of dropping Eagleton from the ticket is meticulously described by Glasser, a researcher for Bloomberg Television. Glasser maintains an even tone in his well-researched recounting of the nomination process, which included a failed bid to bring scandal-plagued Massachusetts senator Edward Kennedy onto the ticket, bringing scandal-plagued Massachusetts campaign’s lack of planning for the vice-presidential choice. As reporters hustled to ferret out the details of Eagleton’s hospitalizations and (generally effective) electroshock therapy, American voters confronted the issue of mental illness. While Eagleton’s reputation became one of strength and resilience, there was considerable support for the notion that “the Eagleton affair indelibly tainted perceptions of McGovern,” resulting in Richard Nixon’s landslide win. The scholars brought together by Ohio State historian Conn (History’s Shadow) persuasively demonstrate how the growth of “big government” throughout the 20th century has benefited ordinary Americans so comprehensively and unobtrusively that they have often taken it for granted. (Aug.)

**Energy for Future Presidents: The Science Behind the Headlines**

UC-Berkeley physicist Muller (Physics for Future Presidents), who made headlines for first criticizing and then vindicating global warming research, explores the contentious issues that will increasingly preoccupy politicians and citizens, in this no-nonsense scientific primer on energy policy. Muller brings fresh, often contrarian perspectives to topics that have been saturated in misinformation and hype, arguing, for example, that new techniques to extract the stupendous reserves of petroleum in shale and tar sands will eliminate all talk of peak oil; that wind power and photovoltaics will boom while corn ethanol, geothermal, and tidal power will fizzle; that household energy conservation is a great investment, while public transit is usually a bad one; and that China’s soaring carbon dioxide emissions will render America’s almost irrelevant—and that the best way to abate China’s emissions is by switching from coal to natural gas. Especially revealing is his positive assessment of nuclear energy, which effectively debunks the alarmism surrounding the March 2011 Fukushima accident. The author’s explanations of the science underlying energy production are lucid but never simplistic—and often fascinating in their own right. Policy makers and casual readers alike can benefit from Muller’s eye-opening briefing, which sheds lots of light with little wasted heat. Photos. Agent: John Brockman, Brockman Inc. (Aug.)

★★ The Distance Between Us: A Memoir

Award-winning novelist (Across a Hundred Mountains) Grande captivates and inspires in her memoir. Raised in Mexico in brutal poverty during the 1980s, four-year-old Grande and her two siblings lived with their cruel grandmother after both parents departed for the U.S. in search of work. Grande deftly evokes the searing sense of heartache and confusion created by their parents’ departure. Eight years later her father returned and reluctantly agreed to take his children to the States. Yet life on the other side of the border was not what Grande imagined: her father’s new girlfriend’s indifference to the three children becomes more than apparent. Though Grande’s father continually stressed the importance of his children obtaining an education, his drinking resulted in violence, abuse, and family chaos. Surrounded by family turmoil, Grande discovered a love of writing and found solace in library books, and she eventually graduated from high school and went on to become the first person in her family to graduate from college. Tracing the complex and tattered relationships binding the family together, especially the bond she shared with her older sister, the author intimately

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**TIMELESS VIETNAM**
Photographs by Cánh Tàng
Preface by Peter Yarrow
[Q&A]

**PW Talks with Ben Macintyre**

Double-crossing the Nazis

The D-Day landings might not have succeeded without the espionage affair related by bestseller Ben Macintyre in *Double Cross* (Reviews, May 14; pub date, July 31).

This isn’t your first book about spies. What first attracted you to the world of espionage?

Around 1997, MI5, Britain’s internal security service, began to release its classified files. They were so extraordinary and rich in detail, I became completely hooked. Ever since then, MI5 has released more and more material. My books would be impossible to write if they hadn’t done so. The material is unlike any other sort of official material because it’s written by and for people who never expected it to be released. It’s honest in a way that most official files are not.

As much as the success of *Double Cross* (to deceive Germany about where the D-Day landings would occur) hinged on the five double agents, it also depended on the skills of their MI5 handlers.

These agents were constantly trying to manipulate their handlers on both sides, because their relationships with their German spymasters were just as important as those with their British ones. In a way, the success of the operation hinged on the nature of their personal relationships. What I love about these stories is that although they are war stories, they’re not stories of guns and bravery as we imagine it. They’re about psychology and the very complicated relations between individuals. We’ve always tended to look at the Second World War through a black-and-white prism: you’re either good or bad. People are either collaborators or they’re resistance fighters. This book looks at a shadowy world that involves moral compromises and people, even some disreputable people, who found it within themselves to do something incredible.

Would *Double Cross* and the related Operation Fortitude have been possible without British code breakers having decrypted the Germans’ Enigma code?

I think it wouldn’t have been possible on the scale that they attempted it.... That said, there were other deception schemes that didn’t rely on intercept material. But it did allow MI5 to have a real-time check on everything, of which the enemy was completely unaware. So that was a critical advantage.

Agent Garbo’s stable of 27 agents—all of them imagined—working for him was a highlight of the book. It’s irresistible, isn’t it? He was quite mad, a man of absolutely wild imagination. The one thing that I particularly love is the Welsh Aryan Brotherhood. The German obsession with the idea that Wales was filled with would-be Nazis who were ready to rise up was completely fantastic and no such people existed. And yet Garbo managed to invent not one but six of them to pass off against the Germans. He really was behaving like a novelist. He was imagining his characters and filling out his world like a fiction writer. —JORDAN FOSTER

★ The Last Bohemia: Scenes from the Life of Williamsburg, Brooklyn


The eternal clash between authenticity, art, and real estate development shapes this bittersweet memoir of New York’s most tragically hip neighborhood. Anasi witnessed Williamsburg’s progress in the 1990s and 2000s from crime-ridden working-class neighborhood overshadowed by crumbling factories—his explorations of the decrepit industrial waterfront are one of the book’s greatest pleasures—to edgy arts scene and hipster mecca to end-stage self-parody as an unaffordably upscale “Bohemian theme park,” sprouting sterile luxury condos where picturesque ruins once stirred the soul. It’s also the story of Anasi’s own literary ambitions and tinged with nostalgia along with the usual anti-bourgeois posturing against gentrification. Fortunately, Anasi keeps the focus on an immersive account of the feel and look of the early neighborhood with sharply drawn, novelistic profiles of Williamsburg’s original denizens and landscapes: pioneering artists, ghetto entrepreneurs, teen heroin addicts, grungy cocaine bars, and the complex ecosystem of the neighborhood cafe. There’s color and romance in his portrait of the avant-garde, but he takes seriously the creative labor of artists, writers and—gulp—erotic circus performers as they hone their craft and their vision. His clear-eyed, heartfelt elegy shows why a Williamsburg—free, fecund, gloriously threadbare—is so vital to the culture. (Aug. 14)

Leaving Home: A Hollywood Blacklisted Writer’s Years Abroad


During the McCarthy era, Edwards (whose *Early Reagan: The Rise of an American Hero* was nominated for a Pulitzer) fled to Europe, along with numerous other Hollywood writers who...