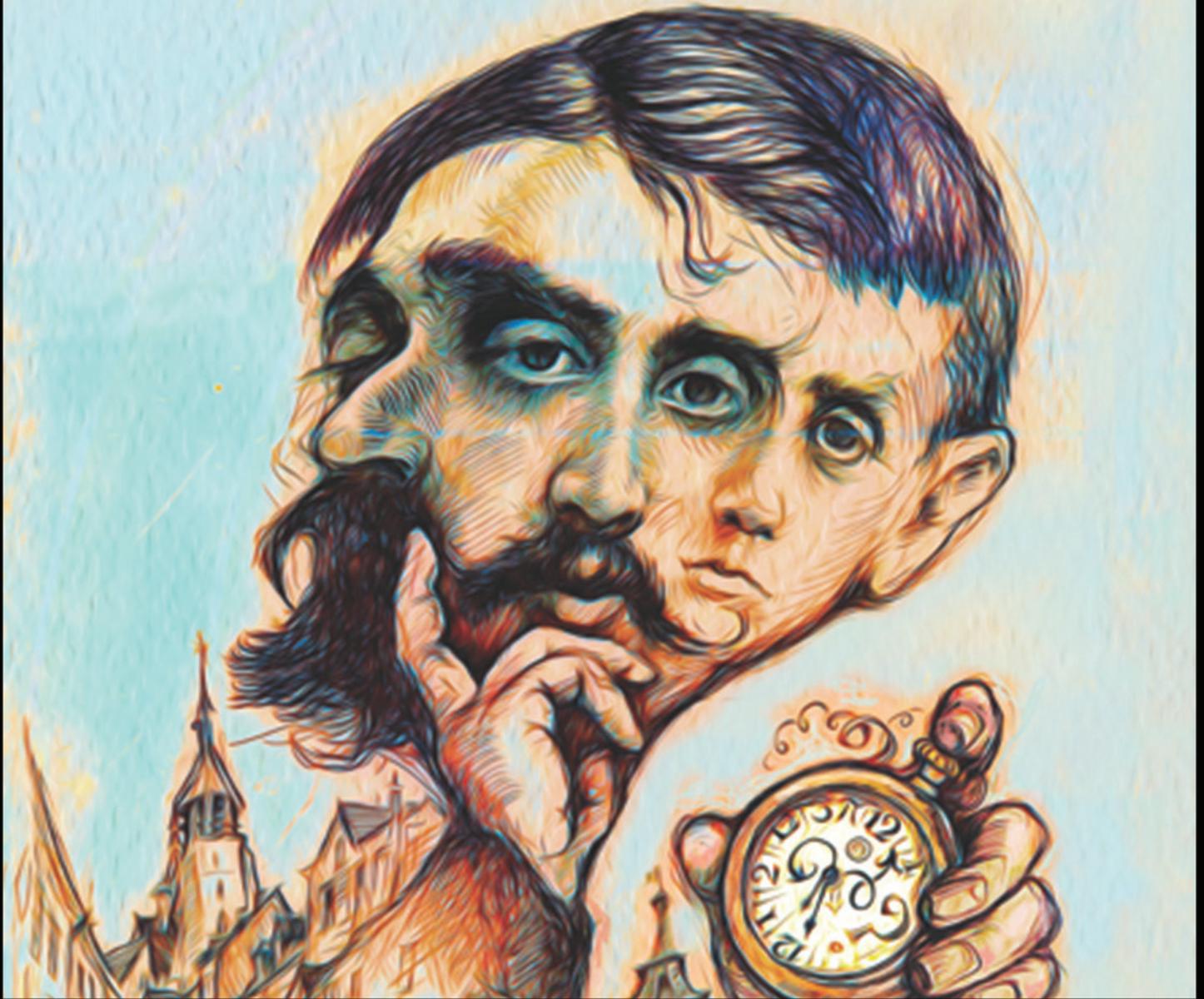


FOR BEGINNERS[®]

DECONSTRUCTING COMPLEX IDEAS
ONE SUBJECT AT A TIME

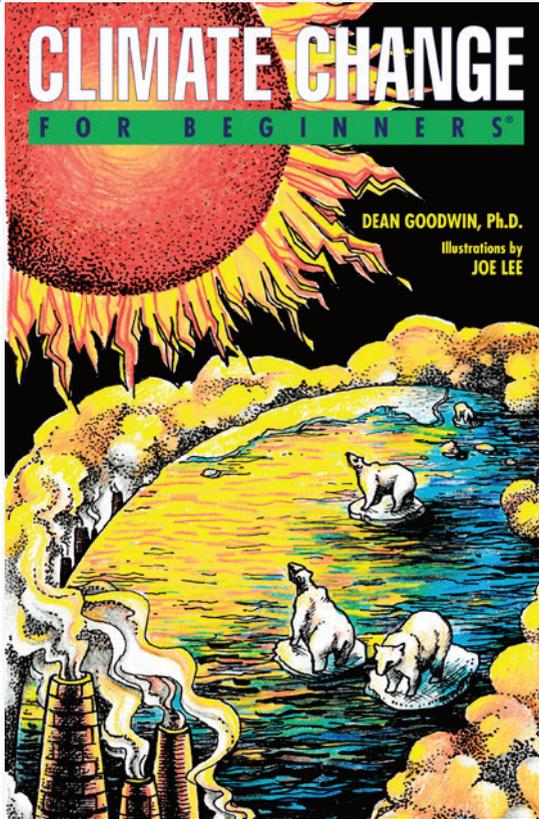
2016 CATALOG



AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES • ART • GENDER STUDIES
HISTORY • PHILOSOPHY • POLITICS • SCIENCE

Available March 29, 2016

CLIMATE CHANGE FOR BEGINNERS



Environmental Science
Trade Paperback 6x9
160 PP
\$15.95 (\$22.95 CAN)
B/W Illustrations
ISBN: 978-1-939994-43-1
eISBN: 978-1-939994-69-1

The evidence continues to mount: Climate change is for real! But what does it all really mean, and what can we do about it? In this concise, highly readable narrative, a leading environmental scientist and educator takes a scrupulously balanced approach to explaining the history of global climate monitoring and change. Here are the who's, how's, what's, when's, where's and why's of the interaction between human activity and recent trends in the Earth's climate.

Climate Change For Beginners is organized in five compelling sections:

- An Introduction
- The Cause
- The Consequences
- The Solutions
- What Steps Can I Take?

Working from the premise that no one can do everything but everyone can do something, Dean Goodwin challenges readers with experiments they can conduct on their own to better understand the science underlying the problems facing our planet; he concludes with a list of 50 easy actions people can take to start doing their part in the effort to slow or stop climate change.

DEAN GOODWIN, AUTHOR is Executive Director of the Center for Inquiry-Based Education and an environmental science and science instructor at The Tatnall School in Wilmington, Delaware. He is a nationally recognized environmental educator with an honors degree in biochemistry, a postgraduate certificate in science education, and a Ph.D. in mechanistic organic photochemistry. Dr. Goodwin has more than 25 years of teaching experience at both the college and secondary levels.

JOE LEE, ILLUSTRATOR is the author and illustrator of *Greek Mythology For Beginners* and *Dante For Beginners*, as well as the illustrator of a baker's dozen of other For Beginners titles.

Available April 12, 2016

LIBERTARIANISM FOR BEGINNERS

A political and economic philosophy as old as John Locke and John Stuart Mill, but as alive and timely as Rand Paul, the Tea Party, and the novels of Ayn Rand, libertarianism emphasizes individual rights and calls for a radical reduction in the power and size of government. *Libertarianism For Beginners* lays out the history and principles of this often misunderstood philosophy in lucid, dispassionate terms that help illuminate today's political dialogue.

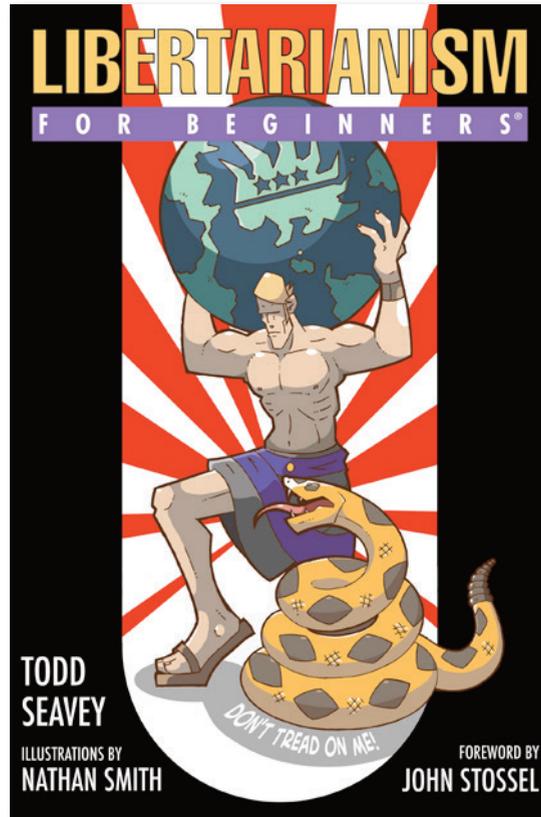
PRAISE

“The briefest introduction to libertarianism is also one of the richest—Seavey brilliantly captures a many-sided movement.”

— *Daniel McCarthy, editor of American Conservative magazine*

“Todd Seavey has written one of the best introductions to libertarianism ever. It's clear, concise, compelling—and fun!”

— *Donald Boudreaux, economist at George Mason University and the Mercatus Center, blogger at Café Hayek*



Political Science
Trade Paperback 6x9
220 PP
\$15.95 (\$22.95 CAN)
B/W Illustrations
ISBN: 978-1-939994-66-0
eISBN: 978-1-939994-67-7

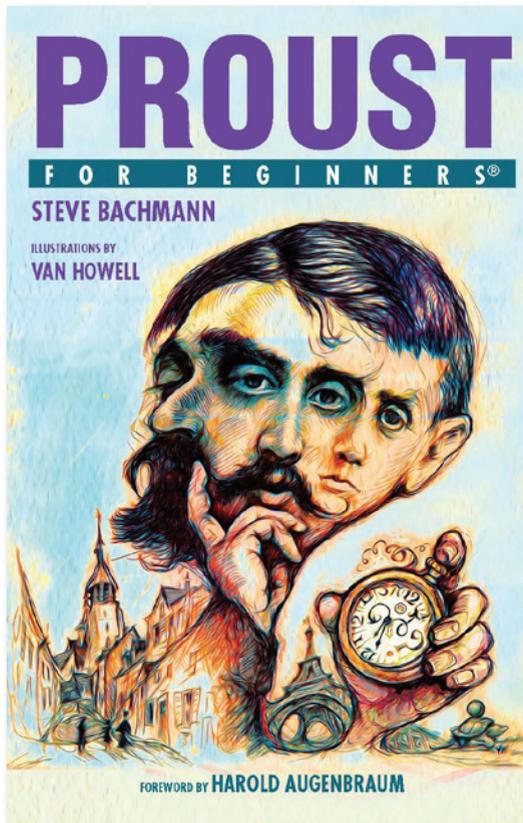
TODD SEAVEY, AUTHOR is a ghostwriter, political commentator, libertarian speaker and blogger, and writer for TV news commentators such as John Stossel and Judge Andrew Napolitano.

NATHAN SMITH, ILLUSTRATOR (a.k.a. bluefluke) is a writer and illustrator who specializes in the classical western esoteric tradition. His notable works include “The Psychonaut Field Manual”, “Am I Evil?” and the “Discordian Tarot Collection”.

JOHN STOSSEL, FOREWORD Award-winning television journalist and political commentator John Stossel is the host of “Stossel,” a weekly program on the Fox Business Network with a libertarian viewpoint. He found notoriety by co-anchoring ABC's primetime newsmagazine show, “20/20.”

Available May 17, 2016

PROUST FOR BEGINNERS



Literature & Fiction/History & Criticism/French
 Trade Paperback 6x9
 184 PP
 \$15.95 (\$22.95 CAN)
 B/W Illustrations
 ISBN: 978-1-939994-44-8
 eISBN: 978-1-939994-45-5

The life and work of French novelist Marcel Proust, author of the modernist classic *In Search of Lost Time (A la recherche du temps perdu, 7 vols, 1913–1927)*. A clear, concise guide and critical review of one of the most difficult – yet widely taught – works of French literature; a compelling biography of one of its most colorful figures; a portrait of his times.

PRAISE

“*Proust for Beginners* is, as a primer on the life and work of Marcel Proust, admirably comprehensive, at times quirky and deliberately provocative. Steve Bachmann has amassed a bounty of fascinating—and useful—information about the history, politics, and art surrounding the creation of Proust’s fictional world. The book’s rich content and engaging style will provide the curious “beginner” with an excellent introduction to the one of the world’s greatest literary works.”

— William C. Carter, author of *Marcel Proust: A Life* and other definitive studies, editor of the *Proust-Ink.com* website, and Distinguished Professor Emeritus, University of Alabama at Birmingham

STEVE BACHMANN, AUTHOR is a Proust enthusiast, former attorney, founder of the “New Orleans Art Review,” and author (*Extreme Proust, The Harvardwood Introduction to Proust, U.S. Constitution For Beginners*).

VAN HOWELL, ILLUSTRATOR is a labor organizer, tree-hugger, and crusading publisher who has drawn cartoons for such major clients as the Wall Street Journal, New York Times, Daily News, Newsday, as well as The Guardian in the UK. His work has been exhibited at The Poetry Society and St. Martin-in-the-Fields in London, as well as in annual juried shows of the Society of Illustrators and the Royal Society of Portrait Painters.

HAROLD AUGENBRAUM, FOREWORD is Executive Director of the National Book Foundation, presenter of the National Book Awards, editor of the Collected Poems of Marcel Proust, and founder of the Proust Society of America.

Available July 19, 2016

MORMONISM FOR BEGINNERS

A balanced, richly engaging introduction to the history, tenets, practices, traditions, and yes, debates and controversies of this uniquely American Protestant movement.

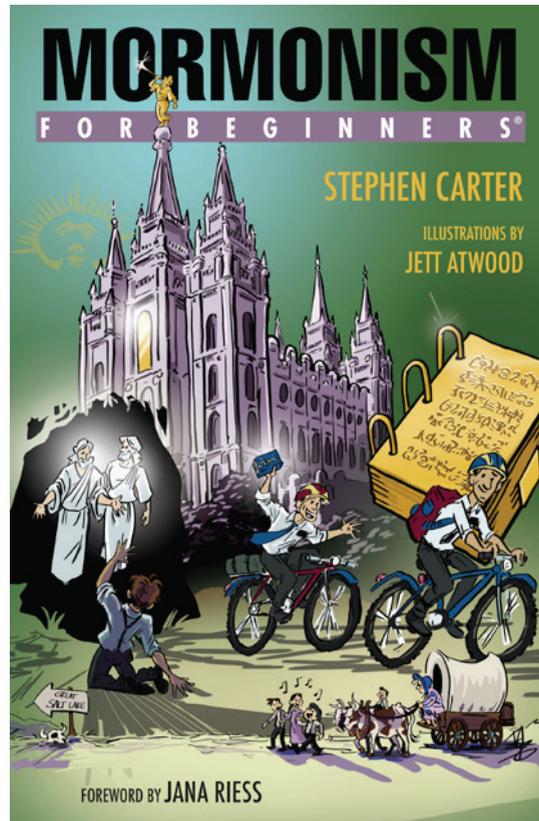
PRAISE

“A very readable and reliable introduction to this very American faith.”

—Rodney Stark, Distinguished Professor, Baylor University, co-director of the Institute for Studies of Religion, and author of *The Rise of Mormonism*.

“A clear and engaging guidebook to the Mormon faith, its pioneering history, and unique way of life. *Mormonism for Beginners* will explain all the important landmarks along the way—literal and conceptual, potholes and all. You’re in very capable hands, so enjoy this fascinating and rewarding journey.”

— Carol Lynn Pearson, poet, storyteller, playwright, and activist whose books and plays include *Goodbye, I Love You* and *A Stranger for Christmas*.



Christian Denominations &
Sects/Mormonism
Trade Paperback 6x9
176 PP
\$15.95 (\$22.95 CAN)
B/W Illustrations
ISBN: 978-1-939994-52-3
eISBN: 978-1-939994-53-0

STEPHEN CARTER, AUTHOR is the editor of Sunstone Magazine; author of *What of the Night?*, an award-winning collection of personal essays on Mormon themes, and of *iPlates Volume I*, a graphic novel based on the *Book of Mormon*.

JETT ATWOOD, ILLUSTRATOR is a San Francisco-based animator and cartoonist who has worked on numerous comic-book titles, video games, and short films. A longtime collaborator with Carter, she contributes regularly to Sunstone and illustrated *iPlates Volume 1*.

JANA RIESS, FOREWORD is a senior columnist for Religion News Service, writing primarily about Mormonism. She holds a Ph.D. in the history of religion in America from Columbia University.

Available July 26, 2016

PRISON INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX FOR BEGINNERS



Social Science
 Trade Paperback 6x9
 176 PP
 \$15.95 (\$22.95 CAN)
 B/W Illustrations
 ISBN: 978-1-939994-31-8
 eISBN: 978-1-939994-32-5

Prison Industrial Complex For Beginners is a graphic narrative project that attempts to distill the fundamental components of what scholars, activists, and artists have identified as the Mass Incarceration movement in the United States. As far back as the early 1990s, activist critics of the US prison system, marked its emergence as a “complex” in a manner comparable to how President Eisenhower identified modern developments in military contractual arrangements and the monetary incentives that were poised to over-determine the ethics of warfare and the purpose of arms development – the Military Industrial Complex. Like its institutional “cousin,” the Prison Industrial Complex features a critical combination of political ideology, far-reaching federal policy, and the neo-liberal directive to privatize institutions traditionally within the purview of the government.

Prison Industrial Complex For Beginners is a primer for how these issues emerged and how our awareness of the systems at work in mass incarceration, might be the very first step in reforming an institution responsible for some of our most egregious contemporary civil rights violations.

JAMES BRAXTON PETERSON, AUTHOR is the Director of Africana Studies and Associate Professor of English at Lehigh University, author, and prominent media spokesman on race, politics, and popular culture (MSNBC, CNN, Fox News, etc.)

JOHN JENNINGS, ILLUSTRATOR is an Associate Professor of Art and Visual Studies at the University at Buffalo-State University of New York. Jennings is co-editor of the Eisner Award nominated collection *The Blacker the Ink: Constructions of Black Identity in Comics and Sequential Art* and co-founder/organizer of: The Schomburg Center’s Black Comic Book Festival in Harlem, the MLK NorCal’s Black Comix Arts Festival in San Francisco and also SOL-CON: The Brown and Black Comix Expo at the Ohio State University. Jennings is currently a Nasir Jones Hip Hop Studies Fellow with the Hutchins Center at Harvard University. Jennings’ current comics projects include the Hiphop adventure comic *Kid Code: Channel Zero*, the supernatural crime noir story *Blue Hand Mojo*, and the upcoming graphic novel adaptation of Octavia Butler’s classic dark fantasy novel *Kindred*.

Available August 9, 2016

New in ART

ABSTRACT EXPRESSIONISM FOR BEGINNERS

Abstract Expressionism was the defining movement in American art during the years following World War II, making New York City the center of the international art scene. But what the heck did it mean?! The drips, the spills, the splashes, the blotches of color, the wild spontaneous energy—signifying what?

Here's the book that will not only help you understand, but appreciate the art of some of the most iconic figures in modern art—Jackson Pollock, Willem de Kooning, Mark Rothko, Helen Frankenthaler, and others.

Explore their lives and artistic roots, the heady world of Greenwich Village in the 1940s and 1950s, the influence of jazz, the voices of critics, and the enduring legacy of a uniquely inspired group of artists.

PRAISE

“Abstract Expressionism remains one of the most complex art phenomena of the twentieth century. What has long been needed is a book that provides an introduction to the bare bones of the subject, devoid of jargon, for those with absolutely no prior knowledge. Rich Klin's lively account and Lily Prince's dynamic artwork neatly fill that gap.”

— *David Anfam, Senior Consulting Curator, Clyfford Still Museum, Denver*

RICHARD KLIN, AUTHOR is a freelance writer and editor. He is the author of *Something To Say: Thoughts on Art and Politics in America* (2011).

LILY PRINCE, ILLUSTRATOR has her B.F.A. from The Rhode Island School of Design and her M.F.A. from Bard College. Prince's work has appeared in the *New York Times*, *New York* magazine, *San Francisco Weekly*, and *Bloomsbury Review*, among many other publications. Her website is www.lilyprince.com.

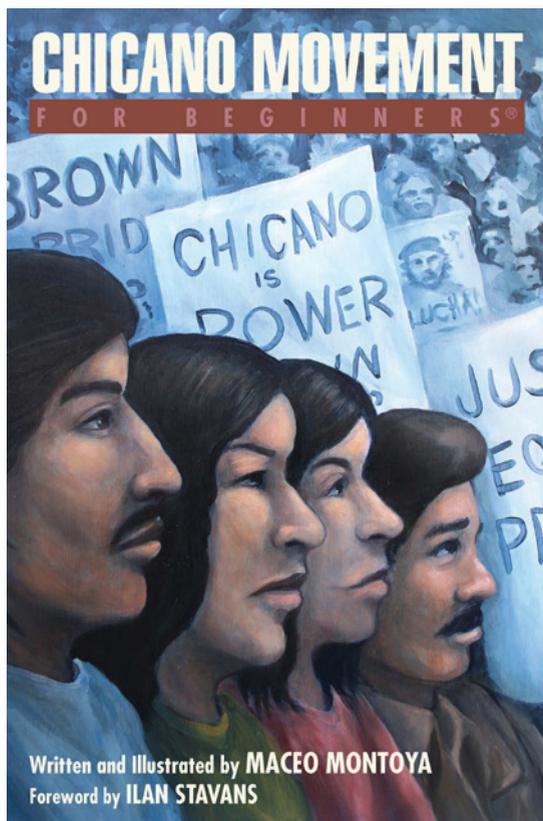
STEVEN ZUCKER, FOREWORD is a specialist in 20th-century art and theory, he has served as chair of Art and Design History at Pratt Institute. He has also taught at the School of Visual Arts, Hunter College, and at the MOMA in New York City.



Art
Trade Paperback 6x9
184 PP
\$15.95 (\$22.95 CAN)
B/W Illustrations
ISBN: 978-1-939994-62-2
eISBN: 978-1-939994-63-9

Available September 13, 2016

CHICANO MOVEMENT FOR BEGINNERS



Latino Studies - Social Sciences
Trade Paperback 6x9
176 PP
\$15.95 (\$22.95 CAN)
B/W Illustrations
ISBN: 978-1-939994-64-6
eISBN: 978-1-939994-65-3

As the heyday of the Chicano Movement of the late 1960s to early 70s fades further into history, and as more and more of its important figures pass on, so too does knowledge of its significance. Thus, *Chicano Movement For Beginners* is a small attempt to stave off historical amnesia. It seeks to shed light on the multifaceted civil rights struggle that formed the Chicano Movement.

The Chicano Movement, or “El Movimiento,” galvanized the Mexican American community, from laborers to student activists, giving them not only a political voice to combat prejudice and inequality, but also a new sense of cultural awareness and ethnic pride. Beyond commemorating the past, *Chicano Movement For Beginners* seeks to reaffirm the goals and spirit of the Chicano Movement for the simple reason that many of the critical issues Mexican American activists first brought to the nation’s attention then—educational disadvantage, endemic poverty, political exclusion, and social bias—remain as pervasive as ever almost a half-century later.

MACEO MONTOYA, AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR, is an assistant professor in the Department of Chicano Studies at the University of California, Davis, where he teaches courses in Chicano Literature and the Chicana/o Mural Workshop. Professor Montoya is the author of several acclaimed works of fiction, including *The Scoundrel and the Optimist* (2010), *The Deportation of Wopper Barraza: A Novel* (2014), and *You Must Fight Them: A Novella and Stories* (2015).

ILAN STAVANS, FOREWORD Mexican-born educator, author, and cultural critic Ilan Stavans is a Lewis-Sebring Professor in Latin American and Latino Culture at Amherst.

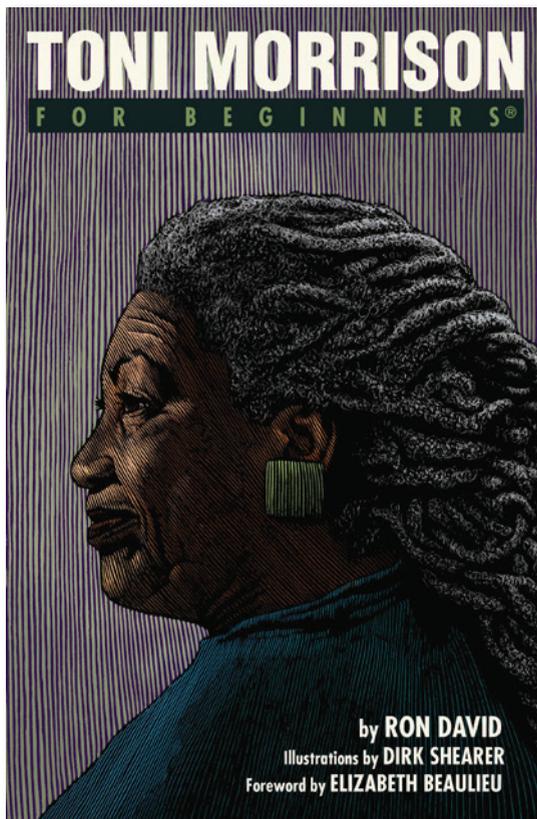
Available October 4, 2016

TONI MORRISON FOR BEGINNERS

If you haven't read Toni Morrison, *Toni Morrison For Beginners* will introduce you to her novels—plot descriptions, subtexts, reviews, and Morrison's comments on her work. On the other hand, if you have read—or attempted to read—Toni Morrison, you may need this book even more.

Many people consider Morrison's novels difficult to read. Most of her readers have at least one book on their shelves that they couldn't finish or, when they did finish one, just scratched their heads in confusion. And when we are sure, it turns out we were half-wrong or only got the tip of the iceberg instead of the whole, beautiful, brooding thing.

Toni Morrison For Beginners is about the woman, her books, her mission, her word-music, and all that subtext in her writings. Morrison's books are like the ocean: the surface is beautiful but everything that gives them life lies beneath. She's the kind of writer who can change your life and this book is here to help you navigate the words and the woman.



African American Studies &
African American Women Writers
Trade Paperback 6x9
176 PP
\$15.95 (\$22.95 CAN)
B/W Illustrations
ISBN: 978-1-939994-54-7
eISBN: 978-1-939994-55-1

RON DAVID, AUTHOR For years Ron David earned his living as an industrial clay sculptor (Detroit, New York, California and Sweden) and spent 20-30 hours per week writing books. He was awarded a Grant from the New Jersey Council on the Arts for one of his novels and spent four years as Editor-in-Chief at Writers and Readers Publishing. He is the author of four published books including *Toni Morrison Explained: A Reader's Road Map to the Novels* (Random House Reference).

DIRK SHEARER, ILLUSTRATOR is a versatile freelance illustrator out of Pennsylvania. He's created editorial work for Popular Science Magazine, illustrations for Boom! Studios, cover work for Archie Comics, a short comic for Mouse Guard, and product art for Spencer's Gifts, among many more.

ELIZABETH BEAULIEU, FOREWORD is associate professor and dean of the Core Division at Champlain College in Burlington, Vermont. She is the editor of *The Toni Morrison Encyclopedia* (2003).

TESLA FOR BEGINNERS



Biographies-Scientists
 Engineering-Reference-Historical
 Trade Paperback 6x9
 176 PP
 \$15.95 (\$22.95 CAN)
 B/W Illustrations
 ISBN: 978-1-939994-48-6
 eISBN: 978-1-939994-49-3

Tesla filed nearly 300 patents in his lifetime. Many of these patents resulted in functioning inventions. Others were little more than wide-eyed dreams—or still await possible development. *Tesla For Beginners* examines the man behind alternating current and wireless technologies who traveled from Serbia by steamship to arrive in the United States with only four cents in his pocket. It was in the early 1880s, at the tail end of the Industrial Revolution and the beginning of the Second Industrial Revolution, that America beckoned him.

Nikola Tesla—poet of invention, possessed of a prodigious memory and deep-seated phobias, has left behind a vast and intriguing legacy. He was a scientist, a physicist, a mathematician, an electrical engineer, a writer of verse, and an extensively published author.

PRAISE

“A book that is not only for beginners, but for anyone who wants to learn more about Tesla’s life and work. There is a lot of inaccurate information floating around, but this author has done a very good job of telling a true story. *Tesla For Beginners* should be found in every school library. It will play a major role in getting the world to understand Tesla’s vision for the future.”

—Nikola Lonchar, President/Founder, Tesla Science Foundation

ROBERT SUTHERLAND-COHEN, AUTHOR Robert I. Sutherland-Cohen has been production stage manager for numerous Broadway and regional productions, as well as New York City Opera. He currently serves on the Executive Board of the Stage Managers’ Association, of which he was a founding member and former chairperson. Prof. Cohen holds a BS in Mathematics from Northeastern University and an MFA in Directing from Boston University.

OWEN BROZMAN, ILLUSTRATOR is the illustrator of the New York Times best seller *You Have to F**king Eat* and the acclaimed graphic novel *Nature of the Beast*. He has illustrated for National Geographic, Time Out New York, Scholastic, and numerous others. He lives in Brooklyn, NY, with his wife and daughter.

JANE ALCORN, FOREWORD Jane Alcorn is President of the Tesla Science Center at Wardencllyffe, Shoreham, NY (www.teslasciencecenter.org).

Available January 10, 2017

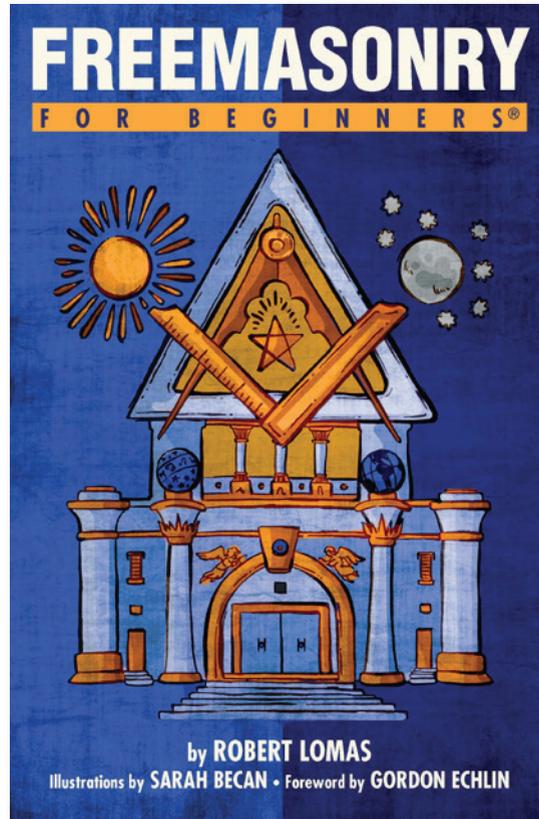
FREEMASONRY FOR BEGINNERS

Freemasonry For Beginners explores the objectives and teaching methods of Freemasonry and describes its influence on society in the past, present, and future. It recounts the origins of the movement in Scotland, its spread to North America and the rest of the world, and a mythical history that traces its descent from Adam down to Zerubbabel. Not least of all, it shows how Masonic teachings have helped so many members over the centuries learn the skills to become leaders in society, science, and the arts.

PRAISE

“Robert Lomas is the most important writer on Freemasonic matters in recent times, applying to Freemasonry itself the spirit of free, clear-thinking inquiry that was originally and historically fostered in its lodges. Here he throws a demystifying light onto even its most shadowy dimensions and secret teachings. He has done a superb and comprehensive job of representing the history, principles, and traditions of Freemasonry.”

—Mark Booth, also known as Jonathan Black, is author of the bestselling *The Secret History of the World*, *The Secret History of Dante*, and *The Sacred History*.



Religion & Spirituality
Trade Paperback 6x9
176 PP

\$15.95 (\$22.95 CAN)

B/W Illustrations

ISBN: 978-1-939994-56-1

eISBN: 978-1-939994-57-8

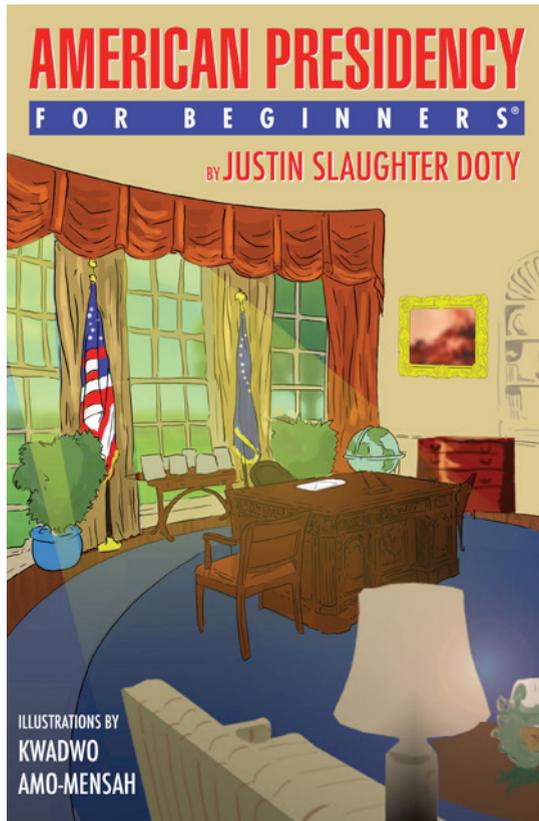
ROBERT LOMAS, AUTHOR became a Freemason in 1986 and quickly became a popular lecturer on Masonic history before co-authoring the international best-seller *The Hiram Key*. He currently lectures in Information Systems at Bradford University School of Management in Yorkshire, United Kingdom.

SARAH BECAN, ILLUSTRATOR is a comics artist, author, illustrator, and designer based in Chicago. She is currently the creative director at fathead design.

GORDON ECHLIN, FOREWORD is a Past Master of St. John's Lodge, No. 63 on the Grand Registry of Canada; Past First Principal, Maple-Granite Chapter No. 61; and a Grand Officer in the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada in the Province of Ontario.

February 14, 2017

THE AMERICAN PRESIDENCY FOR BEGINNERS



U.S. History
Trade Paperback 6x9
176 PP
\$15.95 (\$22.95 CAN)
B/W Illustrations
ISBN: 978-1-939994-70-7
eISBN: 978-1-939994-71-4

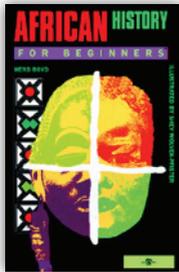
The President of the United States is an office that attracts men of all character. From George Washington to Barack Obama, the office has been held by farmers, scholars, veterans, and lawyers from all different regions of the United States.

The American Presidency For Beginners tells a concise history of the actions and consequences of all forty-four Presidents. The evolution of the Presidency is highlighted in ten different sections: from weak curator of Congress to becoming the titan of policy, both domestic and foreign.

The American Presidency For Beginners is a must read for those who find the position of commander-in-chief compelling, and who want to learn more about the eclectic personalities that have led the US.

JUSTIN SLAUGHTER DOTY, AUTHOR is an aspiring American historian, firefighter, paramedic, and a longtime associate of For Beginners.

KWADWO AMO-MENSAH, ILLUSTRATOR holds a Master's degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Albany. Kwadwo is also an illustrator, comic book artist, and writer.

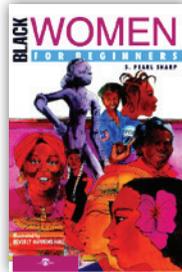


AFRICAN HISTORY FOR BEGINNERS

Herb Boyd. Illustrated by Shey Wolvek-Pfister. *African History For Beginners* explores the rich history of this continent of contrasts. Discover the glory of the Pharaohs and Towers of Zimbabwe, the cosmology of the Yoruba, the courage of the Masai and the golden wonders of Mali, the art treasures of the Bushongo and the sophistication of the Egyptians. It is a unique documentary portrait of the Africans' struggle to preserve their cultural heritage and homeland. Over the ages, the riches and wonders of Africa have attracted the world. Yet the Africans themselves often remained unknown or

misunderstood. Here is a book to set the historical record straight.

African American Studies/History • \$14.95 (**\$21.95 CAN**)
Trade Paperback 6x9 • 128 PP • B/W Illustrations
ISBN: 978-1-934389-18-8 | eISBN: 978-1-934389-95-9

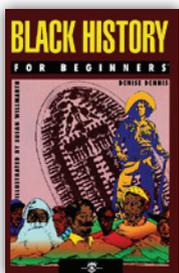


BLACK WOMEN FOR BEGINNERS

S. Pearl Sharp. Illustrated by Beverly Hawkins Hall. *Black Women For Beginners* chronicles the trials and triumphs of Black Women from antiquity to the present, reflecting with wit and humor the challenges they have faced and the fortitude and strength that have sustained Black Women and patterned history with a diversity of excellence. As warriors, healers, teachers, mothers, queens, and liberators Black Women have had tremendous impact in society. Replete with a glossary of reference terms, *Black Women For Beginners* whimsically details the influence of stereotypes

on the portrayal of Black Women in various venues and punctuates the absurd.

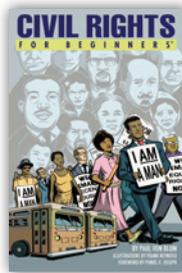
African American Studies/Women's Studies • \$14.95 (**\$21.95 CAN**)
Trade Paperback 6x9 • 192 PP • B/W Illustrations
ISBN: 978-1-934389-20-1 | eISBN: 978-1-939994-00-4



BLACK HISTORY FOR BEGINNERS

Denise Dennis. Illustrated by Susan Willmarth. The only way to help abolish racial stereotypes of black people throughout history is to understand the history. A reprint of one of the most popular For Beginners books, **Black History For Beginners** covers an often ignored past. Denise Dennis chronicles the struggle from capture and enslavement in Africa right up through Civil Rights and the different kind of struggle Blacks face today.

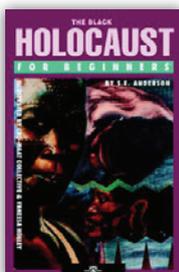
African American Studies/History • \$16.99 (**\$24.99 CAN**)
Trade Paperback 6x9 • 192 PP • B/W Illustrations
ISBN: 978-1-934389-19-5 | eISBN: 978-1-934389-98-0



CIVIL RIGHTS FOR BEGINNERS

Paul Von Blum. Illustrated by Frank Reynoso. *Civil Rights For Beginners* fills a major gap by placing the modern civil rights movement into a broader historical perspective. It also discusses the civil rights and liberation movements from the 60s to the present that the African American freedom struggles helped to catalyze. Unlike most civil rights books, *Civil Rights For Beginners* focuses less on major leaders and more on the ordinary African Americans who provided the backbone of the successful protests and demonstrations.

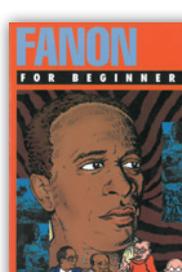
Political Science • \$15.95 (**\$21.50 CAN**)
Trade Paperback 6x9 • 176 PP • B/W Illustrations
ISBN: 978-1-934389-89-8 | eISBN: 978-1-934389-90-4



BLACK HOLOCAUST FOR BEGINNERS

S.E. Anderson. Illustrated by Vanessa Holley. How many African human beings were killed in the Black Holocaust? And how many were enslaved? The Black Holocaust is the most under reported major event in world history. A major economic event for Europe and Asia, a near fatal event for Africa, the seminal event in the history of every African American – if not every American! – and most of us cannot answer the simplest question about it. *The Black Holocaust For Beginners* puts the tragic event in plain sight where it belongs and answers all of your questions.

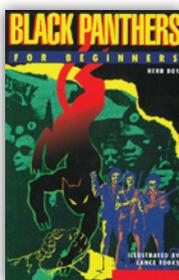
African American Studies/History • \$16.99 (**\$24.99 CAN**)
Trade Paperback 6x9 • 192 PP • B/W Illustrations
ISBN: 978-1-934389-03-4 | eISBN: 978-1-934389-99-7



FANON FOR BEGINNERS

Deborah Wyrick, PhD. *Fanon For Beginners* opens with a biography, following Fanon from his birthplace of Martinique to his heroic involvement in the fights for Algerian independence and African decolonization. After a brief discussion of Fanon's political and cultural influences, the main section of the book covers the three principal stages of Fanon's thought: "The Search for Black Identity," "The Struggle Against Colonialism," "The Process of Decolonization."

Philosophy/Black Studies • Trade Paperback 6x9
192 PP • B/W Illustrations • \$15.95 (**\$22.95 CAN**)
ISBN: 978-1-934389-87-4 | eISBN: 978-1-934389-88-1



BLACK PANTHERS FOR BEGINNERS

Herb Boyd. Illustrated by Lance Tooks. The late 1960s, when the Panthers captured the imagination of the nation's youth, was a time of regulation. While their furious passage was marked by death, destruction and government sabotage, the Panthers left an instructive legacy for anyone daring enough to challenge the system. Herb Boyd has done exhaustive research, examined the claims of all parties involved, and boiled the story down to "the truth." We believe this is the most truthful book on the market, but each Panther has his/her own story to tell.

Social Science/Black Studies • \$15.95 (**\$22.95 CAN**)
Trade Paperback 6x9 • 160 PP • B/W Illustrations
ISBN: 978-1-939994-39-4 | eISBN: 978-1-939994-40-0

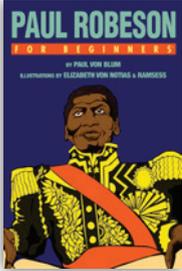


MALCOLM X FOR BEGINNERS

Bernard Aquina Doctor. *Malcolm X For Beginners* reveals the teacher, the leader, and the revolutionary voice of change that Malcolm X was and continues to be. Powerful narrative and graphics tell the story of Malcolm X's life, his journey of self-discovery, his far-reaching ideas, his martyrdom, and his impact on an era. Embraced as a righteous prophet of Black power and pride, damned as the voice of violence, Malcolm X emerges as a complex, brave, and brilliant figure with much to teach about the struggle for dignity.

African American Studies/History • \$16.99 (**\$24.99 CAN**)
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AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES



PAUL ROBESON FOR BEGINNERS

Paul Von Blum.

Illustrated by Elizabeth Von Notias & Ramsess.

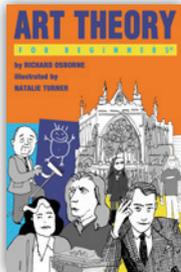
Any serious treatment of civil rights history and radical politics as well as American sports, musical, theatrical, and film history must consider the enormous contributions of Paul Robeson. An exceptional scholar, lawyer, athlete, stage and screen actor, linguist, singer, and civil rights and political activist, he performed brilliantly in every professional enterprise he undertook. *Paul Robeson For Beginners* is here to demystify and give long overdue credence to the life of this extraordinary American.

Biography/African American History • \$16.99 (\$24.99 CAN)

Trade Paperback 6x9 • 144 PP • B/W Illustrations

ISBN: 978-1-934389-81-2 | eISBN: 978-1-934389-82-9

ART



ART THEORY FOR BEGINNERS

Richard Osborne. Illustrated by Natalie Turner.

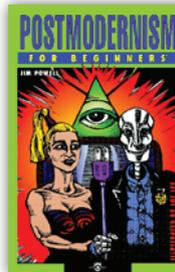
From Paleolithic cave-painting to postmodernism, *Art Theory For Beginners* is a concise and entertaining survey of the major historical and current debates on art. Painters, theorists and philosophers are all included to show how the idea of art has developed over the last 5,000 years. Art is a visual representation of a range of concepts, stories and emotions, including curiosity, humanity, political statements, and the Self. *Art Theory for Beginners* examines and explains the development

of the different ways in which people study, interpret and appreciate art in its rich variety of forms.

Art History/Theory Trade Paperback 6x9

192 PP • B/W Illustrations

ISBN: 978-1-934389-47-8 • \$16.99 (\$24.99 CAN)



POSTMODERNISM FOR BEGINNERS

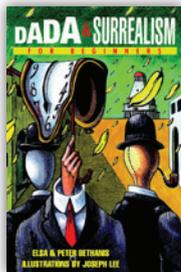
Jim Powell. Illustrated by Joe Lee.

If you are like most people, you're not sure what Postmodernism is. Jim Powell takes the position that Postmodernism is a series of "maps" that help people find their way through a changing world. *Postmodernism For Beginners* features the thoughts of Foucault on power and knowledge, Jameson on mapping the postmodern, Baudrillard on the media, Harvey on time-space compression, Derrida on deconstruction and Deleuze and Guattari on rhizomes. The book also discusses postmodern artifacts such as Madonna, cyberpunk, Buddhist ecology, and teledildonics.

Philosophy/Reference • \$16.99 (\$22.99 CAN)

Trade Paperback 6x9 • 176 PP • B/W Illustrations

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DADA & SURREALISM FOR BEGINNERS

Elsa & Peter Bethanis. Illustrated by Joe Lee.

What kind of artists put a mustache on the Mona Lisa? Enter a urinal in an art competition? Declare their own independent republic? Hijack a ship? Dada! With Dada, many of the artists declared their own "Pope" and continued their journey (with no destination) into Surrealism, creating some of the most imaginative and intense works of art of the 20th Century. In *Dada & Surrealism For Beginners*, you'll get a colorful overview

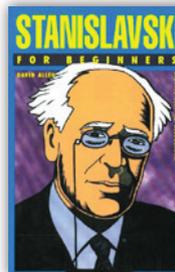
of these two movements, and develop a sense of the turbulent, wild, and unapologetically mad mood and tone of the Dada and Surrealist movements.

Art/Philosophy • \$14.95 (\$21.95 CAN)

Trade Paperback 6x9

128 PP • B/W Illustrations

ISBN: 978-1-934389-00-3 | eISBN: 978-1-939994-02-8



STANISLAVSKI FOR BEGINNERS

David Allen. Illustrated by Jeff Fallow.

Stanislavski was the first person to develop a cogent and practical system of acting. He remains the most important influence on actor training today. And yet many of his ideas are little known and even misunderstood.

Stanislavski For Beginners is both an invaluable guide to the Stanislavski system and a fascinating chronicle of his life. It shatters some common myths and misconceptions, and blows away the cobwebs, bringing his ideas vividly to

life.

Drama/Performing Arts • \$15.95 (\$22.95 CAN)

Trade Paperback 6x9

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EASTERN CULTURE



ARABS & ISRAEL FOR BEGINNERS

Ron David. Ph.D. Illustrated by Susan David.

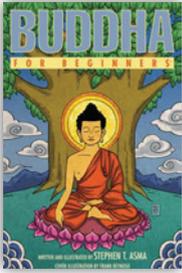
Arabs & Israel For Beginners covers the Middle East from ancient times to the present, tells the truth in plain English, and is one of the few non-scholarly books that is relentlessly fair to both Jews and Arabs. If you want to continue to believe fairy tales about Arabs in Israel, don't touch this book – it will surely be hazardous to your closed mind. If you want the truth about 12,000 years of Middle Eastern History, then *Arabs & Israel For Beginners* is the perfect place to start.

Middle Eastern Studies/History • \$14.95 (\$21.95 CAN)

Trade Paperback 6x9 • 224 PP • B/W Illustrations

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EASTERN CULTURE

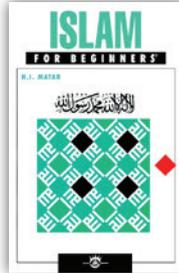


BUDDHA FOR BEGINNERS

Stephen T. Asma, PhD.

Buddha For Beginners compares Buddha's philosophy with those of his contemporaries, the later Buddhist schools, and Western Philosophy. The book includes a survey, distinguishing the philosophical differences of later schools like Theravada, Madhyamaika, Tantric, Zen, and others. *Buddha For Beginners* is not a book you read, it is a book you experience. It makes you stop and close your eyes. Through some magical combination of words, drawings, and intuitive wisdom, Buddha For Beginners conveys not only the facts of Buddhism, but the peace, the silence...the feel of it.

Buddhism/Philosophy • \$15.95 (**\$22.95 CAN**)
Trade Paperback 6x9 • 160 PP • B/W Illustrations
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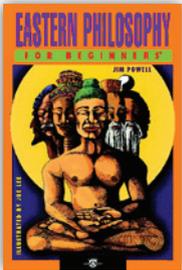


ISLAM FOR BEGINNERS

N.I. Matar. Illustrated by H.N. Haddad.

Starting with the life of the prophet Mohammed, *Islam For Beginners* details the historic beginnings of Islam and its spread throughout the Middle East and Africa on to the European and American continents. It describes the major achievements of the Muslim community worldwide and examines the influence Islam has had on other cultures. In keeping with Islamic tradition, the illustrations in the book are rendered in two-dimensional silhouettes and shadows and include the repetitive, extendible patterns representative of Islamic expression.

Religion/Islam • \$14.95 (**\$21.95 CAN**)
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ISBN: 978-1-934389-01-0 | eISBN: 978-1-939994-10-3



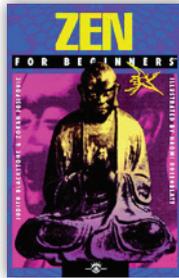
EASTERN PHILOSOPHY FOR BEGINNERS

Jim Powell. Illustrated by Joe Lee.

Eastern Philosophy is not an intellectual pursuit, but one that involves one's entire being. Much of it is so deeply entwined with the non-intellectual art of meditation, that the two are impossible to separate. In this accessible survey of the major philosophies of India, China, Tibet, and Japan, Jim Powell draws upon his knowledge of Sanskrit and Chinese, as well as decades of meditation. Whether tackling Buddha, Confucius, Lao Tzu, Dogen, the Dalai Lama or Pantajal – Powell's insights are deeply illuminating. All the major philosophies are explained and

every-one – from beginner to expert – will find *Eastern Philosophy For Beginners* a beautiful and insightful overview.

Eastern Philosophy/Reference • \$16.99 (**\$24.99 CAN**)
Trade Paperback 6x9 • 192 PP • B/W Illustrations
ISBN: 978-1-934389-07-2 | eISBN: 978-1-939994-06-6



ZEN FOR BEGINNERS

Judith Blackstone and Zoran Josipovic.

Illustrated by Naomi Rosenblatt.

Zen, from its foundation in China of the 6th Century A.D., has always been more than a religion. It is an intriguing system of principles and practices designed to give each individual the experience of eternity in a split second, the knowledge of divinity in every living thing. *Zen For Beginners* uses an engaging mix of clear, informative writing and delightful illustrations to document the story of Zen from its impact on Chinese and Japanese culture to its influence on American writers such as Allen Ginsberg, Jack Kerouac, and Gary Snyder.

Philosophy/Religion • \$16.99 (**\$24.99 CAN**)
Trade Paperback 6x9 • 176 PP • B/W Illustrations
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BACKLIST

POLITICAL & SOCIAL SCIENCES



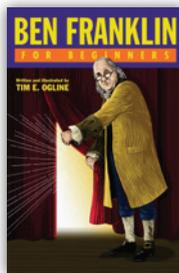
BARACK OBAMA FOR BEGINNERS

Bob Neer. Illustrated by Joe Lee.

Barack Obama For Beginners is the most concise and reliable short biography available on the 44th President of the United States — from his childhood in Hawaii and Indonesia, education at Columbia and Harvard, work as a community organizer, writer, teacher, lawyer, and politician in Illinois, to his historic campaign for President. *Barack Obama For Beginners* keeps the focus on the man and his record — accomplishments and missteps, praise and criticism — to allow readers to gain a balanced understanding of President Obama as they follow his rise to the White House. Entertaining

illustrations enliven the reading experience and highlight important details.

Current Events/Political Biography • \$12.95 (**\$18.95 CAN**)
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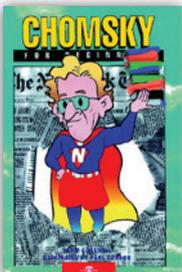
BEN FRANKLIN FOR BEGINNERS

Tim E. Oglie.

Benjamin Franklin narrated and lived the Great American Success Story. As America's prototypical polymath, he excelled—and even defined—a number of professions including printer, writer, postmaster, scientists, inventor, public citizen, politician, and diplomat. He was a cornerstone in the foundation of the United States. He discovered practicable uses for electricity. He was America's first great satirist. He founded the University of Pennsylvania. He invented bifocals. He was a legendary ladies' man. He was all of these things...and was so much more. *Ben Franklin*

For Beginners opens the book on Benjamin Franklin and tells the story of his life and times with wry wit and whimsical drawings.

Politics/History • \$16.99 (**\$24.99 CAN**)
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ISBN: 978-1-934389-48-5 | eISBN: 978-1-934389-72-0

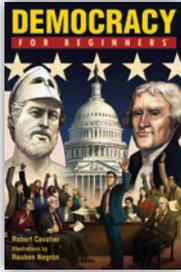


CHOMSKY FOR BEGINNERS

David Cogswell. Illustrated by Paul Gordon.

Noam Chomsky has written some 30 books, is one of the most-quoted authors on Earth, and is both a renowned linguist and political Gadfly. *The New York Times* calls him "arguably the most important intellectual alive" — yet most people have no idea who he is or what he's about. *Chomsky For Beginners* covers Chomsky's work as a linguist and as political critic. The book also includes an exclusive interview with the maverick genius. The clarity of the text and the wit of the illustrations in *Chomsky For Beginners* make strikingly important figure as easy to understand as the genius next door.

Political Science • \$14.95 (**\$21.95 CAN**)
Trade Paperback 6x9 • 160 PP • B/W Illustrations
ISBN: 978-1-934389-17-1 | eISBN: 978-1-939994-01-1



DEMOCRACY FOR BEGINNERS

Robert Cavalier. Illustrated by Reuben Negrón. With all the talk about “democracy” these days, it’s surprising how little time is spent concentrating on the concept of democracy itself, its history and justification as a form of political governance. *Democracy for Beginners* looks at democracy’s rich evolution in its varied forms, and at some of the challenges democracies face today. Beginning with the rise of democracy in fifth-century Athens and ending with an exploration of what the future might hold, this book is an important resource for understanding the foundation on which our country stands.

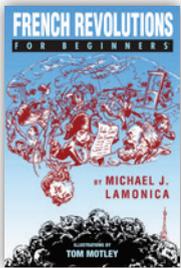
History/Politics • \$14.95 (**\$21.95 CAN**)
Trade Paperback 6x9 • 128 PP • B/W Illustrations
ISBN: 978-1-934389-36-2 | eISBN: 978-1-939994-04-2



FDR AND THE NEW DEAL FOR BEGINNERS

Paul Buhle. Illustrated by Sabrina Jones. Foreword by Harvey Pekar. *FDR and the New Deal For Beginners* sheds new light upon a story now regaining visibility thanks to the recent economic crisis and prominent reformer, President Obama, in the White House. The history of the precedent-making FDR administration through the bitter economic depression, with expansive programs empowering artists and working people, comes alive as the grandest social experiment in the history of American democracy.

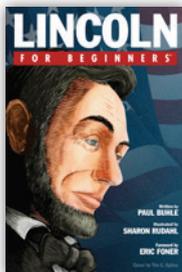
Politics/History • \$14.99 (**\$21.99 CAN**)
Trade Paperback 6x9 • 160 PP • B/W Illustrations
ISBN: 978-1-934389-50-8 | eISBN: 978-1-934389-58-4



FRENCH REVOLUTIONS FOR BEGINNERS

Michael J. LaMonica. Illustrated by Tom Motley. While most people have some familiarity with names like Louis XVI and Napoleon, the details of what exactly happened during the French Revolution – apart from pithy royal pronouncements about cake eating and the ever-falling blade of the guillotine – are often difficult to understand, and for good reason: there were a whopping 15 changes of government in less than a century! French Revolutions For Beginners will present the major political figures, events and hot-button political issues of this extremely violent, chaotic, confusing – but always exciting – period in a way that is accessible, interesting, and fun to both history-buffs and the neophyte alike.

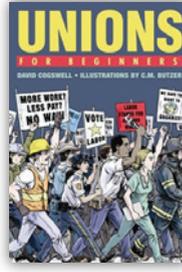
History/Western Europe • \$15.95 (**\$22.95 CAN**)
Trade Paperback 6x9 • 176 PP • B/W Illustrations
ISBN: 978-1-934389-91-1 | eISBN: 978-1-934389-92-8



LINCOLN FOR BEGINNERS

Paul Buhle. Illustrated by Sharon Rudahl. There is no greater symbol of the American presidency than Abraham Lincoln. Though, Lincoln himself, his personality, the sources of his dedication and his idealism, remains very much a mystery. Well over a thousand books about Lincoln have been written and still the enigma remains, perhaps because it is the enigma of a young country finding its footing and its destiny. Yet, no part is deeper, more perplexing, than Lincoln’s own beliefs about god and destiny. *Lincoln For Beginners* sets to demystify the man behind the legend.

History/United States • \$15.95 (**\$22.95 CAN**)
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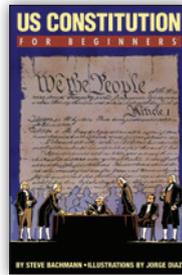


UNIONS FOR BEGINNERS

David Cogswell. Illustrated by C.M. Butzer. Do you appreciate your forty-hour, five-day workweek? Appreciate having a safe working environment? Unions made this all possible in one way or another. Unions bring value to all sectors of a society. A vast amount of Americans (including union members) are unaware of the full history of unions and how they have impacted the American workplace today. *Unions For Beginners* provides an introduction to that essential history. Illustrated with witty and informative illustrations,

this book presents the epic story of the labor movement in a simple, memorable way.

History/Politics • \$16.99 (**\$24.99 CAN**)
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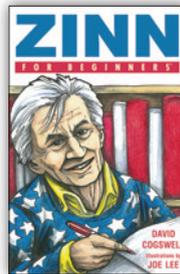


US CONSTITUTION FOR BEGINNERS

Steve Bachmann. Illustrated by Jorge Diaz. In a combination of witty text and illustrations *US Constitution For Beginners* take a tongue-in-cheek look at America’s most critical legal document. Author and lawyer Steve Bachmann has written a text that touches on the document’s history beginning with the Magna Carta. He then traces the events that precipitated its writing, the personalities and motives of the people who create it, and its use and misuses since ratification.

The book analyzes crucial elements of this binding set of principles and ponders the future of the Constitution.

History/Government • \$16.99 (**\$24.99 CAN**)
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ISBN: 978-1-934389-62-1 | 978-1-934389-66-9



ZINN FOR BEGINNERS

David Cogswell. Illustrated by Joe Lee. *Zinn For Beginners* describes the life and work of the most vital historian of our time. Howard Zinn led a revolution in the writing of history by telling the story not from the standpoint of conquerors and rulers, but from the side of the ordinary people who always bear the brunt of the ambitions of tyrants. Howard Zinn’s fresh look at history has earned him a devoted following. This book gives an overview of where Zinn came from, what events shaped his life, and walks through the main points of his major works.

Politics/History • \$14.99 (**\$21.99 CAN**)
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MUSIC



THE HISTORY OF CLASSICAL MUSIC FOR BEGINNERS

R. Ryan Endris. Illustrated by Joe Lee.
Music history is nearly as old as human civilization itself, and while it has permeated the arts and popular culture for centuries, it still has this mystifying aura surrounding it. But fear not—it's not as complicated as it seems, and anyone can learn the origins and history of Western art music. In addition to learning how better to understand (and enjoy!) classical music, *The History of Classical Music For Beginners* will help you learn of some of the more interesting and sometimes comical stories behind the music and composers.

Music History/Classical • \$15.95 (\$22.95 CAN)
Trade Paperback 6x9 • 176 PP • B/W Illustrations
ISBN: 978-1-939994-26-4 | eISBN: 978-1-939994-27-1

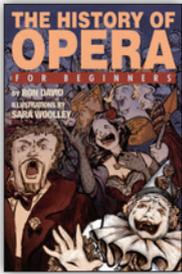
Music History/Classical • \$15.95 (\$22.95 CAN)
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ISBN: 978-1-939994-26-4 | eISBN: 978-1-939994-27-1



MUSIC THEORY FOR BEGINNERS

R. Ryan Endris. Illustrated by Joe Lee.
Music Theory For Beginners was developed for anyone interested in learning to read and write music, a task that can be quite daunting for novices. This book, however, will allay any fears and set you on the path to learning what all those dots, lines, and symbols actually mean. It provides the necessary scholarly muscle to entice and inform the reader, yet it does not require any prior knowledge of music or force the reader to wade through hundreds of pages of jargon and details.

Music/Theory • \$15.95 (\$22.95 CAN)
Trade Paperback 6x9 • 192 PP • B/W Illustrations
ISBN: 978-1-939994-46-2 | eISBN: 978-1-939994-47-9



THE HISTORY OF OPERA MUSIC FOR BEGINNERS

Ron David. Illustrated by Sara Woolley.
The History of Opera For Beginners is an illuminating book that starts with the radical assumption that opera is simply music, rather than the highbrow, inaccessible art form that many assume it to be. Not fluent in German or Italian? No worries—author Ron David explains the differences between Italian and German Opera and why you don't have to study a new language to enjoy it. *The History of Opera For Beginners* is the ideal introduction into the beautiful poetics of opera. Written in short, humorous, and informative chapters, this guide is laced with some of the opera world's juiciest anecdotes, and is sure to make anyone a true believer in the art form.

Music/Opera • \$16.99 (\$24.99 CAN)
Trade Paperback 6x9 • 176 PP • B/W Illustrations
ISBN: 978-1-934389-79-9 | eISBN: 978-1-934389-80-5

PHILOSOPHY & LITERATURE



ANARCHISM FOR BEGINNERS

Marcos Mayer. Illustrated by Sanyú.
The anarchists' fight against power, oppression and the State, which reached its pinnacle with the farmers' collectives of pre-Franco Spain, has influenced societies around the world. Vanguard artistic movements high and low, from dada to punk, were inspired by anarchism. In *Anarchism For Beginners*, Marcos Mayer aided by illustrations from the incomparable Sanyú, takes readers on a journey through the anarchist movement, explaining its principles and documenting its influence, inspiring figures and indefatigable fighting spirit.

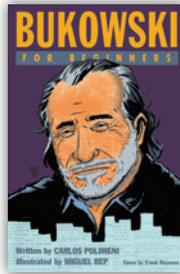
Political Science • \$14.95 (\$21.95 CAN)
Trade Paperback 6x9 • 176 PP • B/W Illustrations
ISBN: 978-1-934389-32-4 | eISBN: 978-1-934389-73-7



AYN RAND FOR BEGINNERS

Andrew Bernstein. Illustrated by Owen Brozman.
Despite Ayn Rand's undeniably significant contributions to the literary canon and the progression of philosophy, there has been no simple, comprehensive introduction to Rand's books and ideas, until now. *Ayn Rand For Beginners* sheds new light on Rand's monumental works and robust philosophy. In clear, down-to-earth language, it explains Rand to a new generation of readers in a manner that is entertaining, and easy to read and comprehend.

Politics/Literature • \$14.99 (\$21.99 CAN)
Trade Paperback 6x9 • 112 PP • B/W Illustrations
ISBN: 978-1-934389-37-9 | eISBN: 978-1-934389-71-3



BUKOWSKI FOR BEGINNERS

Carlos Polimeni. Illustrated by Miguel Repiso.
Bukowski lived an unorthodox, idiosyncratic life and wrote in a style that was unique—a style that is impossible to classify or categorize. His work was at times cynical or humorous, but was always brilliant and challenging. He began writing at the age of 40 and published 45 books, six of them novels. Along with Raymond Chandler, he is considered one of the great voices of Los Angeles. In *Bukowski For Beginners*, playwright Carlos Polimeni evaluates the life and literary achievements of the cult writer whose voice of dissidence and discontent is still heard and appreciated by readers worldwide.

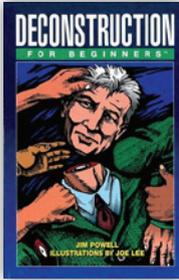
Poetry/Literature • \$15.95 (\$22.95 CAN)
Trade Paperback 6x9 • 160 PP • B/W Illustrations
ISBN: 978-1-939994-37-0 | eISBN: 978-1-939994-38-7



DANTE FOR BEGINNERS

Joe Lee.
Dante For Beginners takes the reader on a trip starting in hell and ending in heaven. The reader gets a quick introduction to Dante and his times. Next, the reader meets a sweet lass named Beatrice and samples a bit of his other literary offerings, such as the great feast, the Convivio. But then it's on to the big one, the Commedia, and a canto by canto description of the entire work. Characters, ideas and situations are described as they happen—no searching through end notes, footnotes or field notes to distinguish Forese Donati, Dante's pal, from his evil brother, Corso. The entire plan of the hereafter is simply mapped out. *Dante For Beginners* is a great vacation with history's greatest tourist, Dante Alighieri.

Poetry/Literature • \$16.99 (\$24.99 CAN)
Trade Paperback 6x9 • 192 PP • B/W Illustrations
ISBN: 978-1-934389-67-6 | eISBN: 978-1-934389-68-3



DECONSTRUCTION FOR BEGINNERS

Jim Powell. Illustrated by Joe Lee.
Deconstruction is so labyrinthine (and rumored to be fatal) that it's become the monster that murdered philosophy. When Jacques Derrida, the father of deconstruction, uses buzz-words such as "phallogocentrism" and "transcendental signified," humanities students and aspiring philosophers may get weak in the knees. *Deconstruction For Beginners* is an irreverent romp through deconstructive domains. Though Powell offers lucid explanations of the most important deconstructive ideas and texts, he also dives into lesser known works.

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DERRIDA FOR BEGINNERS

Jim Powell. Illustrated by Van Howell.
Derrida is one of those annoying geniuses you can take a class on, read half-a-dozen books by and still have no idea what he's talking about. *Derrida For Beginners* is the clearest explanation of Derrida and deconstruction presently available in our solar system. Powell guides us through Derrida's blindingly obscure texts. Readers will learn the coolest Derridian buzzwords (intertextuality, binary oppositions, hymen, sous rature, arche-writing, phallogocentrism), the high-and-low lights of deconstruction's history, and the various criticisms of Derrida, including Camille Paglia's objection that

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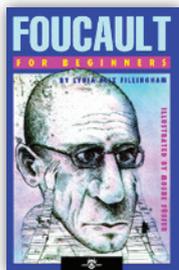


EXISTENTIALISM FOR BEGINNERS

David Cogswell. Illustrated by Joe Lee.
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Lydia Alix Fillingham. Illustrated by Moshe Süsser.
Michel Foucault's work has profoundly affected the teaching of such diverse disciplines as literary criticism, criminology, and gender studies. Arguing that definitions of abnormal behavior are culturally constructed, Foucault explored the unfair division between those who meet and those who deviate from social norms. Foucault's deeply visual sense of scenes such as ritual public executions lends itself well to Moshe Süsser's dramatic illustrations.

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Joe Lee.
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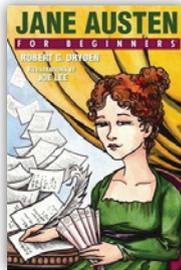


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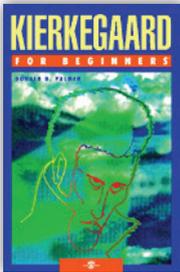


JUNG FOR BEGINNERS

Jon Platania, Ph.D. Illustrated by Joe Lee.
Carl Gustav Jung merged Eastern mysticism with Western psychology, brought scientific respectability to religion, laid the foundation for 'the New Age,' and is second only to Freud in influence and importance in the world of psychoanalysis. Many consider him a genius, but many others disagree. Dr. Platania then takes us on a tour of the work that made Jung one of the pillars of modern psychology. And what a body of work it is. Jung taught us that psychology and religion can not only coexist peacefully together, but that they can enhance us, inspire us, and help us complete

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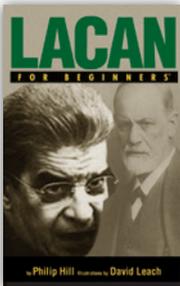


McLUHAN FOR BEGINNERS

W. Terrence Gordon. Illustrated by Susan Willmarth. McLuhan pioneered the study of Media, unified Art and Science, and warned us about the perils of a televised, computerized, famous-for-15-minutes, social media world. A world where we would live in each other's faces, and become so alike, so isolated, so anonymous that violence would become a scream of identity. McLuhan tried to teach us to guard against these dehumanizing, debasing effects of technology, and a thousand other things, but we got reality television anyway. *McLuhan For Beginners* provides an essential introduction to his philosophies

that is clear, comprehensive, and easy to remember.

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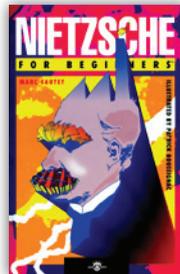


LACAN FOR BEGINNERS

Philip Hill. Illustrated by David Leach. Jacques Lacan is probably the most influential psychoanalyst since Freud (of the roughly 20,000 psychoanalysts in the world, about half are 'Lacanian') yet most people know nothing about him. Lacan wrote with an obscure style that casually refers to philosophy, linguistics, biology, mathematics, etc.—and to make matters worse, his ideas changed over the years. *Lacan For Beginners* introduces the reader to Lacan's theories and their relation to clinical practice. The book is designed around questions that clarify Lacan's ideas and is written with insight and

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Marc Sautet. Illustrated by Patrick Boussignac. Not only does Nietzsche For Beginners delve into the scandalous life and considerable works of Friedrich Nietzsche, it also give a clear picture of the puzzling time in which he lived. We meet the luminaries of the day and see their influences on his work. We also receive introductions to some of the great minds that preceded and shaped his writing. Sautet clarifies the individual philosophers and their contributions, making the book an important introduction to philosophy. Nietzsche's famous ménage à trois, his theories of Superman, and Zarathustra, his

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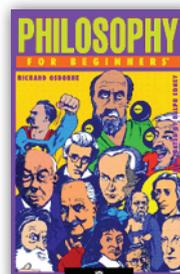


LINGUISTICS FOR BEGINNERS

W. Terrence Gordon. Illustrated by Susan Willmarth. *Linguistics For Beginners* is the first book to make the arcane labors of linguistics accessible to general readers. It begins with a lucid definition of language and proceeds to examine how it becomes the subject matter of linguistics. Key topics include the contrast between writing and speech, and elementary lessons in analyses ranging from simple sounds to entire sentences. Absurd fictions such as Eskimos having hundreds of words for snow are exploded, and the border-lands between linguistics and philosophy are investigated. The book teaches concise lessons using

wit and whimsy making for a memorable learning experience.

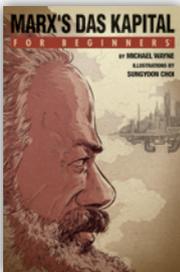
Linguistics/Philosophy • \$14.95 (\$21.95 CAN)
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Richard Osborne. Illustrated by Ralph Edney. Why does philosophy give some people a headache, others a real buzz, and yet others a feeling that it is subversive and dangerous? Why do a lot of people think philosophy is totally irrelevant? The ABCs of philosophy – easy to understand but never simplistic. Beginning with basic questions posed by the ancient Greeks: "What is the world made of?" "What is a man?" "What is knowledge?" "What is good and evil?" *Philosophy For Beginners* traces the development of these questions as the key to understanding how Western philosophy developed over the last 2,500 years.

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PLATO FOR BEGINNERS

Robert Cavalier. Illustrated by Eric Lurio. All philosophy is a footnote to Plato. No other person so shaped the Western world and the way we think about it. *Plato For Beginners* introduces the reader to Socrates, Plato's mentor whose martyrdom led Plato to formulate a new system of knowledge based on reason. The book also covers the history of Greece and his influence over time, from early Christianity to the 20th Century. The reader learns what he meant by Truth, Beauty, and the Good. Classical dialogues such as *Symposium*, *Phaedo*, *The Apology* and *The Republic* are all explored in the context of his time and our own.

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PHILOSOPHY & LITERATURE

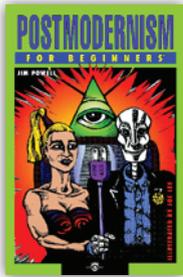


POETRY FOR BEGINNERS

Margaret Chapman & Kathleen Welton.
Illustrated by Reubon Negrón.

Poetry is one of those subjects almost impossible to define as it can be so many things at once. It is one of the oldest forms of writing in the world, yet it is also fiercely modern and constantly evolving. *Poetry For Beginners* is a fun, lively and accessible guide, and expands one's understanding and knowledge of poetry through the ages. From ancient Greece to the present, the book traces the wonders of the written word and shows how it is relevant in daily life.

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POSTMODERNISM FOR BEGINNERS

Jim Powell. Illustrated by Joe Lee.

If you are like most people, you're not sure what Postmodernism is. Jim Powell takes the position that Postmodernism is a series of "maps" that help people find their way through a changing world. *Postmodernism For Beginners* features the thoughts of Foucault on power and knowledge, Jameson on mapping the postmodern, Baudrillard on the media, Harvey on time-space compression, Derrida on deconstruction and Deleuze and Guattari on rhizomes. The book also discusses postmodern artifacts such as Madonna, cyberpunk, Buddhist ecology, and teledildonics.

Philosophy/Reference • \$16.99 (**\$24.99 CAN**)
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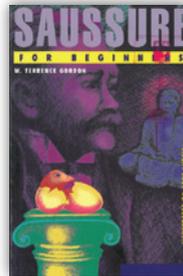
SARTRE FOR BEGINNERS

Donald D Palmer.

Sartre For Beginners is an accessible yet sophisticated introduction to the life and works of the famous French philosopher, Jean Paul Sartre. Sartre was a member of the French underground during WWII, a novelist, a playwright, and a major influence in French political and intellectual life. The book opens with a biographical section. Then it examines Sartre's early philosophical works. Ideas from Sartre's fictional and dramatic works are discussed, along with the topics of consciousness, freedom, responsibility, absurdity, "bad faith," authenticity, and the hellish confrontation with other people. Finally, the book deals with

Sartre's modification of his early existentialism to compliment his conversion to a kind of "existential" Marxism.

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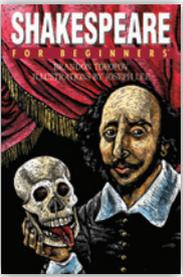


SAUSSURE FOR BEGINNERS

W. Terrence Gordon. Illustrated by Abbe Lubell.

Ferdinand de Saussure's work is so powerful that it not only redefined modern linguistics, it also opened our minds to new ways of approaching anthropology, literary criticism, and psychoanalysis. By 1911, he had taught a general linguistics course only three times. Upon his death, however, his students were so inspired by his teachings that they published them as the "Course in General Linguistics." *Saussure For Beginners* takes you through this course, points out the unifying principles, and shows how these ideas migrated from linguistics to other subjects.

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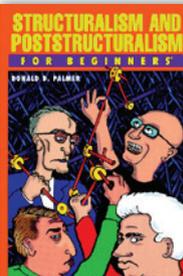
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Brandon Toropov. Illustrated by Joe Lee.

Shakespeare For Beginners opens with the observation that Shakespeare's genius is not in his (or England's) history, it's in his words, most notably, his plays—in his brilliant stories, unforgettable characters, and the impossible beauty of his language. So it skips the historical foreplay and goes straight to Shakespeare's plays. The book offers clear, concise descriptions and plot summaries of each play; it lists key phrases and important themes, explains the main ideas behind each work and features excerpt of important passages. And it is the only 'entry level' book available outside Great

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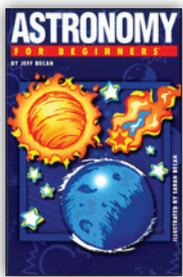
Donald D. Palmer.

The book's starting point is the linguistic theory of Ferdinand de Saussure. The book moves on to the anthropologist and literary critic Claude Lévi-Strauss; the semiologist and literary critic Roland Barthes; the Marxist philosopher Louis Althusser; the psychoanalyst Jacques Lacan; the deconstructionist Jacques Derrida. The book concludes by examining the postmodern obsession with language and with the radical claim of the disappearance of the

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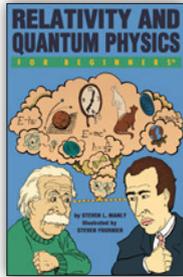


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Jeff Becan. Illustrated by Sarah Becan.

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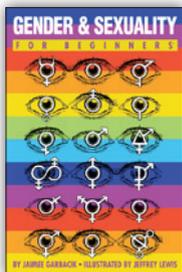
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Jaimee Garbacik. Illustrated by Jeffrey Lewis. What does sexual orientation mean if the very categories of gender are in question? How do we measure equality when our society's definitions of "male" and "female" leave out much of the population? There is no consensus on what a "real" man or woman is, where one's sex begins and ends, or what purpose the categories of masculine and feminine traits serve. *Gender & Sexuality For Beginners* interweaves neurobiology, psychology, feminist, queer and trans theory, as well as historical gay and lesbian activism to offer new perspectives on gender inequality. It examines the evolution of gender roles and definitions of sexual orientation in American society.

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Bonnie J. Morris, Ph.D. Illustrated by Phill Evans. *Women's History For Beginners* offers a lively, revealing, and provocative overview of this important (and controversial) academic field. Who are the great women of history, and why don't we know more about them? You don't need to be a scholar to notice that men's history dominates everything we learn in school; yet a quick tour of the past reveals dynamic female role models at every turn. This is more than an introduction to women's roles and contributions across time. It also examines the ways that women in all societies have been ruled by men, according to law and custom.

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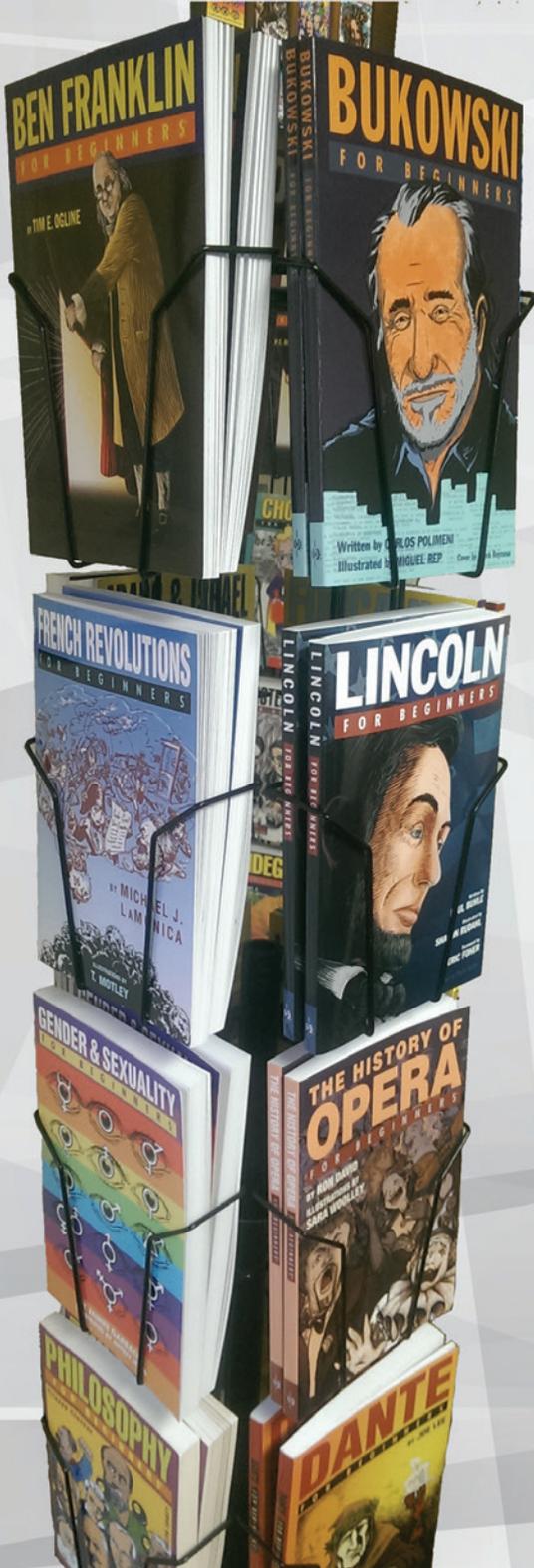
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