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# When The Mississippi Ran Backwards Empire Intrigue Murder And New Madrid Earthquakes Jay Feldman

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The John Deere Story  
The New Madrid Earthquake  
A Kingdom Divided  
Hell Gate of the Mississippi

*When The Mississippi  
Ran Backwards Empire  
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## MARQUIS MELANY

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The Earthquake America Forgot Indiana  
University Press  
From Midnight to Dawn presents  
compelling portraits of the men and  
women who established the Underground  
Railroad and traveled it to find new lives in

Canada. Evoking the turmoil and  
controversies of the time, Tobin  
illuminates the historic events that forever  
connected American and Canadian history  
by giving us the true stories behind well-  
known figures such as Harriet Tubman and  
John Brown. She also profiles lesser-known  
but equally heroic figures such as Mary  
Ann Shadd, who became the first black  
female newspaper editor in North America,  
and Osborne Perry Anderson, the only  
black survivor of the fighting at Harpers

Ferry. An extraordinary examination of a  
part of American history, From Midnight to  
Dawn will captivate readers with its tales  
of hope, courage, and a people's  
determination to live equally under the  
law.

Old Times on the Mississippi Ballantine  
Books

When the Mississippi Ran Backwards Simon  
and Schuster

**The Lost History of the New Madrid  
Earthquakes** Farrar, Straus and Giroux

Roving the lonesome highways in search of fresh baseball talent in 1942, New York Yankees scout Mac "Suitcase" Sefton discovers a once-in-a-lifetime talent in Jerry Yamada. The young left-handed pitcher seems poised to take his place among the pantheon of major league pitching greats. However, he's being held indefinitely in a Japanese American internment camp, and he's not even certain that he wants to play professional baseball. Caught behind barbed wire in a camp in Arizona, Jerry, his lovely sister, Annie, and their old-world parents make the best of their confinement while Sefton schemes to find a way to free Yamada and convince him to play for the Yanks. Sefton's interest in Yamada and his family changes from professional to personal when he accepts an offer to join the Yamadas for tea in their primitive quarters in a converted army barrack. Sefton's respect for their strength and the values they hold dear develops and deepens as he begins to see how his own lifestyle contrasts with the Yamadas'. A profound change takes place in him as he discusses freedom and the future with Annie. As a result, the relationships between the scout

and the Japanese American family strain and strengthen as they share their cultures and lives. Amid baseball, racism, and hope, Sefton and the Yamadas rediscover the American dream.

Bold Strokes Books Inc

The international bestselling author of *The Professor and the Madman* and *Krakatoa* vividly brings to life the 1906 San Francisco Earthquake that leveled a city symbolic of America's relentless western expansion. Simon Winchester has also fashioned an enthralling and informative look at the tumultuous subterranean world that produces earthquakes, the planet's most sudden and destructive force. In the early morning hours of April 18, 1906, San Francisco and a string of towns to its north-northwest and the south-southeast were overcome by an enormous shaking that was compounded by the violent shocks of an earthquake, registering 8.25 on the Richter scale. The quake resulted from a rupture in a part of the San Andreas fault, which lies underneath the earth's surface along the northern coast of California. Lasting little more than a minute, the earthquake wrecked 490 blocks, toppled a total of 25,000 buildings,

broke open gas mains, cut off electric power lines throughout the Bay area, and effectively destroyed the gold rush capital that had stood there for a half century. Perhaps more significant than the tremors and rumbling, which affected a swatch of California more than 200 miles long, were the fires that took over the city for three days, leaving chaos and horror in its wake. The human tragedy included the deaths of upwards of 700 people, with more than 250,000 left homeless. It was perhaps the worst natural disaster in the history of the United States. Simon Winchester brings his inimitable storytelling abilities -- as well as his unique understanding of geology -- to this extraordinary event, exploring not only what happened in northern California in 1906 but what we have learned since about the geological underpinnings that caused the earthquake in the first place. But his achievement is even greater: he positions the quake's significance along the earth's geological timeline and shows the effect it had on the rest of twentieth-century California and American history. *A Crack in the Edge of the World* is the definitive account of the San Francisco earthquake. It is also a

fascinating exploration of a legendary event that changed the way we look at the planet on which we live.

*The 1619 Project* Liveright Publishing

In the winter of 1811-12, a series of large earthquakes in the New Madrid seismic zone—often incorrectly described as the biggest ever to hit the United States—shook the Midwest. Today the federal government ranks the hazard in the Midwest as high as California's and is pressuring communities to undertake expensive preparations for disaster. *Disaster Deferred* revisits these earthquakes, the legends surrounding them, and the predictions of doom following in their wake. Seth Stein clearly explains the techniques seismologists use to study Midwestern quakes and estimate their danger. Detailing how limited scientific knowledge, bureaucratic instincts, and the media's love of a good story have exaggerated these hazards, Stein calmly debunks the hype surrounding such predictions and encourages the formulation of more sensible, less costly policy.

*Crossing the Wide Forever One World*  
#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • A

dramatic expansion of a groundbreaking work of journalism, *The 1619 Project: A New Origin Story* offers a profoundly revealing vision of the American past and present. ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR: *The Washington Post*, NPR, *Esquire*, *Marie Claire*, *Electric Lit*, *Ms. magazine*, *Kirkus Reviews*, *Booklist* In late August 1619, a ship arrived in the British colony of Virginia bearing a cargo of twenty to thirty enslaved people from Africa. Their arrival led to the barbaric and unprecedented system of American chattel slavery that would last for the next 250 years. This is sometimes referred to as the country's original sin, but it is more than that: It is the source of so much that still defines the United States. *The New York Times Magazine's* award-winning "1619 Project" issue reframed our understanding of American history by placing slavery and its continuing legacy at the center of our national narrative. This new book substantially expands on that work, weaving together eighteen essays that explore the legacy of slavery in present-day America with thirty-six poems and works of fiction that illuminate key moments of oppression, struggle, and

resistance. The essays show how the inheritance of 1619 reaches into every part of contemporary American society, from politics, music, diet, traffic, and citizenship to capitalism, religion, and our democracy itself. This is a book that speaks directly to our current moment, contextualizing the systems of race and caste within which we operate today. It reveals long-glossed-over truths around our nation's founding and construction—and the way that the legacy of slavery did not end with emancipation, but continues to shape contemporary American life. Featuring contributions from: Leslie Alexander • Michelle Alexander • Carol Anderson • Joshua Bennett • Reginald Dwayne Betts • Jamelle Bouie • Anthea Butler • Matthew Desmond • Rita Dove • Camille T. Dungy • Cornelius Eady • Eve L. Ewing • Nikky Finney • Vieve Francis • Yaa Gyasi • Forrest Hamer • Terrance Hayes • Kimberly Annece Henderson • Jeneen Interlandi • Honorée Fanonne Jeffers • Barry Jenkins • Tyehimba Jess • Martha S. Jones • Robert Jones, Jr. • A. Van Jordan • Ibram X. Kendi • Eddie Kendricks • Yusef Komunyakaa • Kevin M. Kruse • Kiese

Laymon • Trymaine Lee • Jasmine Mans • Terry McMillan • Tiya Miles • Wesley Morris • Khalil Gibran Muhammad • Lynn Nottage • ZZ Packer • Gregory Pardlo • Darryl Pinckney • Claudia Rankine • Jason Reynolds • Dorothy Roberts • Sonia Sanchez • Tim Seibles • Evie Shockley • Clint Smith • Danez Smith • Patricia Smith • Tracy K. Smith • Bryan Stevenson • Nafissa Thompson-Spires • Natasha Trethewey • Linda Villarosa • Jesmyn Ward  
**Disaster Deferred** University of Chicago Press

“Read, read, read. Read everything—trash, classics, good and bad, and see how they do it. Just like a carpenter who works as an apprentice and studies the master. Read! You’ll absorb it. Then write. If it is good, you’ll find out. If it’s not, throw it out the window.”

—William Faulkner *Light in August*, a novel about hopeful perseverance in the face of mortality, features some of Faulkner’s most memorable characters: guileless, dauntless Lena Grove, in search of the father of her unborn child; Reverend Gail Hightower, who is plagued by visions of Confederate horsemen; and Joe Christmas, a desperate, enigmatic drifter consumed

by his mixed ancestry.

**Light in August** When the Mississippi Ran Backwards  
 #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • The author of *Small Great Things* returns with a powerful and provocative new novel about ordinary lives that intersect during a heart-stopping crisis. “Picoult at her fearless best . . . Timely, balanced and certain to inspire debate.”—The Washington Post  
 The warm fall day starts like any other at the Center—a women’s reproductive health services clinic—its staff offering care to anyone who passes through its doors. Then, in late morning, a desperate and distraught gunman bursts in and opens fire, taking all inside hostage. After rushing to the scene, Hugh McElroy, a police hostage negotiator, sets up a perimeter and begins making a plan to communicate with the gunman. As his phone vibrates with incoming text messages he glances at it and, to his horror, finds out that his fifteen-year-old daughter, Wren, is inside the clinic. But Wren is not alone. She will share the next and tensest few hours of her young life with a cast of unforgettable characters: A nurse who calms her own panic in order to

save the life of a wounded woman. A doctor who does his work not in spite of his faith but because of it, and who will find that faith tested as never before. A pro-life protester, disguised as a patient, who now stands in the crosshairs of the same rage she herself has felt. A young woman who has come to terminate her pregnancy. And the disturbed individual himself, vowing to be heard. Told in a daring and enthralling narrative structure that counts backward through the hours of the standoff, this is a story that traces its way back to what brought each of these very different individuals to the same place on this fateful day. One of the most fearless writers of our time, Jodi Picoult tackles a complicated issue in this gripping and nuanced novel. How do we balance the rights of pregnant women with the rights of the unborn they carry? What does it mean to be a good parent? *A Spark of Light* will inspire debate, conversation . . . and, hopefully, understanding. Praise for *A Spark of Light* “This is Jodi Picoult at her best: tackling an emotional hot-button issue and putting a human face on it.”—People “Told backward and hour by hour, Jodi Picoult’s compelling narrative

deftly explores controversial social issues.”—Us Weekly

Philosopher of the Heart W. W. Norton & Company

Step back into what was then the wild-and-woolly Far West of 1857 and the trial that helped make Abraham Lincoln a household name. Get a juryman's front-row view of the Illinois courtroom battle that defined the economic war fought between St. Louis steamboat men and women and their hated foes, the Chicago and New York railroad tycoons. *Hell Gate of the Mississippi* is the first book that covers this explosive chapter in our early history.

*Paper Towns* University of Illinois Press Scientifically and historically describes the New Madrid, Missouri earthquakes of 1811-1812 and provides valuable information in the event of an earthquake today.

*The New Madrid Earthquakes* Farrar, Straus and Giroux

Rediscovering soccer's long history in the U.S. Across North America, native peoples and colonists alike played a variety of kicking games long before soccer's emergence in the late 1800s. Brian D.

Bunk examines the development and social impact of these sports through the rise of professional soccer after World War I. As he shows, the various games called football gave women an outlet as athletes and encouraged men to form social bonds based on educational experience, occupation, ethnic identity, or military service. Football also followed young people to college as higher education expanded in the nineteenth century. University play, along with the arrival of immigrants from the British Isles, helped spark the creation of organized soccer in the United States—and the beautiful game's transformation into a truly international sport. A multilayered look at one game's place in American life, *From Football to Soccer* refutes the notion of the U.S. as a land outside of football history. Murder in McComb Simon and Schuster On March 27, 1964, at 5-36 p.m., the biggest earthquake ever recorded in North America--and the second biggest ever in the world, measuring 9.2 on the Richter scale--struck Alaska, devastating coastal towns and villages and killing more than 130 people in what was then a relatively sparsely populated region. In a riveting

tale about the almost unimaginable brute force of nature, New York Times science journalist Henry Fountain, in his first trade book, re-creates the lives of the villagers and townspeople living in Chenega, Anchorage, and Valdez; describes the sheer beauty of the geology of the region, with its towering peaks and 20-mile-long glaciers; and reveals the impact of the quake on the towns, the buildings, and the lives of the inhabitants. George Plafker, a geologist for the U.S. Geological Survey with years of experience scouring the Alaskan wilderness, is asked to investigate the Prince William Sound region in the aftermath of the quake, to better understand its origins. His work confirmed the then controversial theory of plate tectonics that explained how and why such deadly quakes occur, and how we can plan for the next one.

Maphead University of Missouri Press From December 1811 to February 1812, massive earthquakes shook the middle Mississippi Valley, collapsing homes, snapping large trees midtrunk, and briefly but dramatically reversing the flow of the continent's mightiest river. For decades, people puzzled over the causes of the

quakes, but by the time the nation began to recover from the Civil War, the New Madrid earthquakes had been essentially forgotten. In *The Lost History of the New Madrid Earthquakes*, Conevery Bolton Valencius remembers this major environmental disaster, demonstrating how events that have been long forgotten, even denied and ridiculed as tall tales, were in fact enormously important at the time of their occurrence, and continue to affect us today. Valencius weaves together scientific and historical evidence to demonstrate the vast role the New Madrid earthquakes played in the United States in the early nineteenth century, shaping the settlement patterns of early western Cherokees and other Indians, heightening the credibility of Tecumseh and Tenskwatawa for their Indian League in the War of 1812, giving force to frontier religious revival, and spreading scientific inquiry. Moving into the present, Valencius explores the intertwined reasons—environmental, scientific, social, and economic—why something as consequential as major earthquakes can be lost from public knowledge, offering a cautionary tale in a world struggling to

respond to global climate change amid widespread willful denial. Engagingly written and ambitiously researched—both in the scientific literature and the writings of the time—*The Lost History of the New Madrid Earthquakes* will be an important resource in environmental history, geology, and seismology, as well as history of science and medicine and early American and Native American history. *The Rivers Ran Backward* LSU Press  
A moving exploration of the most common but most mysterious procedure in medicine. For many of the 40 million Americans who undergo anesthesia each year, it is the source of great fear and fascination. From the famous first demonstration of anesthesia in the Ether Dome at Massachusetts General Hospital in 1846 to today's routine procedure that controls anxiety, memory formation, pain relief, and more, anesthesia has come a long way. But it remains one of the most extraordinary, unexplored corners of the medical world. In *Counting Backwards*, Dr. Henry Jay Przybylo—a pediatric anesthesiologist with more than thirty years of experience—delivers an unforgettable account of the procedure's

daily dramas and fundamental mysteries. Przybylo has administered anesthesia more than 30,000 times in his career—erasing consciousness, denying memory, and immobilizing the body, and then reversing all of these effects—on newborn babies, screaming toddlers, sullen teenagers, even a gorilla. With compassion and candor, he weaves his experiences into an intimate exploration of the nature of consciousness, the politics of pain relief, and the wonder of modern medicine. Filled with intensity and humanity, with moments of near-disaster, life-saving success, and simple grace, *Counting Backwards* is for anyone curious about what happens after we lose consciousness.

*A Crack in the Edge of the World* Bantam  
A riveting and unsettling history of the assault on civil rights and liberties in America—from World War I to the War on Terror—by the acclaimed author of *When the Mississippi Ran Backwards*. In this ambitious and wide-ranging account, Jay Feldman takes us from the run-up to World War I and its anti-German hysteria to the September 11 attacks and Arizona's current anti-immigration movement. What

we see is a striking pattern of elected officials and private citizens alike using the American people's fears and prejudices to isolate minorities (ethnic, racial, political, religious, or sexual), silence dissent, and stem the growth of civil rights and liberties. Rather than treating this history as a series of discrete moments, Feldman considers the entire programmatic sweep on a scale no one has yet approached. In doing so, he gives us a potent reminder of how, even in America, democracy and civil liberties are never guaranteed.

*From Midnight to Dawn* Crown Publishing Group (NY)

"On August 13, 1969, two men picked up Tina Marie Andrews, a twelve-year-old girl, in downtown McComb, Mississippi, a city with a notorious history of racial violence. The men took Andrews and a friend just outside town to an oil field, where they shot her. Andrews' friend escaped and later identified the two killers as McComb police officers. A grand jury indicted both for the murder, but no one was ever convicted of the crime: one officer was acquitted; the other had charges against him dropped. Other than in contemporary local newspaper coverage, the story of

Andrews' murder has not been told. Indeed, to this day, many people in the community hesitate to speak of the matter. Trent Brown's 'Murder in McComb' is the first comprehensive examination of the crime, the lengthy investigation into it, and the two extended trials that followed. Brown also explores the public shaming of the state's main witness - a fifteen-year-old unwed mother - and the subsequent desecration of the victim's grave. His study deftly reconstructs various accounts of the murder, explains why the juries reached the verdicts they did, and explores the broader forces that shaped the community in which Tina Andrews lived and died. One of the features that distinguishes Brown's work from other accounts of civil rights era violence is the fact that the murder of Tina Andrews was not a racially motivated killing. Everyone involved in this story was white. However, Tina Andrews and her friend Billie Jo Lambert, the state's main witness, were 'girls of ill repute,' as one of the defense attorneys put it. To some people in McComb, they were trashy children of undistinguished families who got little more than they deserved. In the end,

Brown suggests that Tina Andrews had the great misfortune to be murdered in a town where local people were eager to support law and order and stability after the challenges of the civil rights movement"

*Manufacturing Hysteria* Simon and Schuster

Simon Winchester's brilliant chronicle of the destruction of the Indonesian island of Krakatoa in 1883 charts the birth of our modern world. He tells the story of the unrecognized genius who beat Darwin to the discovery of evolution; of Samuel Morse, his code and how rubber allowed the world to talk; of Alfred Wegener, the crack-pot German explorer and father of geology. In breathtaking detail he describes how one island and its inhabitants were blasted out of existence and how colonial society was turned upside-down in a cataclysm whose echoes are still felt to this day.

**The Control of Nature** Simon and Schuster

This debut memoir about a Jewish family pursuing the American Dream in the early twentieth century South is "vividly told and captivating in its humanity" (Kirkus Reviews). In small town America, in 1920,



the ubiquitous dry goods store—selling suits and coats, shoes and hats, work clothes and school clothes, yard goods and notions—was usually owned by Jews and often referred to as “the Jew store.” That’s how Bronson’s Low-Priced Store, in Concordia, Tennessee—owned and run by Stella Suberman’s father—was known. The Bronsons were the first Jews to live in the tiny Southern town consisting of one main street, one bank, one drugstore, and many Christian churches. Born into poverty in prerevolutionary Russia, Aaron Bronson moved his family from New York City to that remote corner of northwest Tennessee to prove himself a born salesman—and much more. With a novelist’s sense of scene, suspense, and characterization, Stella Suberman turns the clock back to a time when educated liberals were suspect and the Klan was a major threat to outsiders. In that setting, she brings to life her remarkable father, a man whose own brand of success proves

that intelligence, empathy, and decency can build a home anywhere.

#### The Great Quake Algonquin Books

Inspired by Charles Babbage, who believes that his Difference Engine can calculate the longitude of a solar eclipse, astronomer Selena Cott invents a technique to photograph it and embarks on a dangerous journey into the American Southwest.

#### When the Mississippi Ran Backwards Simon and Schuster

The arrival of the first steamboat, The New Orleans, in early 1812 touched off an economic revolution in the South. In states west of the Appalachian Mountains, the operation of steamboats quickly grew into a booming business that would lead to new cultural practices and a stronger sectional identity. In *Steamboats and the Rise of the Cotton Kingdom*, Robert Gudmestad examines the wide-ranging influence of steamboats on the southern economy. From carrying cash crops to market to contributing to slave

productivity, increasing the flexibility of labor, and connecting southerners to overlapping orbits of regional, national, and international markets, steamboats not only benefited slaveholders and northern industries but also affected cotton production. This technology literally put people into motion, and travelers developed an array of unique cultural practices, from gambling to boat races. Gudmestad also asserts that the intersection of these riverboats and the environment reveals much about sectional identity in antebellum America. As federal funds backed railroad construction instead of efforts to clear waterways for steamboats, southerners looked to coordinate their own economic development, free of national interests. *Steamboats and the Rise of the Cotton Kingdom* offers new insights into the remarkable and significant history of transportation and commerce in the prewar South.