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# A Soprano On Her Head

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## **A Soprano on Her Head**

### **Right-side-up Reflections on Life and Other Performances**

Eloise Ristad deals here with complex problems which torment and cripple so

many of our most creative and talented people, and she does so with compassion, wisdom, and wit. The problem of stage fright, for instance, is a suffering of epidemic proportions in our society, and involves modalities of thought and projections that rob spontaneity and enthusiasm in artistic performance. Those interested in creative education have long felt that an entirely new, holistic and nurturing process of allowing individuals to discover and express themselves is needed if our educational system is to avoid the neuroses and creative blocks of the past generation. This book illuminates through its conversational style the destructive inhibitions, fears, and guilt experienced by all of us as we fail to break through to creativity. This

story is told to me day after day in conservatories and college campuses around the world. Indeed I felt at times that she was telling of my own most petty and debilitating fears. But what is important, *A Soprano on Her Head* supplies answers and methods for overcoming these universal psychological blocks--methods that have not only been proven in her own studio, but which trace back through history to the oldest and wisest systems of understanding the integration of mind and body. The work bears scrutiny both scientifically and holistically. - Foreword.

### **A soprano on her head**

**Right-side-up reflections on life and other performances Meet the**

**Soprano. The Book of Judges. Shall We Dance? Inner Clowns. "Sure, I Had Lessons". Someone Bumped the Checkerboard. Journey With a View. None of the Old Words Seem to Work. Meadowlarks, Minds, Muscles, and Music. Drink Your Milk, Don't Drink Your Milk. Maybe I Should Just Keep Bees! Maybe I Like My Problems. Clammy Hands and Shaky Knees. "So You Were a Flop!" "Who Me? Did I Play That?". Soprano on Her Feet**

### **Can't Help Singing**

**The Life of Eileen Farrell** *UPNE*

The long-anticipated memoir of one of the greatest and most celebrated American singers of the twentieth

century

## **Imperfect Harmony**

### **Finding Happiness Singing with Others** *Algonquin Books*

“In this one-of-a-kind celebration of singing with others, I’d call her pitch nearly perfect.”—The Atlantic For Stacy Horn, regardless of what is going on in the world or her life, singing in an amateur choir—the Choral Society of Grace Church in New York—never fails to take her to a place where hope reigns and everything good is possible. She’s not particularly religious, and her voice is not exceptional (so she says), but like the 32.5 million other chorus members throughout this country, singing makes her happy. Horn brings us along as she

sings some of the greatest music humanity has ever produced, delves into the dramatic stories of conductors and composers, unearths the fascinating history of group singing, and explores remarkable discoveries from the new science of singing, including all the unexpected health benefits. *Imperfect Harmony* is the story of one woman who has found joy and strength in the weekly ritual of singing and in the irresistible power of song.

## **The Perfect Wrong Note**

### **Learning to Trust Your Musical Self** *Amadeus Press*

(Amadeus). In this groundbreaking book, prize-winning pianist and noted educator William Westney helps readers discover

their own path to the natural, transcendent fulfillment of making music. Drawing on experience, psychological insight, and wisdom ancient and modern, Westney shows how to trust yourself and set your own musicality free. He offers healthy alternatives for lifelong learning and suggests significant change in the way music is taught. For example, playing a wrong note can be constructive, useful, even enlightening. The creator of the acclaimed Un-Master Class workshop also explores the special potential of group work, outlining the basics of his revelatory workshop that has transformed the music experience for participants the world over. Practicing, in Westney's view, is a lively, honest, adventurous, and spiritually rewarding

enterprise, and it can (and should) meet with daily success, which empowers us to grow even more. Teachers, professionals, and students of any instrument will benefit from this unique guide, which brings artistic vitality, freedom, and confidence within everyone's reach.

**You Cannoli Die Once** *Simon and Schuster*

In this entertaining and delightful mystery, an Italian chef and her cousins start their own investigation to clear their grandmother's name after she's arrested for murder. At Miracolo Northern Italian restaurant, one can savor brilliantly seasoned veal saltimbocca, or luscious risotto alla milanese, but no cannoli. Never cannoli.

Maria Pia Angelotta, the spirited seventy-six-year-old owner of the Philadelphia-area eatery that's been in her family for four generations, has butted heads with her head chef over the cannoli ban more than once. And when the head chef is your own granddaughter, things can get a little heated. Fortunately, Eve Angelotta knows how to handle what her nonna dishes out. But when Maria Pia's boyfriend is found dead in Miracolo's kitchen, bludgeoned by a marble mortar, the question arises: Can a woman this fiery and stubborn over cream-filled pastry be capable of murder? The police seem to think so, and they put the elder Angelotta behind bars, while Eve, sexy neighborhood attorney Joe Beck, and the entire Miracolo family—parenti di sangue and otherwise—try every trick in

the cookbook to unravel a tangle of lies and expose a killer.

### **The Inner Game of Music** *Doubleday*

Suggests techniques for overcoming self-consciousness and improving musical performances, shares a variety of exercises, and includes advice on improving one's listening skills

### **The Sopranos Sessions** *Abrams*

On January 10, 1999, a mobster walked into a psychiatrist's office and changed TV history. By shattering preconceptions about the kinds of stories the medium should tell, *The Sopranos* launched our current age of prestige television, paving the way for such giants as *Mad Men*, *The Wire*, *Breaking Bad*, and *Game of Thrones*. As TV critics for Tony Soprano's

hometown paper, New Jersey's The Star-Ledger, Alan Sepinwall and Matt Zoller Seitz were among the first to write about the series before it became a cultural phenomenon. To celebrate the 20th anniversary of the show's debut, Sepinwall and Seitz have reunited to produce *The Sopranos Sessions*, a collection of recaps, conversations, and critical essays covering every episode. Featuring a series of new long-form interviews with series creator David Chase, as well as selections from the authors' archival writing on the series, *The Sopranos Sessions* explores the show's artistry, themes, and legacy, examining its portrayal of Italian Americans, its graphic depictions of violence, and its deep connections to other cinematic and television classics.

**People Like Us** *Penguin*

"When a girl is found dead at her elite boarding school, soccer-star Kay Donovan follows a scavenger hunt which implicates suspects increasingly close to her, unraveling her group of popular friends and perfectly constructed life"--

**The Daughters: A Novel** *W. W. Norton & Company*

Winner of the 2015 PEN Southwest Book Award "Endlessly powerful. . . . Here is one you should not miss, a gratifying feast in lush, lyrical, and full-throated form."—NPR.org Lulu can't sing. Since the traumatic birth of her daughter, the internationally renowned soprano hasn't dared utter a note. She's afraid that her body is too fragile and that she may have lost her talent to a long-dreaded

curse afflicting all of the mothers in her family. When Lulu was a child, her strong-willed grandmother Ada filled her head with fables of the family's enchanted history in the Polish countryside. A fantastical lore took hold—an incantatory mix of young love, desperate hope, and one sinister bargain that altered the family's history forever. Since that fateful pact, Ada tells Lulu, each mother in their family has been given a daughter, but each daughter has exacted an essential cost from her mother. Ada was the first to recognize young Lulu's transcendent talent, spotting it early on in their cramped Chicago apartment, then watching her granddaughter ascend to dizzying heights in packed international concert halls. But as the curse predicted, Lulu's

mother, a sultry and elusive jazz singer, disappeared into her bitterness in the face of Lulu's superior talent—before disappearing from her family's life altogether. Now, in the early days of her own daughter's life, Lulu now finds herself weighing her overwhelming love for her child against the burden of her family's past. In incandescent prose, debut novelist Adrienne Celt skillfully intertwines the sensuous but precise physicality of both motherhood and music. She infuses *The Daughters* with the spirit of the *rusalka*, a bewitching figure of Polish mythology that inspired Dvořák's classic opera. The result is a tapestry of secrets, affairs, and unimaginable sacrifices, revealing a family legacy laced with brilliance, tragedy, and most mysterious and



seductive of all—the resonant ancestral lore that binds each mother to the one that came before.

**Stand Up Straight and Sing!**

*Houghton Mifflin Harcourt*

The opera star describes her childhood in the segregated South, the values that shaped her ambitions, her meteoric rise at the Berlin Opera, and the accomplishments that have established her as one of America's most decorated singers.

**Damage Done** *Random House Books for Young Readers*

"In the vein of E. Lockhart's *We Were Liars* and Gillian Flynn's *Gone Girl*, Panitch's novel delivers a heart-pounding, emotionally charged story." --

SLJ 22 minutes separate Julia Vann's before and after. Before: Julia had a twin brother, a boyfriend, and a best friend. After: She has a new identity, a new hometown, and memories of those twenty-two minutes that refuse to come into focus. At least, that's what she tells the police. Now that she's Lucy Black, she's able to begin again. And her fresh start has attracted the attention of one of the hottest guys in school, a boy who will do anything to protect her. But when someone much more dangerous also takes notice, Lucy's forced to confront the dark secrets she thought were safely left behind. One thing is clear: The damage done can never be erased. It's only just beginning. . . . In this deliciously twisted contemporary thriller, family can be a real killer. For fans of *We Were Liars*

and readers who love unique multiple perspectives that leave clues like breadcrumbs until they reach the stunning conclusion. "The closest we're going to get to a YA *Gone Girl*. . . . I was shocked and delightfully appalled by the twist and what followed. (Just read it; it's disturbingly wonderful, especially for YA.)" --Entertainment Weekly "Teen fans of Gillian Flynn and James Patterson will embrace *Damage Done* and clamor for more." --Booklist "Exceedingly clever and surprisingly unsettling, *Damage Done* is an unforgettable read." --Melissa Marr, New York Times bestselling author of *Made for You* "In her incredible debut novel, Amanda Panitch leaves you on the edge of your seat. Prepare to be stunned. Prepare to be torn apart." --Roxane Gay, New York Times bestselling

author of *Bad Feminist* "A real page-turner. . . . Nothing can prepare readers for its bombshell ending." --New York Daily News "A brilliant thriller. Gillian Flynn for the YA set." --Amy Christine Parker, author of *Gated* "If you're a fan of shows like *Pretty Little Liars* or *Revenge*, give this book a try." --Bustle.com

**My Head Is Full of Colors** *Hyperion Press*

Each morning when Maria wakes up, she finds her hair is full of colors, books, animals, or people.

**The Soprano Sorceress**

**The First Book of the Spellsong Cycle** *Tor Books*

The Soprano Sorceress, the first novel in New York Times bestselling author L. E. Modesitt, Jr.'s epic fantasy series the Spellsong Cycle about a singer and music instructor at Iowa State University who gets far more than she expected when she is magically transported to the world of Erde. On Erde, Anna Marshall is no longer just a professional singer. In this world, song is magic, making Anna a sorceress, potentially the strongest in Erde. Here, a wrong note can mean death to a sorcerer, but Anna's lifetime of training means she can sing more powerfully and precisely than anyone else. Her power does not go unnoticed and makes her a target. To survive, Anna must learn enough song-magic and understand this new world. The Spellsong Cycle The Soprano Sorceress

The Spellsong War Darksong Rising The Shadow Sorceress Shadowsinger Other series by this author: The Imager Portfolio The Saga of Recluce The Corean Chronicles The Ghost Books The Ecolitan Matter At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

**Facing the Sun** *Simon and Schuster*

The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants meets The Education of Margot Sanchez in this Caribbean-set story about four friends who experience unexpected changes in their lives during the summer when a hotel developer purchases their community's beloved beach. Change is coming to Pinder Street... Eve is the rock in her family of seven, the one they always depend on. But when her dad is

diagnosed with cancer, she wants nothing more than to trade her worries for some red lipstick and a carefree night. Faith is the dancer all the boys want, but she only has eyes for the one she can't have. Only thing is, all the flirting in the world can't distract her from her broken home life...or the secrets that she hides. KeeKee is the poet who won't follow the rules, not even to please her estranged father. But after a horrible betrayal, she'll have to choose between being right and losing everyone she loves. Nia is the prisoner longing to escape her overprotective mother. A summer art program might be her ticket to freedom, yet it comes with a terrible price—and the risk may not be worth the reward. Ready or not, it's time for these four friends to face the sun.

## **Tinderbox**

### **HBO's Ruthless Pursuit of New Frontiers** *Henry Holt and Company*

Tinderbox tells the exclusive, explosive, uninhibited true story of HBO and how it burst onto the American scene and screen to detonate a revolution and transform our relationship with television forever. The Sopranos, Game of Thrones, Sex and the City, The Wire, Succession...HBO has long been the home of epic shows, as well as the source for brilliant new movies, news-making documentaries, and controversial sports journalism. By thinking big, trashing tired formulas, and killing off cliches long past their primes, HBO shook off the shackles of convention and led the way to a bolder

world of content, opening the door to all that was new, original, and worthy of our attention. In *Tinderbox*, award-winning journalist James Andrew Miller uncovers a bottomless trove of secrets and surprises, revealing new conflicts, insights, and analysis. As he did to great acclaim with *SNL in Live from New York*; with ESPN in *Those Guys Have All the Fun*; and with talent agency CAA in *Powerhouse*, Miller continues his record of extraordinary access to the most important voices, this time speaking with talents ranging from Abrams (J. J.) to Zendaya, as well as every single living president of HBO—and hundreds of other major players. Over the course of more than 750 interviews with key sources, Miller reveals how fraught HBO's journey has been, capturing the drama and the

comedy off-camera and inside boardrooms as HBO created and mobilized a daring new content universe, and, in doing so, reshaped storytelling and upended our entertainment lives forever.

### **I Am Drums** *HarperCollins*

"This book is the song of my middle-school heart."—Michelle Schusterman, author of the *I Heart Band!* series Sam knows she wants to be a drummer. But she doesn't know how to afford a drum kit, or why budget cuts end her school's music program, or why her parents argue so much, or even how to explain her dream to other people. But drums sound all the time in Sam's head, and she'd do just about anything to play them out loud—even lie to her family if

she has to. Will the cost of chasing her dream be too high? An exciting new voice in contemporary middle grade, Mike Grosso creates a determined heroine readers will identify with and cheer for.

### **Pieces of Why** *Penguin*

Tia lives with her mom in a high-risk neighborhood in New Orleans and loves singing gospel in the Rainbow Choir with Keisha, her boisterous and assertive best friend. Tia's dream is to change the world with her voice; and by all accounts, she might be talented enough. But when a shooting happens in her neighborhood and she learns the truth about the crime that sent her father to prison years ago, Tia finds she can't sing anymore.

### **Phantom Murder** *iUniverse*

Having laid to rest the Phantom, Erik Costanzi dedicates himself to his family and to his work at the Teatro dell'Opera. An illness forces Meg to withdraw from the stage and Erik to hire a competent but uninspiring replacement. When Meg resists his encouragement to resume her place as diva, Erik wonders why she is reluctant. As Erik and Meg come to a crossroads, tensions flare at the Teatro among the other members of Erik's domain. Just as the Phantom learned that he could not impose his will with impunity, Erik comes to understand the limits of his own powers. But when a murder stuns the opera world and casts suspicion on everyone, who would be a more likely suspect than the enigmatic Masked Genius of the Opera?

**Frances Dean who Loved to Dance and Dance** *Candlewick Press (MA)*

A girl who loves to dance but is too shy to dance in front of other people sees something that surprises and inspires her.

**The Inner Voice****The Making of a Singer** *Penguin*

The fascinating personal story of one of the most celebrated talents in today's music scene The star of the Metropolitan Opera's recent revival of Dvorak's *Rusalka*, soprano Renée Fleming brings a consummately beautiful voice, striking interpretive talents, and compelling artistry to bear on performances that have captivated audiences in opera houses and recital halls throughout the

world. In *The Inner Voice*—a book that is the story of her own artistic development and the “autobiography” of her voice—this great performer presents a unique and privileged look at the making of a singer and offers hard-won, practical advice to aspiring performance artists everywhere. From her youth as the child of two singing teachers through her years at Juilliard, from her struggles to establish her career to her international success, *The Inner Voice* is a luminous, articulate, and candid self-portrait of a contemporary artist—and the most revelatory examination yet of the performing life.

**The Encore****A Memoir in Three Acts** *Simon and*

*Schuster*

In this “heartrending, passionate, and surprisingly humorous account of the conjunction between art and death” (Andrew Solomon, New York Times bestselling author), acclaimed opera singer Charity Tillemann-Dick recounts her remarkable journey from struggling to draw a single breath to singing at the most prestigious venues in the world after receiving not one but two double lung transplants. Charity Tillemann-Dick was a vivacious young American soprano studying at the celebrated Franz Liszt Academy of Music in Budapest when she received devastating news: her lungs were failing, her heart was three and a half sizes too big, and she would die within five years. Medical experts advised Charity to abandon her musical

dreams, but if her time was running out, she wanted to spend it doing what she loved. In just three years, she endured two double lung transplants and had to slowly learn to breathe, walk, talk, eat, and sing again. With new lungs and fierce determination, she eventually fell in love, rebuilt her career, and reclaimed her life. More than a decade after her diagnosis, she has a chart-topping album, performs around the globe, and is a leading voice for organ donation. Weaving Charity’s extraordinary tale of triumph with those of opera’s greatest heroines, *The Encore* illuminates the indomitable human spirit and is “an uplifting story of overcoming significant odds to fulfill a dream” (Kirkus Reviews).

**Playing Scared**



**My Journey Through Stage Fright***Bloomsbury Publishing*

Stage fright is one of the human psyche's deepest fears. Over half of British adults name public speaking as their greatest fear, even greater than heights and snakes. Laurence Olivier learned to adapt to it, as have actors Salma Hayek and Hugh Grant. Musicians such as Paul McCartney and Adele have battled it and learned to cope. Playing Scared is Sara Solovitch's journey into the myriad causes of stage fright and the equally diverse ways we can overcome it. As a young child, Sara studied piano and fell in love with music. As a teen, she played Bach and Mozart at her hometown's annual music festival, but was overwhelmed by stage fright, which led her to give up aspirations of

becoming a professional pianist. In her late fifties, Sara gave herself a one-year deadline to tame performance anxiety and play before an audience. She resumed music lessons, while exploring meditation, exposure therapy, cognitive therapy, biofeedback and beta blockers, among many other remedies. She practiced performing in airports, hospitals and retirement homes. Finally, the day before her sixtieth birthday, she gave a formal recital for an audience of fifty. Using her own journey as inspiration, Sara has written a thoughtful and insightful cultural history of performance anxiety and a tribute to pursuing personal growth at any age.

**Hedy's Folly**

**The Life and Breakthrough  
Inventions of Hedy Lamarr, the Most  
Beautiful Woman in the World**  
*Vintage*

The award-winning author of *The Making of the Atomic Bomb* describes the lesser-known technological talents of actress Hedy Lamarr and the collaborative work with avant-garde composer George Antheil that eventually led to the development of spread-spectrum radio, cell phones and GPS systems. (This book was previously listed in Forecast.

**The Ellington Century** *Univ of California Press*

Explores music produced during the lifetime of Duke Ellington and the pursuit of musicians to keep up with constantly changing modern life.

**Head First**

**The Language of the Head Voice**  
*University Press of America*

Denes Striny's international singing career brought him to the major opera houses of the world in leading roles. At the same time, he was evolving his vocal technique in a quest to find his full vocal potential. This book documents his struggles and successes with himself, teachers, coaches, and other singers. Striny, while maintaining his singing career, also had a full studio of singers studying with him in New York City. In this his first book, Striny confronts and explains the universal problem in singing today. This problem is at the center of an important dilemma in the world of opera today-namely, where have all the

great operatic voices gone? Striny dissects the problem and offers the solution, which is a return to singing in the "Head Voice," the only true operatic sound. For the past sixty years, the knowledge that there are thirty-two muscles, bones, ligaments, and sinewy masses of tissue located around the larynx led teachers and students to chase this anatomical knowledge in search of answers to vocal theories. However, they have not learned the basic fundamental truth—those who sing in the head voice are the only true operatic voices. The late Birgit Nilsson, international opera legend and long-time friend, mentor, and teacher to Striny, shares her insights with Striny and the reader throughout the book. *Head First* is a must for teachers, students,

professional singers, and opera lovers who will gain valuable insight into the "voice of opera."

## **Staying Composed**

### **Overcoming Anxiety and Self-Doubt Within a Creative Life**

All artists have doubts and anxieties. What are yours? Managing procrastination, anxiety, and creative blocks? Knowing how to trust your work? Dealing with other people? Balancing the need to push through to the end of a work while keeping your health and sanity? Handling rejection . . . and your own success? Dale Trumbore has faced each of these issues as a composer who achieved her own definition of success by age 30. *Staying Composed:*

Overcoming Anxiety and Self-Doubt Within a Creative Life is her answer. With humor and understanding, Dale breaks down each obstacle to a creative career and presents workable strategies for a long-range, manageable, and meaningful life in the arts.

**The Queen's Soprano** *Houghton Mifflin Harcourt*

Seventeen year-old Angelica Voglia lives in seventeenth-century Rome and has the voice of an angel, but because the pope forbids women to sing in public, she must escape to Queen Christina's palace to become a court singer.

**Effortless Mastery -- 20th Anniversary Edition**

**Liberating the Master Musician Within, Hardcover Book and CD** *Alfred Music*

This special limited edition celebrates the 20th anniversary of the profound text that inspired thousands of musicians to reach that place in their music where performance became as effortless as drawing a breath. The beautiful foil-embossed cover, added chapters and articles, and foreword and testimonials by Herb Alpert, Quincy Jones, and others make this edition a timeless collectible to be displayed and treasured for a lifetime.

**Obsessed**

**A Memoir of My Life with OCD** *Simon and Schuster*

A brave teen recounts her debilitating struggle with obsessive-compulsive disorder—and brings readers through every painful step as she finds her way to the other side—in this powerful and inspiring memoir. Until sophomore year of high school, fifteen-year-old Allison Britz lived a comfortable life in an idyllic town. She was a dedicated student with tons of extracurricular activities, friends, and loving parents at home. But after awakening from a vivid nightmare in which she was diagnosed with brain cancer, she was convinced the dream had been a warning. Allison believed that she must do something to stop the cancer in her dream from becoming a reality. It started with avoiding sidewalk cracks and quickly grew to counting steps as loudly as possible. Over the

following weeks, her brain listed more dangers and fixes. She had to avoid hair dryers, calculators, cell phones, computers, anything green, bananas, oatmeal, and most of her own clothing. Unable to act “normal,” the once-popular Allison became an outcast. Her parents questioned her behavior, leading to explosive fights. When notebook paper, pencils, and most schoolbooks were declared dangerous to her health, her GPA imploded, along with her plans for the future. Finally, she allowed herself to ask for help and was diagnosed with obsessive-compulsive disorder. This brave memoir tracks Allison’s descent and ultimately hopeful climb out of the depths.

**Seeing Mary Plain: A Life of Mary**

**McCarthy** *W. W. Norton & Company*

A revealing portrait of the dramatic life of writer and intellectual Mary McCarthy. From her Partisan Review days to her controversial success as the author of *The Group*, to an epic libel battle with Lillian Hellman, Mary McCarthy brought a nineteenth-century scope and drama to her emblematic twentieth-century life. Dubbed by Time as "quite possibly the cleverest woman America has ever produced," McCarthy moved in a circle of ferociously sharp-tongued intellectuals—all of whom had plenty to say about this diamond in their midst. Frances Kiernan's biography does justice to one of the most controversial American intellectuals of the twentieth century. With interviews from dozens of McCarthy's friends, former lovers,

literary and political comrades-in-arms, awestruck admirers, amused observers, and bitter adversaries, *Seeing Mary Plain* is rich in ironic judgment and eloquent testimony. A Los Angeles Times Best Book of 2000 and a Washington Post Book World "Rave".

**Soledad** *Simon and Schuster*

Tía Gorda has always claimed Soledad was born con la pata caliente -- with feet burning to be anywhere but here. In truth, Soledad couldn't wait to get beyond the stifling confines of West 164th Street, away from her superstitious, contentious family with their endless tragedies and petty fights; from the leering men with their potbellies, the slick-skinned teen girls with their raunchy mouths and snapping

gum. At eighteen, Soledad couldn't get away from the volume and the violence of the barrio some call Dominican Heights fast enough. Two years later, an art student at Cooper Union with a gallery job and a hip East Village walk-up, Soledad feels eminently cool and infinitely far from the neighborhood where she grew up. But when Gorda calls with the news that Olivia, Soledad's mother, has lapsed into an emotional coma, Soledad knows she hasn't escaped *la familia*. Gorda insists Soledad's return is the only thing that will cure Olivia. Fighting the memories of the life she's left -- the broken hydrants on littered corners, her jealous cousin Flaca, her bizarre mother and, curiously, images of her mother's Dominican youth -- Soledad returns home to Washington

Heights. Her journey has only begun. As Soledad tries to salvage her damaged relationship with Olivia, tame Flaca's raucous behavior, tolerate her zany Tía Gorda and resist falling for Richie, a soulful, intense man from the neighborhood, she also faces the greatest challenge of her life: confronting the ghosts from her mother's past. Rich, evocative and wise, Soledad is a wondrous story of culture and chaos, of family and integrity, myth and mysticism. Angie Cruz is a dazzling new voice, a Latina literary light whose passionate debut in Soledad surely marks the beginning of a remarkable career.

**Singing For Dummies** *John Wiley & Sons*

Ah, there's just nothing better than singing in the shower. The acoustics are perfect and you don't sound half bad, if you do say so yourself. In fact, with a little practice you could be the next "American Idol" platinum-selling recording artist, or stage sensation. It's time for Pavarotti to step down and for you to step up as monarch of songdom. Whether you're a beginning vocalist or a seasoned songster, *Singing for Dummies* makes it easy for you to achieve your songbird dreams. *Singing for Dummies* gives you step-by-step instructions and lots of helpful tips, hints, vocal exercises, reminders, and warnings for both men and women, including advice on: The mechanics of singing Discovering your singing voice Developing technique Singing in performance Maintaining

vocal health Performing like a pro *Singing for Dummies* is written by Dr. Pamela Phillips, Chair of Voice and Music at New York University's Undergraduate Drama Department. Dr. Phillips shares all of her professional expertise to help you sing your way to the top. She gives you all the information you need to know about: Proper posture and breathing Perfecting your articulation Finding the right voice teacher for you How to train for singing Selecting your music materials Acting the song Overcoming stage fright Auditioning for musical theater In addition to Dr. Phillips' wisdom, *Singing for Dummies* comes with a CD packed full of useful instruction and songs, including: Demonstrations of proper technique Exercises to develop technique and



strength Scales and pitch drills Practice songs for beginning, intermediate, and advanced singers Singing for Dummies contains all the information, practices, techniques, and expert advice you need to hone your vocal skills with ease.

**Lightning Thief, The (Percy Jackson and the Olympians, Book 1)** *Disney Electronic Content*

Percy Jackson is a good kid, but he can't seem to focus on his schoolwork or control his temper. And lately, being away at boarding school is only getting worse-Percy could have sworn his pre-algebra teacher turned into a monster and tried to kill him.

**The Laughing Monsters**

**A Novel** *Farrar, Straus and Giroux*

Denis Johnson's New York Times bestseller, *The Laughing Monsters*, is a high-suspense tale of kaleidoscoping loyalties in the post-9/11 world that shows one of our great novelists at the top of his game. Roland Nair calls himself Scandinavian but travels on a U.S. passport. After ten years' absence, he returns to Freetown, Sierra Leone, to reunite with his friend Michael Adriko. They once made a lot of money here during the country's civil war, and, curious to see whether good luck will strike twice in the same place, Nair has allowed himself to be drawn back to a region he considers hopeless. Adriko is an African who styles himself a soldier of fortune and who claims to have served, at various times, the Ghanaian army, the

Kuwaiti Emiri Guard, and the American Green Berets. He's probably broke now, but he remains, at thirty-six, as stirred by his own doubtful schemes as he was a decade ago. Although Nair believes some kind of money-making plan lies at the back of it all, Adriko's stated reason for inviting his friend to Freetown is for Nair to meet Adriko's fiancée, a grad student from Colorado named Davidia. Together the three set out to visit Adriko's clan in the Uganda-Congo borderland—but each of these travelers is keeping secrets from the others. Their journey through a land abandoned by the future leads Nair, Adriko, and Davidia to meet themselves not in a new light, but rather in a new darkness.

### **The Revolution Was Televised**

### **How The Sopranos, Mad Men, Breaking Bad, Lost, and Other Groundbreaking Dramas Changed TV Forever** *Simon and Schuster*

A phenomenal account, newly updated, of how twelve innovative television dramas transformed the medium and the culture at large, featuring Sepinwall's take on the finales of *Mad Men* and *Breaking Bad*. In *The Revolution Was Televised*, celebrated TV critic Alan Sepinwall chronicles the remarkable transformation of the small screen over the past fifteen years. Focusing on twelve innovative television dramas that changed the medium and the culture at large forever, including *The Sopranos*, *Oz*, *The Wire*, *Deadwood*, *The Shield*, *Lost*, *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, *24*, *Battlestar Galactica*, *Friday Night Lights*,

Mad Men, and Breaking Bad, Sepinwall weaves his trademark incisive criticism with highly entertaining reporting about the real-life characters and conflicts behind the scenes. Drawing on interviews with writers David Chase, David Simon, David Milch, Joel Surnow and Howard Gordon, Damon Lindelof and Carlton Cuse, and Vince Gilligan, among others, along with the network executives responsible for green-lighting these groundbreaking shows, *The Revolution Was Televised* is the story of a new golden age in TV, one that's as rich with drama and thrills as the very shows themselves.

### **The Young Singer: Tenor**

### **Songs Universally Chosen by the**

**Foremost Teachers and Singers for Studio, Recital, Concert** *Carl Fischer, L.L.C.*

### **Who Will Run the Frog Hospital?** *Vintage*

"Touches and dazzles and entertains. An enchanting novel." --The New York Times  
In this moving, poignant novel by the bestselling author of *Birds of America* we share a grown woman's bittersweet nostalgia for the wildness of her youth. The summer Berie was fifteen, she and her best friend Sils had jobs at Storyland in upstate New York where Berie sold tickets to see the beautiful Sils portray Cinderella in a strapless evening gown. They spent their breaks smoking, joking, and gossiping. After work they followed their own reckless rules, teasing the fun

out of small town life, sleeping in the family station wagon, and drinking borrowed liquor from old mayonnaise jars. But no matter how wild, they always managed to escape any real danger—until the adoring Berie sees that Sils really does need her help—and then everything changes.

### **Marian Anderson**

**A Singer's Journey** *University of Illinois Press*

A biography of one of America's greatest

singers and a seminal figure in the American civil rights movement uncovers the life of the first African American soloist at the Met.

### **Strange Sweet Song** *Macmillan*

Enrolling in a prestigious music academy where she ignores local myths about a monster in the nearby forest, Sing da Navelli struggles with doubts about her musical talent and trains under a mysterious young vocal coach who harbors dark secrets.