

## Paper Cuts A Memoir

“There are few books that explore the complex relations between famous parents and their children. I knew Claudio and his Nobel-laureate father, Emilio Segrè; in this honest, angry, loving memoir I hear their voices again, speaking across the gulf that all families struggle to bridge.” — Richard Rhodes, author of *Dark Sun: The Making of the Hydrogen Bomb* “This is a warm and openhearted book. Claudio Segrè shows that all the traditional tensions between fathers and sons can still exist even in the extraordinary milieu he grew up in. He evokes that experience with grace and a fine eye for the telling details.” — Adam Hochschild, author of *Half the Way Home* “It’s a wonderful book, a coming-of-age story in the atomic era, the struggle of a son for the love and respect of a famous father. It is also a perceptive insight into the pursuit of science, the price of fame, and how families bridge differences between generations and cultures to find age-old connections, and ultimately love and understanding.” — James Kunetka, author of *City of Fire: Los Alamos and the Atomic Age* and *Oppenheimer: The Years of Risk* “The Nobel Prize-winning physicist Emilio Segrè gave an account of his own life in the posthumously published *A Mind Always in Motion*. In the present book Segrè’s only son (now himself deceased) gives an account of his growing up with such a father. The experience as he describes it was not an easy one. Transported in infancy from Italy to the United States, Claudio was required to negotiate his way between his family’s persistent conviction of European cultural superiority and the danger of being perceived as ‘not one of us’ by his new compatriots. Admiring his father, he was conscious of himself as ‘Son of Superman,’ alternatively feeling eclipsed by and relishing the position. Academically he was beset by a ‘joyless desire to achieve’ and only seldom gained the praise or sympathy he longed for from his exacting and often sarcastic father. But he discovered the delights of hot dogs, comic books, and baseball and forged ahead on his own by choosing the reputedly ‘Red’ Reed College over his family’s preferred Berkeley. After graduation, in search of work to which he could ‘be as devoted... as my father was to physics,’ he spent some years as a journalist before ultimately making a creditable academic career as a historian, along the way establishing an apparently satisfactory family life of his own. The book ends with an account of his relations with his father as an adult, including a disappointing attempt at a therapeutic confrontation.” — Katherine Livingston, *Science* “How does a son emerge from his father’s shadow when it is the size of a mushroom cloud? Such was the plight of Claudio G. Segrè, whose father, Emilio, won the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1959 and helped to create the atomic bomb... [He] recounts his lifelong quest to establish an independent identity. He also tells of his hope that his own success would earn him the respect and acceptance of his difficult father... Segrè alternately describes his father as Superman, a mighty king and a basilisk, a mythical reptile whose very look is fatal. Nevertheless, his father emerges as a good, caring man, unsure how to handle the fame that separates him from his son. It is tragic, therefore, that no true reconciliation occurs, and that Segrè’s only moment of catharsis takes place when it is already too late, in 1989, when he delivers his father’s eulogy.” — Douglas A. Sylva, *The New York Times* “In this heartfelt counterpart to his father’s... autobiography, *A Mind Always in Motion*, journalist and professor [Claudio] Segrè... attempts to shed some thawing light on the cold peace between father and son that

lasted until Emilio Segrè's death in 1989, despite the affectionate nose-rubbings of the title." — Publishers Weekly "The son of a Nobel laureate and Manhattan Project collaborator meditates on the inspirations and disappointments of a difficult relationship... In 1959, [the author's father] shared the Nobel Prize for his work on antimatter. But fatherhood isn't as precise a science as physics, and young Claudio mixed pride in his father's 'superman' achievements with frustration and rage at the impossible standards and criticisms that so outweighed the occasional moment of affection between them... Segrè's memoir of an immigrant childhood is often poignant... at bottom a thoughtful account of life with a father who found the behavior of atomic particles far easier to comprehend than the emotional life of his son." — Kirkus Reviews

Published in 1858, this memoir recounts the life and work of the natural historian and geologist Hugh Edwin Strickland (1811-53). Written by his father-in-law, the Scottish naturalist Sir William Jardine (1800-74), the book covers Strickland's early childhood, his education at Oxford, his involvement in and influence upon the establishment of the Ray Society and his notable academic pursuits in natural history before his life was tragically cut short by a freak railway accident in 1853, when he was just forty-two. The reader will gain an insight into Strickland's character, his scientific acquaintances, including Henslow and Darwin, and his wide-ranging interests in the area of natural history, including geology, zoology, palaeontology and especially ornithology, demonstrated by his study *The Dodo and its Kindred* (1848). Drawing upon revealing and informative extracts from Strickland's journals throughout, the book also contains a wide selection of Strickland's shorter scientific writings.

A dazzlingly original memoir, *Paper Cuts* takes us inside the mind of a young Oxford academic devastated by severe mental illness. 'I have a small line of red dots on the back of my left hand, where the needle goes in. I have had hundreds of ketamine injections, more than anyone else, perhaps. The needle goes in, and the truth comes out. Sometimes I am a child again. Sometimes I have the innocence of a child, but I am not innocent. I know too much. I have known too much.' With *Paper Cuts*, Stephen Bernard boldly lives through the trauma of childhood abuse and mental illness. He writes to escape and confront, to accuse and explain. Each morning when he wakes, Stephen Bernard must reconstruct his self: every night he writes himself a letter to be read the next day. The fractured, intensely personal narrative of *Paper Cuts* follows a single day in his life as he navigates a course through the effects of mania, medication and memories. 'Beautifully written... Brilliant' Henry Marsh 'Distinguished and desolating... The saving grace is the writer's undaunted eye for the beauty of the world' Hilary Mantel 'Chilling, riveting, extraordinary, wonderful' Roddy Doyle 'It is an extraordinary book in its unblinking truthfulness' Hannah Jane Parkinson, *Observer*

This publication is a biographical account of the founder of Singapore, Sir Stamford Raffles, through a study of the lives of his closest friends and contemporaries. Some of the personalities featured include William Brown Ramsay, John Leyden and Thomas Horsfield. Market: Those interested in the development of 20th-century science. A modest scientific review begun by Cornell University in 1893, *The Physical Review* is today the most prestigious and wide-ranging collection of archival journals of American physics. To celebrate the centenary of this influential publication, Cornell professor Paul Hartman provides an informal, anecdote-rich history of the journal. This book offers readers a special opportunity to meet the scientists who initiated and nurtured the magazine and revisit landmark papers, abstracts from meetings of the American

Physical Society, and articles that chronicled advances in world physics.

The author, who is a writing coach, presents a step-by-step guide for recording a personal or family history. The book covers jogging one's memory, conducting interviews and research, discerning fact from fiction, choosing a theme, making it meaningful, and editing a finished product. It includes exercises, sample life stories, and tips on grammar and storytelling techniques.

Despite the modern high-rise buildings, international brand names and many Caucasian faces, Hong Kong still retains much of its Asian character. Learn how feng shui influences the way of life and the importance of the concept of 'face', which affects interpersonal relationships and business transactions. Packed with practical tips and a comprehensive resource section, CultureShock! Hong Kong is all you will need to survive and succeed in this highly competitive society.

Each year brings a batch of new memoirs, ranging from works by former teachers and celebrity has-beens to disillusioned soldiers and bestselling novelists. In addition to becoming bestsellers in their own right, memoirs have become a popular object of inquiry in the academy and a mainstay in most MFA workshops. Courses in what is now called "life writing" study memoir alongside personal essays, diaries, and autobiographies. *Memoir: An Introduction* proffers a succinct and comprehensive survey of the genre (and its many subgenres) while taking readers through the various techniques, themes, and debates that have come to characterize the ubiquitous literary form. Its fictional origins are traced to eighteenth-century British novels; its early American roots are examined in Benjamin Franklin's *Autobiography* and colonial captivity narratives; and its ethical conundrums are considered via the imbroglios brought on by the questionable claims in Rigoberta Menchú's *I, Rigoberta*, and more notoriously, James Frey's *A Million Little Pieces*. Alongside these more traditional literary forms, Couser expands the discussion of memoir to include film with what he calls "documemoir" (exemplified in Nathaniel Kahn's *My Architect*) and graphic narratives like Art Spiegelman's *Maus*.

"The Italian Italo Svevo had many things in common with other writers: a long struggle for recognition, a mutually respectful friendship with a noteworthy author (in Svevo's case, James Joyce), and a long list of neuroses. Unlike some writers, however, Svevo was fortunate to have a wife who worked tirelessly on his behalf." "After Svevo's death in 1928 at the age of sixty-six, Livia Veneziani Svevo penned this portrait of a serious artist and a loving, if quirky, marriage. *Memoir of Italo Svevo* illuminates his subject's darkly comic novels and shows how a successful middle-aged businessman, as obsessed with smoking as with his abandoned literary ambitions, became one of the great authors of the twentieth century." --Book Jacket.

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