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When You Learn the Alphabet Kendra Allen 2019-04-15 "Kendra Allen's first collection of essays *When You Learn the Alphabet*--at its core--is a bunch of mad stories about things she never learned to let go of. Unifying personal narrative and cultural commentary, this collection grapples with the lessons that have been stored between father and daughter as well as mother and daughter. These parental relationships expose the conditioning that subconsciously informed and encouraged her ideas on social issues such as colorism, feminism, war-induced PTSD, homophobia, marriage, and 'the n-word,' among other things"

I Am Diosa Christine Gutierrez 2022-02-01 This raw and relatable guide to radical self-care and self-love empowers readers to embrace the powerful Diosa within. In this fiercely inspiring book, psychotherapist Christine Gutierrez welcomes women to join her in healing the wounds from past hurt or trauma to reclaim their worth and come back home to their true self and soul. Diosa is the Spanish word for Goddess. A diosa is anyone who honors the primal feminine energy in the world and within themselves. According to Gutierrez, diosas face obstacles in their lives but are always ready and willing to go to their core to reclaim their inner worth and self-esteem. They are the ones that rise from the ashes and dare to piece themselves back together bone by bone and soul piece by soul piece. From stories of resilience from both Gutierrez and members of her Diosa Tribe, to mantras, meditations, and guided journaling prompts, this book gives women the tools they need to honor their sacred feminine and become who they were always meant to be. *I Am Diosa* will inspire women to give themselves permission to feel, to be seen, to be heard, and to return to their truest selves.

These Impossible Things Salma El-Wardany 2022-06-07 A *Read With Jenna Today Show Book Club pick* and razor-sharp debut novel of three best friends navigating love, sex, faith, and the one night that changes it all. It's always been Malak, Kees, and Jenna against the world. Since childhood, under the watchful eyes of their parents, aunties and uncles, they've learned to live their own lives alongside the expectations of being good Muslim women. Staying over at a boyfriend's place is disguised as a best friend's sleepover, and tiredness can be blamed on studying instead of partying. They know they're existing in a perfect moment. With growing older and the stakes of love and life growing higher, the delicate balancing act between rebellion and religion is becoming increasingly difficult to navigate. Malak wants the dream: for her partner, community, and faith to coexist happily, and she wants this so much she's willing to break her own heart to get it. Kees is in love with Harry, a white Catholic man who her parents can never know about. When he proposes, she must decide between her future happiness and the life she knows and family she loves. Jenna is the life of the party, always ready for new pleasures, even though she's plagued by a loneliness she can't shake. Through it all, they have always had each other. But as their college years come to a close, one night changes everything when harsh truths are revealed. As their lives begin to take different paths, Malak, Kees, and Jenna—now on the precipice of true adulthood—must find a way back to each other as they reconcile faith, family, and tradition with their own needs and desires. *These Impossible Things* is a paean to youth and female friendship—and to all the joy and messiness love holds. A Marie Claire Book Club Pick for June 2022 and a Most Anticipated Book by: Bustle, theSkimm, Fortune, Apartment Therapy, and BookRiot

What Kind of Woman Kate Baer 2020-11-10 An Instant #1 New York Times Bestseller A Goop Book Club Pick "If you want your breath to catch and your heart to stop, turn to Kate Baer."--Joanna Goddard, *Cup of Jo* A stunning and honest debut poetry collection about the beauty and hardships of being a woman in the world today, and the many roles we play - mother, partner, and friend. "When life throws you a bag of sorrow, hold out your hands/Little by little, mountains are climbed." So ends Kate Baer's remarkable poem "Things My Girlfriends Teach Me." In "Nothing Tastes as Good as Skinny Feels" she challenges her reader to consider their grandmother's cake, the taste of the sea, the cool swill of freedom. In her poem "Deliverance" about her son's birth she writes "What is the word for when the light leaves the body?/What is the word for when it/at last, returns?" Through poems that are as unforgettably beautiful as they are accessible, Kate Baer proves herself to truly be an exemplary voice in modern poetry. Her words make women feel seen in their own bodies, in their own marriages, and in their own lives. Her poems are those you share with your mother, your daughter, your sister, and your friends.

Ancestors Said Ehime Ora 2021-11-04 *Ancestors Said* is a 365-page debut prose collection by Ehime Ora, a writer who rose to popularity through her social media presence. Ora's debut book holds gentle words of prayer and affirmation to intuitively provide you with peace, joy, and healing all year long. The author intends for the book to be read day-by-day as meditative guides or utilized as journal prompts.

The How Yrsa Daley-Ward 2021-11-02 From the acclaimed poet behind *Bone*, an exploration of how we can meet our truest selves, the ones we've always been meant to become Yrsa Daley-Ward's words have resonated with hundreds of thousands of readers--through her books of poetry and memoir, *Bone* and *The Terrible*; through her writing for Beyoncé on *Black Is King*; and through her always illuminating Instagram posts. Now, in *The How*, Yrsa encourages readers to begin, as she puts it,

the great work of meeting ourselves. This isn't the self we've built up in response to our surroundings, or the self we manufacture to please the people around us, but instead, our most intimate self, the one we visit in dreams, the one that calls to us from a glimmering future. With a mix of short lyrical musings and her signature stunning poetry, Yrsa gently takes readers by the hand, encouraging them to join her as she explores how we can remove our filters, and see and feel more of who we really are behind the preconceived notions of propriety and manners we've accumulated with age. With a beautiful design and intriguing meditations, *The How* can be used to start conversations, to prompt writing, to delve deeper--whether you're solo, or with friends, on your feet or writing from the solace of home.

Twisted Emma Dabiri 2020-06-23 A Kirkus Best Book of the Year Stamped from the Beginning meets You Can't Touch My Hair in this timely and resonant essay collection from Guardian contributor and prominent BBC race correspondent Emma Dabiri, exploring the ways in which black hair has been appropriated and stigmatized throughout history, with ruminations on body politics, race, pop culture, and Dabiri's own journey to loving her hair. Emma Dabiri can tell you the first time she chemically straightened her hair. She can describe the smell, the atmosphere of the salon, and her mix of emotions when she saw her normally kinky tresses fall down her shoulders. For as long as Emma can remember, her hair has been a source of insecurity, shame, and—from strangers and family alike—discrimination. And she is not alone. Despite increasingly liberal world views, black hair continues to be erased, appropriated, and stigmatized to the point of taboo. Through her personal and historical journey, Dabiri gleans insights into the way racism is coded in society's perception of black hair—and how it is often used as an avenue for discrimination. Dabiri takes us from pre-colonial Africa, through the Harlem Renaissance, and into today's Natural Hair Movement, exploring everything from women's solidarity and friendship, to the criminalization of dreadlocks, to the dubious provenance of Kim Kardashian's braids. Through the lens of hair texture, Dabiri leads us on a historical and cultural investigation of the global history of racism—and her own personal journey of self-love and finally, acceptance. Deeply researched and powerfully resonant, *Twisted* proves that far from being only hair, black hairstyling culture can be understood as an allegory for black oppression and, ultimately, liberation.

The Terrible Yrsa Daley-Ward 2018-06-05 Winner of the PEN Ackerley Prize • Longlisted for the 2019 PEN Open Book Award "Devastating and lyrical." —*The New York Times* "Suspenseful and affecting." —*The New Yorker* From the celebrated poet behind *bone*, a collection of poems that tells a story of coming-of-age, uncovering the cruelty and beauty of the world, going under, and finding redemption Through her signature sharp, searing poems, this is the story of Yrsa Daley-Ward and all the things that happened. "Even the terrible things. And God, there were terrible things." It's about her childhood in the northwest of England with her beautiful, careworn mother Marcia; the man formerly known as Dad (half fun, half frightening); and her little brother Roo, who sees things written in the stars. It's also about the surreal magic of adolescence, about growing up and discovering the power and fear of sexuality, about pitch-gray days of pills and powder and connection. It's about damage and pain, but also joy. With raw intensity and shocking honesty, *The Terrible* is a collection of poems that tells the story of what it means to lose yourself and find your voice. "You may not run away from the thing that you are because it comes and comes and comes as sure as you breathe."

Nejma Nayyirah Waheed 2014-06-17 all of theunsleeping. gold sweeping. poems.i have in my hands.

Putney Sofka Zinovieff 2018-08-21 In the spirit of Zoë Heller's Notes on a Scandal and Tom Perrotta's Mrs. Fletcher, an explosive and thought-provoking novel about the far-reaching repercussions of an illicit relationship between a young girl and a man twenty years her senior. A rising star in the London arts scene of the early 1970s, gifted composer Ralph Boyd is approached by renowned novelist Edmund Greenslay to score a stage adaptation of his most famous work. Welcomed into Greenslay's sprawling bohemian house in Putney, an artistic and prosperous district in southwest London, the musical wunderkind is introduced to Edmund's activist wife Ellie, his aloof son Theo, and his nine-year old daughter Daphne, who quickly becomes Ralph's muse. Ralph showers Daphne with tokens of his affection—clandestine gifts and secret notes. In a home that is exciting but often lonely, Daphne finds Ralph to be a dazzling companion, and while he worships her, he doesn't touch her. Their bond remains strong even after Ralph becomes a husband and father. But in the summer of 1976, when Ralph accompanies thirteen-year-old Daphne alone to meet her parents in Greece, their relationship intensifies irrevocably. One person knows of their passionate trysts: Daphne's best friend Jane, whose awe of the intoxicating Greenslay family ensures her silence. Forty years later Daphne is back in London. After years lost to decadence and drug abuse, she is struggling to create a normal, stable life for herself and her adolescent daughter. When circumstances bring her back in touch with her long-lost friend, Jane, their reunion inevitably turns to Ralph, now a world-famous musician also living in the city. Daphne's recollections of her childhood and her growing anxiety over her own daughter eventually lead to an explosive realization that propels her to confront Ralph and their years together. Told from three diverse viewpoints—victim, perpetrator, and witness—Putney is a subtle and powerful novel about consent, agency, and what we tell ourselves to justify what we do, and what others do to us.

Sour Honey & Soul Food Billy Chapata 2017-06-27 Sometimes life tastes sweet, sometimes life leaves a bitter taste in your mouth. Sometimes life is spiced up through natural events, sometimes life feels bland and tasteless. Sour Honey and Soul Food, is a book which explores the beauty and intricacies of love, life and connections, through poetry. Billy Chapata's third book looks to touch on the variety of flavors we taste, on this beautiful journey we call life.

The Ballerina Mindset Megan Fairchild 2021-12-07 Learn how to thrive in intense, competitive environments with these secrets from one of America's premiere ballerinas--and get a sneak peek at what her life is really like. Ballet may look glamorous and effortless to audience members, but it requires grueling discipline. It's a competitive and physically and mentally demanding career that combines elite athleticism, artistry, and performance. Not only do dancers rehearse for six to eight hours a day before performing at night, but they also must make it all look easy! As a principal ballerina with New York City Ballet and a one-time Broadway star--not to mention a mother of three and an MBA student--Megan Fairchild is all too familiar with these challenges. In *The Ballerina Mindset*, she shares all the wisdom she's learned from her nearly two-decade career, drawing upon her own experiences to show us how she learned to overcome challenges ranging from stage fright to negative feedback to a packed calendar to weight management--and how we can do the same. Inspiring, warm, and revelatory, *The Ballerina Mindset* is the perfect how-to guide for dancers, athletes, artists, and anyone struggling to stay sane in a high-pressure environment.

O Zeina Hashem Beck 2022-07-05 "O is so full of music and passion for life . . . Zeina Hashem Beck's poems unfold the abundance of our world." —Ilya Kaminsky, author of Deaf Republic From a "brilliant, absolutely essential voice" whose

"poems feel like whole worlds" (Naomi Shihab Nye), a poetry collection considering the body physical, the body politic, and the body sacred Zeina Hashem Beck writes at the intersection of the divine and the profane, where she crafts elegant, candid poems that simultaneously exude a boundless curiosity and a deep knowingness. Formally electrifying—from lyrics and triptychs to ghazals and Zeina's own duets, in which English and Arabic echo and contradict each other—O explores the limits of language, notions of home and exile, and stirring visions of motherhood, memory, and faith.

In the Lateness of the World Carolyn Forché 2021-03-09 FINALIST FOR THE 2021 PULITZER PRIZE FOR POETRY 2021 AMERICAN BOOK AWARD WINNER "An undisputed literary event." —NPR "History—with its construction and its destruction—is at the heart of *In the Lateness of the World*. . . . In [it] one feels the poet cresting a wave—a new wave that will crash onto new lands and unexplored territories." —Hilton Als, *The New Yorker* Over four decades, Carolyn Forché's visionary work has reinvigorated poetry's power to awaken the reader. Her groundbreaking poems have been testimonies, inquiries, and wonderments. They daringly map a territory where poetry asserts our inexhaustible responsibility to one another. Her first new collection in seventeen years, *In the Lateness of the World* is a tenebrous book of crossings, of migrations across oceans and borders but also between the present and the past, life and death. The world here seems to be steadily vanishing, but in the moments before the uncertain end, an illumination arrives and "there is nothing that cannot be seen." *In the Lateness of the World* is a revelation from one of the finest poets writing today.

The Scent of Burnt Flowers Blitz Bazawule 2022-06-28 Fleeing persecution in 1960s America, a Black couple seeks asylum in Ghana, but fresh dangers and old secrets threaten their newfound freedom in this hypnotic debut novel. "I am truly blown away by this novel."—Jacqueline Woodson, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Red at the Bone* When the windshield of his Chevy Impala shatters in a dark diner parking lot in Alabama, Melvin moves without thinking. A split-second reaction marrows in his bones from the days of war, but this time it is the safety of his fiancé, Bernadette, at stake. Impulse keeps them alive, and yet they flee with blood on their hands. What is life like now that they are fugitives? Pack passports. Empty bank accounts. Set their old life on fire. The couple disguise themselves as a pastor and a reluctant pastor's wife who's hiding a secret from her fiancé. With a persistent FBI agent on their trail, they travel to Ghana to seek the help of Melvin's old college friend who happens to be the country's embattled president, Kwame Nkrumah. The couple's chance encounter with Ghana's most beloved highlife musician, Kwesi Kwayson, who's on his way to perform for the president, sparks a journey full of suspense, lust, magic, and danger as Nkrumah's regime crumbles around them. What was meant to be a fresh start quickly spirals into chaos, threatening both their relationship and their lives. Kwesi and Bernadette's undeniable attraction and otherworldly bond cascades during their three-day trek, and so does Melvin's intense jealousy. All three must confront one another and their secrets, setting off a series of cataclysmic events. Steeped in the history and mythology of postcolonial West Africa at the intersection of the civil rights movement in America, this gripping and ambitious debut merges political intrigue, magical encounters, and forbidden romance in an epic collision of morality and power.

The Crane Wife CJ Hauser 2022-07-12 A memoir in essays that expands on the viral sensation "The Crane Wife" with a frank and funny look at love, intimacy, and self in the twenty-first century. From friends and lovers to blood family and chosen family, this "elegant masterpiece" (Roxane Gay, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Hunger*) asks what more expansive definitions of love might offer us all. "An intellectually vigorous and emotionally resonant account of how a self gets created over time, *The Crane Wife* will satisfy and inspire anyone who has ever asked, 'How did I get here, and what happens now?' ... Hauser builds her life's inventory out of deconstructed personal narratives, resulting in a reading experience that's rich like a complicated dessert—not for wolfing down but for savoring in small bites." —*The New York Times* Ten days after calling off her wedding, CJ Hauser went on an expedition to Texas to study the whooping crane. After a week wading through the gulf, she realized she'd almost signed up to live someone else's life. In this intimate, frank, and funny memoir-in-essays, Hauser releases herself from traditional narratives of happiness and goes looking for ways of living that leave room for the unexpected, making plenty of mistakes along the way. She kisses Internet strangers and officiates at a wedding. She rereads *Rebecca* in the house her boyfriend once shared with his ex-wife and rewinds Katharine Hepburn in *The Philadelphia Story* to learn how not to lose yourself in a relationship. She thinks about Florence Nightingale at a robot convention and grief at John Belushi's rock and roll gravesite, and the difference between those stories we're asked to hold versus those we choose to carry. She writes about friends and lovers, blood family and chosen family, and asks what more expansive definitions of love might offer us all. Told with the late-night barstool directness of your wisest, most bighearted friend, *The Crane Wife* is a book for everyone whose life doesn't look the way they thought it would; for everyone learning to find joy in the not-knowing; for everyone trying, if sometimes failing, to build a new sort of life story, a new sort of family, a new sort of home, to live in.

i shimmer sometimes, too Porsha Olayiwola 2020-01-01 Porsha Olayiwola's debut poetry collection soars with the power and presence of live performance. These poems dip their hands into the fabric of black womanhood and revel in it. Shimmer establishes Olayiwola firmly in the lineage of black queer poetics, celebrating the work done by generations of poets from Audre Lorde to Danez Smith. Each poem is a gentle breaking and an inventive reconstruction. This is a book of self and community-care—in pursuit of building a world that will not only keep you alive but will keep you joyful. Advance praise for *i shimmer sometime, too* In Porsha Olayiwola's capable hands, language becomes elastic, becomes kaleidoscopic. *i shimmer sometimes, too* is cinematic, is magic, and graceful education in the possibilities of form -Safia Elillo, Author Of *The January Children* In language that is both pungent and poignant, Porsha Olayiwola plumbs a diaspora of resilience, rich in ringshouts and inner-city blues chanted to the sky. *i shimmer sometimes, too* is luminous indeed. -Jabari Asim, Author of *We Can't Breathe* Each poem is a lesson, a story, a mirror that Olayiwola holds up to ensure we pay attention to that which we may have overlooked. -Clint Smith, Author of *Counting Descent*

Thou Aisha Sasha John 2014-04-15 In *THOU*, Aisha Sasha John knows the day - biblically. What if time itself was an object of desire? And the book was a theatre for that? Aisha Sasha John has a crush on time. Which is why she disciplined in it. For three years. Also for three months. Also for three months at 33. Ya. Aisha Sasha John has a crush on time and disciplined in time, moving it across her body, watching it, um, course the day. She slowed it down and thought along it, she cut it up. She slowed it down and thunk along it and sped it up. She cut it up and spaced it out and rhythmized it down and laid it flat and looked at it hard. Aisha Sasha John has a crush on time. She did it. She did time. It was gross and funny and it was hard and it was good. The result is/was - *THOU*.

Franklin's Blanket Paulette Bourgeois 2011-02-01 Follows the experiences of Franklin the turtle, who loses a beloved blanket without which he has never been able to sleep.

The Terrible Yrsa Daley-Ward 2018-06-05 Winner of the PEN Ackerley Prize • Longlisted for the 2019 PEN Open Book Award "Devastating and lyrical." —The New York Times "Suspenseful and affecting." —The New Yorker From the celebrated poet behind *Bone*, a collection of poems that tells a story of coming-of-age, uncovering the cruelty and beauty of the world, going under, and finding redemption Through her signature sharp, searing poems, this is the story of Yrsa Daley-Ward and all the things that happened. "Even the terrible things. And God, there were terrible things." It's about her childhood in the northwest of England with her beautiful, careworn mother Marcia; the man formerly known as Dad (half fun, half frightening); and her little brother Roo, who sees things written in the stars. It's also about the surreal magic of adolescence, about growing up and discovering the power and fear of sexuality, about pitch-gray days of pills and powder and connection. It's about damage and pain, but also joy. With raw intensity and shocking honesty, *The Terrible* is a collection of poems that tells the story of what it means to lose yourself and find your voice. "You may not run away from the thing that you are because it comes and comes and comes as sure as you breathe."

Still Together Manoj Dias 2021-05-05 *Still Together* explores of the ways we feel detached from our lives, goals and relationships, and teaches us how we can begin to reclaim ourselves through mindfulness and meditation. While technology promises us constant connection, the sad reality is that we feel more disconnected than ever before. Expert teacher Manoj Dias takes us step-by-step through the core teachings of Buddhist meditation and shows how to apply this ancient wisdom to modern life. He provides the tools to help develop your own practice at home using mindfulness exercises and meditations, and shows us why cultivating wisdom is so important. *Still Together* will teach you how to apply these learning's to your life, enriching you with a deeper sense of connection to both yourself and the world around you. Including beautiful illustrations by french design duo Sacree Frangine (@sacree_frangine). 'Still Together is the exact medicine that we need in these times of great change. Whoever takes this book to heart will experience a profound transformation.'

—Yung Pueblo, author of *Inward*

bone Yrsa Daley-Ward 2017-09-26 "Yrsa Daley-Ward's *bone* is a symphony of breaking and mending. . . she lays her hands on the pulse of the thing. . . an expert storyteller. of the rarest. and purest kind." —Nayyirah Waheed, author of *Salt*. From the celebrated poet Yrsa Daley-Ward, a poignant collection of poems about the heart, life, and the inner self. Foreword by Kiese Laymon, author of *Heavy: An American Memoir*. *Bone*. Visceral. Close to. Stark. The poems in Yrsa Daley-Ward's collection *bone* are exactly that: reflections on a particular life honed to their essence—so clear and pared-down, they become universal. From navigating the oft competing worlds of religion and desire, to balancing society's expectations with the raw experience of being a woman in the world; from detailing the experiences of growing up as a first generation black British woman, to working through situations of dependence and abuse; from finding solace in the echoing caverns of depression and loss, to exploring the vulnerability and redemption in falling in love, each of the raw and immediate poems in Daley-Ward's *bone* resonates to the core of what it means to be human. "You will come away bruised. You will come away bruised but this will give you poetry."

Flyy Girl Omar Tyree 2001-08-01 From a fresh new voice with talent to burn comes this brash bitter sweet novel about Tracy Ellison, a young girl with knockout looks, slanted hazel eyes, tall hair, and attitude, as she comes of age during the hip-hop era. Motivated by the material life, Tracy, her friends, and the young men who will do anything to get next to them are plunged into a world of violence, gratuitous sex, and heartbreak. Slowly, Tracy begins to examine her life, her goals, and her sexuality—as she evolves from a Flyy Girl into a woman. A captivating tale, written with fluid narrative and contemporary dialect, *Flyy Girl* captures the complete feel and sounds of the streets and is destined to become an urban classic.

Black Girl, Call Home Jasmine Mans 2021 "A literary coming-of-age poetry collection, an ode to the places we call home, and a piercingly intimate deconstruction of daughterhood, *Black Girl, Call Home* is a love letter to the wandering black girl and a vital companion to any woman on a journey to find truth, belonging, and healing. As a competitive spoken-word poet who draws large crowds of people, Jasmine Mans's collection is divided into six sections, each with a corresponding active telephone number where she has recorded excerpts of her poems. You can listen now, just dial! Using poetry to bring change to the world with positive agitation and hoping to prompt dialogue where there is normally fear, poet Jasmine Mans explores the intersection of race, feminism, and queer identity in her latest collection *Black Girl, Call Home*..."

Bless the Daughter Raised by a Voice in Her Head Warsan Shire 2022-03-01 Poems of migration, womanhood, trauma, and resilience from the celebrated collaborator on Beyoncé's *Lemonade* and *Black Is King*, award-winning Somali British poet Warsan Shire "The beautifully crafted poems in this collection are fiercely tender gifts."—Roxane Gay, author of *Bad Feminist* "Shire is the real thing—fresh, cutting, indisputably alive."—Dwight Garner, *The New York Times* *Mama, I made it / out of your home / alive, raised by / the voices / in my head*. With her first full-length poetry collection, Warsan Shire introduces us to a young girl, who, in the absence of a nurturing guide, makes her own way toward womanhood. Drawing from her own life, as well as pop culture and news headlines, Shire finds vivid, unique details in the experiences of refugees and immigrants, mothers and daughters, Black women and teenage girls. In Shire's hands, lives spring into fullness. This is noisy life, full of music and weeping and surahs and sirens and birds. This is fragrant life, full of blood and perfume and shisha smoke and jasmine and incense. This is polychrome life, full of henna and moonlight and lipstick and turmeric and kohl. The long-awaited collection from one of our most exciting contemporary poets, this book is a blessing, an incantatory celebration of resilience and survival. Each reader will come away changed.

Malhaar Ambica Uppal 2018-04-13 Beneath every cloud There is a story. A story waiting to burst, A story of love, A story of grief, A story to inspire, Let it pour! *Malhaar*

Teaching My Mother How to Give Birth Warsan Shire 2011-12-01 "Literary pointillism on a funk-ed-out canvas."

Be Not Afraid of Love Mimi Zhu 2022-08-23 "Radical and revolutionary." —Jonny Sun, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Goodbye, Again* A collection of powerful interconnected essays and affirmations that follow Mimi Zhu's journey toward embodying and re-learning love after a violent romantic relationship, a stunning and provocative book that will guide and inspire readers to lean into love with softness In their early twenties, Mimi Zhu was a survivor of intimate-partner abuse. This left them broken, in search of healing and ways to re-learn love. This work is a testament to the strength and adaptability all humans possess, a tribute to love. *Be Not Afraid of Love* explores the intersections of love and fear in self-

esteem, friendship, family dynamics, and romantic relationships, and extends out to its effects on society and the greater political realm. In sharing their own intimate encounters with oppression, healing, joy, and community, Mimi invites readers to reflect deeply on their own experiences as well, with the intention of acting as a guide to undoing the hurt or uncertainty within them. In this heartrending and revolutionary book, Mimi reminds us, be not afraid of love.

Bone Fae Myenne Ng 2015-11-03 "We were a family of three girls. By Chinese standards, that wasn't lucky. In Chinatown, everyone knew our story. Outsiders jerked their chins, looked at us, shook their heads. We heard things." In this profoundly moving novel, Fae Myenne Ng takes readers into the hidden heart of San Francisco's Chinatown, to the world of one family's honor, their secrets, and the lost bones of a "paper father." Two generations of the Leong family live in an uneasy tension as they try to fathom the source of a brave young girl's sorrow. Oldest daughter Leila tells the story: of her sister Ona, who has ended her young, conflicted life by jumping from the roof of a Chinatown housing project; of her mother Mah, a seamstress in a garment shop run by a "Chinese Elvis"; of Leon, her father, a merchant seaman who ships out frequently; and the family's youngest, Nina, who has escaped to New York by working as a flight attendant. With Ona and Nina gone, it is up to Leila to lay the bones of the family's collective guilt to rest, and find some way to hope again. Fae Myenne Ng's luminous debut explores what it means to be a stranger in one's own family, a foreigner in one's own neighborhood--and whether it's possible to love a place that may never feel quite like home.

Bone Yrsa Daley-Ward 2017-09-26 You will come away bruised. You will come away bruised but this will give you poetry.' Global star Yrsa Daley-Ward's collection *Bone* is something unique and beautiful. Visceral, revealing, and unrelenting, Yrsa's poetry ranges from brief glimpses of stark emotional reality that have won her tens of thousands of Instagram followers to longer, often autobiographical poems that delve deep into her Afro-Caribbean heritage, mental health, and sexuality. This fearless collection from an unflinchingly strong new voice cements Yrsa as one of the most exciting young poets of the day.

Floating, Brilliant, Gone Franny Choi 2014-08-22 In her electrifying debut, Franny Choi leads readers through the complex landscapes of absence, memory, and identity. Beginning in loss and ending in reflective elation, *Floating, Brilliant, Gone* explores life as a brief impossibility, "infinite / until it isn't." Punctuated with haunting illustrations by Jess X. Chen, Choi's poems read like lucid dreams that jolt awake at the most unexpected moments.

Salt. Nayyirah Waheed 2013-09-24 *Poems.*

Fairytales for Lost Children Diriye Osman 2013-09-01 FAIRYTALES FOR LOST CHILDREN is narrated by people constantly on the verge of self-revelation. These characters - young, gay and lesbian Somalis - must navigate the complexities of family, identity and the immigrant experience as they tumble towards freedom. Set in Kenya, Somalia and South London, these stories are imbued with pathos, passion and linguistic playfulness, marking the arrival of a singular new voice in contemporary fiction. Praise for FAIRYTALES FOR LOST CHILDREN: 'Fantastic writing. I am most highly impressed. I've read some of the stories more than once and saw in each of them plenty of talent everywhere - in every sinew and vein.' - NURUDDIN FARAH 'There is nothing more humbling than good writing except when the author is fiercely beautiful and ferociously generous of heart. That Diriye Osman should possess so much talent is only fair in light of his goodness. Read this book.' - MESHELL NDEGECELLO 'The characters in these fairy tales are displaced in multiple, complicated ways. But Osman's storytelling creates a shelter for them; a warm place which is both real and imaginary, in which they find political, sexual, and ultimately psychic liberation.' - ALISON BECHDEL 'East Africa. South London. Queer. Displaced. Mentally Ill. My excitement over Osman and his writing comes, in part, out of delight at the impossibility of categorisation.' - ELLAH ALLFREY *The Telegraph*

Zimbabwe Tapiwa Mugabe 2013-07-07 Zimbabwe is the first collection of poetry from Zimbabwean born, UK based writer Tapiwa Mugabe. This collection introduces a fresh and bold voice into the rich current that is emerging from young African millennial artists.

Directed by Desire June Jordan 2012-12-28 "Directed by Desire . . . is a powerful addition to the entire canon of American poetry."—Booklist Now in paperback, *Directed by Desire* is the definitive overview of June Jordan's -poetry. Collecting the finest work from Jordan's ten volumes, as well as dozens of "last poems" that were never published in Jordan's lifetime, these more than six hundred pages overflow with intimate lyricism, elegance, fury, meditative solos, and dazzling vernacular riffs. As Adrienne Rich writes in her introduction, June Jordan "wanted her readers, listeners, students, to feel their own latent power—of the word, the deed, of their own beauty and intrinsic value." From "These Poems": These poems they are things that I do in the dark reaching for you whoever you are and are you ready? The cloth edition of *Directed by Desire* was selected as a Library Journal Poetry Book of the Year and received the Lambda Book Award for Lesbian Poetry. June Jordan taught at UC Berkeley for many years and founded Poetry for the People. Her twenty-eight books include poetry, essays, fiction, and children's books. She was a regular columnist for *The Progressive* and a prolific writer whose articles appeared in *The Village Voice*, *The New York Times*, *Ms. Magazine*, and *The Nation*. After her death in 2002, a school in the San Francisco School District was renamed in her honor.

She Had Some Horses: Poems Joy Harjo 2008-12-17 A collection of poems in which Joy Harjo explores themes of female despair, awakening, power, and love.

The Collected Poems of Lucille Clifton 1965-2010 Lucille Clifton 2015-06-20 Winner of the 2013 Hurston/Wright Legacy Award for Poetry "The Collected Poems of Lucille Clifton 1965-2010 may be the most important book of poetry to appear in years."--Publishers Weekly "All poetry readers will want to own this book; almost everything is in it."--Publishers Weekly "If you only read one poetry book in 2012, *The Collected Poems of Lucille Clifton* ought to be it."--NPR "The 'Collected Clifton' is a gift, not just for her fans...but for all of us."--The Washington Post "The love readers feel for Lucille Clifton—both the woman and her poetry—is constant and deeply felt. The lines that surface most frequently in praise of her work and her person are moving declarations of racial pride, courage, steadfastness."—Toni Morrison, from the Foreword *The Collected Poems of Lucille Clifton 1965-2010* combines all eleven of Lucille Clifton's published collections with more than fifty previously unpublished poems. The unpublished poems feature early poems from 1965-1969, a collection-in-progress titled *the book of days* (2008), and a poignant selection of final poems. An insightful foreword by Nobel Prize-winning author Toni Morrison and comprehensive afterword by noted poet Kevin Young frames Clifton's lifetime body of work, providing the definitive statement about this major America poet's career. On February 13, 2010, the poetry world lost one of its most distinguished members with the passing of Lucille Clifton. In the last year of her life, she was named the first African

American woman to receive the \$100,000 Ruth Lilly Poetry Prize honoring a US poet whose "lifetime accomplishments warrant extraordinary recognition," and was posthumously awarded the Robert Frost Medal for lifetime achievement from the Poetry Society of America. "mother-tongue: to man-kind" (from the unpublished the book of days): all that I am asking is that you see me as something more than a common occurrence, more than a woman in her ordinary skin.

Loud Black Girls: 20 Black Women Writers Ask: What's Next? Yomi Adegoke 2020-10-01 An important and timely anthology of black British writing, edited and curated by the authors of the highly acclaimed, ground-breaking *Slay In Your Lane*. *Slay in Your Lane Presents: Loud Black Girls* features essays from the diverse voices of twenty established and emerging black British writers.

All of Us Raymond Carver 2015-05-25 This prodigiously rich collection suggests that Raymond Carver was not only America's finest writer of short fiction, but also one of its most large-hearted and affecting poets. Like Carver's stories, the more than 300 poems in *All of Us* are marked by a keen attention to the physical world; an uncanny ability to compress vast feeling into discreet moments; a voice of conversational intimacy, and an unstinting sympathy. This complete edition brings together all the poems of Carver's five previous books, from *Fires* to the posthumously published *No Heroics, Please*. It also contains bibliographical and textual notes on individual poems; a chronology of Carver's life and work; and a moving introduction by Carver's widow, the poet Tess Gallagher.

Life of the Party Olivia Gatwood 2019-08-20 A dazzling debut collection of raw and explosive poems about growing up in a sexist, sensationalized world, from a thrilling new feminist voice. *i'm a good girl, bad girl, dream girl, sad girl girl next door sunbathing in the driveway i wanna be them all at once, i wanna be all the girls I've ever loved* —from "Girl" Lauded for the power of her writing and having attracted an online fan base of millions for her extraordinary spoken-word performances, Olivia Gatwood now weaves together her own coming-of-age with an investigation into our culture's romanticization of violence against women. At times blistering and riotous, at times soulful and exuberant, *Life of the Party* explores the boundary between what is real and what is imagined in a life saturated with fear. Gatwood asks, How does a girl grow into a woman in a world racked by violence? Where is the line between perpetrator and victim? In precise, searing language, she illustrates how what happens to our bodies can make us who we are. Praise for *Life of the Party* "Delicately devastating, this book will make us all 'feel less alone in the dark.'" —Miel Bredouw, writer and comedian, *Punch Up the Jam* "Gatwood writes about the women who were forgotten and the men who got off too easy with an effortlessness and empathy and anger that yanked every emotion on the spectrum out of me. Imagine, we get to live in the age of Olivia Gatwood. Goddamn." —Jamie Loftus, writer and comedian, *Boss Whom Is Girl and The Bechdel Cast* "I've read every poem in *Life of the Party*. I've read each of them more than once. In some parts of the book the spine is already breaking because I've spent so much time poring over it and losing hours in this world Olivia Gatwood has partly created, but partly just invited the reader to enter on their own, caution signs be damned. This book is enlightening, inspiring, igniting, and f***ing scary. I loved every word on every page with a ferocity that frightened me." —Madeline Brewer, actress, *The Handmaid's Tale*, *Orange Is the New Black*, and *Cam*