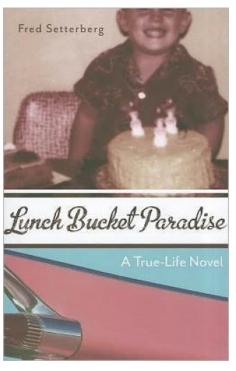
Oakland

Heyday



Lunch Bucket Paradise: A True-Life Novel Setterberg, Fred 9781597141666 256 pages paperback \$15.95 40%

A look back at the California mid-century dream. For those of us living in an age of high unemployment, foreclosures, and diminished expectations, suburban life in 1960s California seems like a distant dream. Working-class men, their fingers worn by honest labor, witnessed the invention of comforts designed to take the hurt off with a beer after a long day: frozen food, washer/dryer combos, and a square of unfenced grass called a lawn. Their sons dragged the perfumed streets, discovering James Brown and trying their damnedest to work less than their fathers and avoid the draft. Mothers experimented with neon-yellow cake mix and

fresh asparagus year-round. It was a time even the new home movie camera couldn't capture: the silent hope of better things to come and the fleeting good fortune of midcentury. With the sharp wit of a master storyteller, Fred Setterberg chronicles his childhood in the postwar Eden of Jefferson Manor, a blue-collar suburb of Oakland. Like a Bay Area Garrison Keillor or Bill Bryson, Setterberg reveals the quirks of his family and neighbors with nuance and care. Each chapter propels him toward adulthood while poignantly exploring class, masculinity, and modern life amidst the intoxicating abundance of a new California. In advance of this book's publication, sections of Lunch Bucket Paradise have won prizes from The Florida Review, Literal Latte, and Solstice Literary Magazine. Fred's coming-of-age casts a bittersweet pall on today's world in light of the good life far out of reach for working-class families today. Reading his words, we realize the true meaning of the phrase 'lunch bucket paradise': it symbolizes an era of prosperity for blue-collar Americans that may never come again.

Fred Setterberg is the coauthor, with Lonny Shavelson, of Toxic Nation, Under the Dragon: California's New Culture, and five other books, including the award-winning The Roads Taken: Travels Through America's Literary Landscapes. He has been a staff writer for the East Bay Express and editor of Travelers' Tales America, and has written for the New York Times, The Nation, and scores of other national and regional magazines. He lives in Oakland, California.

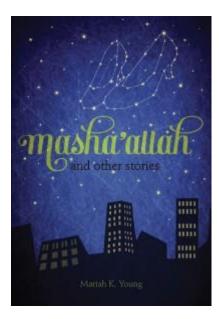


The Architecture of Ratcliff Minor, Woodruff 9781597140423 232 pages hardcover \$39.95 40%

The story of an architecture firm that has shaped the Bay Area for over one hundred years. The Architecture of Ratcliff is a lavish look at three generations of one company's architects who have left a significant imprint on West Coast design and continue to lead the way in innovative, creative

building solutions. Their accomplishments are many, including Oakland International Airport's Terminal 2, Mills College's Concert Hall, buildings on Berkeley's 'Holy Hill,' and a rich array of houses, from the charming to the contemporary. Throughout it all, Ratcliff has maintained its commitment to family, the environment, and to excellence in design.

Woodruff Minor is a Bay Area native and a graduate of the University of California, Berkeley. He has written extensively on Bay Area history and architecture, including books on shipping and aviation, yachting, and residential and commercial architecture. He makes his home in Alameda.

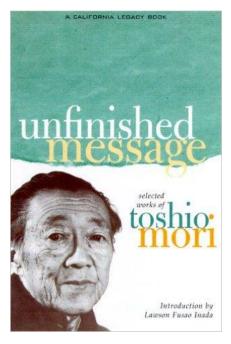


Masha'allah and Other Young, Mariah K. 9781597142038 216 pages paperback \$15.00 40%

Winner of the first James D. Houston Award. In Masha'allah, emerging writer Mariah K. Young brings readers deep into the varied lives of remarkable individuals at the fringes of dominant culture. Set in the lively and unpredictable landscape of East Oakland, Young's subtly crafted and unforgettable characters continually surprise and delight. In each of these nine tales, Young invites us into the worlds of a diverse cast of

genuine, hard-working people: we take a ride with a hired driver who gets more than he bargains for with an unusual fare; we meet a day laborer whose search for work leads him to the edges of human sacrifice and hope; we join a plucky house cleaner named Chinta, who sets up impromptu beauty parlors in the houses she cleans. Young's fiction shines not only with literary power and warmth but with eye-opening freshness and honesty that cuts straight to the heart, reflecting our unflagging allegiances to love, family, luck, and hope. We are proud to publish Young's first book, as we believe it marks the start of a long and promising career for one of California's next great writers. About the James D. Houston Award - Known as a masterful writer in both fiction and nonfiction genres, James D. Houston was also a dedicated teacher and passionate promoter of emerging authors. Friends and family have established a fund to honor his memory and further his legacy. The James D. Houston Award will support publication of books by writers who reflect Jim's humane values, his thoughtful engagement with life, and his literary exploration of California, Hawai'i, and the West.

Mariah K. Young was born in Alameda, California, and spent her childhood living in the Bay Area and in Lahaina, Hawai'i. She graduated with an English degree from California State University, East Bay—she still calls it Cal State Hayward, even though no one's counting anymore—where she won the first annual RV Williams prize for fiction. In 2008, she earned her MFA in creative writing from UC Riverside, andthat same year, she attended the Squaw Valley Writers' workshop on fellowship. She currently teaches writing in downtown Los Angeles, and lives in Hollywood, where she is hard at work on a novel (when she's not grading essays). author location:



Unfinished Message: Selected Works of Toshio Mori Mori, Toshio 9781890771355 256 pages Introduction by Lawson Fusao Inada. paperback \$15.95 40%

Extraordinary fiction that celebrates Japanese American lives. Born in Oakland, California, in 1910, the young Toshio Mori dreamed of being an artist, a Buddhist missionary, and a baseball player. Instead, he grew flowers in the family nursery business, and—influenced by contemporaries such as Sherwood Anderson and Ernest Hemingway—produced a body of extraordinary fiction. His well-crafted, humorous, wise tales celebrate

the Japanese American community he knew so well, and reach beyond it to describe the essential human condition. Unfinished Message includes fifteen, a novella, letters, and an interview with Toshio Mori.

Toshio Mori (1910-1980) was born in Oakland and grew up in San Leandro. During World War II, he and his family were interned at Topaz Relocation Center in Utah, where Mori edited the journal Trek for a year. After the war, Mori returned to the Bay Area where he continued to write. He is the author of Yokohama, California (1949), The Chauvinist and Other (1979), and The Woman from Hiroshima (1980). Lawson Fusao Inada is regarded by many as the poet laureate of Japanese America.He is co-editor of Aiiieeeee! (1983) and The Big Aiiieeeee! (1991) and author of Legends from Camp (1992) and Drawing the Line (1997). Inada is a multiple recipient of NEA Poetry Fellowships and has read his works at the White House. He has been Professor of English at Southern Oregon State College since 1966.



Everything Indicates: Bay Bridge Poems and Portraits Smith, Tamsin / Davis, Ben / Perry, Elissa (editors) 9780692016916

72 pages

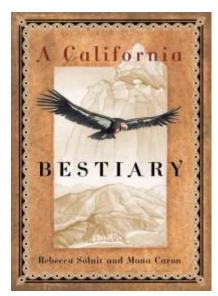
Photography by Thomas Michael Alleman. With 24 black-and-white photographs.

hardcover \$20.00 40%

Local poets were hoisted up into the windy towers of the new eastern span of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge

in April 2011 to observe and map its progress and something of its soul. Their words, enhanced by the luminous photographs of Thomas Michael Alleman, are gathered in Everything Indicates, a tribute to the people designing and building the new bridge, and the waters it will span. Set to open in 2013, the eastern span will be the world's largest self-anchored suspension span bridge; however, beyond this remarkable feat of engineering, the bridge is a literal lifeline for the diverse communities, individuals, and businesses of the San Francisco Bay Area and far beyond. The poems and photographs of Everything Indicates, which takes its title from Walt Whitman's 'Crossing Brooklyn Ferry,' are themselves a bridge, bringing us closer to the common experience that unites us all.

Thomas Michael Alleman was named California Newspaper Photographer of the Year in 1995 by the National Press Photographers Association. His photographs have been published regularly in Time, People, BusinessWeek, Smithsonian magazine, and National Geographic Traveler, and Harper's. He is currently finishing 'Sunshine & Noir,' a booklength collection of black-and-white 'urban landscapes' made in the neighborhoods of Los Angeles, prints of which reside in the permanent collections of the Huntington Museum and Library, the Kresge Art Museum, and the Portland Museum of Art. Elissa G. Perry writer, artist, educator, and agitator—is of African and Choctaw descent. Her work has appeared in numerous anthologies, including Days I Moved Through Ordinary Sounds, I Do/I Don't, and Black Silk. She was a finalist in Poets & Writers's California Voices competition and is currently the recipient of an Individual Artist Commission from the San Francisco Arts Commission for her project 'Mission Drift.' Ben Davis is a champion of activating the arts and creative community for the advancement of the civic good. He is spearheading The Bay Lights—a monumental fine-arts installation of 25,000 LEDs along the western span of the Bay Bridge. Tamsin Smith is a social entrepreneur and poetry evangelist. She is the president of global consultancy SlipStreamStrategy.com and founder of OBene.com, where, as founding president, she helped Bono and Bobby Shriver create and build (RED), which has generated over \$175 million to fight AIDS in Africa. She hosts a weekly poetry circle at an assisted living community in Santa Rosa and blogs frequently on poetry, literature, philanthropy, and life.

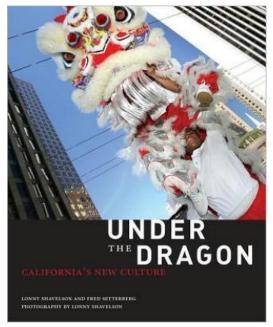


California Bestiary
Solnit, Rebecca and Caron, Mona
9781597141253
64 pages
With 12 full-color illustrations.
hardcover
\$12.95
40%

California's own book of magical beasts. Inspired by medieval bestiaries, in which animals were presented in a fashion that favored the fanciful over the factual, Solnit and Caron have partnered to create their own book of magical beasts—one in which the truth is stranger than fiction. Deeply aware of how much animal lore feeds the language

of human imagination, Solnit uses her unique literary prowess to describe native California animals in such a way that they become as thrilling as any exotic creature of yore. From the bluebelly lizard and the California condor to the elephant seal and tule elk, this wondrous cast of characters reveal the depth of their magic. Enriched by Caron's illustrations, which keenly explore the play between human and animal realms, this collection will feed your dreams. This book was created in partnership with the Oakland Zoo, which has just unveiled plans to create an ambitious native California animal exhibit where local species will be rehabilitated and cared for.

Mona Caron grew up in the Swiss Italian Alps, among rivers, mosses, ferns, and lizards, where she dissected flowers instead of listening to lessons. She moved to San Francisco to study illustration and subsequently became one of the city's premier muralists. Much of her work deals with human history, utopian possibility, and natural history. Rebecca Solnit grew up in the San Francisco Bay Area, where she crossed paths with a great many bluebelly lizards, as well as gopher snakes, mule deer, and quail. Many of their books have California, San Francisco, and western landscapes and nature as their subjects.

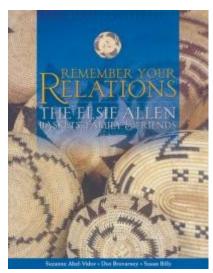


Under the Dragon: California's New Culture Shavelson, Lonny and Setterberg, Fred 9781597140454 160 pages With 84 color photographs. paperback \$24.95 40%

It's happening right before your eyes—the new American mix. The old paradigm of the melting pot and phrases like 'ethnic diversity' can no longer describe the freedom with which more and more Americans are modifying and assimilating cultural elements across ethnic lines. Under the Dragon is a fascinating look at the way individuals are building their own identities from an

increasingly diverse pool, whether they are African American Buddhists, Latino Muslims, or a group of Mien students who invented their own cultural dance in order to celebrate an ethnic 'heritage'. Published in collaboration with the Oakland Museum of California. A 2008 Kiriyama Prize Notable Book.

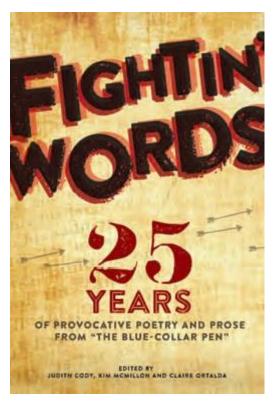
Fred Setterberg is the coauthor, with Lonny Shavelson, of Toxic Nation, Under the Dragon: California's New Culture, and five other books, including the award-winning The Roads Taken: Travels Through America's Literary Landscapes. He has been a staff writer for the East Bay Express and editor of Travelers' Tales America, and has written for the New York Times, The Nation, and scores of other national and regional magazines. He lives in Oakland, California. Lonny Shavelson (left) is a writer, photojournalist, radio journalist, and physician whose articles and photographs have appeared in numerous publications, including the New York Times, People, Mother Jones, Der Spiegel, Newsweek, the Los Angeles Times, the San Francisco Chronicle, the Baltimore Sun, the Cleveland Plain Dealer, and others. Shavelson is the author of several books, his most recent being Hooked: Five Addicts Challenge Our Misguided Drug Rehab System.



Remember Your Relations: The Elsie Allen Baskets, Family & Friends
Abel-Vidor, Suzanne / Brovarney, Dot / Billy, Susan
9780930588809
128 pages
With full-color photos.
paperback
\$20.00
40%

More than one hundred baskets from the Elsie Allen collection. The Pomo Indians of Northern California are widely considered to be among the world's most skilled weavers, and no finer collection of their baskets exists than

that created by Elsie Allen and her mother, Annie Burke. Basketweavers themselves, these women broke with the Pomo tradition that had the baskets buried or destroyed after their owners died, in order to preserve a precious legacy. This full-color book features more than a hundred baskets from their collection. Represented are twenty-six master weavers, all Pomo, who lived from the turn of the century to the present. The text of Remember Your Relations describes the lives of the various basketweavers, explaining their relationship to one another and the community which nurtured them. A wealth of archival photos collected from museums and families further deepens our understanding of the Pomo Indian community. Published in conjunction with the Grace Hudson Museum, City of Ukiah and the Oakland Museum of California.



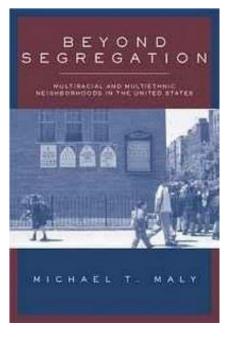
Fightin' Words: 25 Years Of Provocative Poetry And Prose From The Blue Collar Pen Cody, Judith / McMillon, Kim / Ortalda, Claire (editors) 9780615967974 256 pages 6 x 9. paperback \$18.00 40%

Published by PEN Oakland. Energy crackles through PEN Oakland's new collection of poetry and prose, in which 125 works distill radical politics and the need for social justice into passionate literature. Pieces span the spectrum of human emotion: from rage, as in Floyd Salas's declamation against torture, to grief in CB Follett's Words to the Mother Whose Son Shot My Son, to joy and contentment in the work of California poet laureate Juan Felipe Herrera. They range in subject

from Kitty Kelley's exposé of the revenge tactics of George H. W. Bush to Paul Krassner's account of the night Ken Kesey invited him to a Grateful Dead concert at the pyramids of Giza. Featuring works by luminaries such as Rebecca Solnit and MacArthur Fellow Ishmael Reed as well as writers you will be glad to meet for the first time, Fightin' Words bears witness to a vibrant American literary tradition well outside mainstream consciousness.

Judith Cody is an award-winning poet and composer. Her publications include Vivian Fine: A Bio-Bibliography (Greenwood Press) and a collection of poetry titled Eight Frames Eight. Cody has also edited several publications, including the first Resource Guide on Women in Music and a NASA division history. A crucible of California's most passionate writers

Temple University Press

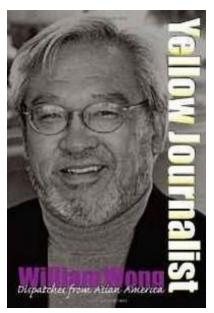


Beyond Segregation: Multiracial And Multiethnic Neighborhoods In The United States Maly, Michael T. 9781592131358 278 pages paperback \$28.95 40%

At a time when cities appear to be fragmenting mosaics of ethnic enclaves, it is reassuring to know there are still stable multicultural neighborhoods. Beyond Segregation offers a tour of some of America's best known multiethnic neighborhoods: Uptown in Chicago, Jackson Heights (Queens), and San Antonio-Fruitvale in Oakland. Readers will learn the history of the neighborhoods and develop an understanding of the people that reside in them, the reasons they stay, and the work it takes to

maintain each neighborhood as an affordable, integrated place to live.

Michael T. Maly is Associate Professor of Sociology at Roosevelt University in Chicago.



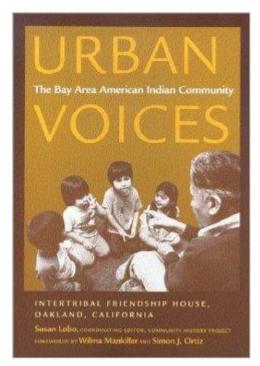
Yellow Journalist: Dispatches from Asian America Wong, William 9781566398305 272 pages Mapping Racisms Series paperback \$31.95 40%

What does it mean to be Asian American? Who are Asian Americans? Are they the remnants of the 'yellow peril' portrayed in the media through stories on Asian street gangs, unscrupulous political fundraisers, and crafty nuclear spies? Or are they the 'model minority' that the media present as consistently outranking European Americans in math scores and violin performances? In this

funny, sobering, and always enlightening collection, journalist William Wong comments on these and other anomalies of the Asian American experience. From its opening tribute to the Oakland Chinatown of Wong's childhood to its closing tribute to Tiger Woods, 'Yellow Journalist' portrays the many-sided legacies of exclusion and discrimination. The stories, columns, essays, and commentaries in this collection tackle such persistent problems as media racism, criminality, inter-ethnic tensions, and political marginalization. As a group, they make a strong case for the centrality of the Asian American historical experiences in U. S. race relations. The essays cover many subjects, from the personal to policy, from the serious to the silly. You will learn a little Asian American history and a lot about the nuances and complexities of the contemporary Asian American experience. If there is an overriding theme of these stories and essays, it is the multi-faceted adaptation of ethnic Asians to the common American culture, the intriguing roles that they play in our society, and the quality of their achievements to contribute to a better society. Bill Wong's high school journalism teacher took him aside during his senior year and told him he would have to be 'twice as good' to succeed at his chosen profession. Succeed he did, and 'twice as good' he is. 'One of the advantages of having a writer of Bill Wong's talent around is that we don't have to depend upon intermediaries and go-betweens to give us insights about issues affecting Asian-Americans. He is often entertaining, and ironic, but underneath it all is a serious mind devoted to shattering myths about one of our fastest growing minorities. '--Ishmael Reed, author of The Reed Reader.

Writer and journalist William Wong has been regional commentator for The News Hour with Jim Lehrer and a columnist for the 'San Francisco Examiner', 'Oakland Tribune', and 'Asian Week', among other publications.

University of Arizona Press



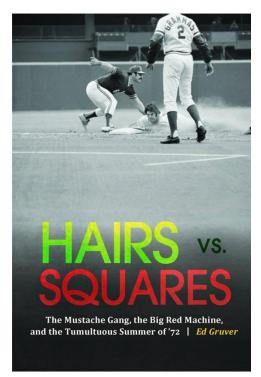
Urban Voices: The Bay Area American Indian Community
Lobo, Susan (editor)
9780816513161
180 pages
7.00 in x 10.00 in
paperback
\$21.95
45%

California has always been America's promised land—for American Indians as much as anyone. In the 1950s, Native people from all over the United States moved to the San Francisco Bay Area as part of the Bureau of Indian Affairs Relocation Program. Oakland was a major destination of this program, and once there, Indian people arriving from rural and reservation areas had to adjust to urban living. They did it by creating a cooperative, multi-tribal

community—not a geographic community, but rather a network of people linked by shared experiences and understandings. The Intertribal Friendship House in Oakland became a sanctuary during times of upheaval in people's lives and the heart of a vibrant American Indian community. One of the oldest urban Indian organizations in the country. it continues to serve as a gathering place for newcomers as well as for the descendants of families who arrived half a century ago. This album of essays, photographs, stories, and art chronicles some of the people and events that have played—and continue to play—a role in the lives of Native families in the Bay Area Indian community over the past seventy vears. Based on years of work by more than ninety individuals who have participated in the Bay Area Indian community and assembled by the Community History Project at the Intertribal Friendship House, it traces the community's changes from before and during the relocation period through the building of community institutions. It then offers insight into American Indian activism of the 1960s and '70s—including the occupation of Alcatraz—and shows how the Indian community continues to be created and re-created for future generations. Together, these perspectives weave a richly textured portrait that offers an extraordinary inside view of American Indian urban life. Through oral histories, written pieces prepared especially for this book, graphic images, and even news clippings, Urban Voices collects a bundle of memories that hold deep and rich meaning for those who are a part of the Bay Area Indian community—accounts that will be familiar to Indian people living in cities throughout the United States. And through this collection, non-Indians can gain a better understanding of Indian people in America today.

Susan Lobo is a cultural anthropologist who has worked as a consultant for American Indian tribes and community organizations throughout the Americas.

University of Nebraska Press

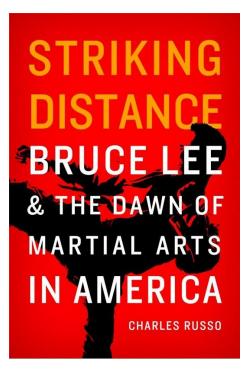


Hairs vs. Squares: The Mustache Gang, the Big Red Machine, and the Tumultuous Summer of '72 Gruver, Edward 9780803285583 392 pages 6 x 9. 12 photographs hardcover \$29.95 43%

Changes on and off the baseball field. When the Oakland A's met the Cincinnati Reds in the 1972 World Series. Hairs vs. Squares is an ode to an unforgettable season that began with the first major players' strike in the history of North American sports and ended with a record-setting World Series played by two of the game's greatest and most colorful dynasties. In a sign of the times it was Hippies vs. Hardhats, a clash of cultures with the hirsute, mod Mustache Gang colliding with the clean-

cut, conservative Big Red Machine on the game's grandest stage. When the Oakland A's met the Cincinnati Reds in the 1972 Fall Classic, more than a championship was at stake. The more than two dozen interviews bring to life a time when controversy was commonplace, both inside and outside the national pastime. In baseball, Willie Mays was traded, Hank Aaron was chasing down Babe Ruth's home run record, and Dick Allen was helping to save the Chicago White Sox franchise while winning the American League's Most Valuable Player award. Outside the American pastime the war in Vietnam was raging, campus protests spread throughout the country, and Watergate and the Munich Olympics headlined the tumultuous year. Along with the many unforgettable and outrageous characters inside baseball, Hairs vs. Squares emphasizes the dramatic changes that took place on and off the field in the 1970s. Owners' lockouts, on-field fights, maverick managers, controversial trades, artificial fields, the first full five-game League Championship Series, and the closest, most competitive World Series ever combined to make the 1972 season as complex as the social and political unrest that marked the era.

Ed Gruver is an award-winning sportswriter who has covered the Philadelphia Phillies and Baltimore Orioles as a columnist and has reported on MLB All-Star Games, playoffs, and the World Series. He is the author of six sports books, including Koufax and The Ice Bowl: The Cold Truth about Football's Most Unforgettable Game.



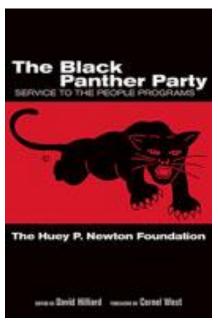
Striking Distance: Bruce Lee and the Dawn of Martial Arts in America Russo, Charles 9780803269606 272 pages 6 x 9. 25 photographs hardcover \$24.95 43%

Transformation of the world's most famous martial artist. A biography and a look at martial arts in America. In the spring of 1959, eighteen-year-old Bruce Lee returned to San Francisco, the city of his birth, and quickly inserted himself into the West Coast's fledgling martial arts culture. Even though Asian fighting styles were widely unknown to mainstream America, Bruce encountered a robust fight culture in a San Francisco Bay area that was

populated with talented and trailblazing practitioners such as Lau Bun, Chinatown's aging kung fu patriarch; Wally Jay, the innovative Hawaiian jujitsu master; and James Lee, the no-nonsense Oakland street fighter. Regarded by some as a brash loudmouth and by others as a dynamic visionary, Bruce spent his first few years back in America advocating for a more modern approach to the martial arts and showing little regard for the damaged egos left in his wake. On the Chinese calendar, 1964 was the Year of the Green Dragon. It would be a challenging and eventful year for Bruce. He would broadcast his dissenting view before the first great international martial arts gathering and then defend it by facing down Chinatown's young ace kung fu practitioner in a legendary behind-closed-doors high noon showdown. The Year of the Green Dragon saw the dawn of martial arts in America and the rise of an icon. Drawing on more than one hundred original interviews and an eclectic array of sources, Striking Distance is an engrossing narrative that chronicles San Francisco Bay's pioneering martial arts scene that thrived in the early 1960s and offers an in-depth look at a widely unknown chapter of Bruce Lee's iconic life.

Charles Russo is an award-winning journalist who lives in San Francisco. His work has appeared in San Francisco Magazine, Rolling Stone, Planet, 7x7, and Hobo Magazine.

University of New Mexico Press



The Black Panther Party: Service to the People Programs Dr. Huey P. Newton Foundation, and Hilliard, David 9780826343949 170 pages

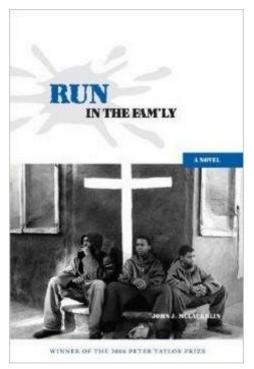
6 x 9 paperback \$21.95 45%

The Black Panther Party represents Black Panther Party members' coordinated responses over the last four decades to the failure of city, state, and federal bureaucrats to address the basic needs of their respective communities. The Party pioneered free social service programs that are now in the mainstream of American life. The Party's Sickle Cell Anemia Research Foundation, operated with Oakland's Children's Hospital, was among

the nation's first such testing programs. Its Free Breakfast Program served as a model for national programs. Other initiatives included free clinics, grocery giveaways, school and education programs, senior programs, and legal aid programs. Published here for the first time in book form, The Black Panther Party makes the case that the programs' methods are viable models for addressing the persistent, basic social injustices and economic problems of today's American cities and suburbs.

The Huey P. Newton Foundation was co-founded in 1993 in Oakland, California, by David Hilliard to honor the legacy of Black Panther Party co-founder Huey P. Newton, who had been killed four years earlier. A member of the Black Liberation Movement, Hilliard was one of the founders of the Black Panther Party. He is author, coauthor, or editor of eight additional books, including Huey, Spirit of the Panther and The Huey P. Newton Reader. He is writing or editing other books, including The Black Panther Intercommunal News Service 1967-1980 and The History of the Black Panther Party.

University of Tennessee Press



Run in the Fam'ly: A Novel McLaughlin, John J. 9781572336452 paperback \$19.95 42%

Set in the Flatlands of Oakland, over the Memorial Day weekend at the end of the Reagan-Bush, Sr. era, Run in the Fam'ly is a gripping tale of struggle, faith, and redemption. Jake Robertson, a young Black man snared in the welfare-to-work rut, longs to make a better way for his family. Piecing together minimumwage jobs and drawing—illegally— on public assistance simply to make ends meet, he hopes against hope for the chance to pull his girlfriend and asthmatic son out of grinding poverty. Upon his father's release from prison, he is tempted with a crime that could solve his economic woes, but which he fears may fate him to the same life as his father—a

man whose past is dark indeed, and about whom Jake has yet to learn one deep, terrible secret. Narrated in a voice that captures both the raw edginess of the street and the complex rhythms of jazz, Run in the Fam'ly is a stunning work of literary ventriloquism and social analysis. Richly-detailed and filled with vivid characterizations, it plumbs the dark, mysterious depths of the city and the soul, recalling the novels of Dickens, Zola, and Baldwin. It is a father-son story for our time, a riveting human drama that will leave readers, on the book's final page, both heartbroken and hopeful.

John J. McLaughlin was born in Texas, and raised in Virginia and Washington, DC, where he was educated in Catholic schools. He is a graduate of the University of Iowa Writers' Workshop, and the University of Virginia. For many years he worked in direct service to homeless and incarcerated individuals in Los Angeles and Seattle. His writings have appeared in The Washington Post, National Catholic Reporter, America, and Hunger Mountain, and he is the recipient of a Wagenheim Prize for his short fiction. He lives with his wife and children in Seattle, where he directs Education Across Borders, a non-profit organization that serves indigent communities in the Dominican Republic.