTELLIGENCE

Spring 2026

More than any single factor--more than looks, more than physical prowess, more even than wealth—intelligence, or the *perception* that we are intelligent, is key to our success (Albert Einstein, Henry Kissinger; even Donald Trump). I want to touch on AI, but go far beyond it, weaving in different cultural and social perspectives on what having smarts means. I would also explore psychology and anthropology, and a bit of progressive politics (the Bell Curve!). How do we determine what intelligence is? Who decides who is intelligent, and what is the history of the definition of this quality? Why we need to convince ourselves the other side is stupid, something that's been going on since Homo sapiens met the Neanderthals. How intelligence has been measured through the ages. Emotional intelligence, spy craft and counterintelligence. Dementia, even, which proves that at least a big chunk of our intelligence is organic (as the brain decays, conventional intelligence does as well, but sometimes other qualities kick in, and we become "sage-like" [Noam Chomsky or Harold Bloom]). Not a how-to, but I would be excited to find out how we can fake it (see: imposter syndrome) and appear more intelligent than we are. Writers whose work I have in mind are those who straddle the science/philosophy/cultural divides, popular thinkers such as Yuval Noah Harari, Simon Critchley, Naomi Klein, and Daniel Kahneman (*Thinking, Fast and Slow*, 2011).

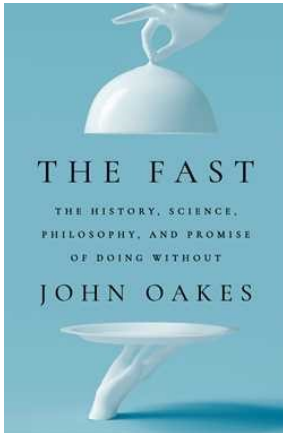
Territory: World

Rights: Serial/Audio/British/Electronic/Translation

Oakes, John

THE FAST: The History, Science, Philosophy, and Promise of Doing Without

February 2024



The Fast is an extended cultural history of fasting as well as a meditation on the process. In the aftermath of the Trump Administration, in what seemed to be the waning months of Covid, veteran publishing executive John Oakes decided to go on a seven-day fast. The politics, philosophy, history, and biological implications of this experience will resonate throughout this book. *The Fast* will include brief meditations on compulsive consumption, precarity and boundaries, and the ancient principle of voluntary deprivation that can be found in just about every major spiritual tradition. *The Fast* will be based on extensive research and firsthand observation, which includes the author's trip to Minneapolis to experience perceptual fasting at what is reputedly the quietest place on Earth, interviews with doctors, spiritual leaders (including ministers, rabbis, an imam, and a Buddhist monk), and activists. This topic also ties into trends around

slowing down and wellness. In recent years, fasting has undergone a tremendous resurgence in popularity among seekers of spirituality of all stripes, health advocates, and activists who undertake hunger strikes as a dramatic, non-violent form of protest—one that's often proven to be effective. *The Fast* is aimed at a popular, non-academic audience, but it is not a how-to book. There are dozens of books on fasting—*The Complete Guide to Fasting*, *The Obesity Code*, *Intermittent Fasting*, *Essential Fasting*, *Fast Feast Repeat*, and on and on—but none on fasting's deep philosophical roots, its sociological implications, and its important role in world culture.

John Oakes is the publisher of *The Evergreen Review*, a political and literary journal, and editor-at-large for OR Books, which he co-founded in 1989. He has written for a variety of publications, among them *The Oxford Handbook of Publishing* (2019; he wrote Chapter 7 on “Publishing and Culture”), *Publishers Weekly*, the *Review of Contemporary Fiction*, the *Associated Press*, and *The Journal of Electronic Publishing*. He founded and directed the New School Publishing Institute until its demise due to Covid in 2020. He was named a chevalier de l'ordre des arts et des lettres by the French government and he is a cum laude graduate of Princeton University, where he earned the English Department undergraduate thesis prize for an essay on Samuel Beckett.

Territory: World

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Sacasas, Michael

41 QUESTIONS: Technology and the Good Life

January 2025

Cover TBD

Michael Sacasas' probing set of questions are meant to “consider how our aspirations are shaped, channeled, and possibly thwarted by the material infrastructure of our moral lives: the tools, devices, and technological systems that structure our experience, usually in ways that escape our conscious attention. After all, we are not only a product of our expressed beliefs, but we are also shaped by our daily practices and habits.”

Examples of questions include:

What sort of person will the use of this technology make of me?
How will the use of this technology affect my experience of time?
How will the use of this technology affect my experience of place?
What habits will the use of this technology instill?
What will the use of this technology encourage me to notice?
What was required of other human beings so that I might be able to use this technology?
What assumptions about the world does the use of this technology tacitly encourage?
Does my use of this technology make it easier to live as if I had no responsibilities toward my neighbor?

Michael Sacasas writes and speaks about technology, society, and the moral life as an independent scholar known principally for his newsletter, *The Convivial Society*. His writing has appeared in *The New Atlantis*, *Real Life*, the *American*, and *The New Inquiry*. It has also been cited in places like the *Atlantic* and the *New York Times*. Sacasas has also appeared on numerous podcasts to talk about technology and the moral life, most notably as a guest on *The Ezra Klein Show*.

Territory: World

Rights: Serial/Audio/British/Electronic/Translation

Steinberger, Michael

PHILOSOPHER IN THE VALLEY: Alex Karp, Palantir, and the Rise of the Surveillance State by

February 2025

Cover TBD

Go to Palantir's website and you are greeted by the kind of anodyne techno-utopianism that is de rigueur at annual stockholders' meetings and Apple Stores. *With good data and the right technology, people and institutions today can still solve hard problems and change the world for the better.* But what is Palantir? In the not-entirely-hyperbolic words of its billionaire CEO, it is "the de facto operating system of the West's most vital institutions." Named by co-founder Peter Thiel after the palantir seeing stones of Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings*, Palantir is an unrivalled data mining behemoth that is run by one of the most unconventional and heterodox CEO's to be found among the Davos global elite, Alex Karp. What are those "vital institutions" using Palantir to "change the world for the better"? The CIA, MI6, Mossad, ICE, all the branches of the US military, the SEC, the IRS, the CDC, the executive branch, BP, Airbus, the World Health Organization, the World Food Programme—just about everything your tax dollars pay for that touches your life, and many things your consumer dollars pay for, as well. Unlike its household-name peers—Meta, Apple, Microsoft, Amazon, and Alphabet—Palantir rarely makes a splash outside of the business pages. Even though its business is us. Steinberger will for the first time illuminate the paradoxical and idiosyncratic figure who is as consequential to the security of our democracy and our information as anyone in in the world of technology or government.

Michael Steinberger is the perfect candidate to write this book. He has Karp's implicit trust. He has written important profiles for the *Times Magazine* about Joe Biden and George Soros and has written about business for *The Times* of London and *The Financial Times*. He is also a James Beard Award-winning wine writer (he's the author of two books about food and wine culture), and covers tennis for the *NYT*, including his excellent recent A1 overview of the Djokovic-Australia contretemps, which he puts in the context of Djokovic's broader biography, his allegiance to non-traditional medicine, and his outsider identity as a Serbian national hero.

Territory: World

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Vrangalova, Zhana, Ph.D.

LOVE SMARTER: The Five Relationship Types How to Find and Design the Right One for You
Summer 2025

Cover TBD

Esther Perel's *Mating in Captivity* (2006; sold in more than 20 international markets) and Chris Ryan's *Sex at Dawn* (2010) exposed the cracks in our modern monogamy-only relationship model and unlocked the door to the rest of the relationship landscape. But neither showed us how to find our way around. In fact, more than 10 years later, in her 2017 book, *The State of Affairs: Rethinking Infidelity*, Perel told us "Few social scripts exist. We are all improvising."

Vrangalova wants readers to do more than just improvise. "How do we find the relationship type that's right for us, and how do we make sure we're doing it well? Science finally has some concrete answers. All humans have two basic needs: security and exploration. To survive, we need to be physically and emotionally safe and secure; to grow, we need to be able to seek new experiences, to be challenged and surprised." Vrangalova offers insights on how to pursue both.

Territory: World

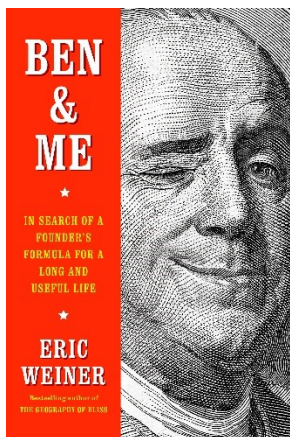
Rights: Serial/Audio/British/Electronic/Translation

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Weiner, Eric

BEN & ME: In Search of a Founder's Formula for a Long and Useful Life

June 2024



New York Times-bestselling author of *The Geography of Bliss* Eric Weiner follows in the footsteps of Benjamin Franklin and plumbs his life for lessons for the rest of us.

Ben Franklin: one of America's most influential founding fathers, who helped to draft and signed the Declaration of Independence; not only a statesman, he was also a scientist, inventor, diplomat, publisher, and political philosopher. He believed in the American experiment, but he also viewed himself as an experiment in self-improvement. In the spirit of Franklin, Eric Weiner embarked on an ambitious experiment: What if he tried to live his life the way Ben Franklin lived? Thought the way Franklin thought, felt the way Franklin felt. What would such a life look like? (Spoiler alert: It looks darned good.)

Not a straightforward biography, *Ben & Me* is a guide to living and thinking well, as Ben Franklin did. It is part biography, part travelogue, and part personal chronicle, as Weiner visits Franklin's haunts from Philadelphia to Paris, Boston to London, and attempts to replicate his experiments, large and small.

Eric Weiner is author of the *New York Times* bestsellers *The Geography of Bliss* and *The Geography of Genius*, as well as the critically acclaimed *Man Seeks God* and, his latest book, *The Socrates Express: In Search of Life Lessons from Dead Philosophers*. A former foreign correspondent for NPR, he has reported from more than three dozen countries. His work has appeared in the *New Republic*, *The Atlantic*, *National Geographic*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and the anthology *Best American Travel Writing*. He lives in Silver Spring, MD with his wife and daughter.

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