

Rat Girl Kristin Hersh

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She Bop II Penguin

Doony, Ryder, Wyatt, Bodhi. The names of Kristin Hersh's sons are the only ones included in her new memoir, *Seeing Sideways*. As the book unfolds and her sons' voices rise from its pages, it becomes clear why: these names tell the story of her life. This story begins in 1990, when Hersh is the leader of the indie rock group Throwing Muses, touring steadily, and the mother of a young son, Doony. The chapters that follow reveal a woman and mother whose life and career grow and change with each of her sons: the story of a custody battle for Doony is told alongside that of Hersh's struggles with her record company and the resulting PTSD; the tale of breaking free from her record label stands in counterpoint to her recounting of her pregnancy with Ryder; a period of writer's block coincides with the development of Wyatt as an artist and the family's loss of their home; and finally, soon after Bodhi's arrival, Hersh and her boys face crises from which only strange angels can save them. Punctuated with her own song lyrics, *Seeing Sideways* is a memoir about a life strange enough to be fiction, but so raw and moving that it can only be real.

At Swim, Two Boys Crown Currency

Under the Big Black Sun explores the nascent Los Angeles punk rock movement and its evolution to hardcore punk as it's never been told before. John Doe of the legendary band X and co-author Tom DeSavia have woven together an enthralling story of the legendary West Coast scene from 1977-1982 by enlisting the voices of people who were there. The book shares chapter-length tales from the authors along with personal essays from famous (and infamous) players in the scene. Through interstitial commentary, John Doe "narrates" this journey through the land of film noir sunshine, Hollywood back alleys, and suburban sprawl. Illustrated with 50 rare photos, this is the story of the art that was born under the big black sun.

Rat Girl NineStar Press

"A Rule Is To Break says: Go ahead and throw your best self a party! So glad it exists."—Kristin Hersh, *Throwing Muses*
"After encountering the lively little anarchist in John and Jana's delightful *A Rule is To Break*, I will always remember the playful little devil with a mind of her own. A children's book on anarchy seems somehow just right: an instinctive, intuitive sense of fairness, community, and interdependence sits naturally enough with a desire for participatory democracy, self-determination, and peace and global justice."—Bill Ayers, author of *To Teach: The Journey in Comics and Fugitive Days*
Simply celebrating childhood: the joy, the wonder of discovery, the spontaneity, and strong emotions. . . . *Wild Child* is free to do as she pleases. *A Rule Is To Break: A Child's Guide to Anarchy* follows *Wild Child* as she learns about just being herself and how that translates into kid autonomy. It presents the ideas of challenging societal expectations and tradition and expressing yourself freely in kid-terms that are both funny and thought provoking—it even functions as a guidebook for adults to understand what it is to be a critically thinking, creative individual. *Wild Child* is the role model for disobedience that is sometimes civil. John Seven and Jana Christy's previous collaboration *The Ocean Story* won Creative Child magazine's 2011 Creative Child Award Seal of Excellence and was shortlisted for the 2012 Green Earth Book Award.

Toby Snax Little, Brown Book Group

Toby Snax is a little bunny who's reluctant to experience things away from home. When Mama asks him to join her on a trip, he needs a bit of encouragement. So Mama tells Toby about the wondrous things that await him out in the wide world, helping him to look forward to new adventures. This charming, gentle book will resonate with any child who's nervous about trying new things. The acclaimed musician Kristin Hersh created *Toby Snax* to encourage her son, Bodhi, to embrace the experiences of touring the world together while she performed both solo and with her bands 50 Foot Wave and Throwing Muses. The first edition of the book sold out immediately and has become highly collectible. This new edition makes *Toby Snax* available again for all fans of Hersh's evocative storytelling, as well as children—or even adults—who need a little reassurance that the world is full of wonders.

Horror Stories Ballantine Books

In 1977, Laura Bell, at loose ends after graduating from college, leaves her family home in Kentucky for a wild and unexpected adventure: herding sheep in Wyoming's Big Horn Basin. Inexorably drawn to this life of solitude and physical toil, a young woman in a man's world, she is perhaps the strangest member of this beguiling community of drunks and eccentrics. So begins her unabating search for a place to belong and for the raw materials with which to create a home and family of her own. Yet only through time and distance does she acquire the wisdom that allows her to see the love she lived through and sometimes left behind. By turns cattle rancher, forest ranger, outfitter, masseuse, wife and mother, Bell vividly recounts her struggle to find solid earth in which to put down roots. Brimming with careful insight and written in a spare, radiant prose, her story is a heart-wrenching ode to the rough, enormous beauty of the Western landscape and the peculiar sweetness of hard labor, to finding oneself even in isolation, to a life formed by nature, and to the redemption of love, whether given or received. Quietly profound and moving, astonishing in its honesty, in its deep familiarity with country rarely seen so clearly, and in beauties all its own, *Claiming Ground* is a truly singular memoir.

Hunger Makes Me a Modern Girl HarperCollins UK

The fascinating personal story of one of the most celebrated talents in today's music scene The star of the Metropolitan Opera's recent revival of

Dvorak's *Rusalka*, soprano Renée Fleming brings a consummately beautiful voice, striking interpretive talents, and compelling artistry to bear on performances that have captivated audiences in opera houses and recital halls throughout the world. In *The Inner Voice*—a book that is the story of her own artistic development and the "autobiography" of her voice—this great performer presents a unique and privileged look at the making of a singer and offers hard-won, practical advice to aspiring performance artists everywhere. From her youth as the child of two singing teachers through her years at Juilliard, from her struggles to establish her career to her international success, *The Inner Voice* is a luminous, articulate, and candid self-portrait of a contemporary artist—and the most revelatory examination yet of the performing life.

You'll Be Fine Penguin

In this deeply smart and sneakily poignant collection of essays, the bestselling author of *Fraud* and *Don't Get Too Comfortable* makes an inspired case for always assuming the worst—because then you'll never be disappointed. Whether he's taking on pop culture phenomena with Oscar Wilde-worthy wit or dealing with personal tragedy, Rakoff's sharp observations and humorist's flair for the absurd will have you positively reveling in the untapped power of negativity.

Fool the World Vintage

"An honest and genuine DIY punk-rock lesbian love story." —Kirkus Reviews
Amanda moves to London with nothing but her guitar and her collection of punk music as the soundtrack to her every move. With the company of a few friendly voices in her head, she looks for—and finds—a best friend and new lover. She forms a band, *Lesbian Raincoat*, and completely rewrites the story of her life. In this irreverently funny yet profound novel, Amanda risks deportation, recalls the fervor of AIDS activism in the United States, connects to the class struggle of punk, and finds redemption in love. But she also must confront her own mental illness, her lover's rape, and the violence of post-9/11 politics. Pissing in a River captures the glee and turbulence of surviving the cacophony of modern life. "A love letter to the obsessions that captivated an outcast generation: punk, politics, passion, and provocation." —Maria Raha, author of *Cinderella's Big Score: Women of the Punk and Indie Underground*

Dark Play Or Stories for Boys Manic D Press

"Honest and moving . . . Her painful tale is engrossing."—Washington Post Book World
For most of us, it was just another horrible headline. But for Deborah Spungen, the mother of Nancy, who was stabbed to death at the Chelsea Hotel, it was both a relief and a tragedy. Here is the incredible story of an infant who never stopped screaming, a toddler who attacked people, a teenager addicted to drugs, violence, and easy sex, a daughter completely out of control—who almost destroyed her parents' marriage and the happiness of the rest of her family.

Lived Through That Omnibus Press

"Steven Tyler is one of the giants of American music, who's been influential for a whole generation of Rock 'n' Roll fans around the world. Long May He Rock!" —Sir Paul McCartney
Does the Noise in My Head Bother You? is the rock memoir to end all rock memoirs—the straight-up, no-holds-barred life of Grammy Award-winning, Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame inductee, and all around superstar legend Steven Tyler, lead singer of Aerosmith (and celebrity judge on *American Idol*). This is it—"the unbridled truth, the in-your-face, up-close and prodigious tale of Steven Tyler straight from the horse's lips"—as Tyler tells all, from the early years through the glory days, "All the unexpurgated, brain-jangling tales of debauchery, sex & drugs. and transcendence you will ever want to hear."

Does the Noise in My Head Bother You? University of Texas Press

NATIONAL BESTSELLER The heartfelt and hilarious story of beloved Canadian comedian Mark Critch's journey from Newfoundland to the national stage--and back home again. One of Mark Critch's earliest acting gigs was in a Newfoundland tourist production alongside a cast of displaced fishery workers. Since, he's found increasing opportunities to take his show on the road. In *An Embarrassment of Critch's*, the star of CBC's *This Hour Has 22 Minutes* revisits some of his career's--and the country's--biggest moments, revealing all the things you might not know happened along the way: A wishful rumour spread by Mark's father results in his big break; two bottles of Scotch nearly get him kicked out of a secret Canadian airbase in the United Arab Emirates; and for anyone wondering how to get an interview with the Prime Minister and Bono (yes, that Bono) on the same evening, Critch might recommend a journey to the 2003 Liberal Convention. Critch's top-secret access to all of the funniest behind-the-scenes moments involve many of the charismatic and notorious politicians we love to see blush, including fearless leaders Justin Trudeau, Stephen Harper, Paul Martin, and Jean Chrétien, celebrities such as Pamela Anderson and Robin Williams, and other colourful figures he's met over years of pulling off daring skits at home and abroad. Remember when MP Carolyn Parrish took her boot to George W. Bush's head in an interview? Or when Critch asked Justin Trudeau where the best place to smoke pot on Parliament Hill was before pulling out a joint for them to share? There's more to each of those stories than you know. Though Critch has spent years crisscrossing the country--and the globe--with the explicit aim of causing trouble everywhere he goes, like the best journeys, this one takes him right back home.

A Rule is to Break Penguin

U2 were Formed at a Dublin Secondary School by Adam Clayton, Bono, The Edge and Larry Mullen Jr. Like most bands, they wanted to be among the best in the world. By 1991, with *Achtung Baby* in the pipeline and *War*, *The Unforgettable Fire* and *The Joshua Tree* behind them, they were arguably deserving of that intention. Yet there was more to the band than the stadium records that made their fans deliriously happy and the music's creators artistically and lucratively fulfilled. Their second album, *October*, opened the four piece into a spiritual journey that fed their later work. Their double album *Rattle and Hum* proved one of the greatest torchbearers of American music of its time. And then there were *Zooropa* and *Pop* - dance oriented albums that showed the initially-punk oriented quartet exploring effects, sounds and territories that few of their contemporaries dared contemplate. That they should exist forty years after their debut is testament to the will, fortitude and versatility U2 holds. Their most recent works *Songs of Innocence* and *Songs of Experience* have proven their most reflective and perhaps their most autobiographical. What lies next for U2 only the band know, but this book delves into their past work, without leaving a passenger behind.

Under the Big Black Sun A&C Black

Popular music grew out of ragtime, vaudeville and the blues to become global mass entertainment. Women like Ma Rainey and Bessie Smith were the original pop divas, yet eighty years after they blazed a trail, have their successors achieved the recognition and affirmation they deserve? Or has the only way to success been to slot into saleable images of the cute baby or sexy chanteuse? Lucy O'Brien has written the ultimate hands-on history of women in rock, pop, and soul. Billie Holiday, Ella Fitzgerald, Dusty Springfield, Patti Smith, Madonna, Joni Mitchell, Whitney Houston, Courtney Love, Alanis Morissette, Destiny's Child - all the key names are here. But *She Bop II* refuses to look at women artists simply as personalities, problems or victims. From dream babes to rock chicks, riot grrrls and ragamuffins, girlpower, Lilith Fair rock and the rise of the corporate diva, *She Bop II* is the uncompromising story of women as creators and innovators. Lucy O'Brien is the author of two previous books: the bestsellers *Annie Lennox* (1991) and *Dusty* (1989). She has contributed to the *Guardian*, *Sunday Times*, *Observer*,

Marie Claire, *New Musical Express* and *The Face*, and worked extensively in TV and radio, as both guest pundit and producer.

Purgatory/Paradise University of Texas Press

It's the 1980s and the rock landscape is littered with massive hair, synthesizers, and monster riffs, but there is an alternative being born in the sleepy East of America—we just don't know it yet. Before the Internet, MTV, and iPods provided far-off music fans with information and communities—and before Nirvana-kids across the world grew up in relative isolation, dependent on mix tapes and self-created art to slowly spread scenes and trends. It was under these conditions that four young musicians found one another in Boston, Massachusetts, and started a band called Pixies. During their initial seven-year career, Pixies would play some of Europe's most gigantic festivals, keep the press guessing, and cultivate a fervid international fan base hungry for more and more of their unique surf punk. The band worked fast, cranking out four albums at a breakneck pace, but ultimately pressures and personality clashes took their toll: Pixies broke up just as bands were singing their praises as the rock'n'roll innovators. For twelve years, a Pixies reunion seemed impossible, but a sudden announcement in 2004 proclaimed the unthinkable—Pixies were getting back together. Their extremely successful reunion tour finally gave the group something they'd always lacked in their homeland: proof that their bone-rattling music had left an indelible impact. *Fool the World* tells Pixies' story in the words of those who lived it, from the band members to studio owners, from A&R executives, producers, and visual artists who worked with them to admirers of their music, such as Bono, PJ Harvey, Beck, and Perry Farrell. With new cartoons by Trompe Le Monde illustrator Steven Appleby, *Fool the World* is a complete journey through the life, death, and rebirth of one of the most influential bands of all time.

And I Don't Want to Live This Life Harper Collins

The founder of a cult rock band shares her outrageous tale of growing up much faster than planned. In 1985, Kristin Hersh was just starting to find her place in the world. After leaving home at the age of fifteen, the precocious child of unconventional hippies had enrolled in college while her band, Throwing Muses, was getting off the ground amid rumors of a major label deal. Then everything changed: she was diagnosed with bipolar disorder and found herself in an emotional tailspin; she started medication, but then discovered she was pregnant. An intensely personal and moving account of that pivotal year, *Rat Girl* is sure to be greeted eagerly by Hersh's many fans.

The Little Stranger Dramatists Play Service Inc

"The beauty of Lauren Slater's prose is shocking," said *Newsday* about *Welcome to My Country*, and now, in this powerful and provocative new book, Slater brilliantly explores a mind, a body, and a life under siege. Diagnosed as a child with a strange illness, brought up in a family given to fantasy and ambition, Lauren Slater developed seizures, auras, neurological disturbances—and an ability to lie. In *Lying: A Metaphorical Memoir*, Slater blends a coming-of-age story with an electrifying exploration of the nature of truth, and of whether it is ever possible to tell—or to know—the facts about a self, a human being, a life. *Lying* chronicles the doctors, the tests, the seizures, the family embarrassments, even as it explores a sensitive child's illness as both metaphor and a means of attention-getting—a human being's susceptibility to malady, and to storytelling as an act of healing and as part of the quest for love. This mesmerizing memoir openly questions the reliability of memoir itself, the trickiness of the mind in perceiving reality, the slippery nature of illness and diagnosis—the shifting perceptions and images of who we are and what, for God's sake, is the matter with us. In *Lying*, Lauren Slater forces us to redraw the boundary between what we know as fact and what we believe we create as fiction. Here a young woman discovers not only what plagues her but also what heals her—the birth of sensuality, her creativity as an artist—in a book that reaffirms how a fine writer can reveal what is common to us all in the course of telling her own unique story. About *Welcome to My Country*, the *San Francisco Chronicle* said, "Every page brims with beautifully rendered images of thoughts, feelings, emotional states." The same can be said about *Lying: A Metaphorical Memoir*.

Rat Girl University of Texas Press

The first official account of the iconic record label.

Sister Safety Pin Little, Brown

Bestselling author Harvey Mackay reveals his techniques for the most essential tool in business—networking, the indispensable art of building contacts. Now in paperback, *Dig Your Well Before You're Thirsty* is Harvey Mackay's last word on how to get what you want from the world through networking. For everyone from the sales rep facing a career-making deal to the entrepreneur in search of capital, *Dig Your Well* explains how meeting these needs should be no more than a few calls away. This shrewdly practical book distills Mackay's wisdom gleaned from years of "swimming with sharks," including: What kinds of networks exist How to start a network, and how to wring the most from it The smart way to downsize your list—who to keep, who to dump How to keep track of favors done and favors owed—Is it my lunch or yours? What you can do if you are not good at small talk *Dig Your Well Before You're Thirsty* is a must for anyone who wants to get ahead by reaching out.

You Don't Look Like Anyone I Know Penguin

David Sedaris's beloved holiday collection is new again with six more pieces, including a never before published story. Along with such favorites as the diaries of a Macy's elf and the annals of two very competitive families, are Sedaris's tales of tardy trick-or-treaters ("Us and Them"); the difficulties of explaining the Easter Bunny to the French ("Jesus Shaves"); what to do when you've been locked out in a snowstorm ("Let It Snow"); the puzzling Christmas traditions of other nations ("Six to Eight Black Men"); what Halloween at the medical examiner's looks like ("The Monster Mash"); and a barnyard secret Santa scheme gone awry ("Cow and Turkey"). No matter what your favorite holiday, you won't want to miss celebrating it with the author who has been called "one of the funniest writers alive" (*Economist*).

The Inner Voice Random House

After her mother dies of an accidental overdose, Alex takes leave from her job as a writer for a Washington, DC, lifestyle magazine to return home to Maryland's Eastern Shore. There, she joins her brother Owen, a study in failure-to-launch, in sorting out their mother's whimsical and often self-destructive life. Alex has proposed to her editor that while she is home she profile Juliette Sprigg, her former high school fling, owner of a wildly popular local restaurant, and celebrity chef in the making. While working on the story and trying for a second chance with Juliette, Alex meets Carolyn Massey, editor of the town newspaper, and wonders if there's more to life than reheating leftovers. Enter Alex and Owen's Aunt Johanna, who arrives from Seattle to help with arrangements. When Johanna reveals a family secret, Alex may have to accept her family for who they are rather than who she hoped they would be. And just maybe apply the same philosophy to her heart and herself.