
John Mulaney

December 2020 Gq

Interview

The Motherlode

Jottings from a Far Away Place

Christmas on Television

Always Look on the Bright Side of Life

The Colour Of Walls

Never Be Alone Again

Lucy A to Z

Fuccboi

5001 Nights at the Movies

Almost Interesting

How Should a Person Be?

I Am America (and So Can You!)

The Life and Death of Peter Sellers

This Is Not My Memoir

Fuddy Meers

Girl With No Job

Personology

The Madiba Years

May I Have Your Attention Please?

Hits and Misses

Amazing Courage

net.wars

Tacky

Who Thought This Was a Good Idea?

Dogwinks
Hollywood's Eve
Hairspray
Turn Here Sweet Corn
Beyond the Surface
America Again
It Never Ends
Thanks, Obama
Stroppy
Rock Stars on the Record
The Thing about Florida
20 Under 40
Maurice Sendak's Really Rosie Starring the
Nutshell Kids
Arty Parties
Goliath

*John
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December
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KELLEY CHASE

The Motherlode Xulon
Press
Cast size: medium.
Jottings from a Far
Away Place Abrams
Book store nation, in
the history of mankind
there has never been a
greater country than

America. You could say
we're the #1 nation at
being the best at
greatness. But as
perfect as America is in
every single way,
America is broken! And
we can't exchange it
because we're 236
years past the 30-day
return window. Look
around--we don't make
anything anymore,
we've mortgaged our
future to China, and

the Apologist-in-Chief goes on world tours just to bow before foreign leaders. Worse, the L.A. Four Seasons Hotel doesn't even have a dedicated phone button for the Spa. You have to dial an extension! Where did we lose our way?! It's high time we restored America to the greatness it never lost! Luckily, America Again will singlebookedly pull this country back from the brink. It features everything from chapters, to page numbers, to fonts. Covering subject's ranging from healthcare ("I shudder to think where we'd be without the wide variety of prescription drugs to treat our maladies, such as think-shuddering") to the economy ("Life is

giving us lemons, and we're shipping them to the Chinese to make our lemon-flavored leadonade") to food ("Feel free to deep fry this book-it's a rich source of fiber"), Stephen gives America the dose of truth it needs to get back on track.

Christmas on

Television U of

Minnesota Press

An all-star lineup of rock-n-rollers relay the uproariously wild, sentimental, and unexpected pre-stardom stories behind their favorite records. Rock Stars on the Record is a collection of first-hand tales by artists of all ages, backgrounds, and musical influences, remembering the meaning behind the records that mattered most to them. From

Laura Jane Grace to Ian MacKaye, Don McLean to Cherie Currie, Alice Bag to Mac DeMarco, Perry Farrell to Suzi Quatro and Verdine White, and many more, bestselling author Eric Spitznagel talks to rock stars across the sonic spectrum about the albums that changed them in ways only music can change someone. Everyone's most cherished childhood record—be it a battered piece of vinyl, torn cassette tape, or scratched CD—has a story, and those stories can be more revealing about their owners than you might expect. Read about how “Weird Al” Yankovic refined his accordion skills by playing along to Elton John’s Goodbye Yellow Brick Road, or how Fishbone’s Angelo

Moore saved his life with a boombox and a Bad Brains album. Or about how Wendy Melvoin and Lisa Coleman of Prince’s longtime band, The Revolution, fell in love while trading mixtapes. Each profile is more emotional, fascinating, and hilarious than the last. So place that needle in the groove, and prepare to hear something revelatory from your favorite rockers past and present. “Absolutely fascinating. It’s hard to believe that no one has done this before, but now that I’ve read it, it seems totally obvious—except that most journalists wouldn’t be able to get people to talk so openly and compellingly about something that, to an artist, may feel very

private. I know these great musicians and their music better now. Thank you, Eric.”

—Daniel J. Levitin, bestselling author of *This Is Your Brain on Music*, professor of Neuroscience and Music at McGill University in Montreal “In asking a slew of rock stars about the record that changed their lives, Eric Spitznagel also ferrets out fascinating backstories and unexpected anecdotes. Who knew that Tommy Roe’s granddaughter calls him ‘the Justin Bieber of the ‘60s’? Or that Perry Farrell entertained his older siblings’ friends’ by dancing the Hully Gully at their parties? *Rock Stars on the Record* is so much fun, and more illuminating that you’d expect.” —Caroline

Sullivan, author of *Bye Bye Baby: My Tragic Love Affair with the Bay City Rollers* [Always Look on the Bright Side of Life](#) Prometheus Nemesis Book Company “Every thinking American must read” (The Washington Book Review) this startling and “insightful” (The New York Times) look at how concentrated financial power and consumerism has transformed American politics, and business. Going back to our country’s founding, Americans once had a coherent and clear understanding of political tyranny, one crafted by Thomas Jefferson and updated for the industrial age by Louis Brandeis. A concentration of power—whether by government or

banks—was understood as autocratic and dangerous to individual liberty and democracy. In the 1930s, people observed that the Great Depression was caused by financial concentration in the hands of a few whose misuse of their power induced a financial collapse. They drew on this tradition to craft the New Deal. In *Goliath*, Matt Stoller explains how authoritarianism and populism have returned to American politics for the first time in eighty years, as the outcome of the 2016 election shook our faith in democratic institutions. It has brought to the fore dangerous forces that many modern Americans never even knew existed. Today's

bitter recriminations and panic represent more than just fear of the future, they reflect a basic confusion about what is happening and the historical backstory that brought us to this moment. The true effects of populism, a shrinking middle class, and concentrated financial wealth are only just beginning to manifest themselves under the current administrations. The lessons of Stoller's study will only grow more relevant as time passes. "An engaging call to arms," (Kirkus Reviews) Stoller illustrates here in rich detail how we arrived at this tenuous moment, and the steps we must take to create a new democracy. [The Colour Of Walls](#) Hal Leonard Corporation Chosen as one of

fifteen remarkable books by women that are shaping the way we read and write in the 21st century by the book critics of The New York Times "Funny...odd, original, and nearly unclassifiable...unlike any novel I can think of."—David Haglund, The New York Times Book Review "Brutally honest and stylistically inventive, cerebral, and sexy."—San Francisco Chronicle Named a Book of the Year by The New York Times Book Review, The New Yorker, San Francisco Chronicle, Salon, Flavorpill, The New Republic, The New York Observer, The Huffington Post A raw, startling, genre-defying novel of friendship, sex, and love in the new millennium—a compulsive read that's

like "spending a day with your new best friend" (Bookforum) Reeling from a failed marriage, Sheila, a twentysomething playwright, finds herself unsure of how to live and create. When Margaux, a talented painter and free spirit, and Israel, a sexy and depraved artist, enter her life, Sheila hopes that through close—sometimes too close—observation of her new friend, her new lover, and herself, she might regain her footing in art and life. Using transcribed conversations, real emails, plus heavy doses of fiction, the brilliant and always innovative Sheila Heti crafts a work that is part literary novel, part self-help manual, and part bawdy

confessional. It's a totally shameless and dynamic exploration into the way we live now, which breathes fresh wisdom into the eternal questions: What is the sincerest way to love? What kind of person should you be?

Never Be Alone

Again Farrar, Straus and Giroux

The intelligent person's guide to the movies, with more than 2,800 reviews Look up a movie in this guide, and chances are you'll find yourself reading on about the next movie and the next. Pauline Kael's reviews aren't just provocative--they're addictive. These brief, informative reviews, written for the "Goings On About Town" section of The New Yorker, provide an

immense range of listings---a masterly critical history of American and foreign film. This is probably the only movie guide you'll want to read for the sheer pleasure of it.

Lucy A to Z Abrams

NEW YORK TIMES

BESTSELLER • From

the ingenious comic performer, founding member of Monty Python, and creator of Spamalot (returning to Broadway in Fall 2023!), comes an absurdly funny memoir of unparalleled wit and heartfelt candor We know him best for his unforgettable roles on Monty Python—from the Flying Circus to The Meaning of Life. Now, Eric Idle reflects on the meaning of his own life in this entertaining memoir that takes us on a remarkable

journey from his childhood in an austere boarding school through his successful career in comedy, television, theater, and film. Coming of age as a writer and comedian during the Sixties and Seventies, Eric stumbled into the crossroads of the cultural revolution and found himself rubbing shoulders with the likes of George Harrison, David Bowie, and Robin Williams, all of whom became dear lifelong friends. With anecdotes sprinkled throughout involving other close friends and luminaries such as Mike Nichols, Mick Jagger, Steve Martin, Paul Simon, Lorne Michaels, and many more, as well as John Cleese and the Pythons themselves, Eric captures a time of

tremendous creative output with equal parts hilarity and heart. In *Always Look on the Bright Side of Life*, named for the song he wrote for *Life of Brian* and which has since become the number one song played at funerals in the UK, he shares the highlights of his life and career with the kind of offbeat humor that has delighted audiences for five decades. 2019 marked the fiftieth anniversary of *The Pythons*, and Eric commemorated the occasion with this hilarious memoir chock full of behind-the-scenes stories from a high-flying life featuring everyone from Princess Leia to Queen Elizabeth. **Fuccboi** New Africa Books
On the front steps and

in the cellar of ten-year-old producer-director Rosie's Brooklyn row house, Rosie herself and her Nutshell friends put on a musical extravaganza.

5001 Nights at the Movies NYU Press

New York Times

bestseller! If your

funny older sister were the former deputy

chief of staff to

President Barack

Obama, her behind-

the-scenes political

memoir would look

something like this...

Alyssa Mastro Monaco

worked for Barack

Obama for almost a

decade, and long

before his run for

president. From the

then-senator's early

days in Congress to his

years in the Oval

Office, she made Hope

and Change happen

through blood, sweat,

tears, and lots of briefing binders. But for every historic occasion-meeting the queen at Buckingham Palace, bursting in on secret climate talks, or nailing a campaign speech in a hailstorm-there were dozens of less-than-perfect moments when it was up to Alyssa to save the day. Like the time she learned the hard way that there aren't nearly enough bathrooms at the Vatican. Full of hilarious, never-before-told stories, **WHO THOUGHT THIS WAS A GOOD IDEA?** is an intimate portrait of a president, a book about how to get stuff done, and the story of how one woman challenged, again and again, what a "White House official" is supposed to look like.

Here Alyssa shares the strategies that made her successful in politics and beyond, including the importance of confidence, the value of not being a jerk, and why ultimately everything comes down to hard work (and always carrying a spare tampon). Told in a smart, original voice and topped off with a couple of really good cat stories, **WHO THOUGHT THIS WAS A GOOD IDEA?** is a promising debut from a savvy political star.

Almost Interesting

Diversion Books
Traces the life and career of the British actor, discusses his major roles, and depicts his complex and often difficult personality

How Should a Person Be?

HarperCollins
"A tongue-in-cheek advice book from one of the most famous funemployed millennials in Manhattan and founder of the Instagram account Girl With No Job"--

I Am America (and So Can You!) Dramatists

Play Service Inc
The Thing about Florida
University Press of Florida

The Life and Death of Peter Sellers Holt
Paperbacks

A journey beyond fears and stereotypes
The memes. "Because Florida" jokes. "Florida Man" stories. Tyler Gillespie was once embarrassed to call Florida home, concocting fantasies he'd been born somewhere else. In *The Thing about Florida*, Gillespie faces

his Florida denial and takes readers on an exuberant search for the state behind the caricatures, cutting through the media storm with curiosity and humor. Gillespie's journey leads him into unexpected places such as halfway houses, gator pits, rattlesnake rooms, and clothing-optional campgrounds, where he meets eclectic and unconventional Floridians. He interviews storm chasers, Civil War reenactors, cattle ranchers, drag queens, python hunters, and pet smugglers. His conversations delve into serious issues such as addiction, Florida's racist past, and care options for the state's LGBTQ senior citizens. With perspective and

empathy derived from his background as a gay man raised Southern Baptist, Gillespie shows how important it is to understand the diversity and complexity of Florida today. "It's dangerous to meet our fears with fear," he says as he confronts his own as well as the state's monsters—invasive species, hurricanes, environmental destruction. He reminds us that Florida's people and problems are vital parts of the nation's future. A fresh and engaging voice, Gillespie captivates with a snappy pace, sly wit, and crisp observations. As he weaves his childhood memories and personal experiences alongside the stories of the

individuals he encounters, Gillespie reconciles with his home state. He finds Florida's humanity, a beautiful mix of hopes, dreams, and second chances.

This Is Not My Memoir
Abrams

The quintessential biography of Eve Babitz (1943-2021), the brilliant chronicler of 1960s and 70s Hollywood hedonism and one of the most original American voices of her time. "I practically snorted this book, stayed up all night with it. Anolik decodes, ruptures, and ultimately intensifies Eve's singular irresistible glitz." —Jia Tolentino, *The New Yorker* "The Eve Babitz book I've been waiting for. What emerges isn't just a portrait of a writer, but also of Los

Angeles: sprawling, melancholic, and glamorous."

—Stephanie Danler, author of *Sweetbitter* Los Angeles in the 1960s and 70s was the pop culture capital of the world—a movie factory, a music factory, a dream factory. Eve Babitz was the ultimate factory girl, a pure product of LA. The goddaughter of Igor Stravinsky and a graduate of Hollywood High, Babitz, age twenty, posed for a photograph with French artist Marcel Duchamp in 1963. They were seated at a chess board, deep in a game. She was naked; he was not. The picture, cheesecake with a Dadaist twist, made her an instant icon of art and sex. She spent the rest of the decade on the Sunset

Strip, rocking and rolling, and honing her notoriety. There were the album covers she designed: for Buffalo Springfield and the Byrds, to name but a few. There were the men she seduced: Jim Morrison, Ed Ruscha, Harrison Ford, to name but a very few. Then, at nearly thirty, her It girl days numbered, Babitz was discovered—as a writer—by Joan Didion. She would go on to produce seven books, usually billed as novels or short story collections, always autobiographies and confessionals. Her prose achieved that American ideal: art that stayed loose, maintained its cool; art so sheerly enjoyable as to be mistaken for simple entertainment. Yet somehow the world

wasn't paying attention. Babitz languished. It was almost twenty years after her last book was published, and only a few years before her death in 2021 that Babitz became a literary star, recognized as not just an essential L.A. writer, but the essential. This late-blooming vogue bloomed, in large part, because of a magazine profile by Lili Anolik, who, in 2010, began obsessively pursuing Babitz, a recluse since burning herself up in a fire in the 90s. Anolik's elegant and provocative book is equal parts biography and detective story. It is also on dangerously intimate terms with its subject: artist, writer, muse, and one-woman zeitgeist, Eve Babitz. "A dazzling, gossip-

filled biography of the wayward genius who knew everyone in Seventies LA.” —The Telegraph (UK)

Fuddy Meers

iUniverse

Harper Stevenson wants crisp, white, clean walls in his office. But walls have a history and a memory that can't simply be painted over. *A Short History of Indians in Canada*, Thomas King's bestselling collection of twenty tales, is a comic tour de force, showcasing the author at his hilarious and provocative best. With his razor-sharp observations and mystical characters, including the ever-present and ever-changing Coyote, King pokes a sharp stick into the gears of the Native myth-making machine, exposing the

underbelly of both historical and contemporary Native-White relationships. Through the laughter, these stories shimmer brightly with the universal truths that unite us. HarperCollins brings great works of literature to life in digital format, upholding the highest standards in ebook production and celebrating reading in all its forms. Look for more titles in the HarperCollins short-stories collection to build your digital library.

Girl With No Job

HarperCollins

Praise for the updated 2012 Kindle edition of *Lucy A to Z: The Lucille Ball Encyclopedia* "Very important. Fresh insights. The most detailed-and most enjoyable-book

available on Lucille Ball. A must-have." - Laura Wagner, *Classic Images* "As we are producing the I Love Lucy 50th Anniversary Special, [Lucy A to Z] has been a godsend." - Lucie Arnaz, 2001 letter to author "[Lucy A to Z is a] compound of insight, fact, and trivia." -Stefan Kanfer, author, *Ball of Fire* "This new Fourth Edition of Lucy A to Z is a wonderful read and I'm very pleased to recommend it to everyone." -Wanda Clark, Lucille Ball's personal secretary "If you need any 'splainin' about Lucy' life and career, you'll find it here!" -Craig Hamrick, author, *The TV Tidbits Classic Television Trivia Quiz Book* *Personology* Henry Holt and Company An irreverent and

charming collection of deeply personal essays about the joys of low pop culture and bad taste, exploring coming of age in the 2000s in the age of Hot Topic, Creed, and frosted lip gloss—from the James Beard Award-nominated writer of the *Catapult* column "Store-Bought Is Fine" *Tacky* is about the power of pop culture—like any art—to imprint itself on our lives and shape our experiences, no matter one's commitment to "good" taste. These fourteen essays are a nostalgia-soaked antidote to the millennial generation's obsession with irony, putting the aesthetics we hate to love—snakeskin pants, *Sex and the City*, *Cheesecake Factory's* gargantuan

menu—into kinder and sharper perspective. Each essay revolves around a different maligned (and yet, Rax would argue, vital) cultural artifact, providing thoughtful, even romantic meditations on desire, love, and the power of nostalgia. An essay about the gym-tan-laundry exuberance of Jersey Shore morphs into an excavation of grief over the death of her father; in "You Wanna Be On Top," Rax writes about friendship and early aughts girlhood; in another, Guy Fieri helps her heal from an abusive relationship. The result is a collection that captures the personal and generational experience of finding joy in caring just a little too much with clarity,

heartfelt honesty, and Rax King's trademark humor. A VINTAGE ORIGINAL

The Madiba Years
Two Palms Publishing
So... the story of my life. I've often thought about this moment, about what it would be like to write my memoirs. I always thought it would make me feel important. It doesn't. If anything it makes me feel a little strange. The truth is, I should never have been this famous guy. I wasn't the cool, clever, good-looking boy at school. But I always dreamt of it, hoped for it, longed for it: throughout school when I was disruptive, in my teens when I tried to form my own boy band and through hundreds of auditions for parts which were met with constant

rejection. Until finally I co-wrote Gavin and Stacey. And my whole life changed. This is that story. The story of how I found myself here, talking to you.

May I Have Your Attention Please?

Hachette UK

Ranging on the fringes of imagination and erudition, forming a mosaic of stories, maxims and sketches, at once fragmentary and cumulative, Jottings from a Far Away Place combines the timeless, mannered assurance of the Eastern discursive essay with the experimentation of the Western avant-garde. As the focus shifts between fantastic tales and studies of viciousness, the reader is treated to, among myriad other things, the adventures of a

Taoist guitar player, a bloody episode with Countess de Bathory, a recipe for cinnabar sauce, and the story of a man who has been reincarnated as a spoon. A book that is like a collection of bulletins from the world of dreams."

Hits and Misses

Praeger

David Spade is best known for his harsh "Hollywood" Minute Sketches on SNL, his starring roles in movies like Joe Dirt and Tommy Boy, and his seven-year stint as Dennis Finch on the series Just Shoot Me. Now, with a wit as dry as the weather in his home state of Arizona, the "comic brat extraordinaire" tells his story in Almost Interesting. First Taking fans back to his childhood as a

wannabe cool younger brother and recounting his excruciating road-tour to fame—when he was regularly mistaken for a ten year-old, Spade then dishes about his time crisscrossing the country as a comedian, for low-paying gigs and dragging along his mother’s old suitcase full of props. He also covers his years on SNL during the beloved Rock/Sandler/Farley era of the 1990s, including his close working relationship and friendship with

Chris Farley and brags about the ridiculous perks that fame has brought into his life, including the constant fear of being fired, a crazy ex-assistant who attacked him while he was sleeping, a run-in with Eddie Murphy on the mean streets of Beverly Hills, and of course an endless supply of hot chicks. Sometimes dirty, always funny, and as sharp as a tack, Almost Interesting reminds you why David Spade is one of our generation’s favorite funny guys.

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