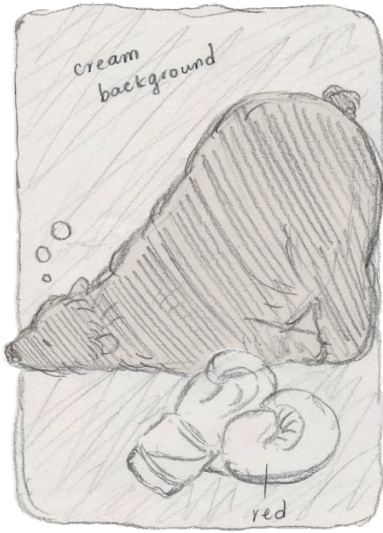


West Virginia University Press



New Books / Spring 2022



"A new publishing heavyweight."

—Rachel Toor, *Chronicle of Higher Education*



Congratulations to WVU Press's authors on their appearances this season in some of the world's leading publications—including the *New York Times Book Review*, which reviewed Jim Lewis's *Ghosts of New York*, and *Harper's*, which excerpted Anne T. Lawrence's *On Dark and Bloody Ground*.

About West Virginia University Press

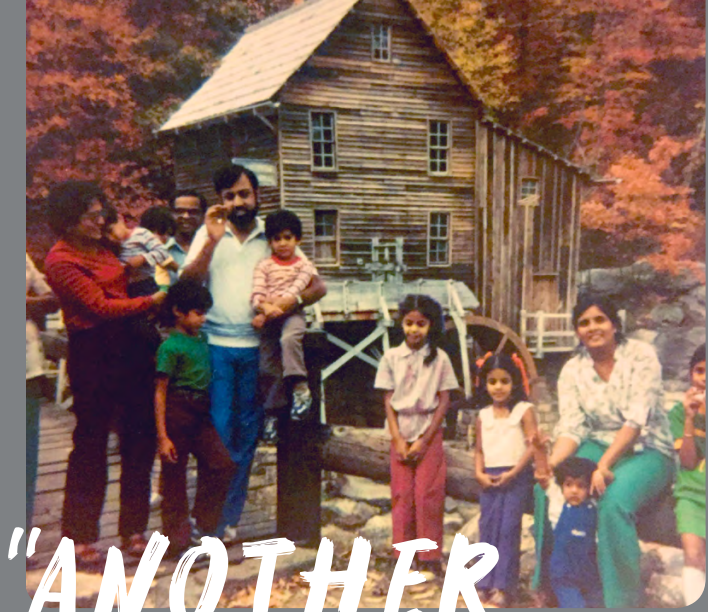
West Virginia University Press is the only university press, and the largest publisher of any kind, in the state of West Virginia. A part of West Virginia University, we publish books and scholarly journals by authors around the world, with a particular emphasis on Appalachian studies, higher education, and interdisciplinary books about energy and environment. We also publish highly regarded works of fiction and creative nonfiction.

Titles published by West Virginia University Press have received reviews and attention in the *New York Times*, the *New York Review of Books*, the *Atlantic*, *Harper's*, *PBS NewsHour*, *Fresh Air*, the *Wall Street Journal*, *Smithsonian*, the *Times Literary Supplement*, the *Paris Review*, the *Los Angeles Review of Books*, *Time*, *Publishers Weekly*, *Library Journal*, *Booklist*, *Kirkus*, *Vox*, *Bustle*, *BuzzFeed*, and the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, among many other regional and global outlets. You can find our books at bookstores and online retailers.

At West Virginia University Press, we strive to extend and enhance the reputation of WVU as a major research institution by publishing the very best work in our areas of specialization. Learn more at wvupress.com.

Cover illustration by Koko Lee.

WVUPRESS.COM



"ANOTHER APPALACHIA

is a breath of fresh air, a work that the public is in dire need of reading. Wide and expansive as the land the author calls home, this essay collection subverts the mainstream's hyperfocus on white male-dominated narratives from rural America and commands your attention from the first page to the last word."

—Morgan Jerkins, author of *This Will Be My Undoing: Living at the Intersection of Black, Female, and Feminist in (White) America* and *Caul Baby*



“Neema Avashia, in this book, has named the unnamed, spoken the unspoken so that it does not become—to paraphrase Adrienne Rich—the unspeakable, and she has done so in language that is both lyrical and direct, both entertaining and edifying, both challenging and generous. I love this book and believe it introduces an important voice in America’s ongoing racial reckoning.”

—**Rahul Mehta**, author of *No Other World*

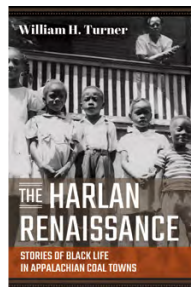
Also of interest



PERFECT DIRT
And Other Things I've
Gotten Wrong

Keegan Lester

November 2021 · 272pp · 5x8in
PB 978-1-952271-29-8 · \$23.99
eBook 978-1-952271-30-4 · \$23.99



**THE HARLAN
RENAISSANCE**

Stories of Black Life in
Appalachian Coal Towns

William H. Turner

October 2021 · 352pp · 5x8in
PB 978-1-952271-21-2 · \$26.99
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“In *Perfect Dirt*, tenderness is so tangible, so electric. Keegan Lester is an immensely gifted writer. This book will stay with you.”

—Eduardo C. Corral, author of *Guillotine*

“A warm and insightful memoir of Black life in Appalachia’s coal camps that offers a bounty of correctives to the persistent myth that all mountain people are white and all poverty is self-made.”

—Elizabeth Catte, author of *What You Are Getting Wrong about Appalachia* and *Pure America: Eugenics and the Making of Modern Virginia*

ANOTHER APPALACHIA

Coming Up Queer and Indian in a Mountain Place

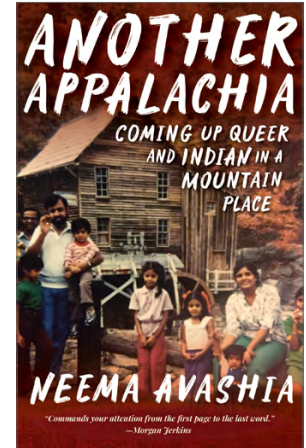
Neema Avashia

When Neema Avashia tells people where she’s from, their response is nearly always a disbelieving “There are Indian people in West Virginia?” A queer Asian American teacher and writer, Avashia fits few Appalachian stereotypes. But the lessons she learned in childhood about race and class, gender and sexuality continue to inform the way she moves through the world today: how she loves, how she teaches, how she advocates, how she struggles.

Another Appalachia examines both the roots and the resonance of Avashia’s identity as a queer desi Appalachian woman, while encouraging readers to envision more complex versions of both Appalachia and the nation as a whole. With lyric and narrative explorations of foodways, religion, sports, standards of beauty, social media, gun culture, and more, *Another Appalachia* mixes nostalgia and humor, sadness and sweetness, personal reflection and universal questions.

“An essential text to add to the new canon of Appalachian writing—a compassionate and rigorous memoir of the author’s experience growing up as a queer Hindu child and teenager in a small community of West Virginian Indians. *Another Appalachia* is a bright and deeply empathetic portrait of a complicated place, a place that Neema Avashia allows to be multifaceted in the way it deserves.”

—Anna Claire Weber, White Whale Bookstore



March 2022 · 168pp · 5x8in
PB 978-1-952271-42-7 · \$19.99
eBook 978-1-952271-43-4 · \$19.99

NEEMA AVASHIA was born and raised in southern West Virginia to parents who immigrated to the United States. She has been a middle school teacher in the Boston Public Schools since 2003. Her essays have appeared in the *Bitter Southerner*, *Catapult*, *Kenyon Review Online*, and elsewhere.

MEMOIR
ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES
APPALACHIAN STUDIES
LGBTQ STUDIES

“Lioness is a darkly compelling portrait of an artist who evolves into a homegrown ecoterrorist. Mark Powell’s brooding, twisty novel is packed with a distinctively American, highly explosive mixture of religion, art, sexual obsession, mental illness, and environmental menace.”

—Tom Perrotta, author of *Tracy Flick Can’t Win* and *The Leftovers*

Also of interest



GHOSTS OF NEW YORK

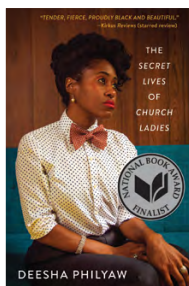
Jim Lewis

April 2021 · 300pp · 5.5x8.25in
PB 978-1-949199-96-3 · \$22.99
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“A wondrous novel, with prose that sparkles like certain sidewalks after rain. . . . That’s it, I thought. That’s exactly what it’s like to live in New York.”

—*New York Times*
Book Review

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Deesha Philyaw

September 2020
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PB 978-1-949199-73-4 · \$18.99
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“A collection of luminous stories populated by deeply moving and multifaceted characters. . . . Tender, fierce, proudly black and beautiful, these stories will sneak inside you and take root.”

—*Kirkus Reviews*
(starred review)

LIONESS

A Novel

Mark Powell

In the fall of 2018, a bomb goes off at a water-bottling plant in the mountains of southwest Virginia, an incident the FBI declares an act of ecoterrorism. Arrested at the scene is Chris Bright, a mountain hermit with a long history of activism. Unaccounted for—and presumed dead—is Mara Wood, an installation artist who in the last two years has lost her son and left her husband.

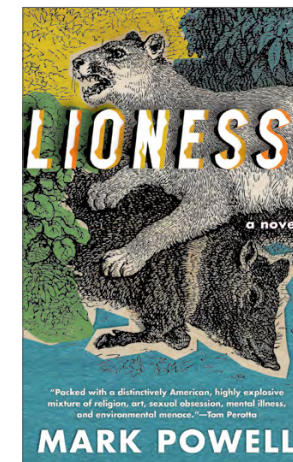
But Mara’s estranged husband David cannot quite believe she is dead, and as he goes about reconstructing the story of what happened, he begins to imagine an alternate narrative—one in which their son doesn’t die and his wife doesn’t leave him, one in which his wife doesn’t carry on a secret relationship with Chris Bright, a man bent on fighting back against the environmental despoliation of his Appalachian home. *Lioness* is a page-turning, heart-wrenching examination of extremism: What pushes people to act violently, and is that violence ever justified?

“A thriller with quickness and elegance, *Lioness* asks tough questions about our responsibilities to the natural world and to one another. In offering no easy answers, it achieves something beautiful and haunting. Mark Powell has written a gorgeous, enthralling, immensely readable novel that will hook you until the very last page.”

—Kayla Rae Whitaker, author of *The Animators*

“Mark Powell’s *Lioness* is an immersive rendering of the human quest for love and healing amidst a world on fire—a fire we have set and cannot tame.”

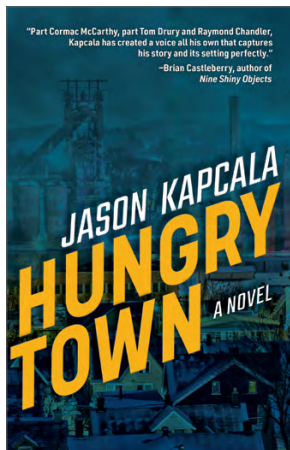
—Annette Saunooke Clapsaddle, author of *Even as We Breathe*



April 2022 · 304pp · 5x8in
PB 978-1-952271-44-1 · \$21.99
eBook 978-1-952271-45-8 · \$21.99

MARK POWELL is the author of seven novels and has received fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, from the Bread Loaf and Sewanee Writers’ Conferences, and twice from the Fulbright Foundation, to Slovakia and Romania. He directs the creative writing program at Appalachian State University.

FICTION



March 2022 · 288pp · 5x8in
 PB 978-1-952271-40-3 · \$19.99
 eBook 978-1-952271-41-0 · \$19.99

JASON KAPCALA is the author of the short story collection *North to Lakeville*. His writing has been nominated for numerous prizes, including the Pushcart Prize. He grew up in northeastern Pennsylvania, near the ruins of the Bethlehem Steel Works, and now lives in northern West Virginia.

FICTION

HUNGRY TOWN

A Novel

Jason Kapcala

One October night in the depressed steel town of Lodi, Ohio, two police officers respond to a call about trespassers in the derelict Lodi Steel machine shop. A chase through the crumbling cathedral of steel columns launches a chain of events that will test the officers' partnership and leave a boy to fend for himself in a decaying Rust Belt neighborhood choked by joblessness, boredom, and addiction.

On the opposite end of town, a young woman steps out of a rust-bucket Grand Marquis into an all-night diner. Instead of luggage, she carries mementos: an ankh tattoo she inked herself and a wallet-sized photograph of a boy who disappeared. She doesn't realize her ex-boyfriend has hired two brothers to track her down and bring her back, by any means necessary.

The complex female leads of *Hungry Town*, with its sharp dialogue and poetic sensibility, turn classic noir and cop drama tropes on their heads. These morally complicated characters weave in and out of each other's lives, sometimes violently, sometimes with surprising compassion.

"A literary page-turner that lends poetry to the forgotten town at the heart of this powerful novel, filled to its borders with complicated, honest characters who will linger in your imagination long after the last page. Part Cormac McCarthy, part Tom Drury and Raymond Chandler, Kapcala has created a voice all his own that captures his story and its setting perfectly."

—Brian Castleberry, author of *Nine Shiny Objects*

"A fun read, firmly fixed in the detective/crime novel genre but with a nice literary eye for details."

—Mesha Maren, author of *Sugar Run*

A YEAR WITHOUT MONTHS

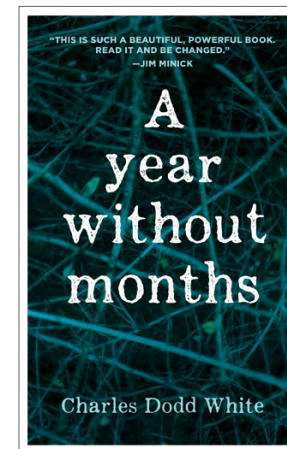
Charles Dodd White

This collection of fourteen essays by Charles Dodd White—praised by Silas House as "one of the best prose stylists of Appalachian literature"—explores the boundaries of family, loss, masculinity, and place. Contemplating the suicides of his father, uncle, and son, White meditates on what it means to go on when seemingly everything worth living for is lost. What he discovers is an intimate connection to the natural world, a renewed impulse to understand his troubled family history, and a devotion to following the clues that point to the possibility of a whole life.

Avoiding easy sentiment and cliché, White's transformative language drives toward renewal. *A Year without Months* introduces lively and memorable characters, as the author draws on a wide range of emotions to analyze everything, including himself.

"White has had to redefine 'southern man' beyond guns and toughness in order to forge his own identity and in order, really, to survive. But this book is also deeply about loss, about coming to terms with our own failures, especially as parents. There's a tremendous tenderness and grace here—for the imperfect dead who have gone on, for the flawed family that we still can love, and for the strong yet humble self, in all our many mistakes. This is such a beautiful, powerful book. Read it and be changed."

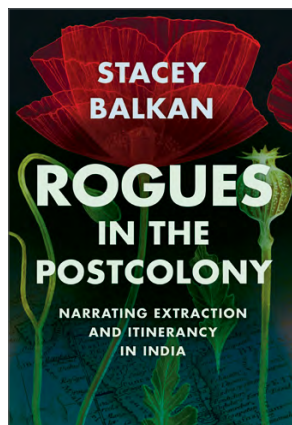
—Jim Minick, author of *Fire Is Your Water*



In Place
 May 2022 · 176pp · 5x8in
 PB 978-1-952271-52-6 · \$19.99
 eBook 978-1-952271-53-3 · \$19.99

CHARLES DODD WHITE is the recipient of the Chaffin Award and the Appalachian Book of the Year Award for his fiction. He teaches English at Pellissippi State Community College in Knoxville, Tennessee.

MEMOIR



Histories of Capitalism and the Environment

February 2022 · 216pp · 6x9in
 PB 978-1-952271-36-6 · \$29.99sp
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 3 images

STACEY BALKAN is assistant professor of English and environmental humanities at Florida Atlantic University. She is coeditor of *Oil Fictions: World Literature and Our Contemporary Petrosphere*.

LITERATURE
 ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
 ENVIRONMENTAL HUMANITIES

ROGUES IN THE POSTCOLONY

Narrating Extraction and Itinerancy in India

Stacey Balkan

Rogues in the Postcolony is a study of Anglophone Indian picaresque novels that dramatize the impacts of extractive capitalism and colonial occupation on local communities in several Indian states. In this materialist history of development on the subcontinent, Stacey Balkan considers works by Amitav Ghosh, Indra Sinha, and Aravind Adiga that critique violent campaigns of enclosure and dispossession at the hands of corporate entities like the English East India Company and its many legates. By foregrounding the intersections among landscape ideology, agricultural improvement, extractive capitalism, and aesthetic expression, *Rogues in the Postcolony* also attends to the complicity of popular aesthetic forms with political and economic policy, as well as the colonial and extractivist logics that often frame discussions around the so-called Anthropocene epoch.

Bringing together questions about settler-colonial practices and environmental injustice, *Rogues in the Postcolony* concludes with an investigation of new extractivist frontiers, including solar capitalism, and considers the possibility of imagining life after extraction on the Indian subcontinent and beyond.

“*Rogues in the Postcolony* is a marvelous study of how picaresque novels refract the violent dispossessions and rogue freedoms of extractive capitalism in India and beyond. In dialogue with cutting-edge conversations in environmental and energy humanities, Balkan argues convincingly that extraction is a pervasive dynamic within post/colonial modernity.”

—Dominic Boyer, author of *Energopolitics: Wind and Power in the Anthropocene*

AFRICAN AMERICAN WORKERS AND THE APPALACHIAN COAL INDUSTRY

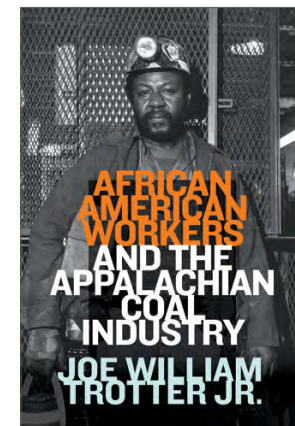
Joe William Trotter Jr.

This collection brings together nearly three decades of research on the African American experience, class, and race relations in the Appalachian coal industry. It shows how, with deep roots in the antebellum era of chattel slavery, West Virginia’s Black working class gradually picked up steam during the emancipation years following the Civil War and dramatically expanded during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

From there, *African American Workers and the Appalachian Coal Industry* highlights the decline of the region’s Black industrial proletariat under the impact of rapid technological, social, and political changes following World War II. It underscores how all miners suffered unemployment and outmigration from the region as global transformations took their toll on the coal industry, but emphasizes the disproportionately painful impact of declining bituminous coal production on African American workers, their families, and their communities. Joe Trotter not only reiterates the contributions of proletarianization to our knowledge of US labor and working-class history but also draws attention to the gender limits of studies of Black life that focus on class formation, while calling for new transnational perspectives on the subject. Equally important, this volume illuminates the intellectual journey of a noted labor historian with deep family roots in the southern Appalachian coalfields.

“A prescient—and deeply personal—exploration of the formation and growth of Black working-class communities, institutions, social and cultural networks, and political movements for reform and liberatory change over time.”

—Clarence Lang, Susan Welch Dean of the College of the Liberal Arts and professor of African American studies, Penn State University

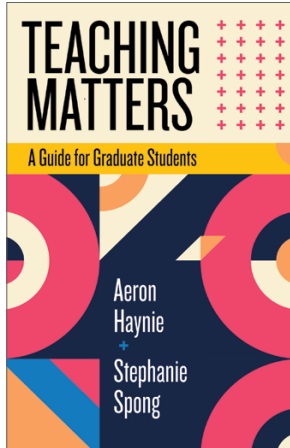


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 8 images · 2 maps · 5 tables

JOE WILLIAM TROTTER JR.

is the Giant Eagle University Professor of History and Social Justice at Carnegie Mellon University, a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and author of *Workers on Arrival: Black Labor in the Making of America* and *Pittsburgh and the Urban League Movement: A Century of Social Service and Activism*.

HISTORY
 AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES
 APPALACHIAN STUDIES
 LABOR



Teaching and Learning in Higher Education

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 eBook 978-1-952271-56-4 · \$24.99
 7 tables

AERON HAYNIE is executive director of the Center for Teaching and Learning and associate professor of English at the University of New Mexico.

STEPHANIE SPONG is an associate director for the Center for Teaching and Learning and affiliated faculty with the department of organization, information, and learning sciences at the University of New Mexico.

HIGHER EDUCATION

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TEACHING MATTERS

A Guide for Graduate Students

Aeron Haynie and Stephanie Spong

In a book written directly for graduate students that includes graduate student voices and experiences, Aeron Haynie and Stephanie Spong establish why good teaching matters and offer a guide to helping instructors-in-training create inclusive and welcoming classrooms.

Teaching Matters is informed by recent research while being grounded in the personal perspectives of current and past graduate students in many disciplines. Graduate students can use this book independently to prepare to teach their courses, or it can be used as a guide for a teaching practicum. With a just-in-time checklist for graduate students who are assigned to teach courses right before the semester starts, step-by-step directions for writing a compelling teaching philosophy, and an emphasis on teaching well regardless of modality, *Teaching Matters* will remain relevant for graduate students throughout their careers.

“Empowering graduate students to savor teaching when higher education emphasizes research is no mean feat. I mentor graduate students from multiple disciplines, and this book, from its title to its student-focused chapters, resonates closely with my rallying call. Yes, indeed, teaching matters, and Haynie and Spong nicely address graduate student needs head on, warmly inviting the educators of the future to join the teaching commons and let the passion for teaching develop and shine unbridled.”

—Regan A. R. Gurung, coauthor of *Thriving in Academia: Building a Career at a Teaching-Focused Institution*

**REMEMBERING AND FORGETTING
 IN THE AGE OF TECHNOLOGY**

**Teaching, Learning, and the Science
 of Memory in a Wired World**

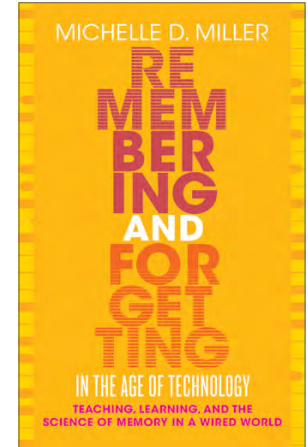
Michelle D. Miller

Human minds are made of memories, and today those memories have competition. Biological memory capacities are being supplanted, or at least supplemented, by digital ones, as we rely on recording—phone cameras, digital video, speech-to-text—to capture information we’ll need in the future and then rely on those stored recordings to know what happened in the past. Search engines have taken over not only traditional reference materials but also the knowledge base that used to be encoded in our own brains. Google remembers, so we don’t have to. And when we don’t have to, we no longer can. Or can we?

Remembering and Forgetting in the Age of Technology offers concise, nontechnical explanations of major principles of memory and attention—concepts that all teachers should know and that can inform how technology is used in their classes. Teachers will come away with a new appreciation of the importance of memory for learning, useful ideas for handling and discussing technology with their students, and an understanding of how memory is changing in our technology-saturated world.

“This is the book we need: a clear, lively, and authoritative examination of technology, memory, and learning—perhaps the most critical subjects in all of higher education right now.”

—Kevin Gannon, author of *Radical Hope: A Teaching Manifesto*



Teaching and Learning in Higher Education

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MICHELLE D. MILLER is a professor of psychological sciences and President’s Distinguished Teaching Fellow at Northern Arizona University. She is the author of *Minds Online: Teaching Effectively with Technology*.

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**MINDING BODIES**

How Physical Space,
Sensation, and Movement
Affect Learning

Susan Hrach

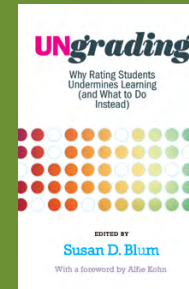
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**SKIM, DIVE, SURFACE**

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Jenae Cohn

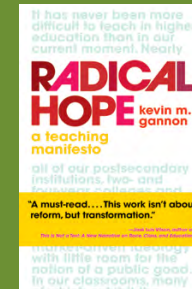
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“I love this book. It undermines the mythology around grading, helping us understand that (a) grading is a construction, and a relatively recent one at that, and (b) we’d be better off without it—as would our students.”

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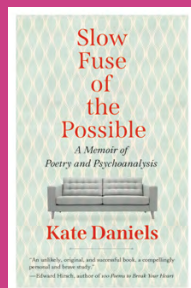
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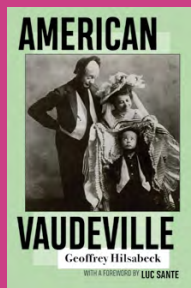
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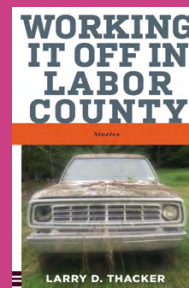
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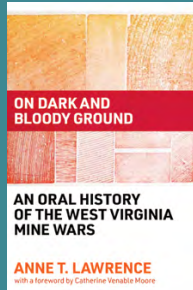
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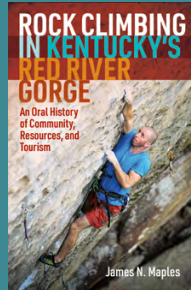


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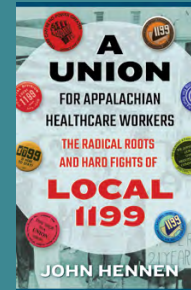


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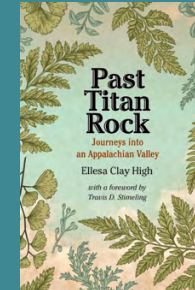


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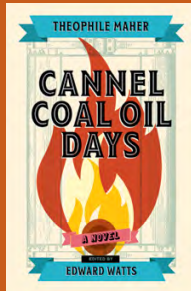
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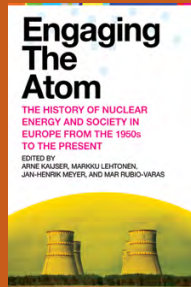


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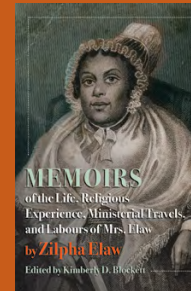


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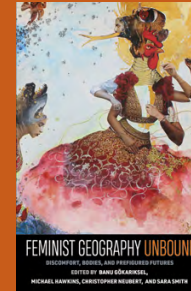
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