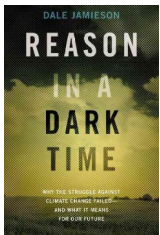


For the Love of Reading

Reason in a Dark Time: Why the Struggle Against Climate Change Failed--And What It Means for our Future



[view in catalog](#)

After reading just the first chapter of this book, I was stunned at how long the heat storage properties of carbon dioxide have been on the world's radar. What would you guess? Twenty? Forty? Fifty years? How about 150 plus.

Back in 1863, John Tyndall, an Irish scientist measured the absorption of infrared radiation by carbon dioxide and showed that slight changes in the atmosphere's composition can affect our planet's temperature.

Guy Callendar discovered in the 1930s that carbon dioxide levels were rising and causing an increase in temperatures. He said that there had already been a 10% increase in carbon dioxide levels. Other scientists mocked him. But even then he predicted a 2-4 C temperature raise in the 21st century.

In this wide-ranging book, Dale Jamieson, a philosopher, presents a richly detailed account of many issues connected to climate change. He covers various ramifications from the moral and ethical to the economic, political and scientific. [Read more](#)

Posted by Dory L. on August 28, 2015

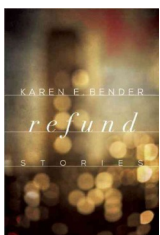
[Reason in a Dark Time](#)

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Refund: Stories



[view in catalog](#)

Although she has written three novels, this is Karen Bender's first collection of stories. Wow can

the woman write.

Two of her short stories have won Pushcart Prizes and several others have been included in Best American collections, both for short stories and for mystery stories.

The pieces are irreverent, funny and sad at the same time, and rich with the absurdities and bizarreness of modern American life. For instance, "The Sea Turtle Hospital" vividly describes a lockdown at a grade school. Bender's writing is non-judgmental but rich in detail.

The narrator in this story gets the job of locking the door and pulling down the shades (what protection would thin shades provide?), while the other teacher hustles the children into a closet. They proceed to eventually rolling the children up in a stinky rug after shots ring out. All the while anxious parents text the narrator.

One of the weirdest stories is "The Cat" where a mother adopts a kitten. Bender is a whizz at getting children down--both their conversations and behavior.

But the story is really about the mother in this story, six years out from breastfeeding, but the kitten's mews cause a let-down reflex and her milk to return. This leads to consultations with a breast surgeon who has a pet iguana. "Cold," the mother says. You'll have to read it to find out what happens.

Bender seems drawn to non-politically correct topics. In "A Chick from My Dream Life" she describes two teenage sisters whose parents offer them little attention. Their father is very depressed but the girls don't know why he spends all day on the living room couch not wanting them near.

The younger sister, Betsey, has an arm that ends in a point like "the tailed end of whipped cream." As the older sister, Sally, takes it upon herself to hide it in tube tops or paint it in vivid colors. When their dad starts ignoring them, they wander to the beach where Betsey sneaks away to kiss boys, telling them that her name was Sally.

"Theft" describes an older woman's vacation on a cruise ship to Alaska after a life of crime. She meets a young woman, Darlene, who has a broken heart. The two women bond. Ginger tries to toughen Darlene up, tells her what to say to get her boyfriend back, while revealing some of her own backstory and how her parents and sister abandoned her. That's what spurned her to become a first-class swindler.

Many of the stories etch out feelings of loneliness or loss, but with a quirky, off-kilter humor that makes everything bearable. Her narrators are smart, observant, and fallible--very much like us. Bender's writing recalls that of the wonderful short story writer Flannery O'Connor. Try Flannery's *Complete Stories*.

Posted by Dory L. on August 21, 2015

[Refund: Stories](#)

[Short Stories](#)

[Fiction](#)

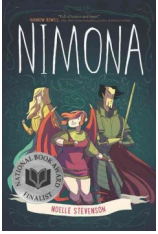
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Nimona



[view in catalog](#)

Nimona is a powerful shape-shifter who dreams of becoming a super-villain, so of course she signs up to be the sidekick of Lord Ballister Blackheart. Blackheart is already a known evil genius and arch nemesis of the country's top hero. However, this hero, Sir Ambrosius Goldenloin, might not be the hero after all. Nimona and Blackheart are out to prove that Goldenloin and the Institute he works for are the true evil in the land - that is if Blackheart can control Nimona even a little bit.

This graphic novel is original, creative, and hilarious. Nimona and Blackheart are great characters with intriguing back-stories. The world in which the story is set is part medieval and part modern with a bit of a futuristic twist. This is a quick read and will leave you hoping for more! Noelle Stevenson, we need a sequel please! If back to school has got you in a pleasure reading slump, pick up this fabulous graphic novel.

Posted by Becky F. on August 12, 2015

[Nimona](#)

[Teens](#)

[Graphic Novels](#)

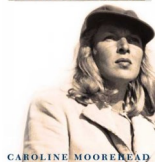
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[Teens - The Ground Floor](#)

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Gellhorn: A Twentieth-Century Life

GELLHORN
A TWENTIETH-CENTURY LIFE



[view in catalog](#)

?I was never deeply interested in being a child.? Twentieth-century war correspondent and novelist, Gellhorn always said these words would open her autobiography if she ever wrote one. Unfortunately, she never did but Moorehead?s deeply researched biography of the writer is so rich with Gellhorn?s work, family life, love affairs, and travels that probably not even Gellhorn could have gotten it down with such precision. Also, Moorehead provides a rich tapestry of historical and cultural information for the nine decades of Martha?s life.

During WW 11, the military refused to give her a pass to Normandy for the German invasion, so Martha sneaked aboard a troop ship and hid in the bathroom until they were well at sea.

Her father, an ex-German doctor settled in St. Louis and married Edna, an intelligent member of the local upper class. Both parents were half Jewish. One of the fascinating things in this book is to discover the lifelong extremely close connection between mother and daughter. [Read more](#)

Posted by Dory L. on August 5, 2015

[Gellhorn: A Twentieth-Century Life](#)

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Modern Romance: An Investigation



How do we choose our romantic partners? How has choosing a partner changed in the last 50 years? 25? Even 10 years? What role has technology played in forming and maintaining our relationships? And has technology had a net positive impact, or negative? You might expect answers to these questions to come from [Dr. Phil](#), [Dan Savage](#) or [Dr. Ruth](#). But [Aziz Ansari](#)? What does he know about this sort of stuff?

Surprisingly-or not once you start reading [Modern Romance](#)- a lot! Along with sociologist Eric Klineberg, Ansari has waded through countless studies on relationships, conducted focus groups around the world and has enlisted the help of reddit for a massive online focus group. The Ansari/Klineberg team also combed through data provided to them by Match.com and OkCupid.com. Even with all of this data on their hands there are a few limitations in regards to the content of the book. First, it is primarily focused on heterosexual couples. Ansari states that he felt it would require a separate book to examine the impact of modern technology on homosexual relationships-maybe we can hope for a follow up! Secondly, the people he spoke with and the data he received came mostly from the middle class. So if you're looking for information to land a sugar momma/daddy then this book won't help much.

Ansari tackles all the aspects of dating from the first stage to the last. It may not come as a surprise that the way we meet has changed since the 1930s. But did you know that 1/3 of all marriages in 1930 came from couples that lived in a 5 block radius from each other? Today, with emerging adulthood and the internet our radius for potential partners has expanded to all corners of the world.

Another effect technology has had on dating is time-as in: how long should I wait to respond to an electronic advance. In the old days (read: 20 years ago) you may have gotten an answering machine the first time calling someone new. Then it may have taken them a couple of days to get back to you and it was no big deal. Now in the age of instant communication, we're having crises of confidences if a text hasn't been answered in 20 minutes.

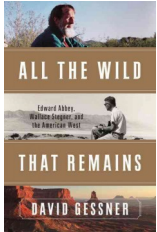
The book isn't all data and science-there is also a smattering of advice and little insights into Ansari's own life. He even included a feature from his latest Netflix feature-actual texts from people's phones. One section even deals with the optimal type of dating profile pictures (spoiler: ladies-leave your pets outta there! Men- keep them coming!) If you are looking for your information with a side of comedy, then [Modern Romance](#) is your jam.

Posted by [Jacoba W.](#) on August 4, 2015

[For the Love of Reading](#)

[Jacoba W.'s blog](#)[Log in to post comments](#)

All the Wild that Remains: Edward Abbey, Wallace Stegner and the American West



[view in catalog](#)

This is a hard book to categorize. Is it a dual biography? A history of a region? An environmental paean to a place? A literary memoir of the West? A road book to both grand and despoiled places?

It's all of the above and more. Gessner began the book as a tribute to two western writers who have inspired him: Edward Abbey and Wallace Stegner. Gessner went to grad school in Colorado and fell in love with the southwest. Abbey and Stegner became his heroes and teachers, although not literally—he learned through their writing.

He compares the more revolutionary-seeming Abbey who broke laws (trashed earth-moving machines to stop development and threatened to blow up dams) with the more straight-laced Stegner. [Read more](#)

Posted by Dory L. on July 21, 2015

[Wallace Stegner and the American West](#)

[All the Wild that Remains: Edward Abbey](#)

[Nonfiction](#)

[Memoir](#)

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