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Telling Oregon’s Stories

The front cover art, “Salish Lord,” was painted by Mrs. O. Wiprud in 1955 as a gift for the church at St. Ignatius Mission on the Flathead reservation.
Songs of Power and Prayer in the Columbia Plateau
The Jesuit, the Medicine Man, and the Indian Hymn Singer
Chad S. Hamill

First Peoples: New Directions in Indigenous Studies

Songs of Power and Prayer explores the role of song as a transformative force in the twentieth century. It traces a cultural, spiritual, and musical encounter that upended notions of indigeneity and the rules of engagement for Indians and priests in the Columbia Plateau.

Chad Hamill’s narrative focuses on a Jesuit and his two Indian “grandfathers”—one a medicine man, the other a hymn singer—who together engaged in a collective search for the sacred. The priest became a student of the medicine man. The medicine man became a Catholic. The Indian hymn singer brought indigenous songs to the Catholic mass. Using song as a thread, these men weaved together two worlds previously at odds, realizing a promise born within prophecies two centuries earlier.

Long before Jesuits appeared in Coeur d’Alene and Salish country, Indian prophets foretold their arrival. In their respective visions, Circling Raven and Shining Shirt were the first to behold the odd-looking men wearing long black robes, carrying with them little more than “crossed sticks” and words of a foreign prophet who lived and died a world away. Roughly a century later, the “Blackrobes” arrived, immediately translating liturgical texts and hymns into the Salish language. Calling on centuries of indigenous praxis in which song was prayer, the hymns were very quickly and consciously embodied by the Salish and Coeur d’Alene people, reinterpreted and re-sung as expressions of indigenous identity and spiritual power.

Songs of Power and Prayer in the Columbia Plateau reveals how song can bridge worlds, both between the individual and Spirit and the Jesuits and the Indians. Whether sung in an indigenous ceremony or adapted for Catholic Indian services, song abides as a force that strengthens Native identity and acts as a conduit for power and prayer.


CHAD S. HAMILL is an assistant professor of ethnomusicology at Northern Arizona University, where he serves as co-chair for the Commission for Native Americans. Of Spokan and non-Indian descent, he has also served as associate director of the Plateau Center of American Indian Studies at Washington State University. He has published and presented his work nationally and internationally, bridging the fields of Music and Native/Indigenous Studies in his research and scholarship.
The Wet Engine
Exploring the Mad Wild Miracle of the Heart
Brian Doyle

With a new foreword by Dr. Marla E. Salmon

“My son Liam was born nine years ago. He looked like a cucumber on steroids. He was fat and bald and round. He looked healthy as a horse. He wasn’t. He was missing a chamber in his heart, which is a problem, as you need four chambers for smooth conduct through this vale of fears and tears, and he only had three chambers, so pretty soon he had an open-heart surgery, during which doctors cut him open and iced down his heart and shut it down for an hour or so while they worked on repair…” —from The Wet Engine

In this poignant and startlingly original book, Brian Doyle examines the heart as a physical organ—how it is supposed to work, how surgeons try to fix it when it doesn’t—and as a metaphor: the seat of the soul, the power house of the body, the essence of spirituality. In a series of profoundly moving ruminations, Doyle considers the scientific, emotional, literary, philosophical, and spiritual understandings of the heart—from cardiology to courage, from love letters and pop songs to botany and Jesus. Weaving these strands together is the torment of Doyle’s own infant son’s heart surgery and the inspiring story of the young heart doctor who saved Liam’s life.

First published in 2005, The Wet Engine is a book that will change how you feel and think about the mysterious, fragile human heart. This new paperback edition includes a foreword by Dr. Marla Salmon, dean of the University of Washington School of Nursing.

“This wonderful book has two heroes: a small boy with a damaged heart, and a surgeon who knows how to repair the damaged hearts of small boys. Such heroes deserve a gifted poet to sing their songs. Brian Doyle is that poet.” —Chet Raymo, author of Honey from Stone: A Naturalist’s Search for God

“Brain Doyle’s spirit is catching: it will catch you up, and soon you will have caught on to everything he feels and ruminates over and marvels at, and you will comprehend what poetry is and does. And you will know from the throbbing of The Wet Engine, this unique and beautiful book written in celestial prose, that Brian Doyle is a glorious a poet as he is a father; and vice versa.” —Cynthia Ozick, author of Foreign Bodies


BRIAN DOYLE is the author of twelve books, including the novel Mink River and The Grail (both OSU Press). His essays have been reprinted in the annual Best American Essays, Best American Science & Nature Writing, and Best American Spiritual Writing anthologies. He edits Portland Magazine at the University of Portland.

MARLA E. SALMON is the Robert G. and Jean A. Reid Dean of Nursing and Professor in Psychosocial and Community Health at the University of Washington School of Nursing.

ALSO BY BRIAN DOYLE

Mink River
A Novel
$18.95 Paperback

The Grail
A year ambling & shambling through an Oregon vineyard in pursuit of the best pinot noir wine in the whole wild world
$18.95 Paperback
Wild Delicate Seconds
29 Wildlife Encounters
Charles Finn

“Imagine the mythologies that must belong to the mice, stories of these silent feather-faced gods who drop out of the sky.”
—from “Pygmy Owl”

In twenty-nine micro-essays that border on prose poems, Charles Finn captures chance encounters with the everyday—and not so everyday—animals, birds, and insects of North America.

There are no maulings or fantastic escapes in Finn’s narratives—only stillness and attentiveness to beauty. With profundity, humor, grace, and compassion, Finn pays homage to the creatures that share our world—from black bears to bumble bees, mountain lions to muskrats—and, in doing so, touches on what it means to be human.

Wild Delicate Seconds will appeal to both trained and casual wildlife observers; to birders, hikers, conservationists, ecologists, and naturalists; and to readers of American nature writers such as Henry David Thoreau, John Muir, Barry Lopez, Annie Dillard, and Mary Oliver.

“These brief meditations are as beautiful for what they don’t say as for what they do. Charles Finn does not pad, overreach, or over-emote. His precision accounts of wildlife encounters summon awe, wonder, and magnificence when those feelings are authentically present, but just as readily summon comedy if the encounter was, as Edward Hoagland once put it, ‘like meeting a fantastically dressed mute on the road.’ These are not fleeting glances: they are full-on full-bodied face-to-face invocations of the way animals and birds ‘speak out by saying precisely nothing,’ uncannily propelling us into ‘the exact place where the world begins.’”
—David James Duncan, author of The Brothers K and My Story as Told by Water

“When I know the name of a creature,’ Thoreau said, ‘I find it difficult to see.’ Charles Finn has escaped that disability, and done magic: to summon the moment of encounter with a wild creature without killing that drama with too much mind. The feral moments in this book are deft, alive with exact detail, full, and short. This is a field guide to a different kind of outside, where the wise, wide-eyed child of the self meets ouzel, turtle, fox, and owl. We need more big short books like this one—after reading Finn, you will wander alert, humbled, wise.”
—Kim Stafford, author of The Muses Among Us: Eloquent Listening and Other Pleasures of the Writer’s Craft.

May 2012. 5.5 x 8.5 inches. 112 pages. ISBN 978-0-87071-655-3. Paperback, $16.95
Public Lands, Public Debates
A Century of Controversy
Char Miller

“Watching democracy at work can be bewildering, even frustrating, but the only way individuals and organizations can sift through the often messy business of public deliberation is to deliberate…”
—from the Introduction

The subject of historic struggle and contemporary dispute, public lands in the United States are treasured spaces. In Public Lands, Public Debates, environmental historian Char Miller explores the history of conservation thinking and the development of a government agency with stewardship as its mission.

Owned in common, our national forests, monuments, parks, and preserves are funded through federal tax receipts, making these public lands national in scope and significance. Their controversial histories demonstrate their vulnerability to shifting tides of public opinion, alterations in fiscal support, and overlapping authorities for their management—including federal, state, and local mandates, as well as critical tribal prerogatives and military claims.

Miller takes the U.S. Forest Service as a gauge of the broader debates in which Americans have engaged since the late nineteenth century. In nineteen essays, he examines critical moments of public and private negotiation to help explain the particular, and occasionally peculiar, tensions that have shaped the administration of public lands in the United States.


CHAR MILLER is the director of the Environmental Analysis program and W.M. Keck Professor of Environmental Analysis at Pomona College. He is a senior fellow of the Pinchot Institute for Conservation and a contributing writer for the Texas Observer. He has written and edited numerous books, including Gifford Pinchot and the Making of Modern Environmentalism and Cities and Nature in the American West.

ALSO BY CHAR MILLER

River Basins of the American West
A High Country News Reader
Char Miller, ed.

Water in the 21st Century West
A High Country News Reader
Char Miller, ed.
Oregon Plans
The Making of an Unquiet Land-Use Revolution
Sy Adler

*Culture and Environment in the Pacific West*
Series editor: William L. Lang

Oregon Plans provides a rich, detailed, and nuanced analysis of the origins and early evolution of Oregon’s nationally renowned land-use planning program.

Drawing primarily on archival sources, Sy Adler describes the passage of key state laws that set the program into motion by establishing the agency charged with implementing those laws, adopting the land-use planning goals that are the heart of the Oregon system, and monitoring and enforcing the implementation of those goals through a unique citizen organization.

Environmental activists, industry groups, local governments, and state officials all played significant roles. Adler brings these key actors—among them governors Tom McCall and Robert Straub, business leaders John Gray and Glenn Jackson, the Northwest Environmental Defense Center and the Oregon State Homebuilders Association—to life.

Oregon Plans both informs those new to Oregon and reminds long-time residents about controversial historic issues and the consequential compromises and choices that were made to address them during the mid-1970s.

The book will interest anyone involved in land use, conservation, and environmental issues—from citizens to officials to developers—in Oregon and beyond.

Multnomah
The Tumultuous Story of
Oregon’s Most Populous County
Jewel Lansing and Fred Leeson

Covering people and events from 1854 to the present day, this definitive reference on the history, politics, and policy of Multnomah County provides compelling details about public works undertakings and political scandals.

Oregon’s tiniest county geographically quickly grew to be the state’s most populous. Through nearly sixteen decades, Multnomah County’s history seldom has been calm and peaceful. From hangings that turned into grim public spectacles in the nineteenth century to a glaring failure to deal with urban growth in the middle of the twentieth, the county has survived frequent home rule charter changes and several attempts to revamp its structure or merge with Portland’s better-known municipal government.

Highlighted episodes include the construction of the iconic Columbia River Highway between 1914 and 1918, the tragic flooding of Vanport City in 1948, the employee strike of 1980, the library scandal of 1989-1990, and the same-sex marriage license debacle of 2004.

Historian Jewel Lansing and journalist Fred Leeson make effective use of archival sources, oral histories, newspaper articles, and personal interviews. History buffs and informed Portland citizens will be particularly engaged by the regional trivia and narrative details.


JEWEL LANSING is the author of Portland: People, Politics, and Power, 1851-2001. She served eight years as the elected auditor of Multnomah County and four years as the City of Portland auditor. She is honored on Portland’s Walk of the Heroines for her pioneering role as a woman in government and politics and her outstanding civic contributions.

FRED LEESON is a freelance journalist and adjunct professor of journalism at Concordia University in Portland. He has reported on Multnomah County government for The Oregon Journal and The Oregonian. He is the author of Rose City Justice: A Legal History of Portland, Oregon.

ALSO BY JEWEL LANSING

Portland
People, Politics, and Power,
1851-2001
Jewel Lansing
**To the Promised Land**  
A History of Government and Politics in Oregon  
Tom Marsh

A comprehensive political history of Oregon, *To the Promised Land* examines the social and economic changes the state has pioneered over almost two hundred years. Highlighting major political figures, campaigns, and ballot measures, Tom Marsh traces the evolution of Oregon from incorporated territory to a state at the forefront of national environmental and social movements.

From the first letter sent to Congress by Jason Lee, urging them to take possession of the Oregon Country for the United States, to John Kitzhaber’s precedent-setting third term as governor; from the land frauds of the early twentieth century to the state’s land-use planning goals; from the Beach Bill to the Bottle Bill, this book tells Oregon’s story.

*To the Promised Land* provides the first general history of Oregon’s state government and political leaders. Marsh combines the clear expository style of a professional educator with the expertise of a political insider—a former U.S. history high school teacher, he also served two terms in the Oregon House of Representatives.

Featuring interesting trivia, historical photographs, and biographical sketches of key politicians, this book will be a popular volume for general readers and public libraries as well as for textbook use in secondary and higher education classrooms.

Comrades of the Quest
An Oral History of Reed College
John Sheehy

Visionary. Iconoclast. Rebel. William Trufant Foster set out in 1911 to launch the “ideal college” and succeeded in building an intellectual powerhouse that over the next century would perpetually seek to break the hard crust of custom and orthodoxy. Foster’s quest for excellence and truth generated a steady yield of students—ranging from poet Gary Snyder to muckraker Barbara Ehrenreich to Apple founder Steve Jobs—who left Reed College eager to challenge society’s dominant paradigm.

Comrades of the Quest chronicles the colorful cultural and social history of this band of young, iconoclastic West Coast intellectuals, and of the institution that nurtured them. Drawn from interviews with more than 1,400 people stretching back to the early 1900s, it weaves together Reed College’s unique story from a wide range of first-person perspectives of those who experienced it. This portrayal of an atypical college will appeal to those interested in American intellectual and social history, as well as to readers curious about Reed’s unique place in the Oregon story.

“Comrades of the Quest is as dramatic as the best of fiction, beginning with a complex and doomed central character —William Trufant Foster, the 31-year-old visionary idealist and first president of Reed College. It’s a great story, brilliantly constructed and told from multiple and brief, always shifting, points of first-person view. The story never lags.”
—Robin Cody, author of Ricochet River and Another Way the River Has

“Clearly and logically organized, each chapter moves with a sort of free-association style, with one subtopic overlapping and blending into the next, which makes page-turning reading. In the process, we get a compelling portrait of cultural radicals and intellectual conservatives interacting to mold the history of a fascinating educational institution whose wide influence has far outweighed its small size.”
—Carl Abbott, author of Portland in Three Centuries


JOHN SHEEHY is a writer and former publisher at Time Inc., Utne Reader, and Afar magazine. A graduate of Reed College, he lives in Sonoma Country, California.

Image courtesy of Special Collections, Eric V. Hauser Memorial Library, Reed College
Asserting Native Resilience
Pacific Rim Indigenous Nations Face the Climate Crisis
Edited by Zoltán Grossman and Alan Parker

Indigenous nations are on the frontline of the current climate crisis. With cultures and economies among the most vulnerable to climate-related catastrophes, Native peoples are developing responses to climate change that serve as a model for Native and non-Native communities alike.

Native American nations in the Pacific Northwest, First Nations in Canada, and Indigenous peoples around the Pacific Rim have already been deeply affected by droughts, flooding, reduced glaciers and snowmelts, seasonal shifts in winds and storms, and changes in species on the land and in the ocean. Having survived the historical and ecological wounds inflicted by colonization, industrialization, and urbanization, Indigenous peoples are using tools of resilience that have enabled them to respond to sudden environmental changes and protect the habitat of salmon and other culturally vital species. They are creating defenses to strengthen their communities, mitigate losses, and adapt where possible.

Asserting Native Resilience presents a rich variety of perspectives on Indigenous responses to the climate crisis, reflecting the voices of more than twenty contributors, including Indigenous leaders and Native and non-Native scientists, scholars, and activists from the Pacific Northwest, British Columbia, Alaska, and Aotearoa/New Zealand. Also included is a resource directory of indigenous governments, non-governmental organizations, and communities that are researching and responding to climate change and a community organizing booklet for use by Northwest tribes.

An invaluable addition to the literature on climate change, Asserting Native Resilience will be useful for students of environmental studies, Native studies, geography, and rural sociology, and will serve as an important reference for indigenous leaders, tribal members, rural planners, and environmental agency staff.


ZOLTÁN GROSSMAN is a senior research associate with the Northwest Indian Applied Research Institute and a professor of geography and Native American and World Indigenous Peoples Studies at The Evergreen State College.

ALAN PARKER is director of the Northwest Indian Applied Research Institute and a professor in the graduate MPA program at The Evergreen State College.
**Tough by Nature**  
Portraits of Cowgirls and Ranch Women of the American West  
Lynda Lanker  
Foreword by Larry McMurtry  
Introduction by Sandra Day O’Connor  
Afterword by Maya Angelou

For close to twenty years, Lynda Lanker has been immersed in a vast and unprecedented artistic undertaking. Unlike the scores of artists who historically have drawn and painted the monumental landscapes of the American West, Lanker roams the territory with her eyes and artistry firmly fixed elsewhere: on a seldom-heralded group of individuals who have played vital roles in forging the fabric and soul of the region.

Her search for ranch women and cowgirls across the western United States has taken her thousands of miles to ranches and homes in thirteen states. Her discoveries underscore the timeliness and importance of her creative accomplishment, for these women and their way of life are quickly disappearing. The matriarchs of the West—those women who played the essential roles of hard-working ranchers, mothers, cowgirls, wives, and homemakers—are simply vanishing. Mega-corporations and urban encroachment are replacing their family farms and ranches and, in the process, are changing the face and humanity of the West forever.

Influenced by Andrew Wyeth and Thomas Hart Benton, Lanker uses a variety of media—pencil and charcoal, oil pastel, egg tempera, plate and stone lithography, engraving and drypoint—to capture the spirit of her women. Just as the Farm Security Administration’s photographic chronicles of the Great Depression have fixed that time and its hardships in our collective memory, Lanker’s portraits, accompanied by her interviews with the forty-nine women featured in the book, will forever honor the unsung heroines of the West.

“The literature of the cowboy is a very romantic literature. It leaves out the women by the simple method of stereotyping, by reducing them to an outline. Lynda Lanker, in these portraits, fills in the outline.”  
—Larry McMurtry

Published by the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, University of Oregon.  
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David G. James and David Nunnallee  
*Foreword by Robert Michael Pyle*  
The life histories of the entire butterfly fauna of a North American geographic region are presented in stunning detail.  
“Never before has a single volume contributed such an immense wealth of new information on North American butterflies...James and Nunnallee have literally given Lepidopterology in North America a brand-new start.” —Dr. Andrew D. Warren, McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and Biodiversity, University of Florida  

**Oregon Archaeology**  
C. Melvin Aikens, Thomas J. Connolly, and Dennis L. Jenkins  
*Oregon Archaeology* tells the story of Oregon’s cultural history beginning more than 14,000 years ago with the earliest evidence of human occupation and continuing into the twentieth century. Enriched with maps, photographs, line drawings, and a bibliography, the book describes aspects of first encounters between Native Americans and newcomers of European and Asian heritage, as well as important trends in the development of modern Oregon.  

**Finding the River**  
An Environmental History of the Elwha  
Jeff Crane  
*Finding the River* presents a long-term environmental and human history of Washington’s Elwha River. With the removal of two dams on the Elwha as his backdrop, Jeff Crane dives into the ongoing debate over development, ecological preservation, the fight to preserve salmon, and river restoration. He explores the rise of a river restoration movement in the late twentieth century and the roles that free-flowing rivers could play in preserving salmon.  

**Light on the Devils**  
Coming of Age on the Klamath  
Louise Wagenknecht  
In a captivating memoir of place, the author of *White Poplar, Black Locust* looks back on her teenage years spent in a remote logging community in northern California’s Klamath country.  
“Light on the Devils is a throwback to a different America, a place where people worked hard and took their sense of self-reliance for granted, an America that today seems to be slipping away. And it’s a vivid book: I can still see those big Ponderosa pines, the sunlight splintering in the branches.” —The Spectator  
“This is not just another environmental scream. It's intelligent and balanced. It's unique.” —Robin Cody, author of *Ricochet River* and *Voyage of a Summer Sun*  
Up the Capitol Steps
A Woman’s March to the Governorship
Barbara Roberts
Women and Politics in the Pacific Northwest Series
Series editor: Melody Rose, Portland State University
Up the Capitol Steps is a personal and political memoir by Oregon’s first (and only) woman governor. Barbara Roberts offers a behind-the-scenes glimpse of a woman’s life in politics and aims to “demystify” leadership by telling the story of her own unlikely rise to power.
“[A] richly detailed account...” —The Oregonian

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The revised and updated edition of the highly acclaimed Wild in the City brings more than one hundred of the best parks, trails, and natural areas to your fingertips.
“The new edition is a book that anyone interested in the outdoors should have on the bookshelf and in their day pack.” —The Oregonian

Portland in Three Centuries
The Place and the People
Carl Abbott
A compact and comprehensive history of Portland from first European contact to the twenty-first century, Portland in Three Centuries introduces the women and men who have shaped Oregon’s largest city. Abbott highlights the expected politicians and business leaders as well as workers, immigrants, union members and dissenters, and artists and activists.

Wading for Bugs
Exploring Streams with the Experts
Edited by Judith L. Li and Michael T. Barbour
Illustrations by Boonsatien Boonsoong
Nearly two dozen aquatic biologists share their memorable encounters in this volume, which invites readers to experience the wonders of studying stream insects through the eyes of scientists.
“I think it’s a wonderful idea to have experts talk personally about their work rather than be confined to academic descriptions. In my opinion, the intent of this book is fun and original—particularly so since the topic of aquatic invertebrates is relatively unexplored and uncelebrated.”
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