

Mirage

The Nobel laureate's masterful study of a disturbed man's struggle with the realities of everyday life

Julie Gordon, a leading research scientist at the age of 27, has created the most exciting virtual reality program ever--a computer-enhanced, 3D voyage into the mind. When she receives the news that her estranged twin sister Samantha is in a coma, she realizes that her sister is dying, and no one can determine the cause. Now, the only thing that can save her sister is Julie's experimental program. Julie must enter her sister's mind and confront the evil lurking within--before it destroys them both.

Throughout the 1960s and 1970s, Ivory Coast was touted as an African miracle, a poster child for modernization and the ways that Western aid and multinational corporations would develop the continent. At the same time, Marxist scholars—most notably Samir Amin—described the capitalist activity in Ivory Coast as empty, unsustainable, and incapable of bringing real change to the lives of ordinary people. To some extent, Amin's criticisms were validated when, in the 1980s, the Ivorian economy collapsed. In *African Miracle, African Mirage*, Abou B. Bamba incorporates economics, political science, and history to craft a bold, transnational study of the development practices and intersecting colonial cultures that continue to shape Ivory Coast today. He considers French, American, and Ivorian development discourses in examining the roles of hydroelectric projects and the sugar, coffee, and cocoa industries in the country's boom and bust. In so doing, he brings the agency of Ivorians themselves to the fore in a way not often seen in histories of development. Ultimately, he concludes that the

“maldevelopment” evident by the mid-1970s had less to do with the Ivory Coast’s “insufficiently modern” citizens than with the conflicting missions of French and American interests within the context of an ever-globalizing world.

"In the days before the Internet, books like Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring* and Marjorie Stoneman Douglas' *River of Grass* were groundbreaking calls to action that made citizens and politicians take notice. *Mirage* is such a book." — St. Petersburg Times “ Never before has the case been more compellingly made that America’ s dependence on a free and abundant water supply has become an illusion. Cynthia Barnett does it by telling us the stories of the amazing personalities behind our water wars, the stunning contradictions that allow the wettest state to have the most watered lawns, and the thorough research that makes her conclusions inescapable. Barnett has established herself as one of Florida’ s best journalists and *Mirage* is a must-read for anyone who cares about the future of the state.” — Mary Ellen Klas, Capital Bureau Chief, Miami Herald “ *Mirage* is the finest general study to date of the freshwater-supply crisis in Florida. Well-meaning villains abound in Cynthia Barnett’ s story, but so too do heroes, such as Arthur R. Marshall Jr., Nathaniel Reed, and Marjorie Harris Carr. The author’ s research is as thorough as her prose is graceful. Drinking water is the new oil. Get used to it.” — Michael Gannon, Distinguished Professor of history, University of Florida, and author of *Florida: A Short History* “ With lively prose and a journalist’ s eye for a good story, Cynthia Barnett offers a sobering account of water scarcity problems facing Florida— one of our wettest states— and the rest of the East Coast. Drawing on lessons learned from the American West, *Mirage* uses the lens of cultural attitudes about water use and misuse to plead for reform. Sure to engage and fascinate as it informs.” — Robert Glennon, Morris K. Udall Professor of Law

and Public Policy, University of Arizona, and author of *Water Follies: Groundwater Pumping and the Fate of America's Fresh Waters* Part investigative journalism, part environmental history, *Mirage* reveals how the eastern half of the nation—historically so wet that early settlers predicted it would never even need irrigation—has squandered so much of its abundant freshwater that it now faces shortages and conflicts once unique to the arid West. Florida's parched swamps and supersized residential developments set the stage in the first book to call attention to the steady disappearance of freshwater in the American East, from water-diversion threats in the Great Lakes to tapped-out freshwater aquifers along the Atlantic seaboard. Told through a colorful cast of characters including Walt Disney, Jeb Bush and Texas oilman Boone Pickens, *Mirage* ferries the reader through the key water-supply issues facing America and the globe: water wars, the politics of development, inequities in the price of water, the bottled-water industry, privatization, and new-water-supply schemes. From its calamitous opening scene of a sinkhole swallowing a house in Florida to its concluding meditation on the relationship between water and the American character, *Mirage* is a compelling and timely portrait of the use and abuse of freshwater in an era of rapidly vanishing natural resources.

LA MORT N'ÉTAIT QUE LE DÉBUT... Le Docteur *Mirage* peut parler aux morts. Mais un esprit reste introuvable malgré les talents de Shan Fong : celui de son défunt mari, Hwen. Lorsqu'un occultiste au passé classé secret défense fait appel à ses services, Shan trouve une piste qui pourrait bien lui permettre de résoudre la plus grande énigme de sa carrière : retrouver Hwen ! Shan doit alors traverser les frontières de notre réalité et entrer dans le Monde des Morts pour sauver l'homme qu'elle aime... Ou se perdre pour toujours dans l'au-delà. Jen Van Meter (Captain Marvel), autrice nommée aux Eisner awards, et l'artiste Roberto

de la Torre (Daredevil, Shadowman) embarquent la spécialiste de l'occulte dans une quête surnaturelle bouleversante. Contient les deux mini séries Death Defying Doctor Mirage 1-5 et Doctor Mirage : Second Lives : 1-4. Récit complet.

Quest for Exceptional Leadership: Mirage to Reality outlines the emergence of a new fifth phase of human enterprise that is redefining the criteria of success as well as re-configuring the routes to success. The author analyses the changing paradigms and provides a down-to-earth, realistic blueprint to acquire the relevant leadership traits. Corporations do not have the option to wait; they have to re-align themselves with the new reality – now. The author makes a compelling case that those who embrace the new realism will achieve sustained profitability for their companies and 'Triple Top Line' of joy, peace, and contentment in their personal lives.

My Mirage (1986 - 1991) is the first major body of work by Jim Shaw, an artist from Los Angeles who started exhibiting in the late 1970s. Composed of nearly 170 pieces - each one drawn, silk-screened, photographed, sculpted, filmed or painted in a different style - My Mirage recounts the wandering of Billy, a white, middle-class American sucked into the whirlwind of the 1960s and 1970s. His is a story of unceasing failure. After an anxious childhood, Billy later withdraws from the guilt-wracked spasms of adolescence in order to lose himself in a psychedelic utopia, which soon becomes a nightmare. In the depth of psychotic hallucinations, he follows a woman who he worships into a pagan sect, before finally returning to the religion of his youth, 'reborn' as a fundamentalist Christian. From the onset of the series, My Mirage has been constructed with the idea of the book as model. Not only does the overarching narrative take the form of a coming of age novel, but many of the individual pieces make direct reference to a book format. Created in close collaboration with Jim Shaw, the book thus presents itself as

the culmination of the artist's original project. My Mirage — The Book will allow Jim Shaw's ever-growing audience to look at the whole of Billy's story for the first time. Furthermore, its format and content should appeal to a wide readership, beyond contemporary art, which includes anyone interested in the history of the counter-culture of the 1960s and 1970s, American graphic design and popular illustration.

Ifølge forfatteren kan USA og Vesten af mangel på viden og vilje til at forstå ødelægge forholdet til den arabiske verden.

Today's world is one marked by the signs of digital capitalism and global capitalist expansion, and China is increasingly being integrated into this global system of production and consumption. As a result, China's immediate material impact is now felt almost everywhere in the world; however, the significance and process of this integration is far from understood. This study shows how the a priori categories of statistical reasoning came to be re-born and re-lived in the People's Republic - as essential conditions for the possibility of a new mode of knowledge and governance. From the ruins of the Maoist revolution China has risen through a mode of quantitative self-objectification. As the author argues, an epistemological rift has separated the Maoist years from the present age of the People's Republic, which appears on the global stage as a mirage. This study is an ethnographic investigation of concepts - of the conceptual forces that have produced and been produced by - two forms of knowledge, life, and governance. As the author shows, the world of China, contrary to the common view, is not the Chinese world; it is a symptomatic moment of our world at

the present time.

The second book in the Web Shifter's Library series returns to the adventures of Esen, a shapeshifting alien who must navigate the perils of a hostile universe. Relationships get complicated when you don't know who—or what—you really are. Esen must find a way to rescue a hapless group of chimeras, beings who are a new and unique blend of species she knows, when she can't become one herself. When Evan Gooseberry tries to help, he is shattered to learn he himself isn't entirely Human and begins to suspect his new friend Esen isn't what she seems. Complicating matters, a mysterious contagion has killed the crew of the ship that brought the chimeras—and Evan—to Botharis. Everyone's been quarantined inside the All Species' Library of Linguistics and Culture, including over a hundred disgruntled alien scholars. The risks climb as Skalet and Lionel continue their quest to solve the disappearance of Paul's mother's ship, the Sidereal Pathfinder, only to find themselves caught in a tangle of loyalties as Skalet is betrayed by her own Kraal affiliates, who infiltrate the Library. All of which would be quite enough for one Web-being's day, but Paul Ragem hopes to rekindle the romance of his first love. A shame Esen hasn't told him who's hiding in their greenhouse.

Danger looms large in the sequel to Haven, which Booklist called “a blend of the Gemma Doyle trilogy, the Twilight saga, and Lois Duncan's thrillers.” Violet McKenna is back for her senior year at Winterhaven and thrilled to be with Aidan after a long

summer apart. But while their love for each other is as strong as ever, their troubles are far from over. News of a rogue vampire on a killing spree sets everyone on edge. While Aidan is determined to stop the killer, Violet is chilled by a horrifying vision she simply must prevent...for if she can't, two people she loves will meet a violent end. In the midst of Violet's fear, a mysterious newcomer enters her life—and he has some vital information not just about her past, but about her future as well. Now everything Violet held as truth is upended, and she is left not knowing whom to trust, if she is in danger, and—worst of all—whether she and Aidan are really meant to be together.

From bestselling author Gary Krist, the story of the metropolis that never should have been and the visionaries who dreamed it into reality Little more than a century ago, the southern coast of California--bone-dry, harbor-less, isolated by deserts and mountain ranges--seemed destined to remain scrappy farmland. Then, as if overnight, one of the world's iconic cities emerged. At the heart of Los Angeles' meteoric rise were three flawed visionaries: William Mulholland, an immigrant ditch-digger turned self-taught engineer, designed the massive aqueduct that would make urban life here possible. D.W. Griffith, who transformed the motion picture from a vaudeville-house novelty into a cornerstone of American culture, gave L.A. its signature industry. And Aimee Semple McPherson, a charismatic evangelist who founded a religion, cemented the city's identity as a center for spiritual exploration. All were masters of their craft, but also illusionists, of a kind. The images they conjured up--of a blossoming city in the desert,

of a factory of celluloid dreamworks, of a community of seekers finding personal salvation under the California sun--were like mirages liable to evaporate on closer inspection. All three would pay a steep price to realize these dreams, in a crescendo of hubris, scandal, and catastrophic failure of design that threatened to topple each of their personal empires. Yet when the dust settled, the mirage that was LA remained. Spanning the years from 1900 to 1930, *The Mirage Factory* is the enthralling tale of an improbable city and the people who willed it into existence by pushing the limits of human engineering and imagination.

The skies above the Angeles Crest mountains grew dark, an unending dark, while a lone campfire raged, illuminating half of Horse Flats camp area. The flames' tips rose upon their demonic haunches, hissing, whipping, and breathing, thawing the young blase faces, who with their multi-hued complexions lolled around the campfire. Finally these boys, who were from every region of Southern California, could take a break and smile--some for the first time.

Two hundred years ago, only the most reckless or eccentric Europeans had dared to traverse the unmapped territory of the modern-day Middle East. But in 1798, more than 150 French engineers, artists, doctors, and scientists—even a poet and a musicologist—traveled to the Nile Valley under the command of Napoleon Bonaparte and his invading army. Hazarding hunger, hardship, uncertainty, and disease, Napoleon's "savants" risked their lives in pursuit of discovery. The first large-scale

interaction between Europeans and Muslims in the modern era, the audacious expedition was both a triumph and a disaster, resulting in finds of immense historical and scientific importance (including the ruins of the colossal pyramids and the Rosetta Stone) and in countless tragic deaths through plague, privation, madness, or violence. Acclaimed journalist Nina Burleigh brings readers back to the landmark adventure at the dawn of the modern era that ultimately revealed the deepest secrets of ancient Egypt to a curious continent.

First published in 1997, *Mirage* took the fantasy world on a whirlwind tour, introducing us to paintings so bold, so provocative and superb that it became a major success. This astounding volume showcases alluring paintings of sensuous women and strong men, set against mythical, otherworldly backgrounds, and contains over 40 color and black and white illustrations, as well as 8 full pages of new, never before seen or published art work.

A thrilling sequel from an exciting new voice in middle-grade sci-fi tracks two ocean-born children braving the dangers of the Above World. The desert is no place for ocean-dwelling Kampii like Aluna and Hoku, especially now that Aluna has secretly started growing her tail. But the maniacal Karl Strand is out to conquer the Above World, and the horselike Equians are next on his list. Aluna, Hoku, and their friends — winged Calli and Equian exile Dash — race to the desert city of Mirage, intent on warning the Equians. When they arrive, Strand's clone, Scorch, has gotten there first. Now the

Equian leader has vowed to take all his people to war as part of Strand's army. Any herd that refuses to join him by the time of the desert-wide competition known as the Thunder Trials will be destroyed. To have any chance of defeating Scorch and convincing the Equians to switch sides, the four friends must find a way to win the Trials. The challenge seems impossible. But if they fail, the desert — and possibly all of the Above World — will be lost to Karl Strand forever. Here is the action-packed follow-up to *Above World*, which Kirkus Reviews called “a thrilling sci-fi adventure. Imaginative and riveting.”

First published anonymously in 1804—its author remains unknown—*Mirage* is set in Guangzhou (Canton), some decades before the city was overwhelmed by the opium trade and the Opium War. Su Jishi, the adolescent son of the head of the Chinese traders' association, the men licensed to deal with foreign merchants in the port, is suddenly burdened with responsibility for his powerful family after his father's unexpected death. More interested in sex than money, Su Jishi learns to navigate between pleasure and commerce, as rebellions erupt just outside the city. At the crossroads of two of the greatest Chinese books—the aristocratic coming-of-age novel, *The Story of the Stone* (*The Dream of the Red Chamber*) and the military epic *Outlaws of the Marsh*—*Mirage* is panorama of libertines and concubines, lecherous monks and celibate soldiers, corrupt officials and drunken

scholars. As entertaining as a bestseller, it is a hectic recreation of vanished mores and customs, and the life of a Chinese city as it was beginning to discover—and deal with—the rest of the world.

'Clear-eyed and illuminating.' Henry Kissinger, former Secretary of State and National Security Advisor 'A rich, superbly researched, balanced history of the modern Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.' General David Petraeus, former Commander U.S. Central Command and Director of the Central Intelligence Agency 'Destined to be the best single volume on the Kingdom.' Ambassador Chas Freeman, former U.S. Ambassador to Saudi Arabia and Assistant Secretary of Defense 'Should be prescribed reading for a new generation of political leaders.' Sir Richard Dearlove, former Chief of H.M. Secret Intelligence Service (MI6) and Master of Pembroke College, Cambridge. Something extraordinary is happening in Saudi Arabia. A traditional, tribal society once known for its lack of tolerance is rapidly implementing significant economic and social reforms. An army of foreign consultants is rewriting the social contract, King Salman has cracked down hard on corruption, and his dynamic though inexperienced son, the Crown Prince Mohammad bin Salman, is promoting a more tolerant Islam. But is all this a new vision for Saudi Arabia or merely a mirage likely to dissolve into Iranian-style revolution? David Rundell - one of America's foremost experts on Saudi Arabia -

explains how the country has been stable for so long, why it is less so today, and what is most likely to happen in the future. The book is based on the author's close contacts and intimate knowledge of the country where he spent 15 years living and working as a diplomat. Vision or Mirage demystifies one of the most powerful, but least understood, states in the Middle East and is essential reading for anyone interested in the power dynamics and politics of the Arab World. Named one of Book Riot's Six Great Nonfiction Books about Time: a tour of clocks throughout the centuries--from the sandglass to the telomere--that reveals the physical, biological, and social nature of time "[A] mind-stretching book. . . . Skilfully written."--John Carey, Sunday Times (London) What is time? This question has fascinated philosophers, mathematicians, and scientists for thousands of years. Why does time seem to speed up with age? What is its connection with memory, anticipation, and sleep cycles? Award-winning author and mathematician Joseph Mazur provides an engaging exploration of how the understanding of time has evolved throughout human history and offers a compelling new vision, submitting that time lives within us. Our cells, he notes, have a temporal awareness, guided by environmental cues in sync with patterns of social interaction. Readers learn that, as a consequence of time's personal nature, a forty-eight-hour journey on the space shuttle can feel shorter than a six-

hour trip on the Soyuz capsule, that the Amondawa of the Amazon do not have ages, and that time speeds up with fever and slows down when we feel in danger. With a narrative punctuated by personal stories of time's effects on truck drivers, Olympic racers, prisoners, and clockmakers, Mazur's journey is filled with fascinating insights into how our technologies, our bodies, and our attitudes can change our perceptions. Ultimately, time reveals itself as something that rides on the rhythms of our minds. The Clock Mirage presents an innovative perspective that will force us to rethink our relationship with time, and how best to use it.

In World War Two a secret US military experiment caused a warship to vanish at sea - but has the tech now fallen into the wrong hands? Juan Cabrillo breaks into a Russian prison deep in the Siberian wastes to rescue his friend Yuri Borodin - the man who helped build the top-secret spy ship Oregon. But when the mission goes badly awry, Juan is left clutching the pieces of a disturbing puzzle: was Yuri arrested because he had discovered the horrifying secret behind the sinister designs of Russian admiral Pytor Kenin? Juan knows he owes it to his friend to find out. With his own private army and a weapon based on plans made by scientific genius Nikolai Tesla, Admiral Kenin is someone only a fool would cross. However, with the weapon about to start a war, Juan and the Oregon have no choice but to set course for trouble. 'Cussler is hard to beat.' Daily Mail 'The

adventure king.' Sunday Express

The crown of Dihya had been stripped from me, my face changed, my body broken. But I was not a slave and I was not a spare. I was my mother's daughter, and I would survive and endure. I would find my way back home.

*****The instant Sunday Times bestseller! 'Prepare yourself for a story that's enriching, thrilling, and captivating' - BuzzFeed'Somaiya Daud is a rare talent. A smart, romantic, exciting debut.' - Veronica Roth, #1 New York Times bestselling author of DIVERGENT'By turns thrilling and ruminative, sexy and heartbreaking' - Sabaa Tahir, author of an EMBER IN THE

ASHES*****In a star system dominated by the brutal Vathek empire, eighteen-year-old Amani is a dreamer. She dreams of what life was like before the occupation and receiving a sign that one day, she, too, will have adventures, and travel beyond her isolated moon. But when adventure comes for Amani, it is not what she expects. She is kidnapped by the government and taken in secret to the royal palace. There, she discovers that she is nearly identical to the cruel half-Vathek Princess Maram. The princess is so hated by her conquered people that she requires a body double to appear in public, ready to die in her place. As Amani is forced into her new role, she can't help but enjoy the palace's beauty - and her time with the princess' fiance, Idris. But the glitter of the royal court belies

a world of violence and fear, and she soon realises that one wrong move could lead to her death...

"Bradley is sharp and rueful, and a voice for a more seasoned, constructive vision of our international relations with East Asia." --Christian Science Monitor
James Bradley introduces us to the prominent Americans--including FDR's grandfather, Warren Delano--who in the 1800s made their fortunes in the China opium trade. Meanwhile, American missionaries sought a myth: noble Chinese peasants eager to Westernize. The media propagated this mirage, and FDR believed that supporting Chiang Kai-shek would make China America's best friend in Asia. But Chiang was on his way out and when Mao Zedong instead came to power, Americans were shocked, wondering how we had "lost China." From the 1850s to the origins of the Vietnam War, Bradley reveals how American misconceptions about China have distorted our policies and led to the avoidable deaths of millions. The China Mirage dynamically explores the troubled history that still defines U.S.-Chinese relations today.

Published two years after their award-winning newspaper series, this is the compelling, day-by-day account of two Sun-Times reporters who infiltrated the small businessman's world to expose corruption within the Chicago government. Zekman and Smith bought The Mirage tavern, then sat back and recorded the

parade of city inspectors, liquor vendors, tradesmen, and others with their sticky fingers extended. With evidence in hand, they shut down the bar and wrote a series of articles that have never been matched in intensity and long-term effect. The Mirage became synonymous with Chicago corruption. The journalistic accolades also flowed in, but the Zekman and Smith's bid for the biggest-the Pulitzer Prize-was torpedoed, perhaps by jealous colleagues at another major metropolitan paper. This edition includes a new afterword by the authors. Court of Lions is the long-awaited second and final installment in the “smart, sexy, and devilishly clever” Mirage series by Somaiya Daud (Renée Ahdieh, New York Times bestselling author of The Beautiful)! On a planet on the brink of revolution, Amani has been forced into isolation. She’s been torn from the boy she loves and has given up contact with her fellow rebels to protect her family. In taking risks for the rebel cause, Amani may have lost Maram’s trust forever. But the princess is more complex than she seems, and now Amani is once more at her capricious nature. One wrong move could see her executed for high treason. On the eve of Maram’s marriage to Idris comes an unexpected proposal: in exchange for taking her place in the festivities, Maram will keep Amani’s rebel associations a secret. Alone and desperate, Amani is thrust into the center of the court, navigating the dangerous factions on the princess's behalf. But the court is

not what she expects. As a risky plan grows in her mind, and with the rebels poised to make their stand, Amani begins to believe her world might have a future. But every choice she makes comes with a cost. Can Amani risk the ones she loves the most for a war she's not sure she can win?

This study explores the tensions and contradictions in the themes and style of L'Allegria. It establishes links between Ungaretti and the French Symbolist poets, and reexamines the collection's affinity with the work of De Chirico, Cubism, Futurism and Surrealism. Offering ground-breaking views, particularly on the war poems, it demonstrates how Ungaretti used the obscure nature of Hermetic language to express his proto-Fascist and Nietzschean sympathies, thus destroying the myth of Ungaretti as a 'man of peace' searching for a religious answer to the problems of existence.

Deux histoires d'amour-passion à la japonaise où se mêlent pureté, sensualité, perversité, fétichisme et voyeurisme. Dans la première, un misanthrope tkyoïte est fasciné par une actrice célèbre. Une obsession qui le mènera vers la folie criminelle. La seconde a pour cadre un train, dans lequel un homme raconte à son compagnon de voyage une histoire de tableau dont les personnages s'animent.

“A refreshing and unique coming-of-age story...a beautiful and necessary meditation on finding strength in one’s culture.” —Entertainment Weekly, Top Pick of the Month “A YA marvel that will shock breath into your lungs. If you loved The Wrath and the Dawn and Children of Blood and Bone, Mirage will captivate you.” —The Christian Science Monitor “This debut fantasy has what it takes to be the next big thing in sci-fi/fantasy.” —SLJ, starred review “Immersive,

captivating.” —ALA Booklist, starred review In a world dominated by the brutal Vathek empire, eighteen-year-old Amani is a dreamer. She dreams of what life was like before the occupation; she dreams of writing poetry like the old-world poems she adores; she dreams of receiving a sign from Dihya that one day, she, too, will have adventure, and travel beyond her isolated home. But when adventure comes for Amani, it is not what she expects: she is kidnapped by the regime and taken in secret to the royal palace, where she discovers that she is nearly identical to the cruel half-Vathek Princess Maram. The princess is so hated by her conquered people that she requires a body double, someone to appear in public as Maram, ready to die in her place. As Amani is forced into her new role, she can't help but enjoy the palace's beauty—and her time with the princess' fiancé, Idris. But the glitter of the royal court belies a world of violence and fear. If Amani ever wishes to see her family again, she must play the princess to perfection...because one wrong move could lead to her death.

After a brush with death, a thrill-seeking teenager becomes withdrawn and antagonistic. As her relationships crumble, she must fight the person she has become or lose herself forever."

Aluna, Hoku, and their friends must travel across the desert to warn the Equians that the maniacal Karl Strand is out to conquer them, but to get the Equians to listen they must win the Thunder Trials, a challenge that seems impossible.

The dismal truth about hedge funds and how investors can get a greater share of the profits Shocking but true: if all the money that's ever been invested in hedge funds had been in treasury bills, the results would have been twice as good. Although hedge fund managers have earned some great fortunes, investors as a group have done quite poorly, particularly in recent years. Plagued by high fees, complex legal structures, poor disclosure, and return chasing,

investors confront surprisingly meager results. Drawing on an insider's view of industry growth during the 1990s, a time when hedge fund investors did well in part because there were relatively few of them, *The Hedge Fund Mirage* chronicles the early days of hedge fund investing before institutions got into the game and goes on to describe the seeding business, a specialized area in which investors provide venture capital-type funding to promising but undiscovered hedge funds. Today's investors need to do better, and this book highlights the many subtle and not-so-subtle ways that the returns and risks are biased in favor of the hedge fund manager, and how investors and allocators can redress the imbalance. The surprising frequency of fraud, highlighted with several examples that the author was able to avoid through solid due diligence, industry contacts, and some luck. Why new and emerging hedge fund managers are where generally better returns are to be found, because most capital invested is steered towards apparently safer but less profitable large, established funds rather than smaller managers that evoke the more profitable 1990s. Hedge fund investors have had it hard in recent years, but *The Hedge Fund Mirage* is here to change that, by turning the tables on conventional wisdom and putting the hedge fund investor back on top.

Robyn le sait, son mari Paul est loin d'être parfait. Artiste fantasque, insouciant, dépensier, ce joueur invétéré a du mal avec les limites du quotidien. Le couple s'aime encore mais la crise couve. Sans compter la question des enfants. Robyn en veut un, Paul est d'accord. Mais le temps presse, et rien ne se passe... Pourquoi pas un voyage au Maroc ? Changer d'air, prendre le temps de vivre, se redécouvrir, et faire enfin cet enfant qui leur manque tant. Sur place, la magie opère : Paul se remet à peindre et Robyn à espérer. C'est alors qu'une nouvelle tombe, un secret révélé, si lourd, si explosif qu'il dévaste tout. Et Paul disparaît. Folle

de douleur, terrifiée à l'idée de perdre celui qu'elle ne peut s'empêcher d'aimer, Robyn va se lancer à sa recherche. Une quête qui la conduira au bout d'elle-même...

When a high-profile Russian prisoner warns of a deadly weapon designed by one of America's greatest inventors, Juan Cabrillo and the Oregon crew must race to uncover the truth in this adventure in the #1 New York Times–bestselling series. In October 1943, a U.S. destroyer sailed out of Philadelphia and supposedly vanished, the result of a Navy experiment with electromagnetic radiation. The story was considered a hoax—but now Juan Cabrillo and his Oregon colleagues aren't so sure. There is talk of a new weapon soon to be auctioned, something very dangerous to America's interests, and the rumors link it to the great inventor Nikola Tesla, who was working with the Navy when he died in 1943. Was he responsible for the experiment? Are his notes in the hands of enemies? As Cabrillo races to find the truth, he discovers there is even more at stake than he could have imagined—but by the time he realizes it, he may already be too late.

Angry Warrior, Modern Man... Leif Langdon was suddenly ripped from the 20th century and plunged into the ancient world of The Mirage. But his entrance into this awesome land awakened the slumbering Dwayanu, who in this strange incarnation was also Leif. Thus, two-men-in-one battle with the beautiful witch-woman Lur and the ethereal beauty Evalie for the glory of The Mirage.

A mind-bending novel in which an alternate history of 9/11 and its aftermath uncovers startling truths about America and the Middle East 11/9/2001: Christian fundamentalists hijack four jetliners. They fly two into the Tigris & Euphrates World Trade Towers in Baghdad, and a third into the Arab Defense Ministry in Riyadh. The fourth plane, believed to be bound for Mecca, is

brought down by its passengers. The United Arab States declares a War on Terror. Arabian and Persian troops invade the Eastern Seaboard and establish a Green Zone in Washington, D.C. . . . Summer, 2009: Arab Homeland Security agent Mustafa al Baghdadi interrogates a captured suicide bomber. The prisoner claims that the world they are living in is a mirage—in the real world, America is a superpower, and the Arab states are just a collection of "backward third-world countries." A search of the bomber's apartment turns up a copy of The New York Times, dated September 12, 2001, that appears to support his claim. Other captured terrorists have been telling the same story. The president wants answers, but Mustafa soon discovers he's not the only interested party. The gangster Saddam Hussein is conducting his own investigation. And the head of the Senate Intelligence Committee—a war hero named Osama bin Laden—will stop at nothing to hide the truth. As Mustafa and his colleagues venture deeper into the unsettling world of terrorism, politics, and espionage, they are confronted with questions without any rational answers, and the terrifying possibility that their world is not what it seems. Acclaimed novelist Matt Ruff has created a shadow world that is eerily recognizable but, at the same time, almost unimaginable. Gripping, subversive, and unexpectedly moving, *The Mirage* probes our deepest convictions and most arresting fears.

Sully Mills is a Marine with few friends and family in his hometown of Mirage, Arizona, when he is recruited to be a covert operative for a government agency. With an assignment that involves years of training, aliases, and an erased identity, Sully knows the road ahead will be full of challenges. But as his new career leads him to a professional partner with a similar dark past, Sully has no idea that he is about to be tested in ways he never imagined. Sully and Zoe Millstad are the most promising government assassins the department has ever seen. As their

assignments send them on dangerous missions around the world, Sully and Zoe develop into a fantastic team both on and off the field. But when an assignment goes horribly wrong, Sully is thrust in the midst of a clouded mystery where he cannot trust anyone. As his heart turns as cold as his killer instincts, only time will tell if Sully will find the answers he so desperately needs. In this gripping adventure, a government assassin is led down a path lined with danger, death, and love to the truth and a deal with the devil.

Rancho Mirage is a beautiful residential and desert-resort community nestled along the Santa Rosa Mountains, located between the cities of Palm Springs and Palm Desert in the Coachella Valley. Bighorn sheep and the Agua Caliente tribe of Cahuilla Indians were the area's early inhabitants. Date farms and ranchos developed after aquifers were discovered. Guest ranches soon followed and became favorite destinations for the rich and famous in the 1940s and 1950s. By the early 1950s, residential communities designed in classic Desert Modern style were being constructed along with the valley's first two country clubs with 18-hole golf courses. Rancho Mirage soon emerged as the "golf capital of the world" and has since grown to be a premier resort and residential community with a permanent population of 16,870 and several thousand additional winter residents who enjoy the city's 10 country clubs, three world-class resorts, and scores of restaurants.

The Data Mirage: Why Companies Fail to Actually Use Their Data is a business book for executives and leaders who want to unlock more insights from their data and make better decisions. The importance of data doesn't need an introduction or a fancy pitch deck. Data plays a critical role in helping companies to better understand their users, beat out their competitors, and breakthrough their growth targets. However, despite significant investments

in their data, most organizations struggle to get much value from it. According to Forrester, only 38% of senior executives and decision-makers “have a high level of confidence in their customer insights and only 33% trust the analytics they generate from their business operations.” This reflects the real world that I have experienced. In this book, I will help readers formulate an analytics strategy that works in the real world, show them how to think about KPIs and help them tackle the problems they are bound to come across as they try to use data to make better decisions.

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