

The Inmates Are Running The Asylum Why High Tech Products Drive Us Crazy And How To Restore The Sanity

Imagine, at a terrifyingly aggressive rate, everything you regularly use is being equipped with computer technology. Think about your phone, cameras, cars - everything - being automated and programmed by people who in their rush to accept the many benefits of the silicon chip, have abdicated their responsibility to make these products easy to use. The Inmates are Running the Asylum argues that, despite appearances, business executives are simply not the ones in control of the high-tech industry. They have inadvertently put programmers and engineers in charge, leading to products and processes.

Alan Cooper calls for a Software Revolution - his best-selling book now in trade paperback with new foreword and afterword.

An incredible bodyweight-only fitness book written by Coss Marte, a former Lower East Side drug dealer who found purpose and inspiration in prison—by developing a kick-butt workout.

ConBody is former Lower East Side drug dealer, Coss Marte's, bodyweight-only approach to fitness. Created in prison with only the space of his own cell and no equipment to work with, Coss designed a plan that helped him go from dangerously obese with a five year prognosis to losing 70 pounds and training other inmates. Before prison, Coss was flying high, dealing drugs, and making money hand over fist as a teenager. But after watching his life and those of his loved ones fall apart, he realized things had to change. Once he saw that his workout plan was not only effective, but accessible, he knew he'd found a pathway to health and ultimately to a new life. When he left prison, he returned to the Lower East Side where any betting person would tell you he'd be back slinging crack in no time. But instead he worked out in his old hangouts and gained a small following that turned into an acclaimed business winning entrepreneurial awards and the support of Shark Tank's Barbara Corcoran. Coss's method works. Just ask the thousands of clients who attend his classes. These exercises are for anyone, anywhere. Male, female, rich, poor, all you need is yourself and the space of a jail cell to get to work. It's perfect for busy lifestyles on the go and can be done in hotel rooms, small apartments, and in your backyard. With fun, engaging exercises, ConBody will help you get and stay healthy.

Although madness is a popular theme in literature, contemporary American writers use that theme in a new and unfamiliar way, not just to convey the result of an unnerving or infuriating reality but also to comment on its hypocrisies. Barbara Tapa Lupack examines the cultural and literary contexts of five major works of contemporary fiction: Joseph Heller's *Catch-22* (1961), Ken Kesey's *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* (1962), Kurt Vonnegut's *Slaughterhouse-Five* (1969), Jerzy Kosinski's *Being There* (1971), and William Styron's *Sophie's Choice* (1979). She shows that each book is complex, with deep roots in American political reality, and each portrays a protagonist who is mad or is considered to be mad--but who reveals a special insight into the dangers of social, political, and cultural conformity. Each of these characters dwells in a sort of wasteland, ranging from the corrupt military base of Pianosa to the plastic suburb of Ilium, from the Nazi death camps to the ravaged Eternal City and bombed-out Dresden. All seek confirmation of their authenticity, and all offer social and ethical remedies that challenge bureaucratic institutions--solutions that amount to inmates running the asylum.

Whether you're designing consumer electronics, medical devices, enterprise Web apps, or new ways to check out at the supermarket, today's digitally-enabled products and services provide both great opportunities to deliver compelling user experiences and great risks of driving your customers crazy with complicated, confusing technology. Designing successful products and services in the digital age requires a multi-disciplinary team with expertise in interaction design, visual design, industrial design, and other disciplines. It also takes the ability to come up with the big ideas that make a desirable product or service, as well as the skill and perseverance to execute on the thousand small ideas that get your design into the hands of users. It requires expertise in project management, user research, and consensus-building. This comprehensive, full-color volume addresses all of these and more with detailed how-to information, real-life examples, and exercises. Topics include assembling a design team, planning and conducting user research, analyzing your data and turning it into personas, using scenarios to drive requirements definition and design, collaborating in design meetings, evaluating and iterating your design, and documenting finished design in a way that works for engineers and stakeholders alike.

Arthur H. Mooneyhan, who spent thirty years working in the prison system, shares real stories from the streets and inside the prison walls in this book that emphasizes the value of respect. With modern life's distractions, many have forgotten all the hard work that's been put in to achieve progress. Mooneyhan, also an ordained pastor and evangelist, examines the relationships in our lives that cultivate, nurture, and help us develop lives of respect. By engaging in self-reflection, you'll discover why true feelings of trust, safety, and well-being are so important and where they derive. Along the way, you'll get an insider's view of the prison system and the inmate population, along with the mental health programs that govern inmate behavior. Mooneyhan also explores the causes and effects of PTSD. He further offers effective coping methods to combat this traumatic illness, often associated with stress-filled careers like criminal justice, the military, and being a first responder. You'll gain a newfound respect for the men and women who serve and protect our streets, neighborhoods, highways, byways, and the world abroad, preserving and protecting our freedom. Join the author as he dives into the intersection of faith and discover how cultivating a relationship with God and thinking about what makes life so valuable will help you on your life journey.

"Ace Boggess's *The Prisoners* gives voice to those forgotten Americans behind the ever increasing miles of razor wire. Complicated with the mixed emotions of regret and defiance, of loss and perseverance, of hope and frustration, these aren't just persona poems, nor are they just poems of witness; rather these poems are metaphors, too, for the way each of us may feel jailed by circumstance only to find a kind of freedom in the possibilities of poetry." --Gerry LaFemina, author of *Vanishing Horizon* and *Notes for the Novice Ventriloquist*

Incarceron is a prison so vast that it contains not only cells and corridors, but metal forests, dilapidated cities, and wilderness. It has been sealed for centuries, and only one man has ever escaped. Finn has always been a prisoner here. Although he has no memory of his childhood, he is sure he came from Outside. His link to the Outside, his chance to break free, is Claudia, the warden's daughter, herself determined to escape an arranged marriage. They are up against impossible odds, but one thing looms above all: Incarceron itself is alive . . .

A revised and updated edition of *How to master the art of selling*, which educates on how to succeed in sales, including new information on using the latest research techniques

and using e-mail and online resources to generate deals more quickly and efficiently

The must-read summary of Alan Cooper's book: "The Inmates Are Running the Asylum: Why High-Tech Products Drive Us Crazy and How to Restore the Sanity". This complete summary of the ideas from Alan Cooper's book "The Inmates Are Running the Asylum" shows that computer technology is embedded within almost every product that is manufactured. Yet all too often, these "new-and-improved" products are hard to use because the engineers who are developing the interface between the user and the machine don't think like the average man-on-the-street who knows nothing about technology. Therefore, the situation effectively becomes the equivalent of letting the inmates run the asylum in which they are incarcerated. Better products need to be developed that work in the same way that average people think. Only then will new products deliver on their implied promise of enhancing the quality of life for their users. According to Alan Cooper, designers who are skilled in this specific field should be responsible for designing the interface between the user and the machine. This summary asserts that the goal of computer usage should be "not to make anyone feel stupid". Added-value of this summary: • Save time • Understand the key concepts • Increase your business knowledge To learn more, read "The Inmates Are Running the Asylum" and rethink entrenched priorities in software planning.

This true story of an inmate-run prison proves prisons can be reformed, or better--abolished.

Describes why computer software has become unreliable and offers suggestions on ways users can correct the situation.

Millions of Americans are embroiled in the penal system - and tens of millions more are at risk of being sent to prison for crimes large and small. "Stay Out Of Prison: A Practical Guide to Avoiding Incarceration" is an in-depth look at criminal thinking and criminal behavior, the legal system, how crimes are investigated and prosecuted, and how you can minimize your chances of being imprisoned. An excellent book both for those who may be running the risk of incarceration, as well as those who worry about their family members or friends.

· The Goal· The Form· The Behavior· The Interaction· The Cast· The Gizmos

This work offers a summary of the book ""THE INMATES ARE RUNNING THE ASYLUM: Why HighTech Products Drive Us Crazy and How To Restore the Sanity"" by Alan Cooper. Alan Cooper is the founder of Cooper Interaction Design, a consulting firm that develops interactive product designs for hightech companies. Computer technology is embedded within almost every product that is manufactured. Yet all too often, these "newandimproved" products are hard to use because the engineers who are developing the interface between the user and the machine don't think like the average manonthestreet who knows.

The Great Escape for the Great War: the astonishing true story of two World War I prisoners who pulled off one of the most ingenious escapes of all time. "Fox unspools Jones and Hill's delightfully elaborate scheme in nail-biting episodes that advance like a narrative Rube Goldberg machine."—The New York Times Book Review Imprisoned in a remote Turkish POW camp during World War I, having survived a two-month forced march and a terrifying shootout in the desert, two British officers, Harry Jones and Cedric Hill, join forces to bamboozle their iron-fisted captors. To stave off despair and boredom, Jones takes a handmade Ouija board and fakes elaborate séances for his fellow prisoners. Word gets around, and one day an Ottoman official approaches Jones with a query: Could Jones contact the spirit world to find a vast treasure rumored to be buried nearby? Jones, a trained lawyer, and Hill, a brilliant magician, use the Ouija board—and their keen understanding of the psychology of deception—to build a trap for their captors that will ultimately lead them to freedom. A gripping nonfiction thriller, *The Confidence Men* is the story of one of the only known con games played for a good cause—and of a profound but unlikely friendship. Had it not been for "the Great War," Jones, the Oxford-educated son of a British lord, and Hill, a mechanic on an Australian sheep ranch, would never have met. But in pain, loneliness, hunger, and isolation, they formed a powerful emotional and intellectual alliance that saved both of their lives. Margalit Fox brings her "nose for interesting facts, the ability to construct a taut narrative arc, and a Dickens-level gift for concisely conveying personality" (Kathryn Schulz, *New York*) to this tale of psychological strategy that is rife with cunning, danger, and moments of high farce that rival anything in *Catch-22*.

Examines how increasingly complicated computer technology has outpaced the ability of the average consumer to use it without frustration and calls for changes that will bring computer technology in line with how average people think

Provides an irreverent but honest look at what individuals should do now when long term care requirements threaten the "gold" in the golden retirement years.

Avi Steinberg is stumped. After defecting from yeshiva to attend Harvard, he has nothing but a senior thesis on Bugs Bunny to show for himself. While his friends and classmates advance in the world, Steinberg remains stuck at a crossroads, his "romantic" existence as a freelance obituary writer no longer cutting it. Seeking direction (and dental insurance) Steinberg takes a job running the library counter at a Boston prison. He is quickly drawn into the community of outcasts that forms among his bookshelves—an assortment of quirky regulars, including con men, pimps, minor prophets, even ghosts—all searching for the perfect book and a connection to the outside world. Steinberg recounts their daily dramas with heartbreak and humor in this one-of-a-kind memoir—a piercing exploration of prison culture and an entertaining tale of one young man's earnest attempt to find his place in the world.

Acclaimed journalist Ted Conover sets a new standard for bold, in-depth reporting in this first-hand account of life inside the penal system at Sing Sing. When Ted Conover's request to shadow a recruit at the New York State Corrections Officer Academy was denied, he decided to apply for a job as a prison officer himself. The result is an unprecedented work of eyewitness journalism: the account of Conover's year-long passage into storied Sing Sing prison as a rookie guard, or "newjack." As he struggles to become a good officer, Conover angers inmates, dodges blows, and attempts, in the face of overwhelming odds, to balance decency with toughness. Through his insights into the harsh culture of prison, the grueling and demeaning working

conditions of the officers, and the unexpected ways the job encroaches on his own family life, we begin to see how our burgeoning prison system brutalizes everyone connected with it. An intimate portrait of a world few readers have ever experienced, *Newjack* is a haunting journey into a dark undercurrent of American life.

Charlie Engle's "fascinating account of the high and low points of his life as an ultramarathon runner...is uplifting and inspirational" (Publishers Weekly) as he describes his globe-spanning races, his record-breaking run across the Sahara Desert, and how running helped him overcome drug addiction—and an unjust stint in federal prison. After a decade-long addiction to crack cocaine and alcohol, Charlie Engle hit bottom with a near-fatal six-day binge that ended in a hail of bullets. As Engle got sober, he turned to running, which became his lifeline, his pastime, and his salvation. He began with marathons, and when marathons weren't far enough, he began to take on ultramarathons, races that went for thirty-five, fifty, and sometimes hundreds of miles, traveling to some of the most unforgiving places on earth to race. The Matt Damon-produced documentary, *Running the Sahara*, followed Engle as he lead a team on a harrowing, record breaking 4,500-mile run across the Sahara Desert, which helped raise millions of dollars for charity. Charlie's growing notoriety led to an investigation and a subsequent unjust conviction for mortgage fraud for which he spent sixteen months in federal prison in Beckley, West Virginia. While in jail, Engle pounded the small prison track, running endlessly in circles. Soon his fellow inmates were joining him, struggling to keep their spirits up in dehumanizing circumstances. In *Running Man*, Charlie Engle tells the surprising, funny, and emotional story of his life, detailing his setbacks and struggles—from coping with addiction to serving time in prison—and how he blazed a path to freedom by putting one foot in front of the other. "A fast-paced, well-written account of a man who accepts pain, pushes beyond imagined limits, and ultimately finds redemption and peace" (Booklist), this is a raw and triumphant account about finding the threshold of human endurance, and transcending it.

In her first novel since *The Quick and the Dead* (a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize), the legendary writer takes us into an uncertain landscape after an environmental apocalypse, a world in which only the man-made has value, but some still wish to salvage the authentic. "She practices ... camouflage, except that instead of adapting to its environment, Williams's imagination, by remaining true to itself, reveals new colorations in the ecology around her." —A.O. Scott, *The New York Times Book Review* *Khristen* is a teenager who, her mother believes, was marked by greatness as a baby when she died for a moment and then came back to life. After *Khristen's* failing boarding school for gifted teens closes its doors, and she finds that her mother has disappeared, she ranges across the dead landscape and washes up at a "resort" on the shores of a mysterious, putrid lake the elderly residents there call "Big Girl." In a rotting honeycomb of rooms, these old ones plot actions to punish corporations and people they consider culpable in the destruction of the final scraps of nature's beauty. What will *Khristen* and *Jeffrey*, the precocious ten-year-old boy she meets there, learn from this "gabby seditious lot, in the worst of health but with kamikaze hearts, an army of the aged and ill, determined to refresh, through crackpot violence, a plundered earth"? Rivetingly strange and beautiful, and delivered with Williams's searing, deadpan wit, *Harrow* is their intertwined tale of paradise lost and of their reasons—against all reasonableness—to try and recover something of it.

The essential interaction design guide, fully revised and updated for the mobile age *About Face: The Essentials of Interaction Design, Fourth Edition* is the latest update to the book that shaped and evolved the landscape of interaction design. This comprehensive guide takes the worldwide shift to smartphones and tablets into account. New information includes discussions on mobile apps, touch interfaces, screen size considerations, and more. The new full-color interior and unique layout better illustrate modern design concepts. The interaction design profession is blooming with the success of design-intensive companies, priming customers to expect "design" as a critical ingredient of marketplace success. Consumers have little tolerance for websites, apps, and devices that don't live up to their expectations, and the responding shift in business philosophy has become widespread. *About Face* is the book that brought interaction design out of the research labs and into the everyday lexicon, and the updated Fourth Edition continues to lead the way with ideas and methods relevant to today's design practitioners and developers. Updated information includes: Contemporary interface, interaction, and product design methods Design for mobile platforms and consumer electronics State-of-the-art interface recommendations and up-to-date examples Updated Goal-Directed Design methodology Designers and developers looking to remain relevant through the current shift in consumer technology habits will find *About Face* to be a comprehensive, essential resource.

"Life in a women's prison is full of surprises," writes *Cristina Rathbone* in her landmark account of life at MCI-Framingham. And so it is. After two intense court battles with prison officials, *Rathbone* gained unprecedented access to the otherwise invisible women of the oldest running women's prison in America. The picture that emerges is both astounding and enraging. Women reveal the agonies of separation from family, and the prevalence of depression, and of sexual predation, and institutional malaise behind bars. But they also share their more personal hopes and concerns. There is horror in prison for sure, but *Rathbone* insists there is also humor and romance and downright bloody-mindedness. Getting beyond the political to the personal, *A World Apart* is both a triumph of empathy and a searing indictment of a system that has overlooked the plight of women in prison for far too long. At the center of the book is *Denise*, a mother serving five years for a first-time, nonviolent drug offense. *Denise's* son is nine and obsessed with Beanie Babies when she first arrives in prison. He is fourteen and in prison himself by the time she is finally released. As *Denise* struggles to reconcile life in prison with the realities of her son's excessive freedom on the outside, we meet women like *Julie*, who gets through her time by distracting herself with flirtatious, often salacious relationships with male correctional officers; *Louise*, who keeps herself going by selling makeup and personalized food packages on the prison black market; *Chris*, whose mental illness leads her to kill herself in prison; and *Susan*, who, after thirteen years of intermittent incarceration, has come to think of MCI-Framingham as home. Fearlessly truthful and revelatory, *A World Apart* is a major work of investigative journalism and social justice.

Previously available only through free distribution to prisons, this life-changing book is the result of charitable donations from sales of *Chicken Soup for the Christian Family Soul* and gifts from thousands of individuals.

The TRUE STORY of a shady character who runs for Sheriff in Boston, and the incumbent sheriff has a heart attack and dies on election night, making the crook the sheriff. What could possibly go wrong? Everything! And it did. Making *Johnny Dowd* the Sheriff of Suffolk County was like giving the keys to Fort Knox to *John Dillinger*. Before long, prisoners were running the jail. The door between the female and male sections of the jail was opened, paying inmates could enjoy conjugal visits in their cells, and the jail was open to visitors 24/7. *Johnny Dowd* turned

the jail's infirmary into a casino, with table games, dice, and a 24 hour a day high stakes poker game. Prisoners were allowed to take cabs to play golf at a nearby course. Not satisfied, Johnny opened a high end restaurant and nightclub in the jail and invited the public to stop by after the legitimate bars closed for the night. With things running to his satisfaction, Johnny hit upon the idea of renting jail cells to criminals on the lam from Chicago and New York. Who would ever think to look for a fugitive in a jail? And the accommodations were first class! Chicago mobster Easy Eddie O'Hare rented a cell to hide out from Al Capone's gunmen. New York mobsters rented some cells and then opened a laundry in downtown Boston, using the jail's washing machines, soap and water. Alas, all good things must come to an end, and Johnny Dowd was indicted. He fled, leading to a two year manhunt worthy of the Keystone Kops. This is the true story of how crooked sheriff turned Boston's City Jail into a luxury hotel for criminals. Irony prevails, as the structure is now preserved as one of Boston's finest luxury hotels for the rest of us, proving Johnny Dowd was a man ahead of his times.

An enraging, necessary look at the private prison system, and a convincing clarion call for prison reform.” —NPR.org New York Times Book Review 10 Best Books of 2018 * One of President Barack Obama's favorite books of 2018 * Winner of the 2019 J. Anthony Lukas Book Prize * Winner of the Helen Bernstein Book Award for Excellence in Journalism * Winner of the 2019 RFK Book and Journalism Award * A New York Times Notable Book A ground-breaking and brave inside reckoning with the nexus of prison and profit in America: in one Louisiana prison and over the course of our country's history. In 2014, Shane Bauer was hired for \$9 an hour to work as an entry-level prison guard at a private prison in Winnfield, Louisiana. An award-winning investigative journalist, he used his real name; there was no meaningful background check. Four months later, his employment came to an abrupt end. But he had seen enough, and in short order he wrote an exposé about his experiences that won a National Magazine Award and became the most-read feature in the history of the magazine Mother Jones. Still, there was much more that he needed to say. In *American Prison*, Bauer weaves a much deeper reckoning with his experiences together with a thoroughly researched history of for-profit prisons in America from their origins in the decades before the Civil War. For, as he soon realized, we can't understand the cruelty of our current system and its place in the larger story of mass incarceration without understanding where it came from. Private prisons became entrenched in the South as part of a systemic effort to keep the African-American labor force in place in the aftermath of slavery, and the echoes of these shameful origins are with us still. The private prison system is deliberately unaccountable to public scrutiny. Private prisons are not incentivized to tend to the health of their inmates, or to feed them well, or to attract and retain a highly-trained prison staff. Though Bauer befriends some of his colleagues and sympathizes with their plight, the chronic dysfunction of their lives only adds to the prison's sense of chaos. To his horror, Bauer finds himself becoming crueler and more aggressive the longer he works in the prison, and he is far from alone. A blistering indictment of the private prison system, and the powerful forces that drive it, *American Prison* is a necessary human document about the true face of justice in America. Do you have a real relationship with God, or do you just have a religion? Do you know God, or do you just know about God? In *How Big Is Your God?* Paul Coutinho, SJ, challenges us to grow stronger and deeper in our faith and in our relationship with God—a God whose love knows no bounds. To help us on our way, Coutinho introduces us to people in various world religions—from Hindu friends to Buddhist teachers to St. Ignatius of Loyola—who have shaped his spiritual life and made possible his deep, personal relationship with God.

Return to the sizzling glymera's prison camp in this dark and sexy second novel in the new *Black Dagger Brotherhood Prison Camp* spin-off series from the #1 New York Times bestselling author J.R. Ward. In the next installment of bestselling author J.R. Ward's *Prison Camp* series, things get steamy when Lucan, a wolveren forced into bartering drug deals for the infamous Prison Colony, meets Rio, the second in command for the shadowy Caldwell supplier, Mozart. After a deal goes awry, a wolf with piercing golden eyes swoops in to save her from certain death. As shocking truths unfurl, Rio is uncertain of who to trust and what to believe—but with her life on the line, true love rears its head and growls in the face of danger.

This completely updated volume presents the effective and practical tools you need to design great desktop applications, Web 2.0 sites, and mobile devices. You'll learn the principles of good product behavior and gain an understanding of Cooper's Goal-Directed Design method, which involves everything from conducting user research to defining your product using personas and scenarios. Ultimately, you'll acquire the knowledge to design the best possible digital products and services.

Recently orphaned and destitute, seventeen-year-old Liza Hastings earns a position as a lady's maid to sixteen-year-old Princess Victoria at Kensington Palace in 1836, the year before Victoria becomes Queen of England.

#1 New York Times bestselling author Stephen King's beloved novella, *Rita Hayworth and Shawshank Redemption*—the basis for the Best Picture Academy Award-nominee *The Shawshank Redemption*—about an unjustly imprisoned convict who seeks a strangely satisfying revenge, is now available for the first time as a standalone book. A mesmerizing tale of unjust imprisonment and offbeat escape, *Rita Hayworth and Shawshank Redemption* is one of Stephen King's most beloved and iconic stories, and it helped make *Castle Rock* a place readers would return to over and over again. Suspenseful, mysterious, and heart-wrenching, this iconic King novella, populated by a cast of unforgettable characters, is about a fiercely compelling convict named Andy Dufresne who is seeking his ultimate revenge. Originally published in 1982 in the collection *Different Seasons* (alongside "The Body," "Art Pupil," and "The Breathing Method"), it was made into the film *The Shawshank Redemption* in 1994. Starring Morgan Freeman and Tim Robbins, this modern classic was nominated for seven Academy Awards, including Best Picture, and is among the most beloved films of all time.

The last place Christopher Jacobs, aka X, thought he'd find himself was behind bars. Ten years later, the boy he used to be is gone. In his place is the shell of a man with murder under his belt. Any emotion he once had was left under the gavel when he was given life in prison. That is until the new nurse in the infirmary joins the block. Putting your hands on a prison employee will get you the hole, but some things are worth their punishment, and something tells him Lyla will be worth more than he bargained for. Lyla Evans isn't sure about her new job at a maximum security prison, but showing uncertainty and weakness isn't an option. Taking care of murders and rapist isn't ideal, but survival is key. She's warned ahead of time about a prisoner named X, but when she's attacked, it's the dangerous X that saves her. Fraternizing with the prisoners is forbidden, but sometimes the most forbidden things are the sweetest. ****WARNING**** This book is NOT for the faint of heart. If you have issues reading about abuse (physical or mental) then please DO NOT read this book. 18+ for sexual content, language, and violence."HOLY MOTHER OF ALL THINGS HOLY! What on earth did Tabatha do to my heart?! She ripped it out,

stomped all over it, and shoved the broken thing back in... and I loved every minute of it. I think." ~Heather, Give Me Books"I just cannot put into words how much I loved Slammer!!! Be prepared for a ride of a lifetime with X and Lyla!" ~ Kara, Give Me Books"A haunting, unconventional love story I will never forget." ~Ella James, USA TODAY bestselling author of Sloth"If you're looking for a mushy sweet romance, this is not the book for you. If you want to read something that is unlike anything else out there and that will surprise you and leave you in complete shock, then READ THIS BOOK. Without a doubt the best book I've read in a long time. It's dark, twisted, violent, but it's unique and shocking and unpredictable." ~ Author Amy McClung"I hope you're ready for the best mind fuck of your life, because this book is going to give it to you and give it good!" ~ Michele, Devilishly Delicious Book Reviews

Eddie Plum, who insists he's been unjustifiably committed to a California psychiatric hospital, manages to finally escape after fourteen years of incarceration to start his life anew. On the run, he holes up in a sheltered barrio on a bluff above the Pacific Ocean owned by his wealthy but unsympathetic father. Here he meets Sweets, the telepathic dog, laments the loss of Sofia, his madhouse lover, and plays the horses at the Del Mar Racetrack. Eventually he meets up with an old friend, Shelly Hubbard, a fellow horseplayer, record collector/dealer, and hardcore loner, who tells him about his brother, Donny, dead at the age of eighteen from a tragic dive off a thirty-foot La Jolla sea cliff known as the Clam. Eddie discovers a family secret and wants to help, but by then he's already embroiled in the psychotic incident with the Tijuana prostitutes, the madhouse lover, and the police, who are hot on his tail. Mr. Toad's Wild Ride has nothing on Whirlaway, a hilarious novel of escaped mental patients, horseplayers, and record collectors.

Mantle or Mays? A-Rod or Jeter? Biggio or Morgan? Clemens, Maddux, and Randy Johnson -- or Pedro, Palmer, and Carlton? These are questions baseball fans can spend endless hours debating. Former All-Star pitcher and National League Manager of the Year Larry Dierker has his own opinions, and he shares them in My Team, his fascinating discussion of the greatest players he has seen in his four decades in the major leagues. Dierker selects twenty-five players for My Team and another twenty-five for the opposition, the Underdogs, or "Dogs." There are two players at each position, five starting pitchers, and four relievers. (When your starters are the likes of Roger Clemens, Greg Maddux, Bob Gibson, Tom Seaver, Nolan Ryan, and Juan Marichal, you don't worry about bullpen depth.) All are players that Dierker has played with or against or watched in his years as player, coach, manager, and commentator. Each athlete must have played at least ten years in the major leagues to qualify, and players are judged on their ten best seasons. Leadership skills and personality -- critical components of team chemistry -- are highly valued. So how is it possible to select two teams composed of outstanding ballplayers from the past forty years and not have room for Sandy Koufax, Reggie Jackson, Carl Yastrzemski, or Cal Ripken Jr.? Dierker explains his choices, analyzing each position carefully, always putting the team ahead of the individual player. He provides statistics to back up his selections, and often relates personal anecdotes about the players. (From his first All-Star Game in 1969, Dierker offers a wonderful anecdote about Hank Aaron, by then an All-Star veteran.) My Team may start more debates than it settles, but Dierker's insights, and his passion for the game, will enlighten and fascinate true baseball fans.

Rusty Young was backpacking in South America when he heard about Thomas McFadden, a convicted English drug trafficker who ran tours inside Bolivia's notorious San Pedro prison. Intrigued, the young Australian journalist went to La Paz and joined one of Thomas's illegal tours. They formed an instant friendship and then became partners in an attempt to record Thomas's experiences in the jail. Rusty bribed the guards to allow him to stay and for the next three months he lived inside the prison, sharing a cell with Thomas and recording one of the strangest and most compelling prison stories of all time. The result is Marching Powder. This book establishes that San Pedro is not your average prison. Inmates are expected to buy their cells from real estate agents. Others run shops and restaurants. Women and children live with imprisoned family members. It is a place where corrupt politicians and drug lords live in luxury apartments, while the poorest prisoners are subjected to squalor and deprivation. Violence is a constant threat, and sections of San Pedro that echo with the sound of children by day house some of Bolivia's busiest cocaine laboratories by night. In San Pedro, cocaine--"Bolivian marching powder"--makes life bearable. Even the prison cat is addicted. Yet Marching Powder is also the tale of friendship, a place where horror is countered by humor and cruelty and compassion can inhabit the same cell. This is cutting-edge travel-writing and a fascinating account of infiltration into the South American drug culture.

A daring journalist goes behind bars to explore the redemptive power of books with bikers, bank robbers, and gunmen An attack in London left Ann Walmsley unable to walk alone down the street, and shook her belief in the fundamental goodness of people. A few years later, when a friend asked her to participate in a bold new venture in a men's medium security prison, Ann had to weigh her curiosity and desire to be of service against her anxiety and fear. But she signed on, and for eighteen months went to a remote building at Collins Bay, meeting a group of heavily tattooed book club members without the presence of guards or security cameras. There was no wine and cheese, no plush furnishings. But a book club on the inside proved to be a place to share ideas and regain a sense of humanity. For the men, the books were rare prized possessions, and the meetings were an oasis of safety and a respite from isolation in an otherwise hostile environment. Having been judged themselves, they were quick to make judgments about the books they read. As they discussed the obstacles the characters faced, they revealed glimpses of their own struggles that were devastating and comic. From The Grapes of Wrath to The Cellist of Sarajevo, Outliers to Infidel, the book discussions became a springboard for frank conversations about loss, anger, redemption, and loneliness. The Prison Book Club follows six of the book club members, who kept journals at Walmsley's request and participated in candid one-on-one conversations. Graham the biker, Frank the gunman, Ben and Dread the drug dealers, and the robber duo Gaston and Peter come to life as the author reconciles her knowledge of their crimes with the individuals themselves, and follows their lives as they leave prison. And woven throughout is the determined and compassionate Carol Finlay, working tirelessly to expand her program

across Canada and into the United States. The books changed the men and the men changed Walmsley, allowing her to move beyond her position as a victim. Given the choice, she'd forsake the company of privileged friends and their comfortable book club to make the two-hour drive to Collins Bay.

A top-ranked horse trainer's gorgeous, life-affirming memoir that offers profound insight into the fascinating ways both horses and humans seek relationships to survive. At the start of this remarkable story of recovery, healing, and redemption, Ginger Gaffney answers a call to help retrain the troubled horses at an alternative prison ranch in New Mexico, a facility run entirely by the prisoners. The horses are scavenging through the dumpsters, kicking and running down the residents when they bring the trash out after meals. One horse is severely injured. The horses and residents arrive at the ranch broken in one way or many: the horses are defensive and terrified, while the residents, some battling drug and alcohol addictions, are emotionally and physically shattered. With deep insight into how animals and humans communicate through posture, body language, and honesty of spirit, Gaffney walks us through her struggle to train the untrainable. Gaffney peels away the layers of her own story—a solitary childhood, painful introversion, and a transformative connection with her first horse, a filly named Belle—and she, too, learns to trust people as much as she trusts horses. As her year-long odyssey builds toward a dramatic conclusion, the group experiences triumphs and failures, brave recoveries and relapses, as well as betrayals and moving stories of trust and belonging. Resonant, smart, and beautifully written, *Half Broke* tears at the heart of what it takes to find wholeness after years of trauma and addiction and offers profound insight on how working with animals can satisfy our universal need for connection.

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