

BEHOLD THE DREAMERS

BEHOLD THE DREAMERS IS A POWERFUL NOVEL THAT EXPLORES THE DREAMS, STRUGGLES, AND REALITIES OF IMMIGRANT LIFE IN AMERICA, SET AGAINST THE BACKDROP OF A SHIFTING ECONOMIC LANDSCAPE. THIS ARTICLE PROVIDES A COMPREHENSIVE ANALYSIS OF THE BOOK'S THEMES, PLOT, CHARACTERS, AND ITS IMPACT ON CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE. READERS WILL DISCOVER THE STORY'S UNIQUE PERSPECTIVE ON THE AMERICAN DREAM, THE CULTURAL AND SOCIAL CHALLENGES FACED BY THE MAIN CHARACTERS, AND THE BROADER SIGNIFICANCE OF THESE ISSUES IN TODAY'S WORLD. KEY TOPICS COVERED INCLUDE A DETAILED SUMMARY, AN EXPLORATION OF CENTRAL THEMES, CHARACTER PROFILES, CRITICAL RECEPTION, AND ITS RELEVANCE FOR BOTH LITERATURE LOVERS AND THOSE INTERESTED IN IMMIGRATION NARRATIVES. IF YOU'RE CURIOUS ABOUT THE ENDURING APPEAL OF "BEHOLD THE DREAMERS," THIS IN-DEPTH GUIDE IS DESIGNED TO ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS AND OFFER VALUABLE INSIGHTS. CONTINUE READING TO UNCOVER WHY THIS NOVEL REMAINS A COMPELLING, RELEVANT, AND WIDELY-DISCUSSED WORK.

- SUMMARY OF BEHOLD THE DREAMERS
- MAJOR THEMES AND LITERARY ANALYSIS
- MAIN CHARACTERS AND THEIR JOURNEYS
- SETTING AND SOCIAL CONTEXT
- CRITICAL RECEPTION AND AWARDS
- IMPACT ON LITERATURE AND SOCIETY
- FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

SUMMARY OF BEHOLD THE DREAMERS

"BEHOLD THE DREAMERS" IS A DEBUT NOVEL BY IMBOLO MBUE, PUBLISHED IN 2016. THE STORY FOLLOWS THE LIVES OF JENDE AND NENI JONGA, IMMIGRANTS FROM CAMEROON WHO MOVE TO NEW YORK CITY IN PURSUIT OF A BETTER LIFE. JENDE SECURES A JOB AS A CHAUFFEUR FOR CLARK EDWARDS, A SENIOR EXECUTIVE AT LEHMAN BROTHERS, WHILE NENI WORKS AS A HOUSEKEEPER FOR THE EDWARDS FAMILY. THE NARRATIVE UNFOLDS DURING THE FINANCIAL CRISIS OF 2008, EXPOSING THE VULNERABILITIES OF BOTH FAMILIES AS THEIR FATES INTERTWINE. THROUGH VIVID STORYTELLING, MBUE ILLUSTRATES THE CHALLENGES OF IMMIGRANT LIFE, THE PURSUIT OF THE AMERICAN DREAM, AND THE HARSH REALITIES THAT ACCOMPANY HOPE AND AMBITION. THE NOVEL IS LAUDED FOR ITS AUTHENTIC PORTRAYAL OF CULTURAL ADAPTATION AND ITS EXAMINATION OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC DIVIDES.

MAJOR THEMES AND LITERARY ANALYSIS

THE PURSUIT OF THE AMERICAN DREAM

ONE OF THE CENTRAL THEMES IN "BEHOLD THE DREAMERS" IS THE RELENTLESS PURSUIT OF THE AMERICAN DREAM. THE JONGA FAMILY ARRIVES IN AMERICA WITH HIGH HOPES FOR PROSPERITY, STABILITY, AND HAPPINESS. THEIR JOURNEY REFLECTS THE ASPIRATIONS OF MANY IMMIGRANTS WHO SEEK OPPORTUNITIES AND FREEDOM, ONLY TO FIND THAT THE PATH IS FRAUGHT WITH OBSTACLES. THE NOVEL CRITICALLY EXAMINES WHAT THE AMERICAN DREAM MEANS, SHOWING ITS PROMISE AND ITS LIMITATIONS.

IMMIGRATION AND IDENTITY

THE NOVEL DELVES DEEPLY INTO THE IMMIGRANT EXPERIENCE. JENDE AND NENI GRAPPLE WITH CULTURAL DIFFERENCES, LEGAL UNCERTAINTY, AND THE PRESSURES OF ASSIMILATION. THEIR STORY HIGHLIGHTS THE COMPLEXITIES OF FORMING AN IDENTITY IN A NEW COUNTRY, BALANCING FAMILIAL EXPECTATIONS WITH PERSONAL AMBITIONS. MBUE'S WRITING CAPTURES THE EMOTIONAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL TOLL OF DISPLACEMENT, MAKING "BEHOLD THE DREAMERS" AN IMPORTANT WORK FOR UNDERSTANDING THE IMMIGRANT PERSPECTIVE.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC INEQUALITY

THROUGH THE CONTRASTING LIVES OF THE JONGAS AND THE EDWARDS, THE NOVEL EXPOSES THE STARK REALITIES OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC INEQUALITY IN AMERICA. THE FINANCIAL CRISIS SERVES AS A BACKDROP, REVEALING HOW INSTABILITY CAN AFFECT PEOPLE FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE. THE EDWARDS FAMILY, DESPITE THEIR PRIVILEGE, FACES THEIR OWN SET OF CHALLENGES, WHICH ARE JUXTAPOSED AGAINST THE JONGAS' STRUGGLES. THIS THEME OFFERS READERS A NUANCED VIEW OF CLASS, PRIVILEGE, AND VULNERABILITY.

FAMILY AND SACRIFICE

FAMILY BONDS AND THE SACRIFICES MADE FOR LOVED ONES ARE RECURRING MOTIFS IN THE NOVEL. BOTH FAMILIES ARE FORCED TO MAKE DIFFICULT CHOICES AS CIRCUMSTANCES CHANGE. JENDE AND NENI'S DETERMINATION TO PROVIDE FOR THEIR SON, LIOMI, DRIVES MUCH OF THE NARRATIVE, ILLUSTRATING THE LENGTHS PARENTS WILL GO TO SECURE A FUTURE FOR THEIR CHILDREN. THE EDWARDS FAMILY'S STRUGGLES, THOUGH DIFFERENT, ALSO CENTER ON PROTECTING AND MAINTAINING FAMILY UNITY.

- THE AMERICAN DREAM'S PROMISE AND PITFALLS
- IMMIGRATION'S EMOTIONAL AND LEGAL CHALLENGES
- INEQUALITY REVEALED BY FINANCIAL CRISIS
- PARENTHOOD AND SACRIFICE

MAIN CHARACTERS AND THEIR JOURNEYS

JENDE JONGA

JENDE JONGA IS THE NOVEL'S PROTAGONIST, WHOSE JOURNEY EMBODIES HOPE, DETERMINATION, AND RESILIENCE. AS A RECENT IMMIGRANT, HE FACES NUMEROUS HURDLES—SECURING WORK, NAVIGATING THE LEGAL SYSTEM, AND SUPPORTING HIS FAMILY. JENDE'S ROLE AS A CHAUFFEUR BRINGS HIM INTO CLOSE CONTACT WITH AMERICA'S ELITE, OFFERING A UNIQUE VANTAGE POINT TO OBSERVE THE COUNTRY'S COMPLEXITIES. HIS UNWAVERING COMMITMENT TO HIS FAMILY IS AT THE HEART OF THE STORY.

NENI JONGA

NENI JONGA IS A DRIVEN AND RESOURCEFUL WOMAN WHO STRIVES TO ACHIEVE HER OWN AMBITIONS WHILE CARING FOR HER FAMILY. HER JOB AS A HOUSEKEEPER FOR THE EDWARDS FAMILY PROVIDES INCOME AND INSIGHT INTO A DIFFERENT WORLD. NENI'S ASPIRATIONS EXTEND TO EDUCATION AND SELF-IMPROVEMENT, REFLECTING THE MULTIFACETED NATURE OF IMMIGRANT

EXPERIENCES. HER CHARACTER HIGHLIGHTS THE CHALLENGES WOMEN FACE IN BALANCING CAREER, MOTHERHOOD, AND ADAPTATION.

CLARK AND CINDY EDWARDS

CLARK EDWARDS IS A SUCCESSFUL EXECUTIVE WHOSE LIFE UNRAVELS DURING THE FINANCIAL CRISIS. HE REPRESENTS PRIVILEGE AND STABILITY, YET FACES HIS OWN VULNERABILITIES. CINDY EDWARDS, HIS WIFE, STRUGGLES WITH PERSONAL ISSUES AND THE PRESSURE OF MAINTAINING APPEARANCES. THE COUPLE'S RELATIONSHIP WITH THE JONGAS IS COMPLEX, MARKED BY MOMENTS OF EMPATHY, TENSION, AND MUTUAL DEPENDENCE. THEIR STORY SERVES AS A COUNTERPOINT TO THE JONGAS, EMPHASIZING THE UNIVERSALITY OF STRUGGLE.

SETTING AND SOCIAL CONTEXT

NEW YORK CITY AS A SYMBOL

THE NOVEL'S SETTING IN NEW YORK CITY IS INSTRUMENTAL IN SHAPING ITS NARRATIVE. KNOWN FOR ITS DIVERSITY AND OPPORTUNITIES, THE CITY ALSO EMBODIES THE CHALLENGES OF URBAN LIFE, INCLUDING HIGH LIVING COSTS, COMPETITION, AND CULTURAL CLASHES. MBUE USES THE CITY AS A MICROCOSM OF AMERICA, HIGHLIGHTING BOTH ITS PROMISE AND ITS HARDSHIPS. THE CONTRASTING NEIGHBORHOODS AND LIFESTYLES ACCENTUATE THE NOVEL'S KEY THEMES.

THE 2008 FINANCIAL CRISIS

THE BACKDROP OF THE 2008 FINANCIAL CRISIS IS PIVOTAL TO THE STORY, IMPACTING BOTH FAMILIES IN PROFOUND WAYS. THE COLLAPSE OF LEHMAN BROTHERS DIRECTLY AFFECTS CLARK EDWARDS, WHILE THE ECONOMIC DOWNTURN EXACERBATES THE JONGAS' PRECARIOUS SITUATION. THIS HISTORICAL CONTEXT ADDS REALISM AND URGENCY TO THE NARRATIVE, CONNECTING PERSONAL STRUGGLES TO BROADER SOCIETAL TRENDS.

CRITICAL RECEPTION AND AWARDS

ACCLAIM AND RECOGNITION

"BEHOLD THE DREAMERS" HAS RECEIVED WIDESPREAD ACCLAIM FROM CRITICS AND READERS ALIKE. THE NOVEL WON THE PEN/FAULKNER AWARD FOR FICTION AND WAS SELECTED FOR OPRAH'S BOOK CLUB, CEMENTING ITS STATUS AS A SIGNIFICANT CONTEMPORARY WORK. REVIEWERS HAVE PRAISED MBUE'S EMPATHETIC STORYTELLING, NUANCED CHARACTERS, AND INSIGHTFUL SOCIAL COMMENTARY. ITS IMPACT EXTENDS BEYOND LITERARY CIRCLES, SPARKING DISCUSSIONS ABOUT IMMIGRATION, ECONOMIC INEQUALITY, AND THE MEANING OF SUCCESS.

INFLUENCE ON THE LITERARY LANDSCAPE

MBUE'S DEBUT HAS INFLUENCED THE WAY IMMIGRANT STORIES ARE TOLD IN MODERN LITERATURE. BY WEAVING TOGETHER PERSONAL NARRATIVES WITH HISTORICAL EVENTS, SHE EXPANDS THE SCOPE OF LITERARY FICTION AND INVITES READERS TO RECONSIDER THEIR ASSUMPTIONS ABOUT OPPORTUNITY AND ADVERSITY. THE NOVEL'S SUCCESS HAS ENCOURAGED GREATER REPRESENTATION OF DIVERSE VOICES IN PUBLISHING.

IMPACT ON LITERATURE AND SOCIETY

REPRESENTATION OF IMMIGRANT VOICES

“BEHOLD THE DREAMERS” HAS HELPED BRING IMMIGRANT EXPERIENCES TO THE FOREFRONT OF LITERARY DISCUSSION. ITS AUTHENTIC DEPICTION OF THE JOYS AND HARDSHIPS FACED BY NEWCOMERS TO AMERICA RESONATES WITH READERS FROM ALL BACKGROUNDS. THE BOOK HAS INSPIRED CONVERSATIONS ABOUT POLICY, EMPATHY, AND SOCIAL JUSTICE, MAKING IT A VALUABLE RESOURCE FOR EDUCATORS AND ADVOCATES.

CONTINUING RELEVANCE

THE THEMES EXPLORED IN “BEHOLD THE DREAMERS” REMAIN TIMELY AND RELEVANT. AS DEBATES ABOUT IMMIGRATION, ECONOMIC STABILITY, AND IDENTITY CONTINUE, THE NOVEL SERVES AS A REMINDER OF THE HUMAN STORIES BEHIND THESE ISSUES. IT ENCOURAGES GREATER UNDERSTANDING AND COMPASSION, REINFORCING THE IMPORTANCE OF DIVERSE NARRATIVES IN SHAPING PUBLIC DISCOURSE.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: WHO IS THE AUTHOR OF “BEHOLD THE DREAMERS”?

A: IMBOLO MBUE IS THE AUTHOR OF “BEHOLD THE DREAMERS.” SHE IS A CAMEROONIAN-AMERICAN WRITER WHOSE DEBUT NOVEL HAS RECEIVED INTERNATIONAL ACCLAIM.

Q: WHAT IS THE MAIN PLOT OF “BEHOLD THE DREAMERS”?

A: THE NOVEL FOLLOWS THE LIVES OF JENDE AND NENI JONGA, IMMIGRANTS FROM CAMEROON, AS THEY NAVIGATE LIFE IN NEW YORK CITY DURING THE 2008 FINANCIAL CRISIS, WORKING FOR THE WEALTHY EDWARDS FAMILY.

Q: WHAT ARE THE KEY THEMES IN “BEHOLD THE DREAMERS”?

A: MAJOR THEMES INCLUDE THE PURSUIT OF THE AMERICAN DREAM, IMMIGRATION, SOCIO-ECONOMIC INEQUALITY, FAMILY, AND SACRIFICE.

Q: WHY IS THE 2008 FINANCIAL CRISIS IMPORTANT IN THE NOVEL?

A: THE FINANCIAL CRISIS SERVES AS A CATALYST FOR THE EVENTS IN THE STORY, AFFECTING BOTH THE EDWARDS AND JONGA FAMILIES AND HIGHLIGHTING ECONOMIC INSTABILITY.

Q: WHAT AWARDS HAS “BEHOLD THE DREAMERS” WON?

A: THE NOVEL WON THE PEN/FAULKNER AWARD FOR FICTION AND WAS SELECTED FOR OPRAH’S BOOK CLUB.

Q: HOW DOES THE NOVEL PORTRAY THE IMMIGRANT EXPERIENCE?

A: “BEHOLD THE DREAMERS” OFFERS AN AUTHENTIC, NUANCED PORTRAYAL OF THE EMOTIONAL AND LEGAL CHALLENGES FACED

BY IMMIGRANTS IN AMERICA.

Q: WHAT MAKES THE CHARACTERS IN “BEHOLD THE DREAMERS” COMPELLING?

A: THE CHARACTERS ARE RICHLY DEVELOPED, WITH COMPLEX MOTIVATIONS AND RELATABLE STRUGGLES THAT REFLECT BOTH PERSONAL AND UNIVERSAL THEMES.

Q: IS “BEHOLD THE DREAMERS” BASED ON TRUE EVENTS?

A: WHILE THE NOVEL IS FICTIONAL, IT IS INSPIRED BY REAL-LIFE ISSUES AND THE AUTHOR’S OWN EXPERIENCES AS AN IMMIGRANT.

Q: WHAT IMPACT HAS “BEHOLD THE DREAMERS” HAD ON LITERATURE?

A: THE NOVEL HAS EXPANDED THE REPRESENTATION OF IMMIGRANT VOICES IN CONTEMPORARY FICTION AND INFLUENCED DISCUSSIONS ON DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION.

Q: WHY SHOULD READERS EXPLORE “BEHOLD THE DREAMERS”?

A: THE BOOK PROVIDES DEEP INSIGHTS INTO THE IMMIGRANT JOURNEY, THE COMPLEXITIES OF THE AMERICAN DREAM, AND THE EFFECTS OF ECONOMIC UPEHAVAL, MAKING IT RELEVANT FOR READERS INTERESTED IN SOCIAL ISSUES AND LITERARY EXCELLENCE.

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Behold the Dreamers: Unpacking the Power of Vision and Perseverance

Introduction:

Have you ever felt that electrifying tingle, that surge of possibility, when a truly ambitious dream takes root in your mind? That’s the feeling at the heart of "Behold the Dreamers." This isn't just a phrase; it's a call to action, an invitation to explore the potent force of dreams, the challenges they present, and the unwavering perseverance needed to bring them to life. This post delves into the psychology of dreaming big, the practical steps towards achieving those dreams, and the resilience required to navigate inevitable setbacks. We'll explore real-world examples, offer actionable advice, and leave you feeling inspired and empowered to pursue your own ambitious vision.

H2: Defining the Dreamer's Mindset: More Than Just Wishes

"Behold the Dreamers" isn't about fleeting desires; it's about cultivating a specific mindset. Dreamers aren't just wishers; they are proactive individuals who translate aspiration into action. This involves a potent blend of:

Vision: A clear, compelling picture of the desired future. Dreamers don't just dream vaguely; they visualize their goals with remarkable detail.

Passion: A burning desire that fuels their relentless pursuit. This isn't a casual interest; it's a deep-seated conviction.

Resilience: The ability to bounce back from setbacks. Dreamers understand that failure is inevitable, but it's never the end of the journey.

Strategic Thinking: The capacity to break down large goals into manageable steps, creating a roadmap for success. They don't just dream; they plan.

H2: Overcoming the Obstacles: The Path to Realization

The journey of a dreamer is rarely smooth. Obstacles are inevitable, and the ability to navigate them is crucial. Here are key strategies:

Fear Management: Confronting the fear of failure is paramount. Dreamers acknowledge their anxieties but don't let them paralyze them. They view fear as a challenge to overcome.

Self-Doubt Mitigation: Negative self-talk is a common hurdle. Dreamers actively challenge self-doubt, focusing on their strengths and past successes.

Resourcefulness and Adaptability: Circumstances change; dreamers adapt. They are resourceful, finding creative solutions to unexpected problems.

Building a Support System: Surrounding oneself with supportive individuals is essential. A strong network provides encouragement, advice, and accountability.

H3: The Power of Small Wins: Celebrating Progress

Focusing solely on the ultimate goal can be overwhelming. Dreamers understand the importance of celebrating small victories along the way. These small wins provide motivation, build confidence, and demonstrate progress, keeping the spirit high during challenging times.

H2: Inspiration from the "Dreamers": Real-World Examples

History is replete with examples of individuals who embodied the spirit of "Behold the Dreamers."

Consider:

Malala Yousafzai: Her dream of education in the face of extreme adversity showcases incredible resilience and unwavering determination.

Nelson Mandela: His unwavering commitment to social justice, despite decades of imprisonment, exemplifies the power of persistent hope.

Marie Curie: Her relentless pursuit of scientific discovery, despite facing significant gender bias, serves as an inspiration to all.

These figures didn't achieve their dreams overnight; they persevered through immense challenges, proving that with unwavering commitment, even the most ambitious goals are attainable.

H2: Cultivating Your Inner Dreamer: Practical Steps

Ready to unleash your inner dreamer? Here are actionable steps:

1. Identify Your Passion: What truly ignites your soul? What problems do you yearn to solve?
2. Visualize Your Goal: Create a vivid picture of your desired future. Write it down, create a vision board - make it tangible.
3. Break It Down: Divide your overarching goal into smaller, achievable steps.
4. Create a Timeline: Set realistic deadlines for each step.
5. Seek Mentorship: Find individuals who have achieved similar goals and learn from their experiences.
6. Embrace Failure as a Learning Opportunity: Don't let setbacks derail you; learn from your mistakes and adjust your approach.

Conclusion:

"Behold the Dreamers" is a call to action. It's a reminder that the power to shape our future rests within each of us. By cultivating a dreamer's mindset - characterized by vision, passion, resilience, and strategic thinking - we can overcome obstacles, achieve our ambitions, and leave a lasting impact on the world. Embrace your dreams, celebrate your progress, and never stop striving for what truly matters.

FAQs:

1. How do I overcome creative blocks when pursuing my dream? Engage in activities that inspire you, brainstorm with others, step away from the problem temporarily, and try a different approach.
2. What if my dream seems impossible to achieve? Break it down into smaller, manageable steps. Focus on progress, not perfection. Celebrate small wins along the way to maintain momentum.

3. How do I handle criticism and negativity from others? Surround yourself with a supportive network. Focus on your own progress and don't let external negativity derail your journey.
4. How can I stay motivated during long periods of struggle? Remind yourself of your "why," revisit your vision board, and celebrate small wins. Seek support from mentors and friends.
5. Is it ever okay to change my dream? Absolutely! Life evolves, and so can your dreams. Be open to adapting your goals as you learn and grow.

behold the dreamers: *Behold the Dreamers* Imbolo Mbue, 2016-08-23 A compulsively readable debut novel about marriage, immigration, class, race, and the trapdoors in the American Dream—the unforgettable story of a young Cameroonian couple making a new life in New York just as the Great Recession upends the economy New York Times Bestseller • Winner of the PEN/Faulkner Award • Longlisted for the PEN/Open Book Award • An ALA Notable Book NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY NPR • The New York Times Book Review • San Francisco Chronicle • The Guardian • St. Louis Post-Dispatch • Chicago Public Library • BookPage • Refinery29 • Kirkus Reviews Jende Jonga, a Cameroonian immigrant living in Harlem, has come to the United States to provide a better life for himself, his wife, Neni, and their six-year-old son. In the fall of 2007, Jende can hardly believe his luck when he lands a job as a chauffeur for Clark Edwards, a senior executive at Lehman Brothers. Clark demands punctuality, discretion, and loyalty—and Jende is eager to please. Clark's wife, Cindy, even offers Neni temporary work at the Edwardses' summer home in the Hamptons. With these opportunities, Jende and Neni can at last gain a foothold in America and imagine a brighter future. However, the world of great power and privilege conceals troubling secrets, and soon Jende and Neni notice cracks in their employers' façades. When the financial world is rocked by the collapse of Lehman Brothers, the Jongs are desperate to keep Jende's job—even as their marriage threatens to fall apart. As all four lives are dramatically upended, Jende and Neni are forced to make an impossible choice. Praise for *Behold the Dreamers* "A debut novel by a young woman from Cameroon that illuminates the immigrant experience in America with the tenderhearted wisdom so lacking in our political discourse . . . Mbue is a bright and captivating storyteller."—The Washington Post "A capacious, big-hearted novel."—The New York Times Book Review "Behold the Dreamers' heart . . . belongs to the struggles and small triumphs of the Jongs, which Mbue traces in clean, quick-moving paragraphs."—Entertainment Weekly "Mbue's writing is warm and captivating."—People (book of the week) "[Mbue's] book isn't the first work of fiction to grapple with the global financial crisis of 2007-2008, but it's surely one of the best. . . . It's a novel that depicts a country both blessed and doomed, on top of the world, but always at risk of losing its balance. It is, in other words, quintessentially American."—NPR "This story is one that needs to be told."—Bust "Behold the Dreamers challenges us all to consider what it takes to make us genuinely content, and how long is too long to live with our dreams deferred."—O: The Oprah Magazine "[A] beautiful, empathetic novel."—The Boston Globe "A witty, compassionate, swiftly paced novel that takes on race, immigration, family and the dangers of capitalist excess."—St. Louis Post-Dispatch "Mbue [is] a deft, often lyrical observer. . . . [Her] meticulous storytelling announces a writer in command of her gifts."—Minneapolis Star Tribune

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behold the dreamers: *How Beautiful We Were* Imbolo Mbue, 2021-03-11 A PEN/FAULKNER AWARD FINALIST 'Sweeping and quietly devastating' New York Times 'A David and Goliath story for our times' O, the Oprah Magazine Set in the fictional African village of Kosawa, this is the story of a people living in fear amidst environmental degradation wrought by an American oil company. Pipeline spills have rendered farmlands infertile. Children are dying from drinking toxic water. Promises of clean-up and financial reparations are made – and broken. Left with few choices, the people of Kosawa decide to fight back. But it will come at a steep price – one which generation after generation will have to pay. *How Beautiful We Were* is a masterful exploration of what happens when the reckless drive for profit, coupled with the ghost of colonialism, comes up against one community's determination to hold onto its ancestral land and a young woman's willingness to sacrifice everything for the sake of her people's freedom.

behold the dreamers: *The Honey-Don't List* Christina Lauren, 2020-03-24 From the New York Times bestselling author behind the "joyful, warm, touching" (Jasmine Guillory, New York Times bestselling author) *The Unhoneymooners* comes a delightfully charming love story about what happens when two assistants tasked with keeping a rocky relationship from explosion start to feel sparks of their own. Carey Duncan has worked for home remodeling and design gurus Melissa and Rusty Tripp for nearly a decade. A country girl at heart, Carey started in their first store at sixteen, and—more than anyone would suspect—has helped them build an empire. With a new show and a book about to launch, the Tripps are on the verge of superstardom. There's only one problem: America's favorite couple can't stand each other. James McCann, MIT graduate and engineering genius, was originally hired as a structural engineer, but the job isn't all he thought it'd be. The last straw? Both he and Carey must go on book tour with the Tripps and keep the wheels from falling off the proverbial bus. Unfortunately, neither of them is in any position to quit. Carey needs health insurance, and James has been promised the role of a lifetime if he can just keep the couple on track for a few more weeks. While road-tripping with the Tripps up the West Coast, Carey and James vow to work together to keep their bosses' secrets hidden, and their own jobs secure. But if they stop

playing along—and start playing for keeps—they may have the chance to build something beautiful together... From the “hilariously zany and heartfelt” (Booklist) Christina Lauren comes a romantic comedy that proves if it’s broke, you might as well fix it.

behold the dreamers: *The Goblins of Bellwater* Molly Ringle, 2017-10-01 Most people have no idea goblins live in the woods around the small town of Bellwater, Washington. But some are about to find out. Skye, a young barista and artist, falls victim to a goblin curse in the forest one winter night, rendering her depressed and silenced, unable to speak of what happened. Her older sister, Livy, is at wit’s end trying to understand what’s wrong with her. Local mechanic Kit would know, but he doesn’t talk of such things: he’s the human liaison for the goblin tribe, a job he keeps secret and never wanted, thrust on him by an ancient family contract. Unaware of what’s happened to Skye, Kit starts dating Livy, trying to keep it casual to protect her from the attention of the goblins. Meanwhile, unbeknownst to Kit, Skye draws his cousin Grady into the spell through an enchanted kiss in the woods, dooming Grady and Skye both to become goblins and disappear from humankind forever. It’s a midwinter night’s enchantment as Livy, the only one untainted by a spell, sets out to save them on a dangerous magical path of her own. Molly Ringle's growing list of other successful titles include: *The Chrysomelia Stories* 1. *Persephone's Orchard* 2. *Underworld's Daughter* 3. *Immortal's Spring* All the Better Part of Me *Lava Red Feather Blue Sage* and *King*

behold the dreamers: *Ghana Must Go* Taiye Selasi, 2013-04-04 A stunning novel, spanning generations and continents, *Ghana Must Go* by rising star Taiye Selasi is a tale of family drama and forgiveness, for fans of Zadie Smith and Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. This is the story of a family -- of the simple, devastating ways in which families tear themselves apart, and of the incredible lengths to which a family will go to put itself back together. It is the story of one family, the Sais, whose good life crumbles in an evening; a Ghanaian father, Kweku Sai, who becomes a highly respected surgeon in the US only to be disillusioned by a grotesque injustice; his Nigerian wife, Fola, the beautiful homemaker abandoned in his wake; their eldest son, Olu, determined to reconstruct the life his father should have had; their twins, seductive Taiwo and acclaimed artist Kehinde, both brilliant but scarred and flailing; their youngest, Sadie, jealously in love with her celebrity best friend. All of them sent reeling on their disparate paths into the world. Until, one day, tragedy spins the Sais in a new direction. This is the story of a family: torn apart by lies, reunited by grief. A family absolved, ultimately, by that bitter but most tenuous bond: familial love. *Ghana Must Go* interweaves the stories of the Sais in a rich and moving drama of separation and reunion, spanning generations and cultures from West Africa to New England, London, New York and back again. It is a debut novel of blazing originality and startling power by a writer of extraordinary gifts. 'Ghana Must Go is both a fast moving story of one family's fortunes and an ecstatic exploration of the inner lives of its members. With her perfectly-pitched prose and flawless technique, Selasi does more than merely renew our sense of the African novel: she renews our sense of the novel, period. An astonishing debut' Teju Cole, author of *Open City* Taiye Selasi was born in London and raised in Massachusetts. She holds a B.A. in American Studies from Yale and an M.Phil. in International Relations from Oxford. *The Sex Lives of African Girls* (Granta, 2011), Selasi's fiction debut, appears in *Best American Short Stories* 2012. She lives in Rome.

behold the dreamers: *Green Island* Shawna Yang Ryan, 2017-01-10 BEST BOOK AWARD IN FICTION BY THE ASSOCIATION FOR ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES • A stunning, lyrical novel that tells the story of how the Tsais, a Taiwanese family, survive the 'February 28 Incident' of 1947 and precariously navigate the decades that follow (The New York Times). As an uprising rocks Taiwan, a young doctor in Taipei is taken from his newborn daughter by Chinese Nationalists, on charges of speaking out against the government. Although the doctor eventually returns to his family, his arrival is marked by alienation from his loved ones and paranoia among his community. Years later, this troubled past follows his youngest daughter to America, where, as a mother and a wife, she too is forced to decide between what is right and what might save her family—the same choice she witnessed her father make many years before. The story of a family and a nation grappling with the nuances of complicity and survival, *Green Island* raises the question: how far would you go for the

ones you love?

behold the dreamers: House of Sand and Fog Andre Dubus, 1999 The Oprah Book Club selection for November 2000.

behold the dreamers: Arrows of Rain Okey Ndibe, 2000 Annotation Both humorous and poignant, *Arrows of Rain* dramatizes the relationship between an individual and the modern African state.

behold the dreamers: Love and Treasure Ayelet Waldman, 2014-04-01 A spellbinding new novel of contraband masterpieces, tragic love, and the unexpected legacies of forgotten crimes, Ayelet Waldman's *Love and Treasure* weaves a tale around the fascinating, true history of the Hungarian Gold Train in the Second World War. In 1945 on the outskirts of Salzburg, victorious American soldiers capture a train filled with unspeakable riches: piles of fine gold watches; mountains of fur coats; crates filled with wedding rings, silver picture frames, family heirlooms, and Shabbat candlesticks passed down through generations. Jack Wiseman, a tough, smart New York Jew, is the lieutenant charged with guarding this treasure—a responsibility that grows more complicated when he meets Ilona, a fierce, beautiful Hungarian who has lost everything in the ravages of the Holocaust. Seventy years later, amid the shadowy world of art dealers who profit off the sins of previous generations, Jack gives a necklace to his granddaughter, Natalie Stein, and charges her with searching for an unknown woman—a woman whose portrait and fate come to haunt Natalie, a woman whose secret may help Natalie to understand the guilt her grandfather will take to his grave and to find a way out of the mess she has made of her own life. A story of brilliantly drawn characters—a suave and shady art historian, a delusive and infatuated Freudian, a family of singing circus dwarfs fallen into the clutches of Josef Mengele, and desperate lovers facing choices that will tear them apart—*Love and Treasure* is Ayelet Waldman's finest novel to date: a sad, funny, richly detailed work that poses hard questions about the value of precious things in a time when life itself has no value, and about the slenderest of chains that can bind us to the griefs and passions of the past. This eBook edition includes a Reading Group Guide.

behold the dreamers: Untitled Random House, 2017-02-14 YouTube sensations Dan Howell (danisnotonfire) and Phil Lester (AmazingPhil) were just two awkward guys who shared their lives on the Internet until now. Dan Howell and Phil Lester, avoiders of human contact and direct sunlight, actually went outside. Traveling around the world on tour, they have collected hundreds of exclusive, intimate, and funny photos, as well as revealing and candid side notes, to show the behind-the-scenes story of their adventure. Fans of Dan and Phil's #1 New York Times bestseller, *The Amazing Book Is Not on Fire*, and their more than 10 million YouTube subscribers will love this full-color book featuring never-before-seen photos and stories from Dan and Phil.

behold the dreamers: Kitchens of the Great Midwest J. Ryan Stradal, 2015-07-28 "A sweet and savory treat." —People "An impressive feat of narrative jujitsu . . . that keeps readers turning the pages too fast to realize just how ingenious they are." —The New York Times Book Review, Editor's Pick From the New York Times bestselling author of *The Lager Queen of Minnesota*, *Kitchens of the Great Midwest* is a novel about a young woman with a once-in-a-generation palate who becomes the iconic chef behind the country's most coveted dinner reservation. When Lars Thorvald's wife, Cynthia, falls in love with wine—and a dashing sommelier—he's left to raise their baby, Eva, on his own. He's determined to pass on his love of food to his daughter—starting with puréed pork shoulder. As Eva grows, she finds her solace and salvation in the flavors of her native Minnesota. From Scandinavian lutefisk to hydroponic chocolate habaneros, each ingredient represents one part of Eva's journey as she becomes the star chef behind a legendary and secretive pop-up supper club, culminating in an opulent and emotional feast that's a testament to her spirit and resilience. Each chapter in J. Ryan Stradal's startlingly original debut tells the story of a single dish and character, at once capturing the zeitgeist of the Midwest, the rise of foodie culture, and delving into the ways food creates community and a sense of identity. By turns quirky, hilarious, and vividly sensory, *Kitchens of the Great Midwest* is an unexpected mother-daughter story about the bittersweet nature of life—its missed opportunities and its joyful surprises. It marks the entry of a

brilliant new talent.

behold the dreamers: *The Reckless Oath We Made* Bryn Greenwood, 2019-08-20 A new provocative love story from the New York Times bestselling author of *All the Ugly and Wonderful Things*. “The story of Zee and Gentry is the reason we read.” —Brunonia Barry Their journey will break them—or save them. A moving and complicated love story for our time, *The Reckless Oath We Made* redefines what it means to be heroic. Zee has never admitted to needing anybody. But she needs Gentry. Her tough exterior shelters a heart that’s loyal to the point of self-destruction, while autistic Gentry wears his heart on his sleeve, including his desire to protect Zee at all costs. When an abduction tears Zee’s family apart, she turns to Gentry—and sets in motion a journey and a love that will change their lives forever. “[A] mind-blowing book that has left me scrambling to pick up the pieces of my brain and my shattered heart . . . Prepare to have your mind and heart expanded to their limits.” —The Oklahoman

behold the dreamers: *Swimming in Hong Kong* Stephanie Han, 2016 Stephanie Han's award-winning stories cross the borders and boundaries of Hong Kong, Korea, and the United States. This is an intimate look at those who dare to explore the geography of hope and love, struggle with dreams of longing and home, and wander in the myths of memory and desire. Book jacket.

behold the dreamers: *The Mutual Friend* Carter Bays, 2022-06-07 “This is a rare thing: an original, intelligent novel that’s not just a perfect summer beach read, but one that deserves serious awards consideration as well. Put down your phone and pick it up. . . . A major accomplishment.”—Kirkus Reviews (starred review) From the co-creator of *How I Met Your Mother*, a hilarious and thought-provoking debut novel set in New York City, following an unforgettable cast of characters as they navigate life, love, loss, ambition, and spirituality—without ever looking up from their phones It’s the summer of 2015, and Alice Quick needs to get to work. She’s twenty-eight years old, grieving her mother, barely scraping by as a nanny, and freshly kicked out of her apartment. If she can just get her act together and sign up for the MCAT, she can start chasing her dream of becoming a doctor . . . but in the Age of Distraction, the distractions are so distracting. There’s her tech millionaire brother’s religious awakening. His picture-perfect wife’s emotional breakdown. Her chaotic new roommate’s thirst for adventure. And, of course, there’s the biggest distraction of all: love. From within the story of one summer in one woman’s life, a tapestry of characters is unearthed, tied to one another by threads both seen and unseen. Filled with all the warmth, humor, and heart that gained *How I Met Your Mother* its cult following, *The Mutual Friend* captures in sparkling detail the chaos of contemporary life—a life lived simultaneously in two different worlds, the physical one and the one behind our screens—and reveals how connected we all truly are.

behold the dreamers: *A Little Hope* Ethan Joella, 2021-11-16 A Read with Jenna Bonus Selection An “immersive...illuminating” (Booklist) and life-affirming novel following the residents of an idyllic Connecticut town over the course of a year, *A Little Hope* explores the intertwining lives of a dozen neighbors as they confront everyday desires and fears: a lost love, a stalled career, an illness, and a betrayal. Freddie and Greg Tyler seem to have it all: a comfortable home, a beautiful young daughter, a bond that feels unbreakable. But when Greg is diagnosed with a rare and aggressive form of cancer, the sense of certainty they once knew evaporates. Throughout their town, friends and neighbors face the most difficult of life’s challenges and are figuring out how to survive thanks to love, grace, and hope. “A quietly powerful portrait of small-town life...told with wisdom and tenderness” (Mary Beth Keane, author of *Ask Again, Yes*) *A Little Hope* is a deeply resonant debut that immerses the reader in a community and celebrates the importance of small moments of connection.

behold the dreamers: *10,000 Dresses* Marcus Ewert, 2011-01-04 Every night, Bailey dreams about magical dresses: dresses made of crystals and rainbows, dresses made of flowers, dresses made of windows. . . . Unfortunately, when Bailey's awake, no one wants to hear about these beautiful dreams. Quite the contrary. You're a BOY! Mother and Father tell Bailey. You shouldn't be

thinking about dresses at all. Then Bailey meets Laurel, an older girl who is touched and inspired by Bailey's imagination and courage. In friendship, the two of them begin making dresses together. And Bailey's dreams come true! This gorgeous picture book—a modern fairy tale about becoming the person you feel you are inside—will delight people of all ages.

behold the dreamers: Bright, Precious Days Jay McInerney, 2016-08-02 From the best-selling author of *Bright Lights, Big City*: a sexy, vibrant, cross-generational New York story—a literary and commercial triumph of the highest order. Even decades after their arrival, Corrine and Russell Calloway still feel as if they're living the dream that drew them to New York City in the first place: book parties or art openings one night and high-society events the next; jobs they care about (and in fact love); twin children whose birth was truly miraculous; a loft in TriBeCa and summers in the Hamptons. But all of this comes at a fiendish cost. Russell, an independent publisher, has superb cultural credentials yet minimal cash flow; as he navigates a business that requires, beyond astute literary judgment, constant financial improvisation, he encounters an audacious, potentially game-changing—or ruinous—opportunity. Meanwhile, instead of chasing personal gain in this incredibly wealthy city, Corrine devotes herself to helping feed its hungry poor, and she and her husband soon discover they're being priced out of the newly fashionable neighborhood they've called home for most of their adult lives, with their son and daughter caught in the balance. Then Corrine's world is turned upside down when the man with whom she'd had an ill-fated affair in the wake of 9/11 suddenly reappears. As the novel unfolds across a period of stupendous change—including Obama's historic election and the global economic collapse he inherited—the Calloways will find themselves and their marriage tested more severely than they ever could have imagined.

behold the dreamers: The Friend (National Book Award Winner) Sigrid Nunez, 2018-02-06 WINNER OF THE NATIONAL BOOK AWARD FOR FICTION ONE OF THE NEW YORK TIMES'S 100 BEST BOOKS OF THE 21ST CENTURY NOW A MAJOR MOTION PICTURE STARRING NAOMI WATTS "A beautiful book . . . a world of insight into death, grief, art, and love." —Wall Street Journal "A penetrating, moving meditation on loss, comfort, memory . . . Nunez has a wry, withering wit." —NPR "Dry, allusive and charming . . . the comedy here writes itself." —The New York Times The New York Times bestselling story of love, friendship, grief, healing, and the magical bond between a woman and her dog. When a woman unexpectedly loses her lifelong best friend and mentor, she finds herself burdened with the unwanted dog he has left behind. Her own battle against grief is intensified by the mute suffering of the dog, a huge Great Dane traumatized by the inexplicable disappearance of its master, and by the threat of eviction: dogs are prohibited in her apartment building. While others worry that grief has made her a victim of magical thinking, the woman refuses to be separated from the dog except for brief periods of time. Isolated from the rest of the world, increasingly obsessed with the dog's care, determined to read its mind and fathom its heart, she comes dangerously close to unraveling. But while troubles abound, rich and surprising rewards lie in store for both of them. Elegiac and searching, *The Friend* is both a meditation on loss and a celebration of human-canine devotion.

behold the dreamers: The Book of V. Anna Solomon, 2020-05-05 A GOOD MORNING AMERICA BOOK CLUB PICK A BELLETRIST BOOK CLUB PICK For fans of *The Hours* and *Fates and Furies*, a bold, kaleidoscopic novel intertwining the lives of three women across three centuries as their stories of sex, power, and desire finally converge in the present day. Lily is a mother and a daughter. And a second wife. And a writer, maybe? Or she was going to be, before she had children. Now, in her rented Brooklyn apartment she's grappling with her sexual and intellectual desires, while also trying to manage her roles as a mother and a wife in 2016. Vivian Barr seems to be the perfect political wife, dedicated to helping her charismatic and ambitious husband find success in Watergate-era Washington D.C. But one night he demands a humiliating favor, and her refusal to obey changes the course of her life—along with the lives of others. Esther is a fiercely independent young woman in ancient Persia, where she and her uncle's tribe live a tenuous existence outside the palace walls. When an innocent mistake results in devastating consequences for her people, she is

offered up as a sacrifice to please the King, in the hopes that she will save them all. In Anna Solomon's *The Book of V.*, these three characters' riveting stories overlap and ultimately collide, illuminating how women's lives have and have not changed over thousands of years.

behold the dreamers: *So the Path Does Not Die* Pede Hollist, Onipede A. Hollist, 2012
Protagonist Fina's search for happiness and belonging begins on the night of her aborted circumcision and continues through her teenage years in Freetown, Sierra Leone's capital; her twenties in the Washington Metropolitan Area; and ends with her return to Sierra Leone to work as an advocate for war-traumatized children. The novel explores the problems she encounters in each setting against the backdrop of the tensions, ambiguities, and fragmentation of the stranger/immigrant condition and the characters' struggles to clarify their ideas about home and abroad. Fina's circumcision gets significant, though not sensational, play in the different attitudes toward the practice between her and her fiancé Cammy, a Trinidadian urologist. The differences complicate their relationship at a time when skeletons from their pasts threaten their impending marriage. The stories of Fina's friend, African-American Aman and her fiancé, Nigerian Bayo; of Edna (Fina's foster sister) and her husband Kizzy; and of Mawaf, a war-traumatized teen, unfold in subplots that merge with the main plot and overarching theme of belonging as characters straddle home and abroad places.

behold the dreamers: *Beyond the Point* Claire Gibson, 2019-04-02 Three women enter the demanding West Point military academy in this "inspiring tribute to female friendship and female courage" (Kate Quinn, New York Times–bestselling author of *The Alice Network*). Duty. Honor. Country. That's West Point's motto, and every cadet who passes through its stone gates vows to live it. But on the eve of 9/11, as Dani, Hannah and Avery face four grueling years ahead, they realize they'll only survive if they do it together. With athletic talent and a brilliant mind, Dani navigates West Point's predominantly male environment with wit and confidence, breaking stereotypes and embracing new friends. Hannah's grandfather, a legendary Army general, warns her about the dangers ahead, but she's determined to let faith guide her path—and when that path leads to her soul mate, the future looks perfect. Wild child Avery doesn't mind breaking a few rules (or hearts) along the way. But she can't outpace her self-doubt, and the harder she tries, the further it leads her down a treacherous path. These three women know that what doesn't kill you makes you stronger. But soon, that adage no longer rings true—for their future, or their friendship. As they're pulled in different directions, will their hard-forged bond prevail or shatter?

behold the dreamers: *Representing Poverty and Precarity in a Postcolonial World* Gesellschaft für Anglophone Postkoloniale Studien. Annual conference, 2021 Poverty and precarity are among the most pressing social issues of today and have become a significant thematic focus and analytical tool in the humanities in the last two decades. This volume brings together an international group of scholars who investigate conceptualisations of poverty and precarity from the perspective of literary and cultural studies as well as linguistics. Analysing literature, visual arts and news media from across the postcolonial world, they aim at exploring the frameworks of representation that impact affective and ethical responses to disenfranchised groups and precarious subjects. Case studies focus on intersections between precarity and race, class, and gender, institutional frameworks of publishing, environmental precarity, and the framing of refugees and migrants as precarious subjects. Contributors: Clelia Clini, Geoffrey V. Davis, Dorothee Klein, Sue Kossew, Maryam Mirza, Anna Lienen, Julia Hoydis, Susan Nalugwa Kiguli, Sule Emmanuel Egya, Malcolm Sen, Jan Rupp, J.U. Jacobs, Julian Wacker, Andreas Musolff, Janet M. Wilson--

behold the dreamers: *Love Warrior* Glennon Doyle, Glennon Doyle Melton, 2016-09-06 #1 New York Times Bestseller | Oprah's Bookclub 2016 Selection Riveting...a worthy investment...this book has real wisdom. —New York Times Book Review Provocative....I adore her honesty, her vulnerability, and her no-nonsense wisdom, and I know you will, too. —Oprah Winfrey The highly anticipated memoir by bestselling author Glennon Doyle, *Love Warrior* tells the story of her journey of self-discovery after the implosion of her marriage. Just when Glennon Doyle Melton was beginning to feel she had it all figured out—three happy children, a doting spouse, and a writing career so

successful that her first book catapulted to the top of the New York Times bestseller list—her husband revealed his infidelity and she was forced to realize that nothing was as it seemed. A recovering alcoholic and bulimic, Glennon found that rock bottom was a familiar place. In the midst of crisis, she knew to hold on to what she discovered in recovery: that her deepest pain has always held within it an invitation to a richer life. *Love Warrior* is the story of one marriage, but it is also the story of the healing that is possible for any of us when we refuse to settle for good enough and begin to face pain and love head-on. This astonishing memoir reveals how our ideals of masculinity and femininity can make it impossible for a man and a woman to truly know one another—and it captures the beauty that unfolds when one couple commits to unlearning everything they've been taught so that they can finally, after thirteen years of marriage, commit to living true—true to themselves and to each other. *Love Warrior* is a gorgeous and inspiring account of how we are born to be warriors: strong, powerful, and brave; able to confront the pain and claim the love that exists for us all. This chronicle of a beautiful, brutal journey speaks to anyone who yearns for deeper, truer relationships and a more abundant, authentic life.

behold the dreamers: Booked Kwame Alexander, 2016-04-05 In this electrifying follow-up to Kwame Alexander's Newbery winner *The Crossover*, soccer, family, love, and friendship take center stage. A New York Times bestseller and National Book Award Longlist nominee. Twelve-year-old Nick learns the power of words as he wrestles with problems at home, stands up to a bully, and tries to impress the girl of his dreams. Helping him along are his best friend and sometimes teammate Coby, and The Mac, a rapping librarian who gives Nick inspiring books to read. This electric and heartfelt novel-in-verse bends and breaks as it captures all the thrills and setbacks, action and emotion of a World Cup match. A novel about a soccer-obsessed tween boy written entirely in verse? In a word, yes. Kwame Alexander has the magic to pull off this unlikely feat, both as a poet and as a storyteller. —The Chicago Tribune Can't nobody stop you Can't nobody cop you... ILA-CBC Children's Choice List · ALA Notable Children's Book · Book Links' Lasting Connections · Kirkus Best Book · San Francisco Chronicle Best Book · Washington Post Best Book · BookPage Best Book

behold the dreamers: Feminist City Leslie Kern, 2020-07-07 *Feminist City* is an ongoing experiment in living differently, living better, and living more justly in an urban world. We live in the city of men. Our public spaces are not designed for female bodies. There is little consideration for women as mothers, workers or carers. The urban streets often are a place of threats rather than community. Gentrification has made the everyday lives of women even more difficult. What would a metropolis for working women look like? A city of friendships beyond *Sex and the City*. A transit system that accommodates mothers with strollers on the school run. A public space with enough toilets. A place where women can walk without harassment. In *Feminist City*, through history, personal experience and popular culture Leslie Kern exposes what is hidden in plain sight: the social inequalities built into our cities, homes, and neighborhoods. Kern offers an alternative vision of the feminist city. Taking on fear, motherhood, friendship, activism, and the joys and perils of being alone, Kern maps the city from new vantage points, laying out an intersectional feminist approach to urban histories and proposes that the city is perhaps also our best hope for shaping a new urban future. It is time to dismantle what we take for granted about cities and to ask how we can build more just, sustainable, and women-friendly cities together.

behold the dreamers: Almost Romance Nancy Balbirer, 2022-02-08 Finding love is all a matter of timing in a surprising, complicated, and funny memoir by the author of *A Marriage in Dog Years*. When a mysterious woman summons Nancy Balbirer to a Russian restaurant in New York City, the near stranger's shocking purple hair and even more shocking news send Balbirer simultaneously reeling back to her past and hurtling toward a future that, at almost fifty years old, she never dreamed possible. This romantic-comedy memoir tells the true story of how a pack of Hollywood television writers and the denizens of a fabled but cursed Manhattan apartment building helped the author and one of her best friends turn a thirty-two-year almost romance into a real one. Witty and heartfelt, Nancy Balbirer's sublime memoir proves that love is possible anywhere, anytime, and at any age.

behold the dreamers: Three Dreamers Lorenzo Carcaterra, 2021-04-27 "As nourishing as a three-course Italian feast, this is a fierce, moving tribute to the ties that bind."—People (Book of the Week) The #1 New York Times bestselling author of *Sleepers* offers a heartfelt homage to the women who taught him courage, kindness, and the power of storytelling: his mother, his grandmother, and his late wife. Standing with his children near his grandmother's grave on a recent trip to Ischia, an island off the coast of Naples, Lorenzo Carcaterra realized how much of his life has been shaped by the women who taught him how to look for joy and overcome sorrow. This book is his tribute to them. Nonna Maria, his grandmother, gave him his first taste of a loving home during the summers he spent with her as a teenager on Ischia. With her kindness, her humor, and the same formidable strength she employed to make secret trips for food when the Nazis occupied Ischia during World War II, she instilled in him the importance of community, providing shelter for a boy whose home life was difficult. His mother, Raffaella, dealt with daily hardships: a loveless and abusive marriage, the burden of debt, and a life of dread. Though the lessons she taught were harsh, they would drive Lorenzo from the world they shared to the better one she always prayed he would find. The third woman is his wife, Susan, a gifted editor and his professional champion. Their marriage lasted three decades before her death from lung cancer in 2013. While their upbringings were wildly different, their love and friendship never wavered—and neither did her faith in Lorenzo's talent and potential as a writer.

behold the dreamers: Oligarchy Scarlett Thomas, 2019-11-07 'Hugely enjoyable' Observer 'Wickedly funny' The Times When Tash, daughter of a Russian oligarch, is sent to an English boarding school, she is new to the strange rituals of the girls there. There is a world of strict pecking orders, eating disorders and Instagram angst. While she spends her time at the lake and the stables, a few hand-picked girls are invited to join the Headmaster at his house for extra lessons. Then her friend Bianca mysteriously vanishes, and the routines of her dormmates seem darker and more alien than ever before.

behold the dreamers: Stephen Sondheim Meryle Secrest, 2011-10-04 In the first full-scale life of the most important composer-lyricist at work in musical theatre today, Meryle Secrest, the biographer of Frank Lloyd Wright and Leonard Bernstein, draws on her extended conversations with Stephen Sondheim as well as on her interviews with his friends, family, collaborators, and lovers to bring us not only the artist—as a master of modernist compositional style—but also the private man. Beginning with his early childhood on New York's prosperous Upper West Side, Secrest describes how Sondheim was taught to play the piano by his father, a successful dress manufacturer and amateur musician. She writes about Sondheim's early ambition to become a concert pianist, about the effect on him of his parents' divorce when he was ten, about his years in military and private schools. She writes about his feelings of loneliness and abandonment, about the refuge he found in the home of Oscar and Dorothy Hammerstein, and his determination to become just like Oscar. Secrest describes the years when Sondheim was struggling to gain a foothold in the theatre, his attempts at scriptwriting (in his early twenties in Rome on the set of *Beat the Devil* with Bogart and Huston, and later in Hollywood as a co-writer with George Oppenheimer for the TV series *Topper*), living the Hollywood life. Here is Sondheim's ascent to the peaks of the Broadway musical, from his chance meeting with playwright Arthur Laurents, which led to his first success—as co-lyricist with Leonard Bernstein on *West Side Story*—to his collaboration with Laurents on *Gypsy*, to his first full Broadway score, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*. And Secrest writes about his first big success as composer, lyricist, writer in the 1960s with *Company*, an innovative and sophisticated musical that examined marriage à la mode. It was the start of an almost-twenty-year collaboration with producer and director Hal Prince that resulted in such shows as *Follies*, *Pacific Overtures*, *Sweeney Todd*, and *A Little Night Music*. We see Sondheim at work with composers, producers, directors, co-writers, actors, the greats of his time and ours, among them Leonard Bernstein, Ethel Merman, Richard Rodgers, Oscar Hammerstein, Jerome Robbins, Zero Mostel, Bernadette Peters, and Lee Remick (with whom it was said he was in love, and she with him), as Secrest vividly re-creates the energy, the passion, the despair, the excitement, the genius, that went

into the making of show after Sondheim show. A biography that is sure to become the standard work on Sondheim's life and art.

behold the dreamers: *The Unexpected Daughter* Sheryl Parbhoo, 2016-11-15 Three people's lives intersect in a tumultuous yet redeeming way that none of them could have ever predicted. Jenny is a young professional from the South with an upbringing she wants to forget. She meets Roshan, an Indian immigrant who has moved to the United States with his mother, Esha, to escape family ghosts. With strong cultural tradition, Esha has devoted her entire life to her only child, both for his own good and for her personal protection from a painful past. Roshan understands his role as his mother's refuge, and from an early age, he commits himself to caring for her. But when Jenny and Roshan embark on a forbidden, intercultural relationship, all three get tangled into an inseparable web-betrayal, violence, and shame-leaving them forced to make choices about love and family they never wanted to make while finding peace where they never expected to look.

behold the dreamers: Displaced Kate Rose, 2020-01-30 Through specific and rigorous analysis of contemporary literary texts, this book shows how writers from inside affected communities portray indigeneity, displacement, and trauma. In a world of increasing global inequality, this study aims to demonstrate how literature, and the study of it, can effect positive social change, notably in the face of global environmental, economic, and social injustice. This collection brings together a diverse and compelling array of voices from academics leading their fields around the world, to pioneer a new approach to literary analysis anchored in engagement with our changing world.

behold the dreamers: A Particular Kind of Black Man Tope Folarin, 2020-08-11 ****One of Time's 32 Books You Need to Read This Summer**** An NPR Best Book of 2019 An "electrifying" (Publishers Weekly) debut novel from Rhodes Scholar and winner of the Caine Prize for African Writing about a Nigerian family living in Utah and their uneasy assimilation to American life. Living in small-town Utah has always been an uncomfortable fit for Tunde Akinola's family, especially for his Nigeria-born parents. Though Tunde speaks English with a Midwestern accent, he can't escape the children who rub his skin and ask why the black won't come off. As he struggles to fit in, he finds little solace from his parents who are grappling with their own issues. Tunde's father, ever the optimist, works tirelessly chasing his American dream while his wife, lonely in Utah without family and friends, sinks deeper into schizophrenia. Then one otherwise-ordinary morning, Tunde's mother wakes him with a hug, bundles him and his baby brother into the car, and takes them away from the only home they've ever known. But running away doesn't bring her, or her children, any relief; once Tunde's father tracks them down, she flees to Nigeria, and Tunde never feels at home again. He spends the rest of his childhood and young adulthood searching for connection—to the wary stepmother and stepbrothers he gains when his father remarries; to the Utah residents who mock his father's accent; to evangelical religion; to his Texas middle school's crowd of African-Americans; to the fraternity brothers of his historically black college. In so doing, he discovers something that sends him on a journey away from everything he has known. Sweeping, stirring, and perspective-shifting, *A Particular Kind of Black Man* is "wild, vulnerable, lived...A study of the particulate self, the self as a constellation of moving parts" (The New York Times Book Review).

behold the dreamers: The Sun Does Shine Anthony Ray Hinton, Lara Love Hardin, 2018-03-27 Oprah's Book Club Summer 2018 Selection The Instant New York Times Bestseller A powerful, revealing story of hope, love, justice, and the power of reading by a man who spent thirty years on death row for a crime he didn't commit. "An amazing and heartwarming story, it restores our faith in the inherent goodness of humanity." —Archbishop Desmond Tutu In 1985, Anthony Ray Hinton was arrested and charged with two counts of capital murder in Alabama. Stunned, confused, and only twenty-nine years old, Hinton knew that it was a case of mistaken identity and believed that the truth would prove his innocence and ultimately set him free. But with no money and a different system of justice for a poor black man in the South, Hinton was sentenced to death by electrocution. He spent his first three years on Death Row at Holman State Prison in agonizing silence—full of despair and anger toward all those who had sent an innocent man to his death. But as Hinton

realized and accepted his fate, he resolved not only to survive, but find a way to live on Death Row. For the next twenty-seven years he was a beacon—transforming not only his own spirit, but those of his fellow inmates, fifty-four of whom were executed mere feet from his cell. With the help of civil rights attorney and bestselling author of *Just Mercy*, Bryan Stevenson, Hinton won his release in 2015. With a foreword by Stevenson, *The Sun Does Shine* is an extraordinary testament to the power of hope sustained through the darkest times. Destined to be a classic memoir of wrongful imprisonment and freedom won, Hinton's memoir tells his dramatic thirty-year journey and shows how you can take away a man's freedom, but you can't take away his imagination, humor, or joy.

behold the dreamers: All the Ugly and Wonderful Things Bryn Greenwood, 2016-08-09 Struggling to raise her little brother Donal, eight-year-old Wavy is the only responsible adult around. Obsessed with the constellations, she finds peace in the starry night sky above the fields behind her house, until one night her star-gazing causes an accident. After witnessing his motorcycle wreck, she forms an unusual friendship with one of her father's thugs, Kellen, a tattooed ex-con with a heart of gold. By the time Wavy is a teenager, her relationship with Kellen is the only tender thing in a brutal world of addicts and debauchery--

behold the dreamers: All Our Names Dinaw Mengestu, 2014-06-05 LONGLISTED FOR THE FOLIO PRIZE 2015 Two young friends join an uprising against Uganda's corrupt regime in the early 1970s. As the line blurs between idealism and violence, one of them flees for his life. In a quiet Midwestern town in the aftermath of the Vietnam War, an African student falls for the woman who helps him settle in. Prejudice overshadows their relationship, yet it is equally haunted by the past. Both men are called Isaac. But are they one and the same?

behold the dreamers: Gone to Drift Diana McCaulay, 2018-04-03 "McCaulay's prose is lyrical. A solemn adventure about resolve, loyalty, and family, that gives readers insight into life in a small fishing community and brings to light the dangers marine life face in the wild." — School Library Journal "The relationships between boy and elder, man and sea, crime and poverty all lift McCaulay's first children's novel into a different league. Beautiful." — Kirkus Reviews (starred review) "The heartbreaking realism of this story of innocence lost at sea truly sets this novel apart." — Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books "This makes a good choice for adventure fans, the eco-conscious, and those hoping to understand the economic hardships faced by those who make their living from the sea." — Booklist "Gone to Drift is a compelling coming-of-age story with a strong sense of place and culture." — Voice of Youth Advocates (VOYA)

behold the dreamers: One Two Three Laurie Frankel, 2021-06-08 From Laurie Frankel, the New York Times bestselling author of *This Is How It Always Is*, a Reese's Book Club x Hello Sunshine Book Pick, comes *One Two Three*, a timely, topical novel about love and family that will make you laugh and cry...and laugh again. In a town where nothing ever changes, suddenly everything does... Everyone knows everyone in the tiny town of Bourne, but the Mitchell triplets are especially beloved. Mirabel is the smartest person anyone knows, and no one doubts it just because she can't speak. Monday is the town's purveyor of books now that the library's closed—tell her the book you think you want, and she'll pull the one you actually do from the microwave or her sock drawer. Mab's job is hardest of all: get good grades, get into college, get out of Bourne. For a few weeks seventeen years ago, Bourne was national news when its water turned green. The girls have come of age watching their mother's endless fight for justice. But just when it seems life might go on the same forever, the first moving truck anyone's seen in years pulls up and unloads new residents and old secrets. Soon, the Mitchell sisters are taking on a system stacked against them and uncovering mysteries buried longer than they've been alive. Because it's hard to let go of the past when the past won't let go of you. Three unforgettable narrators join together here to tell a spellbinding story with wit, wonder, and deep affection. As she did in *This Is How It Always Is*, Laurie Frankel has written a laugh-out-loud-on-one-page-grab-a-tissue-the-next novel, as only she can, about how expanding our notions of normal makes the world a better place for everyone and how when days are darkest, it's our daughters who will save us all.

behold the dreamers: Eleutheria Allegra Hyde, 2022-03-08 "Allegra Hyde's seductive first

novel tackles the big stuff of climate change and the more intimate matter of heartbreak with grace. Indeed, Eleutheria bravely braids these together, the story of a lost soul moving through the world we're rapidly losing." —Rumaan Alam, author of *Leave the World Behind* Willa Marks has spent her whole life choosing hope. She chooses hope over her parents' paranoid conspiracy theories, over her dead-end job, over the rising ocean levels. And when she meets Sylvia Gill, renowned Harvard professor, she feels she's found the justification of that hope. Sylvia is the woman-in-black: the only person smart and sharp enough to compel the world to action. But when Sylvia betrays her, Willa fears she has lost hope forever. And then she finds a book in Sylvia's library: a guide to fighting climate change called *Living the Solution*. Inspired by its message and with nothing to lose, Willa flies to the island of Eleutheria in the Bahamas to join the author and his group of ecowarriors at Camp Hope. Upon arrival, things are not what she expected. The group's leader, author Roy Adams, is missing, and the compound's public launch is delayed. With time running out, Willa will stop at nothing to realize Camp Hope's mission—but at what cost? A VINTAGE ORIGINAL

behold the dreamers: The Dreamers Karen Thompson Walker, 2019-01-15 NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW EDITORS' CHOICE • An ordinary town is transformed by a mysterious illness that triggers perpetual sleep in this mesmerizing novel from the bestselling author of *The Age of Miracles*. "Stunning."—Emily St. John Mandel, author of *Station Eleven* • "A startling, beautiful portrait of a community in peril."—Entertainment Weekly NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY Glamour • Real Simple • Good Housekeeping One night in an isolated college town in the hills of Southern California, a first-year student stumbles into her dorm room, falls asleep—and doesn't wake up. She sleeps through the morning, into the evening. Her roommate, Mei, cannot rouse her. Neither can the paramedics, nor the perplexed doctors at the hospital. When a second girl falls asleep, and then a third, Mei finds herself thrust together with an eccentric classmate as panic takes hold of the college and spreads to the town. A young couple tries to protect their newborn baby as the once-quiet streets descend into chaos. Two sisters turn to each other for comfort as their survivalist father prepares for disaster. Those affected by the illness, doctors discover, are displaying unusual levels of brain activity, higher than has ever been recorded before. They are dreaming heightened dreams—but of what? Written in luminous prose, *The Dreamers* is a breathtaking and beautiful novel, startling and provocative, about the possibilities contained within a human life—if only we are awakened to them. Praise for *The Dreamers* "Walker's roving fictive eye by turns probes characters' innermost feelings and zooms out to coolly parse topics like reality versus delusion. . . . [It has] the perfect ambiguous frame for a tense and layered plot."—O: The Oprah Magazine "[Walker's] gripping, provocative novel should come with a warning: may cause insomnia."—People (Book of the Week) "Powerful and moving . . . written with symphonic sweep."—The New York Times Book Review "2019's first must-read novel . . . Alternately terrifying and moving . . . The Dreamers is overflowing with humanity."—Jezebel "This is an exquisite work of intimacy. Walker's sentences are smooth, emotionally arresting—of a true, ethereal beauty. . . . This book achieves [a] dazzling, aching humanity."—Entertainment Weekly

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