



The Experiment

WINTER 2027

F R O N T L I S T



9798893032017
 Pub Date: 9/15/2026
 \$14.95/\$19.95 Can.
 Paperback
 192 Pages
 Carton Qty: 48
 Political Science / Political
 Ideologies
 POL042030
 7.8 in H | 5 in W

This Is Fascism

A Wake-Up Call to Resist

Rosan Smits

An international bestseller, this “excellent” (Timothy Snyder, author of *On Tyranny*), urgent book outlines how fascism has returned to the mainstream—and how we can stop it

Summary

Fascism is back. This time no swastikas or concentration camps, but MAGA hats and masked immigration officers. In his second term, Donald Trump is putting together a fascist regime. Not only Trump’s political adversaries say so; his own former advisers do, too. Internationally renowned scholars—experts in the field of fascism—say the evidence is overwhelming: Fascism is on the rise, not just in the US but around the world.

Political scientist Rosan Smits topples the strongly held conviction in the West that our established democracies are immune. They are not. Fascism wasn’t just born in the West; it’s where new variants are being incubated. And these modern variants pose a threat not only to our national democracies but the international rules-based order built on law and human rights. The illusion that “it can’t happen here” makes us vulnerable and apathetic, precisely at a moment when action is still possible.

Standing up against emerging fascism requires collective action. Nothing is inevitable in politics, and fascism doesn’t stand a chance if enough people understand that an attack on one person’s freedom is an attack on *everyone’s* freedom.

If, in short, enough people understand: This is fascism.

Contributor Bio

Rosan Smits is a political scientist and has conducted research on radicalization and violence in war zones for many years. She led the Conflict Research Unit at the Netherlands Institute of International Relations. Since 2017, she has been deputy editor in chief of *De Correspondent*.

Quotes

“This book is a distress signal. Rosan Smits makes it crystal clear how fascism is being normalized at alarming speed. Think it can’t happen in Western democracies? Then read this book—because it already is.”—**Rutger Bregman**, author of *Moral Ambition* and *Humankind*

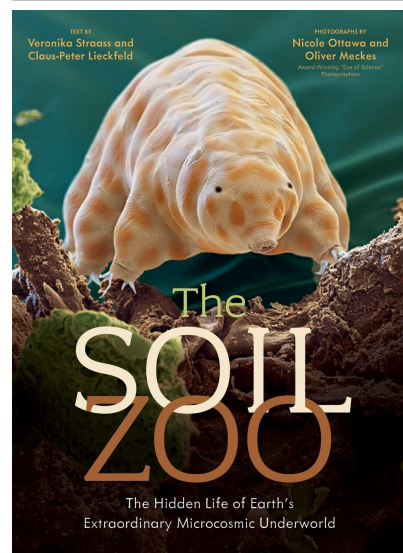
“A masterful and chilling dissection of the modern ideology of hate.”—**Paul Mason**, author of *How to Stop Fascism*

“After a decade of debate about the nature of the global far right, Rosan Smits amasses the evidence and the competing analyses to produce a definitive judgment: This Is Fascism. A necessary read to understand the challenge we face now from the xenophobic ideology destroying democracies across the west. We cannot act unless we know what we face and with this work Rosan Smits has settled that question.”
 —**Jason Stanley**, author of the *New York Times*–bestselling *How Fascism Works*

“An excellent read.”—**Timothy Snyder**, author of *On Tyranny*

“Few journalists address the major issues of our time. Rosan Smits does. She explains clearly and convincingly what fascism is and why we need to use the word now. A necessary book.”—**Simon Kuper**, *Financial Times* journalist

“This book is a mirror. And we would be foolish not to look.”—**Carice van Houten**, award-winning *Game of Thrones* actress



9798893031829
Pub Date: 4/20/2027
\$29.95/\$38.95 Can.
Paperback - with flaps

144 Pages
Full color photographs and images
throughout
Carton Qty: 20
Science / Life Sciences
SCI045000
12.6 in H | 9 in W

The Soil Zoo

The Hidden Life of Earth's Extraordinary Microcosmic Underworld

Claus-Peter Lieckfeld, Veronika Straass, Oliver Meckes, Nicole Ottawa

For fans of *Entangled Life: The Illustrated Edition* and from a team of award-winning scientists including the "Eye of Science" photographers who specialize in capturing unseen, highly magnified worlds—a dazzling visual exploration of the awe-inspiring (and often shiver-inducing!) microorganisms that sustain the soil upon which all higher life depends

Summary

Soil sustains life and is among Earth's most essential natural resources. Nearly 60 percent of all species depend on soil for their survival, and almost all mammals depend on plants grown in soil. To many of us, it may seem like just "dirt," but under the gaze of the authors of *The Soil Zoo*, it's a dazzling microcosmos teeming with never-before-seen creatures that need to be seen to be believed.

And seen they are, thanks to the high-tech electron microscopes and cameras deployed by world-leading "Eye of Science" photography team Nicole Ottawa and Oliver Meckes. Here are springtails chewing on deadwood, ciliates feeding on bacteria, amoebas hunting nematodes, voracious mites, and fungi and lichens forming vast networks—all in extraordinarily detailed extreme close-ups that invite closest-possible scrutiny.

Scientists Veronika Straass and Claus-Peter Lieckfeld's accompanying text help us further appreciate this abundant and astonishingly vibrant world, including the fact that up to ten *billion* organisms can inhabit a handful of soil, with life cycles ranging from a few hours to entire centuries.

Everyone from inquisitive gardeners to students of soil science, cutting-edge photography fans to the biology-curious, will be amazed by *The Soil Zoo's* panoply of weird and wonderful higher-life-supporting cast of characters. And readers will come away compelled to play our part as stewards of the soil, to ensure the astonishing diversity of these organisms continues to survive—and thrive.

The translation of this book was supported by a grant from the Goethe-Institut.

Contributor Bio

Claus-Peter Lieckfeld is a German journalist and author of several nonfiction books, and who has written for publications such as *Natur*, *GEO*, and *Die Zeit*. As coauthors, Lieckfeld and Straass have published several nonfiction titles together on birds and insects.

Veronika Straass is a German biologist and is the author of numerous nonfiction books, including several animal monographs for beginning readers. She also writes regularly about biology for *Die Weltwoche*, a weekly magazine based in Switzerland.

Nicole Ottawa and **Oliver Meckes** are the team behind Eye of Science. The team have been involved in science photography since 1994 and specialize in scanning electron photography, a kind of macrophotography that allows viewers to see otherwise-invisible microorganisms in stark detail. Together, they have received several awards for their work, including the World Press Photo Award and the Lennart Nilsson Award.

Quotes

**Science Book of the Year by *Bild der Wissenschaft*,
1st place in the aesthetics category**

"With [*The Soil Zoo*], a competent team of four has created a compelling work of art that offers something new on every page. The book dispenses with a representative cover and relies entirely on the power of large-format images. The concise yet highly informative texts serve the photographs well. They provide compact and sometimes curious knowledge. An all-around successful illustrated book that invites you to leaf through it again and again. Far too good to be left to gather dust on the bookshelf."—**Michael Lange**, jury member for *Bild der Wissenschaft*

"Magnificent. . . .The magazine Bild der Wissenschaft was right to name this volume . . . the most beautiful science book of the year."—**Der Spiegel**

"Dirt has never been so attractive! . . . The authors manage to describe the micro world beneath us in such an exciting way that you suddenly feel like making compost and embracing humus. . . . Who is this book for? It is a great gift for all nature lovers, teachers, and those involved in environmental education. Or simply for people who can't stop being fascinated by the diversity of our living creatures."—**Bavarian Academy for Nature Conservation and Landscape Management**

"Both a lesson in humility and a fascinating glimpse of nature."—**Denis Brudna, Photonews**

"The book is an absolute must-read and clearly a suitable gift for many people. It is an exciting experience for laypeople, and even soil ecologists will enjoy the extraordinary photographs and learn a thing or two from the texts."—**Björn Lohmann, spektrum.de**

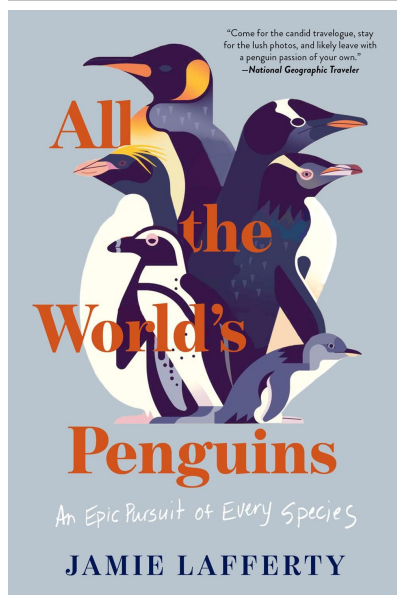
"The book succeeds in making the invisible visible and providing inspiring insights into a world unknown to us. This makes it an important contribution to raising awareness of soil. . . . already a classic and a cornerstone of educational work! Definitely worth a look!"
—**Nature in North Rhine-Westphalia**

"They do the dirty work for us: bacteria, fungi, worms, and other creatures from the earth. Yet we know very little about them. Two authors have explored how rich and useful life in the soil is."
—**FAZonline**

"The book is rigorously structured and much more than just an illustrated book. . . . Leafing through the book is akin to visiting a zoo . . . technically first-class images in sometimes dizzying enlargements and never-before-seen details—accompanied by deeply insightful texts."—**Photography**

"An ingenious illustrated book that will enchant even those who are skeptical of dirt and creepy-crawlies. With a tardigrade as cover girl, sporting a giraffe pattern to boot, you can't go wrong."
—**Julia Sica, Der Standard**

"We should all know better by now—and above all, do better. One approach to this is to engage with books such as [*The Soil Zoo*]."—**Sylvia Treudl, Buchkultur**



9798893032062
 Pub Date: 1/19/2027
 \$18.95/\$24.95 Can.
 Paperback

336 Pages
 8-page color photo insert
 Carton Qty: 50
 Nature / Animals
 NAT043000
 8.3 in H | 5.5 in W

All the World's Penguins

An Epic Pursuit of Every Species

Jamie Lafferty

An award-winning travel writer's audacious, far-flung quest to see every known species of penguin on Earth

Summary

From Kings and Emperors to Macaronis and Rockhoppers, penguins are one of the most immediately recognizable animals on Earth. Yet for all that familiarity, what do we really know about them? *All the World's Penguins* follows award-winning travel writer Jamie Lafferty as he visits all eighteen species in a bid to understand the birds and their extraordinarily varied habitats a little better. On voyages to some of the planet's most inaccessible and challenging landscapes, he recounts the history of our unique relationship with the world's most popular bird, telling not only the stories of the penguins, but also the people and places around them.

From getting stranded in the Galápagos and marching through African guano fields to leading photography groups in the Antarctic and taking psychedelics on the Falklands, this is a birding quest like no other. Along the way, Lafferty relives the experiences of early polar explorers—for whom penguins were perplexing mysteries, welcome companions, and even occasional meals—and meets the modern penguin lovers trying to save their fragile environments.

Featuring cameos from a wide cast of characters, including Ernest Shackleton, Charles Darwin, and Sir Francis Drake, as well as beautiful photographs of each penguin species, *All the World's Penguins* is part love-letter to and part biography of these remarkable creatures.

Contributor Bio

Jamie Lafferty is a regular contributor to *The Sunday Times*, *Financial Times*, and *National Geographic Traveler*, while his work has also appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Telegraph* and BBC Travel. He has been nominated for over twenty awards in the travel writing industry, winning Travel Writer of the Year at the Travel Media Awards in 2020 and Specialist Travel Writer of the Year at the TravMedia Awards in April 2023. When he's not traveling, he lives in Glasgow.

Quotes

"Lafferty writes brilliantly on penguins and the experience of seeing them in thrilling landscapes."—**The Times Literary Supplement**

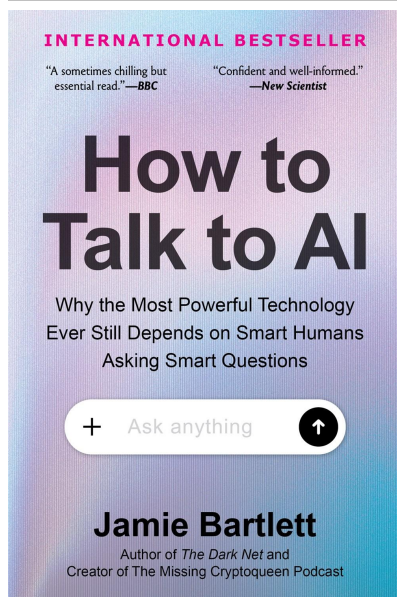
"Come for the candid travelogue, woven with tales of early polar exploration, stay for the lush photos, and likely leave with a penguin passion of your own."

—**National Geographic Traveler**

"Humorous, touching and refreshingly unsentimental."—**Colin Thubron**, author of *Shadow of the Silk Road*

"Perched at the edges of our human world, penguins now find themselves at the front line in the emergency we humans have launched upon them. Jamie Lafferty's epic adventures in search of these charismatic avians is highly entertaining and gloriously obsessional in equal degrees. A very enjoyable read."—**Philip Hoare**, author of *Leviathan*

"Travel writer turned global birder Jamie Lafferty embarks on an epic quest—in which the journey is at least as entertaining as the end result."—**Stephen Moss**, author of *Ten Birds That Changed the World*



9798893032086
 Pub Date: 1/12/2027
 \$17.95/\$23.50 Can.
 Paperback

272 Pages
 Carton Qty: 46
 Computers / Artificial Intelligence
 COM004000

8.3 in H | 5.5 in W

How to Talk to AI

Why the Most Powerful Technology Ever Still Depends on Smart Humans Asking Smart Questions

Jamie Bartlett

From award-winning technology writer and author of *The Dark Net*—discover how artificial intelligence thinks and reasons, and how we can make the most of its super-human abilities

Summary

Today, knowing how to speak to artificial intelligence—and how not to—is a skill that everyone needs. Hundreds of millions of people now talk to AI, from ChatGPT to Claude, every day, utilizing these machines to organize their finances, plan trips, ask advice, seek therapy, and find love. But most people still find AI difficult to understand and make the most of, or how it can become a fount for dangerous conspiracies, delusions, and psychosis.

In *How to Talk to AI*, award-winning technology writer Jamie Bartlett takes you inside the machine: showing how we can stay in control of our powerful new companions, even as they are changing the way we live, feel, and think. Clarifying AI's evolution, the myriad social implications, and providing real-world examples and helpful approaches, Bartlett crafts a comprehensive yet precise roadmap to a more productive existence with AI.

Chatbots are rapidly transforming society, politics, and business, and are responsible for some of the biggest and fastest technological changes in history. While keeping up with every new iteration of this revolution can be daunting, broadening our understanding of how AI works and how we can utilize it efficiently and safely is now essential practice. Accessible and clear, this book is an empowering guide to making the most of these incredible new technologies, without falling prey to the powers of manipulation.

Contributor Bio

Jamie Bartlett is one of the UK's leading technology writers and thinkers. His previous books include *The Dark Net* and *The People vs Tech*, which was longlisted for the 2019 Orwell Prize for Political Writing. His TED Talk about buying drugs on dark net markets has been watched nearly six million times. He has written and presented several hit BBC podcast series, including the smash hit *The Missing Cryptoqueen*, which topped podcast charts worldwide. In 2010, Jamie founded a research center specializing in designing and applying artificial intelligence software to understand social trends.

Quotes

A BBC Book You Need to Read in 2026 The *Sunday Times* Bestseller

"[An] essential read."—**Emma Saunders**, BBC Culture Reporter

"This book could not have come at a better moment."—***Sunday Times***

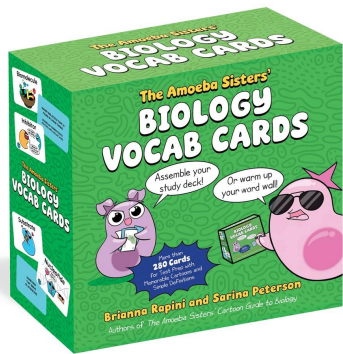
"One of the world's leading experts on the digital revolution."—**David Patrikarakos**, *Literary Review*

"Eye-opening ... Bartlett is an informal yet informed guide."
 —***Times Literary Supplement***

"Confident and well-informed."—***New Scientist***

"A hell of an achievement... Buy it and read it."—***The Times***

"Fascinating... Jamie Bartlett is an expert guide."—***Independent***



9798893032055
Pub Date: 4/6/2027
\$27.95/\$36.50 Can.
Cards

283 Pages
Full-color illustrations on every card
Carton Qty: 8
Ages 12 to 18, Grades 8 to 11
Young Adult Nonfiction / Science & Nature
YAN050030
Series: Science with the Amoeba Sisters
3 in H | 4.5 in W

The Amoeba Sisters' Biology Vocab Cards

Sarina Peterson, Brianna Rapini

Overwhelmed by science jargon? Wish biomolecules had funnier faces? You've picked up the right box.

Summary

The cartoon duo from the popular biology YouTube channel, Amoeba Sisters, have turned essential vocabulary into flash cards, featuring a memorable cartoon on the front to help connect with the simplified definition on the back. If you're struggling to study biology efficiently and effectively, look no further than *The Amoeba Sisters' Biology Vocab Cards*.

- **Suited for self-study!** These cards are designed to help students grasp biology vocabulary that frequently appears on tests.
- **Useful for studying with flash cards!** Study independently, with a friend, or in a study group using the suggested activities.
- **Great for classroom activities!** With over 250 terms and concepts, teachers can use these 4x6 cards to wrap up units or review for midterms and finals.
- **A perfect complement to *The Amoeba Sisters' Cartoon Guide to Biology*!** Each card is color-coded to match the glossary in *The Amoeba Sisters' Cartoon Guide to Biology* so that you can quickly reference the corresponding chapter when you run across a word you don't recognize.

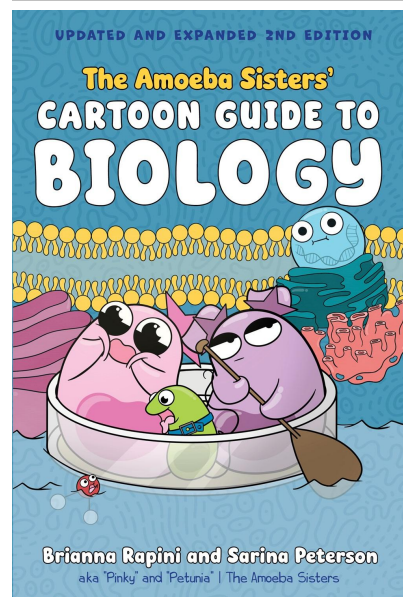
With simplified definitions and hilarious cartoons, *The Amoeba Sisters' Biology Vocab Cards* will be your next favorite tool for understanding, remembering, and even enjoying science vocabulary. Prepare yourself with unforgettable cartoons and feel confident in acing your next biology quiz!

Contributor Bio

Sarina Peterson, also known as Petunia on the Amoeba Sisters YouTube channel, graduated with a degree in economics and worked in education program evaluation for four years before veering off course to pursue her true calling: illustrating cartoon amoebas. She is a self-taught artist who eventually realized that there were other art programs available besides MS Paint.

Although she never considered herself a science enthusiast, Sarina loves breaking down complicated science concepts with quirky cartoons in a way her younger self would have appreciated.

Brianna Rapini, also known as Pinky on the Amoeba Sisters YouTube Channel, dreamed of becoming a biology teacher since she was a little kid. Over the course of twelve years in public education, Brianna wore many hats, including classroom biology teacher, instructional technology specialist, campus science specialist, and district science coordinator. In a plot twist, Brianna and her sister, Sarina Peterson, stumbled into YouTube fame with the birth of their channel, the Amoeba Sisters, which has become a staple for biology students and teachers alike. After Brianna went on to get her master's in biological sciences, she realized Amoeba Sisters will never run out of introductory biology content to cover. There's still so much biology to learn, and she loves to emphasize to viewers that she continues to learn new things.



9798893032031
Pub Date: 1/5/2027
\$22.95/\$28.95 Can.
Paperback

384 Pages
Full-color illustrations throughout
Carton Qty: 20
Ages 12 to 18, Grades 8 to 11
Young Adult Nonfiction / Science & Nature
YAN050030
Series: Science with the Amoeba Sisters
9 in H | 6 in W

The Amoeba Sisters' Cartoon Guide to Biology

Sarina Peterson, Brianna Rapini

Biology just got a whole lot more memorable-and even a bit *comical*!
A Junior Library Guild Selection

Summary

With over 3 million followers, the cartoon Amoeba Sisters—"Pinky" and "Petunia"—are trusted guides through the mind-blowing world of biology. From biomolecules to cell theory, genetics, ecology, and so much more, the Amoeba Sisters make the science of the natural world easy to understand and impossible to forget.

The Amoeba Sisters know there's a *ton* to take in: the phases of mitosis! trophic levels! the carbon cycle! (oh my!) But biology doesn't have to be intimidating, and it should never be boring. That's where Pinky and Petunia come in: With straightforward explanations, real-world examples, and quirky cartoons galore, they make learning biology fun-as it should be!

The Amoeba Sisters promise you:

Biology without the boredom. Move beyond dry descriptions and rote memorization-whether you're a student, educator, or parent, the illustrated lessons inside bring biology to vivid life.

Approachable, visual lessons that make sense. The Amoeba Sisters take complicated subjects like protein synthesis and cellular respiration and break them down, step-by-step (and quip-by-quip!).

A smarter way to study. In addition to the straight science facts, you get chapter recaps, help with common stumbling blocks, and supplemental Amoeba Sisters videos. Plus, a glossary with more than 250 vocab words for quick look-ups.

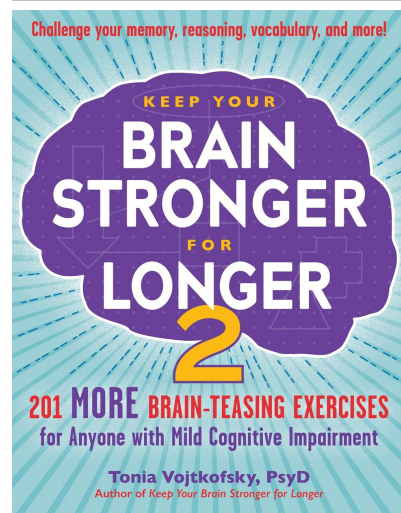
Whether you're brushing up on bio basics, reminding yourself what exactly RNA is, or cramming for the big test, this super-friendly guide won't let you down. **So don't wait a moment longer to dive in-the cytosol's great!**

Contributor Bio

Sarina Peterson, also known as Petunia on the Amoeba Sisters YouTube channel, graduated with a degree in economics and worked in education program evaluation for four years before veering off course to pursue her true calling: illustrating cartoon amoebas. She is a self-taught artist who eventually realized that there were other art programs available besides MS Paint.

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9798893032109
Pub Date: 2/2/2027
\$19.95/\$25.95 Can.
Paperback

304 Pages
B&W diagrams and illustrations
throughout
Carton Qty: 18
Self-Help / Personal Growth
SEL030000
Series: Keep Your Brain Stronger
for Longer
10 in H | 7.8 in W

Keep Your Brain Stronger for Longer 2

201 MORE Brain-Teasing Exercises for Anyone with Mild Cognitive Impairment

Tonia Vojtkofsky

Even more exercises to keep your brain sharp! Hundreds of word and number exercises to challenge your memory, reasoning, visual-spatial skills, vocabulary, and other thinking skills.

Summary

Keep your brain active, even with Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI). For adults with MCI, brain exercises that target a variety of key thinking skills are the best way to stay sharp and delay the onset of dementia.

After the success of *Keep Your Brain Stronger for Longer*, cognitive specialist Dr. Tonia Vojtkofsky is back with part two, with *even more* fun, brain-training puzzles tailored specifically for people with MCI:

- Find a word that meets the given definition and contains a certain set of letters.
- Pick the one correct statement in a list.
- Identify and complete the pattern in a number sequence.

Plus: Complete the word, image recall, determine the order, matching, true or false, logic problems, decode using clues, trivia, discover the pattern, word mazes, and math games.

AND, all-new to book two: Analogy, simile, and “spot the assumption” games to target abstract thinking and deductive logic skills.

Contributor Bio

Tonia Vojtkofsky, PsyD, is a licensed clinical psychologist and sought-after specialist in cognitive disorders at the forefront of healthcare. Dr. Vojtkofsky received her masters and doctorate in clinical psychology from Rosemead School of Psychology and did neuropsychological training at the University of California, Irvine Institute for Memory Impairment and Neurological Disorders as well as their Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center. She is the founder of Cognitive Care Solutions in southern California, a clinic for people with MCI and mild dementia as well as healthy older adults. She is a member of the American Psychological Association and UsAgainstAlzheimer’s and a founding member of WomenAgainstAlzheimer’s. She is the author of both books in the Keep Your Brain Stronger for Longer series.

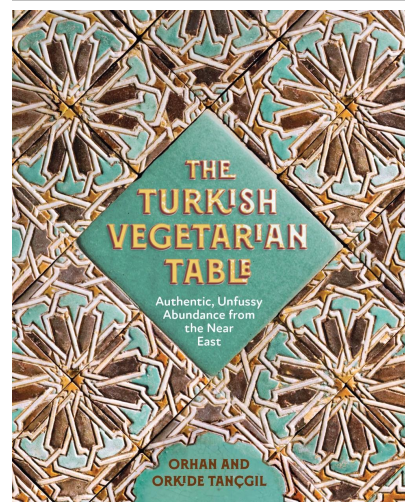
Quotes

Praise for the Keep Your Brain Stronger for Longer series

“Look out, Sudoku! *Keep Your Brain Stronger for Longer* offers a fantastic tool to help people exercise their brain—and will be greatly appreciated and well received by those with MCI as well as those caring for them. It also helps us to understand that cognition is affected by much more than just memory loss, and goes a long way to help dispel some of the myths and stigmas associated with dementia. Kudos for pulling together such a great resource!”—**Lori La Bey**, founder of AlzheimersSpeaks.com

“Studies show that cognitive training and healthy brain habits help build brain resilience. Dr. Vojtkofsky offers concrete, engaging exercises that those with mild cognitive impairment can use to do just that. This engaging and easy-to-use volume is a welcome new resource for those facing mild memory loss and their caregivers.”
—**Virginia Biggar**, director, Clergy Network, UsAgainstAlzheimer’s

“A great book for testing and challenging one’s memory! For our aging population, the book’s format is friendlier, easier to handle, and more familiar than using a computer program to evaluate and train their memory—and makes the games more fun to complete.”—**Rebecca Ailes-Fine**, founder of WISP (Women Inspiring Scientific Progress)



9798893031867
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Hardcover Paper over boards

224 Pages
110 full color photos throughout
Carton Qty: 18
Cooking / Regional & Cultural
CKB084000
9.5 in H | 7.5 in W

The Turkish Vegetarian Table

Authentic, Unfussy Abundance from the Near East

Orhan Tançgil, Orkide Tançgil

A vibrant, quietly radical rethinking of Turkish cuisine that places vegetables at the center of the table

Summary

Inspired by the deeply rooted cooking traditions of their mothers and grandmothers, as well as the flavors and vegetable-forward ethos of the greater Mediterranean, Orhan and Orkide Tançgil offer a contemporary, deeply personal vision of Turkish vegetable cooking. In *The Turkish Vegetarian Table* they reframe familiar dishes and offer lesser-known regional specialties, coaxing depth and satisfaction from simple plant-based ingredients.

Organized around the natural flow of a leisurely meal, the book invites readers to build plates that feel abundant but uncomplicated. Recipes include:

- meze classics designed for grazing and gathering
- lentil-based dishes and other protein-rich centerpieces
- crisp, herb-forward salads and warming soups
- desserts that balance sweetness and spice

These are dishes meant to be combined, shared around the table, and revisited, creating meals that are at once generous, memorable, and unfussy.

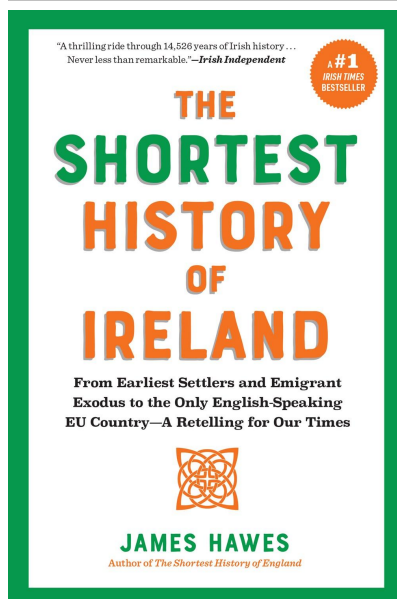
Contributor Bio

Orhan and **Orkide Tançgil** have been working for over twenty years to bring Turkish cuisine the fame it deserves. Orhan is a cookbook author and expert on Turkish cuisine. Orkide is a product designer and cookbook author who loves delving into old Turkish recipe collections, traveling through the country, and writing about her culinary discoveries. Together they have been bringing Turkish food culture to life since 2006 through their blog KochDichTurkisch (Cook Yourself Turkish).

Quotes

"The many wonderful meze, salads, and all the other dishes in this book—whether stuffed vegetables or hearty soups, or all the tempting böreks and pide, pilafs and desserts—are not only utterly delicious but also foster connection. . . . [*The Turkish Vegetarian Table*] already has me mentally drafting my next shopping list."

—**Katharina Seiser**, author of *Eat 30 Plants a Week*



9798893031881
 Pub Date: 3/2/2027
 \$16.95/\$21.95 Can.
 Paperback

288 Pages
 212 B&W images throughout
 Carton Qty: 44
 History / Europe
 HIS018000
 Series: The Shortest History Series
 7.8 in H | 5.1 in W

The Shortest History of Ireland

From Earliest Settlers and Emigrant Exodus to the Only English-Speaking EU Country - A Retelling for Our Times

James Hawes

The #1 *Irish Times* bestseller, from the author of *The Shortest History of Germany* and *The Shortest History of England*—a brilliantly told brief history of Ireland, from medieval kingdoms to famines, religious conflict, and civil war

Summary

The Emerald Isle has no shortage of cultural touchpoints—from foam-topped pints of Guinness to the poetry of Yeats, raucous St. Patrick's Day festivities to the music of U2 and Hozier. Ireland has long been understood as a welcoming people and a popular destination. War, famine, and religious struggles have also plagued the country, however, resulting in a partitioned Ireland and a struggling national identity.

In *The Shortest History of Ireland*, James Hawes crafts a comprehensive and captivating account of Ireland's national story. He shows us that thanks to a unique culture rooted in millennia of continuity, Ireland has always been able to assimilate would-be invaders, and reveals how the Irish, ever since the roaming saints and scholars of the early Middle Ages, have helped to shape Europe and America.

Though Irish history is often seen as a mere catalog of colonial repression, Hawes reaches beyond the clichés and the assumptions to tell a dramatic new story, backed up by the latest scholarship. Steering readers through medieval kingdoms and bloody invasions, disastrous famines and the age of empire, and finally to ongoing tensions of nationhood and independence, Hawes argues that, with its natural wealth, its extraordinary magnetism, and its exiled children across the globe, the island only needs to sidestep the last detritus of the British Empire for its turbulent past to flow into a bright future.

With more than 200 maps and images, this is popular history at its best—a timeless drama of freedom and persecution, riot and revolution, empire and independence.

The Shortest History books deliver thousands of years of history in one riveting, fast-paced read.

Contributor Bio

James Hawes published six novels before turning his storytelling gifts to nonfiction. His previous two shortest histories, *The Shortest History of Germany* and *The Shortest History of England*, have sold more than half a million copies around the world. Hawes has known Ireland since the 1970s, lectured for two years at St. Patrick's College, Maynooth (where the IRA tried to recruit him), and is married to an Irishwoman.

Quotes

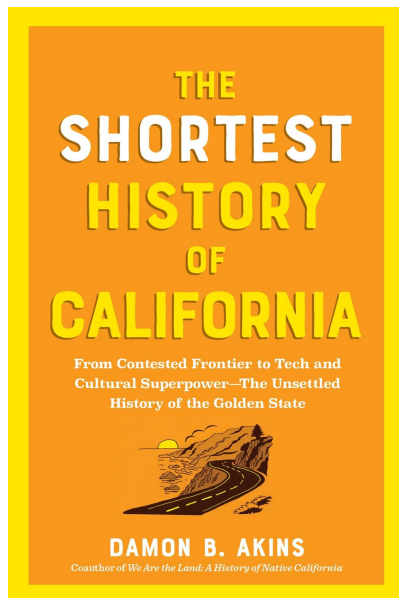
#1 *Irish Times* Bestseller

"Deeply impressive . . . positively spacious with none of the whistle-stop breathlessness one might have expected. . . . Hawes brings a pleasing erudition and depth plus a crucial note of accessibility; and displays an obvious understanding of Ireland's age-old complexities."—*Irish Times*

"A thrilling ride through 14,526 years of Irish history. . . . Wonderful, never less than remarkable."—*Irish Independent*

"Amazingly lucid . . . leaping off the page as it cuts through the weeds."
 —**Stuart Ward**, Harvard University

"After his masterpieces on Germany and England, James Hawes has done it again . . . a wonder to behold."—**Professor Ciaran Martin**, University of Oxford



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History / United States

HIS036140

Series: The Shortest History Series

7.8 in H | 5.1 in W

The Shortest History of California

From Contested Frontier to Tech and Cultural Superpower - The Unsettled History of the Golden State

Damon B. Akins

From Native stewardship to Pacific Rim trading to Walt Disney Imagineering, discover the evolution and constant reinvention of the nation's most populous state—and a global superpower in its own right

Summary

California, one of the biggest and most consequential states in the union, looms even larger in the imagination—for good reason.

California's story is one of constant reinvention. It's been shaped by each of the peoples who've called it home, from its first Indigenous inhabitants to Spanish missionaries, Mexican rancheros, American settlers, global tech moguls, and silver screen stars. Through all these influences, what was once a forgotten province and Indigenous homeland has become a global symbol of creativity and ambition, a political and economic powerhouse, a staging ground for civil rights and Indigenous sovereignty, and one of the most influential places on Earth.

In *The Shortest History of California*, historian Damon B. Akins traces the Golden State's journey from its earliest civilizations through waves of migration, conquest, and transformation. Along the way, he illuminates the forces that made California what it is today: boom-and-bust cycles of prosperity, intense struggles over land and identity, and relentless innovation.

In a concise, vivid account, *The Shortest History of California* reveals how the story of California is, in many ways, the story of America itself.

The Shortest History books deliver thousands of years of history in one riveting, fast-paced read.

Contributor Bio

Damon B. Akins grew up in Oklahoma, but soon found himself in California where he attended UCLA and taught high school in the San Fernando Valley. He later returned to Oklahoma to pursue a PhD in Native American/California history at the University of Oklahoma. He is currently a Professor of History at Guilford College in Greensboro, North Carolina, where he teaches classes on Native America, California, and the American West. He has been awarded fellowships at the Huntington Library, including the Ray Allen Billington Fellowship/Visiting Professorship shared with Occidental College in Los Angeles during the 2024–2025 academic year. He is the coauthor of *We Are the Land: A History of Native California*.

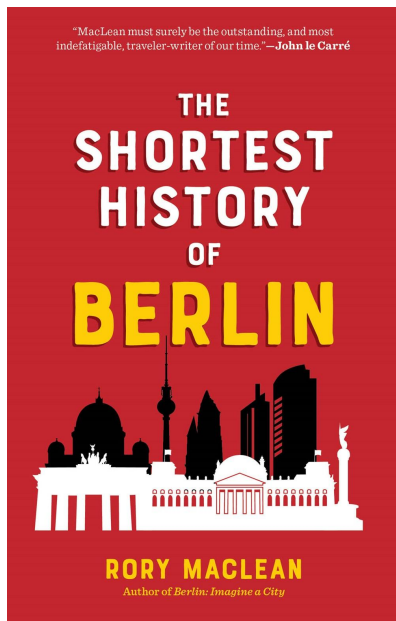
Quotes

Praise for *We Are the Land*

"A Native American rejoinder to Richard White and Jesse Amble White's California Exposures . . . [and] a welcome contribution to Native studies and the rich literature of California's first peoples."—**Kirkus Reviews**

"In what seems an overdue departure from standard histories, Akins and Bauer's comprehensive account places indigenous people at the heart of California's story."—**Boston Globe**

"*We Are the Land* is an astonishing work of scholarship, storytelling, and solidarity. . . . It will set the standard for the many other stories of the People waiting to be told."—**Sierra magazine**



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Paperback

192 Pages
B&W maps and images throughout
Carton Qty: 48
History / Europe
HIS014000
Series: The Shortest History Series
7.3 in H | 4.6 in W

The Shortest History of Berlin

Rory MacLean

From award-winning author and travel writer Rory MacLean, the history of Germany's capital city—from world wars to climate change initiatives, this is the story of Berlin through portraits of its leaders and architects, heroes and victims, mythmakers and artists

Summary

The site of some of the world's brightest and most devastating ideas, leaders, and movements, Berlin's history is full of conflict and tension, yet today has embraced a culture that continues to push creative boundaries from art to music. With an insider's eye and a travel writer's keen sense for storytelling, Rory MacLean tells the story of Berlin through its leaders and rebels, key thinkers and icons, and the people who made the city what it is today, for better or worse.

Once Europe's grand capital, Berlin's relationship with war is unlike any modern city today, from the devastation of Allied forces to the construction of the Berlin Wall. MacLean brings readers through this history by illustrating the lives of its most influential individuals, including artist Käthe Kollwitz and former chancellor Angela Merkel, and their contributions to Berlin's multilayered history.

Today, millions of tourists flock to its state-of-the-art museums and its hallowed music venues. Berlin is a city of diversity and innovation, too—it has educated dozens of Nobel Prize winners and is a leader in developing the technology necessary to combat climate change. There remains political struggle and insecurity in a complex global political theater, but Berlin has evolved grown into its role as hub for European culture.

MacLean's captivating insight and unique approach to the historical and contemporary figures that are essential to Berlin's story makes for a fresh, singular history of a city beset by contradiction and will appeal to any curious reader.

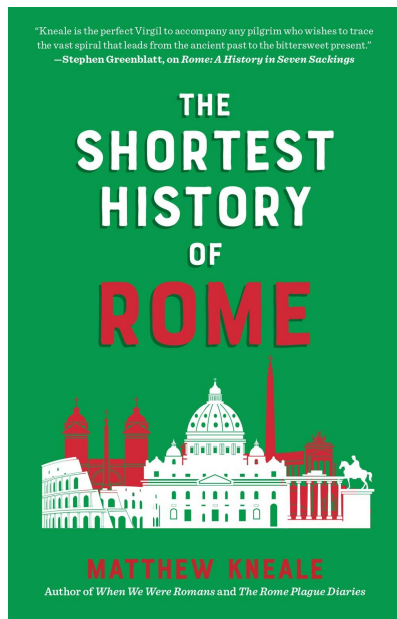
The Shortest History books deliver thousands of years of history in one riveting, fast-paced read.

Contributor Bio

Rory MacLean is the author of more than a dozen books, including *Stalin's Nose*, *Under the Dragon*, and *Berlin: Imagine a City*. He has won awards from the Canada Council and the Arts Council of England as well as a Winston Churchill Travelling Fellowship, and was nominated for the International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award. A Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature and the curator of the annual Sherborne Travel Writing Festival, he divides his time between the UK, Sicily, Toronto, and Berlin.

Quotes

"MacLean must surely be the outstanding, and most indefatigable, traveler-writer of our time."—**John le Carré**



9798893031959
 Pub Date: 3/16/2027
 \$14.95/\$19.95 Can.
 Paperback

208 Pages
 B&W maps and images throughout
 Carton Qty: 50
 History / Europe
 HIS020000
 Series: The Shortest History Series
 7.3 in H | 4.6 in W

The Shortest History of Rome

Matthew Kneale

A brisk, illuminating history of one of the world's most storied and most visited cities—the iconic figures, enduring historical significance, and hidden sights of Rome, the Eternal City

Summary

Rome's legacy—as a city, religious site, and ancient empire—is unparalleled. The second most-visited city in the entire world, Rome's nearly three thousand years of history have long captivated travelers, from the historically minded to the culture-obsessed students studying abroad. In this addition to the new Shortest Cities subseries, Matthew Kneale brings readers into the heart of this ancient city and tells its story from an insider's perspective.

Including the key figures, turning point moments, and essential places to visit in person, Kneale pens an accessible and comprehensive compendium of Rome. Going beyond empire and conquest, this unique history hits the overlooked aspects of the Eternal City's intrigue, from ancient propaganda hidden around its most famous squares to the best hill to watch the sunset.

With the experience of a local and the narrative tact of an award-winning writer, Kneale's history of Rome honors one of history's most important cities and invites readers to appreciate why Rome has retained the interest and visitation of millions of people over time.

The Shortest History books deliver thousands of years of history in one riveting, fast-paced read.

Contributor Bio

Matthew Kneale is the author of several books, including *When We Were Romans*, *Rome: A History in Seven Sackings*, and the novel *English Passengers*, which won the Whitbread Book of the Year Award and was shortlisted for the Booker Prize. He is a keen traveler and has lived in Japan, Canada, and Italy, where he's lived for over two decades, and has journeyed extensively across the globe. Kneale currently lives in Rome, Italy, with his wife and two children.

Quotes

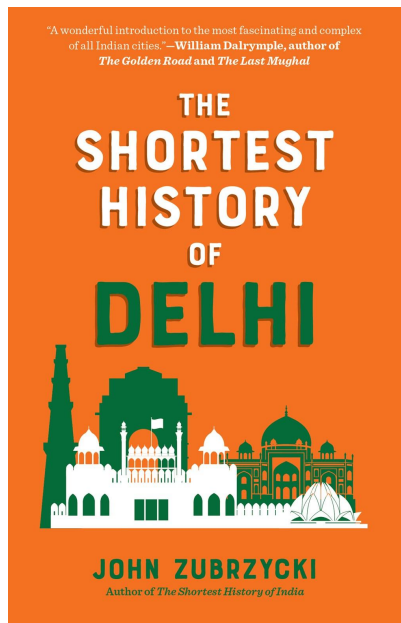
Praise for *Rome: A History in Seven Sackings*

"Kneale has found an elegant path through the labyrinth [of Roman history]. . . . Utterly compelling, brilliant indeed. . . . Wonderfully moving and inspiring."

—Allan Massie, *Literary Review*

"Each chapter ends with a thrilling narrative of the fall of Rome. . . . Enough to make you wonder why more novelists don't try their hand at history writing. . . . Kneale's account is a masterpiece of pacing and suspense. Characters from the city's history spring to life in his hands. . . . This is a big, gaudy, ebullient book. . . . Kneale has done his adoptive cities proud, all seven of them."**—Peter Thonemann, *The Sunday Times***

"Kneale is best known as a writer of historical fiction . . . and he comes to history with a storytellers' eye . . . though he wears it lightly, he is clearly a meticulous researcher. It is a mark of *Rome: A History in Seven Sackings*' quality that I wanted to take it with me to the city and trace, book in hand, the marks [the city's invaders] had left. . . . Superb."**—Tim Smith-Laing, *The Daily Telegraph***



9798893031904
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Paperback

160 Pages
B&W maps and images throughout
Carton Qty: 50
History / Asia
HIS062000
Series: The Shortest History Series
7.3 in H | 4.6 in W

The Shortest History of Delhi

John Zubrzycki

In a chronicle of empire and rebellion, myth and intrigue, *The Shortest History of India* author John Zubrzycki pairs a fascinating account of Delhi's past with an insider's guide to the city today

Summary

Believed by many to stand on mythical ground, Delhi has captivated historians and travelers for centuries with its mysticism and seductive stories, an exhilarating mix of decadence and decay. Its history stretches back thousands of years, through invasions, empires, and the struggle for independence, evolving into the cultural melting pot Delhi is recognized as today.

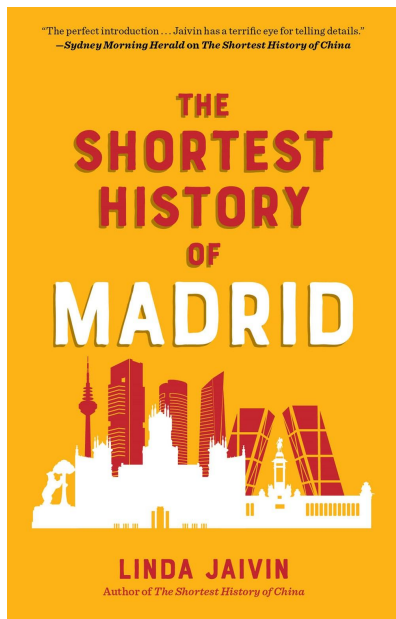
In this first installment of the new Shortest Cities series, John Zubrzycki, author of *The Shortest History of India*, brings readers into the heart of Delhi's multilayered history, recounting its years of glory and its most devastating losses, the evolution of politics and the key historical figures who left their mark, and the ancient monuments and stately gardens where its history comes alive today.

Zubrzycki offers up his insider knowledge of modern-day Delhi and a deep understanding of its storied past in this uniquely narrative account. World travelers and history lovers of all kinds will find new perspectives, captivating stories, and plenty of spots to add to their next itinerary in *The Shortest History of Delhi*. With 30 photographs and maps, fascinating sidebars about topics from nightlife to architecture, and helpful timelines, this guide to Delhi and its history leaves no stone unturned.

The Shortest History books deliver thousands of years of history in one riveting, fast-paced read.

Contributor Bio

John Zubrzycki an Australian author with a PhD in Indian history from the University of New South Wales and a former foreign news editor with The Australian, has worked as a correspondent in India and as a diplomat in New Delhi and Jakarta. His five other books on India include *The Shortest History of India*.



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Paperback

224 Pages
B&W maps and images throughout
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History / Europe
HIS045000
Series: The Shortest History Series
7.3 in H | 4.6 in W

The Shortest History of Madrid

Linda Jaivin

The colorful history of Spain's capital city that has welcomed all kinds—intellectuals, vagrants, artists—from its military outpost origins to present-day democracy

Summary

From the Moors to modernity, Madrid has been variously influenced by saints and politicians, war and art, tradition and change, dictators and democracy. It has long drawn travelers and creatives to experience this blend of tradition and innovation firsthand, most recently landing Spain as the second most-visited country in the world, and has inspired countless films, novels, poems, and songs that attempt to capture the city's unique sensibility.

In sparkling narrative prose, Linda Jaivin leads readers on a brisk tour of Madrid's colorful history from ancient kingdoms to modern multiculturalism, making sense of its centuries-long power struggles and volatile politics, assessing the dictators and the kings that have left a permanent mark.

Expanding on Madrid's vibrant intellectualism and status as a haven for creatives with intriguing profiles and vibrant examples of the city's finest art and architecture, Jaivin crafts a comprehensive portrait of a city renowned for artistry in every form. Jaivin draws from her own time spent steeped in the city's culture and extensive research on its key figures, turning points, and cultural touchstones.

As much an incisive history as a catalog of can't-miss sights and experiences, this is an insider's guide to the magic—and magnitude—of Madrid.

The Shortest History books deliver thousands of years of history in one riveting, fast-paced read.

Contributor Bio

Linda Jaivin is an internationally published essayist, novelist, translator, and cultural commentator. Her essays have appeared in a wide range of publications in Australia and beyond, and her other work has appeared in publication such as *The Sydney Morning Herald*, *Sydney Review of Books*, and *The Spectator*. She is the author of thirteen books, including her latest, *Bombard the Headquarters!* and *The Shortest History of China*, which has been translated into more than twenty languages.



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 Celebrations
 JUV017020
 Series: My Big Wimmelbooks
 11.8 in H | 8.9 in W

My Big Wimmelbook®—Happy Easter!

Alexandra Helm, Carolin Sommer

Hop right into bright spring scenes, from Easter feasts to egg hunt surprises, in this charming wimmelbook packed with Easter fun to find and explore. The My Big Wimmelbooks® series is an effortless introduction to literacy that lets beginning readers ages 2 to 5 be the storyteller—with hours of seek-and-find, hands-on learning.

Summary

Spring is upon us and it's almost time to go searching for your Easter basket. But until then, there is much to do. The Easter bunnies need to color all the eggs, make the chocolate bunnies, and craft little gifts to fill each basket. On each page, you'll find clues about the characters and search tasks to guide you in discovering all the preparations. Children as young as age 2 have a blast pointing out recognizable things—a brightly painted egg, a bunny's cotton ball tail, a basket full of goodies—while older kids can follow the story's progression through all kinds of bustling Easter scenes.

Wimmelbooks are virtually instruction-free, inviting kids to make their own way through the busy Wimmelworld they encounter—and to craft their own stories. On the very first spread, children are introduced to the unique locations and characters that come to life on the pages that follow, and then it's up to kids to interpret the scenes and create stories they think fit. It's hours upon hours of fun—and an effortless introduction to literacy, to boot.

My Big Wimmelbook®—Happy Easter overflows with seasonal spirit, helping kids sharpen their observation skills while delighting in every charming detail. Whether they're spotting cheerful chicks and colorful spring flowers or exploring a bunny family's treetop abode, young readers will love discovering all the Easter magic hiding in this lively world—and embarking on something of an Easter egg hunt themselves.

About Wimmelbooks

Wimmelbooks originated in Germany decades ago and have become a sensation with children (and adults!) worldwide. My Big Wimmelbooks is the first-ever English-language wimmelbook series. Its books have been praised as "lively . . . and abounding with humor and detail" (*WSJ*) and likely to "make any parent's heart sing" (*NYT*).

Contributor Bio

Alexandra Helm has studied at Chelsea College of Art and Central Saint Martins. She works with Dreams, Memory and Observation. Recently she has extended her practice by studying at the Royal Drawing School, London. She is a member of Sonsoles Print Studio and an associate member of East London Print Studio. She participates in Perienne Christain's Creativity Cafe. The Royal Academy of Arts accepted one of her pieces as part of their Summer Exhibition in 2023, which has led to her work being widely collected. Alexandra currently studies with Turps Art School, London.

Quotes

"The large board books in the *My Big Wimmelbook* series are full of lively, crowded tableaux of people and animals going about their business in different settings. [Wimmelbooks] abound with witty details to draw in younger children . . . and older toddlers will want to follow the wordless interactions that spill from one page to the next in these eventful pictures."**—The Wall Street Journal**

"You know the kid who can conjure an entire imaginary world by animating, say, the sugar packets she finds at the restaurant table? That one will thank you when you put any volume of *My Big Wimmelbook* in front of her. . . . Picture Richard Scarryesque, diorama-like spreads with a hint of *Where's Waldo* junior detective. The combination should encourage long contemplative sit-downs that will make any parent's heart sing."**—The New York Times Book Review**