



Foreign Rights Catalog

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# For Beginners®

Foreign Rights Catalog

Current and Forthcoming  
2018

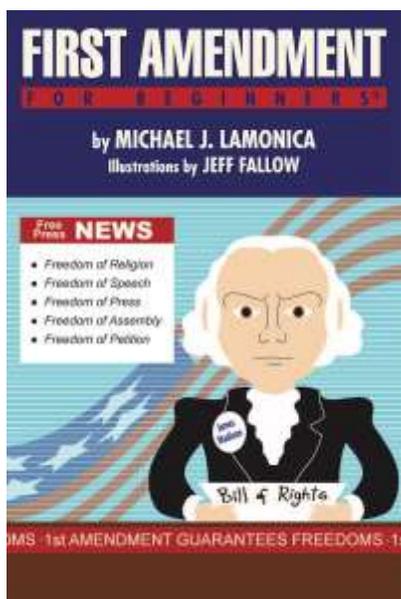
**Foreign Rights**

For Beginners, LLC  
30 Main Street, Suite 303  
Danbury, CT 06810 USA



For Beginners®

**FRONTLIST**



## First Amendment For Beginners

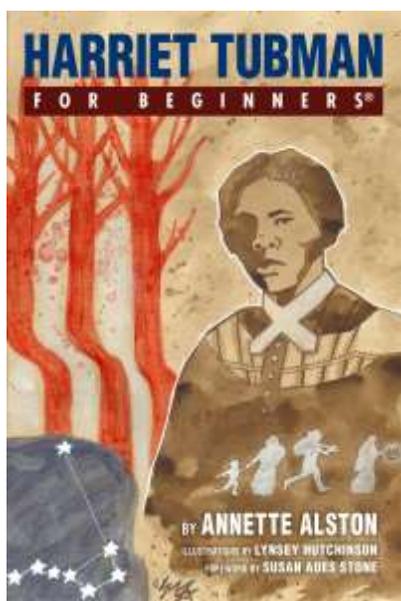
Michael J. LaMonica Illustrated by Jeff Fallow

May 2018

**WORLD**

The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution embodies some of the most basic rights and freedoms enjoyed by the American people—to speak our minds, to practice the religion of our choice, to assemble in public places, and to publish our opinions without government interference. And yet, from the early days of the republic to today, First Amendment disputes have been some of the most contentious in the courts and public discourse.

In The *First Amendment For Beginners*, attorney and historian Michael J. LaMonica presents the history, principles, and court rulings that give practical meaning to the 45 words that make up this bedrock of American democracy. What are the limits of these freedoms? What happens when the First Amendment rights of different citizens collide?



## Harriet Tubman For Beginners

Annette Alston Illustrated by Lynsey Hutchinson

December 2017

**WORLD**

Mythologized by many biographers and historians, Tubman was an ordinary but complex woman—tiny but strong, guided by her belief in God and religious visions, yet a tough, savvy leader whom the radical abolitionist John Brown admired as “the General.” In 2016, it was announced that Tubman would become the first woman to appear on U.S. currency—the \$20 bill—in over a century. *Harriet Tubman For Beginners* portrays a woman who resisted and transcended slavery and fought injustice her entire life. Beyond legend, she made her mark on history by defending core American principles—life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness—for *others*.



For Beginners®

**BACKLIST**

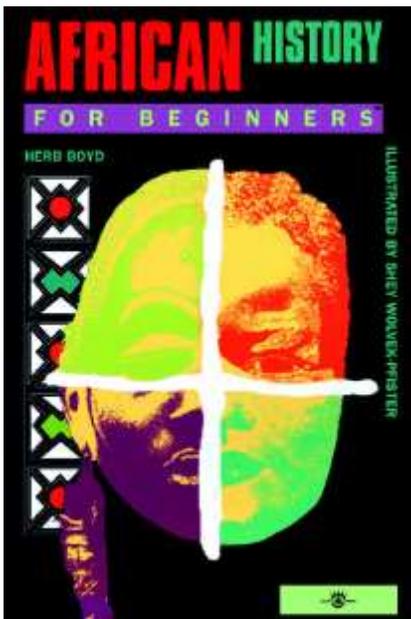


## Abstract Expressionism For Beginners

Richard Klin Illustrated by Lily Prince

Abstract Expressionism was the defining movement in American art during the period after World War II, making New York City the center of the international art scene. But what the heck did it *mean*? The drips, the spills, the splashes of color, the wild spontaneous energy—signifying what? *Abstract Expressionism For Beginners* will help you both understand and appreciate the work of some of the most iconic figures in modern art—Jackson Pollock, Willem de Kooning, Mark Rothko, Helen Frankenthaler, and others. Explore their lives and artistic roots, the world of Greenwich Village in the 1940s and 1950s, the influence of jazz, the voices of critics, and the enduring legacy of a uniquely inspired group of artists.

**WORLD**



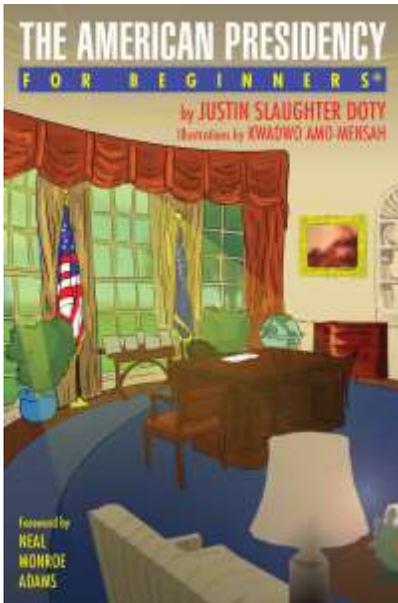
## African History For Beginners

Herb Boyd Illustrated by Shey Wolvek-Pfister

*African History For Beginners* explores the rich history of this continent of contrasts. Discover the glory of the Pharaohs and Towers of Zimbabwe, the cosmology of the Yoruba, the courage of the Masai and the golden wonders of Mali, the art treasures of the Bushongo and the sophistication of the Egyptians. It is a unique documentary portrait of the Africans' struggle to preserve their cultural heritage and homeland.

Recent archeological discoveries indicate that Africa was the birthplace of humankind. Over the ages, the riches and wonders of Africa have attracted the world. Yet the Africans themselves often remained unknown or misunderstood. Here is a book to set the historical record straight.

**WORLD**

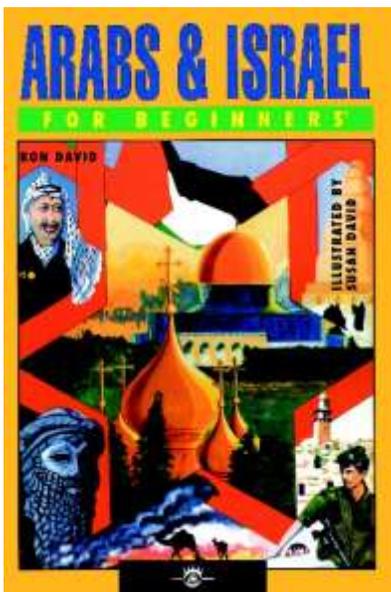


## American Presidency For Beginners

Justin Slaughter Doty Illustrated by Kwadwo Amo-Mensah

The President of the United States is an office that attracts people of all character. From George Washington to Barack Obama, the office has been held by farmers, scholars, veterans, and lawyers from all regions of the United States. *The American Presidency For Beginners* tells a concise history of the actions and consequences of all 44 presidents. The evolution of the presidency—from the weak curator of Congress to becoming the titan of policy, both domestic and foreign—is highlighted throughout the book. *The American Presidency For Beginners* is a must read for those who find the position of commander in chief compelling and who want to learn more about the eclectic personalities that have led the US.

**WORLD**



## Arabs & Israel For Beginners

Ron David Illustrated by Susan David

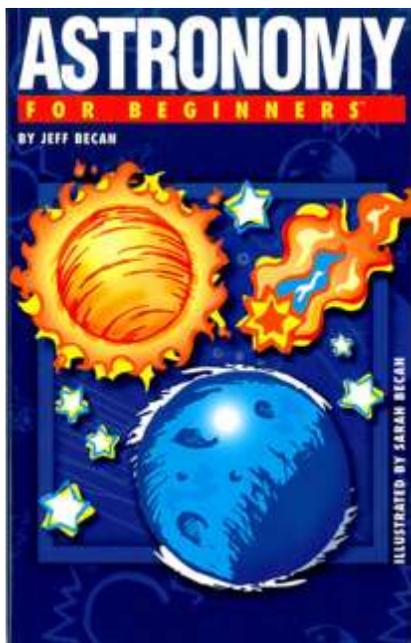
*Arabs & Israel For Beginners* covers the Middle East from ancient times to the present, tells the truth in plain English, and is one of the few non-scholarly books that is relentlessly fair to both Jews and Arabs. If you want to continue to believe fairy tales about Arabs in Israel, don't touch this book – it will surely be hazardous to your closed mind. If you want the truth about 12,000 years of Middle Eastern History, then *Arabs & Israel For Beginners* is the perfect place to start.

**WORLD**

**RIGHTS SOLD:**

**Chinese (complex)**

**Korean**



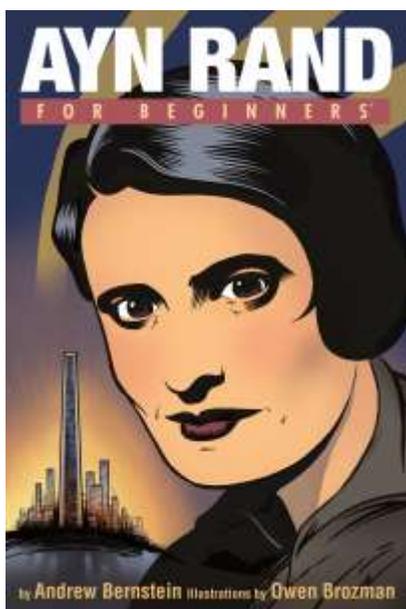
## Astronomy For Beginners

Jeff Becan Illustrated by Sarah Becan

*Astronomy For Beginners* is a friendly and accessible guide to our universe, our galaxy, our solar system and the planet we call home. Each year as we cruise through space on this tiny blue-green wonder, a number of amazing and remarkable events occur.

*Astronomy For Beginners* explains the patterns of the heavens, the equinoxes and the solstices, the major meteor showers, and the solar and lunar eclipses. In addition, *Astronomy For Beginners* will also take you on a guided tour of the solar system and beyond. We'll discover how the way we measure time itself is intimately related to celestial phenomena, and we'll furthermore explore our historical and continuing mission to understand our place in this marvelous universe in which we find ourselves.

**WORLD**



## Ayn Rand For Beginners

Andrew Bernstein Illustrated by Owen Brozman

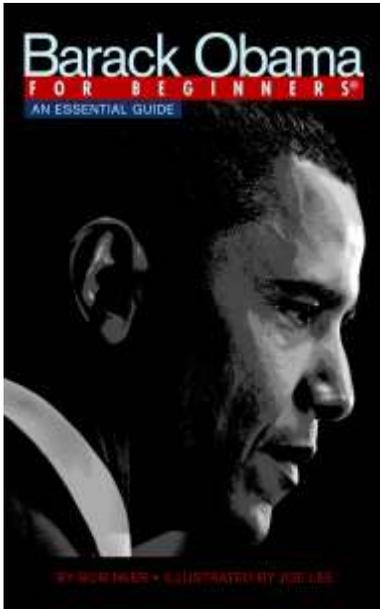
Ayn Rand, author of the best-selling novels, *The Fountainhead* and *Atlas Shrugged*, is beloved by millions of readers, and equally despised by a significant number of detractors. Her novels and her revolutionary philosophy of Objectivism have acquired a world-wide following. They have also created legions of readers who are hungry for a deeper understanding of her writings.

Despite her undeniably significant contributions to the literary canon and the progression of philosophy, there has been no simple, comprehensive introduction to Rand's books and ideas, until now. *Ayn Rand For Beginners* sheds new light on Rand's monumental works and robust philosophy. In clear, down-to-earth language, it explains Rand to a new generation of readers in a manner that is entertaining, and easy to read and comprehend.

**WORLD**

**RIGHTS  
SOLD:**

**Turkish  
Russian**

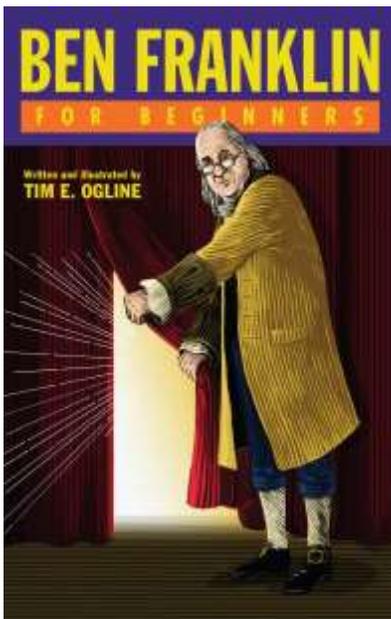


## Barack Obama For Beginners

Bob Neer Illustrated by Joe Lee

*Barack Obama For Beginners: An Essential Guide* is the most concise and reliable short biography available on the 44th President of the United States — from his childhood in Hawaii and Indonesia, education at Columbia and Harvard, work as a community organizer, writer, teacher, lawyer, and politician in Illinois, to his historic campaign for President. *Barack Obama For Beginners* keeps the focus on the man and his record — accomplishments and missteps, praise and criticism — to allow readers to gain a balanced understanding of President Obama as they follow his rise to the White House. Entertaining illustrations enliven the reading experience and highlight important details.

**WORLD**



## Ben Franklin For Beginners

Tim E. Oglie

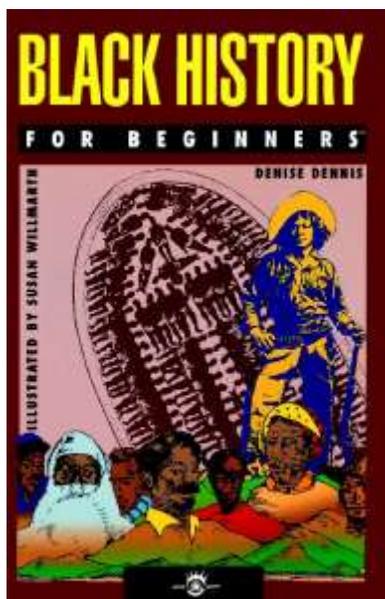
Benjamin Franklin narrated and lived the Great American Success Story. As America's prototypical polymath, he excelled—and even defined—a number of professions including printer, writer, postmaster, scientists, inventor, public citizen, politician, and diplomat.

He was a cornerstone in the foundation of the United States. He discovered practicable uses for electricity. He was America's first great satirist. He founded the University of Pennsylvania. He invented bifocals. He was a legendary ladies' man. He was all of these things...and was so much more. *Ben Franklin For Beginners* opens the book on Benjamin Franklin and tells the story of his life and times with wry wit and whimsical drawings.

**WORLD**

**RIGHTS  
SOLD:**

**Russian**



## Black History For Beginners

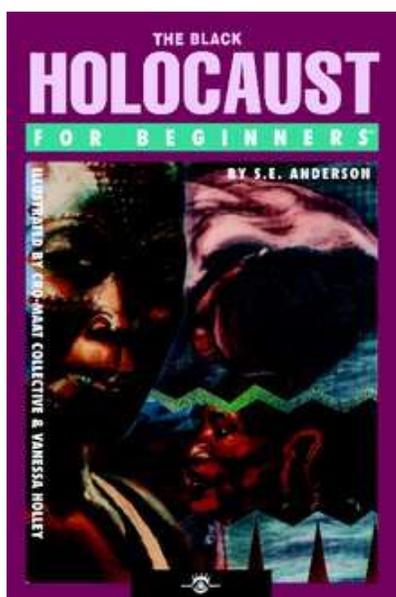
Denise Dennis Illustrated by Susan Willmarth

The only way to help abolish racial stereotypes of black people throughout history is to understand the history. A reprint of one of the most popular For Beginners books, *Black History For Beginners* covers an often ignored past. Denise Dennis chronicles the struggle from capture and enslavement in Africa right up through Civil Rights and the different kind of struggle Blacks face today.

**WORLD**

**RIGHTS SOLD:**

**Chinese (complex)**



## The Black Holocaust For Beginners

S.E. Anderson Illustrated by Vanessa Holley

Virtually anyone, anywhere knows that six million Jewish human beings were killed in the Jewish Holocaust. But how many African human beings were killed in the Black Holocaust – from the start of the European slave trade (c. 1500) to the Civil War (1865)? And how many were enslaved? The Black Holocaust, a travesty that killed millions of African human beings, is the most underreported major event in world history. A major economic event for Europe and Asia, a near fatal event for Africa, the seminal event in the history of every African American – if not every American! – and most of us cannot answer the simplest question about it.

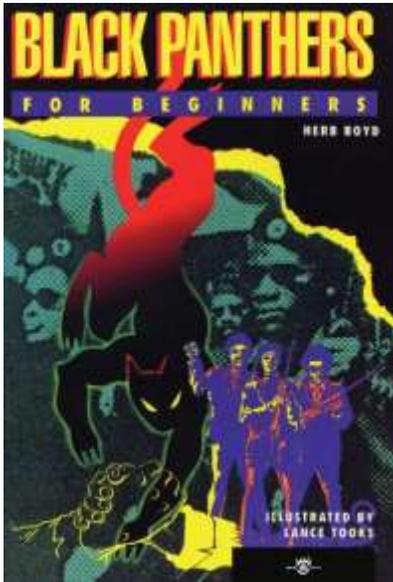
**WORLD**

**RIGHTS SOLD:**

**Chinese (simplified)**

**Turkish**

*The Black Holocaust For Beginners* – part indisputably documented chronicle, part passionately engaging narrative, puts the tragic event in plain sight where it belongs! The long overdue book answers all of your questions, sensitively and in great depth.



## Black Panthers For Beginners

Herb Boyd Illustrated by Lance Tooks

So begins *Black Panthers For Beginners*. The late 1960s, when the Panthers captured the imagination of the nation's youth, was a time of regulation. While their furious passage was marked by death, destruction and government sabotage, the Panthers left an instructive legacy for anyone who dares to challenge the system.

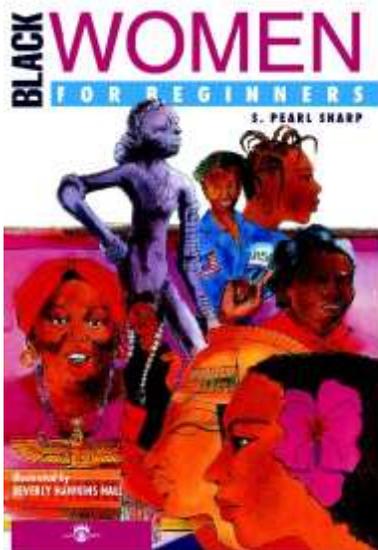
Herb Boyd has done exhaustive research, examined the claims of all parties involved, and boiled the story down to "the truth." We believe this is the most truthful book on the market, but each Panther has his/her own story to tell. We suggest that you check out the stories of all the Black Panthers.

**WORLD**

**RIGHTS  
SOLD:**

**Chinese  
(complex)**

**Turkish**

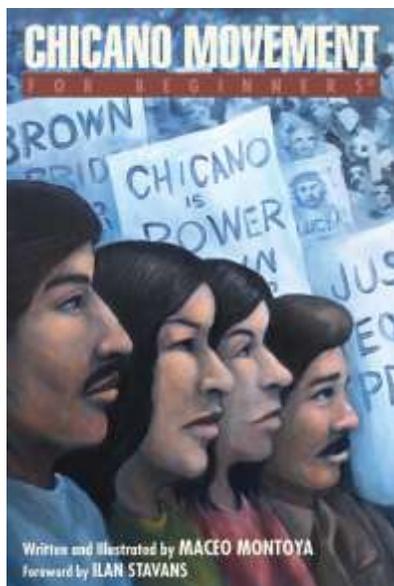


## Black Women For Beginners

S. Pearl Sharp Illustrated by Beverly Hawkins

*Black Women For Beginners* chronicles the trials and triumphs of Black Women from antiquity to the present, reflecting with wit and humor the challenges they have faced and the fortitude and strength that have sustained Black Women and patterned history with a diversity of excellence. As warriors, healers, teachers, mothers, queens, and liberators Black Women have had tremendous impact on issues from food to fashion, from politics to poetry. Replete with a glossary of reference terms, *Black Women For Beginners* whimsically details the influence of stereotypes on the portrayal of Black Women in various venues and punctuates the absurd.

**WORLD**

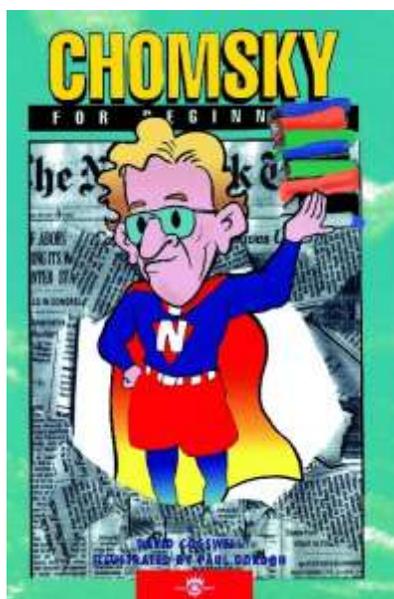


## Chicano Movement For Beginners

Maceo Montoya

As the heyday of the Chicano Movement, roughly 1965–1975, fades further into history, and as more and more of its important figures pass on, so too does knowledge of its significance. Thus, this book is a small attempt to stave off historical amnesia. The Chicano Movement, also known as El Movimiento, galvanized the Mexican American community, from laborers to student activists, giving them not only a political voice to combat prejudice and inequality, but also a new sense of cultural awareness and ethnic pride. Beyond commemorating the past, this book seeks to reaffirm the goals and spirit of the Chicano Movement for the simple reason that many of the critical issues Mexican American activists first brought to the nation’s attention in the late 1960s and early ’70s—educational disadvantage, endemic poverty, political exclusion, and social bias—remain as pervasive as ever almost a half-century later.

**WORLD**



## Chomsky For Beginners

David Cogswell Illustrated by Paul Gordon

Noam Chomsky has written some 30 books, he is one of the most-quoted authors on Earth, *The New York Times* calls him “arguably the most important intellectual alive” – yet most people have no idea who he is or what he’s about.

*Chomsky For Beginners* tells you what he’s about: Chomsky is known for his work in two distinct areas – Linguistics and... “Gadflying.” (“Gadfly,” the word applied to Socrates, comes closest to the constant social irritant that Chomsky has become.) It is Chomsky’s work as Political Gadfly and Media Critic that has given passion and hope to the general public – and alienated the Major Media – which is, of course, why you don’t know more about him.

**WORLD**

**RIGHTS SOLD:**

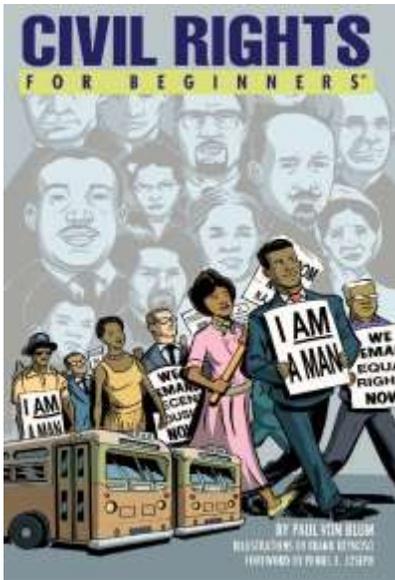
**Spanish**

**Korean**

**Japanese**

**India-English**

**Chinese  
(complex)**

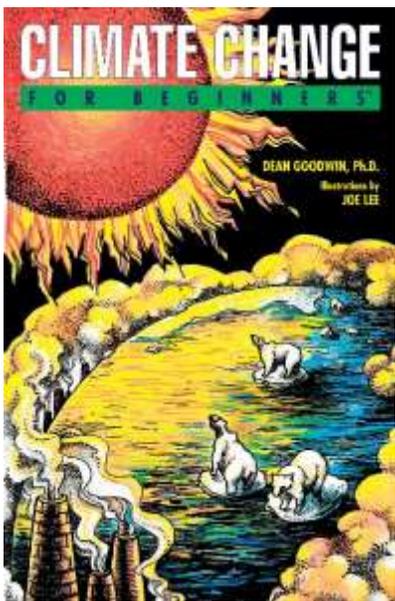


## Civil Rights For Beginners

Paul Von Blum Illustrated by Frank Reynoso

*Civil Rights For Beginners* fills a major gap by placing the modern civil rights movement into a broader historical perspective. It also discusses the civil rights and liberation movements from the 60s to the present that the African American freedom struggles helped to catalyze including: the Chicano Movement, the American Indian Movement, the Asian-American Movement, the Women’s Movement, and the Gay Liberation Movement. Unlike most civil rights books, *Civil Rights For Beginners* focuses less on major leaders and more on the ordinary African Americans who provided the backbone of the successful protests and demonstrations. Moreover, it deals with the expressive culture of the movement, surveying key developments in literature, music, visual art, and film, all of which served both as integral features of the movement as well as contributing to its enduring legacy.

**WORLD**



## Climate Change For Beginners

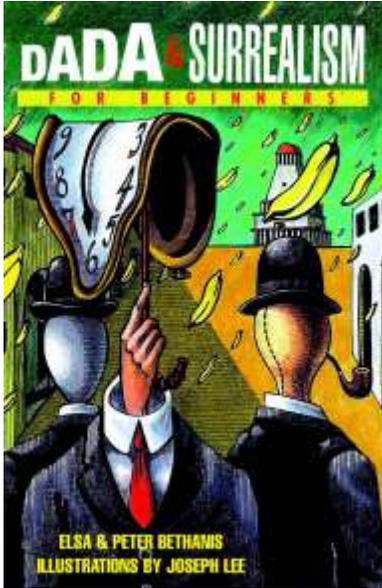
Dean Goodwin, Ph.D. Illustrated by Joe Lee

Rich in illustrations that both explain and entertain, this innovative work deconstructs the science and everyday reality of global climate change in clear, simple, compelling terms—what it all means and what we can do about it. Taking a scrupulously balanced approach, nationally recognized environmental educator Dean Goodwin offers a fluid narrative of the interaction between human activity and recent trends in the Earth’s climate. Beyond the causes and consequences, beyond the science and policy issues, Goodwin challenges readers with a list of 50 easy actions to help stop global warming. Joe Lee’s illustrations brighten the experience.

**WORLD**

**RIGHTS  
SOLD:**

**Tamil**

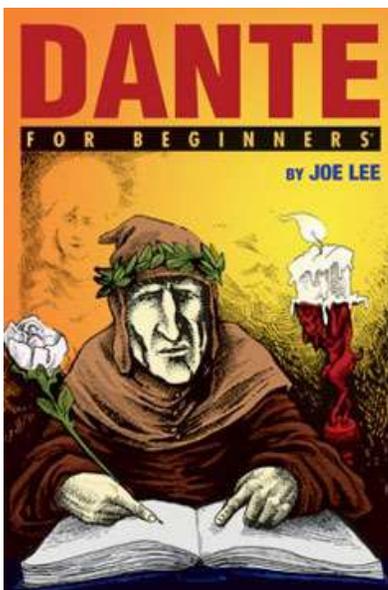


## Dada & Surrealism For Beginners

Elsa & Peter Bethanis Illustrated by Joe Lee

In *Dada & Surrealism For Beginners*, you'll get a colorful overview of these two movements, and develop a sense of the turbulent, wild, and unapologetically mad mood and tone of the Dada and Surrealist movements. Whether you're an artist, would-be artist, or someone seeking the marvelous, you'll find the courage and originality of the movements inspiring, and you'll gain an understanding of their long-term (and current) influences on contemporary art and culture – everything from performance art to pop art to the abandoned train ticket you find in the street.

**WORLD**

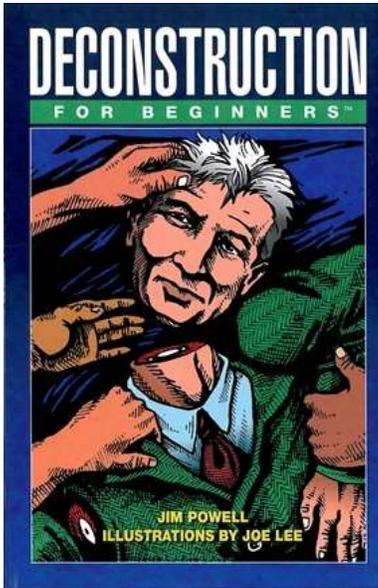


## Dante For Beginners

Joe Lee

*Dante For Beginners* takes the reader on a trip starting in hell and ending in heaven. The reader gets a quick introduction to Dante and his times. Next, the reader meets a sweet lass named Beatrice and samples a bit of his other literary offerings, such as the great feast, the *Convivio*. But then it's on to the big one, the *Commedia*, and a canto by canto description of the entire work. Characters, ideas and situations are described as they happen—no searching through end notes, footnotes or field notes to distinguish Forese Donati, Dante's pal, from his evil brother, Corso. The entire plan of the hereafter is simply mapped out. *Dante For Beginners* is a great vacation with history's greatest tourist, Dante Alighieri.

**WORLD**



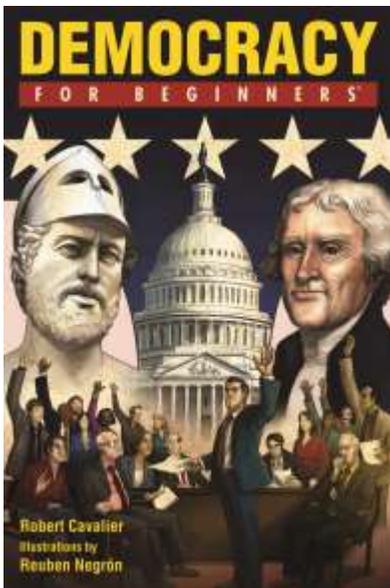
## Deconstruction For Beginners

Jim Powell Illustrated by Joe Lee

Deconstruction is so labyrinthine (and rumored to be fatal) that it's become the monster that murdered philosophy. When Jacques Derrida, the father of deconstruction, uses buzz-words such as “phallogocentrism” and “transcendental signified,” humanities students and aspiring philosophers may get weak in the knees.

*Deconstruction For Beginners* is an irreverent romp through deconstructive domains. Though Powell offers lucid explanations of the most important deconstructive ideas and texts, he also dive into lesser known works. He explores how deconstruction, like an unruly mistress, has escaped Derrida, especially in the realm of architecture. Then, based on Derrida's assertion that deconstruction happens differently in different cultures, Powell examines how – through Buddhism and Taoism – deconstruction took place in ancient India, Japan, and China.

**WORLD**



## Democracy For Beginners

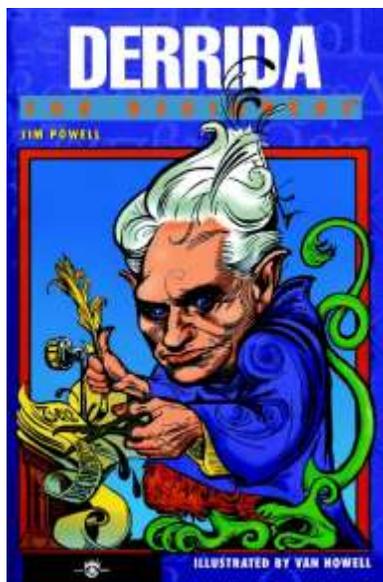
Robert Cavalier Illustrated by Reuben Negrón

Beginning with the rise of democracy in fifth-century Athens and ending with an exploration of what the future might hold — for example the notion of “e-democracy” — *Democracy For Beginners* is an important resource for understanding the foundation on which our country stands. Readers will become familiar with ideas advanced by democracy's advocates and architects, and by its critics, from Plato to contemporary social choice theoreticians. *Democracy For Beginners* is the perfect introduction to the United States of America's founding principles.

**WORLD**

**RIGHTS SOLD:**

**Russian**



## Derrida For Beginners

Jim Powell Illustrated by Van Howell

Jim Powell's *Derrida For Beginners* is the clearest explanation of Derrida and deconstruction presently available in our solar system. Powell guides us through blindingly obscure texts like *Of Grammatology* (Derrida's deconstruction of Saussure, Lévi Strauss, and Rousseau), "*Différance*" (his essay on language and life), *Dissemination* (his dismantling of Plato, his rap on Mallarmé), and Derrida's other masterpieces (the mere titles can make strong men tremble in terror – *Glas*, *Signéponge/Signsponge*, *The Post Card*, and *Specters of Marx*.)

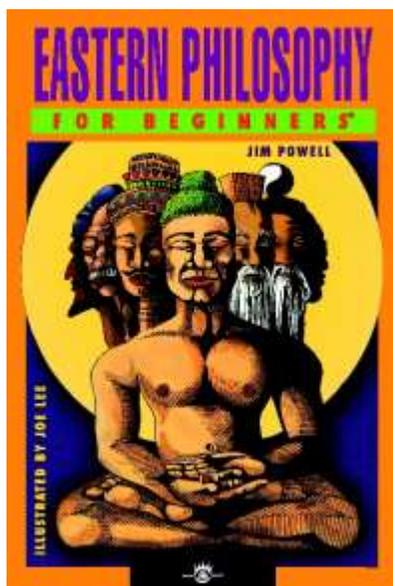
Readers will learn the coolest Derridian buzzwords (e.g., intertextuality, binary oppositions, hymen, *sous rature*, arche-writing, phallogocentrism), the high-and-low lights of deconstruction's history (including the DeMan controversy), and the various criticisms of Derrida and deconstruction.

**WORLD**

**RIGHTS  
SOLD:**

**Spanish**

**Indian**

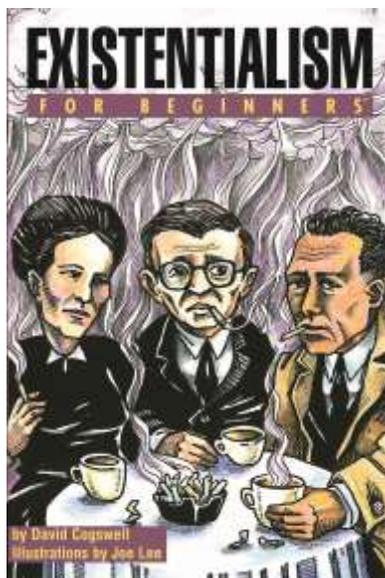


## Eastern Philosophy For Beginners

Jim Powell Illustrated by Joe Lee

Eastern Philosophy is not an intellectual pursuit, but one that involves one's entire being. Much of it is so deeply entwined with the non-intellectual art of meditation, that the two are impossible to separate. In this accessible survey of the major philosophies of India, China, Tibet, and Japan, Jim Powell draws upon his knowledge of Sanskrit and Chinese, as well as decades of meditation. Whether tackling Buddha, Confucius, Lao Tzu, Dogen, the Dali Lama or Pantajal – Powell's insights are deeply illuminating. All the major philosophies of India, China, Tibet and Japan are explained and everyone – from beginner to expert – will find *Eastern Philosophy For Beginners* a beautiful and insightful overview

**WORLD**



## Existentialism For Beginners

David Cogswell Illustrated by Joe Lee

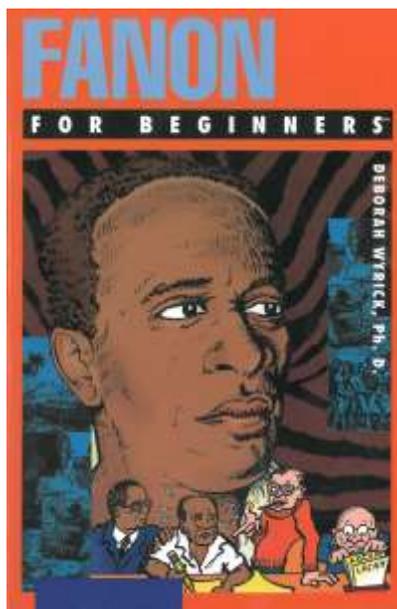
*Existentialism For Beginners* is an entertaining romp through the history of a philosophical movement that has had a broad and enduring influence on Western culture. From the middle of the Nineteenth Century through the late Twentieth Century, existentialism informed our politics and art, and still exerts its influence today. Tracing the movement's beginnings with close-up views of seminal figures like Kierkegaard, Dostoyevsky and Nietzsche, *Existentialism For Beginners* follows its intellectual and literary trail to German philosophers Jaspers and Heidegger, and finally to the movement's flowering in post-World-War-II France thanks to masterworks by such giants as Jean Paul Sartre, Albert Camus, Simone de Beauvoir, plus many others.

**WORLD**

**RIGHTS  
SOLD:**

**Tamil**

**Turkish**



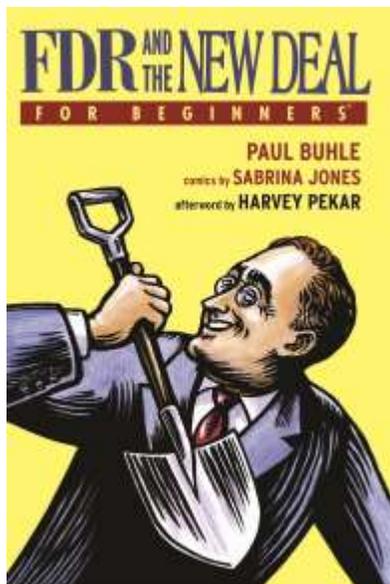
## Fanon For Beginners

Deborah Wyrick, Ph.D.

Philosopher, psychoanalyst, politician, propagandist, prophet... although difficult to categorize, Frantz Fanon (1925 – 1961) is one of the most important thinkers of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and one of our most powerful writers on race and revolution.

*Fanon For Beginners* opens with a biography, following Fanon from his birthplace of Martinique through combat in World War II and education in France, to his heroic involvement in the fights for Algerian independence and African decolonization. After a brief discussion of Fanon's political and cultural influences, the main section of the book covers the three principal stages of Fanon's thought: "The Search for Black Identity," "The Struggle Against Colonialism," and "The Process of Decolonization."

**WORLD**



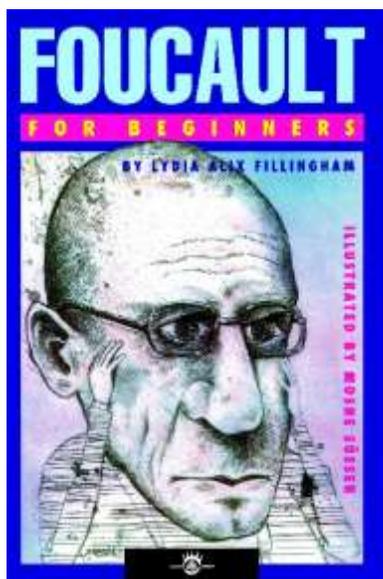
## FDR and the New Deal For Beginners

Paul Buhle Illustrated by Sabrina Jones

A profusely illustrated, popularly-written volume with original comic art, *FDR and the New Deal For Beginners* will shed new light upon a story now regaining visibility thanks to the recent economic crisis and prominent reformer, President Obama, in the White House.

The history of the precedent-making FDR administration through the bitter economic depression, with expansive programs empowering artists and working people, comes alive as the grandest social experiment in the history of American democracy. For the first time, the lives of the president, the first lady and the ordinary people of the time will be seen through an inventive comic narrative accompanying historic illustrations and a sympathetic but not uncritical text.

**WORLD**



## Foucault For Beginners

Lydia Alix Fillingham Illustrated by Moshe Süsser

Michel Foucault's work has profoundly affected the teaching of such diverse disciplines as literary criticism, criminology, and gender studies. Arguing that definitions of abnormal behavior are culturally constructed, Foucault explored the unfair division between those who meet and those who deviate from social norms.

Foucault's deeply visual sense of scenes such as ritual public executions, lends itself well to Moshe Süsser's dramatic illustrations.

**WORLD**

**RIGHTS SOLD:**  
**Spanish-World**  
**Chinese**  
**(simplified)**  
**Austrian**  
**Indian**  
**Tamil**  
**Japanese**  
**Korean**

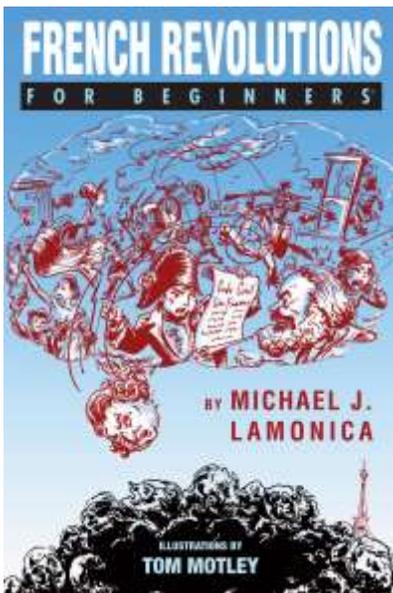


## Freemasonry For Beginners

Robert Lomas Illustrated by Sarah Becan

In *Freemasonry For Beginners*, bestselling author and historian Brother Robert Lomas takes you behind the scenes and back in time to reveal the origins, symbols, rituals, organization, and philosophy of Masonic fraternalism. Comic art and illuminating graphics by Sarah Becan help explain the history and traditions of Freemasonry from its Scottish roots, expansion in Europe, and early days in North America all the way to the first Masonic lodge on the Moon.

**WORLD**



## French Revolutions For Beginners

Michael J. LaMonica Illustrated by Tom Motley

While most people have some familiarity with names like Louis XVI and Napoleon, the details of what exactly happened during the French Revolution – apart from pithy royal pronouncements about cake eating and the ever-falling blade of the guillotine – are often difficult to understand, and for good reason: there were a whopping 15 changes of government in less than a century!

*French Revolutions For Beginners* will present the major political figures, events and hot-button political issues of this extremely violent, chaotic, confusing – but always exciting – period in a way that is accessible, interesting, and fun to both history-buffs and the neophyte alike.

**WORLD**



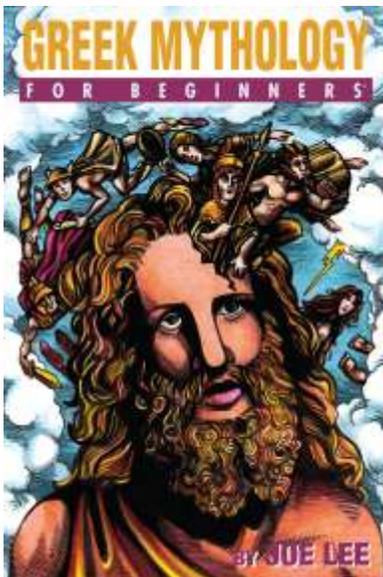
## Gender & Sexuality For Beginners

Jaimee Garbacik Illustrated by Jeffrey Lewis

*Gender & Sexuality For Beginners* considers the uses and limitations of biology in defining gender. Questioning gender and sex as both categories and forms of compulsory identification, it critically examines the issues in the historical and contemporary construction, meaning and perpetuation of gender roles. *Gender & Sexuality For Beginners* interweaves neurobiology, psychology, feminist, queer and trans theory, as well as historical gay and lesbian activism to offer new perspectives on gender inequality, ultimately pointing to the clear inadequacy of gender categories and the ways in which the sex-gender system oppresses us all.

*Gender & Sexuality For Beginners* examines the evolution of gender roles and definitions of sexual orientation in American society, illuminating how neither is as objective or “natural” as we are often led to believe.

**WORLD**



## Greek Mythology For Beginners

Joe Lee

*Greek Mythology For Beginners* presents the pantheon – that immortal collection of rogues and heroes, misfits and tyrants – and the stories about these deities and their dealings with the mortals. It delves into their undying influence on our thought and culture, and how each age from Rome to Shakespeare to Freud down to our own Marvel Comics and NASA has been enlightened, informed, and inspired by these tales.

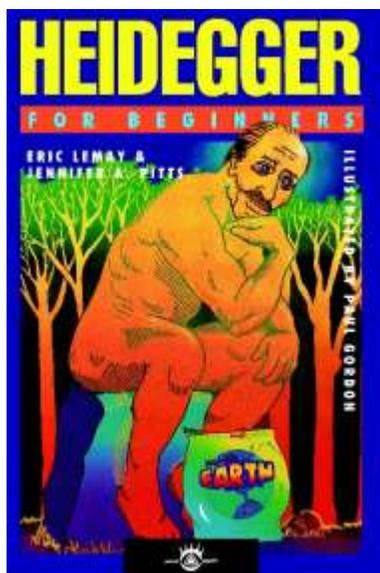
So strap on Hermes’ winged sandals, saddle-up Pegasus, or even grab the nearest Harpy (remember to keep your eyes closed) and come along for the ride of your life. Let’s fly to that world that’s as old as Chaos—the ancient and refreshingly timely Greek myths!

**WORLD**

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**Turkish**

**Czech**



## Heidegger For Beginners

Eric Lemay & Jennifer A. Pitts Illustrated by Paul Gordon

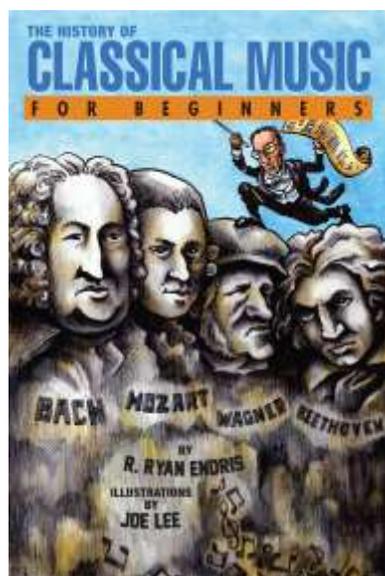
*Heidegger For Beginners* serves as an entry into the ideas of one of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century's most important thinkers, situating Heidegger's thought within its philosophical and historical context – alongside such thinkers as Plato, Descartes, Kant, Nietzsche, Husserl, and Sartre.

This illustrated guide explicates many of Heidegger's central ideas, including the *Nothing*, average-everydayness, care, existence, being-in-the-world, the *One*, the critique of technology, anxiety, and most importantly, *Being* – a notion which may offer us the key to understanding the very mystery of our own existence. Explained here in a way that makes it both accessible and relevant, Heidegger's thought not only challenges an entire intellectual tradition, but also challenges our own self-conceptions, the very manner in which we, as humans, choose to exist.

**WORLD**

**RIGHTS  
SOLD:**

**Spanish-  
World**



## The History of Classical Music For Beginners

R. Ryan Endris Illustrated by Joe Lee

Music history is nearly as old as human civilization itself, and while it has permeated the arts and popular culture for centuries, it still has this mystifying aura surrounding it. In addition to learning how better to understand (and enjoy!) classical music, *The History of Classical Music For Beginners* will help you learn of some of the more interesting and sometimes comical stories behind the music and composers.

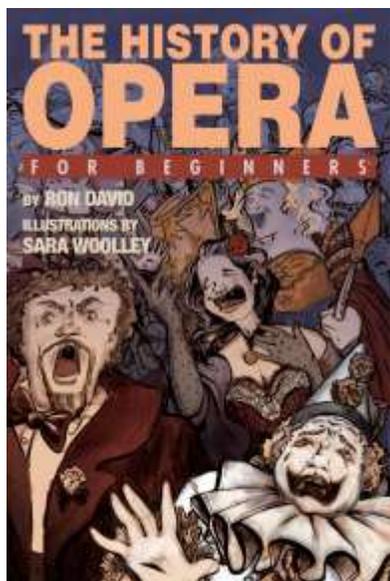
Did you know that Jean-Baptiste Lully actually died from conducting one of his own compositions? You may have heard of Gregorian chant, but did you know there are many forms of chant, including Ambrosian and Byzantine chant? And did you also know that only a small portion of “classical music” is even technically Classical? These interesting, insightful facts and more are yours to discover in *The History of Classical Music For Beginners*.

**WORLD**



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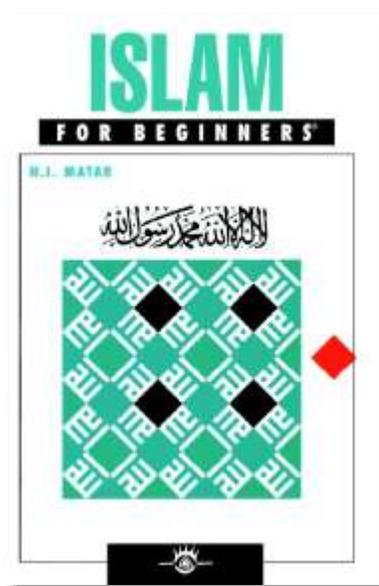
## The History of Opera For Beginners

Ron David Illustrated by Sara Woolley

*The History of Opera For Beginners* is an illuminating book that starts with the radical assumption that opera is simply music, rather than the highbrow, inaccessible art form that many assume it to be. Not fluent in German or Italian? No worries—author Ron David explains the differences between Italian and German Opera and why you don't have to study a new language to enjoy it.

*The History of Opera For Beginners* is the ideal introduction into the beautiful poetics of opera. Written in short, humorous, and informative chapters, this guide is laced with some of the opera world's juiciest anecdotes, and is sure to make anyone a true believer in the art form.

**WORLD**



## Islam For Beginners

N.I. Matar Illustrated by H.N. Haddad

Five times a day, close to a billion people turn to the Ka'aba in submission to Allah/God. In the seventeenth century the religion of Islam was revealed to the prophet Mohammad through the Holy Koran. Since then, Islam has spread to every center of the world.

Starting with the life of the prophet Mohammed, *Islam For Beginners* details the historic beginnings of Islam and its spread throughout the Middle East and Africa on to the European and American continents. It describes the major achievements of the Muslim community worldwide and examines the influence Islam has had on other cultures. In keeping with Islamic tradition, the illustrations in the book are rendered in two-dimensional silhouettes and shadows and include the repetitive, extendible patterns representative of Islamic expression.

**WORLD**

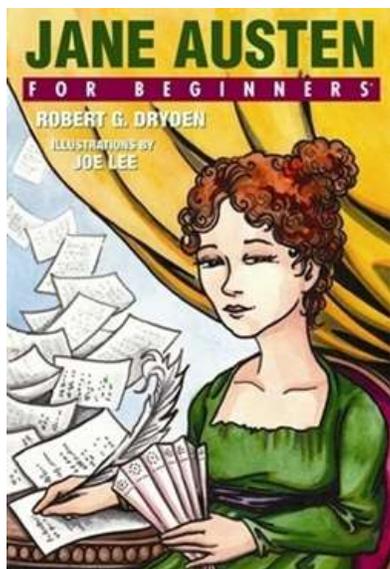
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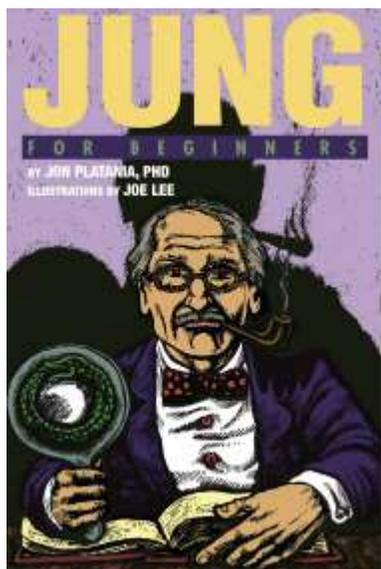
## Jane Austen For Beginners

Robert G. Dryden Illustrated by Joe Lee

Jane Austen's novels are classics. They have never been out of print, and have continuously been turned into countless movies and TV series, yet her works still remain largely misunderstood. On their surface, Austen's novels all involve characters from provincial communities in rural England, far removed geographically and thematically from greater social movements, war, industry, colonization, and imperialism. This impression could not be further from the truth.

*Jane Austen For Beginners* explores the intentions behind Austen's work. Her examination of money and power, of the marriage market, of social class, and of the rending of the British social fabric of her day are among her many concerns.

**WORLD**



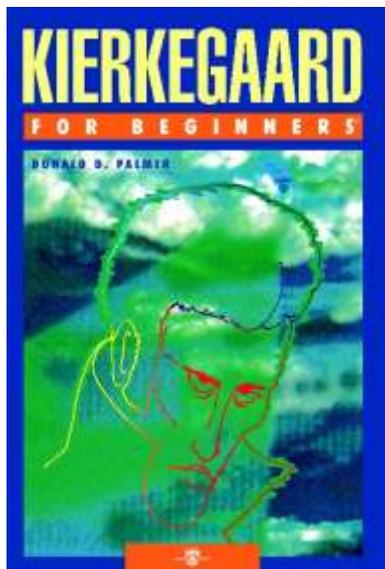
## Jung For Beginners

Jon Platania, Ph.D. Illustrated by Joe Lee

Carl Gustav Jung merged Eastern mysticism with Western psychology, brought scientific respectability to religion, laid the foundation for 'the New Age,' and is second only to Freud in influence and importance in the world of psychoanalysis. Many consider him a genius, but many others disagree.

*Jung For Beginners* presents Jung as a somewhat opportunistic and dissociated character whose most famous historical events were his break with Freud and his questionable sojourn with the psychological elite of the German Third Reich. On the other side of Jung's complex genius, there is a deeply spiritual man who laid the groundwork for a more optimistic approach to our modern understanding of the human psyche in both theology and psychology. He is remembered by many as the Swiss Doctor of the Soul.

**WORLD**



## Kierkegaard For Beginners

Donald D. Palmer

The Danish philosopher Soren Kierkegaard was one of the most original thinkers of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century – and one of the most enigmatic men who ever walked the Earth. Philosophically, Kierkegaard was the “bridge” that led from Hegel to Existentialism.

For such a brilliant thinker, the way Kierkegaard *lived* was... somewhat too interesting? His “abstract” love affair? His obsession with death? His “leap of Faith,” his cynicism, his marvelous sense of humor – how do you put all that into one man?

For starters, you read *Kierkegaard For Beginners*. It explains, plainly and simply, the great Danish thinker’s obsession with the particularity of human existence as well as his demonstration of how the creation of an authentic new kind of individual is possible.

**WORLD**

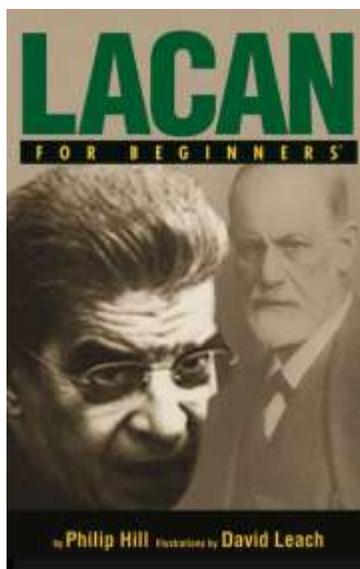
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## Lacan For Beginners

Phillip Hill Illustrated by David Leach

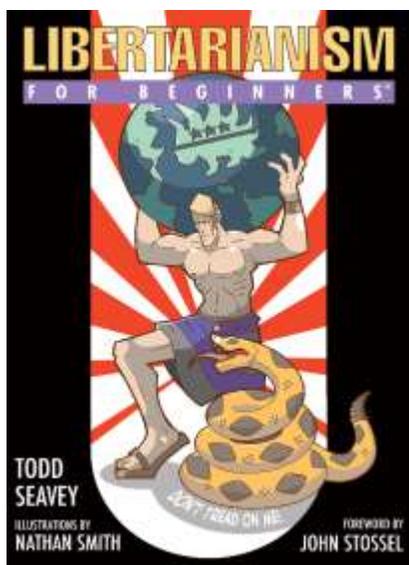
Jacques Lacan is probably the most influential psychoanalyst since Freud (of the roughly 20,000 psychoanalysts in the world, about half are ‘Lacanian’) yet most people know nothing about him. Despite or because of his brilliance, Lacan is difficult to understand. He wrote with an obscure, style that casually refers to philosophy, linguistics, biology, mathematics, etc.—and to make matters worse, his ideas changed over the years.

*Lacan For Beginners* by Philip Hill introduces the reader to Lacan’s theories and their relation to clinical practice in twelve elegantly structured chapters, designed around tantalizing questions that clarify Lacan’s ideas.

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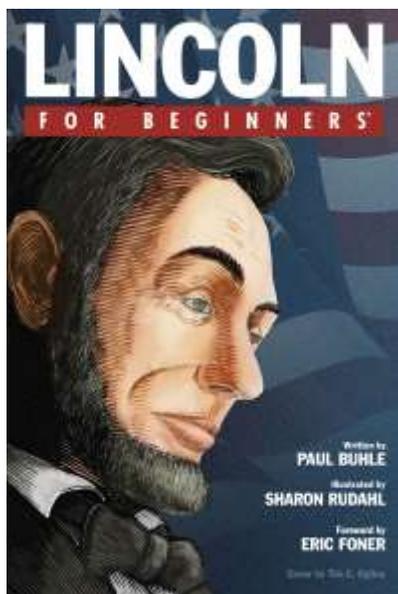


## Libertarianism For Beginners

Todd Seavey Illustrated by Nathan Smith

*Libertarianism For Beginners* offers a smart, concise, easy-to-read explanation of this popular but frequently misunderstood political philosophy. Insider Todd Seavey unravels the history, core principles, policy implications, ideological dilemmas, and internal differences of a movement based on limited government, strong property rights, and the belief that *we have the right to do as we please with our own bodies and possessions as long as we don't damage those of others*. Illustrations and cartoons by Nathan Smith add a light touch to a deceptively nuanced—and often contentious—subject. A witty, even-handed guide for everyone from neophytes to neocons.

**WORLD**



## Lincoln For Beginners

R. Paul Buhle Illustrated by Sharon Rudahl

There is no greater symbol of the American presidency than Abraham Lincoln. Though, Lincoln himself, his personality, the sources of his dedication and his idealism, remains very much a mystery. The sudden rise to world stature of a hard-traveling lawyer from the frontier, with no prominent family or social connections to back him, was a wonder of the age.

Well over a thousand books about Lincoln have been written and still the enigma remains, perhaps because it is the enigma of a young country finding its footing and its destiny. Yet, no part is deeper, more perplexing, than Lincoln's own beliefs about god and destiny. *Lincoln For Beginners* sets to demystify the man behind the legend.

**WORLD**



## Linguistics For Beginners

W. Terrence Gordon  
 Illustrated by Susan Willmarth

*Linguistics For Beginners* is the first book to ever make the arcane labors of linguistics accessible to general readers. It begins with a lucid definition of language and proceeds to examine how it becomes the subject matter of linguistics. Key topics include the contrast between writing and speech, and elementary lessons in analyses ranging from simple sounds to entire sentences. Absurd fictions such as Eskimos having hundreds of words for snow are exploded, and the borderlands between linguistics and philosophy are investigated.

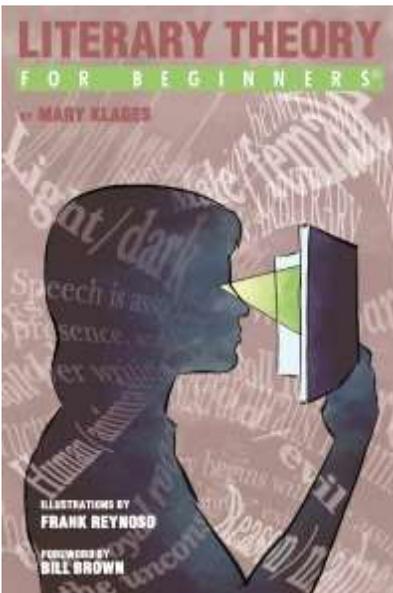
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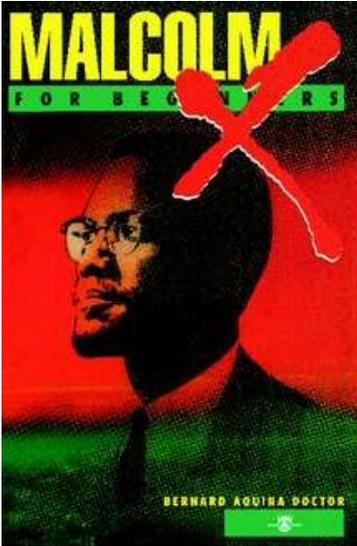


## Literary Theory For Beginners

Mary Klages Illustrated by Frank Reynoso

In *Literary Theory For Beginners*, Professor Mary Klages takes you into her classroom, cuts through the jargon, explains the ABCs (and the DEFs as well) in terms you can get your head around. Her wit, her unique skills as a teacher, and the delightful illustrations of Frank Reynoso help us understand why literature matters, how it affects us, and how it reflects history, culture, and diversity. Here are ways of thinking about literature, not just reading it—methods of study and frameworks of interpretation from classical humanism all the way up to psychoanalysis, gender and queer theory, race, postcolonialism, and, yes, postmodernism. So sit back, relax, and learn!

**WORLD**



## Malcolm X For Beginners

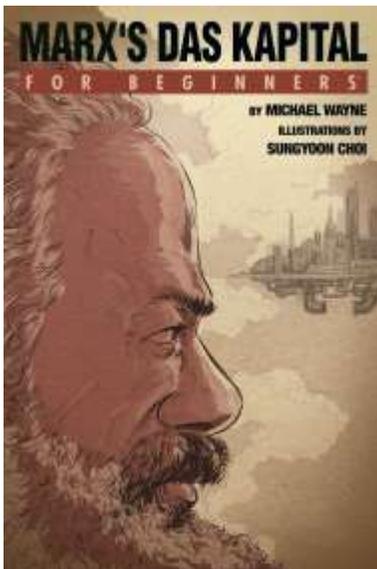
Bernard Aquina Doctor

Powerful narrative and graphics tell the story of Malcolm X's life, his journey of self-discovery, his far-reaching ideas, his martyrdom, and his impact on an era. Embraced as a righteous prophet of Black power and pride, damned as the voice of violence, Malcolm X emerges as a complex, brave, and brilliant figure with much to teach about the struggle for dignity.

**WORLD**

**RIGHTS  
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**Tamil**



## Marx's Das Kapital For Beginners

Michael Wayne Illustrated by Sungyoon Choi

Marx's Das Kapital cannot be put into a box marked "economics." It is a work of politics, history, economics, philosophy and even in places, literature (yes Marx's style is that rich and evocative). *Marx's Das Kapital For Beginners* is an introduction to the Marxist critique of capitalist production and its consequences for a whole range of social activities such as politics, media, education and religion. Das Kapital is not a critique of a particular capitalist system in a particular country at a particular time. Rather, Marx's aim was to identify the essential features that define capitalism, in whatever country it develops and in whatever historical period. For this reason, Das Kapital is necessarily a fairly general, abstract analysis. As a result, it can be fairly difficult to read and comprehend. At the same time, understanding Das Kapital is crucial for mastering Marx's insights to capitalism.

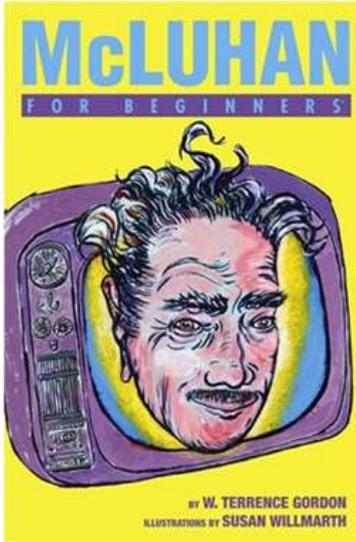
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## McLuhan For Beginners

W. Terrence Gordon Illustrated by Susan Willmarth

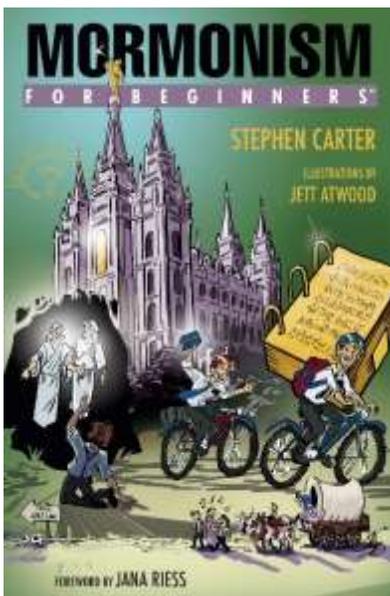
Marshall McLuhan was one of the most brilliant and original thinkers of the 20th century. He was so far ahead of his time that he predicted the future and offered a critique of human behavior in a media saturated world that is perhaps more valuable in today's Internet age than it was in his own time.

*McLuhan For Beginners* provides an essential introduction that is clear, comprehensive, and easy to remember. It is full of wise and witty art by Susan Willmarth that is a perfect match to W. Terrence Gordon's writing. McLuhan envisioned the media generated Global Village before it existed, and no one since McLuhan has described its allure and pitfalls better.

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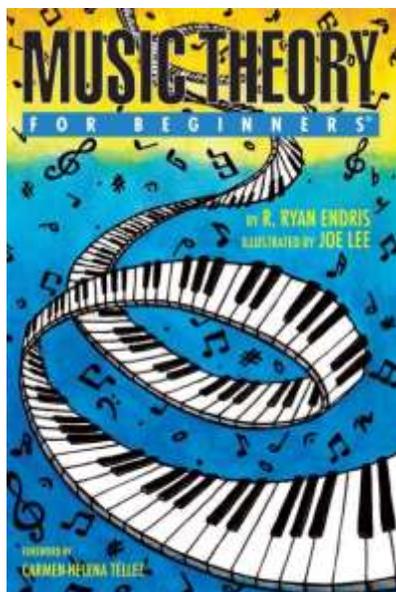


## Mormonism For Beginners

Stephen Carter Illustrated by Jett Atwood

*Mormonism For Beginners* is an engaging, even-handed introduction to this uniquely American Protestant movement—its history, tenets, traditions, and, yes, debates and controversies. For the uninitiated and faithful alike, this innovative work of graphic nonfiction combines authoritative information, light humor, and candid discussion of contemporary Mormon life and doctrine—from marriage and missionary work to polygamy, same-sex marriage, and the role of women in the LDS Church. The goal—and success—of Carter and Atwood is to shed clear light on an often misunderstood belief system and way of life.

**WORLD**



## Music Theory For Beginners

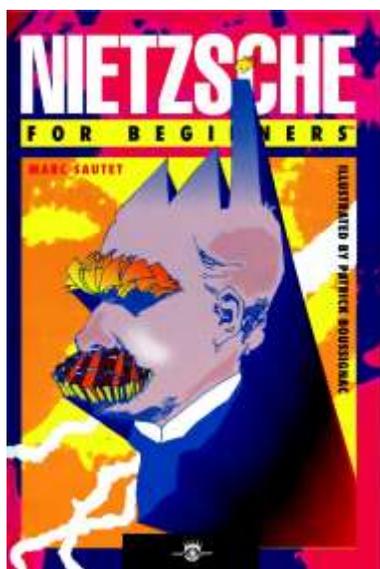
R. Ryan Endris Illustrated by Joe Lee

Learning to read and write music is very similar to learning a new language. Music theory is the study of how music is written and the fundamental elements of music. *Music Theory For Beginners* was developed for anyone interested in learning to read and write music, a task that can be quite daunting for novices. This text, however, will allay any fears and set you on the path to learning what all those dots, lines, and symbols actually mean. It provides the necessary scholarly muscle to entice and inform the reader, yet it does not require any prior knowledge of music or force the reader to wade through hundreds of pages of jargon and details. Whether your goal is to gain a cursory understanding of music, become fluent in reading music again, or start composing your own music, this text will provide everything you need for a solid foundation in music theory. Anyone can pick up this book and instantly start learning about—and understanding—music theory.

**WORLD**

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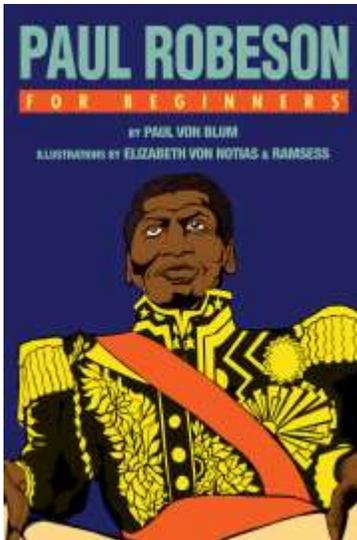


## Nietzsche For Beginners

Marc Sautet Illustrated by Patrick Boussignac

Not only does *Nietzsche For Beginners* delve into the scandalous life and considerable works of Friedrich Nietzsche, it also give a clear picture of the puzzling time in which he lived. We meet the luminaries of the day – Richard Wagner, Bismarck, Freud, and Darwin – and see their influences on his work. We also receive introductions to some of the great minds that preceded and shaped his writing. Luther, Schopenhauer, Hegel, and Kant. Sautet clarifies the individual philosophers and their contributions, making the book an important introduction to philosophy. Nietzsche's famous ménage à trois, his theories of Superman, of the Antichrist of nihilism, and Zarathustra, and his posthumous and misinformed use by the Nazis make for a fascinating read.

**WORLD**



## Paul Robeson For Beginners

Paul Von Blum Illustrated by Elizabeth Von Notias & Ramsess

Paul Robeson, despite being one of the greatest Renaissance figures in American history, still remains in relative anonymity. An exceptional scholar, lawyer, athlete, stage and screen actor, linguist, singer, and civil rights and political activist, he performed brilliantly in every professional enterprise he undertook. Any serious treatment of civil rights history and radical politics as well as American sports, musical, theatrical, and film history must consider the enormous contributions of Paul Robeson. And yet, he remains virtually unknown by millions of educated Americans.

*Paul Robeson For Beginners* is here to demystify and bestow light and long overdue credence to the life of this extraordinary American.

**WORLD**



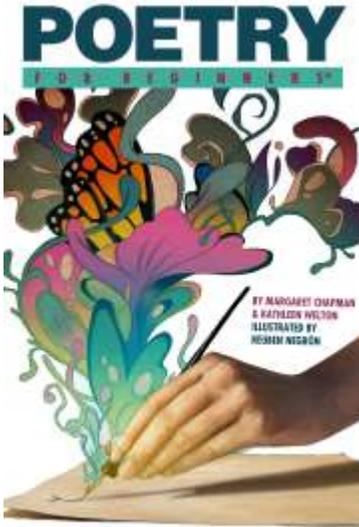
## Plato For Beginners

Robert Cavalier Illustrated by Eric Lurio

All philosophy is a footnote to Plato. No other person so shaped the Western world and the way we think about it. Plato's questions remain as real for us today as they were 2500 years ago, and as human beings, we can not avoid their presence nor shirk our responsibility to attempt to answer them.

*Plato For Beginners* introduces the reader to Socrates, Plato's mentor whose martyrdom led Plato to formulate a new system of knowledge based on reason. Socrates was found guilty and sentenced to death for refusing to recognize the gods of the State and for introducing other divinities. He was also found guilty of corrupting youth. This illustrated guide also covers the history of Greece as well as the life and ideas of this great philosopher and his influence over time, from early Christianity to the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

**WORLD**



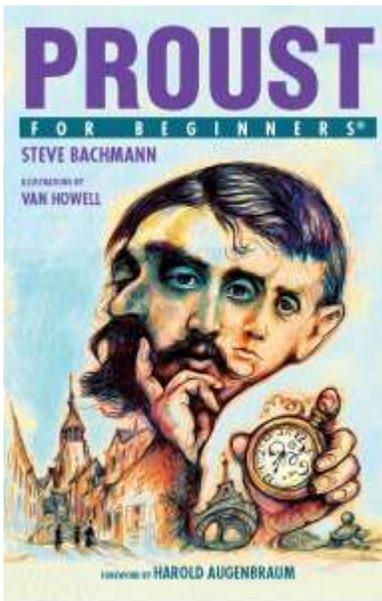
## Poetry For Beginners

Margaret Chapman & Kathleen Welton  
 Illustrated by Reuben Negrón

Poetry is one of those subjects almost impossible to define as it can be so many things at once. It is one of the oldest forms of writing in the world, yet also constantly evolving. Despite its complexities, poetry is probably the way most people learned how to read. *Poetry For Beginners* is a fun, lively and accessible guide, and expands one's understanding and knowledge of poetry through the ages.

From ancient Greece to the present, *Poetry For Beginners* traces the wonders of the written word and shows how it is relevant in daily life.

**WORLD**



## Proust For Beginners

Steve Bachmann Illustrated by Van Howell

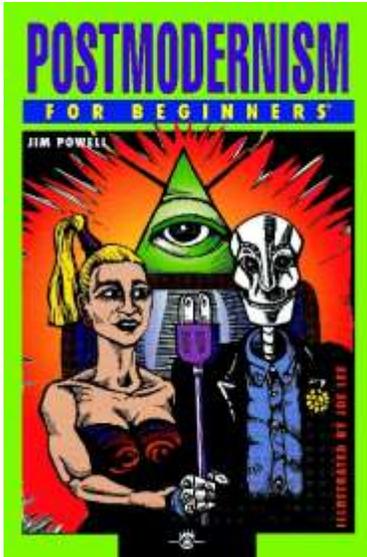
*Proust For Beginners* is, as a primer on the life and work of Marcel Proust, admirably comprehensive, at times quirky and deliberately provocative. Steve Bachmann has amassed a bounty of fascinating—and useful—information about the history, politics, and art surrounding the creation of Proust's fictional world. The book's rich content and engaging style will provide the curious "beginner" with an excellent introduction to the one of the world's greatest literary works. —William C. Carter, author of *Marcel Proust: A Life* and other definitive studies, editor of the Proust-Ink.com website, and Distinguished Professor Emeritus, University of Alabama at Birmingham

**WORLD**

**RIGHTS  
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## Postmodernism For Beginners

Jim Powell Illustrated by Joe Lee

Besides what a few grumpy critics claim, Postmodernism is not a bunch of meaningless intellectual mind games. On the contrary, it is a reaction to the most profound spiritual and philosophical crisis of our time – the failure of the Enlightenment. Jim Powell takes the position that Postmodernism is a series of “maps” that help people find their way through a changing world. *Postmodernism For Beginners* features the thoughts of Foucault on power and knowledge, Jameson on mapping the postmodern, Baudrillard on the media, Harvey on time-space compression, Derrida on deconstruction and Deleuze and Guattari on rhizomes. The book also discusses postmodern artifacts such as Madonna, cyberpunk, Buddhist ecology, and teledildonics.

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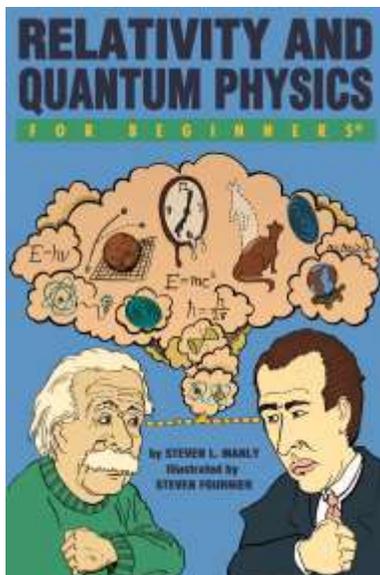


## Prison Industrial Complex For Beginners

James Braxton Peterson Illustrated by John Jennings

*Prison Industrial Complex For Beginners*, by James Braxton Peterson, is a powerful graphic narrative that tells the unvarnished truth about the privatization of the American penal system and its brutal effects on the lives of people of color. With roots going back to the slave trade and early days of the penitentiary system, the Prison Industrial Complex—a vast network of government, private industry, and the ideologies and policies that support them—emerged in the law-and-order politics of 1960s and '70s, gained momentum as part of the War on Drugs, and has made the U.S. the largest incarcerator in the world today. Peterson’s text and hard-hitting illustrations by John Jennings dramatize the history and social consequences of the warehousing of offenders in a profit-driven penal system.

**WORLD**



## Relativity and Quantum Physics For Beginners

Steven L. Manly Illustrated by Steven Fournier

As we humans have expanded our horizons to see things vastly smaller, faster, larger, and farther than ever before, we have been forced to confront preconceptions born of the human experience and create wholly new ways of looking at the world around us. The theories of relativity and quantum physics were developed out of this need and have provided us with phenomenal, mind-twisting insights into the strange and exciting reality show of our universe.

*Relativity and Quantum Physics For Beginners* is an entertaining and accessible introduction to the bizarre concepts that fueled the scientific revolution of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and led to amazing advances in our understanding of the universe.

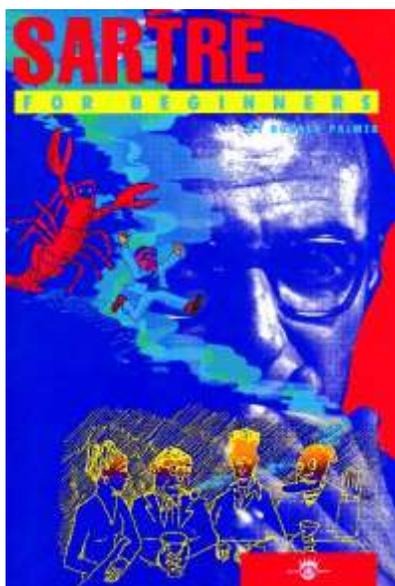
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## Sartre For Beginners

Donald D. Palmer

*Sartre For Beginners* is an accessible yet sophisticated introduction to the life and works of the famous French philosopher, Jean Paul Sartre. Sartre was a member of the French underground during WWII, a novelist, a playwright, and a major influence in French political and intellectual life.

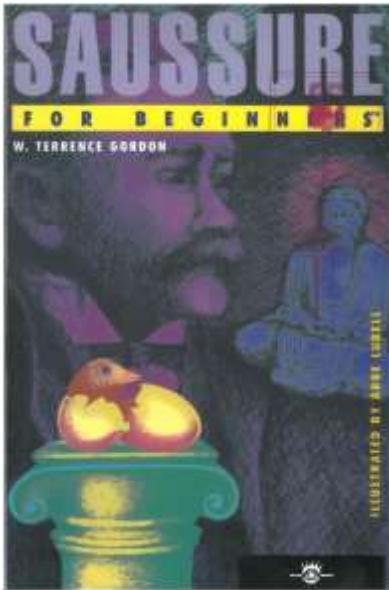
The book opens with a biographical section, introducing the significant events in the life of the man who coined the term “existentialism.”

Then it examines Sartre’s early philosophical works. Ideas from Sartre’s other fictional and dramatic works are discussed, along with the topics of consciousness, freedom, responsibility, absurdity, “bad faith,” authenticity, and the hellish confrontation with other people.

**WORLD**

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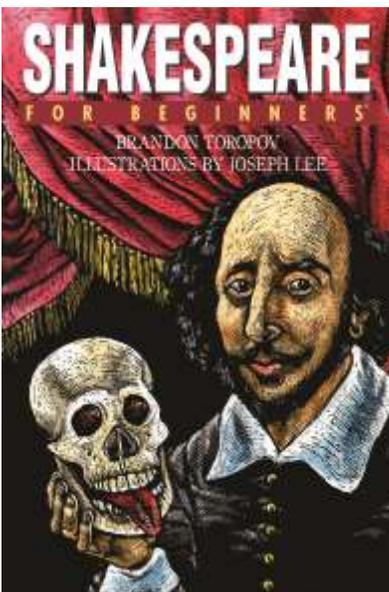


## Saussure For Beginners

W. Terrence Gordon Illustrated by Abbe Lubell

Ferdinand de Saussure's work is so powerful that it not only redefined modern linguistics, it also opened our minds to new ways of approaching anthropology, literary criticism, and psychoanalysis. Saussure felt that 19<sup>th</sup> century linguistics avoided hard questions about what language is and how it works. By 1911, he had taught a general linguistics course only three times. Upon his death, however, his students were so inspired by his teachings that they published them as the "Course in General Linguistics." *Saussure For Beginners* takes you through this course, points out the unifying principles, and shows how these ideas migrated from linguistics to other subjects. *Saussure For Beginners* is a clear, accessible guide to one of the most influential and difficult thinkers of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

**WORLD**



## Shakespeare For Beginners

Brandon Toropov Illustrated by Joseph Lee

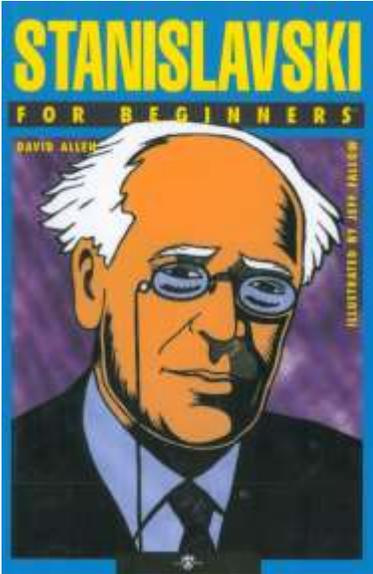
Author Brandon Toropov opens with the observation that Shakespeare's genius is not in his (or England's) history, it's in his words, most notably, his plays—in his brilliant stories, unforgettable characters, and the impossible beauty of his language. So *Shakespeare For Beginners* skips the historical foreplay and goes straight to Shakespeare's plays. The book offers clear, concise descriptions and plot summaries of each play; it lists key phrases and important themes, explains the main ideas behind each work and features excerpt of important passages (with explanatory notes on tough words.) And it is the only 'entry level' book available outside Great Britain that covers all of Shakespeare's plays.

**WORLD**

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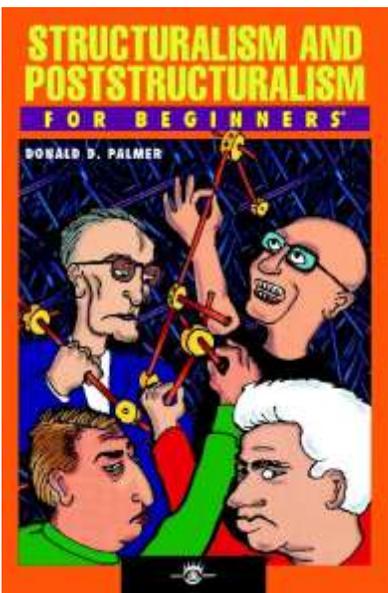


## Stanislavski For Beginners

David Allen Illustrated by Jeff Fallow

*Stanislavski For Beginners* charts the development of the Stanislavski system and how it grew from his own practice as an actor and director. The illustrated text includes a clear exposition of the key elements of the system, such as relaxation, concentration, emotion, memory, units and objectives, and the superobjective. Finally, the book explores the Method of Physical Actions, which he worked on in the years before his death, and which he called “the result of my whole life’s work”.

**WORLD**



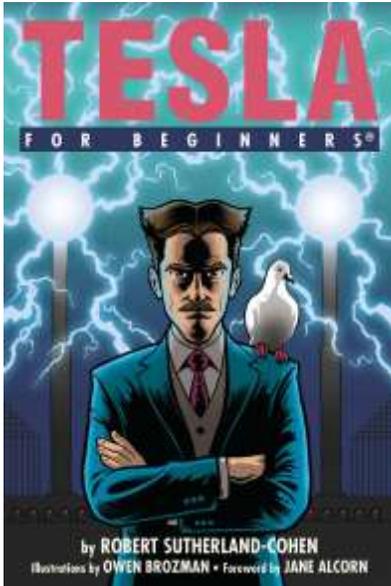
## Structuralism & Poststructuralism For Beginners

Donald D. Palmer

*Structuralism and Poststructuralism For Beginners* is an illustrated tour through the mysterious landscape of Structuralism and Poststructuralism. The book’s starting point is the linguistic theory of Ferdinand de Saussure. The book moves on to the anthropologist and literary critic Claude Lévi-Strauss; the semiologist and literary critic Roland Barthes; the Marxist philosopher Louis Althusser; the psychoanalyst Jacques Lacan; the deconstructionist Jacques Derrida.

The book concludes by examining the postmodern obsession with language and with the radical claim of the disappearance of the individual – obsessions that unite the work of all these theorists.

**WORLD**



## Tesla For Beginners

Robert Sutherland-Cohen Illustrated by Owen Brozman

Tesla filed nearly 300 patents in his lifetime. Many of these patents resulted in functioning inventions. Others were little more than wide-eyed dreams—or still await possible development. *Tesla For Beginners* examines the man behind alternating current and wireless technologies who traveled from Serbia by steamship to arrive in the United States with only four cents in his pocket. It was in the early 1880s, at the tail end of the Industrial Revolution and the beginning of the Second Industrial Revolution, that America beckoned him.

Nikola Tesla—poet of invention, possessed of a prodigious memory and deep-seated phobias, has left behind a vast and intriguing legacy. He was a scientist, a physicist, a mathematician, an electrical engineer, a writer of verse, and an extensively published author.

**WORLD**

**RIGHTS  
SOLD:**

**Turkish**

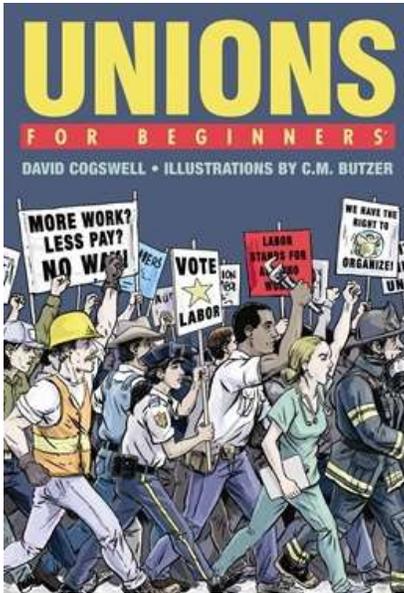


## Toni Morrison For Beginners

Ron David Illustrated by Dirk Shearer

So if you haven't read Toni Morrison, this book will introduce you to her novels—plot descriptions, subtexts, reviews, and Morrison's comments on her work. On the other hand, if you *have* read—or attempted to read—Toni Morrison, you may need this book even more. Many people consider Morrison's novels difficult to read. So here is the book you need to get friendly with Toni Morrison. It's about the woman, her books, her mission, her wordmusic, and all that writing she does between the lines ... what writers call "the subtext." Morrison's books are like the ocean: the surface is beautiful but everything that gives them life lies beneath.

**WORLD**

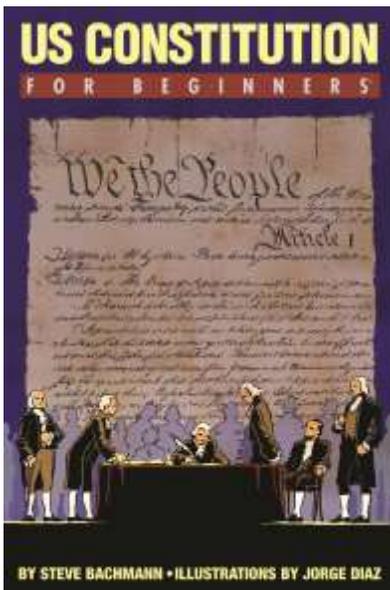


## Unions For Beginners

David Cogswell Illustrated by C.M. Butzer

Written and illustrated in the user-friendly, accessible style of the For Beginners series, *Unions For Beginners* presents the epic story of the labor movement in a simple, memorable way. The role of unions in empowering working people to rise above unfair payment and work conditions to become full-fledged participants in the American dream they helped to build is told in vibrant detail. *Unions For Beginners* explores the history of unions and the labor movement, the principles underlying union organizing, the decline of unions in the shadow of the rising corporate state, and the resurgence in the 21st century of union activism.

**WORLD**



## US Constitution For Beginners

Steve Bachmann Illustrated by Jorge Diaz

In a combination of witty text and illustrations *U.S. Constitution For Beginners* take a tongue-in-cheek look at America's most critical legal document. Author and lawyer Steve Bachmann has written a text that touches on the document's history beginning with the Magna Carta. He then traces the events that precipitated its writing, the personalities and motives of the people who create it, and its use and misuses since ratification.

*U.S. Constitution For Beginners* analyzes crucial elements of this binding set of principles and ponders the future of the Constitution as well as the role of American citizens. Though hotly debated and constantly reinterpreted, the Constitution has survived wars, industrialization, expansion and politicians.

**WORLD**



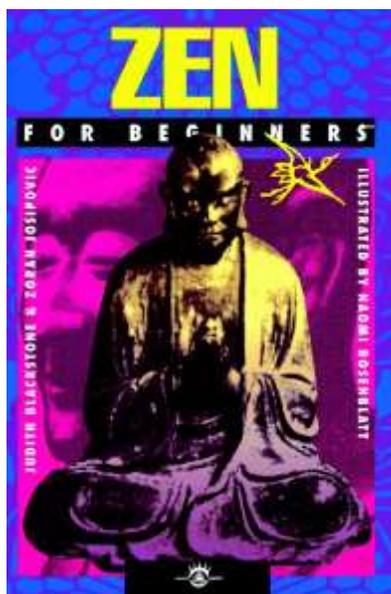
## Women's History For Beginners

Bonnie J. Morris, Ph.D. Illustrated by Phill Evans

*Women's History For Beginners* offers a lively, revealing, and provocative overview of this important (and controversial) academic field. Who are the great women of history, and why don't we know more about them? You don't need to be a scholar to notice that men's history dominates everything we learn in school; yet a quick tour of the past reveals dynamic female role models at every turn.

The book opens with a critical investigation of why so few of us are exposed to women's history in our years of schooling—and why educators and political groups remain leery of bringing fair, accurate women's history content into the classroom even now. It concludes with the reminder that women, too, are divided by race and class and nationality; that there is no one-size-fits-all women's history but many different versions, each worthy of investigation and understanding.

**WORLD**



## Zen For Beginners

Judith Blackstone & Zoran Josipovic Illustrated by Naomi Rosenblatt

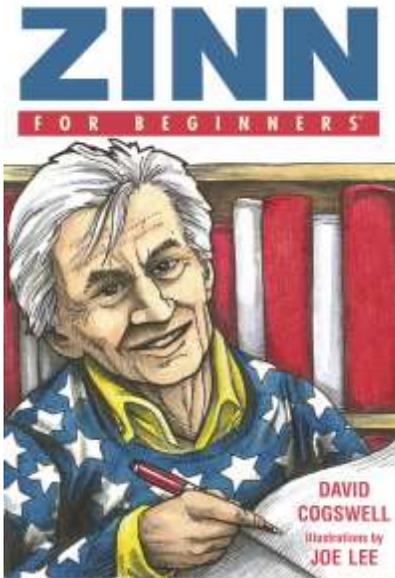
To create a book about Zen is risky. It is one thing to describe the factual history of this exotic strain of Buddhism. It's quite another thing to successfully convey the crazy wisdom of the Zen masters, their zany sense of humor, and their uncanny ability to pass on the experience of enlightenment to their students.

The authors of *Zen For Beginners* have clearly overcome this risk. The book uses an engaging mix of clear, informative writing and delightful illustrations to document the story of Zen from its impact on Chinese and Japanese culture to its influence on American writers such as Allen Ginsberg, Jack Kerouac, and Gary Snyder.

**WORLD**

**RIGHTS  
SOLD:**

**Spanish-  
World  
Chinese  
(Complex)  
Tamil  
Indonesian**



## Zinn For Beginners

David Cogswell Illustrated by Joe Lee

*Zinn For Beginners* describes the life and work of the most vital historian of our time. Howard Zinn led a revolution in the writing of history by telling the story not from the standpoint of conquerors and rulers, but from the side of the ordinary people who always bear the brunt of the ambitions of tyrants.

Howard Zinn's fresh look at history has earned him a devoted following. This book tells the story of where Zinn came from, what events shaped his life, and walks through the main points of his major works.

**WORLD**

**RIGHTS  
SOLD:  
Korean**