

THE Jud Laghi AGENCY, LLC

Rights List Frankfurt 2011

Contact:
Jud Laghi
Phone (718) 285-0798
Jud@Laghiagency.com

NON-FICTION

KEN JENNINGS

MAPHEAD: The Wide, Weird World of Geography Wonks

Scribner, September 2011

It comes as no surprise that, as a kid, Jeopardy! legend Ken Jennings slept with a bulky Hammond world atlas by his pillow every night. Maphead recounts his lifelong love affair with geography and explores why maps have always been so fascinating to him and to fellow enthusiasts everywhere. Jennings takes readers on a world tour of geogeeks from the London Map Fair to the bowels of the Library of Congress, from the prepubescent geniuses at the National Geographic Bee to the computer programmers at Google Earth. Each chapter delves into a different aspect of map culture: highpointing, geocaching, road atlas rallying, even the “unreal estate” charted on the maps of fiction and fantasy. He also considers the ways in which cartography has shaped our history, suggesting that the impulse to make and read maps is as relevant today as it has ever been. From the “Here be dragons” parchment maps of the Age of Discovery to the spinning globes of grade school to the postmodern revolution of digital maps and GPS, Maphead is filled with intriguing details, engaging anecdotes, and enlightening analysis. If you’re an inveterate map lover yourself—or even if you’re among the cartographically clueless who can get lost in a supermarket—let Ken Jennings be your guide to the strange world of mapheads.

In 2004, Ken Jennings unexpectedly shot to fame during his unprecedented six-month winning streak on the quiz show Jeopardy!, for which Barbara Walters named him one of the year's ten most interesting people. He has since authored two books, the New York Times best-selling **BRAINIAC: Adventures in the Curious, Competitive, Compulsive World of Trivia Buffs**, and **KEN JENNINGS'S TRIVIA ALMANAC: 8,888 Questions in 365 Days**, and over 10,000 subscribers play along with his weekly "Tuesday Trivia" e-mail quiz on www.Ken-Jennings.com.

NA rights to Scribner (Brant Rumble) – Finished copies available

****AMAZON “BEST BOOKS OF THE MONTH” FOR SEPTEMBER****

****APPLE IBOOKS “BEST BOOKS OF SEPTEMBER”****

“Fun and informative” – *Kirkus Reviews*

“A fascinating book that blends humor, memoir, and serious analysis” – *Booklist*

“From the politics of geocaching to the ups and downs of the contestants participating in the National Geographic Bee...Jennings captures the excitement and wonder of places.” – *Amazon.com*

“A Delightful mix of lore and reportage that illuminates the longing to know where we are. – *Publisher’s Weekly* (Starred Review)

“I admit—I’m a geographic klutz, constantly turned around the wrong way. But I never felt lost for a moment inside *Maphead*. Forget new worlds: Jennings’s charming, witty account reveals a whole other

universe.” —Sam Kean, author of the *New York Times* bestseller, *The Disappearing Spoon*

KEN JENNINGS

DON'T LOOK IN THE MICROWAVE! (And Other Lies Your Parents Told You)

Scribner

“Here is the dirty little secret of parenting: it’s all about learning to lie convincingly.”

From the chewing gum that stays in your small intestine for seven years to the face that freezes “that way,” folk truths and half-threats have been in parents’ arsenals for eons. But is there any validity to these nuggets of parental knowledge?

“Jeopardy” champion and trivia guru Ken Jennings digs deep into the world of inherited wisdom and comes out with some surprising discoveries. Part pop trivia/reference book and part parenting manual, *DON'T LOOK IN THE MICROWAVE* will explore a hundred or so of the most common parenting standbys, and delve into medical literature, academic research, police reports, and possibly diabolical first-hand experimentation on his own two children to prove or disprove them.

The parenting equivalent of 2005’s bestselling *Why Do Men Have Nipples?*, *DON'T LOOK IN THE MIRCROWAVE* won’t just be full of fun research into the most common child-rearing anecdotes, but it will help set the story straight regarding some of the more troubling aspects of being a parent. Will letting a child swim right after eating lead to paralyzing stomach cramps that will cause your child to drown? Will they really catch cold by going outside with wet hair? This book should help calm nervous parents; in the vein of the *Dangerous Book for Boys* and its ilk, some of Jennings’ findings will lead to reassuring advice for parents: RELAX.

Broken down into chapters by categories such as Hygiene, Bodily Noises, Eating and Drinking, Personal Injury, and so on, each entry will be more than a simple thumbs-up or thumbs-down to the parental boilerplate in question; instead, each will tell a little story that will appeal as much to browsers as it does to anxious parents.

Proposal available

NA rights to Simon & Schuster (Brant Rumble)

MICHAEL TENNESEN
THE NEXT SPECIES: The Future of Evolution
Through the Prism of its Past
Free Press, Spring 2013

According to a report released earlier this year from scientists at the University of California, we stand at the edge of a mass extinction that could wipe out 75 percent of all known species on Earth (including, most importantly, us). Mass extinctions have only happened five times in the existence of multicellular life on earth, the last one occurring 65 million years ago to end the dinosaur age, and the report estimated that the next extinction will take place within the next 300 to 2,000 years. At the same time, some scientists contend that this is one of the few times in the last 540 million years that biodiversity is actually shrinking, not only in terms of an accelerated rate of extinctions, but in severe population declines across all species. Combined with a gross reduction of tropical forests, coral reefs, and wetlands—our primary centers of species diversification in the past—the future of who, or what, may survive a sixth extinction and rise to dominance remains unclear.

In *THE NEXT SPECIES*, Michael Tennesen will explore the potential winners and losers of the next era of evolution through in-depth interviews with the scientists who are at the forefront of studying hominid evolution, from the verdant cloud forests of Peru to the Galapagos islands. The book will examine the factors that allowed *Homo sapiens* to walk out of Africa 80,000 years ago and become the dominant species, and which species currently have the biological and genetic characteristics best suited to meet the challenges of Earth's impending future. *THE NEXT SPECIES* will also look at how a radical reduction (or complete elimination of the human population) would affect Earth, and will attempt to determine if humans are capable of the long-range foresight to prevent their own demise; from further evolution, to a complete relocation to another planet.

Michael Tennesen's writing has appeared in *Discover*, *Scientific American*, *National Wildlife*, *Audubon*, *New Scientist*, *Science*, *Smithsonian*. He is the author of *Flight of the Falcon* (Key Porter Books) about how falcons evolved and spread worldwide, and *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Global Warming* (Penguin), a visiting fellow at the Cary Institute for Ecosystem Studies and the Annenberg School of USC, and a media fellow at the Nicholas School of the Environment and Earth Sciences at Duke University.

NA Rights to Free Press (Hilary Redmon))

Proposal and sample chapters available

SCOTT GOODSON

**UPRISING: How to Change the World (and Build a Brand) by
Sparkling Cultural Movements**

McGraw Hill, October 2011

The rise of new media has made it easier than ever before for people to band together around a shared idea, goal, or passion. And these days, if you can think of a cause or a passion or even just a pastime, chances are you'll find a group of people who care enough about it to have formed a movement around it--from rebuilding communities and rescuing animals, to eating only locally grown produce and brewing your own beer. As a result, some of the most established companies in the world—Procter & Gamble and PepsiCo among them— have become convinced that “movement marketing” is the new way forward in trying to sell products, earn customer loyalty, influence public opinion, solve social problems, and, quite possibly, change the world.

In UPRISING, Scott Goodson, founder and Chairman of the award-winning boutique advertising agency Strawberry Frog, will help demystify the phenomenon of movements; providing clear marching orders for both companies and individuals looking to get off the sidelines and into the action while using examples and case studies from successfully launched movements for brands (including Wal-Mart, Pfizer, Smartcar and IKEA). In explaining the fundamental do's and don'ts of movement marketing, readers will be introduced to such key concepts as why sharing is the new currency, why being quietly transparent is so important, finding ideas on the rise, identifying the “bad guy,” and, perhaps most importantly, how to light the spark that leads to a genuine, sustained cultural movement.

Scott Goodson is the founder and Chairman of the \$300 million global advertising/marketing agency [StrawberryFrog](#) (named after a rare Central American species known as the “strawberry poison dart frog,” which is small, brightly-colored, and lethal to larger predators), with offices in New York, Amsterdam, Mumbai, and Sao Paulo. Scott's “Cultural Movements” strategy has been embraced by major companies that have become StrawberryFrog clients, including Procter & Gamble, PepsiCo, Heineken, Microsoft, IKEA, Starbucks, Google, Mitsubishi Motors, India's Mahindra Group, and others, and has made StrawberryFrog one of the fastest-growing and most influential new agencies of the past decade

World English rights to McGraw Hill (Mary Glenn)

Proposal and sample chapter available

STEPHEN TOBOLOWSKY
THE TOBOLOWSKY FILES
Simon & Schuster, October 2012

The quintessential character actor, Stephen Tobolowsky has appeared in over 100 movies and over 200 television shows in his career (USA Today recently noted that he was the 9th most frequently seen actor in film today). Along the way his roles have spanned almost all aspects of being a working actor, from the big-budget and Oscar-worthy (as head of the Ku Klux Klan in *Mississippi Burning*), to the cult phenomenon (*Groundhog Day*), to the buzzworthy (*Glee*). But despite a lifetime devotion to the craft of acting that also includes a classical theater training and a Tony nomination, you probably wouldn't recognize him if you saw him on the street.

THE TOBOLOWSKY FILES will explore the uniqueness of being simultaneously omnipresent and anonymous in popular culture, and the successes and failures that define us in the pursuit of a dream. Tobolowsky has a sharp sense of humor and a raconteur's relish for telling stories that he has picked up along the way--from making his way out of a dysfunctional family in Houston to studying acting with the then love of his life (the playwright Beth Henley), to talking his way through a real-life hostage drama at a supermarket where he found himself staring down the barrel of a .45, to on-set anecdotes from the likes of *Deadwood*, *Memento* and *Thelma And Louise*, to bizarre audition stories and the change in his relationship with Henley when she won the Pulitzer at the age of 26 and he had yet to even be cast as an extra.

In addition to his acting work, Stephen Tobolowsky has written and performed *The Tobolowsky Files* podcast in conjunction with slashfilm.com, which can be found [here](#). With nearly forty episodes now up on the iTunes store, and more to come, he has developed a growing following of fans of his stories from all over the world. This month *The Tobolowsky Files* began running in syndication on NPR, a development sure to attract a larger listener base and fan base. He also recently posted a two-part story on the popular blog *The Awl*, [the first](#) recounting his audition with Christopher Nolan for *Memento*, and [the second](#) concerning a more recent audition for *Californication*.

NA rights to Simon & Schuster (Ben Loehnen).

Finished ms available.

JOHN SELLERS
THE OLD MAN AND THE SWAMP

Simon & Schuster, June 2011

Family memoir meets humorous nature writing in *THE OLD MAN AND THE SWAMP*, in which John Sellers details his three-day road trip to the swamps of southern Michigan with his father in June 2007. Mark Ashley Sellers, Jr. is searching for the elusive copperbelly water snake; John is searching for insight into his father. Throughout the book, John reflects on his relationship with his father – the most fascinating and frustrating person he has ever known. The trip has some unintended consequences: the elder Mr. Sellers decides to hang up his swamp sneakers for good, and John concludes that he will never, ever set foot in the woods again. Yet, in the end, he ventures into the woods alone to catch a snake, using techniques his father taught him.

Readers will love John's witty and observant writing. *THE OLD MAN AND THE SWAMP* will appeal to readers of other family memoirs such as Sean Wilsey's *Oh the Glory of It All*, Shalom Auslander's *Foreskin's Lament*, and David Sedaris's *Dress Your Family in Corduroy and Denim*, as well as nature writer Bill Bryson's bestselling *A Walk in the Woods*.

John Sellers is the author of the music memoir *PERFECT FROM NOW ON: HOW INDIE ROCK SAVED MY LIFE* (Simon & Schuster, 2007) and *ARCADE FEVER: THE FAN'S GUIDE TO THE GOLDEN AGE OF VIDEO GAMES* (Running Press, 2001). His essays and reporting have appeared in *The Believer*, *GQ*, *Entertainment Weekly*, *Spin*, *The Atlantic Monthly* and *The New York Times*. He has been employed as the television critic at *Time Out New York* and as a question writer on the game shows *Who Wants to Be a Millionaire*, *Cash Cab*, and *The World Series of Pop Culture*. Originally from Michigan, he now lives in Brooklyn and blogs regularly as Angry John Sellers.

NA rights to Simon & Schuster (Brant Rumble)

Finished copies available

DAVY ROTHBART
MY HEART IS AN IDIOT

Farrar, Straus & Giroux, April 2012

Using his signature combination of wit, raunch, and poignance, Rothbart takes readers on an alternately humorous and heartbreaking tour of the modern road, both in America and abroad, and the people he's met along the way. From waking up naked on a park bench in New York, to sharing a bus ride across Michigan with two men just released from prison, to travelling with his hearing-impaired mother to visit a faith healer in Brazil, Rothbart's stories give a decidedly twenty-first century update to the "gonzo" life.

Davy Rothbart is the founder and editor of FOUND Magazine, which compiles today's best flotsam and jetsam. A frequent contributor to NPR's "This American Life," he has also made the dvd documentary "Generation Lost," about the punk band Rise Against, and in addition to the FOUND books, he is also the author of the short story collection THE LONE SURFER OF MONTANA, KANSAS (Simon & Schuster/Touchstone, 2005), which the basis for a movie being made by Steve Buscemi.

Finished ms available

NA Rights to FSG (Sean McDonald)

[ON THE ROAD 2 will also include the piece "What Are You Wearing," originally published in GQ, and which was recently adapted into the film *Easier With Practice*; which stars *The Hurt Locker*'s Brian Geraghty and was nominated for two Independent Film Channel Spirit Awards.](#)

FOUND: The Best Lost, Tossed, and Forgotten Items from Around the World, Books I & II

In the tradition of NPR's National Story Project comes this funky collection of letters, flyers and other miscellany from the pages of *Found* magazine. Rothbart, the magazine's editor and founder, has pulled together the funniest, weirdest and most moving items found by himself and his readers over the years. There are some explanations, but mostly, the trash speaks for itself, reproduced with Rothbart's particular punk-collagist aesthetic. At times, reading the notes and letters feels uncomfortably voyeuristic, and inevitably, readers are left wanting more, wishing for details about these lives beyond what the sketchy fragments provide (did that scoundrel Mario ever change his wanton ways?). A provocative and original book, Rothbart's collection manages to pull laughter and drama from the flotsam and jetsam of society.

UK rights to Octopus Publishing (Laura Price); German rights to Kein & Aber

CARRIE BROWNSTEIN
THE SOUND OF WHERE YOU ARE: Rock Stardom, Fandom, and
the Blurry Line in-Between

Ecco Press, Spring 2013

As a founding member of the critically-acclaimed band Sleater-Kinney, Carrie Brownstein reached indie-legend status for her songwriting, vocals and guitar-playing, as the band built a devout fan base over fifteen years of playing together before going on indefinite hiatus in 2006. She has since found herself back in a role that inspired her to play music in the first place—that of fan.

In *THE SOUND OF WHERE YOU ARE*, Carrie uses her own experience to explore the drastically changing dynamic between fan and performer--from the birth of the iPod and the death of the record store, to the emergence and mass popularity of the “you be the star” culture of American Idol, Guitar Hero and Rock Band, and the ensuing dilution of the rock “mystique” through the omnipresence of the internet. Part cultural criticism and part memoir, *THE SOUND OF WHERE YOU ARE* deftly weaves personal experience together with general observations and theories about music and about fandom.

Carrie Brownstein’s writing has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Believer*, and Slate, and she contributed the essay on Washington to *State By State* (Ecco). She writes a popular blog for NPR.com called Monitor Mix, and she is an on-air contributor to NPR’s “Day to Day” and “All Songs Considered.” While in Sleater-Kinney, she performed at Madison Square Garden, and on The Late Show with David Letterman and Late Night with Conan O’Brien. Sleater-Kinney’s many accomplishments include being named “America’s Best Rock Band” by Time Magazine in 2000. **Proposal available; ms expected April 2010.**

NA rights to HarperCollins/Ecco (Matt Weiland), publication early 2011

ARTHUR JONES
THE POST-IT NOTE DIARIES
Plume, September 2011

THE POST-IT NOTE DIARIES is an anthology of personal essays from well-known authors, artists and personalities, all illustrated on the familiar yellow squares of paper that have become as ubiquitous in offices as the paper clip, including contributions from Jon Hodgman, Starlee Kine, Mike Birbiglia, Arthur Bradford, Jonathan Goldstein, and many more.

Inspired by the sketches of his co-workers he did on Post-Its as a break from his job designing banner ads for websites, Arthur Jones teamed with his friend, author Starlee Kine, to start the *Post-It Note Reading Series*, which featured autobiographical stories from writers, paired with a slideshow of drawings by Jones. Personal stories about pretending to beat your parents with a wiffle ball bat in a self-help seminar, getting arrested for credit card fraud at 14, and almost drowning while trying to paddle across the East River in a homemade canoe were all given a lighter and more informal vibe from Arthur's illustrations. The series has earned rave reviews, and spawned the companion website www.postitnotestories.com, and, this past April, was a headliner in *This American Life's* live simulcast to over 400 movie theaters around the country; featuring a story from Kine with Jones' drawings.

Arthur Jones is an illustrator, designer and animator, and a graduate of The Rhode Island School of Design. His illustrations have appeared in *The New York Times*, *Found Magazine* and on *This American Life*; and his animation has appeared on MTV2, Nickelodeon and at The New York Museum of Arts & Design.

NA rights to Anna Sternoff at Plume

Finished copies available

AMANDA McCALL and BEN SCHWARTZ

MAYBE YOUR LEG WILL GROW BACK! Looking on the Bright Side with Baby Animals

William Morrow, November 2011

The hilarious follow-up to their bestselling **GRANDMA'S DEAD: Breaking Bad News With Baby Animals**, and **WHY IS DADDY IN A DRESS?**, Ben Schwartz and Amanda McCall are back again with more cute puppies and kittens to shine a bright light of misguided optimism on life's tougher moments, combining the fuzzy imagery of greeting card pictures of baby animals with slap-in-the face dark humor.

Amanda McCall is the co-author of *Hold My Gold: A White Girls Guide to the Hip-Hop World* (Simon & Schuster, 2005), and *Britney's Baby Book* (Penguin, 2005). Her work has been featured in numerous publications including *The New York Times*, *Vanity Fair*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *Allure*, *New York* magazine, *Vibe*, and on *Gawker.com*. She has appeared on *E! Entertainment Television*, *ABC News Now*, *WB11*, and on a variety of nationally syndicated radio shows, such as *Hot 97s Miss Jones in the Morning*, *The Wendy Williams Experience*, *Mancow in the Morning*, and Sirius Satellite Radio. Amanda works at *The Late Show with David Letterman*.

Ben Schwartz is a writer/actor/comedian from New York City. He was a staff writer on the third season of Adult Swim's Emmy nominated show *Robot Chicken* as well as a freelance writer for *Saturday Night Live's* Weekend Update and *The Late Show with David Letterman's* monologue. Although many of his jokes made it to air, Ben created a website to give his rejected jokes and short films a home – www.rejectedjokes.com. He is a sketch and improv comedian at the Upright Citizens Brigade Theatre, and has acted in numerous television shows and feature films including *Undercovers* and *Peep World*, and was nominated for two Emmy awards for his writing work on the 2009 Oscars.

NA rights to HarperCollins (Jessica Deputato)

ALSO AVAILABLE:

WHY IS DADDY IN A DRESS? Asking Awkward Questions With Baby Animals

HarperCollins, August 2009

GRANDMA'S DEAD: BREAKING BAD NEWS WITH BABY ANIMALS

HarperCollins, November 2008

NA rights to HarperCollins (Jessica Deputato)

KEN DENMEAD

GEEK DAD: Awesomely Geeky Projects and Activities for Dads and Kids to Share (May, 2010)

THE GEEK DAD'S GUIDE TO WEEKEND FUN: Cool Hacks, Cutting-Edge Games, and More Awesome Projects for the Whole Family (May, 2011)

THE GEEK DAD BOOK FOR ASPIRING MAD SCIENTISTS: The Coolest Experiments and Projects for Science Fairs and Family Fun (November, 2011)
Gotham

"Full of inspiring projects that do not require upper-body strength or the ability to talk to girls. The helium balloon with a camcorder attached, for example, is pure sci-fi genius."-- The Times UK

"A must-read for dorky parents — a one-stop resource on everything from educational science projects to reviews of kid-friendly videogames.-- Wired

New York Times Bestseller

The ultimate DIY project guide for techie dads raising kids in their own geeky image, in the spirit of *The Dangerous Book for Boys* and with a forward by Chris Anderson.

Today's generation of dads grew up more tech-savvy than ever. Rather than playing sports, many grew up playing computer games. Now with kids of their own, these digital-age dads are looking for fresh ways to share their love of science and technology, and help their kids develop a passion for learning and discovery.

An engineer and editor of the incredibly popular GeekDad blog on Wired.com, Ken Denmead has created the ultimate, idea-packed guide guaranteed to help dads and kids alike enjoy the magic of playtime together and tap into the infinite possibility of their imagination. With Denmead's expert guidance, you and your child can fly a night-time kite ablaze with lights or launch a video camera with balloons, create a customized comic strip or your own board game, and even transform any room into a spaceship.

Ken Denmead is the editor of GeekDad, a blog on *Wired* magazine's Web site. A professional civil engineer, he lives near San Francisco with his two sons, who are both geeks in training. He is currently at work on his second book.

Finished books available – Contact Sandy Hodgman at Einstein Thompson Agency:
sandy@einsteinthompson.com

Rights sold: Spanish/Aguilar; Portuguese (Brazil)/Leya; Russian/AST

HENRY SCHLESINGER

THE BATTERY: How Portable Power Sparked a Technological Revolution

HarperCollins, March 2010

Batteries have become as ubiquitous as the handheld devices that they feed; between cell phones, Blackberries and iPods, a typically plugged-in individual may be carrying enough of them to light a room. But batteries are one of the more misunderstood players in the electronic age, both in the way that they work (more miniature power plant than gas tank), and in the importance of their role in the history of technology. In fact, batteries were the original and only power source available before the means to harness electricity had been identified, and the success of many other inventions relied upon them. This included the first telephone, which relied on a “wet cell” battery (a glass jar filled with liquid chemicals and a piece of carbon) that required weekly refilling by technicians who made trips to the homes of the privileged few who owned them.

In *PORTABLE POWER*, Henry Schlesinger will tell the story of batteries from their earliest development to the present day, along the way detailing their subtle but fascinating role in influencing our daily lives by exploring the evolution of the devices they have powered.

Henry Schlesinger has written extensively about science and emerging technologies for such publications as *Popular Science*, *Popular Mechanics*, *MIT's Technology Review* and *Smithsonian*. He is the co-author, with veteran CIA officer Robert Wallace and espionage historian H. Keith Melton, of the forthcoming book *SPYCRAFT*, scheduled to be published this year by Dutton. He is also the author of several children's books on video games as well as more than 20 fiction and nonfiction books covering everything from police work to murder mysteries. He lives in Brooklyn, New York.

NA Rights to HarperCollins (Bill Strachan)

“An **irresistibly entertaining history** of electricity from the point of view of the humble battery...high-quality popular-science writing.” – *Kirkus*

"Schlesinger provides an illuminating historical account of a device whose enormous influence has been downplayed or misunderstood...**Combining enormous learning with a lively and entertaining style...**" -- *Publishers Weekly*

“From its witty subtitle to its lively writing style, to its sheer abundance of fascinating and frequently surprising stories, this is **a delightful book...the technological equivalent of Mark Kurlansky's *Cod*.**” – *Booklist*

SUSANNAH GORA

YOU COULDN'T IGNORE ME IF YOU TRIED: The Brat Pack, John Hughes, and Their Impact on a Generation

Crown, February 2010

You can quote lines from *Sixteen Candles* (“Last night at the dancemy little brother paid a buck to see your underwear”), your iPod playlist includes more than one song by the Psychedelic Furs and Simple Minds, you watch *The Breakfast Club* every time it comes on cable, and you still wish that Andie had ended up with Duckie in *Pretty in Pink*. You’re a bonafide Brat Pack devotee—and you’re not alone.

The films of the Brat Pack—from *Sixteen Candles* to *Say Anything*—are some of the most watched, bestselling DVDs of all time. The landscape that the Brat Pack memorialized—where outcasts and prom queens fall in love, preppies and burn-outs become buds, and frosted lip gloss, skinny ties, and exuberant optimism made us feel invincible—is rich with cultural themes and significance, and has influenced an entire generation who still believe that life always turns out the way it is supposed to.

You Couldn't Ignore Me If You Tried takes us back to that era, interviewing key players, such as Molly Ringwald, Anthony Michael Hall, Ally Sheedy, Judd Nelson, Andrew McCarthy, and John Cusack, and mines all the material from the movies to the music to the way the films were made to show how they helped shape our visions for romance, friendship, society, and success.

SUSANNAH GORA is a film journalist who has written for *Variety* and *Elle* and was an editor at *Premier* emagazine. She appears regularly on networks like VH1, NBC, and E! to discuss entertainment news and pop culture.

NA rights to Crown (Suzanne O'Neill)

"As readable as it is informative, Susannah Gora's book sets these influential films into a cultural and cinematic context—and provides compelling behind-the-scenes stories about the people who made them."--Leonard Maltin

"A must-have for fans of '80s teen flicks...what makes it so readable is the juicy, behind-the-scenes stuff."-- Mike Householder, Associated Press

"Gora interviews all the major actors and players anew, and knits together a narrative that, in the end, gives fans a clear, sound understanding of what commercial and cultural forces produced these films — "Sixteen Candles," "The Breakfast Club," "Ferris Bueller's Day Off," "Say Anything" and more — and why they still mean a great deal to so many." — Chicago Sun-Times

"I've become addicted to Susannah Gora's new book, "You Couldn't Ignore Me If You Tried," her masterful documentation of Hughes and the Brat Pack films." —Steve Spears, St. Petersburg Times

EDITORS OF PITCHFORK MEDIA
THE PITCHFORK 500
Touchstone Fireside, November 2008

"Pitchfork has emerged as one of the more important indie music tastemakers in any medium...Bands like Arcade Fire, Broken Social Scene and Modest Mouse have all received digital love from Pitchfork and soon after have sold hundreds of thousands of records."

-The New York Times

FROM THE BRAIN TRUST BEHIND PITCHFORKMEDIA.COM -- THE WEBSITE *THE LOS ANGELES TIMES* DECLARED "AN ESSENTIAL PART OF THE IPO D GENERATION'S LEXICON, A MUST-READ" -- A FRESH GUIDE TO THE 500 BEST SONGS OF THE PAST THIRTY YEARS.

Named the "best site for music criticism on the web" by *The New York Times Magazine*, Pitchforkmedia.com has become the leading independent resource for music journalism, the place people turn to find out what's happening in new music. Founded in 1995, Pitchfork has developed one of the web's most devoted followings, with more than 1.6 million readers monthly who tune in for daily reviews, news, features, videos, and interviews.

In *The Pitchfork 500: Our Guide to the Greatest Songs from Punk to the Present*, Pitchfork offers up their take on the 500 best songs of the past three decades. Focusing on indie rock (Arcade Fire, the Shins), hip-hop (Public Enemy, Jay-Z), electronic (Daft Punk, Boards of Canada), pop (Madonna, Justin Timberlake), metal (Metallica, Boris), and experimental underground music (Suicide, Boredoms), it features all-new essays and reviews written with the sharp wit and insight for which the site is known.

Kicking it off in 1977 with the birth of punk and independent music, *The Pitchfork 500* runs chronologically, with each chapter representing a distinct period and offering a narrative of how the musical landscape of the day influenced its artists. The book opens with David Bowie, Lou Reed, Iggy Pop, Kraftwerk, and Brian Eno, the "art-rock godfathers" who set the tone and tenor for the next thirty years, and wraps up in the present, when bands connect with new audiences through social networking sites and prime-time TV placements -- and when a single mp3 can turn a niche indie artist into a global sensation. Sidebars like "Yacht Rock," "Runaway Trainwrecks," "Nanofads," and "Career Killers" call out some far-from-classic musical trends and identify the guiltiest offenders.

Modernizing the music-guide format, *The Pitchfork 500* reflects the way listeners are increasingly processing music -- by song rather than by album. These 500 tracks condense thirty years of essential music into the ultimate chronological playlist, each song advancing the narrative and, by extension, the music itself.

NA rights to Touchstone/Fireside

FICTION

MICAH NATHAN

LOSING GRACELAND

Broadway Books, January 2011

Praise for GODS OF ABERDEEN:

"A malevolently thrilling coming-of-ager wrapped in a philosophical detective tale."

-- Kirkus Reviews

"Gods of Aberdeen is a taut, elegantly written literary thriller. Part coming-of-age novel, part gothic New England mystery, it will keep you turning the pages to the end. Micah Nathan is a terrific storyteller."

-- Thomas Christopher Greene, author of Mirror Lake

When Ben Fish responds to an ad that reads "Driver Needed Seven Days Excellent Pay No Druggies Drunks or Felons," it's because of the money (\$10,000), but also to get away from his dead-end life--he just graduated from college with a seemingly useless degree, got dumped by his longtime girlfriend, and is still haunted by the death of his father in a freak accident years ago.

He quickly finds himself in for more than he expected, as the old man who placed the ad seems to be a still-living Elvis, who leads Ben on a 900-mile journey to Memphis to find his granddaughter. Along the way they fight with biker gangs, consult with backwoods oracles, rescue a hooker named Ginger from her one-eyed pimp and, ultimately, find some answers about themselves and their place in the world.

Micah Nathan's debut novel GODS OF ABERDEEN (Simon & Schuster 2005) was published in five countries and became a bestseller in Italy. He has written for *Boston Globe Magazine*, *Penny Blood*, *Commonweal*, and others, and one of his short stories was a recent finalist for the Tobias Wolff Award.

NA rights to Broadway

Rights for GODS OF ABERDEEN sold: Italian/Sonzogno; Portuguese/Pena Perfeita; Russian/AST; Spanish/ Roca Editorial

GABE ROTTER
THE HUMAN BOBBY

Simon & Schuster, August 2010

Bobby Flopkowski has a perfect life. He's in love with his wife, Ava, and his young son Jack, and is a partner in a successful private pediatric practice in Beverly Hills with his best friend from medical school. But when Bobby gets an e-mail from a down-and-out childhood friend, Katie Turner, what starts out as an innocent lunch date touches off a terrible downward spiral. Katie quickly insinuates herself into Bobby's life, much to Ava's dismay, and disaster strikes when baby Jack is abducted from their backyard on Bobby and Katie's watch. As the frantic search for their son draws out into months and hope disappears, so does Katie.

Having lost his house, his job, and his family, Bobby begins to suspect that he may have lost himself too as he spirals out of control into drugs, alcohol and life on the street until a random encounter revives his desire to understand what went wrong and why. In **THE HUMAN BOBBY**, Gabe Rotter takes readers along on one man's desperate journey to put the pieces of his life back together and, more importantly, learn to trust himself again when no one else does.

NA rights to Simon & Schuster (Kerri Kolen)

SARAH RAINONE
LOVE WILL TEAR US APART

Three Rivers Press, May 2009

“Rainone’s fun and poignant debut novel centers on a group of longtime friends who reunite for a wedding in their small Rhode Island hometown. . . . Rainone does a stellar job of capturing the personalities and quirks of each protagonist, and the contrast between their bright memories and dim current realities is nicely handled. . . . the vivid storytelling and mix of hope and heartbreak is an addictive formula.”

-Publishers Weekly

Sarah Rainone’s debut novel *LOVE WILL TEAR US APART* is an alternately hilarious and harrowing book that mixes the humor of Sam Lipsyte and the edge of Amanda Boyden, with a narrative nod to Bret Easton Ellis’s *Rules of Attraction*.

Set in suburban Rhode Island, *LOVE WILL TEAR US APART* is about former high school classmates Ben, Cort, Alex, Shawn, and Karmela—a jerk, a hippie, a cokehead, a musician, and a gangster—and examines the gray area of adulthood that moving towards 30 can be, and the realization that who you were in high school can be hard to shake. When they are brought together for the first time in years for a wedding, the chaos that ensues serves as a jumping-off point for each character to reveal the defining moments of their childhoods, along with some of the secrets that have defined them since.

Sarah Rainone has been an editor at both Doubleday and Collins. A graduate of Syracuse University, she grew up in Cranston, Rhode Island and lives in Brooklyn.

NA rights to Three Rivers Press (Heather Lazare)