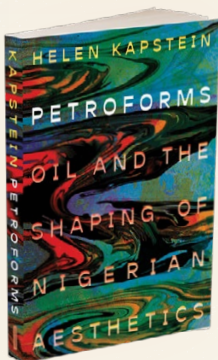


WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY PRESS

NEW BOOKS — FALL 2025





Petroforms

Oil and the Shaping of Nigerian Aesthetics

Helen Kapstein New York, NY

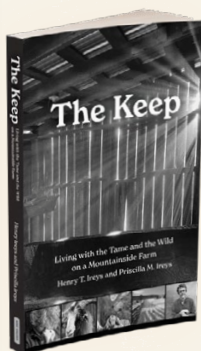
Petroforms introduces a new set of genre-bending forms in response to the forceful and fluid demands of the petroleum industry and its master narrative.

“Responding to the sense that oil encounters are difficult to capture in literature, *Petroforms* demonstrates how literary, filmic, sculptural, and pop-cultural forms from Nigeria stretch and change to represent oil.”—B. Jamieson Stanley, associate professor of English at University of Delaware

Energy and Society Series

November 2025 · 200pp · 6×9 in · PB 978-1-959000-56-3 · \$23.99

eBook 978-1-959000-57-0 · \$23.99sp · 15 images



The Keep

Living with the Tame and the Wild on a Mountainside Farm

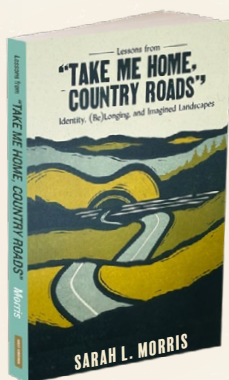
Henry T. Ireys and Priscilla M. Ireys Paw Paw, WV

When a mid-life couple finds an old farm that promises refuge from hectic lives and encroaching illness, their world opens up to unexpected adventures.

“*The Keep* is honest and compelling storytelling told through the contrasting and complementarity of Priscilla’s and Henry’s individual voices. Neither shies away from complexities and challenges of raising goats and hogs.”—Arwen Donahue, author of *Landings: A Crooked Creek Farm Year*

October 2025 · 248pp · 5.5×8.25in · PB 978-1-959000-52-5 · \$22.99

eBook 978-1-959000-53-2 · \$22.99 · 8 images



Lessons from “Take Me Home, Country Roads”

Identity, (Be)Longing, and Imagined Landscapes

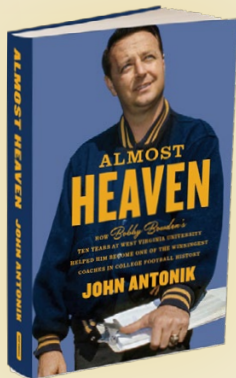
Sarah L. Morris Morgantown, WV

Morris explores “Take Me Home, Country Roads” in various contexts such as it pertains to West Virginia geography and heritage and the diversity of these beliefs.

“This brilliant, heartfelt work belongs on the bookshelf of anyone interested in regional West Virginia and Appalachian studies.”—Amanda E. Hayes, author of *The Politics of Appalachian Rhetoric* and *The Madison Women*

October 2025 · 260pp · 5×8in · PB 978-1-959000-54-9 · \$23.99sp

eBook 978-1-959000-55-6 · \$23.99 · 12 images



Almost Heaven

How Bobby Bowden's Ten Years at West Virginia University Helped Him Become One of the Winningest Coaches in College Football History

John Antonik Morgantown, WV

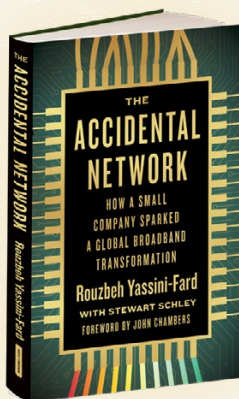
How WVU forged Bobby Bowden into one of the greatest NCAA coaches ever.

Before assembling 40 winning campaigns as head coach of the Florida State Seminoles, Bobby Bowden served as head coach of the West Virginia University Mountaineers for six seasons. Although he logged five winning seasons in Morgantown and had an overall record of 42–26, Bowden's tenure was contentious, and embarrassing losses to archrivals like Pitt earned him the hostility of many fans.

Set against the backdrop of a changing NCAA and the social politics of the era, sports journalist John Antonik covers Bowden's entire WVU tenure from 1966–75. He employs an impressive array of primary sources, from newspaper articles and WVU recruiting documents to an extensive collection of interviews with former players, assistants, staffers, sports reporters, and Bowden himself. *Almost Heaven* shows how Bowden's time coaching the Mountaineers was very much one of growth and development paving the way to the unchallenged dominance he would go on to display with Florida State.

September 2025 · 240pp · 6 x 9in · HC with jacket 978-1-959000-64-8 · \$34.99

eBook 978-1-959000-65-5 · \$34.99 · 32 images, 1 table



The Accidental Network

How a Small Company Sparked a Global Broadband Transformation

Rouzbeh Yassini-Fard with Stewart Schley Boston, MA, and Denver, CO
Foreword by John Chambers

How the cable modem jumpstarted the modern revolution in broadband internet access over a ubiquitous, existing cable television infrastructure.

"How would our lives change," wondered entrepreneur Rouzbeh Yassini-Fard in 1987, "if everyday people had a stable, high-speed data connection to the Internet?" While he wasn't the first to imagine a world of digital connectivity, Yassini-Fard was in the vanguard by creating the cable modem, which transformed residential Internet access from its slow, frustrating dial-up origins to a fast, always-on, and extraordinary connectivity tool by harnessing the existing infrastructure of the residential cable network.

"A good telling of the story of the invention of the cable modem."

—Peter Jones is distinguished engineer emerita at Cisco and an active member of IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers)

September 2025 · 210pp · 6 x 9in · HC with jacket 978-1-959000-60-0 · \$32.99

eBook 978-1-959000-61-7 · \$32.99



Epic and Lovely

A Novel

Mo Daviau Portland, OR

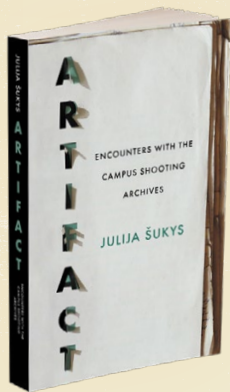
A disabled woman's deathbed letter to the adoptive mother of her unexpected child recounting the precarious events of the last year of her life.

Epic and Lovely is the swan song of Nina Simone Blaine, the daughter of a long-dead 1950s Vegas crooner and a Texas beauty queen forty years his junior. In the wake of her unexpected divorce, Nina returns to her hometown of Los Angeles to spend her final days with The Friends of the Good Thumb, a support group for patients with A12 Fibrillin Deficiency Syndrome, a genetic disorder that affects children of much-older fathers that leaves them with several physical deformities and an expiration date around the age of forty.

"Daviau is such a talented prose writer. Uproariously funny, singeing, authoritative. This is a skillful, sophisticated author writing with a scalpel on every line, willing to go to wild places. This story is a romp. Somehow we're in the territory of farce, of *Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine*, and of *Eyes Wide Shut*, all at the same time."

— Courtney Sender, author of *In Other Lifetimes All I've Lost Comes Back to Me: Stories*

September 2025 · 272pp · 5.5×8.25in · PB 978-1-959000-62-4 · \$19.99
eBook 978-1-959000-63-1 · \$19.99



Artifact

Encounters with the Campus Shooting Archives

Julija Šukys Austin, TX

Each college campus shooting leaves an archival record. Julija Šukys examines the documentation—court transcripts, police reports, institutional reports, and monuments to the dead—and confronts what it means to live in a place where students and their teachers get gunned down on a regular basis.

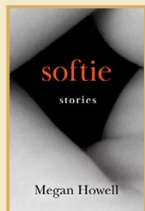
With *Artifact*, Julija Šukys asks how we can continue to learn, teach, and live when nothing changes in response to these deaths. It attempts to speak into silence, to look at the pain of those who have come through trauma, and to meet their gazes without platitudes or triumphalism. The result is a searching book about care, memory, forgiveness, and survival.

"Šukys recognizes our tendency to avoid hard truths. This book argues that we should stay with hard truths, laying open the archives of our hidings."

—Nicole Walker, author of *Sustainability: A Love Story*

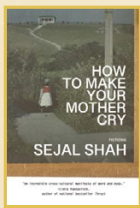
October 2025 · 188 pp · 5×8in · PB 978-1-959000-58-7 · \$18.99
eBook 978-1-959000-59-4 · \$18.99

Recent Awards and Accolades



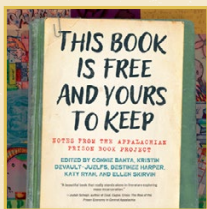
Softie: Stories (Fall 2024), Megan Howell's debut collection of short stories, has been selected by the National Book Foundation for its influential 5 *Under 35* honor. Howell will receive her award at the National Book Awards event in New York City in early June.

Softie is also one of nine titles long-listed for the 2025 PEN / Robert W. Bingham Prize for Debut Short Story Collection. Finalists will be announced in May.



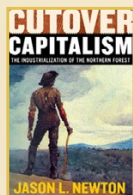
How to Make Your Mother Cry: Fictions (Spring 2024) by Sejal Shah has been long-listed for the 2024 Story Prize, which is awarded to the author of the short story collection named best of the year by three independent judges. Shah's book was one of sixteen titles nominated. *How to Make*

Your Mother Cry is also a finalist for the 2024 Foreword INDIES Multicultural Adult Fiction category.



This Book Is Free and Yours to Keep (Fall 2024) has received the 2025 Weatherford Award for Nonfiction from the Appalachian Studies Association, where it was recognized from a field of twenty-one books.

Co-editor Katy Ryan accepted the award for the group at this spring's ASA meeting in Cookeville, TN.



Jason L. Newton's *Cutover Capitalism* (Fall 2024) has been named runner-up for the George Perkins Marsh Book Prize awarded by the American Society for Environmental Historians.

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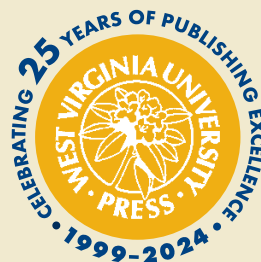
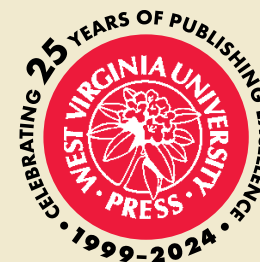
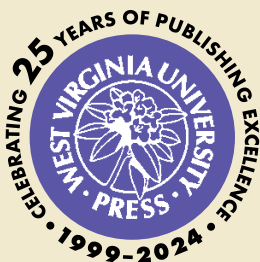
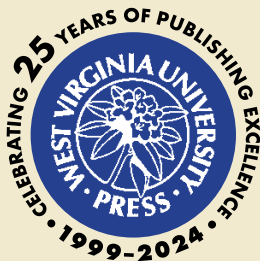
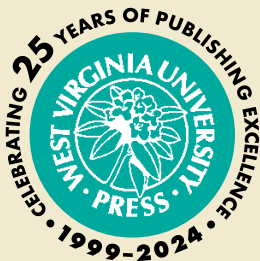
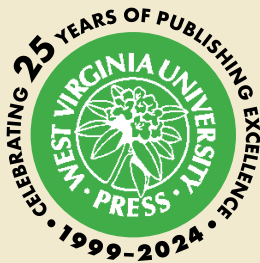
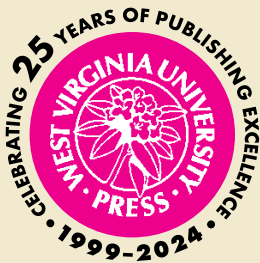
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