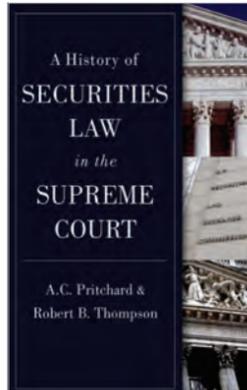


Alumni Books

NONFICTION

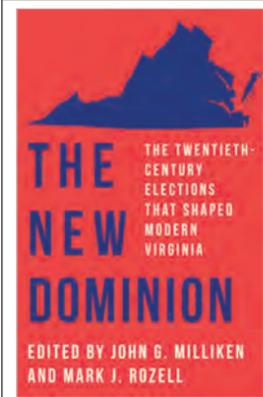


A HISTORY OF SECURITIES LAW IN THE SUPREME COURT
A.C. PRITCHARD '92
and ROBERT THOMPSON '74
OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS

“A History of Securities Law in the Supreme Court” explores how the court has made—and remade—securities law. It covers the history of the federal securities laws from their inception during the Great Depression, relying on the justices’ conference notes, internal memoranda and correspondence to shed light on how they came to their decisions and drafted their opinions. That history can be divided into five periods that parallel and illustrate key trends of the court’s jurisprudence more generally, the authors argue.

The first saw the administration of President Franklin D. Roosevelt triumph in its efforts to enact the securities laws and—aided by his filling eight seats on the court—establish their constitutional legitimacy. This brought an end to the court’s long-standing hostility to the regulation of business. The arrival of Roosevelt’s justices, all committed to

social control of finance, ushered in an era of deference to the Securities and Exchange Commission that lasted into the 1950s. The 1960s brought an era of further expansion and judicial activism by the Warren Court, with purpose taking precedence over text in statutory interpretation. The arrival of Lewis F. Powell Jr. in 1972 brought a sharp reversal. Powell’s leadership of the court in securities law produced a counterrevolution in the field and an end to the SEC’s long winning streak at the court. Powell’s retirement in 1987 marked the beginning of the final period of this study. In the absence of ideological consensus or strong leadership, the court’s securities jurisprudence meandered between expansive and restrictive decisions.

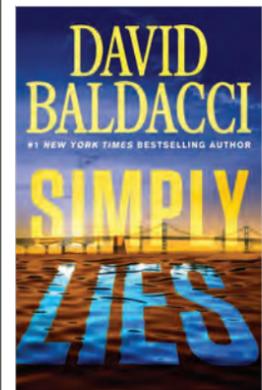


THE NEW DOMINION
The Twentieth-Century Elections That Shaped Modern Virginia
EDITED BY JOHN G. MILLIKEN '70
and MARK ROZELL
UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA PRESS

“The New Dominion” analyzes six key statewide elections to explore the demographic, cultural and

economic changes that drove the transformation of the state’s politics and shaped the political Virginia of today. Countering the common narrative that Virginia’s shifting politics are a recent phenomenon driven by population growth in the urban corridor, the contributors to this volume consider the antecedents to the rise of Virginia as a two-party competitive state in the six critical elections of the 20th century they profile.

FICTION



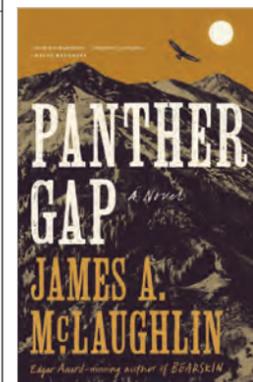
SIMPLY LIES
DAVID BALDACC'I '86
GRAND CENTRAL PUBLISHING

Mickey Gibson, single mother and former detective, leads a hectic life similar to that of many moms: She juggles the demands of her two small children with the tasks of her job working remotely for ProEye, a global investigation company that hunts down wealthy tax and credit cheats.

When Mickey gets a call from a colleague named Arlene Robinson, she thinks nothing of Arlene’s unusual request for her to inventory the vacant home of an arms dealer who cheated ProEye’s clients and fled. That is, until she arrives at the mansion to discover a dead body in a secret room—and realizes that nothing is as it seems. Not only does the arms dealer not exist but the

murder victim turns out to be Harry Langhorne, a man with mob ties who used to be in witness protection. What’s more, no one named Arlene Robinson works at ProEye.

In the blink of an eye, Gibson becomes a prime suspect in a murder investigation—and her job is also on the line until she proves that she was set up. Before long, Gibson is locked in a battle of wits with a brilliant woman with no name, a hidden past and unknown motives—whose end game is as mysterious as it is deadly.

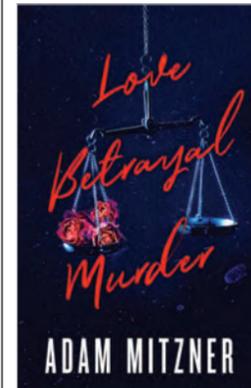


PANTHER GAP
JAMES MCLAUGHLIN '90
FLATIRON BOOKS

Siblings Bowman and Summer were raised by their father and two uncles on a remote Colorado ranch. They react differently to his radical teachings and the confusions of adolescence. As young adults, they become estranged but are brought back together in their 30s by the prospect of an illegal and potentially dangerous inheritance from their grandfather. They must ultimately reconcile with each other and their past in order to defeat ruthless criminal forces trying to extort the inheritance.

Set in the rugged American West and populated by drug cartels, shadowy domestic terrorists and nefarious business interests, “Panther Gap” combines descriptive environmental writing,

a white-knuckle thriller plot, and characters dealing with legacy, identity and their own place in the world.



LOVE BETRAYAL MURDER
ADAM MITZNER '89
BLACKSTONE PUBLISHING

Matthew Brooks and Vanessa Lyons are a perfect love match, both attorneys at a powerful New York City law firm. But there’s a hitch: Matt just made partner, and Vanessa is coming up for partner next year. And Vanessa’s husband has his suspicions.

Vanessa is assigned to the biggest case at the firm, the one that will determine her future. Unfortunately, Matt has been working the case for years, leaving him no choice but to supervise his lover in violation of firm policy. When Vanessa is denied her partnership, despite assurances to the contrary, she can only assume that her affair with Matt was the reason.

Then, on a crowded Manhattan street corner, a knife flashes in the midday sun, leaving behind a scene of horror. But with so many having been betrayed, and no one telling the truth, will the murderer be brought to justice? Even after hearing the gripping courtroom testimony, readers will be unsure who is the betrayed and who is the betrayer, right up until the culminating jaw-dropping reveal.

THE PEACOCK AND THE SPARROW

Debut Spy Thriller by Former CIA Officer

I.S. BERRY (ILANA BERRY '03) SIMON & SCHUSTER/TRIA BOOKS

As Ilana Berry’s UVA Law classmates were kicking off their lucrative law firm careers, Berry hunkered in a flimsy trailer as mortars pelted her Baghdad “Green Zone” compound and the air reeked of smoldering Iraqi rocket engines.

“It was worse than I thought it would be,” said Berry, who was 28 and single when she agreed to a yearlong intelligence-gathering assignment during the Iraq War. “I don’t know if I would have volunteered had I known just how bad it would be and how few precautions we had when I was over there.

“There were times I would go to bed just hoping I would wake up in the morning.”

Berry’s six years undercover as a CIA operative—including experiences she chronicled in a memoir still too personal and painful to publish—form the frames of her debut spy thriller, “The Peacock and the Sparrow,” written under the name I.S. Berry. But before she could pursue her long-envisioned career as a writer, Berry had to, in spy parlance, “come in from the cold.”

“It means you’re done spying,” she said. “It was when I had my cover lifted. And that’s pretty final. It’s like you know you’re not going back.”

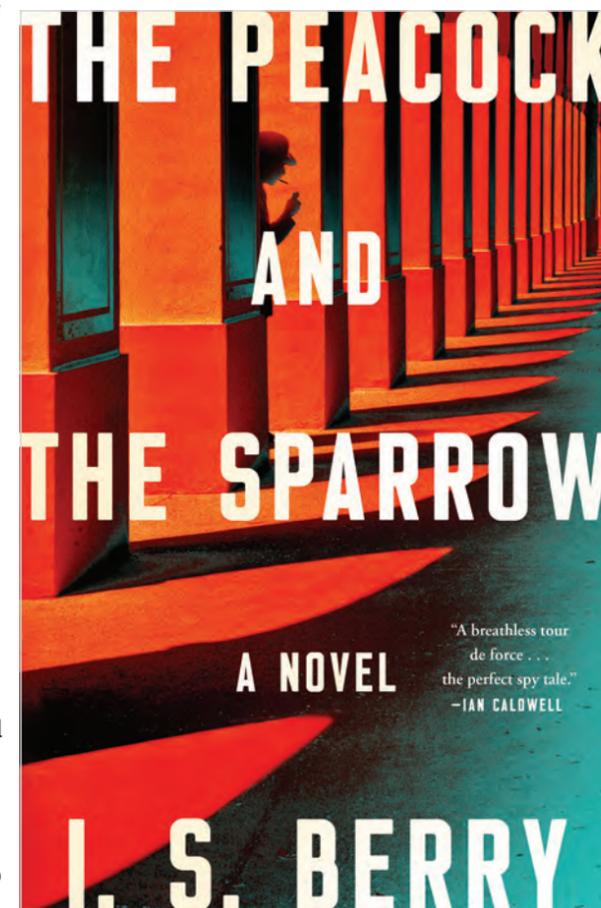
But that doesn’t mean the CIA has released its grip on the former agent. Nearly everything she writes—fact or fiction—requires agency approval.

Those restrictions also meant she couldn’t send draft chapters to literary agents or publishers. She had to finish “The Peacock and the Sparrow” and get it cleared by the government before anyone could peek at a page.

“It was such a lonely process. It was such a leap of faith,” Berry said. “There were times where I thought this could be the absolute worst book on the planet.”

Fortunately, publisher Simon & Schuster didn’t think so and released “The Peacock and the Sparrow” in May. The New Yorker has since featured it as one of its best books of 2023.

The title comes from an Arabian parable. A sparrow becomes anxious when he sees a man laying traps. The peacock tells the sparrow not to worry, but the sparrow takes extra precautions to avoid capture. One day the sparrow witnesses two birds quarreling, drops his guard and swoops in to intervene. The man ensnares all three. Berry’s character, an aging, road-weary spy named Shane Collins, rambles along something akin to the sparrow’s path.



“A breathless tour de force . . . the perfect spy tale.”
—IAN CALDWELL



► Berry spent six years undercover, including a harrowing tour in Baghdad gathering intelligence during the Iraq War.



Berry’s own career path was at times as fraught as the sparrow’s. She had already applied to the CIA when terrorists struck New York and the Pentagon on Sept. 11, 2001. The attacks steered her resolve.

CIA spy training then was still largely based on Cold War techniques: Go to a cocktail party, make some connections, develop those relationships. But there were no soirees in Baghdad. Berry spent most of her time assessing the stories of Iraqis who were hoping to trade sketchy information for money.

“Most of it was just worthless,” she said. “We struggled because there were very few sources that were really valuable.”

She did find one source who led her to a suspected terrorist. At the time, “that was such a huge coup, because we just weren’t getting information like that.”

Now, many years on, Berry and some of her colleagues wonder if they got the right guy after all. She’s never learned the suspect’s fate—an experience she still carries and that inspired her to put the story in her head on paper.

“I’d always wanted to be a writer. I just hadn’t found the right story,” she said. “My protagonist makes decisions that affect the course of the Arab Spring, and they are not necessarily the right ones. But you don’t know. When you’re in the thick of it, you just don’t know. It’s the murk of espionage.”

—Mike Mather