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**Belonging: the social dynamics of fitting in as experienced by Hmong refugees in Germany and Texas**

From Barnes and Noble: “Is refugee belonging more successful in a big city where resettlement agencies and refugees themselves have access to more resources and opportunities or in a small village community that operates on face-to-face relationships? In contexts that offer more hands-on assistance or in those that are more laissez-faire? How do refugees negotiate the often intersecting and complex global relationships that accompany belonging? And what can we learn about the process of how refugees restructure and reposition themselves in the course of upheaval by examining belonging at different scales?”

**Franco: a personal and political biography**

From Barnes and Noble: “Franco: A Personal and Political Biography depicts his early life, explains his career and rise to prominence as an army officer who became Europe’s youngest interwar brigadier general in 1926, and then discusses his role in the affairs of the troubled Second Spanish Republic (1931–36). Stanley G. Payne and Jesús Palacios examine in detail how Franco became dictator and how his leadership led to victory in the Spanish Civil War that consolidated his regime. They also explore Franco’s role in the great repression that accompanied the Civil War—resulting in tens of thousands of executions—and examine at length his controversial role in World War II. This masterful biography highlights Franco’s metamorphoses and adaptations to retain power as politics, culture, and economics shifted in the four decades of his dictatorship.”

**The new Arabs: how the millennial generation is changing the Middle East**

From The New York Times: “Mr. Cole's book is at its most illuminating when it takes the reader inside the youth movements in Tunisia, Egypt and Libya, showing us how activists used technology and social media to amplify their message and connect with like-minded citizens across the region. Although this phenomenon has already been widely covered by Western media, Mr. Cole chronicles it in fascinating detail here, recounting the stories of prominent dissidents and their often pioneering use of Facebook, YouTube, Twitter and cellphone technology to network and organize.”
The four horsemen: riding to liberty in post-Napoleonic Europe

From Publishers Weekly: “Published posthumously, Stites’s final work is both a career-defining accomplishment and something of a departure. The preeminent European historian broadens his focus from Russia and popular culture to encompass the entire continent and the spread of democracy, revolution, and self-determination. Writing primarily for academics, Stites examines the revolutionary wave of the 1820s and how uprisings for popular, constitutional rule cross-pollinated in Greece, Spain, the Kingdom of Naples, and Russia...While much of the text is dry and challenging, Stites’s work contains ample rewards for the dedicated reader.”

A deadly wandering: a tale of tragedy and redemption in the Age of Attention

From Barnes and Noble: “Texting while driving is a national catastrophe. It causes 1.3 million car crashes a year. For Reggie Shaw, that is no mere statistic; it marks a life-changing—and life-ending incident: In 2006, he was a 19-year-old college student idly cell-phone chatting with his girlfriend while driving when he smashed into another car and killed its two rocket scientist occupants. Wracked by guilt, he has become a fervent campaigner against texting behind the wheel, speaking at more than 300 events nationwide. Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Matt Richtel uses this tragedy as the poignant backdrop to a powerful book about the high cost of human distraction. He draws on groundbreaking research to unlock little known connections between attention and technology.”

Nature’s God: the heretical origins of the American Republic

From Barnes and Noble: “In this controversy-stirring book, Matthew Stewart (The Courtier and the Heretic) invites us to enter a Revolutionary America whose leaders are not the conventional Christians most politicians imagine, but infidels, atheists, and unconventional thinkers. He proves his point by exploring the ideas and writings of Jefferson, Franklin, and Paine, but also grassroots revolutionaries like Ethan Allen and the short-lived patriot Thomas Young. He finds that these Founding Fathers and their kin were inspired and influenced most by thinkers who would be very unlikely to receive invitations to White House prayer breakfasts.”
No good men among the living: America, the Taliban, and the war through Afghan eyes

From New York Times Book Review: “Gopal's book is essential reading for anyone concerned about how America got Afghanistan so wrong. It is a devastating, well-honed prosecution detailing how our government bungled the initial salvo in the so-called war on terror, ignored attempts by top Taliban leaders to surrender, trusted the wrong people and backed a feckless and corrupt Afghan regime. The book has its flaws, minimizing the role of neighboring Pakistan in the Taliban's resurgence and letting the Taliban off too easy. But it is ultimately the most compelling account I've read of how Afghans themselves see the war.”

The mantle of command: FDR at war, 1941-1942

From New York Times Book Review: “In the late 1940s, Winston Churchill wrote a memoir...that helped win him a Nobel Prize in Literature while burnishing his glory...Roosevelt missed the chance to toot his horn as loudly as his wartime partner. Churchill was able to play down or obscure his "often suspect" military leadership, writes Nigel Hamilton in The Mantle of Command, while Roosevelt's deft but opaque role as commander in chief has been overshadowed or overlooked in many military histories. In his fast-paced, smartly observed recounting of Roosevelt's first year as war leader, Hamilton means to set the record straight...Hamilton writes with brio and narrative drive. On the whole, The Mantle of Command is splendid: It's the memoir Roosevelt didn't get to write.”

Age of ambition: chasing fortune, truth, & faith in the New China

From Publishers Weekly: “Two potent, antagonistic forces—a swelling individualism and a political structure intent on controlling it—shape a rising superpower in this revealing journalistic portrait. New Yorker staff writer Osnos, the magazine’s former Beijing correspondent, hangs his panorama on vivid first-hand profiles of artists, writers, editors, economists, Internet dating entrepreneurs, conservative nationalists, liberal students, and dissidents, including imprisoned Nobel laureate Liu Xiaobo and exiled lawyer-activist Chen Guangcheng. Through their stories, he depicts a people navigating a dizzying shift from socialist austerity, conformity, and idealism to capitalist materialism and self-promotion; it’s a society steeped in vehement dogmas—the author spies examples in everything from English-language instruction to tour-guide patter—but full of private doubt as they struggle to find fulfillment and social connection in a cutthroat market economy...”
Imperial Germany and the Great War, 1914-1918

From Barnes and Noble: “This book explores the impact of the First World War on Imperial Germany and examines military aspects of the conflict, as well as the diplomacy, politics, and industrial mobilization of wartime Germany. Including maps, tables, and illustrations, it also offers a rich portrait of life on the home front - the war's pervasive effects on rich and poor, men and women, young and old, farmers and city-dwellers, Protestants, Catholics, and Jews.”

The Bolsheviks and the Russian Empire

From Barnes and Noble: “This comparative historical sociology of the Bolshevik revolutionaries offers a reinterpretation of political radicalization in the last years of the Russian Empire. Finding that two-thirds of the Bolshevik leadership were ethnic minorities – Ukrainians, Latvians, Georgians, Jews, and others – this book examines the shared experiences of assimilation and socioethnic exclusion that underlay their class universalism.”

Twentieth-century Spain: a history

From Barnes and Noble: “This is a much-needed new overview of Spanish social and political history which sets developments in twentieth-century Spain within a broader European context. Julián Casanova, one of Spain's leading historians, and Carlos Gil Andrés chart the country's experience of democracy, dictatorship and civil war and its dramatic transformation from an agricultural and rural society to an industrial and urban society fully integrated into Europe.”
A citizen’s guide to terrorism and counterterrorism

From Barnes and Noble: “This Citizen’s Guide addresses the public policy issues of terrorism and counterterrorism in the United States after Bin Laden’s death. Written for the thinking citizen and student alike, this succinct and up-to-date book takes a "grand strategy" approach toward terrorism and uses examples and issues drawn from present-day perpetrators and actors.”

Did Jesus exist?: the historical argument for Jesus of Nazareth

From Barnes and Noble: “Large numbers of atheists, humanists, and conspiracy theorists are raising one of the most pressing questions in the history of religion: "Did Jesus exist at all?" New York Times bestselling author Bart Ehrman confronts this question head-on and provides a compelling portrait of the Jesus you may not have hoped to meet—but he did exist whether we like it or not.”

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"If you don’t like the road you’re walking, start paving another one.” –Dolly Parton