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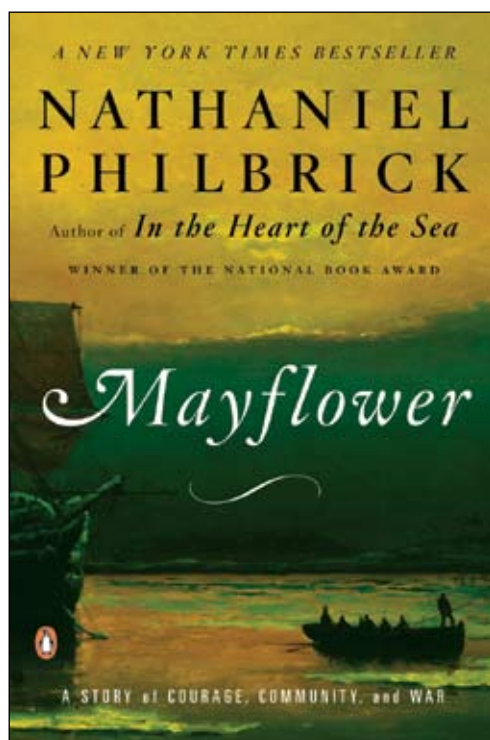
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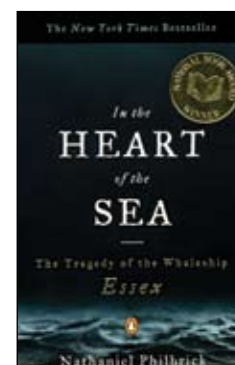
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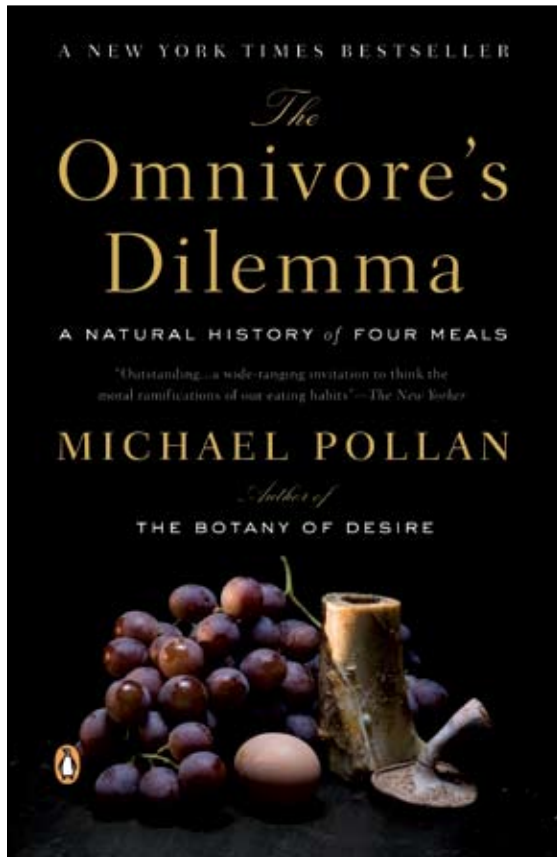
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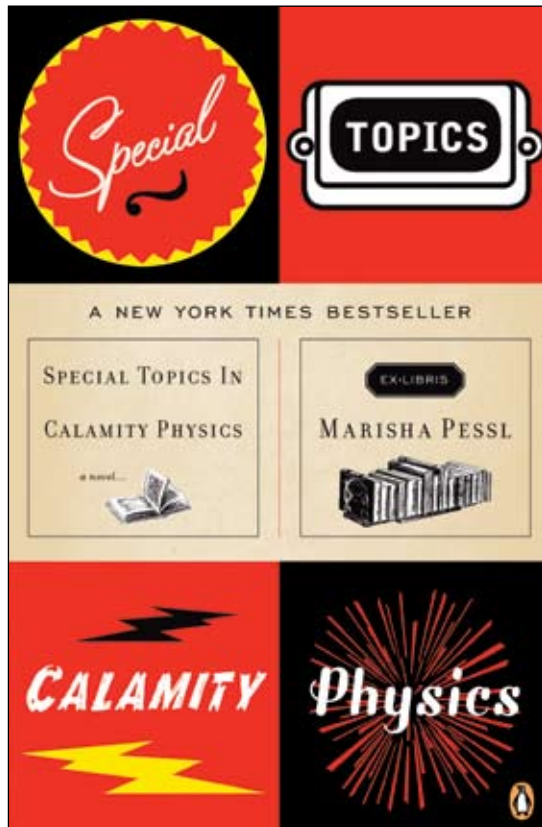
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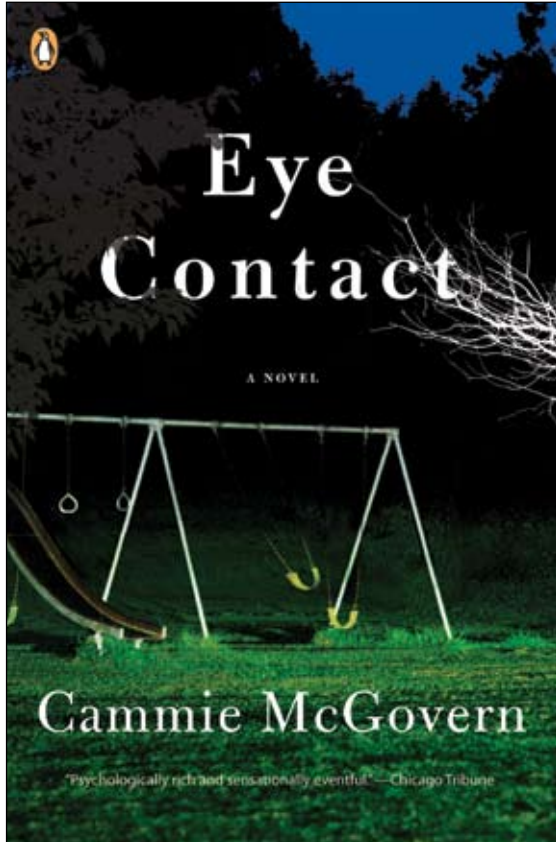
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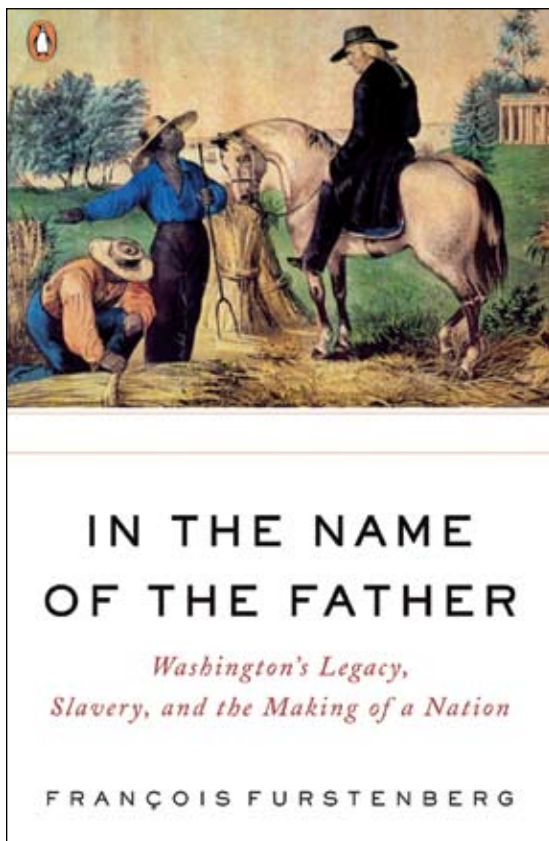
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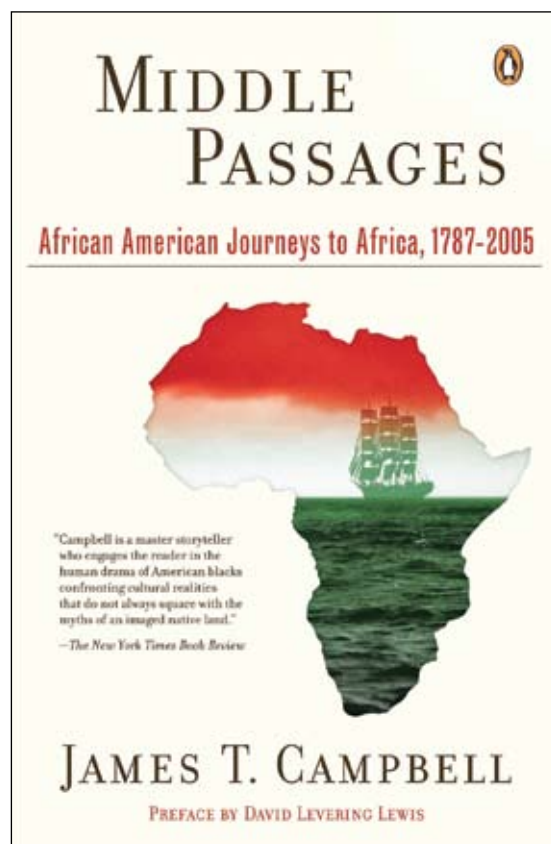
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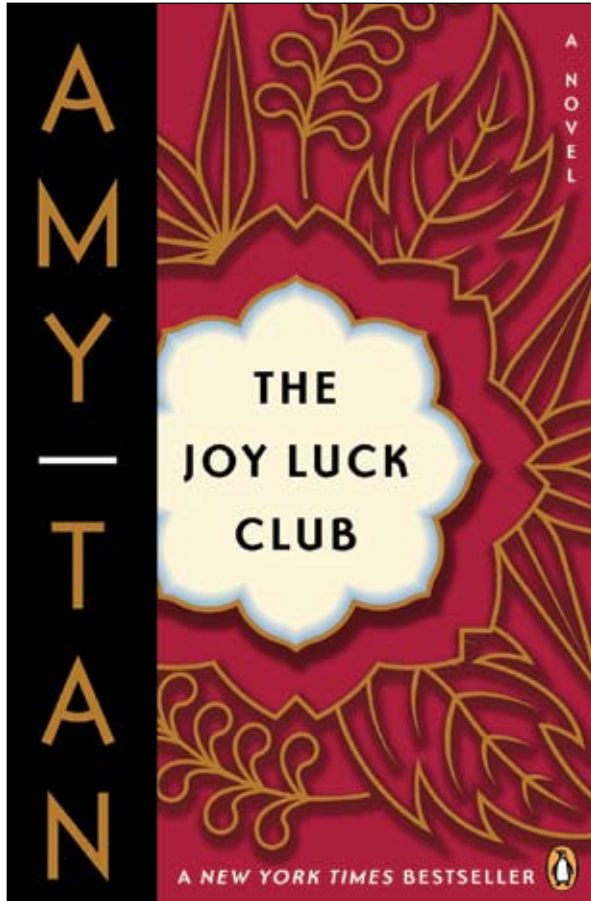
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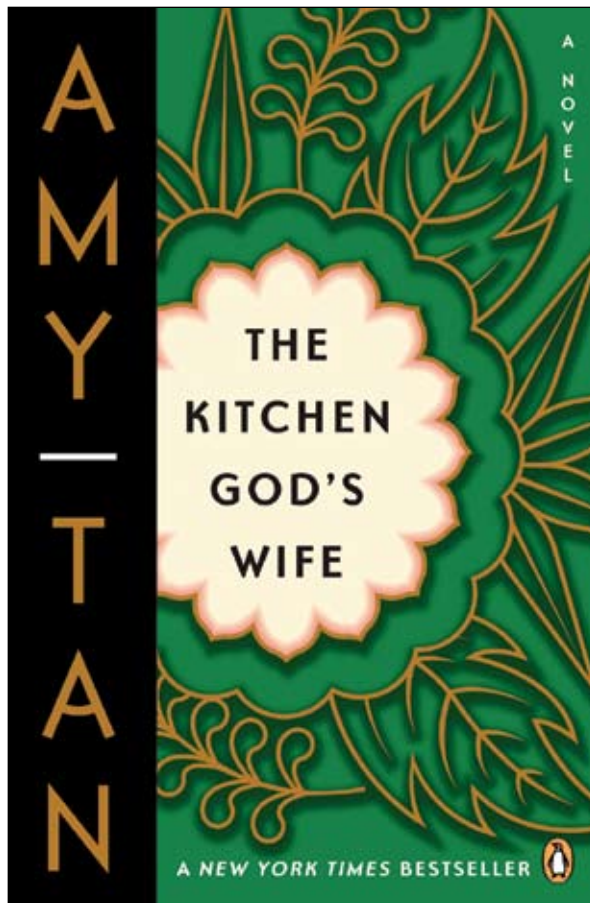
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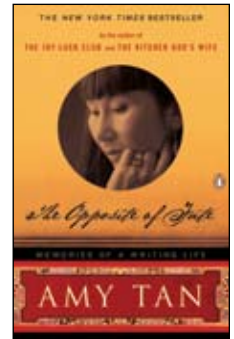
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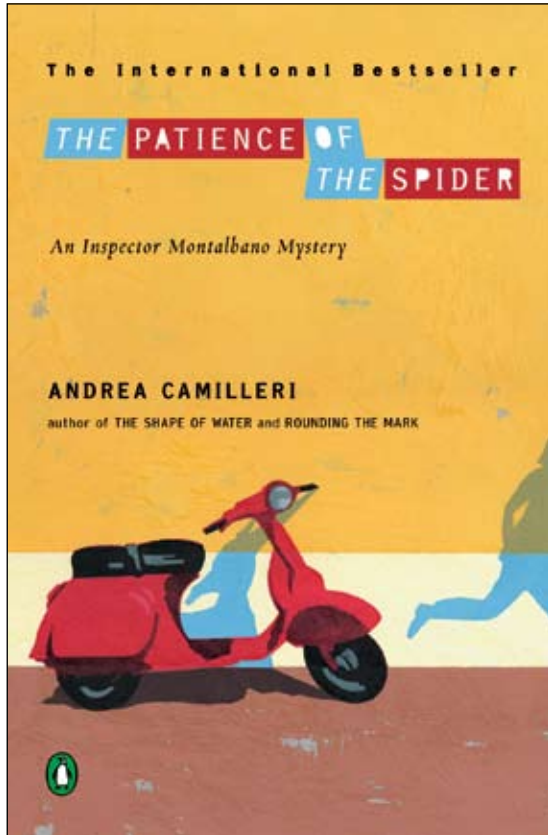
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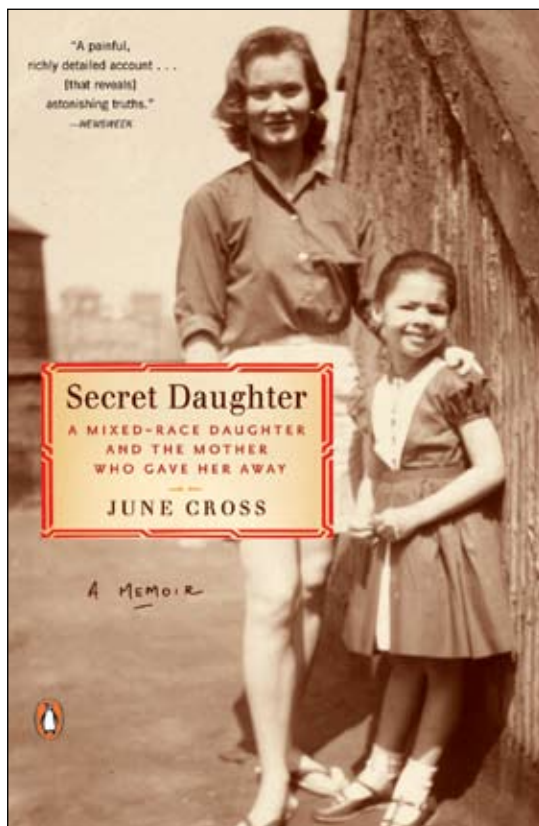
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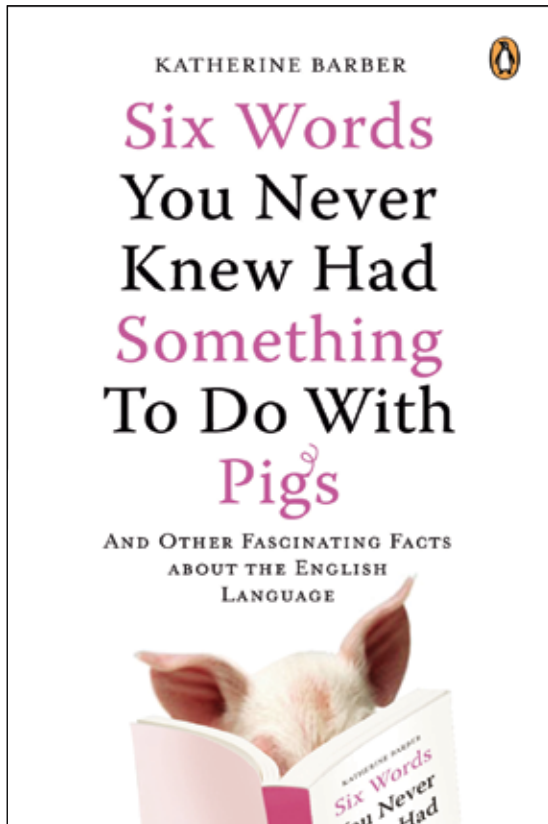
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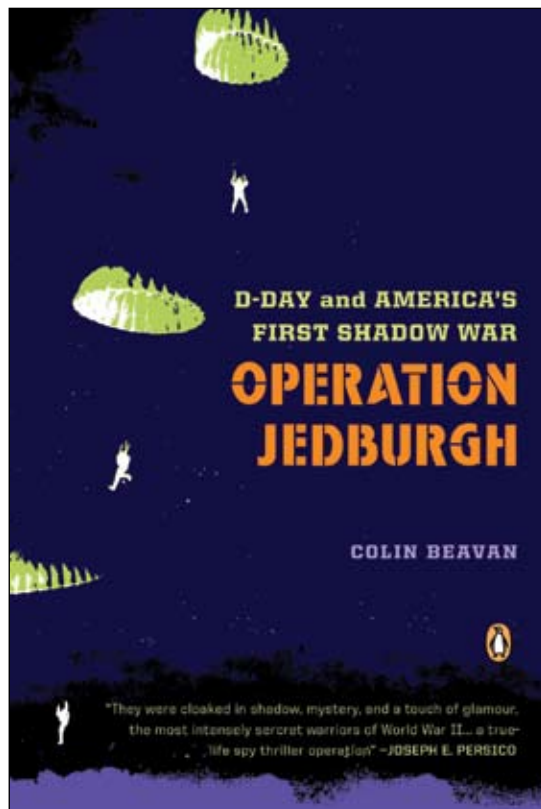
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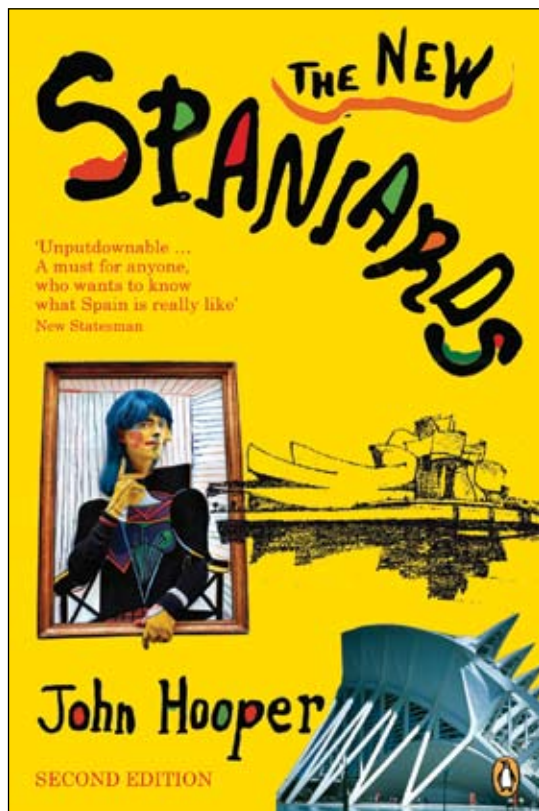
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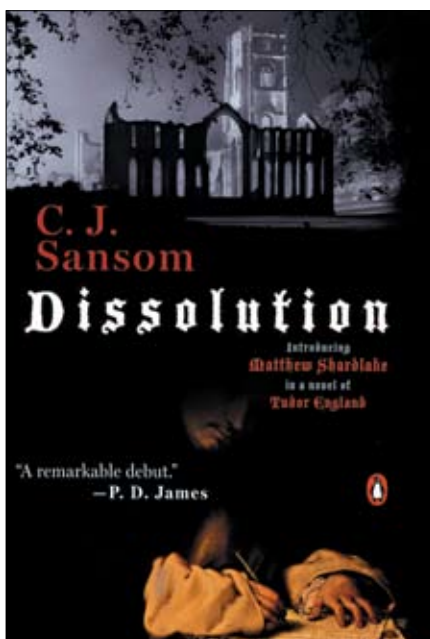
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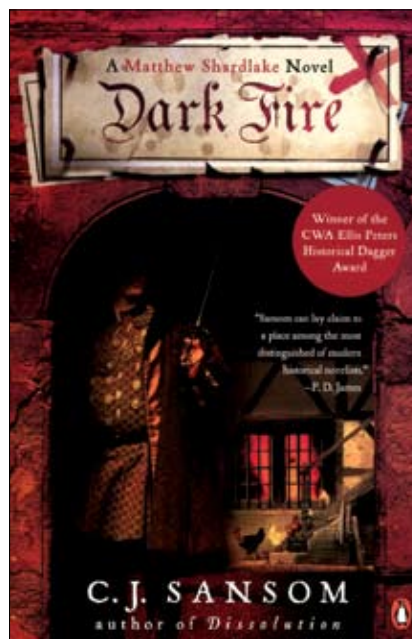


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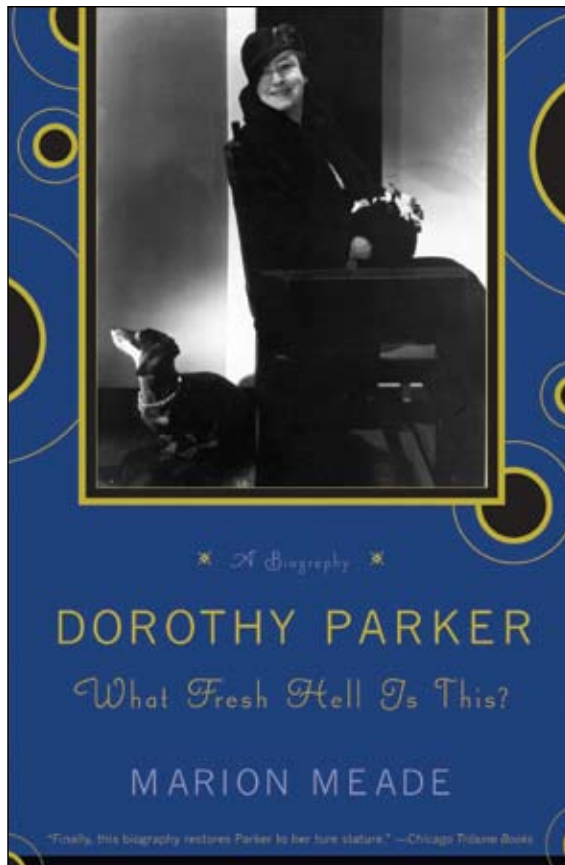
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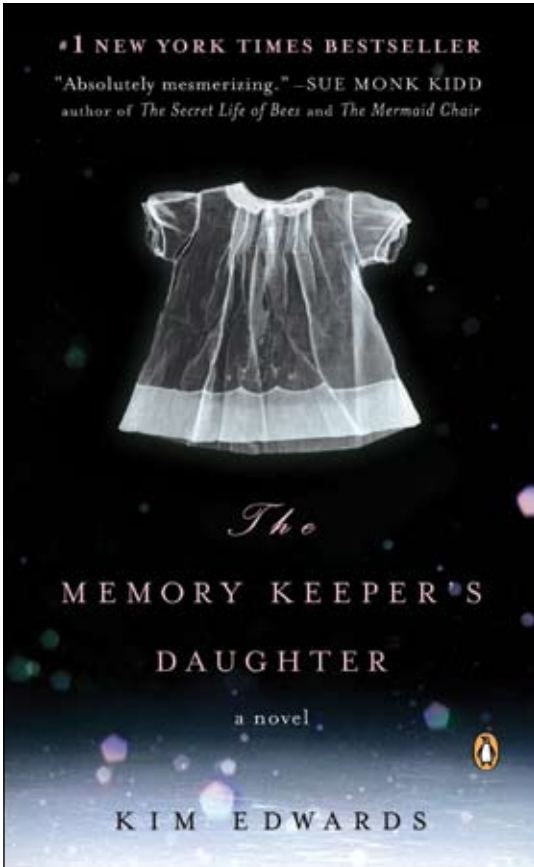
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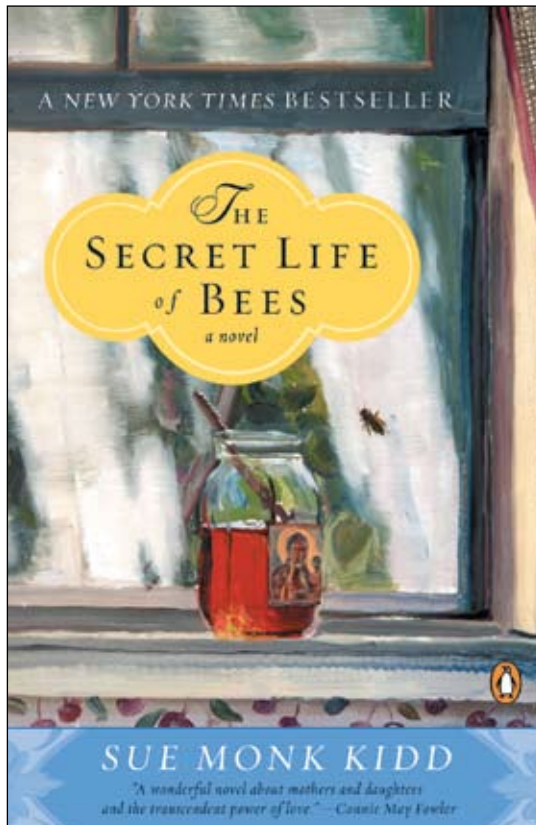
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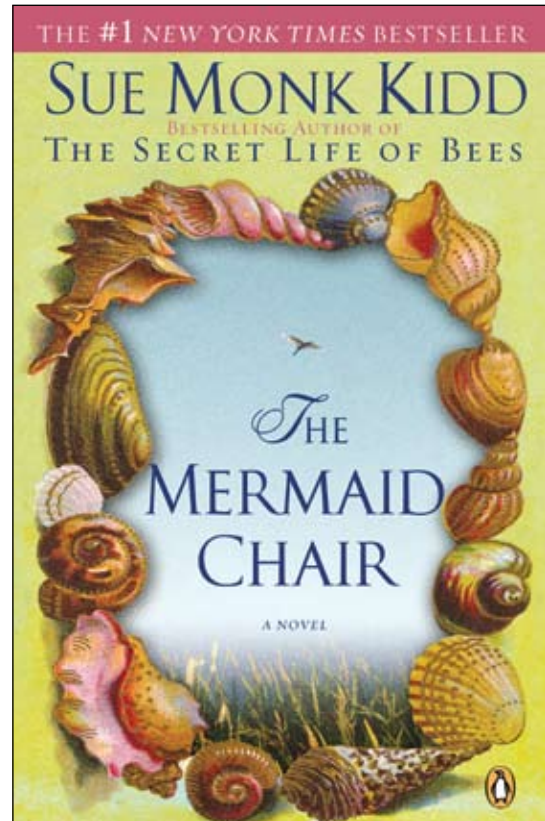
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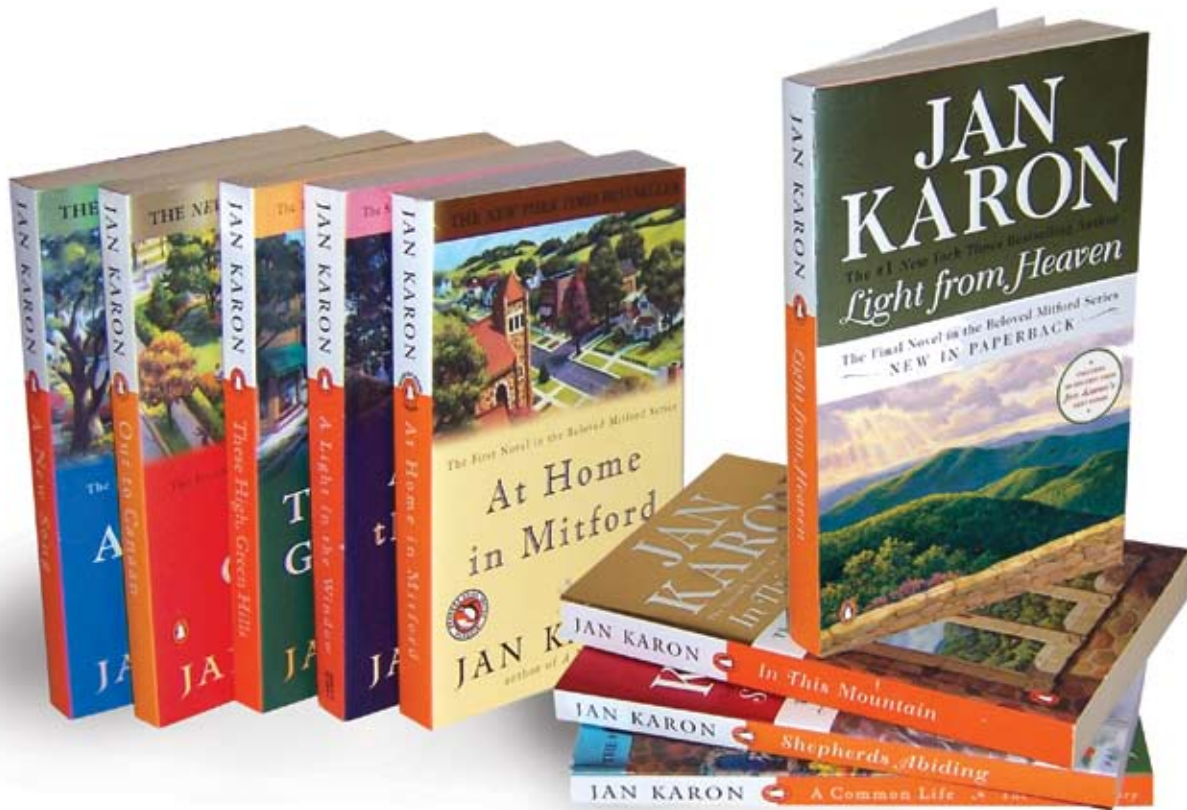
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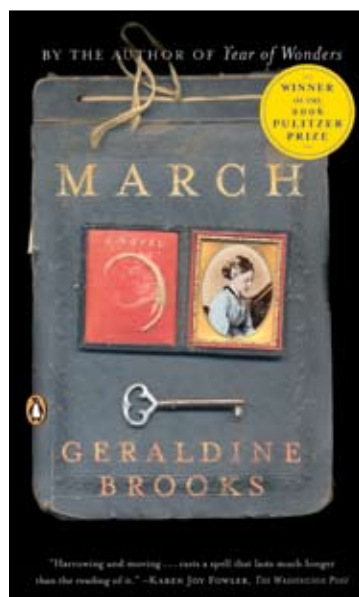
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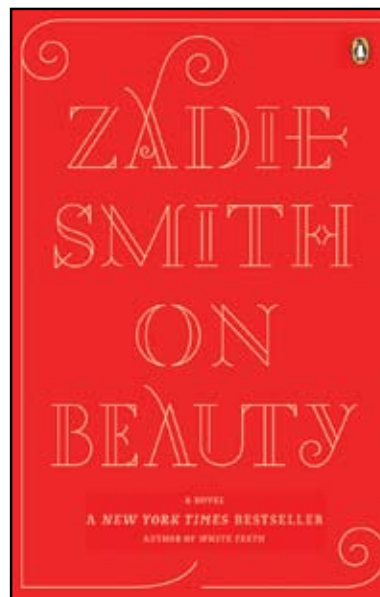


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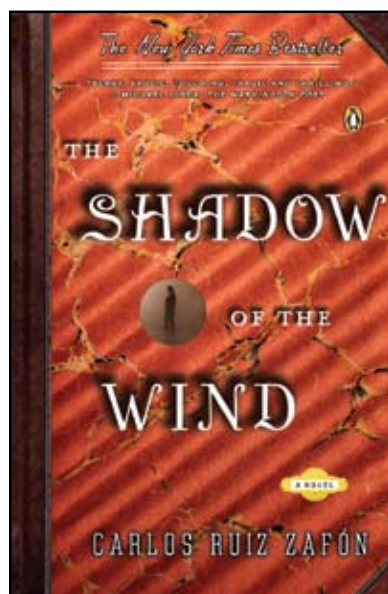


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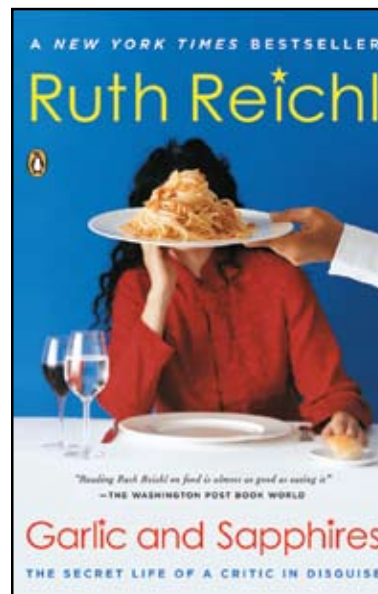
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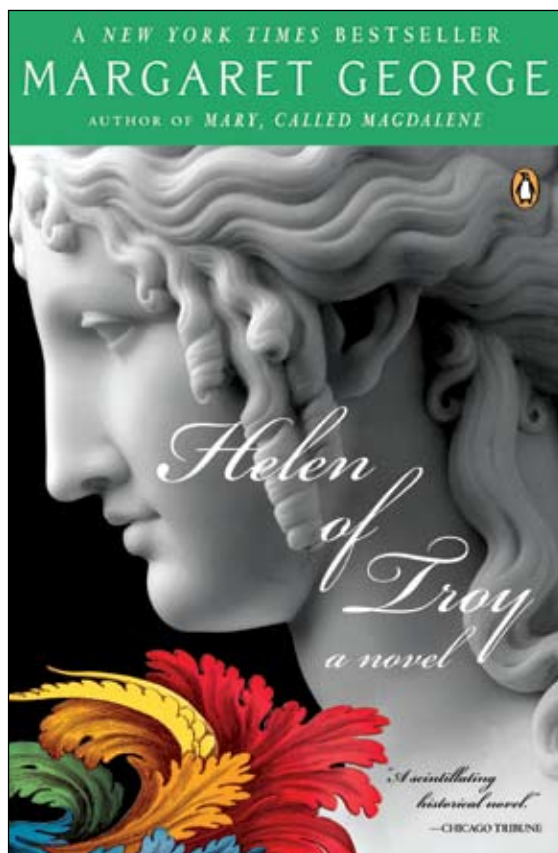
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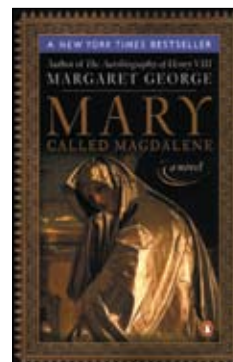
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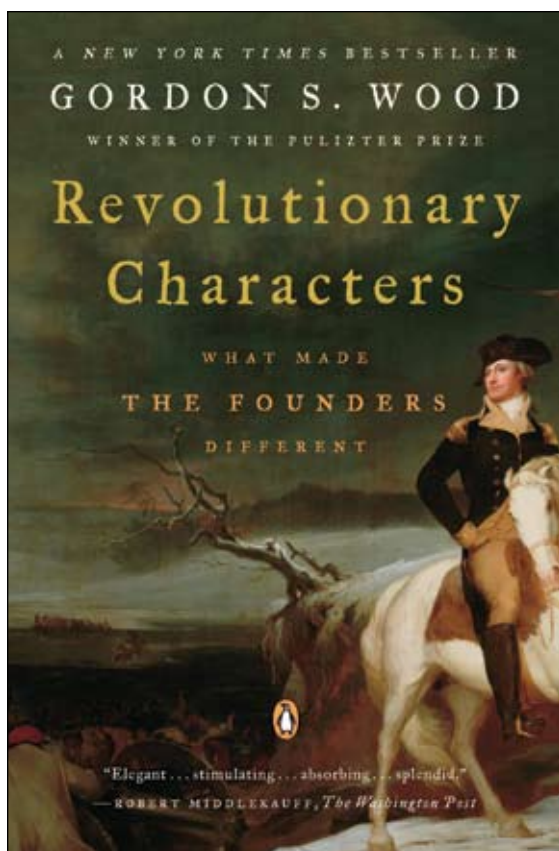
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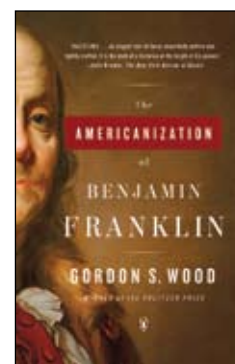
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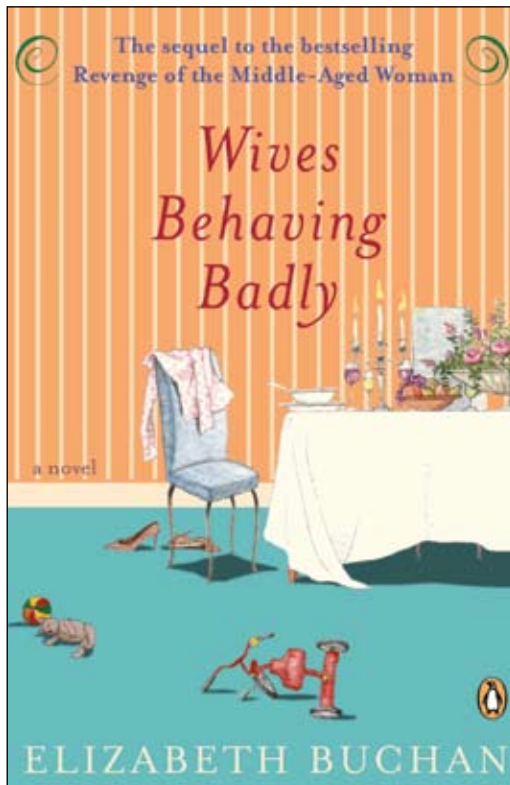
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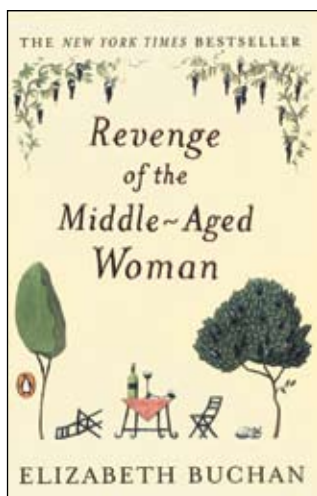
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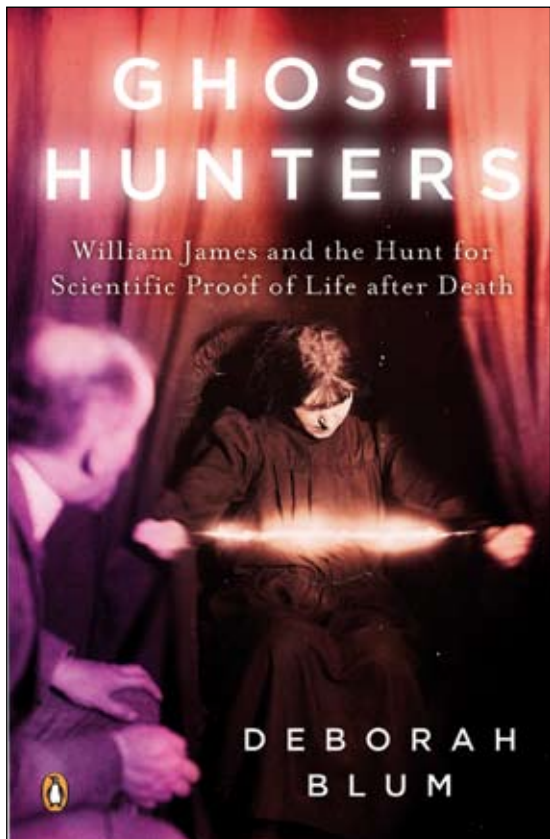
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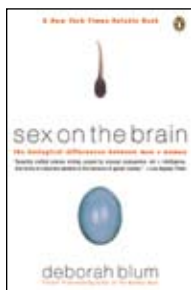
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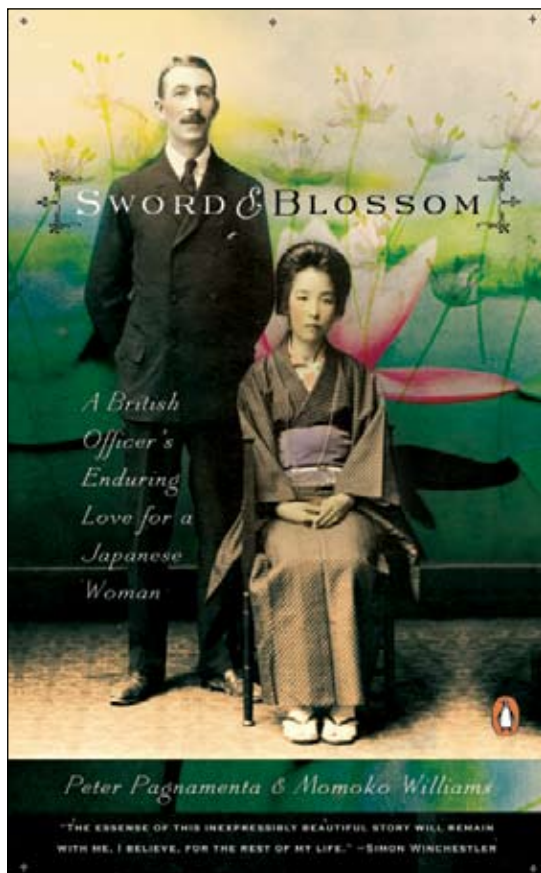
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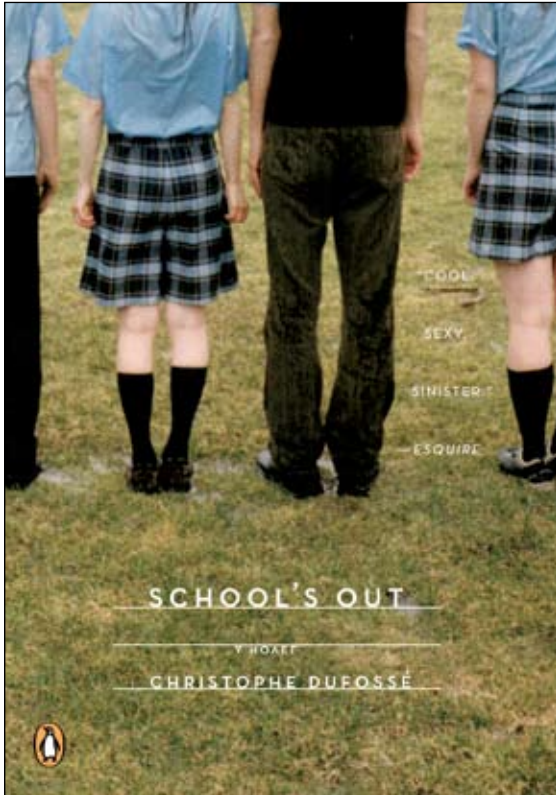
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**CHRISTOPHE DUFOSSÉ** is a former schoolteacher who lives in Paris. *School's Out* is his first novel. **SHAUN WHITESIDE**'s translations from the French include novels by Amélie Nothomb, Michèle Desbordes, and Patrick Rambaud. He lives in London.



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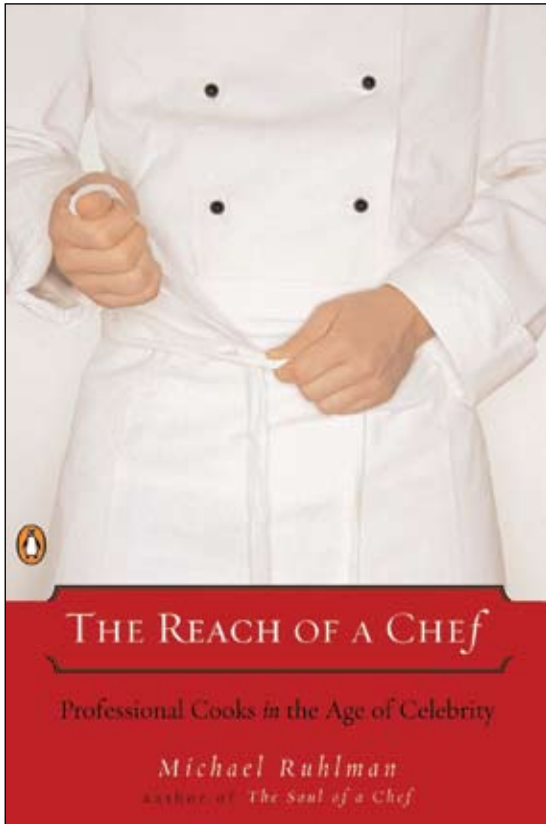
During the short time that he spent in classroom number 109 of the middle school, he must, on a number of occasions over the course of the school year, have looked through the window—the window from which he could not, in the end, keep himself from jumping—at the chestnut tree by whose base his body would eventually crash. It had happened at about half past one, shortly after the second bell, as his year nines waited outside the classroom door to be allowed in. Later, in their statements to the police, they would say that when they heard no sound from inside, they concluded that their teacher was absent.

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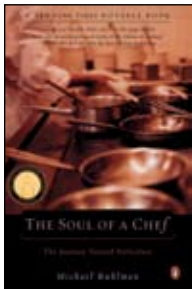
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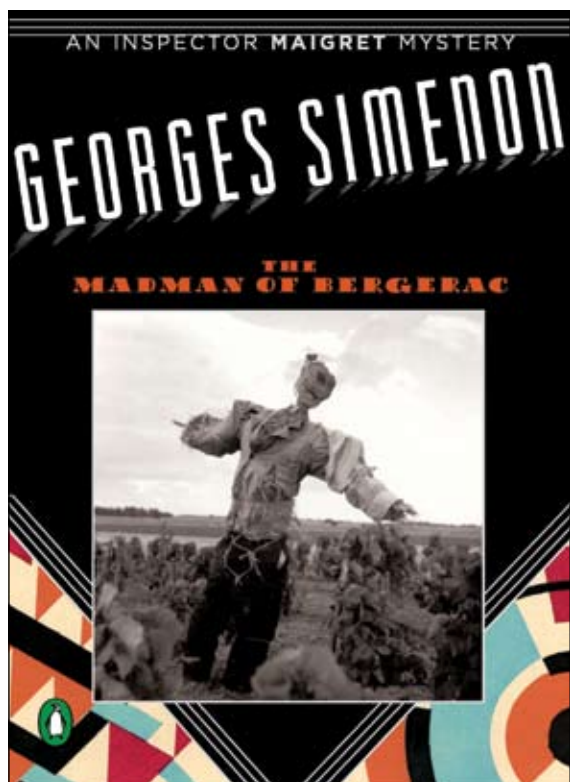
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**LINDA R. HIRSHMAN** is retired from her position as the Allen/Berenson Distinguished Visiting Professor of Women’s Philosophy and Women’s Studies at Brandeis University. She has appeared on *60 Minutes*, *Good Morning America*, and *The Colbert Report* and is the author of *Hard Bargains: The Politics of Sex* and *A Woman’s Guide to Law School*.

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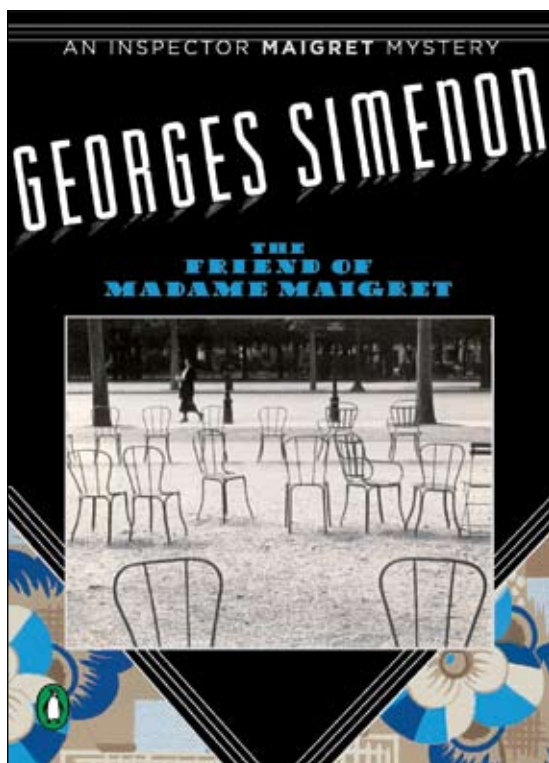
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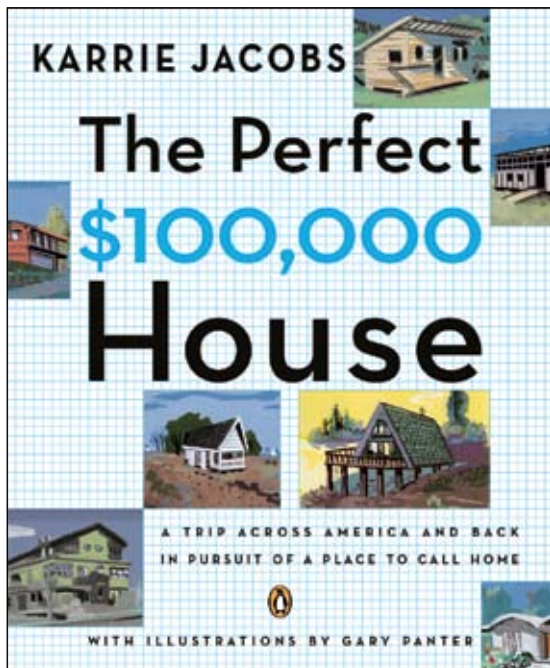
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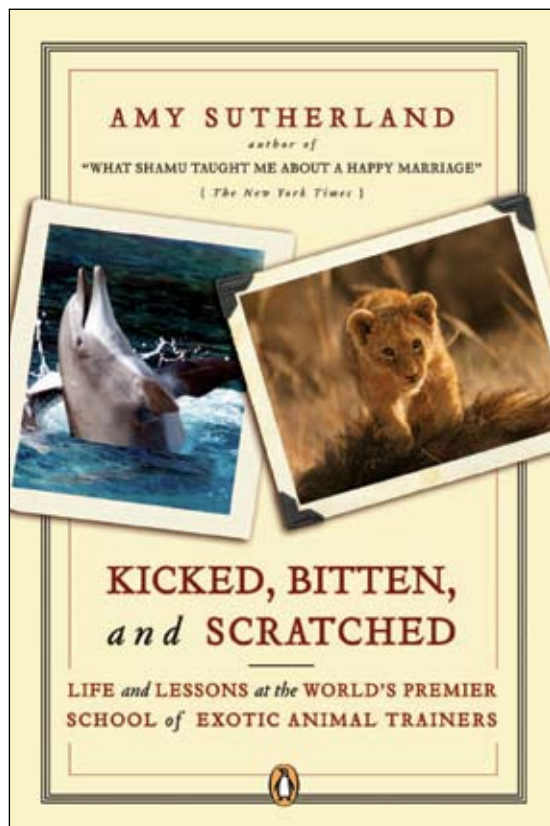
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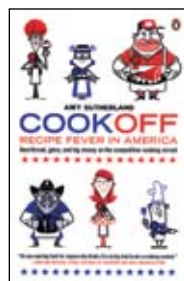
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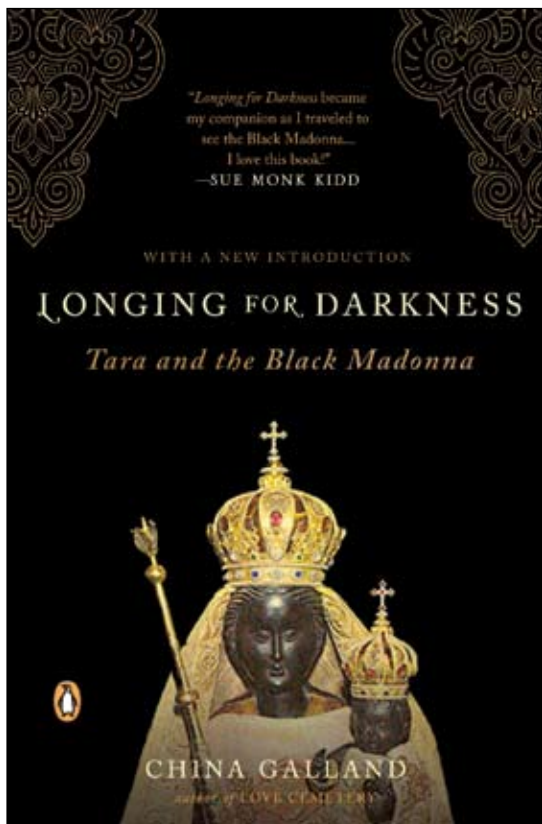
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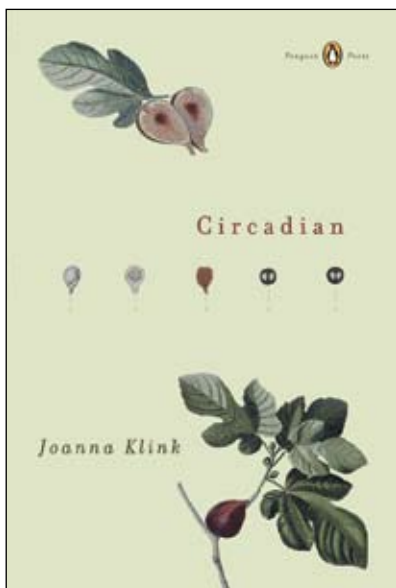
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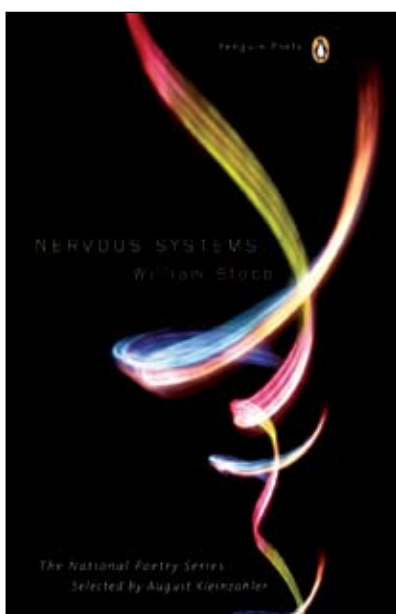


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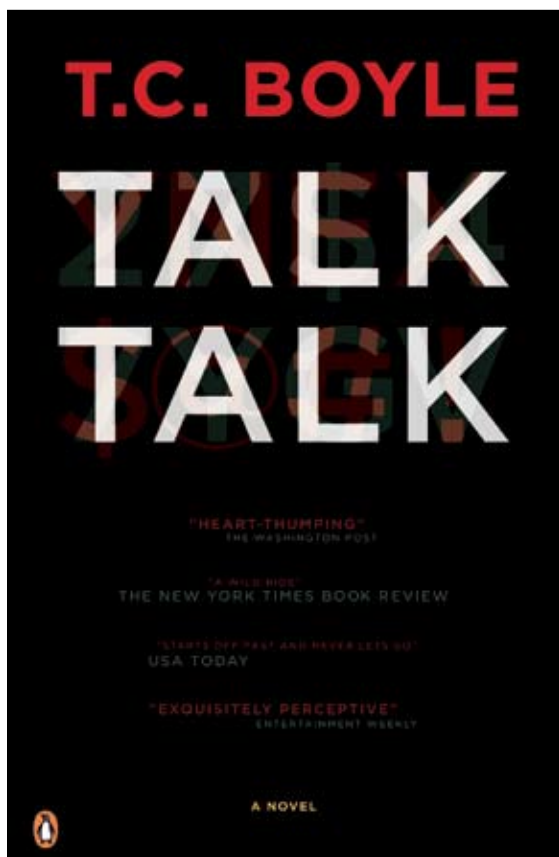
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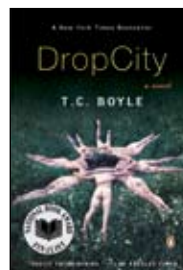
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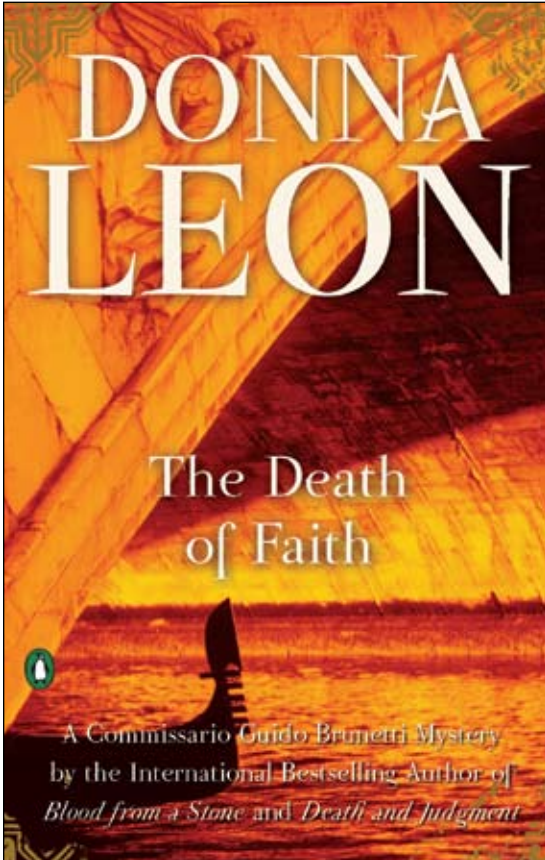
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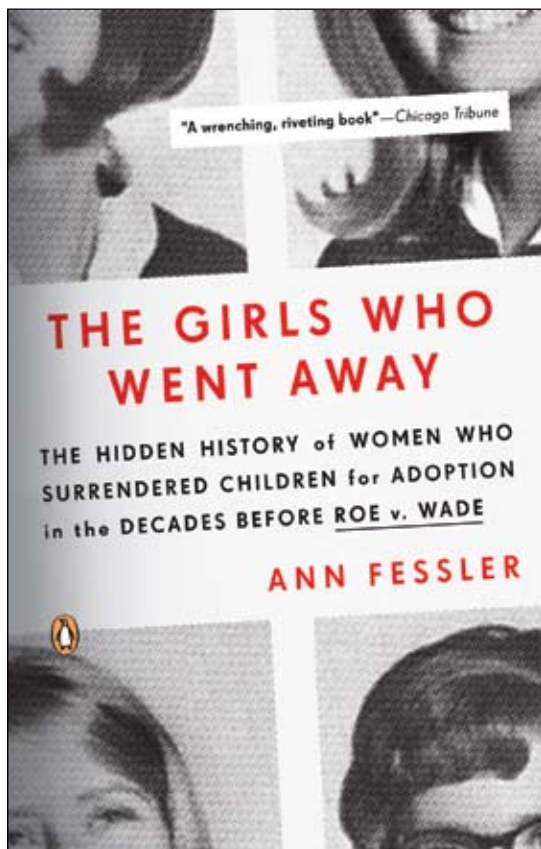
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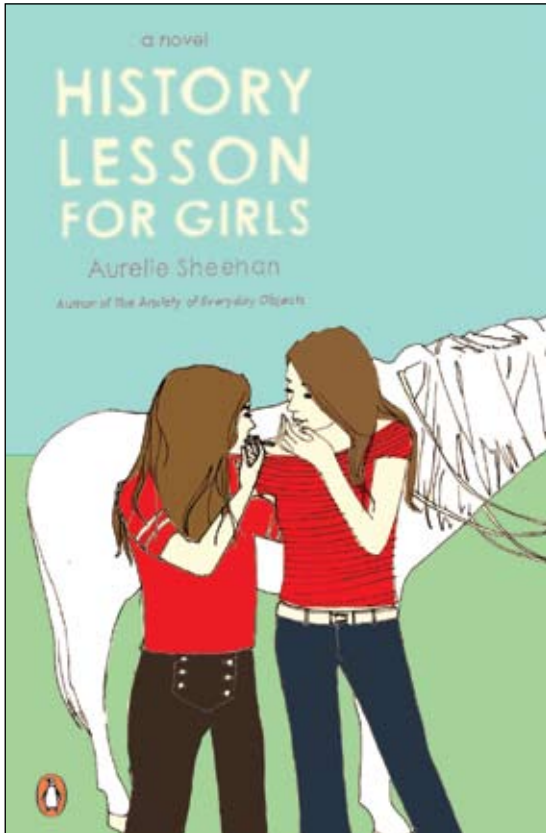
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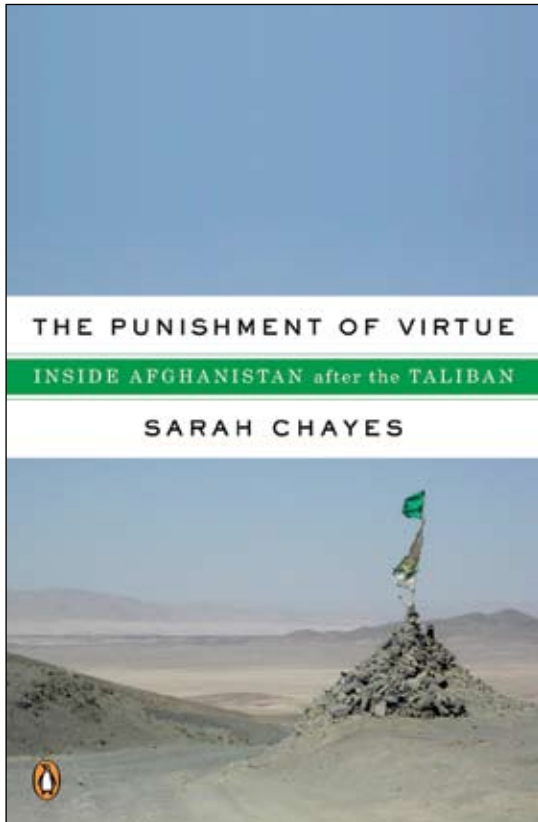
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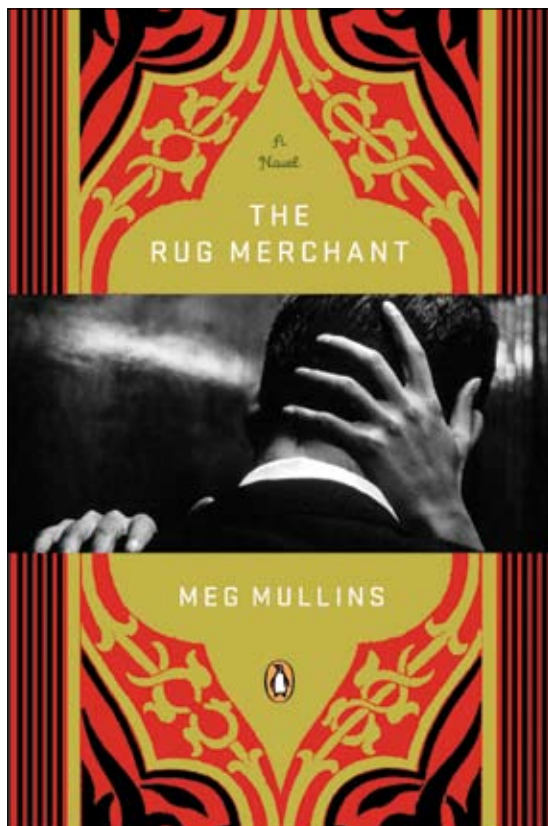
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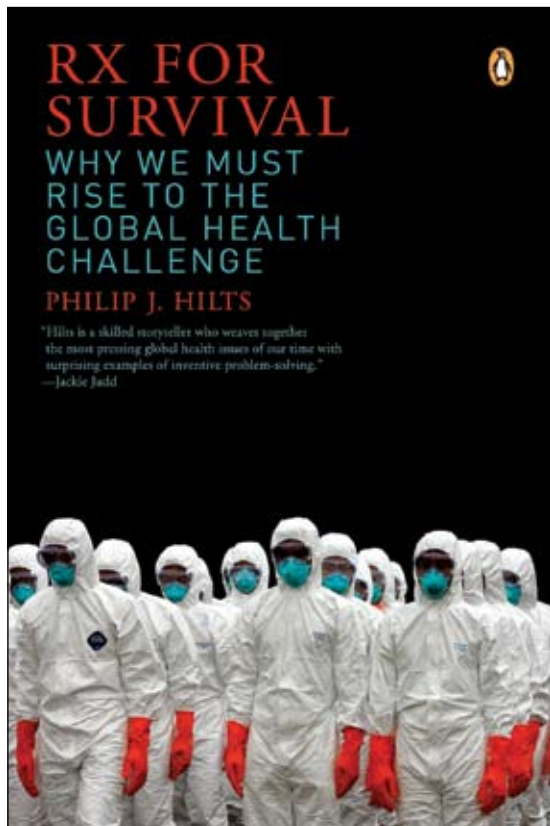
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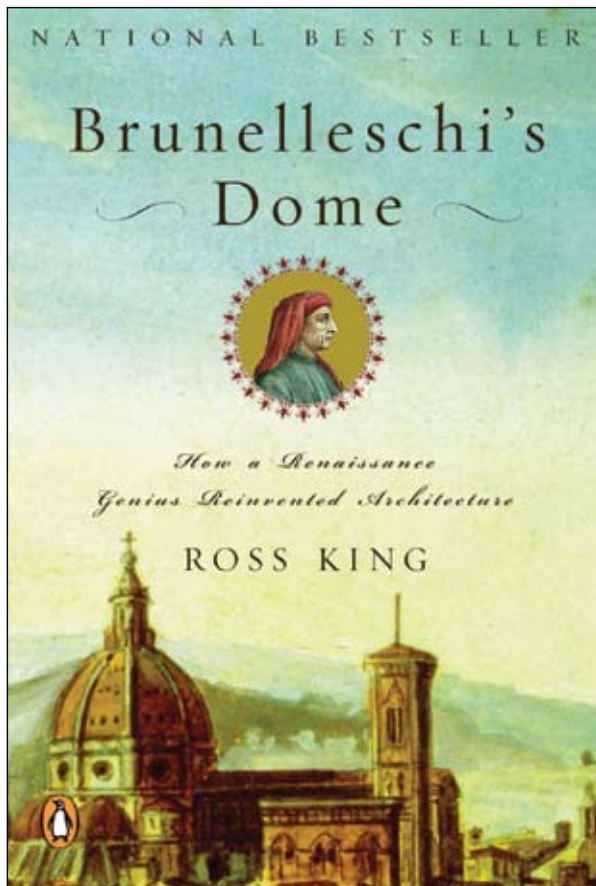
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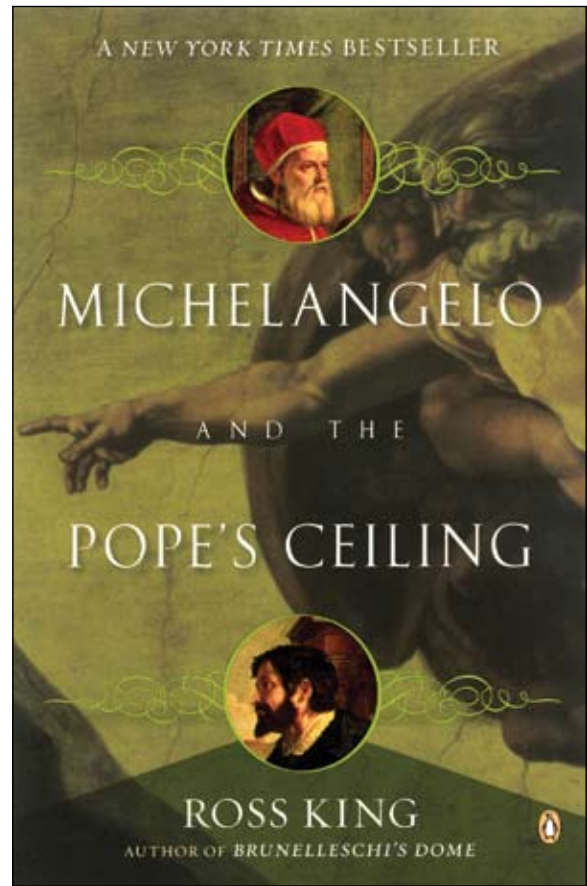
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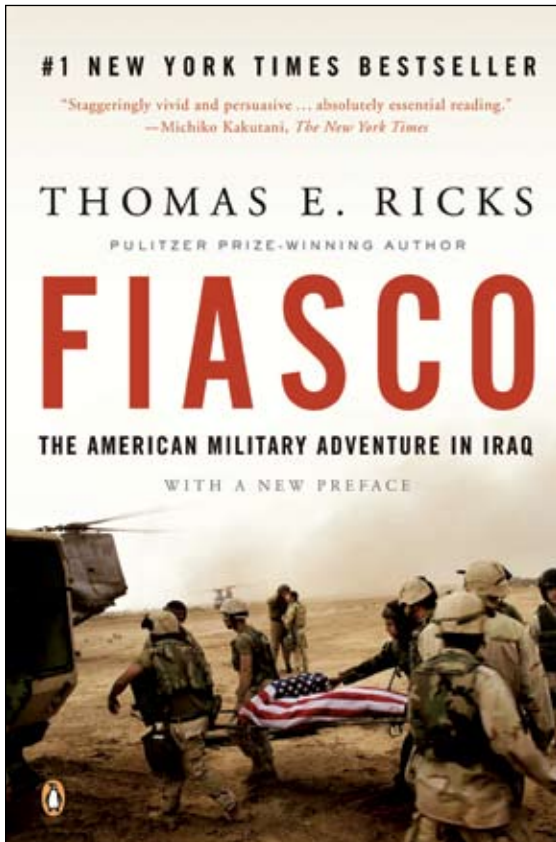
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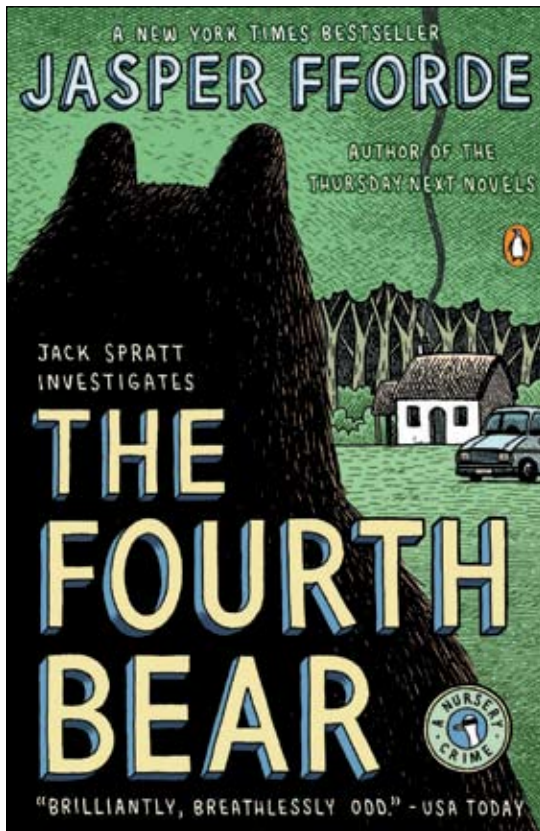
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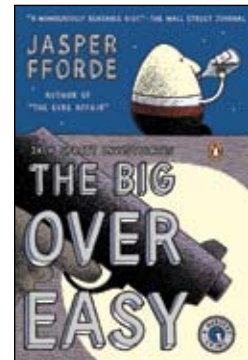
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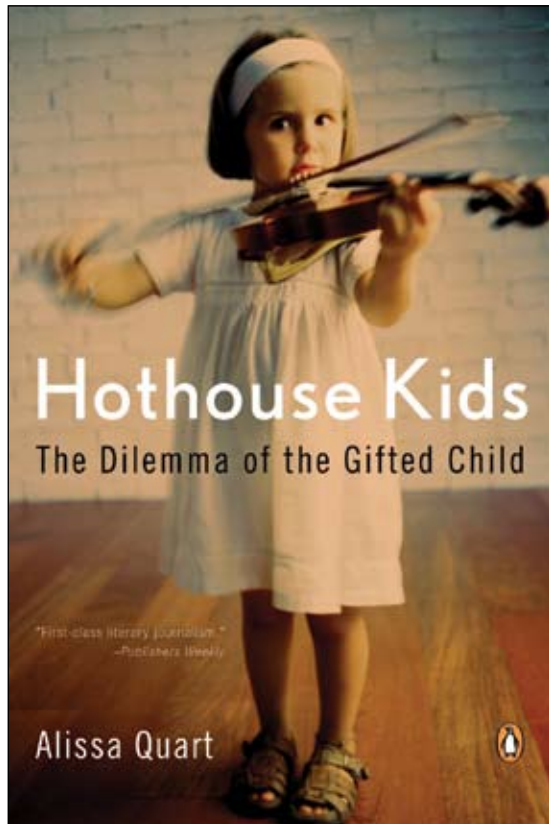
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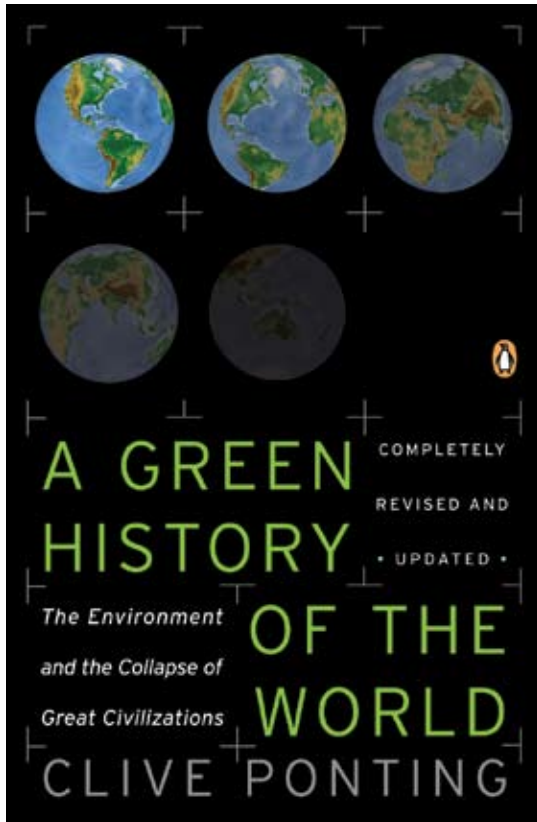
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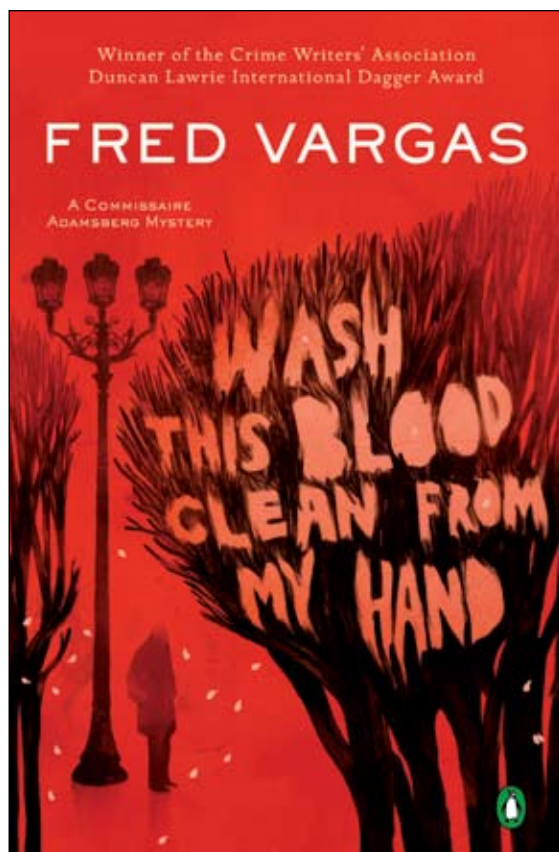
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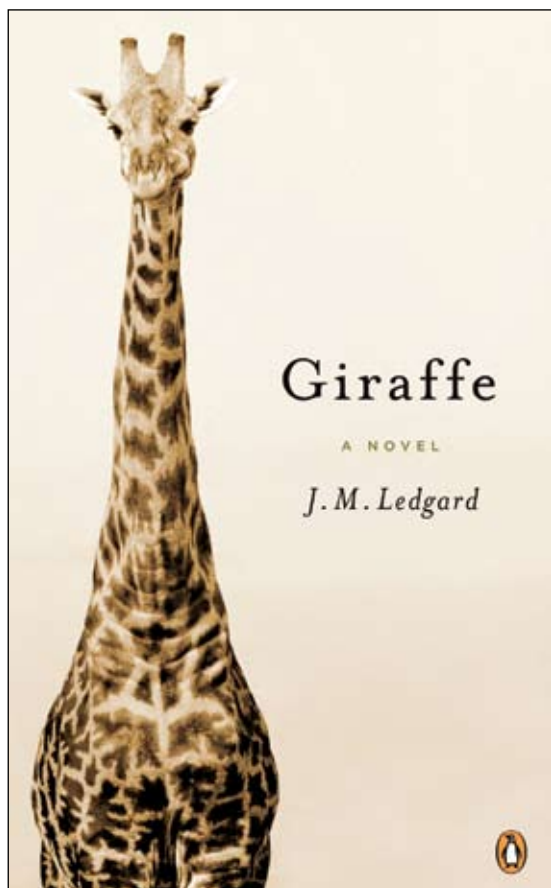
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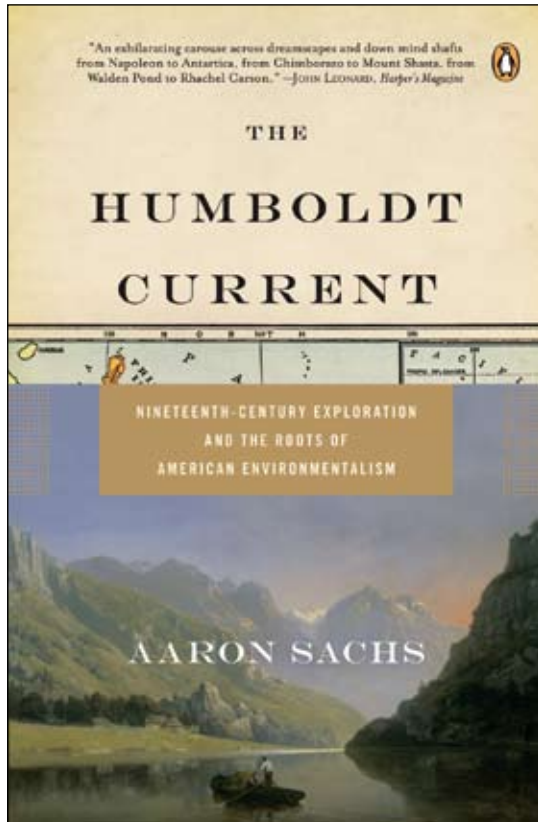


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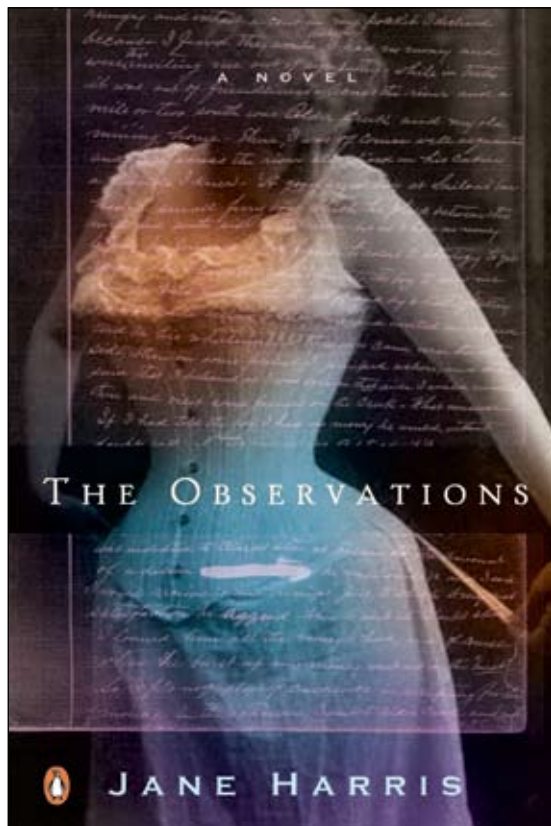
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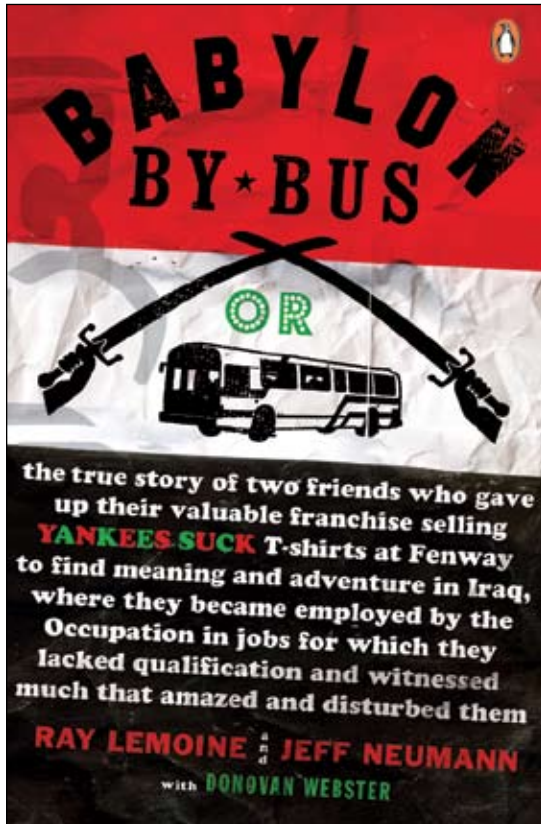
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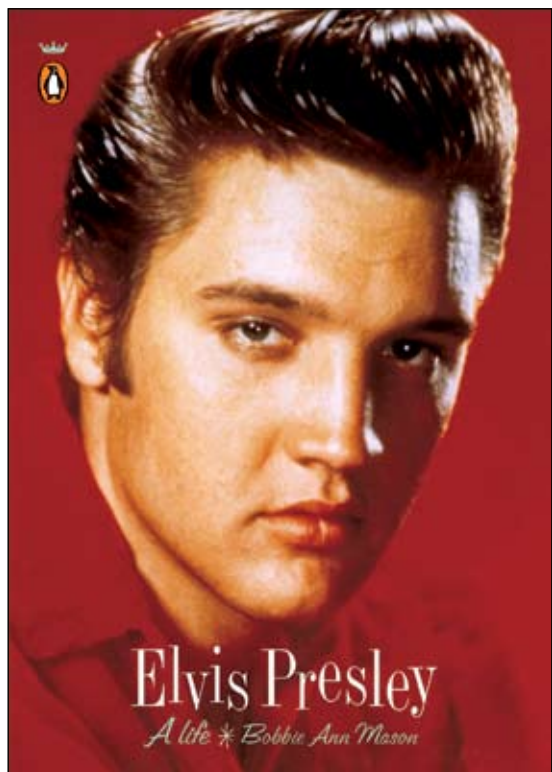
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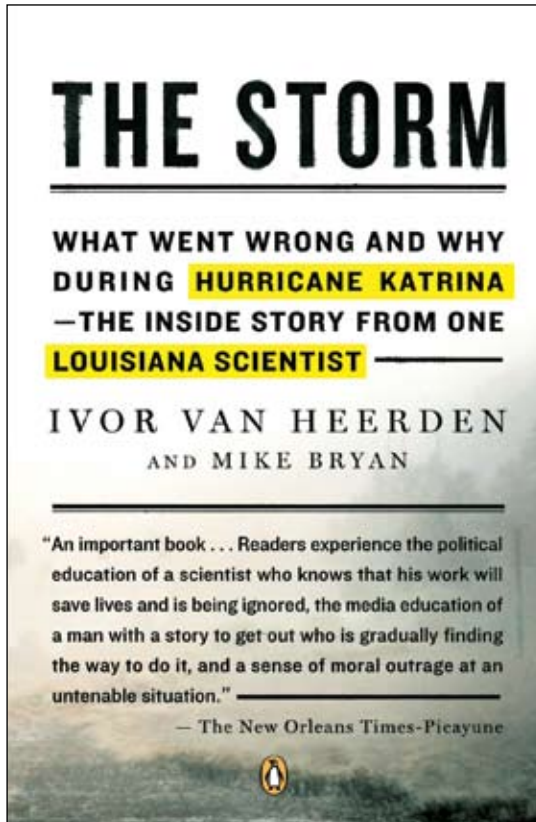
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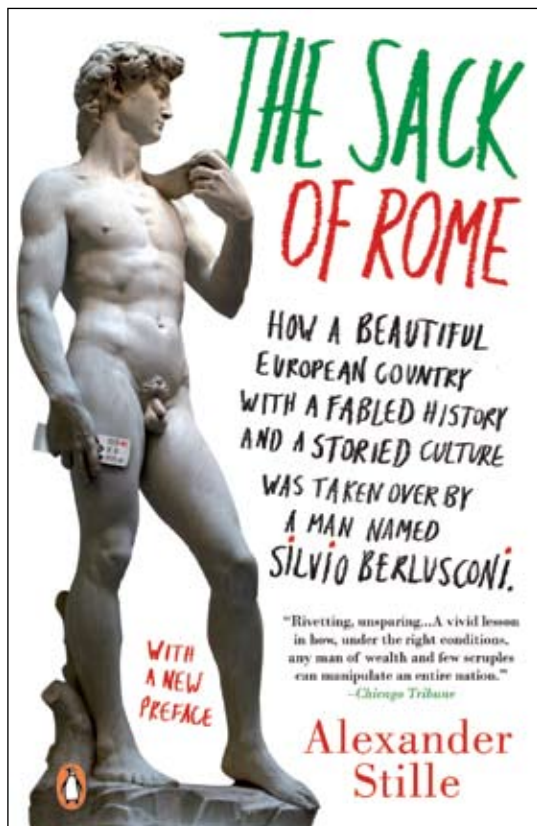
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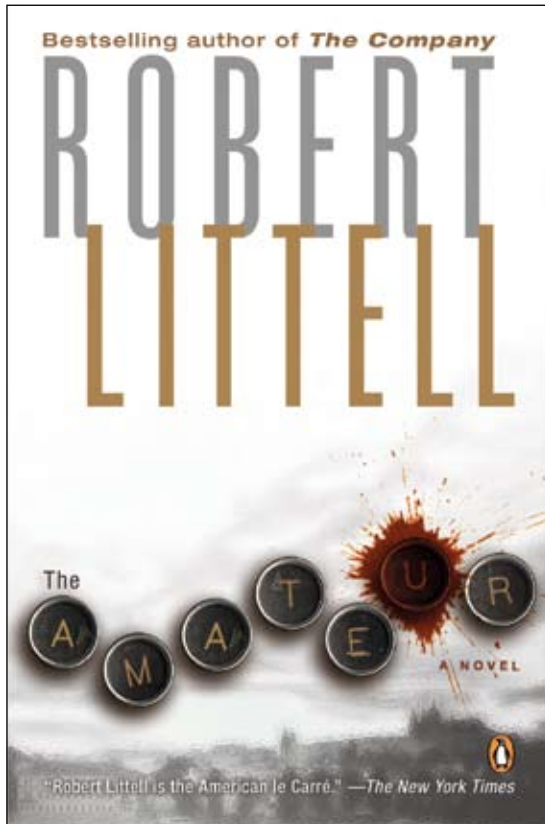
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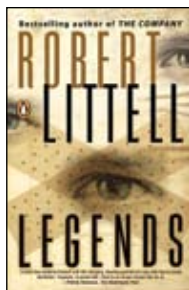
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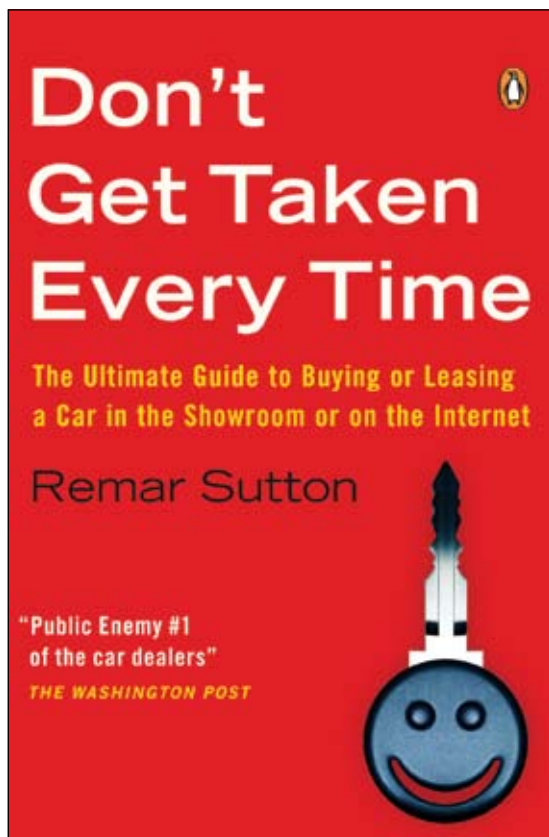
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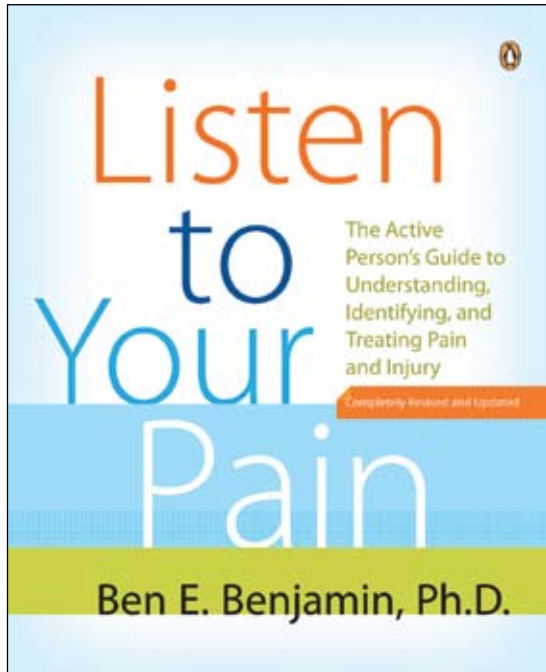
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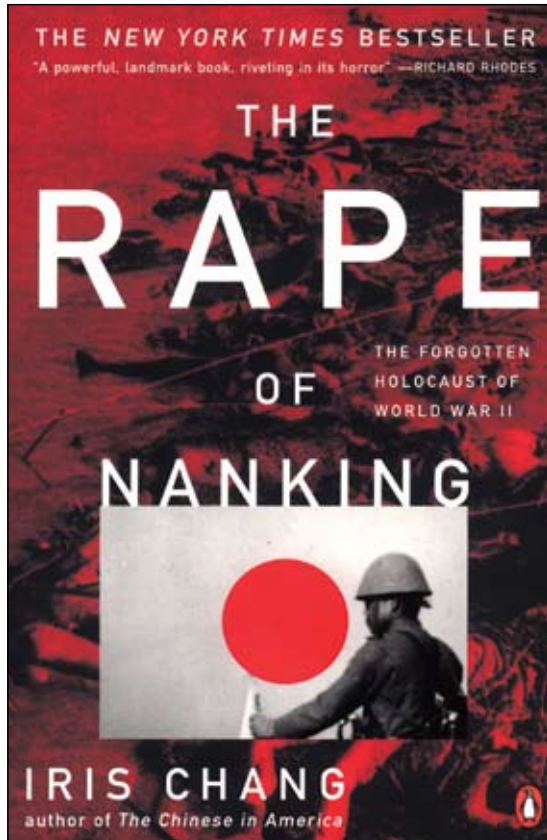
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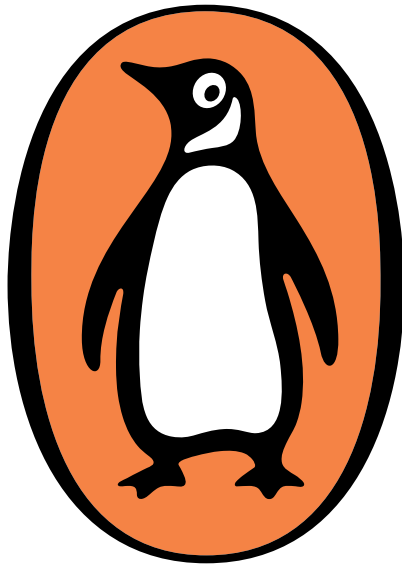
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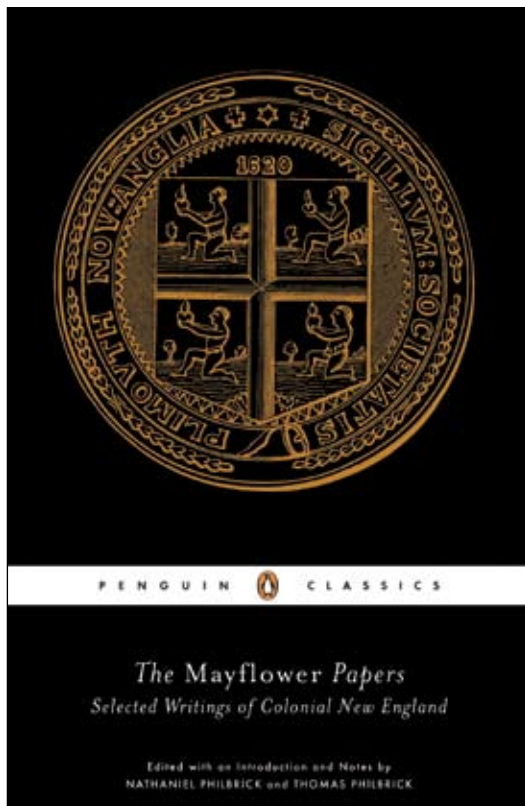
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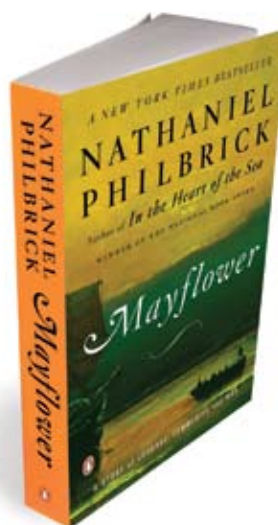


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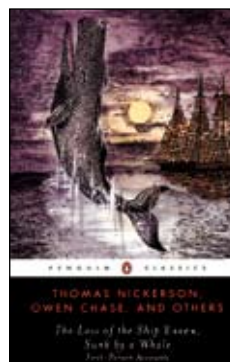
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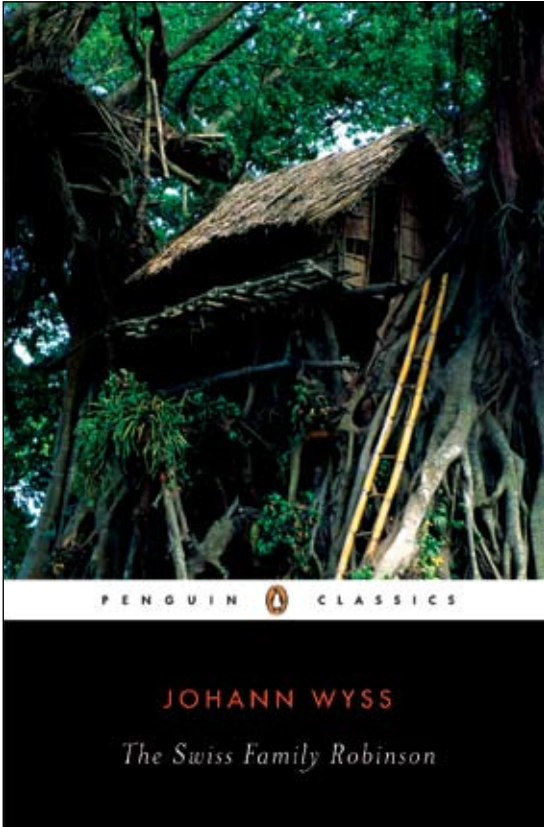
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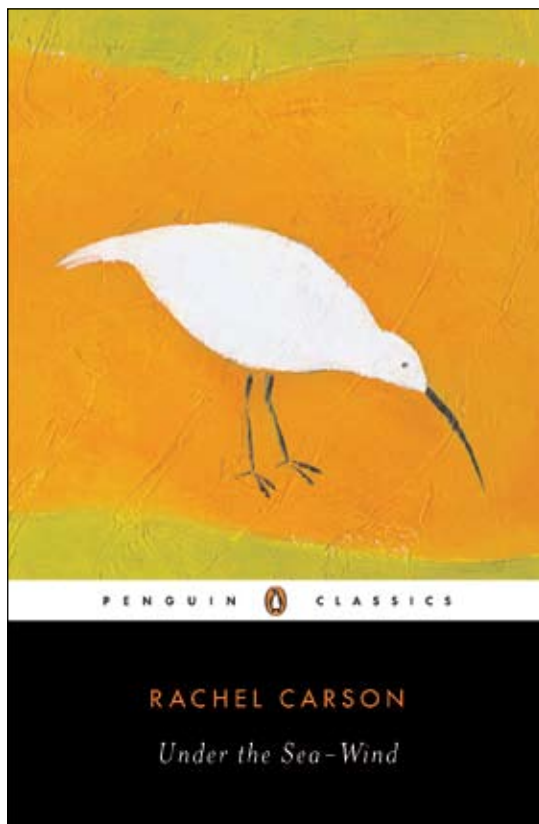
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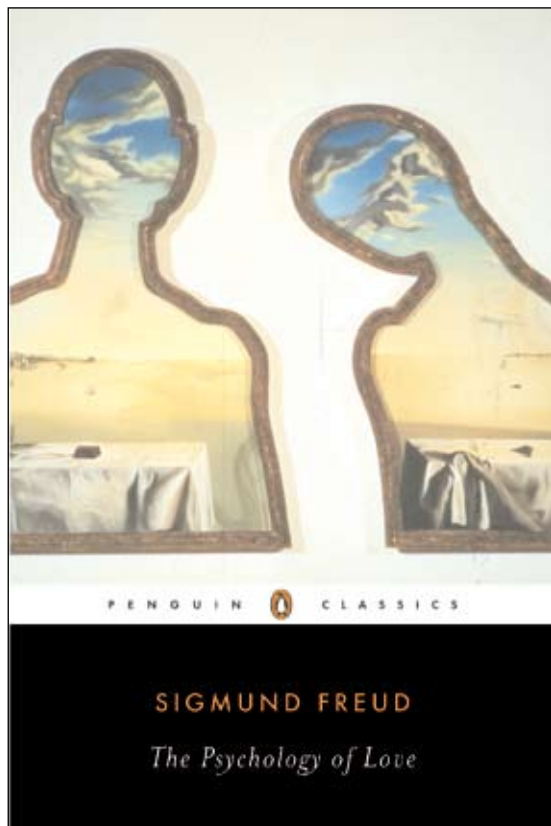
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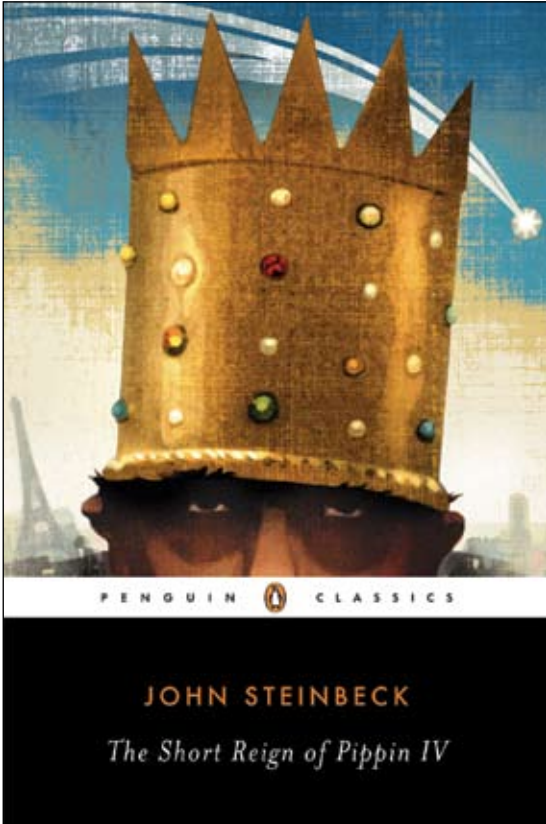
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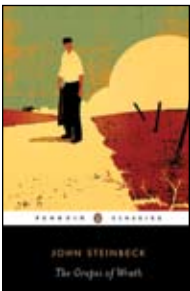
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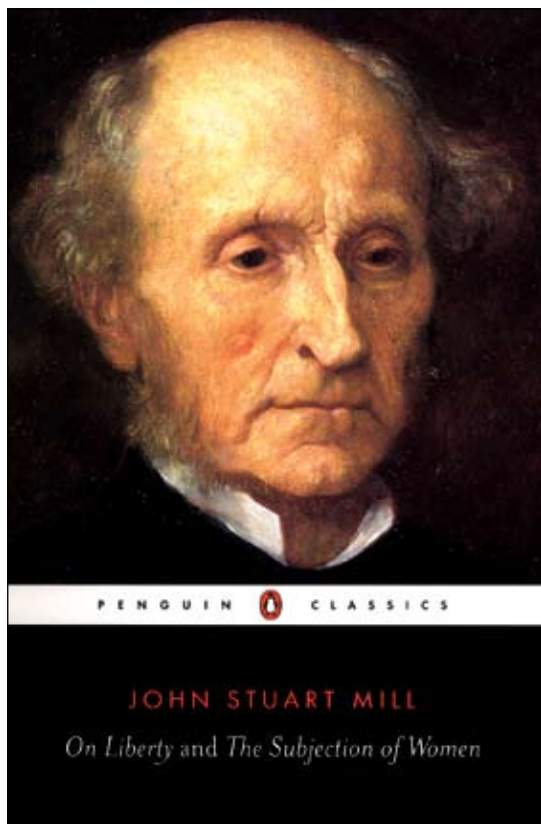
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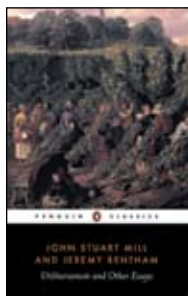
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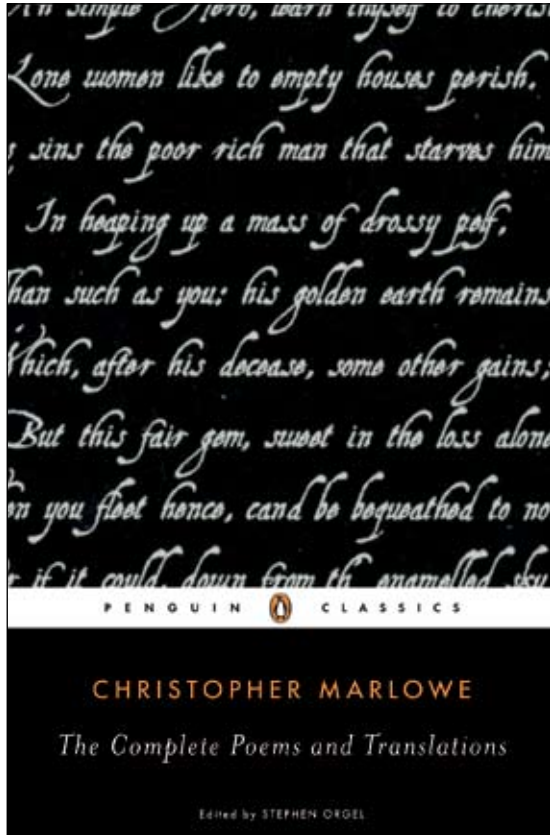
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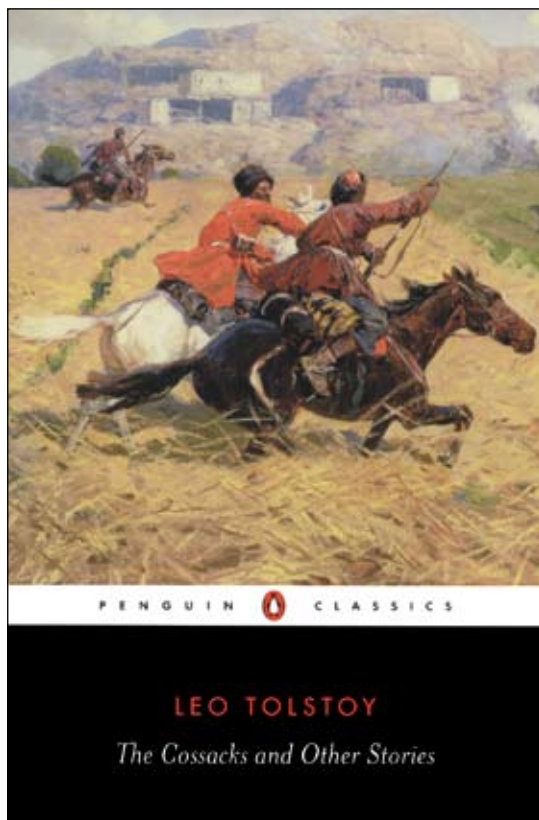
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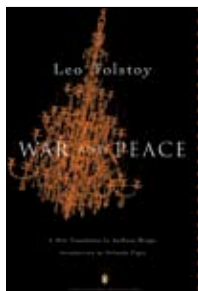
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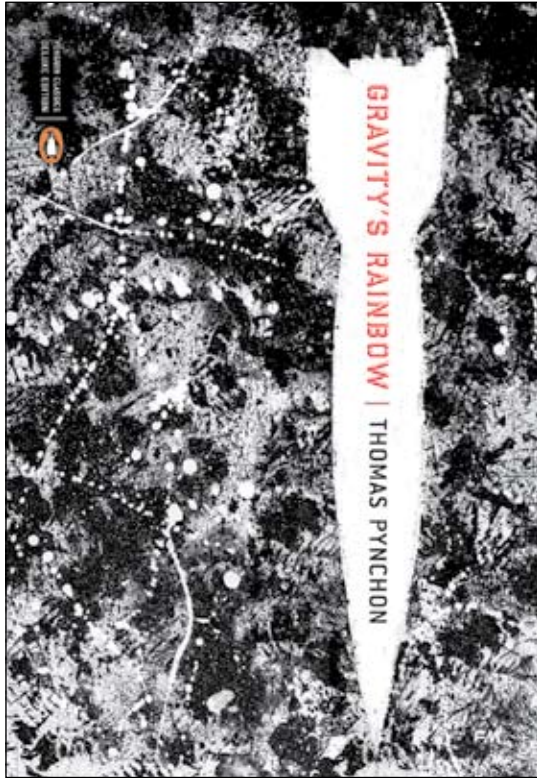
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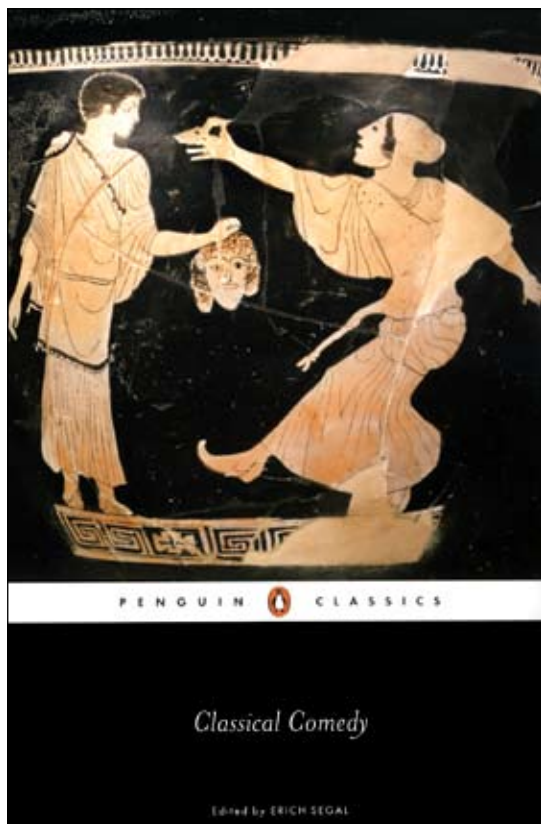
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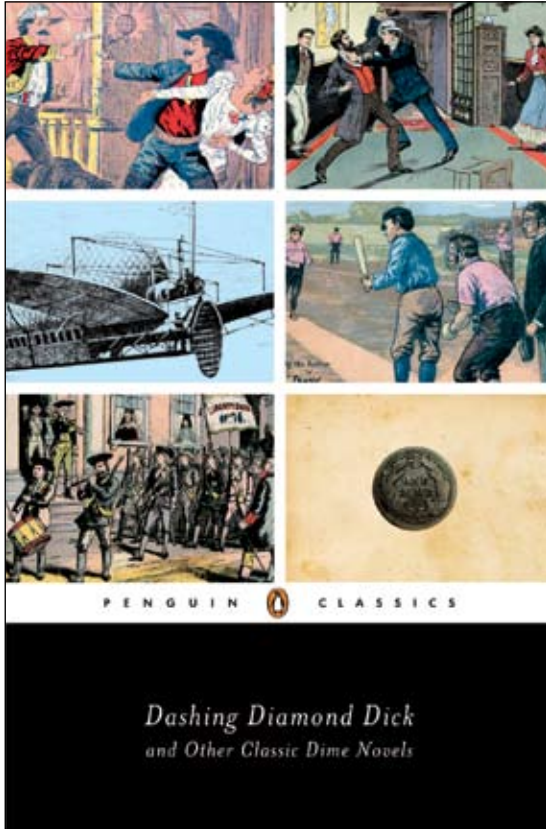
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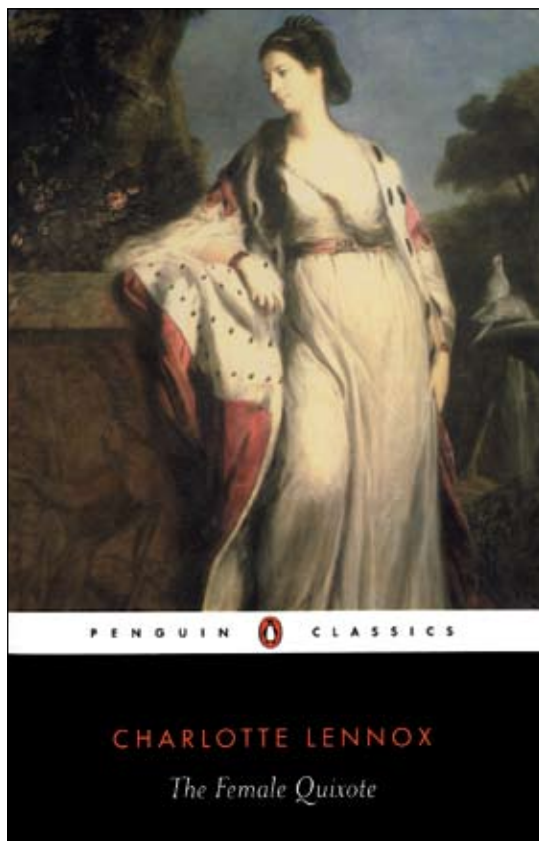
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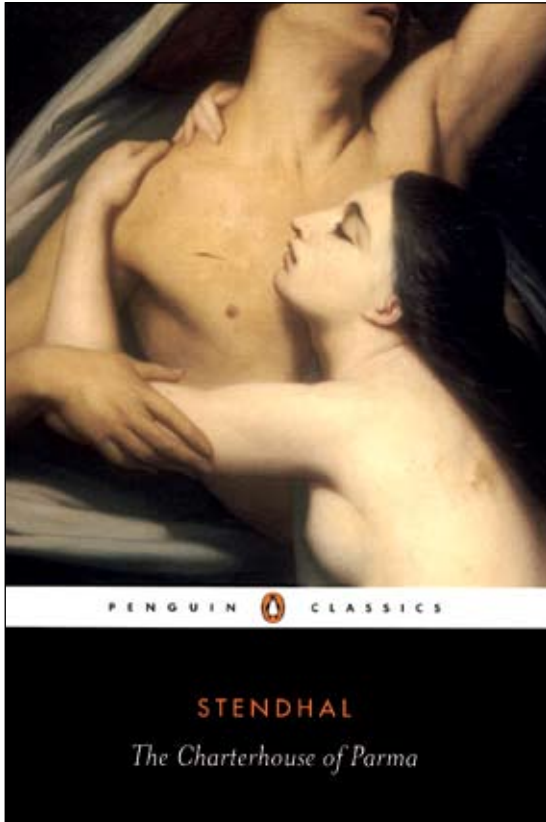
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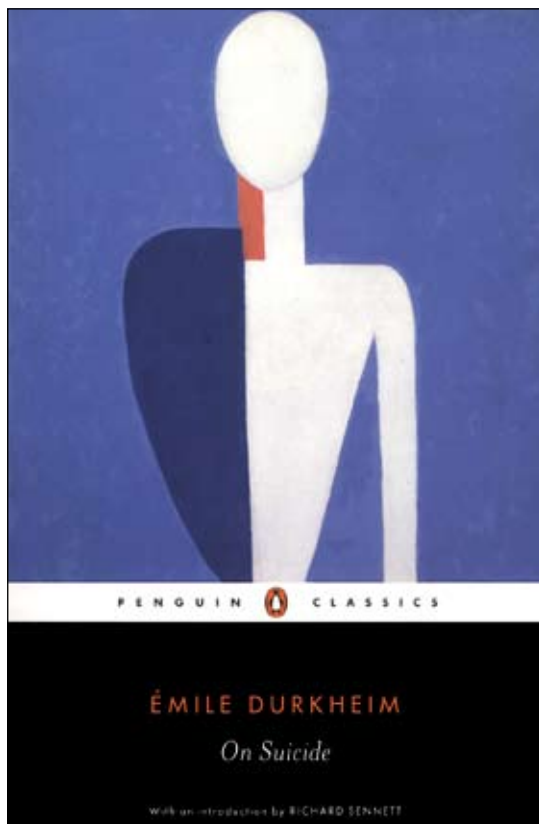
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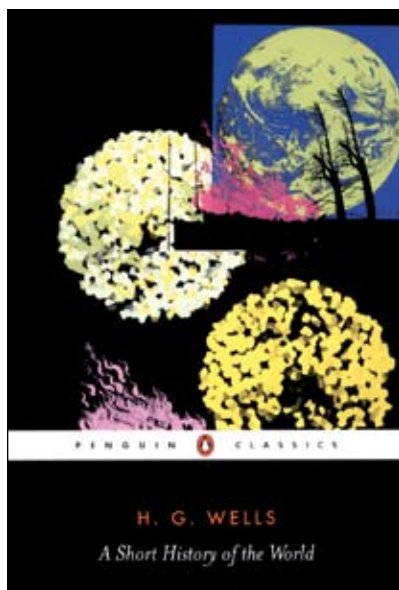
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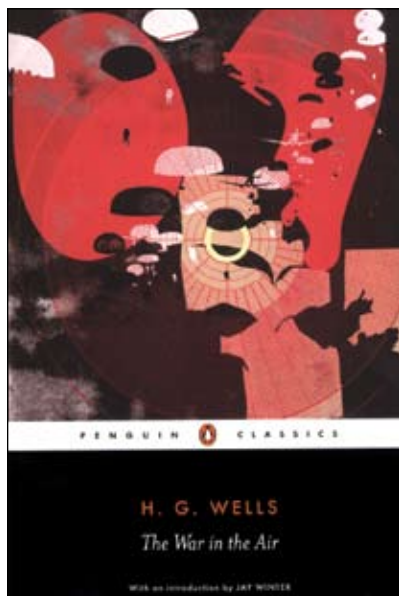
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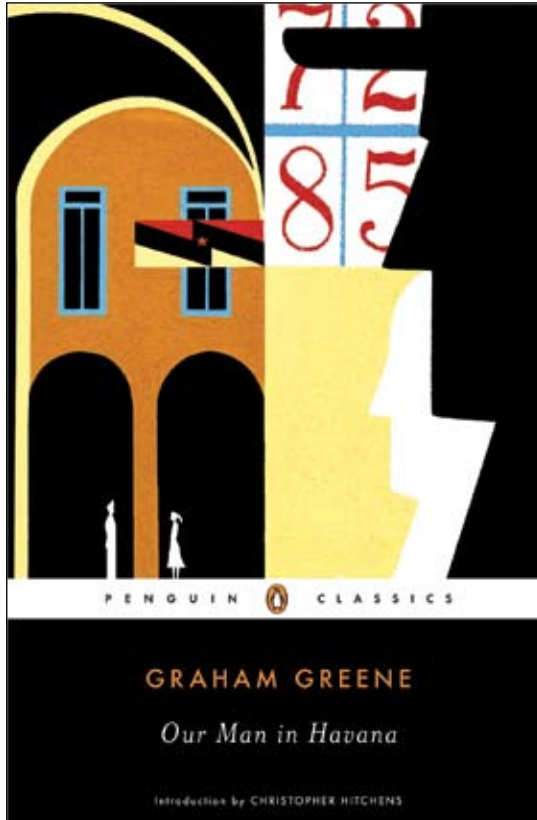
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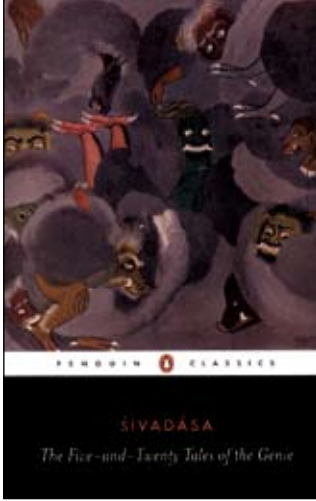
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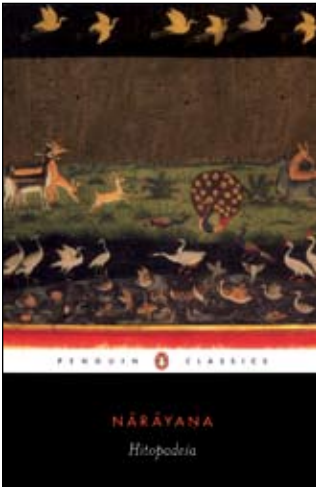
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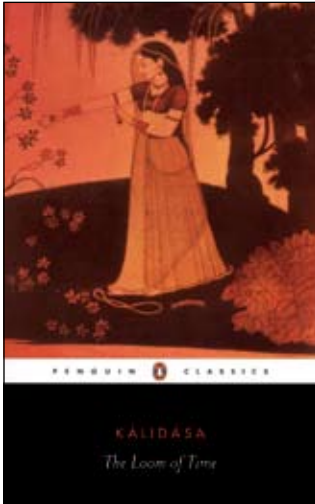
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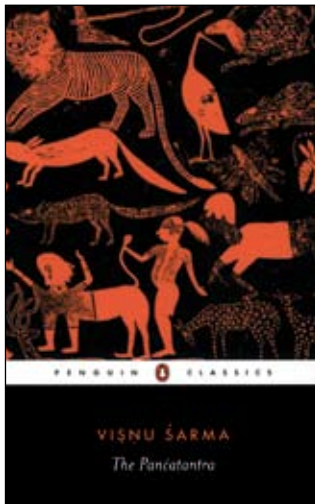
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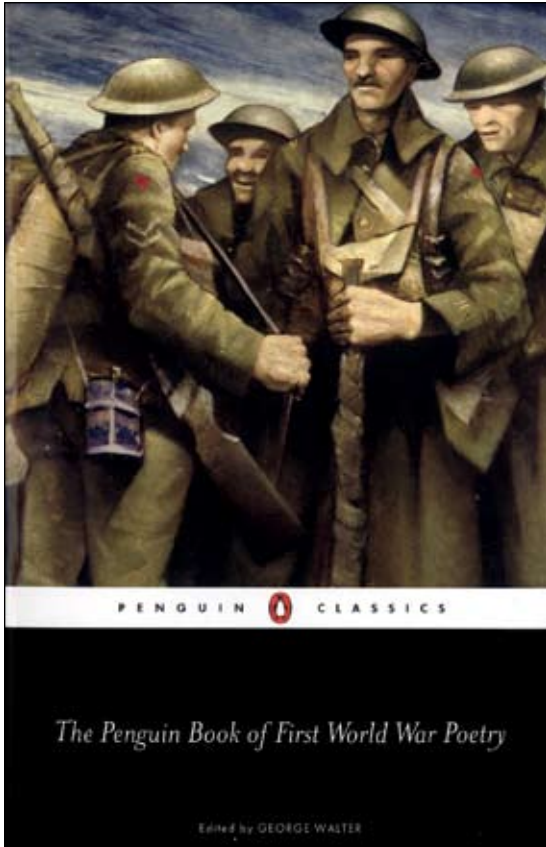
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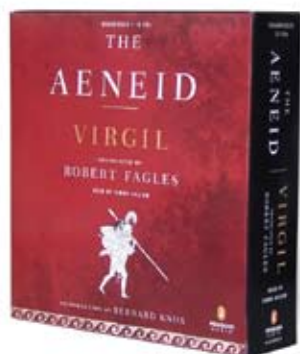
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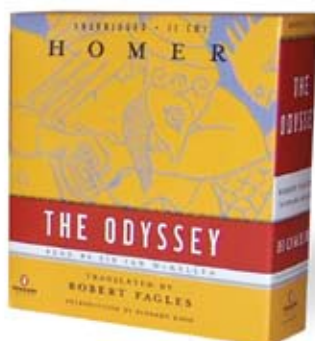
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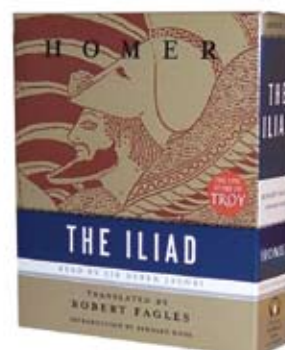


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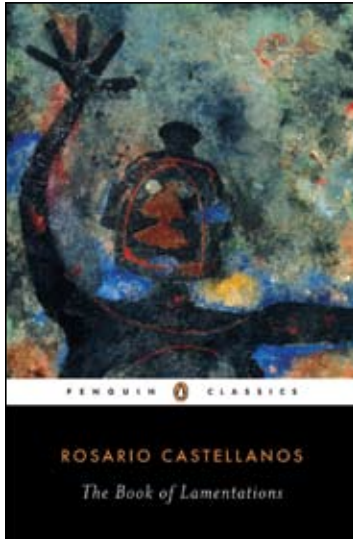
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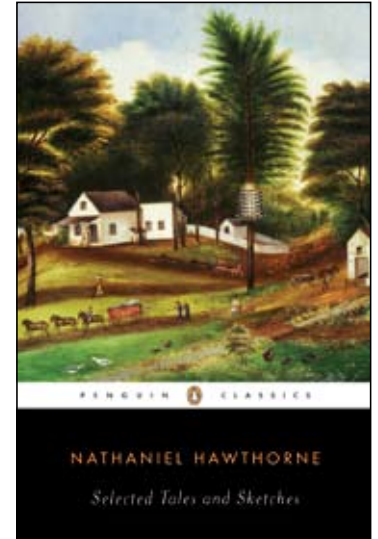
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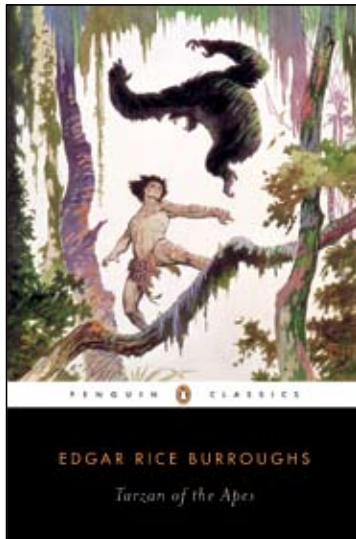
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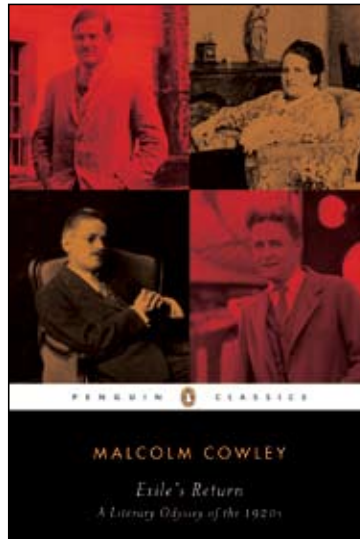
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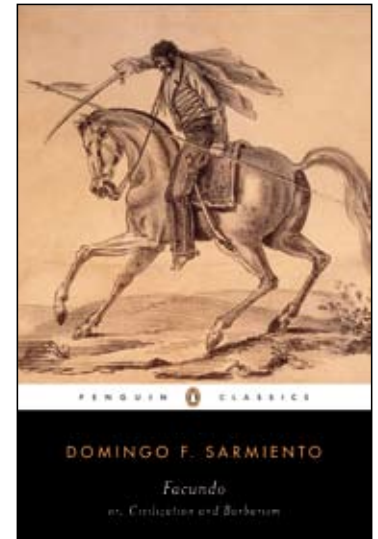
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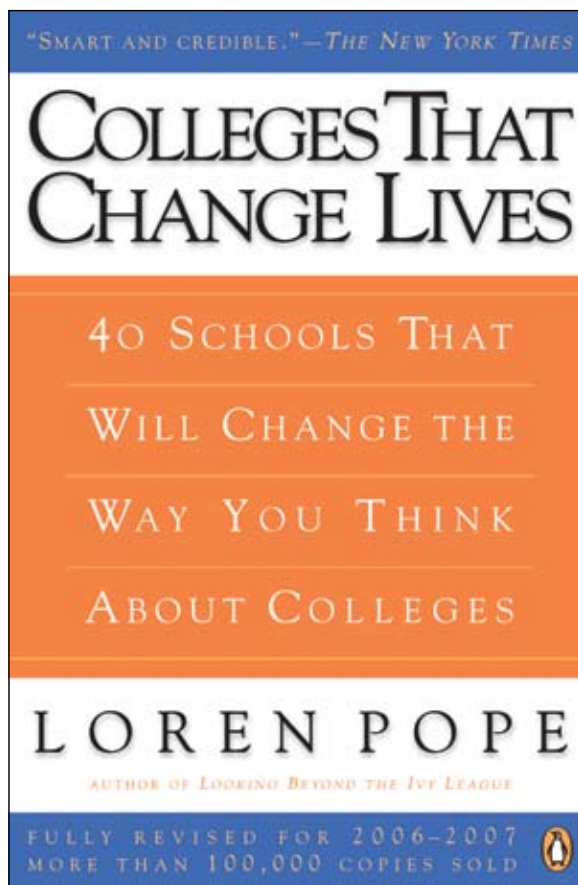
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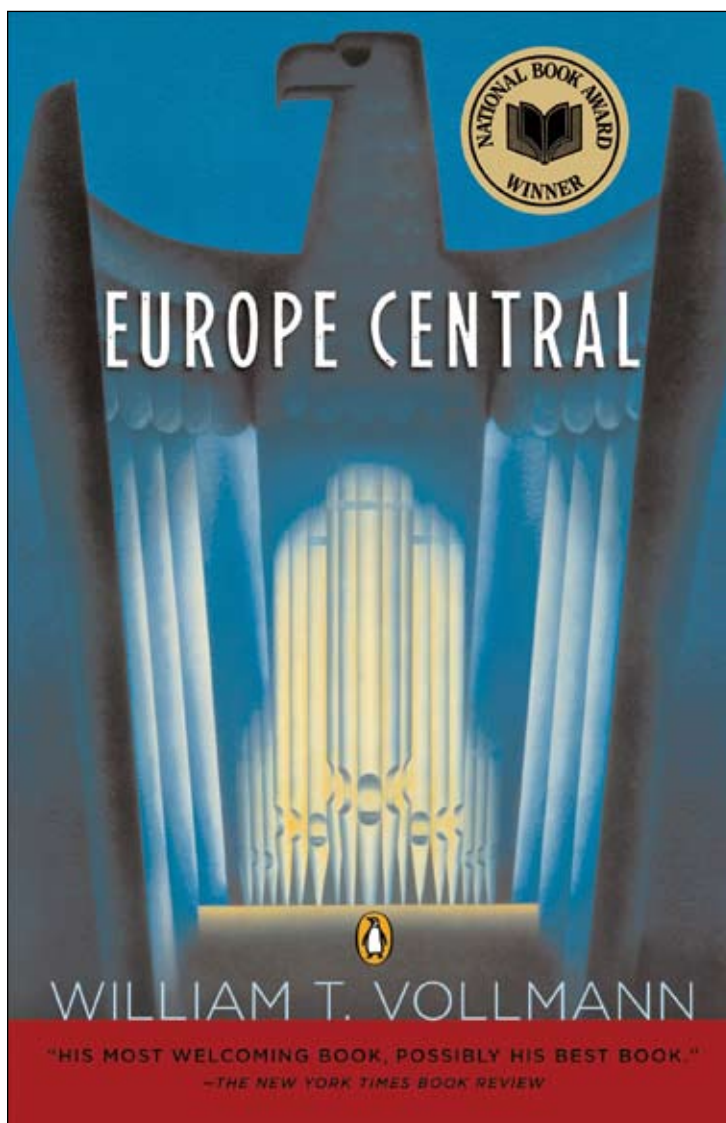


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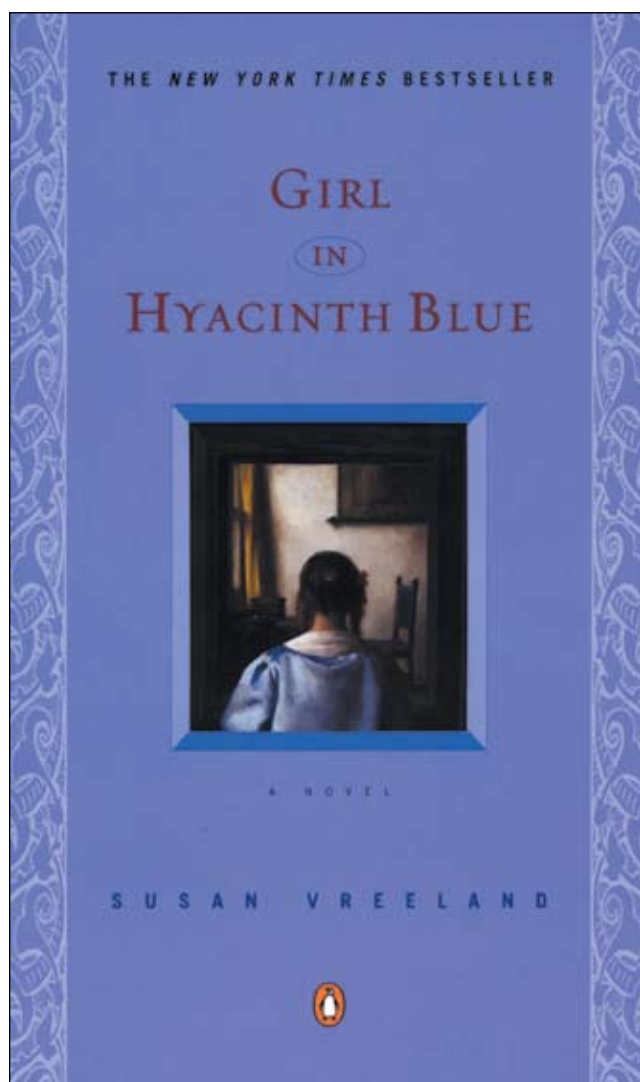


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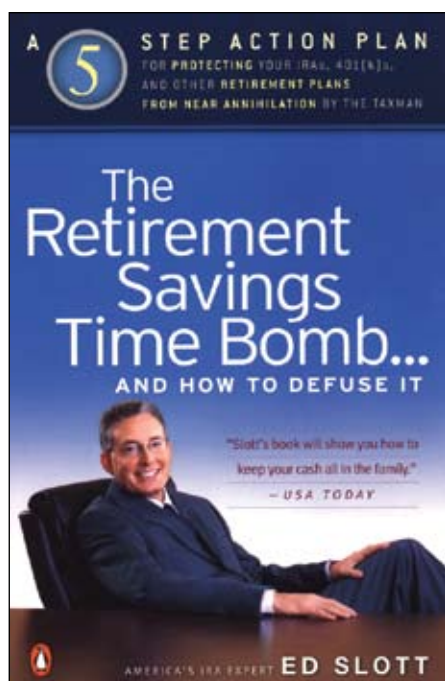
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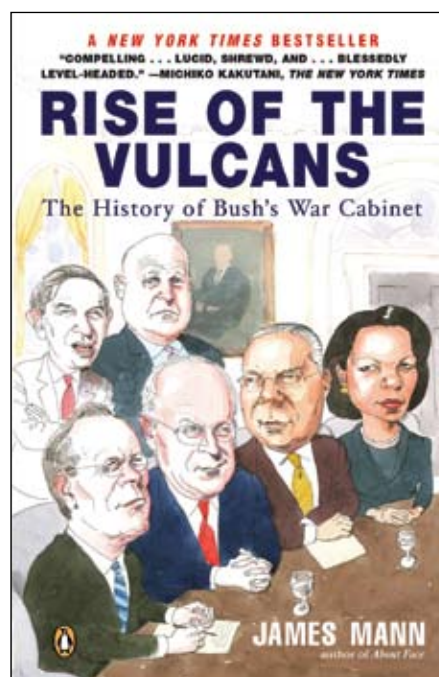
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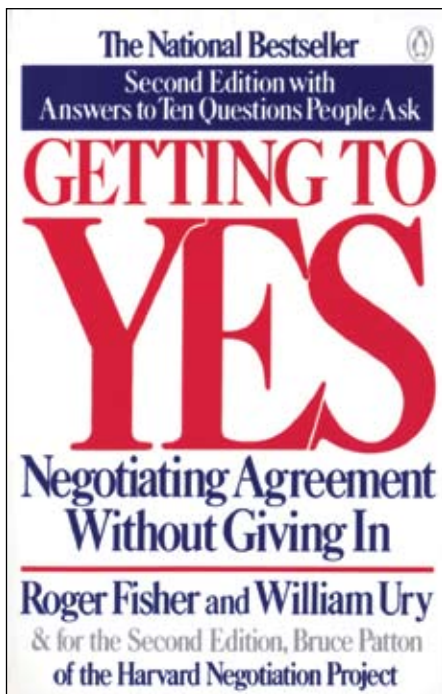
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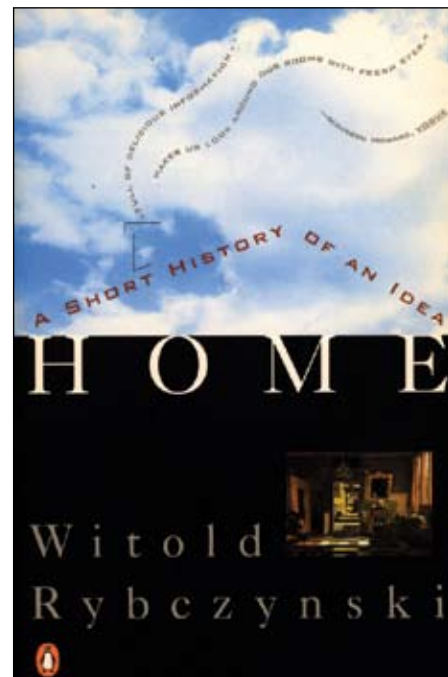
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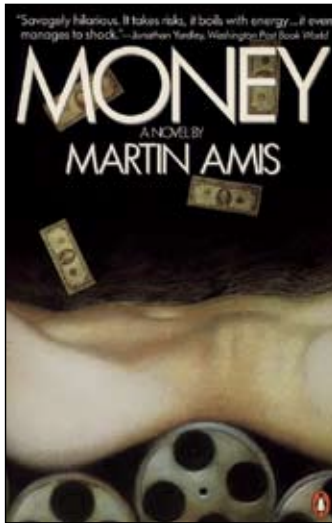
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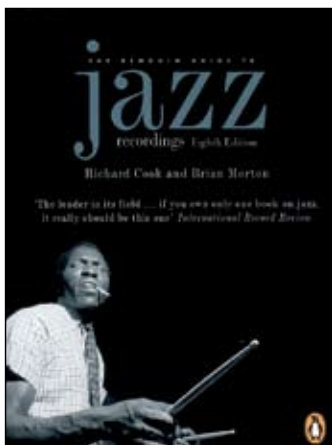
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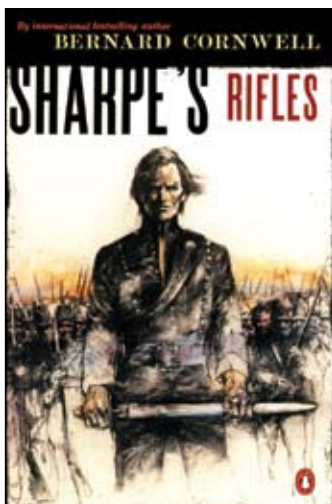
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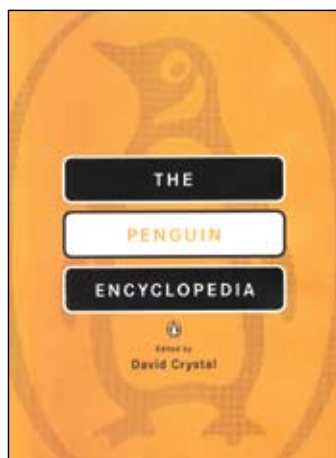
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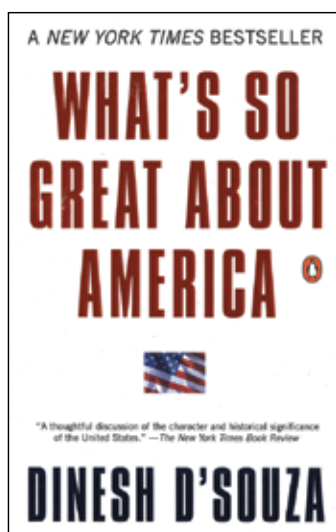
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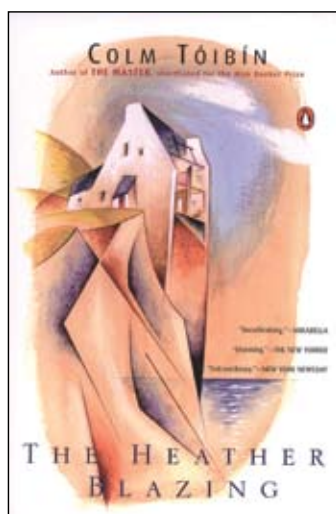
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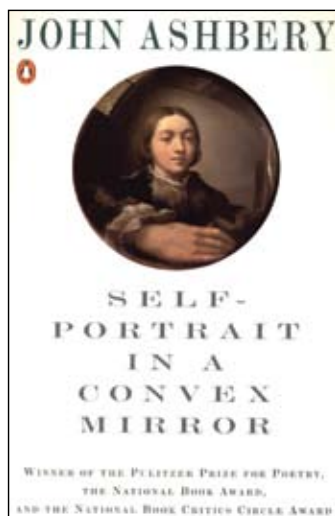
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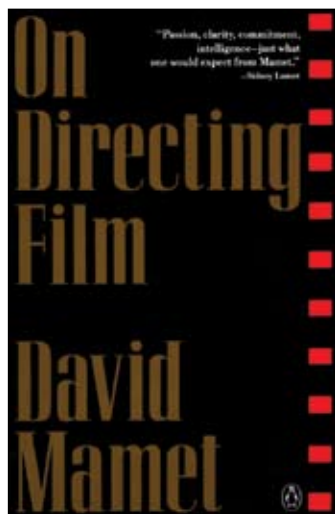
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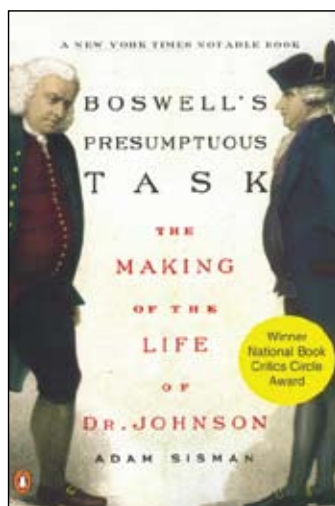
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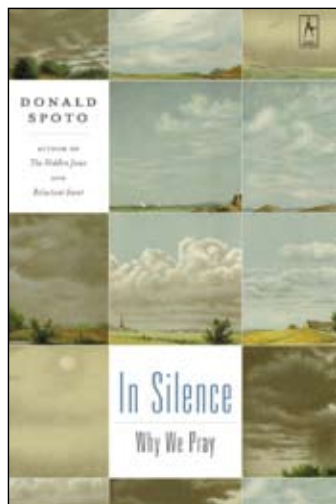
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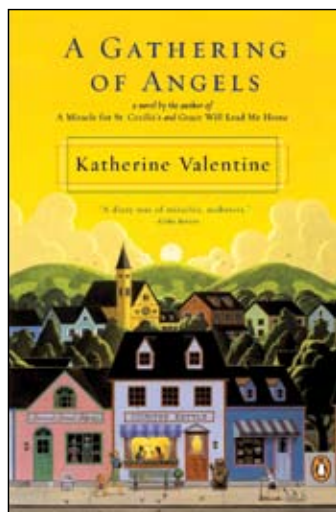
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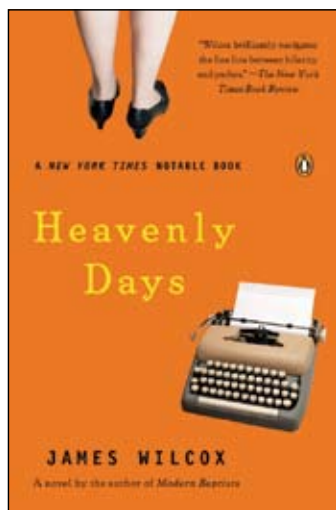
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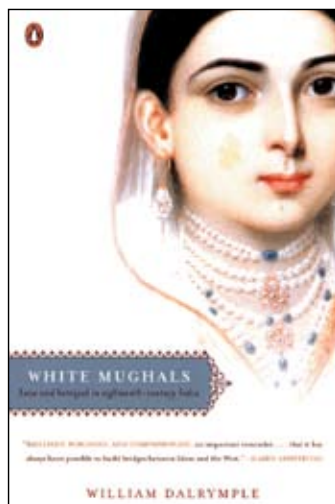
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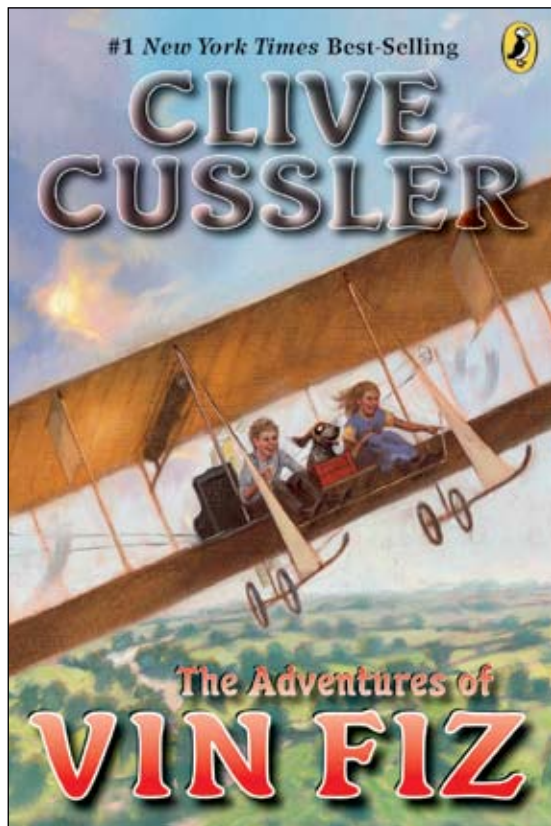
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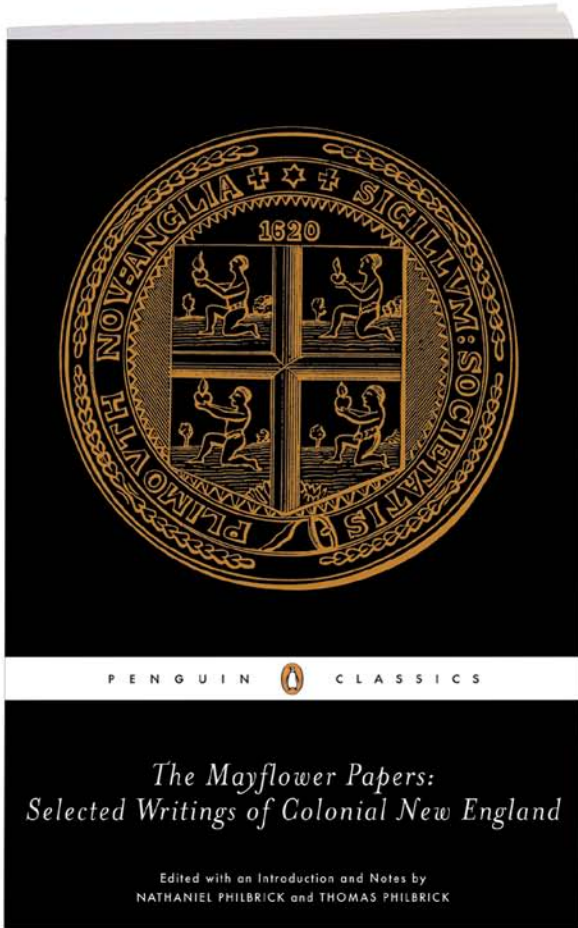


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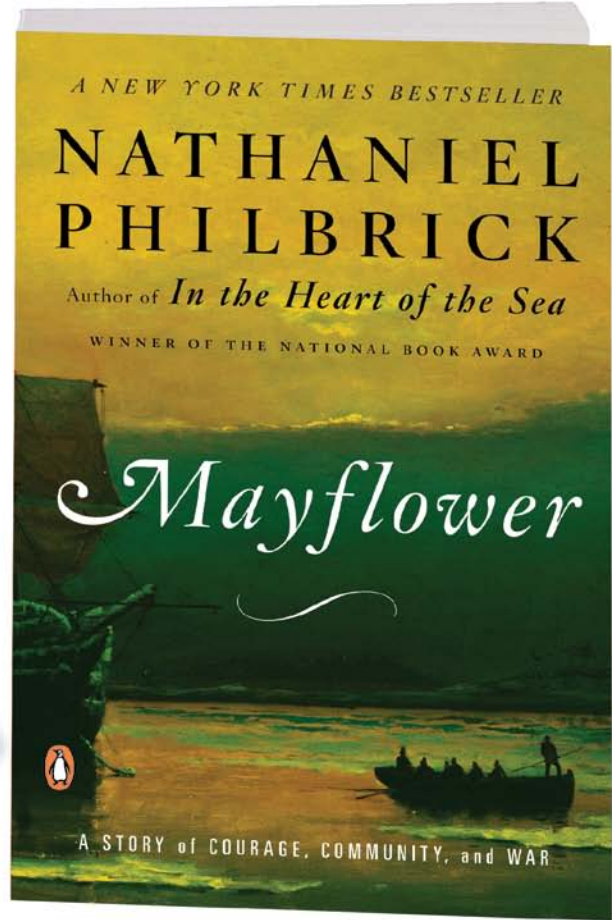
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