

London 2024 Adult Nonfiction

CULT FOLLOWING





From the author of *Cursed Objects* and The United States of Cryptids comes an astonishing compendium of the most infamous, audacious, and dangerous cults in history.

October 8, 2024 9781683694120 \$19.99 Hardcover, 288 Pages, 67,000 words **Rights: World Material Available: Manuscript** ARC: March 2024. Final: July 2024

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Extraterrestrial and Extra-sexua

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Have you ever wondered how smart, normal people end up enmeshed in extreme cults? Weird history expert J. W. Ocker strives to answer that question in *Cult Following*. Everything you've ever wanted to know about history's most notorious cults-and the psychology of the people who join them-is packed into this accessible, engaging volume. Walk in the footsteps of followers who were lured into these sinister groups, including: Branch Davidians, Narcosatanists, Brotherhood of the Seven Rays, Ho No Hana Sanpogyo, Breatherianism, NXIVM, and over 20 more.

J.W. Ocker is an Edgar Award-winning travel writer, horror novelist, and blogger. His previous nonfiction books include Poe-Land, The New England Grimpendium and The New York Grimpendium, A Season with the Witch, the New York Timesreviewed Cursed Objects, and The United States of Cryptids. He is the creator of the blog and podcast OTIS: Odd Things I've Seen (oddthingsiveseen.com).



Also from J.W. Ocker







"This book is so fun that I couldn't put it down. It reminded me that life is short, death is nigh and a little humor can help us seize the day just as well as a memento mori."

— The New York Times

"[Ocker's] breezy storytelling talents make for enjoyable reading."-*Booklist*

"Essential reading for anyone with an interest in unexplained mysteries, folklore, mythology, and the supernatural."

-Midwest Book Review

They're lurking in museums, graveyards, and private homes. Their often tragic and always bizarre stories have inspired countless horror movies, reality TV shows, novels, and campfire tales. They're cursed objects, and all they need to unleash a wave of misfortune is... you.

Many of these unfortunate items have intersected with some of the most notable events and people in history, leaving death and destruction in their wake. But never before have the true stories of these eerie oddities been compiled into a fascinating and chilling volume.

September 2020

35,000 Copies Sold

Rights Sold: Audio, Chinese (Global Group), Estonian (Eesti Raamat), French (Cernunnos), Korean (Miraetimes), Polish (Kobiece), Russian (AST), Slovak (IKAR), Spanish (Planeta)

Cryptid: An animal that has been claimed to exist in folklore but has never been proven to exist, like Bigfoot or The Loch Ness Monster or the Yeti. From the infamous Jersey Devil to the obscure Snallygaster, travel writer and chronicler of the strange J. W. Ocker uncovers the bizarre stories of these creatures and investigates the ways in which communities embrace and celebrate their local cryptids.

Readers will learn about a winged bigfoot, a mysterious red goblin, a robotic extraterrestrial, a reptilian mutant, a fire-breathing dragon, and more! Whether you believe in bigfoot or not, this fully illustrated compendium is a fun, frightening, fascinating tour through American folklore and history, exploring the stories we tell about monsters and what those stories say about us.

October 2022 Almost 40,000 Copies Sold Rights Sold: Audio (Blackstone), Korean (KSI)

HORROR FOR WEENIES



COVER Nor FINAL RROR for Weenies COVER O BE REVEALED

Everything You Need to Know About the Films You're Too Scared to Watch

*Weenie: A playful term for a wimp, someone who is easily frightened or intimidated. A smart, funny crash course on 25 iconic horror movies, from *Psycho* to *Hereditary,* for people who love getting the reference but hate being scared.

September 3, 2024 9781683694250 \$17.99 Trade Paperback Original 272 Pages, approx. 85,000 words Rights: World Material Available: PDF ARC Final PDF: April 2024 You don't have to miss out just because you don't like to be frightened! Stop trying to read nonsensical Wikipedia plot summaries (we know you're doing it), and let an expert tell you everything you need to know about the most influential horror films of the past 60 years—without a single jump scare or a drop of gore.

Each entry includes a detailed plot summary, analysis of the film's themes and cultural significance, descriptions of iconic scenes you definitely do not want to look at, and talking points for impressing scary-movie aficionados.

Never get left out of a conversation again!

Emily C. Hughes is the former editor of Unbound Worlds and TorNightfire.com, and writes the horror newsletter Jump Scares. She has written about horror, books, and culture for Vulture, Tor.com, Electric Literature, Thrillist, and more.

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REVISIONARIES





Find creative inspiration in this fascinating rummage through the wastebaskets, secret diaries, and abandoned files of 20 literary superstars.

October 15, 2024 9781683693734 \$19.99 Hardcover 320 Pages, approx. 85,000 words Rights: World Material Available: ARC PDF Final PDF: July 2024



If you like to write—whether it's a pastime, a passion, or a profession—you've probably found yourself reading something brilliant and thinking, "I could never do this! I might as well give up." But if there's one thing every great author has in common, it's this: they've all written some hot garbage.

Revisionaries takes you on an engrossing tour through the discarded drafts, false starts, and abandoned projects of influential writers. In the process, it dismantles some of our most deeply held—and most suffocating—ideas about what it takes to produce great creative work.

You'll learn that **Franz Kafka** lacked confidence, **Octavia Butler** had writer's block, **F. Scott Fitzgerald** wrote bad drafts, **Ralph Ellison** got overwhelmed, **Louisa May Alcott** got off to a bad start, and other authors you admire had their own struggles and deep, dark secrets.

Written by an award-winning novelist and creative-writing professor, *Revisionaries* is a compelling peek behind the scenes of genius for writers and readers alike.

Kristopher Jansma is the author of the novels *Our Narrow Hiding Places, Why We Came To The City,* and *The Unchangeable Spots of Leopards.* He is the winner of the Sherwood Anderson Foundation Fiction Award, a Pushcart Prize, and the recipient of an honorable mention for the PEN/Hemingway Award. Jansma is an associate professor of English and director of the creative writing program at SUNY New Paltz College.

THE DARCY MYTH





Over 5,000 copies sold

"A wildly entertaining read." —*The Washington Post* A *USA TODAY* bestseller

What if we've been reading Jane Austen and romantic classics all wrong? A literary scholar offers a funny, brainy, eye-opening take on how our contemporary love stories are actually terrifying.

November 20, 2023 9781683693574 \$16.99 Trade Paperback Original 240 Pages, approx. 56,000 words Rights: World Rights Sold: Audio (Blackstone)

Czech (Euromedia/IKAR) Polish (Krytyka Polityczna) Covering cultural touchstones ranging from *Normal People* to Taylor Swift and from Lord Byron to *The Bachelor*, this is a book for anyone who loves thinking deeply about literature and culture—whether it's Jane Austen or not.

In *The Darcy Myth*, literature scholar Rachel Feder unpacks Austen's Gothic influences and how they've led us to a romantic ideal that's halfway to being a monster story. Why is our culture so obsessed with cruel, indifferent romantic heroes (and sometimes heroines)? How much of that is Darcy's fault? And what do we do about it?

Rachel Feder is an associate professor of English and literary arts at the University of Denver, where she regularly ruins *Pride and Prejudice* for her students (but in a fun way!). Her work on the Gothic and nineteenth-century British literature includes the book *Harvester of Hearts: Motherhood Under the Sign of Frankenstein* and the Norton Library Edition of *Dracula*, which she edited.



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MOVIES WITH BALLS





This celebration of the greatest matchups in sports movie history includes analysis, maps and diagrams, designed memorabilia, perfect for movie buffs and sports fans.

August 20, 2024 9781683693758 \$29.99 Hardcover 256 Pages, approx. 55,000 words **Rights: World** Material Available: Blad, Manuscript ARC PDF: April 2024

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DODGEBALL 2004	Property and the second

If you're the kind of fan who cheers every single time you watch Rocky beat Drago, or remembers who said "If you build it, he will come," or has ever wished you were in the stands at the ADAA Dodgeball Finals when Peter LaFleur took out White Goodman, then this is the book for you.

Movies With Balls celebrates and analyzes more than two dozen of the greatest sports movies of all time, including Caddyshack, Rocky IV, White Men Can't Jump, The Natural, Field of Dreams, The Karate Kid, and 20 more classic flicks, transporting you into fictional arenas, stadiums, gyms, fields, and golf courses to relive the climactic moments!

Kyle Bandujo is a writer and podcaster. He is the host/producer of "Big Screen Sports: The Sports Movie Podcast." Rick Bryson has worked as an art director and graphic designer for more than twenty years. This is their first book.

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YOU GOTTA EAT





A trained chef teaches you how to keep yourself fed in the face of stress, burnout, and exhaustion—and how to have fun doing it.

November 19, 2024 9781683694427 \$19.99 Hardcover 224 Pages, approx. 43,000 words Rights: World Material Available: Manuscript ARC PDF: March 2024 Final PDF: July 2024

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Delivery is expensive. Eating a spoonful of peanut butter is depressing. You can't imagine having the energy to chop an onion. But somehow, you gotta eat. How does anyone feed themselves under these conditions?

Enter *You Gotta Eat*, a friendly, accessible resource for getting something on your plate when you have too much on your plate. Part cookbook, part pep talk, and part action plan, You Gotta Eat offers tips and tactics—plus ten "do exactly this" recipes—for making effortless food that's nourishing, tasty, and even a little fun.

Whether you're burnt out, depressed, overworked, a new parent, living away from home for the first time, or some combination of the above, let trained chef, food writer, and nacho enthusiast Margaret Eby show you how to make your eating experience better—and easier—in every way.

Margaret Eby is the deputy food editor for the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, and a former senior editor at *Food & Wine*, *MyRecipes*, and *Extra Crispy*. She has written for *Bon Appetit* and *The New Yorker*, and *The New York Times*, among other publications.

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TINY PEP TALKS





Pep talk: a talk you give someone to make them feel more courageous or enthusiastic, like a coach might give to a player, a parent might give to a child, or a boss might give to an employee Why should you be doing something important or impressive to get a pep talk? Two comedians offer hilarious encouragement for your most mundane struggles.

November 26, 2024 9781683694441 \$14.99 Hardcover, 176 Pages; 25,000 words Rights: World Material Available: Manuscript, Blad ARC PDF: May 2024 Final PDF: July 2024 Any can tell you "You can do it!" before the big job interview, or before you walk down the wedding aisle, or before you head out onto the field to make the gamewinning kick. But what about the other 99.99% of stuff you do? Who's going to gas you up for all those low-stakes situations where you need an extra push?

Enter *Tiny Pep Talks*, where you'll find specific, constructive, and very funny motivation for parallel parking a car, sending a scary email, making a doctor's appointment, getting through a breakup, remembering that your friends aren't secretly mad at you... and much, much more!

Paula Skaggs & Josh Linden are writers and comedians. They are the co-creators of the conversation game *No Wrong Answers: Cards for Better Conversations* and co-hosts of the podcast *Being Earnest: A Very Sincere Podcast*. They both live in Chicago.

FOR WHEN YOU'RE ABOUT TO SING KARAOKE

Do you remember that headline we all collectively read and constraints to memory a fee years ago, the one that all "Table Speaking is the Matc Common Feer" or somethic list heat: Well, if that the true (and is honessty shouldn's be, because a shark with machetes instead of fine is way anarchy, then publicly reading and sight belowed storg into a microphone—the timp that you're about to omethic the proof of you! So before you go there, here's what I wast you

Take a deep breath.
 Release the tension in your shoulders.

Remember that absolutely nobody gives even one lota of a crap how well you do, and they'll frankly never think about this again.

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the stret and stopped is your tacks to think, "Hum, that pol that areas (Socially Earl at the Loss' Pub Kascle Night in 2017 sure did a mediacre pich"? Emhamanament simply doesn't exits at karake, and mether does price. Notedly really crears how well you straigh door lik. Notedly really crears how well you schally door lik the high note or if it tames out you schally door like week When the To "Rapper" Delight", Which, hy the way, sams with, "is said scan't wait 'til the end of the week/When the respirit to the rightm of a groosy beat." There are really only thes tames to that could happen when you take the stage:

Seriously, when's the last time you were walking down

(L) The people listening will think, "Wow! I know this song! Should I get another drink?"

2 The people listening will think, "Wow! I don't know this song! Should I get another drink?"

That's it. End of list. They may tell you. "Good job!" or "Nice!" when you get offsaage but they den't really care. They're busy thinking about their one performance, or--if they're smart-offser's busy planning their geteway should they were recounter Machete Shark. Break aleg!

FOR MAKING THAT APPOINTMENT YOU'VE BEEN PUTTING OFF FOR MONTHS

You have what everyledge on Earth has in commonly (four planes dot to sprearbing life X-rains for unotifpenas;" waits for unotif the life X-rains for unotif penas;" and known that's and towal. The the second facility advance that appointments was should have readed tritty, the accountant, the hard splats; or some serve comprised hapled of all of the above. But studys is the day that ray has been bettere than everylead in the day in the day that works

making that appointment. Look, I wort's lie to you. The fire minutes that the calls group to take might suck. It might be answerd, you'll probably have to taik to a strange, and you'll definitely have to book at your calendar. Note of these things are fun. There's a reason that Disney Word face expensel up that Versting on the Phone and Making Appointments' accises of the park. (But can we agree that Mickey Wild Coput Riber Constant would have been associated')

But it's the feeling after the call that's going to make it all worthwhile, it's like a runnar's high without all the chaining and abusces. No matter which they you do todang you have crossed something tag off of your to-do list. You have done Future You a favor. And wow, you have definitely earmed yourself a little treat.

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FOR WHEN YOU'RE

CELEBRATING A WIN



Also in Practical Well-Being





DRY HUMPING

A Guide to Dating, Relating, and

Hooking Up Without the Booze

Frank, funny, and sympathetic, this fitness book offers realistic tips, encouragement, and dozens of activity ideas for times when exercise is the only thing that will help—and the last thing you want to do.

Work It Out by Sarah Kurchak

Exercise is the most reliable way to improve mental health. But if you're depressed, anxious, burned out, or struggling, it may feel impossible to get started, get serious, or even get up.

Written by a neurodivergent exercise professional, *Work It Out* busts myths about fitness while providing clear, actionable advice on how to incorporate exercise into your daily life, build an adjustable workout plan for your good and bad mental health days, celebrate all your achievements including getting out of bed... but also get a little exercise in bed, if that's where you're at today. *Work It Out* meets you where you are-even if you're lying on the floor.

April 2023 5,000 Copies Sold Rights Sold: Audio (Blackstone), Korean (Designhouse)

Dry Humping by Tawny Lara, The Sober Sexpert

When you're intimidated or overwhelmed, it's easy to turn to alcohol to feel more relaxed and outgoing. But what if you want to cut back or cut out alcohol from your life? What do you do on dates? How do you soothe worries and hang-ups? And how the heck do you get up the nerve to be naked with someone new?

In this book, you'll learn how to have better dates, sex, and partnerships without alcohol, with tools like booze-free date ideas, scripts for awkward conversations, interviews with experts, thought-provoking prompts, perspectives from a diverse range of regular people, and more. You can step away from alcohol while also having more fun!

September 2023 5,000 Copies Sold Rights Sold: Audio (Blackstone)

A lighthearted and judgment-free handbook from sober sexpert Tawny Lara on how to have better sex, better dates, and better partnerships without relying on alcohol!

FEEL GOOD:

A series of holistic wellness guides based in Ayurveda that help you stay attuned to the connections between diet, exercise, sleep, stress, and other lifestyle choices.

THE AUTHORS:

Roos Neeter and **Julia Blohberger** are full-time yoga teachers and Ayurvedic health and lifestyle advisors trained at the Delight Yoga Academy in Amsterdam.

RIGHTS SOLD:

Dutch (Kosmos), Korean (Feel Books), Polish (Kobiece), Serbian (Kalipso), Slovenian (Hisa)







THE SNEAKY PARENT





More than 200 clever tips to help stubborn kids go to bed, clean their room, take a bath, and more—without tears or fights.

March 19, 2024 9781683694212 \$16.99 Hardcover 176 Pages Rights: World Material Available: Full PDF Rights Sold: Indonesian (Gramedia), Polish (Vesper)

Sarting Ready Tools 1

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As a parent, you want nothing more than to keep your child fed, clothed, clean, healthy, and safe. Your kid, meanwhile, wants nothing more than to eat junk, go nude, stay up all night, and fall down a hole. Begging doesn't work. Bribery isn't sustainable. You don't want to shout. It's time to get sneaky.

With the strategies outlined in this book, you can gently guide kids toward positive choices. Learn how to boost oral hygiene by pretending a **toothbrush** is a paintbrush for teeth, render **long plane trips** painless with a game of "Name That Cloud", **calm separation anxiety** by developing fun ways to say goodbye, and dozens of other clever tactics, tricks, and games.

With a little benevolent sneakiness, your child will enthusiastically **try new foods**, embrace **bath time**, go to **sleep on a schedule**, and other necessary but unpopular life skills. The best part? They'll be sure it was their idea.

David Borgenicht is a *New York Times* best-selling author and the creator of the iconic Worst-Case Scenario Survival Handbook series. He is also the founder of Quirk Books and, more importantly, is the father of two clever and now adult children.

James Grace is the coauthor of several books, including *New York Times* bestselling *The Worst-Case Scenario Survival Handbook: Golf.* He is a lawyer and runs a non-profit that supports artists and arts organizations. He lives in Massachusetts with his wife and is the father of three crafty and now adult kids.

Also in Practical Parenting





Before

You

Learn how roughand-tumble play can nurture relationships, lead to closer connections, encourage resilience, and boost confidence in kids—with 45 illustrated activities to get you started.

<u>Unplug and Play by Anthony T. DeBenedet MD and Lawrence J. Cohen PhD</u>

Every kid needs vigorous play! Roughhousing is an essential part of childhood development—but it is increasingly overshadowed by screens and structured activities. In *Unplug and Play*, a doctor and a child psychologist, both dads, introduce parents to the benefits of physical play for young children.

Drawing from gymnastics, martial arts, ballet, team sports, and even animal behavior, the authors present fun full-contact activities for parents and children to enjoy together. With activities for everyone from toddlers to kids ages 12 and up, you'll build a foundation for a lifetime of enriching physical play.

March 2023

5,000 Copies Sold

Rights Sold: Audio, Simp. Chinese, Hungarian, Korean, Polish, Turkish

Before You: A Book By Me, Your Parent, From a Time When You Didn't Exist

As a parent-to-be, you're facing a lot of adjustments: new interests, new anxieties, new habits and routines, even a new name—all of them related to your kid. But you're more than just Mom or Dad! You're a unique, vibrant, complete individual—and that won't change, even when the rest of your life does.

More than 200 entertaining writing prompts, including "the coolest place you ever traveled", "something that makes you mad", "your best hidden talent", "the greatest costume you ever wore", and "your secret hideout as a kid" will inspire you to create a perfect gift for a curious kid and teach them that parents are people too.

October 2023 Rights Available: World

Create a time capsule of your life before becoming a parent with this stylish keepsake journal! More than 200 fun, inspiring prompts help you record who you are right now, so you can share that person with your future child.



THRIVE WHERE YOU'RE PLANTED





to Help You Connect with the Natural Wonders in Your Neighborhood

Written by Andrea Debbink

Find peace through this meditative guided journal that will train you to notice and appreciate the wonder of the natural world—without leaving your own neighborhood.

February 6, 2024 9781683693437 \$19.99 Hardcover 208 Pages Rights: World



Everyone knows that being in nature can help you feel less anxious, more centered, and at peace. The sound of a waterfall, a swaying green canopy, a distant horizon—all of these things slow your heart rate, open your lungs, and calm your mind. But what if—like most people—you live in a suburb or a city and can't go into the great outdoors every day?

Naturalist Andrea Debbink will show you that nature is all around you, even in the densest metropolis and will teach you how to find wildness in a city sparrow, beauty in a roadside dandelion, and stillness on a park bench.

Andrea Debbink has trained as a master naturalist and writes about environmental stewardship, citizen science, and outdoor education. She is also the creator of the *Natural Wonder* newsletter and the author of the Wild World Handbook series (Quirk Books, 2021 and 2022.) She believes that it doesn't matter where you see nature; it's seeing nature that matters.



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WHEN IN DOUBT PLAY DEAD



When in Doubt, Play Dead

LIFE ADVICE FROM AN UNEXPECTED SOURCE



ALLY BURGUIERES

10,000 copies sold

Featuring 70 watercolor illustrations, this totally adorable gift of a book offers wisdom and insight from a delightfully unexpected source: the opossum.

October 17, 2023 9781683693840 \$12.99 Hardcover 128 Pages Rights: World Rights Sold: Italian (Armenia Edizioni), German (Wunderraum/PRH) Written and illustrated by Ally Burguieres, creator of the popular Instagram account @ItsMeSesame, who spends her days as a wildlife rehabber caring for and learning from opossums, *When in Doubt, Play Dead* offers encouragement to embrace life's weird, wild, and wonderful moments. Learn to live your life the opossum way with advice including the following:

•The difference between a weed and a flower is often a matter of taste.

•Smile! Unless someone tells you to, in which case you are well within your rights to scream. •And more.

Ally Burguieres is a wildlife rehabber and the creator of the viral Sesame the Opossum website and social media accounts, home of the internet's most beloved opossums. In addition to wrangling opossums, she owns Cocoally (an animal-themed boutique) and Gallery Burguieres (a gallery of her artwork) in New Orleans. She is also the author of *Possums Are Not Cute! (and Other Myths)*.



vhen things seem upside down, try going downside up.



The difference between a weed and a flower is often a matter of taste.

If you get on the wrong bus, just get off at the next stop.



Eventually, you'll be exactly where you need to be.







GOBLIN MODE







Embrace your inner goblin! Learn to decorate, dress, craft, forage, and live according to the goblin principles of community, diversity, and joyful mess.

June 27, 2023 9781683693536 \$17.99 Hardcover 208 Pages, approx. 47,000 words Rights: World Rights Sold: Audio (Blackstone), Chinese-S (CTPH), Chinese-T (Mangrove), Polish (Insignis), Spanish (Obelisco)



Do you ever feel strange, gross, chaotic, underappreciated, or like you don't quite fit in? Great news: you might be a goblin! That means your imperfections and idiosyncrasies are the most awesome things about you, and you can build a more harmonious life by accepting and honoring them taking inspiration from the frogs, fungi, moss, rocks, and dirt that goblins love.

Goblin Mode includes life advice for celebrating physical and mental diversity, rejecting prejudice, and generally hanging on to a little joy. Can a mushroom give you fashion tips? Can a snail teach you to be a happier person? You bet they can! In this book, you'll learn how to create a moss garden for your lair, grow and use medicinal plants, mend your cozy sweaters, display your cool rock collection, and more!

McKayla Coyle (they/them) is a lesbian writer from Anchorage, Alaska. They're the engagement editor for Literary Hub, and they hold an MFA in fiction from The New School. In their free time they read fantasy novels and make a lot of jam.





WHAT'S YOUR GRIEF





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A friendly and accessible book of 75 lists that will help anyone experiencing a change or loss.

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Losses, big and small, turn your world upside down. *What's Your Grief?* will help you through all of them. Many life changes need to be grieved, from the loss of a loved one to the loss of a job, from a breakup to a relocation, and all the rest of life's ebbs and flows. *In What's Your Grief?*, mental health professionals Eleanor Haley and Litsa Williams help you examine, investigate, and move through the complex but universal experience of grief.

Through 75 engaging, informative, and accessible lists, such as to-do lists, bucket lists, interactive lists, and more, you'll discover little known truths about grief, guilt, communication, defense mechanisms, and more.

Eleanor Haley, MS and **Litsa Williams, MA, LCSW-C** are the cofounders of the online grief community What's Your Grief. Together they run the grief education and creative exploration websites 'What's Your Grief' and 'Grief in Six Words'. Both are mental health professionals with a collective 25+ years of experience working with people coping with all types of complicated losses and life transitions.

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THE WORST CASE SCENARIO SURVIVAL HANDBOOK:

The World's Best-Selling Survival Manuals











ABOUT THE WORST CASE SCENARIO SERIES

In the summer of 1998, the amazing Worst-Case Scenario story began when David Borgenicht read a magazine article about a man who'd been forced to land a plane after the pilot had a heart attack. It made him think about classic action movie scenes and what he would do in those situations. How should he react if he were face-to-face with a shark or if he had to jump from a building into a Dumpster? Knowing there were answers to these questions, he and co-author Joshua Piven decided to write a book.

They spent the better part of six months trying to convince experts that they weren't pranksters. They actually wanted real answers to questions like:

How do you safely ram a car?

How do you perform a tracheotomy?

How do you fend off an alligator?

The Worst-Case Scenario Survival Handbook was published in November 1999, with a first printing of 35,000 copies. People took to the book quickly. After a strong holiday sales season, the handbook hit the Los Angeles Times and Publishers Weekly best-seller lists. Two national television appearances by the authors in May, along with articles in Time and People, launched the book onto the New York Times Best-Seller List. Later that year it would cross the million-copy mark, with no signs of slowing down.

In the spring of 2001, the first spin-off book was published. *The Worst-Case Scenario Survival Handbook: Travel* had a first printing of 500,000 copies, and soon it too became a best seller. In the fall of 2001, *The Worst-Case Scenario Survival Handbook: Dating & Sex* was released, with a first printing of 450,000 copies, instantly becoming a best seller. Translation rights were sold in over 25 languages.

There are now more than 10 million copies of Worst-Case Scenario titles in print, and the series shows no sign of flagging.

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When the moment comes, we want you to know what to do when the pilot passes out, the train derails, or you start to sink in the quicksand. We want you to know what to do when the alligator attacks, the bull charges, or the clown looks more dangerous than fun. We want you to know what to do when your cell phone catches fire, when the levee breaks, or when you are buried alive.

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David Borgenicht has survived rattlesnake, bear, and mountain lion encounters (well, viewings, anyway,) muggings, con artists, and his own teenage children. He is the founder of Quirk Books and lives in Philadelphia.

Joshua Piven has been chased by knife-wielding bandits (he escaped), was stranded on a chairlift during a howling blizzard (he was rescued), and once had a kidney stone (he passed it.) He lives in Philadelphia.

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David Borgenicht has survived rattlesnake, bear, and mountain lion encounters (well, viewings, anyway,) muggings, con artists, and his own teenage children. He is the founder of Quirk Books and lives in Philadelphia.

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Marc Hartzman

Marc Hartzman is "one of America's leading connoisseurs of the bizarre" (ABCNews.com) and is the author of several books, including *The Big Book of Mars* (Quirk, 2020). Hartzman's work has appeared in *Mental Floss, Bizarre*, and HuffPost/AOL Weird News. He has discussed oddities on CNN, MSNBC, Ripley's Radio, and the Travel Channel's *Mysteries at the Museum*. More of his love for the unusual can be found on his site WeirdHistorian.com.

Hartzman works in advertising and lives in New Rochelle with his wife, Liz, and their two daughters.

Marc Hartzman





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