

# The Bridges At Toko Ri

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**Killing John Wayne** - Ryan Uytdeuilligen  
2021-10-01

Behold the history of a film so scandalous, so outrageous, so explosive it disappeared from print for over a quarter century! A film so dangerous, half its cast and crew met their demise bringing eccentric billionaire

Howard Hughes' final cinematic vision to life! Starring All-American legend John Wayne in full Fu Manchu make-up as Mongol madman Genghis Khan! Featuring sultry seductress Susan Hayward as his lover! This is the true story of The Conqueror (1956), the worst movie ever made. Filmed during

the dark underbelly of the 1950s—the Cold War—when nuclear testing in desolate southwestern landscapes was a must for survival, the very same landscapes were where exotic stories set in faraway lands could be made. Just 153 miles from the St. George, Utah, set, nuclear bombs were detonated regularly at Yucca Flat and Frenchman Flat in Nevada, providing a bizarre and possibly deadly background to an already surreal moment in cinema history. This book tells the full story of the making of *The Conqueror*, its ignominious aftermath, and the radiation induced cancer that may have killed John Wayne and many others.

**On Desperate Ground** - Hampton Sides  
2018-10-02

From the New York Times bestselling author of *Blood and Thunder* and *Ghost Soldiers*, a chronicle of the extraordinary feats of heroism by Marines called on to do the

impossible during the greatest battle of the Korean War. "Superb ... A masterpiece of thorough research, deft pacing and arresting detail...This war story—the fight to break out of a frozen hell near the Chosin Reservoir—has been told many times before. But Sides tells it exceedingly well, with fresh research, gritty scenes and cinematic sweep." —The Washington Post  
On October 15, 1950, General Douglas MacArthur, Supreme Commander of UN troops in Korea, convinced President Harry Truman that the Communist forces of Kim Il-sung would be utterly defeated by Thanksgiving. The Chinese, he said with near certainty, would not intervene in the war. As he was speaking, 300,000 Red Chinese soldiers began secretly crossing the Manchurian border. Led by some 20,000 men of the First Marine Division, the Americans moved deep into the snowy mountains of North Korea, toward the trap

Mao had set for the vainglorious MacArthur along the frozen shores of the Chosin Reservoir. What followed was one of the most heroic--and harrowing--operations in American military history, and one of the classic battles of all time. Faced with probable annihilation, and temperatures plunging to 20 degrees below zero, the surrounded, and hugely outnumbered, Marines fought through the enemy forces with ferocity, ingenuity, and nearly unimaginable courage as they marched their way to the sea. Hampton Sides' superb account of this epic clash relies on years of archival research, unpublished letters, declassified documents, and interviews with scores of Marines and Koreans who survived the siege. While expertly detailing the follies of the American leaders, *On Desperate Ground* is an immediate, grunt's-eye view of history, enthralling in its narrative pace and powerful in its portrayal of what ordinary

men are capable of in the most extreme circumstances. Hampton Sides has been hailed by critics as one of the best nonfiction writers of his generation. As the *Miami Herald* wrote, "Sides has a novelist's eye for the propulsive elements that lend momentum and dramatic pace to the best nonfiction narratives."

**The Bridges at Toko-Ri** - James A. Michener 2014-12

**Recessional** - James A. Michener 2015-09-08

In this remarkable novel, Pulitzer Prize-winning author James A. Michener draws on his unparalleled gift for storytelling, his deep understanding of American society, and his own life experiences to illuminate the challenges of aging and the folly of youth. As the new director of a Florida retirement home known as the Palms, Andy Zorn suffers no shortage

of loving support from his “elders,” a group of five passionate, outspoken residents. Still, Andy’s shortcomings tear him apart. But when he meets an extraordinary young woman who has been forced to rebuild her life after suffering crippling injuries, he finds himself falling in love. And with a few gentle jabs from his more mature friends, he discovers a wonderful new purpose in life. Praise for *Recessional* “The best moments in the novel occur when the characters disclose what’s in their hearts and minds with rueful, snappy humor.”—The New York Times Book Review “Michener hooks you with wonderfully humorous scenes. These are then interwoven between the moments of pain and heartache brought about by life choices we all must make.”—Tulsa World “Engaging . . . One will be drawn into the novelist’s world. . . . The lush natural setting provides James Michener plenty to show and tell.”—The Washington Times

*Dragon's Jaw* - Stephen Coonts 2019-05-14  
A riveting Vietnam War story--and one of the most dramatic in aviation history--told by a New York Times bestselling author and a prominent aviation historian Every war has its "bridge"--Old North Bridge at Concord, Burnside's Bridge at Antietam, the railway bridge over Burma's River Kwai, the bridge over Germany's Rhine River at Remagen, and the bridges over Korea's Toko Ri. In Vietnam it was the bridge at Thanh Hoa, called Dragon's Jaw. For seven long years hundreds of young US airmen flew sortie after sortie against North Vietnam's formidable and strategically important bridge, dodging a heavy concentration of anti-aircraft fire and enemy MiG planes. Many American airmen were shot down, killed, or captured and taken to the infamous "Hanoi Hilton" POW camp. But after each air attack, when the smoke cleared and the debris settled, the bridge

stubbornly remained standing. For the North Vietnamese it became a symbol of their invincibility; for US war planners an obsession; for US airmen a testament to American mettle and valor. Using after-action reports, official records, and interviews with surviving pilots, as well as untapped Vietnamese sources, *Dragon's Jaw* chronicles American efforts to destroy the bridge, strike by bloody strike, putting readers into the cockpits, under fire. The story of the *Dragon's Jaw* is a story rich in bravery, courage, audacity, and sometimes luck, sometimes tragedy. The "bridge" story of Vietnam is an epic tale of war against a determined foe.

*The Hunters* - James Salter 2012-08-21

Captain Cleve Connell has already made a name for himself among pilots when he arrives in Korea during the war there to fly the newly operational F-86 fighters against the Soviet MIGs. His goal, like that of every

fighter pilot, is to chalk up enough kills to become an ace. But things do not turn out as expected. Mission after mission proves fruitless, and Connell finds his ability and his stomach for combat questioned by his fellow airmen: the brash wing commander, Imil; Captain Robey, an ace whose record is suspect; and finally, Lieutenant Pell, a cocky young pilot with an uncanny amount of skill and luck. Disappointment and fear gradually erode Connell's faith in himself, and his dream of making ace seems to slip out of reach. Then suddenly, one dramatic mission above the Yalu River reveals the depth of his courage and honor. Originally published in 1956, *The Hunters* was James Salter's first novel. Based on his own experiences as a fighter pilot in the Korean War, it is a classic of wartime fiction. Now revised by the author and back in print on the sixty-fifth anniversary of the Air Force, the story of Cleve Connell's war flies straight into the

heart of men's rivalries and fears.  
*The Bridges at Toko-ri* - James Albert  
Michener 1960

*The Voice of Asia* - James A. Michener 1951

*TOPGUN'S TOP 10* - Guy M Snodgrass  
2020-09-15

Learn how to be a leader in your own life and career with expert advice from one of the Navy's elite TOPGUN instructors. During a twenty-year career in uniform, Guy Snodgrass became one of the most skilled fighter pilots in the U.S. Navy, commanding combat jets over some of the most dangerous war zones in the world -- and he did it all using the lessons he learned at the Navy's Fighter Weapons School (TOPGUN). The real-life inspiration for the blockbuster films *Top Gun* and *Top Gun: Maverick*, the U.S. Navy Fighter Weapons School trains the top one percent of our nation's fighter pilots.

Over the course of twelve weeks, these pilots are drilled on aerial tactics, combat, and skills required to win in any organization. Ordinary people are transformed into world-class leaders. Pilots, like Commander Snodgrass, who remain on staff as TOPGUN instructors, are held to even higher and more demanding standards. In TOPGUN's Top 10, Commander Snodgrass distills some of the most important lessons he's learned and taught over the course of his career into a taut, engaging book for readers of all ages and experience levels. It's the perfect gift for anyone looking to change careers, excel in the workplace, or find their way in the world after college graduation. Smart, practical, and direct, Snodgrass's account of real TOPGUN experience will inspire a new generation of leaders.

**The Bridges at Toko-Ri** - James A.  
Michener 2015-05-05

In one of his beloved early bestsellers, Pulitzer Prize-winning author James A. Michener crafts a tale of the American men who fought the Korean War, detailing their exploits in the air as well as their lives on the ground. Young and innocent, they arrive in a place they have barely ever heard of, on a ship massive enough to carry planes and helicopters. Trained as professionals, they prepare for the rituals of war that countless men before them have endured, and face the same fears. They are American fighter pilots. Together they face an enemy they do not understand, knowing their only hope for survival is to win. Praise for *The Bridges at Toko-Ri* “A vivid and moving story, as well as an exciting one . . . The humanity of the people is deeply felt.”—Chicago Tribune “The Banshees screaming over Korea, the perilous landings on an aircraft carrier deck ‘bouncing around like a derelict rowboat,’ a helicopter rescue

from the freezing waters . . . all are stirringly rendered.”—The Denver Post “Michener’s best . . . a story of action, ideas, and civilization’s responsibilities.”—Saturday Review

**The Fires of Spring** - James A. Michener  
2014-04-15

An intimate early novel from James A. Michener, now remembered as the beloved master of the historical epic, *The Fires of Spring* unfolds with the bittersweet drama of a boy’s perilous journey into manhood. David Harper is an orphan, seemingly doomed to loneliness and poverty. As an adolescent con artist and petty thief, David spends his days grifting at an amusement park, the place where he first learns about women and the mysteries of love. Soon he discovers that his longing to embrace the world is stronger than the harsh realities that constrain him. Featuring autobiographical touches from Michener’s

own life story, *The Fires of Spring* is more than a novel: It's a rich slice of American life, brimming with wisdom, longing, and compassion. BONUS: This edition includes an excerpt from James A. Michener's *Hawaii*. Praise for *The Fires of Spring* "A warm-hearted, readable story, crammed with lively incident and remarkable characters."—*The Atlantic* "Heartfelt . . . immensely readable . . . Michener is a born writer."—*The New York Times* "Michener is a gifted storyteller."—*Kirkus Reviews* "Brilliantly done."—*Library Journal*  
**Bridges at Toko-Ri** - James Albert Michener 1953

**The Hokusai Sketchbooks; Selections From the Manga** - Hokusai 1760-1849  
Katsushika 2021-09-09

This work has been selected by scholars as being culturally important and is part of the knowledge base of civilization as we know it.

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*Kundo Wakes Up* - Saad Z. Hossain  
2022-03-15

Saad Z. Hossain's *Kundo Wakes Up* is a companion to the *Ignyte* and *Locus* Award-



Nominated novella *The Gurkha and the Lord of Tuesday*. Hundreds of miles away from the techno-utopia of Kathmandu, the all-powerful, all-seeing AI known as Karma has gone silent, leaving the dying city of Chittagong—along with all its remaining residents—to continue its inexorable fall into the sea. Kundo, once a famous artist with the Karma points to prove it, goes searching for his missing wife, only to uncover more inexplicable disappearances. And so Kundo and a group of motley companions embark on a tumultuous journey through an overwhelming maze made up of Chittagong's neighborhoods, the hidden backrooms of video game parlors, and the depths of cyberspace, culminating in the realm of the djinn themselves, in search of love, redemption, and a good meal. At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

Rampant Raider - Stephen R Gray  
2013-05-11

A member of Light Attack Squadron 212 s "Rampant Raiders," A-4 pilot Stephen R. Gray writes about his experiences flying combat sorties from the deck of an aircraft carrier during one of the most intense periods of aerial combat in U.S. history. From the perspective of a junior naval aviator, Gray reveals the lessons he learned first at the Naval Aviation Training Command and then in actual combat flying the Skyhawk from USS Bon Homme Richard in Vietnam. Training strengthens commitment, Gray points out, allowing ordinary men like him to fly dangerous missions. Readers will discover how circumstances created heroes--heroes who managed to overcome their personal fears for a greater cause--and how, despite the lack of public support for the war, the men remained committed to one another. The

book addresses how men react to service during contentious political times to offer lessons relevant today.

**Sports in America** - James A. Michener  
2014-04-15

Originally published in 1976, James A. Michener's explosive, spectacular *Sports in America* is a prescient examination of the crisis in American sports that is still unfolding to this day. Pro basketball players are banned for narcotics use, while a Major League pitcher is arrested for smuggling drugs across the Mexican border. The NFL's "injury report" grows longer every Sunday. Corruption and recruiting violations plague collegiate sports as the "winning is everything" mentality trickles down to the Little League level. With his lifelong enthusiasm for sports in evidence, the incomparable Michener tackles this subject thoroughly and leaves us amazed and appalled by what we've learned, yet still

loving the games we grew up on. **BONUS:** This edition includes an excerpt from James A. Michener's *Hawaii*. Praise for *Sports in America* "A comprehensive, controversial examination of sports as a major force in American life."—Los Angeles Times "Michener's life was saved by sports twice. In return, he has issued a long, lovingly critical, prodigiously researched account of the passions and politics of America at organized play. Rich in anecdote, source material and his own shrewd commentary."—The New York Times Book Review "Like just about everything James Michener has produced, *Sports in America* is a thoughtful, well-written document that's thoroughly researched. . . . For anyone interested in how the ball bounces in the U.S. of A., the answers are all here."—The Wall Street Journal "Encyclopedic . . . amusing and sometimes alarming."—The Washington Post

**Alaska** - James A. Michener 2013-12-17

In this sweeping epic of the northernmost American frontier, James A. Michener guides us through Alaska's fierce terrain and history, from the long-forgotten past to the bustling present. As his characters struggle for survival, Michener weaves together the exciting high points of Alaska's story: its brutal origins; the American acquisition; the gold rush; the tremendous growth and exploitation of the salmon industry; the arduous construction of the Alcan Highway, undertaken to defend the territory during World War II. A spellbinding portrait of a human community fighting to establish its place in the world, Alaska traces a bold and majestic saga of the enduring spirit of a land and its people. BONUS: This edition includes an excerpt from James A. Michener's Hawaii. Praise for Alaska "Few will escape the allure of the land and people [Michener] describes. . . . Alaska takes the reader on a journey

through one of the bleakest, richest, most foreboding, and highly inviting territories in our Republic, if not the world. . . . The characters that Michener creates are bigger than life."—Los Angeles Times Book Review "Always the master of exhaustive historical research, Michener tracks the settling of Alaska [in] vividly detailed scenes and well-developed characters."—Boston Herald "Michener is still, sentence for sentence, writing's fastest attention grabber."—The New York Times

Sayonara - James A. Michener 2014-03-18

From a great master of historical fiction comes a brilliant tale of love amid war. James A. Michener combines powerful storytelling with deep sensitivity in this novel of a U.S. Army man who, against all odds, falls for a fascinating Japanese woman. Stationed in the exotic Far East, Major Lloyd Gruver considers himself lucky. The son of a general, dating the daughter of

another powerful military family, he can look forward to a bright future. And he just can't understand guys like Private Joe Kelly, who throw away their lives in the States by marrying local girls. But then Lloyd meets Hana-ogi. After that, nothing matters anymore . . . nothing but her. BONUS: This edition includes an excerpt from James A. Michener's Hawaii. Praise for James A. Michener "A master storyteller . . . Michener, by any standards, is a phenomenon."—The Wall Street Journal "Sentence for sentence, writing's fastest attention grabber."—The New York Times "Michener has become an institution in America, ranking somewhere between Disneyland and the Library of Congress. You learn a lot from him."—Chicago Tribune "While he fascinates and engrosses, Michener also educates."—Los Angeles Times

The Source - James Albert Michener 1976

Matecumbe - James A Michener 2007-09-09  
Pulitzer Prize-winning author James A. Michener was in his sixties when he began traveling frequently to the Florida Keys. One result of those visits was the novel Matecumbe, named after two of the islands that comprise the town of Islamorada, located approximately half way between Miami and Key West. Never before published, Matecumbe features many of the hallmarks of Michener's best work, including detailed descriptions of place. However, the plot is much more intimate than that found in most of his large-scale, epic historical novels. Focusing on the parallel lives of a woman and her mother, both divorced, Michener spent his creative energy on character development and allegorical storytelling. Random House, his publisher, wasn't pleased, and wanted the mega-best-selling author to concentrate on producing "heavyweight" books like Hawaii and

Centennial. Matecumbe seemed too much in the vein of his earlier romance novel, *Sayonara*. So it sat in a drawer until, eventually, Michener gifted it—including the copyright—to Joe Avenick, his friend and former ghostwriter. Avenick played a key role in the research and writing of *Sports in America* and *Chesapeake*, and introduced Michener to Melissa (Missy) DeMaio, who soon became the primary reason for Michener's increasingly frequent visits to the Keys. Biographers and critics have long agreed that Michener's personality and his characters were both affected by his relationship with DeMaio. As perhaps his most encompassing autobiographical novel, and the one written in the midst of these changes, *Matecumbe* provides what may be tantalizing glimpses into Michener's life.

[When Hollywood Ruled the Skies](#) - Bruce W. Orriss 1986-01-01

Looks at American aviation films made

before, during, and after World War II, and provides cast, credits, and plot summary for each film

**Hawaii** - James A. Michener 2013-11-26  
Pulitzer Prize-winning author James A. Michener brings Hawaii's epic history vividly to life in a classic saga that has captivated readers since its initial publication in 1959. As the volcanic Hawaiian Islands sprout from the ocean floor, the land remains untouched for centuries—until, little more than a thousand years ago, Polynesian seafarers make the perilous journey across the Pacific, flourishing in this tropical paradise according to their ancient traditions. Then, in the early nineteenth century, American missionaries arrive, bringing with them a new creed and a new way of life. Based on exhaustive research and told in Michener's immersive prose, *Hawaii* is the story of disparate peoples struggling to keep their identity, live in harmony, and, ultimately,

join together. BONUS: This edition includes an excerpt from James A. Michener's Centennial. Praise for Hawaii "Wonderful . . . [a] mammoth epic of the islands."—The Baltimore Sun "One novel you must not miss! A tremendous work from every point of view—thrilling, exciting, lusty, vivid, stupendous."—Chicago Tribune "From Michener's devotion to the islands, he has written a monumental chronicle of Hawaii, an extraordinary and fascinating novel."—Saturday Review "Memorable . . . a superb biography of a people."—Houston Chronicle

Caribbean - James A. Michener 2014-02-18  
In this acclaimed classic novel, James A. Michener sweeps readers off to the Caribbean, bringing to life the eternal allure and tumultuous history of this glittering string of islands. From the 1310 conquest of the Arawaks by cannibals to the decline of the Mayan empire, from Columbus's arrival

to buccaneer Henry Morgan's notorious reign, from the bloody slave revolt on Haiti to the rise of Cuba's Fidel Castro, Caribbean packs seven hundred dramatic years into a tale teeming with revolution and romance, authentic characters and thunderous destinies. Through absorbing, magnificent prose, Michener captures the essence of the islands in all of their awe-inspiring scope and wonder. BONUS: This edition includes an excerpt from James A. Michener's Hawaii. Praise for Caribbean "Michener is a master."—Boston Herald "A grand epic . . . [James A. Michener] sympathizes with the struggles of the region's most oppressed, and succeeds in presenting the Caribbean in its rich diversity."—The Plain Dealer "Remarkable and praiseworthy . . . utterly engaging."—The Washington Post Book World "Even American tourists familiar with some of the serene islands will find themselves enlightened. . . . In Caribbean,

there appears to be a strong aura of truth behind the storytelling.”—The New York Times

**Ratting on Russo** - Alan Venable 2013-06

Of all the fabulous beings that have emerged from Western Pennsylvania soil, none may be less so than Martin Badger. But whose 1950s coming of age was harder than Marty's? Whose bodily parts more rebellious? Whose peers more annoying? Whose music more out of touch? Whose sense of beauty more perplexed? Whose soul more at war? Misdeeds more regrettable? Passions more fumbling? And then came Russo. Fiction, humor, coming of age.

Such Men as These - David Sears  
2010-05-11

In 1951, James Michener went to Korea to report on a little known aspect of America's stalemated war: navy aviators. His research inspired novel about these pilots became an

overnight bestseller and, perhaps, the most widely read book ever written about aerial combat. Using Michener's notes, author David Sears tracked down the actual pilots to tell their riveting, true-life stories. From the icy, windswept decks of aircraft carriers, they penetrated treacherous mountain terrain to strike heavily defended dams, bridges, and tunnels, where well entrenched Communist anti-aircraft gunners waited to shoot them down. Many of these men became air combat legends, and one, Neil Armstrong, the first astronaut to walk on the moon. Such Men As These brims with action-packed accounts of combat and unforgettable portraits of the pilots whose skill and sacrifice made epic history.

**The Bridge at Andau** - James A. Michener  
2015-06-09

The Bridge at Andau is James A. Michener at his most gripping. His classic nonfiction account of a doomed uprising is as searing

and unforgettable as any of his bestselling novels. For five brief, glorious days in the autumn of 1956, the Hungarian revolution gave its people a glimpse at a different kind of future—until, at four o'clock in the morning on a Sunday in November, the citizens of Budapest awoke to the shattering sound of Russian tanks ravaging their streets. The revolution was over. But freedom beckoned in the form of a small footbridge at Andau, on the Austrian border. By an accident of history it became, for a few harrowing weeks, one of the most important crossings in the world, as the soul of a nation fled across its unsteady planks. Praise for *The Bridge at Andau* “Precise, vivid . . . immeasurably stirring.”—*The Atlantic Monthly* “Dramatic, chilling, engaging.”—*San Francisco Chronicle* “Superb.”—*Kirkus Reviews* “Highly recommended reading.”—*Library Journal*  
*Afterwar* - Nancy Sherman 2015

Drawing on in-depth interviews with service women and men, Nancy Sherman weaves narrative with a philosophical and psychological analysis of the moral and emotional attitudes at the heart of the aftermath. *Afterwar* offers no easy answers for reintegration. It insists that we widen the scope of veteran outreach to engaged, one-on-one relationships with veterans.  
*The Bridges at Toko-Ri* - 1950

***Adventures in Two Worlds*** - A. J. Cronin  
2013-08-15

*Adventures in Two Worlds* – an autobiographical novel by A J Cronin, creator of television’s Dr Finlay and author of *The Citadel* and many other bestsellers. A master storyteller, A J Cronin presents possibly his most fascinating tale. Taking material directly from his own life, he tells of the early struggles of a poor medical student in Scotland, the cruel crushing of all



hopes of becoming a surgeon, the years as a ship's doctor and, later, life in the country practice that was the real Tannochbrae. There are many strange twists and turns – not the least of them the dramatic move from the world of medicine into that of literature when a novel 'written despairingly on twopenny exercise books, thrown out and rescued from the rubbish heap' was accepted by a publisher. And with Hatter's Castle a new career was born.

*First Man* - James R. Hansen 2012-11-27

On July 20, 1969, the world stood still to watch American astronaut Neil A. Armstrong become the first person ever to step on the surface of another heavenly body. Upon his return to Earth, Armstrong was celebrated for his monumental achievement. He was also--as NASA historian Hansen reveals in this authorized biography--misunderstood. Armstrong's accomplishments as an engineer, a test pilot, and an astronaut have

long been a matter of record, but Hansen's access to private documents and unpublished sources and his interviews with more than 125 subjects (including more than fifty hours with Armstrong himself) yield the first in-depth analysis of this elusive, reluctant hero.

Caravans - James A. Michener 2014-02-18  
First published in 1963, James A. Michener's gripping chronicle of the social and political landscape of Afghanistan is more relevant now than ever. Combining fact with riveting adventure and intrigue, Michener follows a military man tasked, in the years after World War II, with a dangerous assignment: finding and returning a young American woman living in Afghanistan to her distraught family after she suddenly and mysteriously disappears. A timeless tale of love and emotional drama set against the backdrop of one of the most important countries in the world today, Caravans

captures the tension of the postwar period, the sweep of Afghanistan's remarkable history, and the inescapable allure of the past. **BONUS:** This edition includes an excerpt from James A. Michener's *Hawaii*. Praise for *Caravans* "Brilliant . . . an extraordinary novel . . . The old nomadic trails across the mountains spring into existence."—*The New York Times* "Romantic and adventurous . . . [Michener] has a wonderful empathy for the wild and free and an understanding of the reasons behind the kind of cruelty that goes with it."—*Newsday* "Michener has done for Afghanistan what . . . his first [book] did for the South Pacific."—*The New York Herald Tribune*

*Space* - James Albert Michener 1983

*Space*. It is the object of dreams and daring of countless men and women who have made it the last, great frontier of human endeavor. James Michener has brought the human touch to that exciting exploration by

bringing to life six men and women. Their dedication to the space experience defines its complexities and fascination as no other writer can.

**Memento Mori** - Charles Coe 2019

*Memento Mori* is a meditation on mortality, change and loss, by turns somber, thoughtful and humorous.

[Blockbuster](#) - Tom Shone 2004-12-07

It's a typical summer Friday night and the smell of popcorn is in the air. Throngs of fans jam into air-conditioned multiplexes to escape for two hours in the dark, blissfully lost in Hollywood's latest glittery confection complete with megawatt celebrities, awesome special effects, and enormous marketing budgets. The world is in love with the blockbuster movie, and these cinematic behemoths have risen to dominate the film industry, breaking box office records every weekend. With the passion and wit of a true movie buff and the insight of an

internationally renowned critic, Tom Shone is the first to make sense of this phenomenon by taking readers through the decades that have shaped the modern blockbuster and forever transformed the face of Hollywood. The moment the shark fin broke the water in 1975, a new monster was born. Fast, visceral, and devouring all in its path, the blockbuster had arrived. In just a few weeks *Jaws* earned more than \$100 million in ticket sales, an unprecedented feat that heralded a new era in film. Soon, blockbuster auteurs such as Steven Spielberg, George Lucas, and James Cameron would revive the flagging fortunes of the studios and lure audiences back into theaters with the promise of thrills, plenty of action, and an escape from art house pretension. But somewhere along the line, the beast they awakened took on a life of its own, and by the 1990s production budgets had escalated as quickly as profits.

Hollywood entered a topsy-turvy world ruled by marketing and merchandising mavens, in which flops like *Godzilla* made money and hits had to break records just to break even. The blockbuster changed from a major event that took place a few times a year into something that audiences have come to expect weekly, piling into the backs of one another in an annual demolition derby that has left even Hollywood aghast. Tom Shone has interviewed all the key participants -- from cinematic visionaries like Spielberg and Lucas and the executives who greenlight these spectacles down to the effects wizards who detonated the *Death Star* and blew up the White House -- in order to reveal the ways in which blockbusters have transformed how Hollywood makes movies and how we watch them. As entertaining as the films it chronicles, *Blockbuster* is a must-read for any fan who delights in the magic of the movies.

Where Do We Find Such Men? - Robert N. Going 2013-05

The general who supplies the American forces in Europe, the private who leads a company of POWs to freedom, the spunky heiress who becomes a spy, the dimple-chinned ensign who becomes a movie star, the doctor who sees through Rudolph Hess, the soccer team heard round the world, the airplane mechanic at Hickam Field, the National Guard boys who become men on Saipan, the grocer's son in the first wave on Omaha Beach, the Navy flier who opens the air field on Guadalcanal, the circus act that produces seven fighting men from the same family; all these and more do their part to win World War II, and all spring from the same hero-producing environs of Amsterdam, New York. It's time we said thank you. This book will make sure they are never forgotten.

*Thinking And Destiny* - Harold W. Percival

2002-04

In *Thinking and Destiny*, something new, although older than time, is now made known to the world--about Consciousness. The information is largely about the makeup of the human, where man comes from, what becomes of him; it explains what thinking is; it tells how a thought is created, and how thoughts are exteriorized into acts, objects and events, and how they make his destiny. Destiny is thus shown to be self-determined by thinking; and the process of re-existence and the after-death states are told in detail. A single reading of any one chapter of *Thinking and Destiny* brings rich rewards in new understanding of life's puzzling mysteries. To read the entire book is to come nearer to knowledge of one's destiny and how to shape it than is possible through study of anything previously written in the English language. Both the casually curious glancer at books and the most avid seeker

for knowledge will be intrigued by the index, which lists more than 400 subjects in *Thinking and Destiny*, and by the fifteen chapter headings in the Table of Contents, which identify the 156 sections. The Foreword contains the only pages in which Mr. Percival uses the first personal pronoun. Here he relates some of the amazing experiences through which he was able to grasp the knowledge he transmits, and to acquire the ability to do so.

[Korean War Aces](#) - Robert F Dorr 2013-01-20

The first virtually all-jet war, the conflict in Korea saw F-86 Sabres of the USAF take on MiG-15s of the North Korean and Chinese air forces. Although the Allied pilots were initially taken aback by the ability of the communist fighter in combat, sound training and skilful leadership soon enabled Sabre pilots to dominate the dogfights over the Yalu River. In all 39 F-86 pilots achieved ace status, and a number of these are profiled in

this volume, as are notable pilots from the US Navy, Marine Corps and Royal Navy and, for the first time, the handful of MiG-15 aces.

*AD Skyraider Units of the Korean War* - Rick Burgess 2016-02-25

The Douglas AD Skyraider is considered the most effective naval aircraft of the Korean War despite the emergence of new jet fighters that captured public imagination. Built to replace the World War 2 workhorses like the Dauntless, Helldiver and Avenger dive and torpedo-bombers, the Skyraider operated numerous combat missions from carrier decks and from US Marine Corps land bases throughout the conflict. Drawing from personal interviews with AD pilots, the authors paint a harrowing picture of the deadly combat of this often forgotten air war as pilots took on Chinese and North Korean forces during daring night attacks and whilst outnumbered in daytime attacks.

**Return to Paradise** - James A. Michener  
2014-03-18

James A. Michener, the master of historical fiction, revisits the scenes of his first great work, *Tales of the South Pacific*, the Pulitzer Prize winner that brought him international acclaim. In this sequel collection, Michener once again evokes the magic of the extraordinary isles in the Pacific—from Fiji and Gaudalcanal to New Zealand and Papua New Guinea—through stories that burst with adventure, charm, and local color. For Michener’s many fans around the globe, *Return to Paradise* is a precious second look at a land of enchantment by one of the most gifted storytellers of the twentieth century. **BONUS:** This edition includes an excerpt from James A. Michener's *Hawaii*. Praise for *Return to Paradise* “A brilliant book and a worthy successor to *Tales of the South Pacific*.”—*The Atlanta Constitution* “This is a book that should be read by everyone. . . .

All who have seen the South Pacific will find on every page the odors of frangipani, copra, blood, and beer.”—*The New York Times* “There’s drama and pathos and adventure and humanity . . . and a very high degree of excellence. Michener can write.”—*Kirkus Reviews*

[Charles McGraw](#) - Alan K. Rode 2012-08-30  
The iconic actor Charles McGraw appeared in over 140 roles on films and television, including the classic noir pictures *The Killers* (1946) and *The Narrow Margin* (1952). Whether portraying tough cops or sadistic killers, McGraw brought a unique authenticity to the screen. Emphasizing his impact on the film noir style, this comprehensive biography examines McGraw's lengthy career against the backdrop of a changing Hollywood. Through numerous personal interviews with his surviving intimates, close acquaintances and co-workers, his tumultuous personal life

is detailed from his earliest days to his  
bizarre, accidental death. Also included are  
an extensive critical filmography of

McGraw's feature film career, a complete list  
of television appearances and previously  
unpublished film stills and personal photos.