

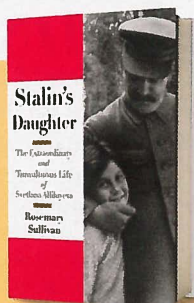
THE  
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## BIOGRAPHY & MEMOIR

Come along as strangers reveal the most intimate details of their lives.

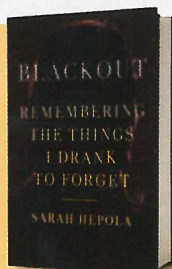
### 1 **STALIN'S DAUGHTER** by Rosemary Sullivan (Harper)

When Stalin's only daughter, Svetlana, was young, her mother traced a finger over the girl's heart, whispering, "That is where you must bury your secrets." As Sullivan details in this magisterial biography, those secrets dogged Svetlana as she grew up in a Kremlin palace—doted on by a father all would come to know as a monster—and followed her for the rest of her difficult life.



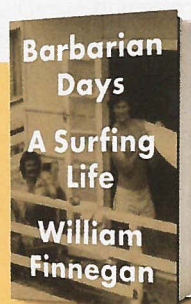
### 2 **BLACKOUT** by Sarah Hepola (Grand Central)

Alcohol was the fuel of choice during Hepola's early years as a writer, but after too many nights spent falling down staircases, sleeping with men she didn't remember the next day, and narrowly surviving countless other near disasters, she near her way clear of addiction and dared to face life without a drink in hand.



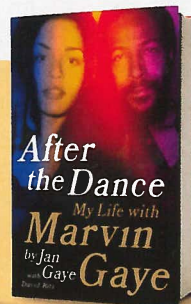
### 3 **BARBARIAN DAYS** by William Finnegan (Penguin Press)

Finnegan's irresistible memoir chronicles his Technicolor trek through the South Pacific, Australia, Asia, and South Africa in search of yet another great wave. But his bohemian lifestyle—bunking with locals, working odd jobs to buy his next surfboard, dropping acid—becomes more than simply island-hopping after he stumbles across a township school in desperate need of teachers.



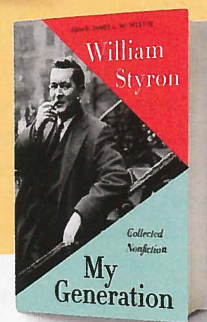
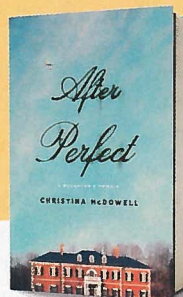
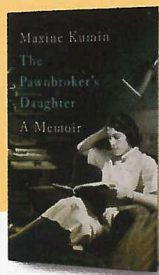
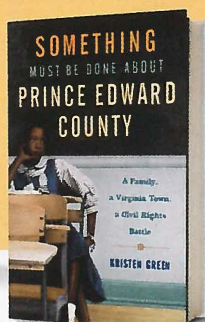
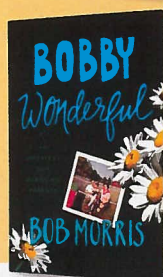
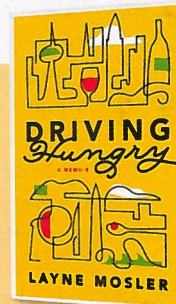
### 4 **AFTER THE DANCE** by Jan Gaye with David Ritz (Amistad)

At 17, the author began a torrid affair with married 33-year-old Motown royal Marvin Gaye—and soon learned that the sensual crooner was also an egotistical incendiary. With sensitivity and insight, Gaye examines their explosive four-year marriage, ultimately making peace with the dark side of one of America's most influential performers.



### 5 **DRIVING HUNGRY** by Layne Mosler (Pantheon)

When dreams of opening her own restaurant soured, Mosler chased her desire to be the next Anthony Bourdain across three continents, asking every cab driver she met, "Could you take me to your favorite restaurant?" After starting the blog *Taxi Gourmet* and getting a hack license of her own, she sat down to write this sparkling memoir about what she learned along the way.



### 6 **BOBBY WONDERFUL** by Bob Morris (Twelve)

Both a domestic comedy and a heartfelt homage, Morris's emotional memoir of his parents' passing—a tribute to loved ones and how we say goodbye—makes tender light of the mundane and finds dark humor in the morose.

### 7 **SOMETHING MUST BE DONE ABOUT PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY** by Kristen Green (Harper)

One of the last bastions of segregation after *Brown v. Board of Education*, the small Virginia county of Prince Edward closed its schools rather than allow them to be integrated. Journalist Green recounts the shameful chapter in her hometown's history, taking an especially close look at her grandfather's role in shuttering the district.

### 8 **THE PAWNBROKER'S DAUGHTER** by Maxine Kumin (Norton)

Chafed by her double duty as housewife and teacher, Kumin "could have been a case study from Betty Friedan's *The Feminine Mystique*." Instead, she became a feminist and Pulitzer-winning poet, a journey she chronicles in this intimate memoir being published a little more than a year after Kumin's death at age 88.

### 9 **AFTER PERFECT** by Christina McDowell (Gallery)

In this account of having it all and then watching it disappear, McDowell traces how her privileged family lost everything after her father (who'd been in cahoots with Jordan Belfort, a.k.a. the Wolf of Wall Street) went to prison. And that was only the beginning of her nosedive.

### 10 **MY GENERATION: COLLECTED NONFICTION** by William Styron (Random House)

Acclaimed for psychologically searing fiction and memoir such as *Sophie's Choice* and *Darkness Visible*, the late Styron was also an essayist and reporter whose incisive work—on politics, the literary life, his native Virginia—is every bit as revelatory today as when he wrote it.