

## Nicholas And The Gang

### No Marketing Blurb

In France and Germany practically every child of seven and upwards knows the adventures of Nicholas. Written by the author of Asterix, René Goscinny, and with illustrations by New Yorkerillustrator, Jean-Jacques Sempé, the five Nicholasbooks tell of the endearing exploits of the young French school boy and his chums. Available in twenty six languages and established as a literary cult figure, the sublimely innocent Nicholas has seduced millions of readers all over the world.

Considered a classic and regularly used by primary and junior school teachers, these stories have the ability to delight both children and adults. Nicholasis the first of five titles to become available to English speaking children all over the world In some way similar to the cheekiness of Calvin and Hobbes and the innocence and naiveté of characters created by the Italian film maker Roberto Benigni, Goscinny and Sempé have created a world of confusion that makes you chuckle out load.

Written between 1959 and 1965 these classic books are continually reprinted around the globe and offer, not only an entertaining read, but a vivid description of French life and culture

Monsieur Lambert is a gentle, and unmistakably French, graphic novel with text and pictures by one of the world's best-loved illustrators. Jean-Jacques Sempe offers a glimpse of the everyday lives and secret passions of the regulars in a small Parisian bistro. When Monsieur Lambert does not turn up for lunch at his usual time, the

other regulars speculate that he must have met a woman. How else can they explain his strange new behaviour? The diners start discussing women they have loved and lost and, in doing so, they reveal unexpected facets of their own lives and personalities. The restaurant and its regulars are brought to life vividly in a series of drawings which, together with handwritten dialogue and a laconic commentary, display Sempe's signature unerring eye and ear for the telling details of human behaviour. The text was translated from French by award-winning translator Anthea Bell.

The true story behind the Martin Scorsese film: A “riveting . . . account of how organized crime looted the casinos they controlled” (Kirkus Reviews). Focusing on Chicago bookie Frank “Lefty” Rosenthal and his partner, Anthony Spilotro, and drawing on extensive, in-depth interviews, the #1 New York Times—bestselling author of the Mafia classic *Wiseguy*—basis for the film *Goodfellas*—Nicholas Pileggi reveals how the pair worked together to oversee Las Vegas casino operations for the mob. He unearths how Teamster pension funds were used to take control of the Stardust and Tropicana and how Spilotro simultaneously ran a crew of jewel thieves nicknamed the “Hole in the Wall Gang.” For years, these gangsters kept a stranglehold on Sin City’s brightly lit nightspots, skimming millions in cash for their bosses. But the elaborate scheme began to crumble when Rosenthal’s disproportionate ambitions drove him to make mistakes. Spilotro made an error of his own, falling for his partner’s wife, a troubled showgirl named Geri. It would all lead to betrayal, a wide-ranging FBI

investigation, multiple convictions, and the end of the Mafia's longstanding grip on the multibillion-dollar gaming oasis in the midst of the Nevada desert. *Casino* is a journey into 1970s Las Vegas and a riveting nonfiction account of the world portrayed in the Martin Scorsese film of the same name, starring Robert DeNiro, Joe Pesci, and Sharon Stone. A story of adultery, murder, infighting, and revenge, this “fascinating true-crime Mob history” is a high-stakes page-turner (Booklist).

How gangsta rap shocked America, made millions, and pulled back the curtain on an urban crisis. How is it that gangsta rap—so dystopian that it struck aspiring Brooklyn rapper and future superstar Jay-Z as “over the top”—was born in Los Angeles, the home of Hollywood, surf, and sun? In the Reagan era, hip-hop was understood to be the music of the inner city and, with rare exception, of New York. Rap was considered the poetry of the street, and it was thought to breed in close quarters, the product of dilapidated tenements, crime-infested housing projects, and graffiti-covered subway cars. To many in the industry, LA was certainly not hard-edged and urban enough to generate authentic hip-hop; a new brand of black rebel music could never come from La-La Land. But it did. In *To Live and Defy in LA*, Felicia Viator tells the story of the young black men who built gangsta rap and changed LA and the world. She takes readers into South Central, Compton, Long Beach, and Watts two decades after the long hot summer of 1965. This was the world of crack cocaine, street gangs, and Daryl Gates, and it was the environment in which rappers such as Ice

Cube, Dr. Dre, and Eazy-E came of age. By the end of the 1980s, these self-styled “ghetto reporters” had fought their way onto the nation’s radio and TV stations and thus into America’s consciousness, mocking law-and-order crusaders, exposing police brutality, outraging both feminists and traditionalists with their often retrograde treatment of sex and gender, and demanding that America confront an urban crisis too often ignored. “The sign read, 'MR. FUN IS HERE'. The sign was telling me, telling one and all who cared to heed its call, that if fun was your quest, you had reached your journey's end.” From the edge of the universe to the bottom of the world, from a mind lost to a scene of murder dark, from a never-ending road to a ruined life reclaimed and with a side trip back to the old neighborhood thrown in just for good measure. Nick takes his readers along on a varied and engaging journey to the sublime or the awful, to the uplifting or the cautionary, from the humorous or the bizarre to the heartbreaking as his pieces transition fluidly, effortlessly, joyfully from one genre to the next, from one style, one voice to the next with the clear vision, the unblinking eye and the masterful hand of a storyteller with both feet firmly planted in an off-kilter place you've never been before. MR. FUN IS HERE - 25 short stories from the troubled mind of Nicholas D. Sasuta. MR. FUN IS HERE - COME ON IN!

Fishing trips, miniature golf, and a whole new gang of friends figure in the third book in the classic series about the cheeky French schoolboy, Nicholas. Illustrations. A band of fabled mercenaries tour a wild fantasy

landscape, battling monsters in arenas in front of thousands of adoring fans. But, a secret and dangerous gig ushers them to the frozen north, and the band is never one to waste a shot at glory. Live fast, die young. Tam Hashford is tired of working at her local pub, slinging drinks for world-famous mercenaries and listening to the bards sing of adventure and glory in the world beyond her sleepy hometown. When the biggest mercenary band of all, led by the infamous Bloody Rose, rolls into town, Tam jumps at the chance to sign on as their bard. It's adventure she wants - and adventure she gets as the crew embark on a quest that will end in one of two ways: glory or death. It's time to take a walk on the wyld side. "Humorous twists and pulse-ratcheting action abound in *Bloody Rose*, but its Eames' knack for heart-wrenching poignancy that makes his warm, wonderful fantasy so harmonious." - NPR For more from Nicholas Eames, check out: *Kings of the Wyld* *Twin Peaks* meets *Welcome to Night Vale* in this surreal, supernatural thriller by a Costa-shortlisted author "Gripping, compelling and otherworldly" DAVID QUANTICK When her twin brother goes missing in Northern California, Vivian Owens follows his trail to the town of Mount Hookey, home to the followers of Telos: a mountain-worshipping cult that offers spiritual fulfilment to those who seek it. While trying to navigate the town's bizarre inhabitants and the seductive preaching of the initiates of Telos, Vivian will have to confront questions about herself, her family, and everything she thinks she knows about the world. She quickly realises that her search is about far more than her missing brother – it is a

quest for the secret of happiness itself. To that end, there is only one question she needs to answer: what is really at the top of Mount Hookey?

A cultural history of sneakers, tracing the footprint of one of our most iconic fashions across sports, business, pop culture, and American identity When the athletic shoe graduated from the beaches and croquet courts of the wealthy elite to streetwear ubiquity, its journey through the heart of American life was just getting started. In this rollicking narrative, Nicholas K. Smith carries us through the long twentieth century as sneakers became the totem of subcultures from California skateboarders to New York rappers, the cause of gang violence and riots, the heart of a global economic controversy, the lynchpin in a quest to turn big sports into big business, and the muse of high fashion. Studded with larger-than-life mavericks and unexpected visionaries—from genius rubber inventor, Charles Goodyear, to road-warrior huckster Chuck Taylor, to the feuding brothers who founded Adidas and Puma, to the track coach who changed the sport by pouring rubber in his wife's waffle iron—Kicks introduces us to the sneaker's surprisingly influential, enduring, and evolving legacy.

Drawn from actual events, a dramatic debut novel, centered around the aftermath of the brutal death of Yusuf Hawkins, a black teenager, at the hands of a gang of young white men in 1989, follows Tony Santangelo, one of the young men responsible, as he tries to move on with his life after serving time in prison, while his family tries to deal with their own guilt and silence. 25,000 first printing.

Sex, drugs, and disco: just a day in the life of Manchester's deadliest hitwoman Estela has come to Manchester on a business trip. But not just any old business trip: she's here to kill her ex-boss, the notorious gangster John Burgess. When Estela's previous life as Paul Sorel comes to light, however, things start to get sticky. Plunged into a world of dodgy bouncers, bent coppers, weird DJs and Moss Side gangsters, Estela must use every skill at her disposal to get out of Manchester alive... Brimming with amphetamine energy and razor-sharp prose, this psychedelic romp through the gritty heart of 90s Manchester has earned a cult reputation as a modern crime classic 'A classic crime thriller, re-routed to the gang-blighted nightclub-driven environs of post-acid house Manchester' Select 'The best debut crime novel of the year... blackly comic and highly inventive' Daily Telegraph 'British noir for the Pulp Fiction generation' Observer

Presents a collection of stories that focuses on the whimsical adventures and misadventures of little Nicolas and his friends, both in school and out.

A.J. and his friends are now third graders at Ella Mentry school in Dan Gutman's outrageously funny chapter book series My Weirder School. In this eighth book, Dr. Nicholas Is Ridiculous!, college professor Dr. Nicholas visits A.J.'s class to help the students improve their standardized test scores in history. The weird thing is, Dr. Nicholas doesn't care about the date Christopher Columbus came to America, who wrote the Declaration of Independence, or other important historical facts.

She's more interested in weird information like the history of the toilet bowl! Dr. Nicholas has even built a time machine to take the class on a field trip to the past and future. Who will get stuck in time? You'll have to read to find out! Goofy illustrations by Jim Paillot make this adventure with Dr. Nicholas even more hilarious. Take a walk with the Wanderer, drive the long highway with the Lady on the Road. Try to figure things out with the absent minded detective. There is a roadside killer lurking the highways, hitmen, gang punks, a lady and her baby on the run, and an unlikely hero escaping from his past, desperately looking for redemption. In this hip modern pulp noir multi-strand thriller story, their journies are interwoven and it will be one hell of a ride.

The Sly Lake Gang is the story of four estranged friends brought together through circumstance to face down a merciless killer -a monster connected to a strange incident from their childhood. Apathetic insurance professional Donald Borland reaches out for his adoptive brother Darren Lemay after a horrific accident. Darren, ever the leader, marshals the forces of their childhood friends Monica King and Dr. Patrick Williams. After a miraculous recovery, Donald and his friends return to their childhood stomping grounds: Clarkson, a sleepy retirement community nestled in Northern Ontario that harbors a powerful and unnatural force. Meanwhile Patrick's old friend Jason Brower, a small town hero and police constable, is trying to save Clarkson from a bizarre and seemingly inhuman murderer. He reaches out to his friend and learns the dark secret that Patrick and his cohorts have kept quiet for nearly twenty years,

kept by the pseudo superheroes who call themselves The Sly Lake Gang.

An award-winning journalist's dramatic account of a shooting that shook a community to its core, with important implications for the future On the last evening of summer in 2013, five shots rang out in a part of northeast Denver known as the Holly. Long a destination for African American families fleeing the Jim Crow South, the area had become an "invisible city" within a historically white metropolis. While shootings there weren't uncommon, the identity of the shooter that night came as a shock. Terrance Roberts was a revered anti-gang activist. His attempts to bring peace to his community had won the accolades of both his neighbors and the state's most important power brokers. Why had he just fired a gun? In *The Holly*, the award-winning Denver-based journalist Julian Rubinstein reconstructs the events that left a local gang member paralyzed and Roberts facing the possibility of life in prison. Much more than a crime story, *The Holly* is a multigenerational saga of race and politics that runs from the civil rights movement to Black Lives Matter. With a cast that includes billionaires, elected officials, cops, developers, and street kids, the book explores the porous boundaries between a city's elites and its most disadvantaged citizens. It also probes the fraught relationships between police, confidential informants, activists, gang members, and ex-gang members as they struggle to put their pasts behind them. In *The Holly*, we see how well-intentioned efforts to curb violence and improve neighborhoods can go badly awry, and we track the interactions of law enforcement with gang members who conceive of themselves as defenders of a neighborhood. When Roberts goes on trial, the city's fault lines are fully exposed. In a time of national reckoning over race, policing,

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and the uses and abuses of power, Rubinstein offers a dramatic and humane illumination of what's at stake.

WINNER of the 2013 Printz Award. In darkness I count my blessings like Manman taught me. One: I am alive. Two: there is no two. In the aftermath of the Haitian earthquake a boy is trapped beneath the rubble of a ruined hospital: thirsty, terrified and alone. 'Shorty' is a child of the slums, a teenage boy who has seen enough violence to last a lifetime, and who has been inexorably drawn into the world of the gangsters who rule Site Soleil: men who dole out money with one hand and death with the other. But Shorty has a secret: a flame of revenge that blazes inside him and a burning wish to find the twin sister he lost five years ago. And he is marked. Marked in a way that links him with Toussaint L'Ouverture, the Haitian rebel who two-hundred years ago led the slave revolt and faced down Napoleon to force the French out of Haiti. As he grows weaker, Shorty relives the journey that took him to the hospital, a bullet wound in his arm. In his visions and memories he hopes to find the strength to survive, and perhaps then Toussaint can find a way to be free . . .

Nicholas and the Gang is the fourth book in the classic series of stories about a cheeky French schoolboy, Nicholas, and his friends. Nicholas and his gang always find exciting new things to do: Max does magic tricks, Jeremy wants to go camping, and Geoffrey invents a secret code that only the gang will understand.

A little French boy recounts the many escapades that he and his classmates indulge in as they make their way through a year at primary school.

Dillon Alexander has been Kit Derby's nemesis the third grade spelling bee. Working together one night during their senior year, they stopped bickering long enough to share an emotionally charged kiss. But a tragedy that same night left them both racked with guilt, driving Dillon out of town and

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leaving Kit determined to keep her distance. Now an emergency room physician, Dillon has returned to Chance, Nebraska, and falls into old habits with Kit. But when a blizzard traps them together overnight, the real competition begins.

A Pulitzer Prize-winning husband-and-wife team speaks out against the oppression of women in the developing world, sharing example stories about victims and survivors who are working to raise awareness, counter abuse, and campaign for women's rights.

Few stories in the annals of American counterculture are as intriguing or dramatic as that of the Brotherhood of Eternal Love. Dubbed the "Hippie Mafia," the Brotherhood began in the mid-1960s as a small band of peace-loving, adventure-seeking surfers in Southern California. After discovering LSD, they took to Timothy Leary's mantra of "Turn on, tune in, and drop out" and resolved to make that vision a reality by becoming the biggest group of acid dealers and hashish smugglers in the nation, and literally providing the fuel for the psychedelic revolution in the process. Just days after California became the first state in the union to ban LSD, the Brotherhood formed a legally registered church in its headquarters at Mystic Arts World on Pacific Coast Highway in Laguna Beach, where they sold blankets and other countercultural paraphernalia retrieved through surfing safaris and road trips to exotic locales in Asia and South America. Before long, they also began to sell Afghan hashish, Hawaiian pot (the storied "Maui Wowie"), and eventually Colombian cocaine, much of which the Brotherhood smuggled to California in secret compartments inside surfboards and Volkswagen minibuses driven across the border. They also befriended Leary himself, enlisting him in the goal of buying a tropical island where they could install the former Harvard philosophy professor and acid prophet as

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the high priest of an experimental utopia. The Brotherhood's most legendary contribution to the drug scene was homemade: Orange Sunshine, the group's nickname for their trademark orange-colored acid tablet that happened to produce an especially powerful trip. Brotherhood foot soldiers passed out handfuls of the tablets to communes, at Grateful Dead concerts, and at love-ins up and down the coast of California and beyond. The Hell's Angels, Charles Mason and his followers, and the unruly crowd at the infamous Altamont music festival all tripped out on this acid. Jimi Hendrix even appeared in a film starring Brotherhood members and performed a private show for the fugitive band of outlaws on the slope of a Hawaiian volcano. Journalist Nicholas Schou takes us deep inside the Brotherhood, combining exclusive interviews with both the group's surviving members as well as the cops who chased them. A wide-sweeping narrative of sex, drugs, and rock 'n' roll (and more drugs) that runs from Laguna Beach to Maui to Afghanistan, *Orange Sunshine* explores how America moved from the era of peace and free love into a darker time of hard drugs and paranoia.

The press gang, and its forcible recruitment of sailors to man the Royal Navy in times of war, acquired notoriety for depriving men of their liberty and carrying them away to a harsh life at sea, sometimes for years at a time. Nicholas Rogers explains exactly how the press gang worked, whom it was aimed at and how successful it was in achieving its ends. He also shows the limits to its operations and the press gang's need for cooperation from local authorities, who were by no means prepared to support it. Written by an expert in the social history of eighteenth-century Britain, it is both well-researched and highly readable.

In *An Unfound Door*, Gabe evolves from a shy, sickly loner to a thoughtful, empathetic young man as he

makes his way through the turbulence of 1960s America, beginning a quest to understand the purpose of his existence and the mystery of his recurring dream. His journey takes him along winding mountain trails and on hitchhiking adventures far into Canada. He experiences love and loss, finding wisdom and friendship in the words of a Chinese shop owner, a Blackfoot elder, an imam, and an old widower the locals call Tommy Trashcan. His path eventually merges with that of his best friend, Manolo, and together they search for answers in the confused and chaotic sixties, encountering a mysterious biblical hitchhiker who saves them from a dangerous situation. At last, the meaning of Gabe's recurring dream becomes clear, as he and Manolo walk a path together into a new world.

#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER SELECTION  
OF THE REESE WITHERSPOON BOOK CLUB A  
HIGHLY ANTICIPATED, BEST BOOK OF SUMMER  
SELECTED BY \* VOGUE \* USA TODAY \*

ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY \* CNN \* TOWN &  
COUNTRY \* PARADE \* BUSTLE \* AND MORE! A  
"gripping" (Entertainment Weekly) mystery about a  
woman who thinks she's found the love of her  
life—until he disappears. Before Owen Michaels  
disappears, he smuggles a note to his beloved wife  
of one year: Protect her. Despite her confusion and  
fear, Hannah Hall knows exactly to whom the note

refers—Owen’s sixteen-year-old daughter, Bailey. Bailey, who lost her mother tragically as a child. Bailey, who wants absolutely nothing to do with her new stepmother. As Hannah’s increasingly desperate calls to Owen go unanswered, as the FBI arrests Owen’s boss, as a US marshal and federal agents arrive at her Sausalito home unannounced, Hannah quickly realizes her husband isn’t who he said he was. And that Bailey just may hold the key to figuring out Owen’s true identity—and why he really disappeared. Hannah and Bailey set out to discover the truth. But as they start putting together the pieces of Owen’s past, they soon realize they’re also building a new future—one neither of them could have anticipated. With its breakneck pacing, dizzying plot twists, and evocative family drama, *The Last Thing He Told Me* is a riveting mystery, certain to shock you with its final, heartbreaking turn.

Despite being one of the world's most vibrant democracies, police estimate between five and ten percent of the murders in South Africa result from vigilante violence. This is puzzling given the country's celebrated transition to democracy and massive reform of the state's legal institutions. Where most studies explain vigilantism as a response to state or civic failure, in *Contradictions of Democracy*, Nicholas Rush Smith illustrates that vigilantism is actually a response to the processes of democratic state formation. In the context of densely

networked neighborhoods, vigilante citizens often interpret the technical success of legal institutions—for instance, the arrest and subsequent release of suspects on bail—as failure and work to correct such perceived failures on their own. Smith also shows that vigilantism provides a new lens through which to understand democratic state formation. Among young men of color in some parts of South Africa, fear of extra-judicial police violence is common. Amid such fear, instead of the state seeming protective, it can appear as something akin to a massive vigilante organization. An insightful look into the high rates of vigilantism in South Africa and the general challenges of democratic state building, *Contradictions of Democracy* explores fundamental questions about political order, the rule of law, and democratic citizenship.

*Nicholas on Holiday* is part of the acclaimed series of classic and much-loved stories about the endearing exploits of the cheeky French schoolboy, Nicholas. All the stories in this volume take place by the sea, during the summer holidays. There are eventful fishing trips, treasure hunts in the middle of the night and a whole new gang of friends with whom Nicholas can get into trouble.

A retired group of legendary mercenaries get the band back together for one last impossible mission in this award-winning debut epic fantasy. "Fantastic, funny, ferocious." - Sam Sykes Clay Cooper and his

band were once the best of the best, the most feared and renowned crew of mercenaries this side of the Heartwyld. Their glory days long past, the mercs have grown apart and grown old, fat, drunk, or a combination of the three. Then an ex-bandmate turns up at Clay's door with a plea for help--the kind of mission that only the very brave or the very stupid would sign up for. It's time to get the band back together.

**WINNER OF THE DAVID GEMMELL MORNINGSTAR AWARD FOR BEST FANTASY DEBUT. WINNER OF THE REDDIT/FANTASY AWARD FOR BEST DEBUT FANTASY NOVEL.**

For more from Nicholas Eames, check out: *Bloody Rose*

In a small North Carolina town, a mysterious and beautiful woman running from her past slowly falls for a kind-hearted store owner . . . until dark secrets begin to threaten her new life. When a mysterious young woman named Katie appears in the small North Carolina town of Southport, her sudden arrival raises questions about her past. Beautiful yet self-effacing, Katie seems determined to avoid forming personal ties until a series of events draws her into two reluctant relationships: one with Alex, a widowed store owner with a kind heart and two young children; and another with her plainspoken single neighbor, Jo. Despite her reservations, Katie slowly begins to let down her guard, putting down roots in the close-knit community and becoming increasingly attached to Alex and his family. But even as Katie

begins to fall in love, she struggles with the dark secret that still haunts and terrifies her . . . a past that set her on a fearful, shattering journey across the country, to the sheltered oasis of Southport. With Jo's empathetic and stubborn support, Katie eventually realizes that she must choose between a life of transient safety and one of riskier rewards . . . and that in the darkest hour, love is the only true safe haven.

'At the age of twelve my ambition was to be a gangster. To me being a wiseguy was better than being president of the United States. To be a wiseguy was to own the world.' GoodFellas is Henry Hill's own story, telling the fascinating and sometimes brutal details of the day-to-day life of a working New York mobster - the violence, wild spending sprees, his wife, his mistress, his code of honour. From the small-time scamming of his early years, his first arrest at the age of sixteen and initiation into the dealings of his wiseguy friends and bosses, Henry Hill tells of the good times, dodgy dealings, indulgences, and the insularity of the mob-controlled neighbourhoods. But things start to go too far. To save his own life, Hill turns into a Federal witness, and the mob is to this day still hunting him down for revealing their involvement in hundreds of crimes including arson, extortion, hijacking, the six-million dollar Lufthansa heist (the most successful cash robbery in US history), and murder.

In *Gomorra*, a New York Times Book Review Notable Book of the Year, Roberto Saviano revealed a true, devastating portrait of Naples, Italy under the rule of the Camorra, a crime organization more powerful and violent than the Mafia. In *The Piranhas*, the international bestselling author returns to his home city with a novel of gang warfare and a young man's dark desire to rise to the top of Naples's underworld. Nicolas Fiorillo is a brilliant and ambitious fifteen-year-old from the slums of Naples, eager to make his mark and to acquire power and the money that comes with it. With nine friends, he sets out to create a new *paranza*, or gang. Together they roam the streets on their motorscooters, learning how to break into the network of small-time hoodlums that controls drug-dealing and petty crime in the city. They learn to cheat and to steal, to shoot semiautomatic pistols and AK-47s. Slowly they begin to wrest control of the neighborhoods from enemy gangs while making alliances with failing old bosses. Nicolas's strategic brilliance is prodigious, and his cohorts' rapid rise and envelopment in the ensuing maelstrom of violence and death is riveting and impossible to turn away from. In *The Piranhas*, Roberto Saviano imagines the lurid glamour of Nicolas's story with all the vividness and insight that made *Gomorra* a worldwide sensation. "With the openhearted rashness that belongs to every true writer, Saviano returns to tell the story of the fierce

and grieving heart of Naples.” —Elena Ferrante  
Now an acclaimed documentary from Screen Media, the New York Times bestselling account of the story behind one of the most influential, durable, and beloved shows in the history of television: Sesame Street. “Davis tracks down every Sesame anecdote and every Sesame personality in his book . . . Finally, we get to touch Big Bird's feathers.” —The New York Times Book Review Sesame Street is the longest-running-and arguably most beloved-children's television program ever created. Today, it reaches some six million preschoolers weekly in the United States and countless others in 140 countries around the world. Street Gang is the compelling, comical, and inspiring story of a media masterpiece and pop-culture landmark. Television reporter and columnist Michael Davis-with the complete participation of Joan Ganz Cooney, one of the show's founders-unveils the idealistic personalities, decades of social and cultural change, stories of compassion and personal sacrifice, and miraculous efforts of writers, producers, directors, and puppeteers that together transformed an empty soundstage into the most recognizable block of real estate in television history.

**#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER •** A bold work from the author of *The Black Swan* that challenges many of our long-held beliefs about risk and reward, politics and religion, finance and personal

responsibility In his most provocative and practical book yet, one of the foremost thinkers of our time redefines what it means to understand the world, succeed in a profession, contribute to a fair and just society, detect nonsense, and influence others. Citing examples ranging from Hammurabi to Seneca, Antaeus the Giant to Donald Trump, Nassim Nicholas Taleb shows how the willingness to accept one's own risks is an essential attribute of heroes, saints, and flourishing people in all walks of life. As always both accessible and iconoclastic, Taleb challenges long-held beliefs about the values of those who spearhead military interventions, make financial investments, and propagate religious faiths. Among his insights:

- For social justice, focus on symmetry and risk sharing. You cannot make profits and transfer the risks to others, as bankers and large corporations do. You cannot get rich without owning your own risk and paying for your own losses. Forcing skin in the game corrects this asymmetry better than thousands of laws and regulations.
- Ethical rules aren't universal. You're part of a group larger than you, but it's still smaller than humanity in general.
- Minorities, not majorities, run the world. The world is not run by consensus but by stubborn minorities imposing their tastes and ethics on others.
- You can be an intellectual yet still be an idiot. "Educated philistines" have been wrong on everything from Stalinism to Iraq to low-carb diets.

Beware of complicated solutions (that someone was paid to find). A simple barbell can build muscle better than expensive new machines. • True religion is commitment, not just faith. How much you believe in something is manifested only by what you're willing to risk for it. The phrase "skin in the game" is one we have often heard but rarely stopped to truly dissect. It is the backbone of risk management, but it's also an astonishingly rich worldview that, as Taleb shows in this book, applies to all aspects of our lives. As Taleb says, "The symmetry of skin in the game is a simple rule that's necessary for fairness and justice, and the ultimate BS-buster," and "Never trust anyone who doesn't have skin in the game. Without it, fools and crooks will benefit, and their mistakes will never come back to haunt them."

"The inside story of a single Brooklyn gang that killed more Americans than the Iraqi army."—Mike McAlary, columnist, *New York Post* They were the DeMeo gang—the most deadly hit men in organized crime. Their Mafia higher-ups came to know, use, and ultimately fear them as the Murder Machine. They killed for profit and for pleasure, following cold-blooded plans and wild whims, from the mean streets of New York to the Florida Gold Coast, and from coast to coast. Now complete with personal revelations of one of the key players, this is the savage story that leaves no corpse unturned in its

terrifying telling. INCLUDES PHOTOGRAPHS

The fifth book in the series about the much-loved cheeky French schoolboy and his friends. In this new collection of adventures, things are never easy for Nicholas and his gang: the shopkeeper won't let them buy chocolate, their teacher won't let them play Geoffrey's fantastic new game and Jeremy is none too pleased about the appearance of his new little brother. This international classic in children's fiction by Jean-Jacques Sempé (b.1932) and René Goscinny (1926 - 77) is now available to English-speaking children worldwide in a delightful translation by Anthea Bell. It features 16 stories written by one of the most successful children's authors of all time, with illustrations by one of today's best-loved illustrators. Aimed at readers from 7 upwards, these stories will be enjoyed by adults and children alike.

"From the authors of the #1 New York Times best-selling *Half the Sky*, a unique and essential narrative about making a difference in the world--a roadmap to becoming a conscientious global citizen. Equal in urgency and compassion to *Half the Sky*, this galvanizing new book from the acclaimed husband and wife team is even more ambitious in scale: nothing less than a deep examination of people who are making the world a better place, and the myriad ways we can support them, whether with a donation of five dollars or five million, an inkling to help or a

useful skill to deploy. With scrupulous research and on-the-ground reporting, the authors assay the art and science of giving--determining the current most successful local and global aid initiatives (on issues from education to inner-city violence to disease prevention), evaluating the efficiency and impact of specific approaches and charities, as well as fundraising. Most compellingly, perhaps, they show us how particular people have made a difference, and offer practical advice on how best each of us can give and what we can personally derive from doing so"--

It's warming. It's us. We're sure. It's bad. But we can fix it. After speaking to the international public for close to fifteen years about sustainability, climate scientist Dr. Nicholas realized that concerned people were getting the wrong message about the climate crisis. Yes, companies and governments are hugely responsible for the mess we're in. But individuals CAN effect real, significant, and lasting change to solve this problem. Nicholas explores finding purpose in a warming world, combining her scientific expertise and her lived, personal experience in a way that seems fresh and deeply urgent: Agonizing over the climate costs of visiting loved ones overseas, how to find low-carbon love on Tinder, and even exploring her complicated family legacy involving supermarket turkeys. In her astonishing book *Under the Sky We Make*, Nicholas does for

climate science what Michael Pollan did more than a decade ago for the food on our plate: offering a hopeful, clear-eyed, and somehow also hilarious guide to effecting real change, starting in our own lives. Saving ourselves from climate apocalypse will require radical shifts within each of us, to effect real change in our society and culture. But it can be done. It requires, Dr. Nicholas argues, belief in our own agency and value, alongside a deep understanding that no one will ever hand us power--we're going to have to seize it for ourselves. [Copyright: 36874bf7b2abc602567623664c7b7daf](#)