

Modern Baptists James Wilcox

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Welcome to Higby HarperCollins UK

A true-crime writer returns home to solve the mystery that haunted his boyhood After witnessing an execution, true-crime writer Colin Douglas starts having nightmares of himself as a boy, alone by the levee, trapped in the mud of the Mississippi River. Each night, the dreams grow worse, becoming horrid recreations of the day his childhood died. In 1959, Colin and three friends went camping on the levee, across from the tumbledown old Windsong plantation. When one of the boys disappeared, Colin went searching for him, and was approaching the old estate when he saw what appeared to be a ghost. The next day, he learned a woman had been murdered in the area—an unsolved crime that has haunted him ever since. Decades later, he attempts to solve this forgotten cold case, raking up something even dirtier than the muddy bottom of the Mississippi.

The Voice at the Back Door Amazon.Com Publishing

With the recent publication of Plain and Normal, James Wilcox's first book in five years ... with Back Bay's fall 1998 release of a new trade paperback edition of Wilcox's comic masterpiece, *Modern Baptists* (which Anne Tyler hailed on the front page of the New York Times Book Review, which Toni Morrison counts as one of her favorite books by unsung writers, which Harold Bloom has elected to the canon of enduring twentieth-century American literature) ... and now with this new trade paperback edition of Wilcox's highly acclaimed *Polite Sex*, the story of two young women from Tula Springs, Louisiana, who seek fame and fortune in New York City ...readers everywhere are discovering the special pleasures of Wilcox's tender and hilarious comic fiction. Copyright © Libri GmbH. All rights reserved.

Miss Undine's Living Room LSU Press

Who Is the Holy Spirit—and Why Do You Need Him in Your Life? After His crucifixion and resurrection, Jesus gave His disciples an assignment to change the world—but told them to wait until the power of the Holy Spirit had come upon them before setting out. His charge to modern-day believers is no different: To do the works that Jesus did (and even greater ones, as He said), it is imperative that we operate from the indwelling power of the Holy Spirit. But Who is this mysterious Third Person of the Trinity? How do we get this power, and what are we to do with it when we receive it? Pat Robertson, founder of the Christian Broadcasting Network and beloved longtime host of The 700 Club, tackles these questions and many others in this, the final book of a life that is now in its ninth decade. Robertson traces the path of the Holy Spirit through both the Old and New Testaments, and shares stories from his own life and that of many 700 Club viewers testifying to how the power of the Holy Spirit has miraculously freed and healed them today. If you want a better understanding of the Holy Spirit and are hungry to know more about the power that is available through Him to every Christfollower today, this book is for you.

The Rose Variations University of Chicago Press

"It is 22 cats that drive the dazzlingly handsome Eric Thorsen to distraction and into the apartment -- if not immediately the arms -- of Wanda Skopinski, the rather mousy woman he meets at church when she thrusts a lesbian romance novel upon him. The stench from downstairs drives him from both his rent-controlled apartment and his complacency as a not-quite-successful piano teacher. In his sixth novel, James Wilcox moves beyond the modern South he has etched so vividly and amusingly in the past to take on Manhattan. But somehow he manages to bring the city down to size.... The book is filled with as eccentric an array of characters and as much gentle kinkiness as any small-town chronicle.... A winning and consistently entertaining story." -- Vogue

The Levee Penguin Books

The Believer magazine presents a compendium of advice from producers, writers, and actors of The Daily Show, Saturday Night Live, Parks and Recreation, Late Show with David Letterman, The Hangover, and The Colbert Report, along with other musicians, cartoonists, New Yorker writers, and those similarly unqualified to offer guidance. Here Amy Sedaris describes the perfect murder for unwanted hermit crabs—you will need a piece of meat and a brick. Simon Rich explains how

to avoid being found dead in your underwear by firemen—buy some long Johns. Zach Galifianakis provides insight into how he changed his name without a social security card—he just started calling himself Adam Zapple, and it stuck. Bob Saget finally illuminates what “friends with benefits” really means—a nonsexual relationship wherein your ex makes monetary deposits into your bank account. Contributors include: Rob Baedeker, Anne Beatts, Elizabeth Beckwith, Jerri Blank, Roz Chast, Louis C.K., Mike Doughty, Dave Eggers, Rich Fulcher, Zach Galifianakis, Dan Guterma, Anthony Jeselnik, Julie Klausner, Lisa Lampanelli, Nick Hornby, Sam Lipsyte, Liam Lynch, Merrill Markoe, Rose McGowan, Misc. Canadian rock musicians, Laraine Newman, The Pleasure Syndicate, Bob Powers, Simon Rich, Bob Saget, George Saunders, Kristen Schaal, Paul Scheer, Amy Sedaris, Allison Silverman, Paul Simms, Brendon Small, Jerry Stahl, Scott Thompson, Fred Willard, Cintra Wilson, Weird Al Yankovic, and Alan Zweibel

Polite Sex Penguin

An astute and comical dissection of the culture wars—by the author of the much-loved *Modern Baptists* For More Than twenty years, James Wilcox has been cherished by reviewers and readers alike as one of the most talented American humorists. Since his classic *Modern Baptists* (picked by Harold Bloom as one of the few contemporary novels in his Western Canon), Wilcox has been charting the intricate spiritual topography of the South with inimitable wit and empathy. His “real comic genius” (Anne Tyler, *The New York Times Book Review*) has never been so brilliantly deployed as in this hilarious look at the peculiarly American cultural divisions of our times.

Ancient History Back Bay

In his critically acclaimed epic first novel, Jay Cantor, author of *Krazy Kat* and *Great Neck*, draws on history, myth, and his own prodigious imagination to take on the life and death of revolutionary icon Che Guevara. In his now famous progress through modern times, Ernesto “Che” Guevara, the scion of a liberal Argentine family, abandoned a medical career to become a revolutionary. A fiery comrade of Fidel Castro’s who joined him in overthrowing the Cuban government of Batista, Che later broke with Castro to lead a guerrilla movement in Bolivia. As the novel charts Che’s bold evolution, it also offers an incisive look at Latin America’s revolutionary struggles, an exploration of the nature of truth and storytelling, and a brilliant exegesis of the psychology of radical activism.

Hunk City Overamstel Uitgevers

Universally and repeatedly praised ever since it first appeared in 1983, *Modern Baptists* is the book that launched novelist James Wilcox's career and debuted the endearingly daft community of Tula Springs, Louisiana. It's the tale of Bobby Pickens, assistant manager of Sonny Boy Bargain Store, who gains a new lease on life, though he almost comes to regret it. Bobby's handsome half brother F.X. -- ex-con, ex-actor, and ex-husband three times over -- moves in, and things go awry all over town. Mistaken identities; entangled romances with Burma, Toinette, and Donna Lee; assault and battery; charges of degeneracy; a nervous breakdown -- it all comes to a head at a Christmas Eve party in a cabin on a poisoned swamp. This is sly, madcap romp that offers readers the gift of abundant

laughter. *Modern Baptists* was included in Harold Bloom's *The Western Canon*, in *GQ* magazine's forty-fifth anniversary issue as one of the best works of fiction in the past forty-five years, and among Toni Morrison's "favorite works by unsung writers" in *U.S. News and World Report*.

Morality Play Vintage

Ethyl Mae Coco's rambling Victorian home on North Gladiola -- the Main Street of Tula Springs, Louisiana -- is the only residence left at the business end of town, but it's a hotbed for chaotic comedy. Mrs. Coco, aged fifty-seven and feeling somewhat left behind herself, directs her considerable energy into keeping those around her in line -- her remote, obsessively bargain-hunting husband; members of the Pro Arts Quartet chamber music group, which Ethyl Mae aspires to turn into an accomplished cultural jewel; her six unruly grown children, none of whom keeps the Catholic faith to their staunch convert mother's satisfaction; and the other assorted, eccentric, and endearing people of Tula Springs. Nothing is simple -- or quite as gossip portrays it -- in Tula Springs, but after all upheavals and sunders pass, this wired family and community remain strongly connected.

Skinnybones Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing

Fiction. *HOW THINGS BREAK* by Kerala Goodkin is the winner of the Elixir Press Inaugural Fiction Award. It tells the story of Nat, a young woman who can't sit still. As the world she knows begins to crumble, mimicking the slow disintegration of the house she illegally occupies, she explores the limitations of her personal relationships, her ambition, and the small town she calls home. Kerala Goodkin began writing *HOW THINGS BREAK* at age 21, during her senior year at Brown University. While in college, she cofounded The Glimpse Foundation and currently serves as Editor-In-Chief of Glimpse Magazine, as well as contributing editor to *National Geographic Traveler on Campus*. Kerala also volunteers as the Translator and PR Coordinator for the Committee of Immigrants in Action.

The Scandal of the Evangelical Mind LSU Press

While the Christian tradition has subordinated John the Baptist to Jesus of Nazareth, John himself would likely have disagreed with that ranking. In this eye-opening new book, John the Baptist in History and Theology, Joel Marcus makes a powerful case that John saw himself, not Jesus, as the proclaimer and initiator of the kingdom of God and his own ministry as the center of God's saving action in history. Although the Fourth Gospel has the Baptist saying, "He must increase, but I must decrease," Marcus contends that this and other biblical and extrabiblical evidence reveal a continuing competition between the two men that early Christians sought to muffle. Like Jesus, John was an apocalyptic prophet who looked forward to the imminent end of the world and the establishment of God's rule on earth. Originally a member of the Dead Sea Sect, an apocalyptic community within Judaism, John broke with the group over his growing conviction that he himself was Elijah, the end-time prophet who would inaugurate God's kingdom on earth. Through his ministry of baptism, he ushered all who came to him—Jews and non-Jews alike—into this dawning new age. Jesus began his career as a follower of the Baptist, but, like other successor figures in religious

history, he parted ways from his predecessor as he became convinced of his own centrality in God's purposes. Meanwhile John's mass following and apocalyptic message became political threats to Herod Antipas, who had John executed to abort any revolutionary movement. Based on close critical-historical readings of early texts—including the accounts of John in the Gospels and in Josephus's Antiquities—as well as parallels from later religious movements, John the Baptist in History and Theology situates the Baptist within Second Temple Judaism and compares him to other apocalyptic thinkers from ancient and modern times. It concludes with thoughtful reflections on how its revisionist interpretations might be incorporated into the Christian faith.

The Queen's Gambit MDPI

A candidate for the office of Superintendent of Streets, Parks, and Garbage, middle-aged matron Olive Mackie of Tula Springs, Louisiana, finds her political aspirations thwarted when her ninety-one-year-old Great Uncle L.D. comes under suspicion for murder. Police don't believe that L.D.'s home-care attendant would commit suicide by jumping from a second-floor window -- but Olive, who has heard her uncle demonstrate his excellent memory by reciting important dates in history over and over, thinks he would. Before justice can be done, half the staff of City Hall, a home ec teacher, an uninspired dentist, the principal of a disreputable private school, and several adulterous housewives are implicated in James Wilcox's spectacular plot. His third Tula Springs novel, Miss Undine's Living Room is not only a masterful comedy, exuberant and irreverent, but also a deeply felt examination of the education of the mind and the spirit.

God's Own Party Modern Baptists

Booker Prize Finalist The time is the fourteenth century. The place is a small town in rural England, and the setting a snow-laden winter. A small troupe of actors accompanied by Nicholas Barber, a young renegade priest, prepare to play the drama of their lives. Breaking the longstanding tradition of only performing religious plays, the groups leader, Martin, wants them to enact the murder that is foremost in the townspeople's minds. A young boy has been found dead, and a mute-and-deaf girl has been arrested and stands to be hanged for the murder. As members of the troupe delve deeper into the circumstances of the murder, they find themselves entering a political and class feud that may undo them. Intriguing and suspenseful, Morality Play is an exquisite work that captivates by its power, while opening up the distant past as new to the reader.

Plain and Normal LSU Press

Advance Praise for *The Rose Variations*: "The *Rose Variations* is an elegant symphony of a novel, shaped by a lovely complexity, informed by humor and grace. Congratulations to Marisha Chamberlain for her fine debut."—Roxana Robinson, author of *Cost* "In this richly absorbing novel Chamberlain creates a heroine so vivid, so complex, so passionate that she walks right off the page and into the reader's mind and heart. I loved following Rose through her various vicissitudes, romantic and musical, and through her many relationships with friends, colleagues, students and lovers. The *Rose Variations* is one of those rare novels that captures the complexity of a life lived over time, and does so in beautiful, eloquent prose. A brilliant debut."—Margot Livesey, author of *The House on Fortune Street* "Rose MacGregor is my kind of heroine—funny and serious, dreamy but brutally practical when it's called for; someone blissfully inconsistent—like the rest of us. What more can one ask than that a novel presents us with a unique personality such as Rose's?"—Judith Guest, author of *Ordinary*

People "Who'd have thought it possible? There's news about love and work in Marisha Chamberlain's *The Rose Variations*! It'd be hard to find a more contemporary view of the sexual dilemma, but I couldn't help thinking how much Shakespeare, Mozart, and Jane Austen would have savored this novel."—David Huddle, author of *The Story of a Million Years* and *La Tour Dreams of the Wolf Girl* In 1975, twenty-five-year-old Rose MacGregor moves to St. Paul, Minnesota, with nothing but a few books, her cello, and a temporary professorship at a Midwestern college. The only woman in the music department, the other professors refer to her derisively as "the Girl Composer," but she believes that a brilliant career writing music lies ahead. Passionately focused on her art, she also longs to find love, but her fierce independence always seems to get in the way of romantic relationships. Struggling with loneliness and ambition, she gets tangled up with a gay colleague, a self-made stonemason, a lesbian cellist, and the troubles of her wayward younger sister, before finally finding happiness. Marisha Chamberlain is a playwright, poet, fiction writer, essayist, and screenwriter. Her book of poems, *Powers*, won a Minnesota Voices Award. She lives in Hastings, Minnesota. This is her first novel. From the Hardcover edition.

The Death of Che Guevara Back Bay Books

Nine-year-old Meena can't wait to grow up and break free from her parents. But, as the daughter of the only Punjabi family in the mining village of Tollington, her struggle for independence is different from most.

The Power of the Holy Spirit in You Oxford University Press
Lloyd Norris is slouching towards middle age. Recently out of the closet, he knows it's time to devote himself to finding the love & companionship that have long eluded him. But his search is complicated & the result is a dizzyingly funny book about the awesome power of our need for connection.

Modern Baptists Univ of South Carolina Press

Modern Baptists LSU Press

Anita and Me LSU Press

Now a Netflix original film starring Alexander Skarsgard, Riley Keough, and Jeffrey Wright At the edge of civilization, nature and evil collide in what "stands out as one of the decade's best books of its kind" (Alan Cheuse, Boston Globe). Written with "force and precision and grace" (John Wilwol, New York Times Book Review) *Hold the Dark* is a "taut and unforgettable journey into the heart of darkness" (Dennis Lehane). At the start of another pitiless winter, wolves have taken three children from the remote Alaskan village of Keelut, including the six-year-old son of Medora and Vernon Slone. Wolf expert Russell Core is called in to investigate these killings and discovers an unholy truth harbored by Medora before she disappears. When her husband returns home to discover his boy dead and his wife missing, he begins a maniacal pursuit that cuts a bloody swath across the frozen landscape. With the help of a local police detective, Core attempts to find Medora before her husband does, setting in motion a deadly chain of events in this "chilling, mysterious, and completely engaging novel" (Tim O'Brien) that marks the arrival of a major American writer.

Plain and Normal Perennial

Most Sociology of Religion texts are decidedly staid and uninteresting, covering "contemporary" developments which are only contemporary only from a disciplinary perspective. They are not contemporary if viewed from the perspective of the religion's practioners (in religious and non-religious settings). The

textbooks that attempt to be interesting to undergraduate students often fall short because they either try to cover too much in an encyclopedic format, or sacrifice a sociological perspective for a personal one. Many use real-life examples only superficially to illustrate concepts. Lundskow's approach is the opposite—students will learn the facts of religion in its great diversity, all the most interesting and compelling beliefs and practices, and then learn relevant concepts that can be used to explain empirical observations. The book thus follows the logic of actual research—investigate and then analyze—rather than approaching concepts with no real bearing on how religion is experienced in society. This approach, using provocative examples and with an eye toward the historical and theoretical, not to mention global experience of religion, will make this book a success in the classroom. The author envisions a substantive approach that examines religion as it actually exists in all its forms, including belief, ritual, daily living, identity, institutions, social movements, social control, and social change. Within these broad categories, the book will devote particular chapters to important historical moments and movements, leaders, and various individual religions that have shaped the contemporary form and effect of religion in the world today.

Remember How I Told You I Loved You? HarperCollins UK

A Vintage Shorts "Short Story Month" Selection Horse and Ahab share the kind of contempt and love for one another that only true friends can. Months after graduating high school, Horse is getting married to his longtime girlfriend, Melissa, and moving into her apartment in Manhattan, and Ahab has enlisted in the Marines. They've found ways to escape the neighborhood, just not together. From the extraordinary fiction debut, *Slapboxing with Jesus*, that launched Victor LaValle to literary stardom—a raw, gritty, and unremittingly truthful look into the lives of two friends who go to say goodbye to each other and their neighborhood on the shores of Rockaway Beach. An ebook short.