FICTION / NONFICTION / TRANSLATION / POETRY

# BIBLIOASIS SPRING 2024

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#### **NEW FOR 2024: SALES REPRESENTATION**

We're pleased to announce that, beginning January 1, 2024, we've brought Canadian sales fully in house and are delighted to be working more closely with our bookseller and library partners.

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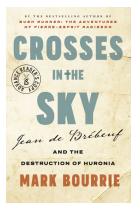


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### MARK BOURRIE CROSSES IN THE SKY

JEAN DE BRÉBEUF AND THE DESTRUCTION OF HURONIA

An essential new history from the bestselling author of Bush Runner: The Adventures of Pierre Esprit-Radisson



May 21, 2024 | History 5.5 × 8.5, 488 pp \$26.95 | 9781771966177 (trade paper)

> COMP TITLES: Mark Bourrie, Bush Runner Mark Bourrie, Big Men Fear Me Stephen Brown, The Company

A biography of Jesuit missionary Jean de Brébeuf and a history of the colonization of Huronia, the home of the Huron-Wendat nation, *Crosses in the Sky* is the story of how and why the Jesuits came to "New France," what happened when they arrived, and how these early encounters have shaped settler relationships with Indigenous people to this day. Departing from existing sainthood narratives of Brébeuf, this deeply researched narrative considers not only the missionary's fate, but the ongoing tragedy of his colonial legacy and is an essential addition to—and expansion of—Canadian history.

Mark Bourrie is an Ottawa-based author, lawyer, and journalist. He holds a master's in Journalism from Carleton University, a PhD in History from the University of Ottawa, and a Juris Doctor degree. He has won numerous awards for his journalism, including a National Magazine Award, and received the RBC Charles Taylor Prize in 2020 for *Bush Runner: The Adventures of Pierre Esprit-Radisson*.

#### "Bourrie's book positively sings ... [*Big Men Fear Me*] is thoroughly researched and the prose is clean and engaging ...

PRAISE FOR MARK BOURRIE

oughly researched and the prose is clean and engaging ... McCullagh deserves to be known ... He made *The Globe* the dominant voice in English Canadian journalism. Bourrie's biography does him full justice." *GLOBE AND MAIL* 

"There are many threads to untangle here and Bourrie—journalist, academic, and lawyer—unpicks them all. Spanning the first half of 20th-century Ontario, [George] McCullagh's life and times become an engrossing tale of ambition, politics and bipolar illnessit's like little else we're likely to read this year ... It was a tumultuous life, and Bourrie tells it with wit and humour." NANCY WIGSTON, TORONTO STAR

"This is a joy of a biography...Bourrie, a historian whose last book brought explorer Pierre Radisson to life, has done right by McCullagh, and not just with the marvellous title. Canada doesn't like tall poppies. It didn't end well. But what a ride it was." HEATHER MALLICK, *TORONTO STAR* 

"A remarkable biography of an even more remarkable seventeenthcentury individual ... Beautifully written and endlessly thoughtprovoking." MACLEAN'S

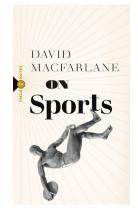
"Bourrie's writing is grounded in a strong sense of place, partly because of his own extensive knowledge of the land and partly because of Radisson's descriptive storytelling abilities ... a valuable and rare glimpse into 17th-century North America." CANADIAN GEOGRAPHIC



### DAVID MACFARLANE ON SPORTS

FIELD NOTES #9

What are sports, really? What do we love about them? And what, in our digital age, have they become?



July 16, 2024 | Nonfiction 4.25 × 7.75, 144pp \$18.95 | 9781771966153 (trade paper)

COMP TITLES: Ottessa Moshfegh, Death in Her Hands, Heather O'Neill, When We Lost Our Heads, Mona Awad, Bunny As a child in the analog era, Macfarlane pored daily over the sports pages, and professional atheltic competitions took place primarily on the boundless fields of his imagination, the thing professional sport, Macfarlane argues, today sorely lacks—so much so that now he'll as soon profess to loathe sports as to love them.

In On Sports, the latest in the Field Notes series, journalist David Macfarlane considers the origins of his love of sport against his discomfort with its commodification. From the pirates, gangsters, and extortionist hooligans of the International Olympic Committee, to the National Hockey League's capitulation to online gambling, to the ballooning of salaries and dumbed-down spectacle that characterize professional competition, to his enduring affection for athletic competition and the athletes who continue to dazzle in spite of it all, Macfarlane asks what sports really are, what it is that we love about them, and what, exactly, they have become.

**David Macfarlane**'s family memoir, *The Danger Tree*, was described by Christopher Hitchens as "one of the finest and most intriguing miniature elegies that I have read in many a year" and his novel, *Summer Gone*, was shortlisted for the Giller Prize. He lives in Toronto with his wife, the designer, Janice Lindsay.

### PRAISE FOR DAVID MACFARLANE

"David Macfarlane's haunting new memoir *Likeness* ...is a book of considerable joy, and of staggering loss, one which avoids easy sentimentality in favour of genuine—and crushing emotion." TORONTO STAR

"A gifted and admired writer across genres ...There is an ache in *Likeness* that cuts as deeply as it does because of the beauty of its expression." *MACLEAN'S* 

"I've just discovered *The Danger Tree* and am stunned. It is so good. About the best prose to ever come out of this country, for my money." ALICE MUNRO

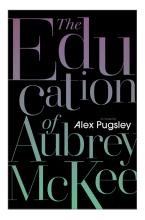
"The Danger Tree is a masterpiece. David Macfarlane is an architect of the past, building extraordinary memory mansions in which the reader feels eerily at home." ALBERTO MANGUEL



### ALEX PUGSLEY THE EDUCATION OF AUBREY MCKEE

AN AUBREY MCKEE NOVEL

A young writer finds his way in and out of love in late twentieth-century Toronto.



May 7, 2024 | Fiction 5.5 × 8.5, 320 pp \$24.95 | 9781771965835 (trade paper)

> COMP TITLES: Alex Pugsley, Aubrey McKee Randy Boyagoda, Dante's Indiana Nicholas Herring, Some Hellish

The scene is Toronto, early 1990s, and at a house party Aubrey McKee falls in love with a bewitching stranger who talks him into stealing a piece of cake. This woman—a poet named Gudrun Peel rapidly becomes the person for whom he would do anything at all. Together, Aubrey and Gudrun make a life of delirious idiosyncrasy. Surrounded by friends, frenemies, lovers, and rivals in the underground arts scene, the possibilities of their destiny remain radically open. But as their relationship deepens, and their creative and professional lives stumble, stall, and then suddenly blow up, Aubrey and Gudrun struggle against their own inexperience ...as well as each other.

The much-anticipated follow-up to Alex Pugsley's *Aubrey McKee, The Education of Aubrey McKee* is a campus novel in which the city of Toronto is the institute of higher education and the setting for a glittering story about the incandescence of first love.

Alex Pugsley is the author of two novels and a short story collection. A CBC Writer to Watch, he has been nominated for Canadian Comedy Awards, Gemini Awards, Hot Doc Awards, National Magazine Awards, and is a winner of the Writers' Trust Journey Prize. He lives in Toronto.

### PRAISE FOR THE EDUCATION OF AUBREY MCKEE

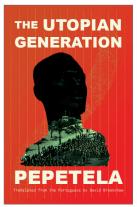
"Alex Pugsley's *The Education of Aubrey McKee* is alive with raucous humour, drunken abandon, soul searching and soul-crushing crushes. Full to the gills with art making and poetry and TV scripts written on spec, posturing and the true thing. Every page is feverish and suave. Pugsley is the love child of Jack Kerouac and Greta Gerwig, or D.H. Lawrence and Wes Anderson—ticklingly funny and dead serious at the same time." LISA MOORE, AUTHOR OF *THIS IS HOW WE LOVE* 

"This amazing book is nothing 'in turns'—instead it is everywhere continuously lyric, hilarious, and heartbreaking. The promise of Alex Pugsley's nonchalant epic, as of this second entry, is worthy of crazy comparisons—Balzac, Jonathan Coe, etc...Pugsley's project operates on a similar double-scale, always wittily precise, even sometimes zany in the particulars, yet with the sense that a picture of time itself has been captured, through windows in front of which his portrait-subjects merely happen to be seated." JONATHAN LETHEM, AUTHOR OF BROOKLYN CRIME NOVEL

### PEPETELA THE UTOPIAN GENERATION

TRANSLATED FROM THE PORTUGUESE BY DAVID BROOKSHAW

A seminal novel of African decolonization, available for the first time in English translation.



August 13, 2024 | Fiction 5.25 × 8.25, 456 pp \$26.95 | 9781771965798 (trade paper)

COMP TITLES: Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni, *The Last Queen* Andrey Kurkov, *Grey Bees* Omar El Akkad, *What Strange Paradise*  Lisbon, 1961. To escape surveillance by the dictatorship's secret police, African students meet at the Casa, a campus club, where they dream of the homelands they will free from colonialism. Following four young revolutionaries who dream of building an epic campaign for a liberated, socialist Angola, *The Utopian Generation* charts the intertwined destinies of Sara, an idealistic doctor; Aníbal, an intense intellectual; Vítor, an aspiring political leader; and Malongo, a party-hopping soccer player. But when repression scatters them, they move from Europe to Africa, from idealism to disillusionment, from terror and battlefield violence to love, loss, grief, corruption, and cold-blooded calculation.

Vast in scope yet intricate and revealing in its insights into the psychological tensions of colonialism, The Utopian Generation is widely considered in the Portuguese-speaking world an essential novel of African decolonization—and is now available in English translation for the first time.

Born in Benguela, Angola, **Pepetela** fought as an MPLA guerrilla from 1969 to 1975. Awarded the Camões Prize for his life's work, he is the author of twenty-one novels that have been published in more than twenty languages. He lives in Luanda, Angola.

### PRAISE FOR THE UTOPIAN GENERATION

"Pepetela's great novels suggest a continuity between generations, a harmonization of differences in a single totality. This urgency of belonging, this structure that contains differences and sets them into conflict, is, in the end, Angola ... Even as time disutopianizes generations, Pepetela remains a generation of his own." MIA COUTO, AUTHOR OF THE SANDS OF THE EMPEROR TRILOGY

"This novel starts in the period when young Angolans, while students in Portugal, were still living their country's liberation from Portuguese colonial rule as a dream of utopian proportions. It then proceeds by following the materialization of that very dream...David Brookshaw, the superb translator of great writers such as Mia Couto, José Rodrigues Miguéis, and Raul Brandão, once again produces a rigorous and beautiful translation." ONÉSIMO T. ALMEIDA, BROWN UNIVERSITY

"Remarkable on several counts ... *The Utopian Generation* provides a unique vision of the recent turbulent history of Angolan society as seen by a disillusioned revolutionary." *WORLD LITERATURE TODAY* 

### RICHARD KELLY KEMICK HELLO, HORSE

Taut, stylish stories take on big moral questions from surprising perspectives.



August 6, 2024 | Nonfiction 5 × 8, 248pp \$22.95 | 9781771966078 (trade paper)

COMP TITLES: Kim Fu, Lesser Known Monsters of the 21st Century Dionne Irving, The Islands Angélique Lalonde, Glorious Frazzled Beings A teenager's job mucking stalls at a dog track takes a strange turn when his co-worker finds a new religion at odds with winning streaks. Two brothers set out in search of fame in the icy waters of a subarctic lake. A pregnant high school student tries to make rent by winning the Unitarian Church's Annual Young Writer's Short Story Competition ("No foul or off-putting language" permitted). An incarcerated man considers the nature of choice between shifts with his fellow inmates at Nations at War, the ultimate live-action experience for tourists eager to learn about the Canadian Civil War—nevermind the fact that there was no such war when the fake blood spatters so dramatically.

Spanning states and provinces, and featuring an apocalypse, a coterie of ghosts, nuns on ice, and an above-average amount of dogs, the stories in *Hello*, *Horse* consider sundry sins and the search for redemption, justice and the impulse to hold to account, the mirage of authenticity and the decisions we make—for better and for worse.

**Richard Kelly Kemick** is an award-winning poet, journalist, and fiction writer. He is the recipient of multiple awards, including two National Magazine Awards and the Writers' Guild of Alberta's 2019 Award for Best Short Story. He lives in Rossland, British Columbia.

### PRAISE FOR RICHARD KELLY KEMICK

"Kemick convincingly wrests the sublime from the trivial. He manages, astonishingly, a tone both earnest and ironic, with details and insights that are lively, unexpected, funny, and poignant." NATIONAL MAGAZINE AWARDS

"Richard Kemick spends a summer in Alberta's Bible Belt where it may be easier to find God than a vegetarian meal. There, he confronts age-old questions about belief with near-miraculous freshness, honesty, and humour. A deeply personal investigation of the blurred border between faith and imagination." MARCELLO DI CINTIO, AUTHOR OF DRIVEN: THE SECRET LIVES OF TAXI DRIVERS

"Laugh out loud funny...Kemick's own faith or lack thereof is...one of the deeper themes that courses beneath the comedy." *CALGARY HERALD* 

"Wisecracking, earnest, and charmingly obsessive, Kemick introduces himself here as a poet who believes in something larger than his own self, and so is a poet to watch." NICK THRAN



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### MICHAEL LISTA BARFLY AND OTHER POEMS

We're in love, but we're still Millennials. What's wrong with our hearts is congenital.



### MICHAEL LISTA

June 4, 2024 | Poetry 5.5 × 8.5, 104pp \$19.95 | 9781771966115 (trade paper)

COMP TITLES: Michael Lista, The Scarborough, Michael Crummey, Passengers, Luke Hathaway, The Affirmations Splicing Byronic rhymes and Auden's meters with twenty-first century irreverence and the profane juxtaposition of a late-stage Twitter feed, the poems in *Barfly*, Michael Lista's long-awaited third collection, are alternately aggressive, humane, LOL funny, and raw with break-your-heart vulnerability.

"After a ten-year hiatus from poetry—and out of nowhere—Michael Lista has dropped an instant classic. The poems in this book are profane, pugilistic, and moving, with wickedly funny rhymes to boot. *Barfly* is an uncompromising, messed-up masterpiece. I fucking love it." JASON GURIEL, AUTHOR OF THE FULL-MOON WHALING CHRONICLES

**Michael Lista** is an investigative journalist, essayist and poet. He is the author of two books of poetry, a collection of essays, and a book of longform journalism. His essays and investigative stories have appeared in the *New Yorker, The Atlantic, The Walrus*, and elsewhere. He lives in Toronto.

#### AMERICA

It's a banana republic Wearing Banana Republic

Manufactured in a banana republic And remaindered to a Banana Republic

Outlet Store,

Like tortoises But turtlenecks

All the way down.

BOURRIE MACFARLANE PUGSLEY PEPETELA KEMICK LISTA