

Big Deal One Year As A Professional Poker Player

Big Deal One Year as a Professional Poker Player Hachette UK

The author of Big Deal tests his card skills against the changed world of poker in the twenty-first century at a worldwide tournament that pits promising first-timers who have never played except on the Internet with long-standing professionals who are finding themselves outmatched. Reprint. 17,500 first printing.

African Americans have historically and presently erased from the conversation about mental health both within and outside the community. In an effort to reduce the stigma disparaging the severity of mental health issues in the African American community, I conducted research about how art and literature may be used to destigmatize black depression and anxiety. I wrote and illustrated this book targeted towards black children (although anyone can read it!) in an effort to start a conversation where I saw one was lacking. This book discusses anxiety & depression, stigma, coping competencies, and much more in regards to mental health!

Seventh-grader Jonah Truman's main concerns are meeting girls and avoiding the class bully, until he and his friend Amanda start working as helpers at children's parties and his mother begins dating the principal of his school.

One Million Copies Sold in Series! Christian Book Award: ECPA Medallion of Excellence Your kids know about sex. But what they've gathered from TV, other kids, or the internet doesn't tell them everything or answer all of their questions. What's the Big Deal? was written to help parents provide the answers to their 8-to-12-year-olds. This book explains the basic facts about sex and related issues such as: Why God made adults so that they want to have sex What God actually says in the Bible about sex and why it's designed for marriage The amazing changes ahead of you during puberty How to respond when you feel sexual pressure from friends, TV shows, movies, and magazines Your kids can read this book with you so you can discuss it together. This provides them the safe space to ask hard questions they might find embarrassing. The book will help kids understand what a beautiful and exciting gift from God sexuality is meant to be. Now revised and updated with: Separate chapters on puberty for boys and girls A chapter on the dangers of pornography An expanded age range (formerly 8 to 11, now 8 to 12)

The inside story of the meteoric rise of Groupon from startup to \$30 billion online giant and the audacious genius behind it, founder Andrew Mason In late 2010, Groupon made an incredible gamble. Rather than take Google's \$6 billion buyout offer, founder Andrew Mason turned the search giant down and decided to go it alone. The experts thought he was insane. Groupon was little more than two years old and staffed from top to bottom with twenty-somethings. The wild ride couldn't last, but Mason thought otherwise, and with knowledge of a possible IPO he liked his odds. A discount service that offers a deal a day at local merchants in countless cities in more than forty-three countries, Groupon is the fastest-growing company in Internet history and is as committed to innovating a new model for commerce as it is to creating an office culture and editorial voice based on radical transparency and absurd humor. Groupon's Biggest Deal Ever is the exclusive and unparalleled account of the incredible rise of discount giant Groupon and the compelling story of its offbeat founder Andrew Mason as he created a juggernaut of online commerce and ignited a consumer revolution.

From Shannon Hale, bestselling author of Austenland, comes Kind of a Big Deal: a hilarious, madcap story that will suck you in—literally. There's nothing worse than peaking in high school. Nobody knows that better than Josie Pie. She was kind of a big deal—she dropped out of high school to be a star! But the bigger you are, the harder you fall. And Josie fell. Hard. Ouch. Broadway dream: dead. Meanwhile, her life keeps imploding. Best friend: distant. Boyfriend: busy. Mom: not playing with a full deck? Desperate to escape, Josie gets into reading. Literally. She reads a book and suddenly she's inside it. And with each book, she's a different character: a post-apocalyptic heroine, the lead in a YA rom-com, a 17th century wench in a corset. It's alarming. But also . . . kind of amazing? It's the perfect way to live out her fantasies. Book after book, Josie the failed star finds a new way to shine. But the longer she stays in a story, the harder it becomes to escape. Will Josie find a story so good that she just stays forever?

BIG DEAL is the mesmerising story of a year spent by bestselling biographer Anthony Holden in the tough world of the professional poker player. He spent days and nights in the poker paradise of Las Vegas, in Malta and Morocco, even shipboard, mingling with the legendary greats, sharpening his game, perfecting his repartee, and learning a great deal about himself in the process. Poker, Holden would insist, is not gambling. Like chess it is a paradigm of life at its most intense, a gladiatorial contest that brings out the best as well as the worst in people. Its heroes, its eccentrics and its comedians stalk the pages of this remarkable book, along with all the hair-raising, nail-biting excitement of the games themselves. A classic of the genre, BIG DEAL is here reissued with a new introduction by the author.

A hilarious nonfiction picture book from the New York Times bestselling author and creator of Awkward Yeti. Oh hey, guess what? The Sun never stops working to keep things on Earth running smoothly. (That's why it's been Employee of the Month for 4.5 billion years.) So why does the Sun get to be the center of attention? Because it's our solar system's very own star! This funny and factual picture book from Awkward Yeti creator Nick Seluk explains every part of the Sun's big job: keeping our solar system together, giving Earth day and night, keeping us warm, and more. In fact, the Sun does so much for us that we wouldn't be alive without it. That's kind of a big deal. Each spread features bite-sized text and comic-style art with sidebars sprinkled throughout. Anthropomorphized planets (and Pluto) chime in with commentary as readers learn about the Sun. For instance, Mars found someone's rover. Earth wants the Sun to do more stuff for it. And Jupiter just wants the Sun's autograph. Funny, smart, and accessible, The Sun Is Kind of a Big Deal is a must-have! Having survived the worst effects of the Civil War, the city of Memphis, battered but unbowed, finds itself facing a far more dangerous foe. It is invisible, lethal, and unstoppable: a plague of yellow fever. It is the story of JP Mahoney, 14-year-old farm boy who dreams of escape from tedious chores and farmlife routine. It is the story of a courageous young woman, Ginnie Moon, onetime Confederate spy, who now operates a boarding house for men who have survived the war. And it is the story of Kevin

O'Boyle, an embittered riverfront laborer, who blames the world for his troubles, and finds the crippled city his perfect prey. Several characters in the novel are actual historical figures, most notably Ginnie Moon, Judge "Pappy" Hadden, and Cap'n Jim Lee. Their actions, and those of the other characters, are entirely fictional. The plague, one of several to hit the city in the years following the war, was all too real.

The New York Times bestseller! A New York Times Notable Book "The tale of how Konnikova followed a story about poker players and wound up becoming a story herself will have you riveted, first as you learn about her big winnings, and then as she conveys the lessons she learned both about human nature and herself." —The Washington Post It's true that Maria Konnikova had never actually played poker before and didn't even know the rules when she approached Erik Seidel, Poker Hall of Fame inductee and winner of tens of millions of dollars in earnings, and convinced him to be her mentor. But she knew her man: a famously thoughtful and broad-minded player, he was intrigued by her pitch that she wasn't interested in making money so much as learning about life. She had faced a stretch of personal bad luck, and her reflections on the role of chance had led her to a giant of game theory, who pointed her to poker as the ultimate master class in learning to distinguish between what can be controlled and what can't. And she certainly brought something to the table, including a Ph.D. in psychology and an acclaimed and growing body of work on human behavior and how to hack it. So Seidel was in, and soon she was down the rabbit hole with him, into the wild, fiercely competitive, overwhelmingly masculine world of high-stakes Texas Hold'em, their initial end point the following year's World Series of Poker. But then something extraordinary happened. Under Seidel's guidance, Konnikova did have many epiphanies about life that derived from her new pursuit, including how to better read, not just her opponents but far more importantly herself; how to identify what tilted her into an emotional state that got in the way of good decisions; and how to get to a place where she could accept luck for what it was, and what it wasn't. But she also began to win. And win. In a little over a year, she began making earnest money from tournaments, ultimately totaling hundreds of thousands of dollars. She won a major title, got a sponsor, and got used to being on television, and to headlines like "How one writer's book deal turned her into a professional poker player." She even learned to like Las Vegas. But in the end, Maria Konnikova is a writer and student of human behavior, and ultimately the point was to render her incredible journey into a container for its invaluable lessons. The biggest bluff of all, she learned, is that skill is enough. Bad cards will come our way, but keeping our focus on how we play them and not on the outcome will keep us moving through many a dark patch, until the luck once again breaks our way.

From the Constitution to civil rights, from women's rights to the four freedoms, this kid-friendly picture book filled with fun facts and historical trivia shows how America got the nickname "land of the free." It's a "free country"! Why? Because in America we're free speak our minds, choose our leaders and set the rules. Since way back when Thomas Jefferson wrote the Declaration of Independence, Americans have stood up for freedom again and again – but it wasn't always easy! Did you know that Henry "Box" Brown escaped slavery by shipping himself north in a box? Or that Susan B. Anthony was arrested when she tried to vote? Did you know that even young kids protested for the right to go to school? This entertaining, fact-filled book celebrates how, with every generation, more and more Americans won the right to be free. Find out how they did it and why standing up for the "land of the free" is such a big deal! Perfect for fans of The One and Only Declaration of Independence, John, Paul, George & Ben, and Shh! We're Writing the Constitution – and a great way to talk about America, its values, and the rights we all enjoy. Praise for What's the Big Deal About Freedom: "Bolstering the upbeat tone of the writing while emphasizing the racial and religious diversity of Americans, the lively watercolor-and-pencil illustrations are consistently engaging and occasionally endearing. A hopeful, idealistic portrayal of freedom in America." --Booklist "An effective place for children to begin learning about the concept of freedom." --School Library Journal

When Aislinn Amon's father disappears, her mother drags her from New York to Indiana where she is to attend a new boarding school - Source High. At Source High, Aislinn finds herself in a whole other world than what she knew. Everyone has something supernatural about them, including her. Soon, she finds that she's not the normal, rebel, messed up teenage girl she thought she was. Her friends try to help her along the way when trouble comes knocking on her door. People die, she finds herself falling in love with, something she swore she'd never do, and secrets start to form. Can Aislinn cope with everything that's happening? Can she handle the life she's been forced to deal with? Or will she crack under the heavy pressures laid upon her seventeen-year-old shoulders?

"Chapter book first published in ... 2020."

Unlock your inner audacity and become the leader you were born to be Women are often told that dreaming bigger and exuding confidence is the key to achieving professional success. While big dreams and confidence might get you started, they won't fuel you throughout the marathon and over the finish line. In order to keep going through thick and thin, you need audacity. You're Kind of a Big Deal provides the strategies, tools, and inspiration you need to power up your potential, break free from limiting beliefs, and make your biggest dreams a reality. International keynote speaker and successful entrepreneur Erin King helps you step into the role of CEO of your own life and better execute your responses to challenging feedback from the world around you, so you can: Move through any and all obstacles between you and your goals Be more present, honest, and authentic in your professional and personal life Increase your energy to take on the toughest challenges Develop greater clarity on your place and purpose in life Handle social settings and meet new people with a new sense of confidence Drop the automatic negative thoughts and stay positive even in the face of adversity You're Kind of a Big Deal dares you to listen more closely to your intuition when it comes to pulling the trigger on big, courageous business decisions?even if those decisions might initially shock those in your orbit. Get ready to finally break through all barriers standing between you and the goals you were born to absolutely crush because the fact is, You're Kind of a Big Deal.

"Wasserstein is widely recognized as the father of modern-day mergers and acquisitions... [He] explains what drives mergers and how they get done." - USA Today "Informative and entertaining." - Kirkus Reviews Big Deal is a penetrating look at the world of mergers and acquisitions by the legendary Bruce Wasserstein. Using compelling case studies, he reveals the inside story of the billion dollar deals that shape America's economy.

An interview with Mark Fidrych in which he discusses his life and his baseball career.

I had always suspected the geographical authorities did not know what they were talking about when they located the battlefield of Munda in the county of the Bastuli-Poeni, close to the modern Monda, some two leagues north of Marbella. According to my own surmise, founded on the text of the anonymous author of the Bellum Hispaniense, and on certain information culled from the excellent library owned by the Duke of Ossuna, I believed the site of the memorable struggle in which Caesar played double or

quits, once and for all, with the champions of the Republic, should be sought in the neighbourhood of Montilla. Happening to be in Andalusia during the autumn of 1830, I made a somewhat lengthy excursion, with the object of clearing up certain doubts which still oppressed me. A paper which I shall shortly publish will, I trust, remove any hesitation that may still exist in the minds of all honest archaeologists. But before that dissertation of mine finally settles the geographical problem on the solution of which the whole of learned Europe hangs, I desire to relate a little tale. It will do no prejudice to the interesting question of the correct locality of Monda. I had hired a guide and a couple of horses at Cordova, and had started on my way with no luggage save a few shirts, and Caesar's Commentaries. As I wandered, one day, across the higher lands of the Cachena plain, worn with fatigue, parched with thirst, scorched by a burning sun, cursing Caesar and Pompey's sons alike, most heartily, my eye lighted, at some distance from the path I was following, on a little stretch of green sward dotted with reeds and rushes. That betokened the neighbourhood of some spring, and, indeed, as I drew nearer I perceived that what had looked like sward was a marsh, into which a stream, which seemed to issue from a narrow gorge between two high spurs of the Sierra di Cabra, ran and disappeared.

Tired of dead-end jobs, meaningless connections, or limited career growth? This blueprint shares key advice from a recruiter, career coach and branding strategist on how to identify and market your unique brand DNA to attract the right opportunities that will help catapult you into greatness.

In 1988, best-selling biographer Anthony Holden spent one year living the life of a professional poker player. His mesmerizing account of that year went on to become a classic of the genre, an inspiration to innumerable poker players and poker memoirists who followed. *Big Deal* is his story of days and nights in Las Vegas, Malta, and Morocco, mingling with the greats, sharpening his game, perfecting his repartee, and learning a great deal about himself in the process. Poker, Holden would insist, is a paradigm of life at its most intense, a gladiatorial contest that brings out the best as well as the worst in people. The heroes and eccentrics of the poker world stalk the pages of this remarkable book, along with all the hair-raising, nail-biting excitement of the game itself.

WARNING TO READERS: The Author of This Book is Kind of Crazy, Kind of Delusional, and All Kinds of Hilarious Whether she's driving a limo for former Family Ties star Justine Bateman, dancing in the dark for a rarely seen Bob Dylan music video, or stalking a bachelor reject from TV's Love Connection, Stefanie Wilder-Taylor is kind of a big deal—at least in her own mind. Smart, screwy, and scathingly funny, her tell-all essays capture every cringe-worthy moment of her kind-of famous life. From bombing as a stand-up comic for born-again Christians, to winging it as a singing waitress in an Italian restaurant, to posting open letters to Angelina Jolie and David Hasselhoff, this unstoppable L.A. transplant refuses to give up on her dreams—no matter how ill-advised—and shows us a side of Hollywood better kept hidden. When it comes to funny women—unplugged and unleashed—they don't get any wilder than Stefanie Wilder-Taylor. . . .

"A kid-friendly history of the concept of freedom in the U.S"--

No Big Deal is a fierce and body-positive celebration of friendship, first crushes and loving yourself 'No Big Deal is an iconic love song to everyone out there who knows that life isn't one size fits all' Julie Murphy, bestselling author of *Dumplin'* Emily knows she's smart. Emily knows she's funny. Emily knows she's awesome. Emily knows she's fat. She doesn't need anyone to tell her any of these things - she likes herself and she likes her body. She just thinks it's time everyone else caught up. With a newly-slim bestie, a mum knee-deep in fad diets and increasing pressure to change, Emily faces a constant battle to be her true self. But when she meets gorgeous Joe, things start to change. Somehow, she's going to have to convince everyone, including herself, that it's no big deal. No Big Deal is a funny and inspiring debut YA novel from Bethany Rutter: influencer, editor and a fierce UK voice in the debate around body positivity.

After the Air Force transfers his dad from California to Virginia and his mom gets sick, Andy, the intellectual misfit in an athletic family, is forced by a series of disasters to really use his intelligence.

Three months outbound from Earth and the starship Desio approaches its planetary destination, her crew eager to commence a mission of scientific discovery. Kyle Lorenzo, however, has a personal reason for being on board--an inner conflict that will ultimately propel him to explore not only of the furthest reaches of an enigmatic ocean world but the nebulous recesses of his inner psyche. During the long and isolating interstellar journey a physical relationship develops between Kyle and the ship's physician, Kelly Takara. That part is easy. Understanding the reasons for avoiding the emotional commitment desired by Kelly is harder. So, too, is trying to penetrate the mind of Larry Melhaus, the mission's brilliant and reclusive physicist - a failure to communicate made exponentially more troublesome when the scientist's disturbing behavior begins to threaten the crew. While Kyle struggles to comprehend himself and Melhaus, the ship's crew, led by their strong-willed commander, Bruce Thompson, attempt to fathom a planet where none of the precepts of science seem to apply. A world where every preconceived notion of what constitutes life must be re-examined and challenged. Two journeys: One inward, one outward. Culminating at the same destination.

Braden, from the Executive FUNction series, is back – and he delivers the drama to every minor misunderstanding, grievance and annoyance in his life! What was supposed to be a carefree afternoon of go-cart racing and putt-putt golfing quickly turns sour when Braden shouts and pouts about the rules. (Turns out, he's too short to drive a go-cart.) Hearing his parents say the rules are the rules only makes him madder. "They haven't been kids in like 100 years or something!" he fumes. At home, there's more frustration. One situation involves a baseball game, a blanket and the family TV. There's even an ice cream sundae scandal at his mom's birthday dinner!

The Bigger Deal: Work Your Way to a Life of Meaning, is a book about possibilities. It is an impassioned demonstration that there is so much more every single one of us can do to have bigger lives. *The Bigger Deal* is about better businesses, better careers, and better contributions to our shared humanity. It is a book about the meaning of work, success, and life. Springing from Sunny's work as a business advisor, educator, columnist, and speaker, *The Bigger Deal* is written for those who care about doing more with their lives. It shows business folk how to use a powerful sense of

purpose to build organizations that truly excel. It exhorts employers to bring the best out of their staff members by treating them as human beings, not human resources. It demonstrates to employees the need to use work, no matter how humble, as a path to inner fulfillment. It is about CEOs and porters, entrepreneurs and clerks, artists and artisans. A hilarious nonfiction picture book from the New York Times bestselling author and creator of *Awkward Yeti*. Oh hey, guess what? New York Times bestseller Nick Seluk has a hilarious new nonfiction picture book all about your body's very own computer -- the brain! Have you ever thought about everything your brain does for you? It is always working to keep you alive and safe. (Plus it lets you think about funny stuff, too.) So why is the brain such a big deal? Because it makes you YOU, of course! This funny and factual picture book from Heart and Brain creator Nick Seluk explains the science behind everything the brain helps you do: keeping your heart beating, telling you when you are sleepy, remembering stuff, and more. The brain is in charge of everything you do, every minute of every day for your entire life. That's kind of a big deal. Each spread features bite-sized text and comic-style art with sidebars sprinkled throughout. Anthropomorphized organs and body parts -- recognizable from Nick Seluk's New York Times bestselling book -- help readers learn through funny jokes and comic panels. Funny, smart, and accessible, *The Brain Is Kind of a Big Deal* is a must-have!

What was supposed to be a carefree afternoon of go-cart racing and putt-putt golfing quickly turns sour when Braden shouts and pouts about the rules. (Turns out, he's too short to drive a go-cart.) Hearing his parents say the rules are the rules only makes him madder. "They haven't been kids in like 100 years or something!" he fumes. Will Braden ever learn to keep his cool in the face of disappointment? Follow Braden's story as he learns about the perils of overreacting and losing self-control.

Escape from the everyday stresses in your life and unwind with *Chromalaxing, Kaleidoscope Series, Adult Coloring Book #1*. The first book in this great new series. Forty intricately and delightfully designed images. Printed one side per page. The reverse side includes the image number so you can leave your thoughts and specific feedback for us per image. Your finished work may be suitable for framing or gift giving. Our website (<http://www.chromalaxing.com>) features fun art contests. Enter today and show us your masterpiece for a chance to win great prizes. Vote for your favorites too. Our designs offer a pleasing variety in image complexity suitable for beginner to expert-level. Provides unlimited hours of relaxing stress relief, as well as an enjoyable artistic outlet. Tap into the soothing and rejuvenating effects that coloring has been shown to produce. Join countless adults all over the world and rediscover the fun and relaxing hobby of coloring. Grab your pencils, pens... relax and explore your creative side today.

Rebecca has been captured and awakens alone in the dark, not knowing where she is. She can feel that Llyr is alive, but cannot contact him through the soul link. Chained to a wall and without magic, she must find a way to survive and escape. Llyr was defeated by his brother and witnessed the fall of the tower on Avalon. Being separated from Rebecca has created a problem: the soul link is draining his body of all strength. Despite not being able to stand on his own, he's determined to return to his world and save Rebecca from the Archwizard. Without Havaar to guide him, he must rely on the ghosts of Havaar's school to find a way home.

What do you do when you're being sued by a sexy, professional football player? Whatever the jerk asks. Calder Castleman nailed the top three spots on my Never Not EVER dating list. ?Arrogant ? Pro athlete ? PLAYER Which means he's a triple threat of thou-shalt-not. His cocky attitude had me immediately putting him on ignore, but Never Not EVER list be damned, those mischievous hazel eyes that gleamed with his every dirty thought, along with that body of his—holy smokes, that body—suddenly had me agreeing to go on exactly one date with him. Oh. And the lawsuit he's threatened me with also might've helped persuade me. I'm known as The Big F*%\$ing Deal. Just ask the fans. My job is to throw touchdown passes that win games, and I get paid millions to do it. Not only was I named the AP "Player of the Year" for two years running, most recently, Petra Hyatt, Hollywood gossip blogger, anointed me with the same title, she just wasn't referring to football. Yeah, yeah. I know I sound like an a\$\$hole, but, ladies, come on. Can I help it if I'm hot, charming and well-hung? In all honesty, I'm really a pretty nice guy once you get to know me. But Rori Flannigan—possible girl of my dreams—doesn't want to get to know me. Matter of fact, she couldn't care less that she screwed with my love life and made me look like an idiot. So I'm going to make her care. And once she sees what a great catch I am, she'll beg me to drop the pending lawsuit make her mine. Because who wouldn't want to be with me? I'm The BFD

Mrs. McNeal turns her class of nineteen tattletales into respectful classmates who know how to behave in a true emergency. Includes note to parents.

President Donald J. Trump lays out his professional and personal worldview in this classic work—a firsthand account of the rise of America's foremost deal-maker. "I like thinking big. I always have. To me it's very simple: If you're going to be thinking anyway, you might as well think big."—Donald J. Trump Here is Trump in action—how he runs his organization and how he runs his life—as he meets the people he needs to meet, chats with family and friends, clashes with enemies, and challenges conventional thinking. But even a maverick plays by rules, and Trump has formulated time-tested guidelines for success. He isolates the common elements in his greatest accomplishments; he shatters myths; he names names, spells out the zeros, and fully reveals the deal-maker's art. And throughout, Trump talks—really talks—about how he does it. *Trump: The Art of the Deal* is an unguarded look at the mind of a brilliant entrepreneur—the ultimate read for anyone interested in the man behind the spotlight. Praise for *Trump: The Art of the Deal* "Trump makes one believe for a moment in the American dream again."—The New York Times "Donald Trump is a deal maker. He is a deal maker the way lions are carnivores and water is wet."—Chicago Tribune "Fascinating . . . wholly absorbing . . . conveys Trump's larger-than-life demeanor so vibrantly that the reader's attention is instantly and fully claimed."—Boston Herald "A chatty, generous, chutzpa-filled autobiography."—New York Post

Envious of her best friends lavish lifestyle, a young woman wonders how different her life would be if she had an opportunity to change her past.

Bob Fosse (1927-1987) is recognized as one of the most significant figures in post-World War II American musical theater. With his first Broadway musical, *The Pajama Game* in 1954, the "Fosse style" was already fully developed, with its trademark hunched shoulders, turned-in stance, and stuttering, staccato jazz movements. Fosse moved decisively into the role of director with *Redhead* in 1959 and was a key figure in the rise of the director-choreographer in the Broadway musical. He also became the only star director of musicals of his era--a group that included Jerome Robbins, Gower Champion, Michael Kidd, and Harold Prince--to equal his Broadway success in films. Following his unprecedented triple crown of show business awards in 1973 (an Oscar for *Cabaret*, Emmy for *Liza with a Z*, and Tony for *Pippin*), Fosse assumed complete control of virtually every element of his projects. But when at last he had achieved complete autonomy, his final efforts, the film *Star 80* and the musical *Big Deal*, written and directed by Fosse, were rejected by audiences and critics. A fascinating look at the evolution of Fosse as choreographer and director, *Big Deal: Bob Fosse and Dance in the American Musical* considers Fosse's career in the context of changes in the Broadway musical theater over four decades. It traces his early dance years and the importance of mentors George Abbott and Jerome Robbins on his work. It examines how each of the important women in his adult life--all dancers--impacted his career and influenced his dance aesthetic. Finally, the book investigates how his evolution as both artist and individual mirrored the social and political climate of his era and allowed him to comfortably ride a wave of cultural changes.

Upon hitting the ripe old age of 49, in the midst of perimenopause, Laurie Condon started reflecting on where she had been and where she was going. Laurie was trying to grasp what was happening to her body, and how quickly time was flying. Laurie Condon was hangry and moody which did not help. After waking up every day grumpy because nothing fit, she was determined to change her mindset and begin appreciating the journey. Other phases of life had their downsides too. For instance, going through puberty was awful, finding a significant other was challenging too. Becoming a mother and caring for an aging mother was daunting, but then something happened...

He was famous for telling stories. He could always make the story interesting. He had a way of seeing the best or funniest of every situation. He wrote down over 180 of his best stories in his last few years for all his family and friends. You will laugh, and relate to the stories of childhood, school years, and growing up during the depression. From his northern New Jersey, small town home he shares what it was like growing up in the 20's and 30's. From logging to working with horses, the stories provide a great view of the life style from that time period.

Not a Big Deal asks how texts might work to unsettle readers at a moment when unwelcome information is rejected as fake news or rebutted with alternative facts. When readers already recognize "defamiliarizing texts" as a category, how might texts still work toward the goals of defamiliarization? When readers refuse to grapple with texts that might shock them or disrupt their extant views about politics, race, or even narrative itself, how can texts elicit real engagement? This study draws from philosophy, narratology, social neuroscience, critical theory, and numerous other disciplines to read texts ranging from novels and short stories to graphic novels, films, and fiction broadcasted and podcasted—all of which enact curious strategies of disruption while insisting that they do no such thing. Following a model traceable to Toni Morrison's criticism and short fiction, texts by Kyle Baker, Scott Brown, Percival Everett, Daniel Handler, David Robert Mitchell, Jordan Peele, and Colson Whitehead suggest new strategies for unsettling the category-based perceptions behind what Everett calls "the insidious colonialist reader's eye which infects America." *Not a Big Deal* examines problems in our perception of the world and of texts and insists we do the same.

During a chance night shift on the cops beat, newsroom assistant Madeleine Harrington stumbles on the corruption story of a lifetime – a plot that would reshape the entire city. She teams up with her dad, a downtrodden columnist at the paper, to unearth the mystery. The muckrakers find the plot goes deeper – and contains more skeletons among the city's powerbrokers – than they imagined.

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