

The Numbers Game Why Everything You Know About Soccer Is Wrong

This detailed analysis of slavery in the antebellum South was written in 1975 in response to the prior year's publication of Robert Fogel and Stanley Engerman's controversial *Time on the Cross*, which argued that slavery was an efficient and dynamic engine for the southern economy and that its success was due largely to the willing cooperation of the slaves themselves. Noted labor historian Herbert G. Gutman was unconvinced, even outraged, by Fogel and Engerman's arguments. In this book he offers a systematic dissection of *Time on the Cross*, drawing on a wealth of data to contest that book's most fundamental assertions. A benchmark work of historical inquiry, Gutman's critique sheds light on a range of crucial aspects of slavery and its economic effectiveness. Gutman emphasizes the slaves' responses to their treatment at the hands of slaveowners. He shows that slaves labored, not because they shared values and goals with their masters, but because of the omnipresent threat of 'negative incentives,' primarily physical violence. In his introduction to this new edition, Bruce Levine provides a historical analysis of the debate over *Time on the Cross*. Levine reminds us of the continuing influence of the latter book, demonstrated by Robert W. Fogel's 1993 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences, and hence the importance and timeliness of Gutman's critique.

In the numbers-obsessed sport of baseball, statistics don't merely record what players, managers, and owners have done. Properly understood, they can tell us how the teams we root for could employ better strategies, put more effective players on the field, and win more games. The revolution in baseball statistics that began in the 1970s is a controversial subject that professionals and fans alike argue over without end. Despite this fundamental change in the way we watch and understand the sport, no one has written the book that reveals, across every area of strategy and management, how the best practitioners of statistical analysis in baseball-people like Bill James, Billy Beane, and Theo Epstein-think about numbers and the game. *Baseball Between the Numbers* is that book. In separate chapters covering every aspect of the game, from hitting, pitching, and fielding to roster construction and the scouting and drafting of players, the experts at *Baseball Prospectus* examine the subtle, hidden aspects of the game, bring them out into the open, and show us how our favorite teams could win more games. This is a book that every fan, every follower of sports radio, every fantasy player, every coach, and every player, at every level, can learn from and enjoy.

Discover football's astonishing hidden rules in *The Numbers Game* by Chris Anderson and David Sally *Fully updated with a new World Cup chapter* Football has always been a numbers game: 4-4-2, the big number 9 and 3 points for a win. But what if up until now we've been focusing on the wrong numbers? What if the numbers that really matter, the ones that hold the key to winning matches, are actually 2.66, 53.4, 50/50, and $0 > 1$? What if managers only make a 15% difference? What if Chelsea should have bought Darren Bent? In this incisive, myth-busting book, Chris Anderson, former goalkeeper turned football statistics guru, and David Sally, former baseball pitcher turned behavioural economist, show that every shred of knowledge we can gather can help us to love football and understand it even more. You'll discover why stopping a goal is more valuable than scoring one, why corners should be taken short, and why it is better to improve your worst player than to buy a superstar. You'll never play, or watch, a game of football in quite the same way again. *The Numbers Game* is essential reading for football fans everywhere and will also appeal to readers who loved *Moneyball* and *Freakonomics*.

'I couldn't imagine a better guidebook for making sense of a tragic and momentous time in our lives. Covid by Numbers is comprehensive yet concise, impeccably clear and always humane' Tim Harford How many people have died because of COVID-19? Which countries have been hit hardest by the virus? What are the benefits and harms of different vaccines? How does COVID-19 compare to the Spanish flu? How have the lockdown measures affected the economy, mental health and crime? This year we have been bombarded by statistics - seven day rolling averages, rates of infection, excess deaths. Never have numbers been more central to our national conversation, and never has it been more important that we think about them clearly. In the media and in their Observer column, Professor Sir David Spiegelhalter and RSS Statistical Ambassador Anthony Masters have interpreted these statistics, offering a vital public service by giving us the tools we need to make sense of the virus for ourselves and holding the government to account. In *Covid by Numbers*, they crunch the data on a year like no other, exposing the leading misconceptions about the virus and the vaccine, and answering our essential questions. This timely, concise and approachable book offers a rare depth of insight into one of the greatest upheavals in history, and a trustworthy guide to these most uncertain of times.

All of the components needed by readers of the financial pages or beginner business students to understand the real meaning of published numbers are explained in this guide. This revised and updated edition takes into account the reasons behind the downfall of HIH Insurance, a leading Australian insurance company; the latest trends in retailers' vital statistics; and the problems with accounting for abnormal items. Starting with the annual report and the balance sheet and continuing through assets and liabilities, the profit and loss account, and tax and cash flow, this is a complete how-to to understanding business facts and figures. *The Numbers Game* Why Everything You Know About Football is Wrong Penguin UK

"Strictly and widely illegal, the most common manifestations of urban gambling were once "the numbers game" and "policy," in which people would place daily bets on random numbers, through community institutions, such as newsstands and barbershops. Gambling became one of the largest economic activities and sources of employment in some nonwhite neighborhoods-and therefore it drew intense police interest. Some of the most corrupt and blatantly discriminatory police actions centered on gambling and its practitioners. The state's interest doomed urban gambling, as many states coopted the market with their own hugely lucrative lotteries. A game that first flourished in poor and nonwhite urban communities has become America's game"--

An insightful, comprehensive and always entertaining appreciation of how European football has developed over the last three decades by the author of the much heralded *The Mixer*.

i>From Adam to Noah-*The Numbers Game*," shows that the genealogy of Adam in Genesis 5 is a puzzle. Genesis 5 reports that people lived for over 900 years. Where are the clues that the genealogy of Genesis 5 is a puzzle? Here's the first: 1x56 years: Lamech's birth to Adam's death 2x56 + 1 years: Lamech's birth to Enoch's disappearance 3x56 years: Lamech's birth to Seth's death Here's the second clue: 416 years: Lamech's death to Kenan's death 416 years: Lamech's birth to Mahalalel's death 416 years: Enosh's death to the birth of Noah's sons And the third clue: 1x84 years: Lamech's birth to Enosh's death 2x84 + 416 years: Jared's death to Noah's death 3x84 years: Enoch's birth to Lamech's birth A collection of real human ages would never display a pattern like this. Solving the puzzle reveals a fully functional, 2500+

year old calendar that is as accurate as our modern calendar. The extracted calendar is based on a 364-day year with a 369-day leap year and a 365-day year that occurs once every 33 years. The average length of a year for this 33-year calendar is 365.242424 days which is very near the length of the vernal equinox year of 365.242374 days on which our calendar is based. It is now clear that the Bible contains science. It's ancient science, but it's real science. The Bible writers were ancient scientists and the Bible is a repository of their work. If you're a scientist, engineer or technician and you've found it impossible to take the Bible seriously, now you can. Just as we were unable to recognize this calendar as a calendar, the science of the Bible has not been recognized as science because its' authors spoke in parables and riddles. This was a part of the Biblical culture. The book of Proverbs says that it will teach the reader how to understand the "words of the wise" which consist of proverbs, riddles and figures (puzzles). "Besides being wise, the Preacher also taught the people knowledge, weighing and studying and arranging proverbs with great care." (Ecc 12:9 RSV) "My mouth shall speak wisdom; the meditation of my heart shall be understanding. I will incline my ear to a proverb; I will solve my riddle to the music of the lyre. (Psa 49:3-4 RSV) So when Jesus taught using parables and riddles he was following a tradition that was ancient when Solomon was king. This kind of riddle extends far beyond the genealogy of Genesis 5. Genesis 1 to 11 contains a collection of riddles woven into a single fabric. The riddles continue through the book of Revelation. Once we understand these riddles we discover that the Bible actually contains a consistent, workable philosophy that can actually explain the way the world works. "

"A kid-friendly exploration of how math and statistics are used in baseball"--

The Expected Goals method is football's best-kept secret. The metric gives unparalleled insight into which teams and players are performing at the highest level. Professional gamblers have used Expected Goals to make millions through football betting. Club scouts have used Expected Goals to identify hidden gems in the transfer market. And the media have recently started using Expected Goals to offer more profound insight in their broadcasts. Despite this, most ordinary fans still don't understand what the Expected Goals method is - or appreciate the significant impact that it is set to have on the sport in coming years. Expected Goals (otherwise known as xG) was originally conjured up by a small corner of the online football analytics community. It didn't take long for professional gamblers to begin using xG to predict match outcomes. These bettors utilised the Expected Goals method to turn over hundreds of millions of pounds from the bookmakers. Before long, football clubs had caught on to the ground-breaking insight given by xG. Brentford FC were leaders in this field, managing to assemble a Play-Off-reaching squad on a shoe-string budget. In the last five years, the small West London side have turned over more than £100m in transfer revenue from their use of the Expected Goals method in player recruitment. More recently, the Expected Goals method has been adopted by the media as a form of insight. Fans are finally catching on to the pioneering means of football analysis. Soon enough, anyone who doesn't understand the Expected Goals philosophy will be left behind. "This book will make you watch football differently" - Tobias Pedersen "Possibly the most ground-breaking football book ever written" - Football Impact "A brilliant account of the history and future of Expected Goals" - StatShot

Number Games | 9/11 to Coronavirus was written for the purpose of educating the people of the world about the agendas that are being carried out against us, and the very clear plan that went into motion in 1968, when coronavirus was coined, World Trade Center construction in New York began, and 9-1-1 was made the United States' national emergency dialing code. As the reader will learn, these agendas, as well as many others that are related, have been executed by a numerical code, known as Gematria, and they are for the sake of building a surveillance state across the world, so that powerful interests can peer into and keep tabs on the lives of the masses, for the sake of continued power and control. Number Games | 9/11 to Coronavirus also names the parties responsible, with definitive evidence. To put it mildly, this is the type of book that the Vatican wishes was locked away in one of their vaults, but fortunately for the reader, it is not. At last, football has its answer to Freakonomics, The Tipping Point and The Undercover Economist.

"Information about soccer and soccer players incorporating math into the game, for children"--

In the American Mathematical Society's first-ever book for kids (and kids at heart), mathematician and author Richard Evan Schwartz leads math lovers of all ages on an innovative and strikingly illustrated journey through the infinite number system. By means of engaging, imaginative visuals and endearing narration, Schwartz manages the monumental task of presenting the complex concept of Big Numbers in fresh and relatable ways. The book begins with small, easily observable numbers before building up to truly gigantic ones, like a nonillion, a tredecillion, a googol, and even ones too huge for names! Any person, regardless of age, can benefit from reading this book. Readers will find themselves returning to its pages for a very long time, perpetually learning from and growing with the narrative as their knowledge deepens. Really Big Numbers is a wonderful enrichment for any math education program and is enthusiastically recommended to every teacher, parent and grandparent, student, child, or other individual interested in exploring the vast universe of numbers.

The future of football is now. Football's data revolution has only just begun. The arrival of advanced metrics and detailed analysis is already reshaping the modern game. We can now fully assess player performance, analyse the role of luck and measure what really leads to victory. There is no turning back. Now the race is on between football's wealthiest clubs and a group of outsiders, nerds and rule-breakers, who are turning the game on its head with their staggering innovations. Winning is no longer just about what happens out on the pitch, it's now a battle taking place in boardrooms and on screens across international borders with the world's brightest minds driving for an edge over their fiercest rivals. Christoph Biermann has moved in the midst of these disruptive upheavals, talking to scientists, coaches, managers, scouts and psychologists in the world's major clubs, traveling across Europe and the US and revealing the hidden - and often jaw-dropping - truths behind the beautiful game. 'A book full of exciting ideas and inside views on modern football. The most exciting book in an exciting time for football.' Thomas Hitzlsperger

Following on from his Big Book of Numbers (2014), World of Numbers (2015), and Time Machine (2016), Australia's funniest mathematician is back with a brand new book of number puzzles and trivia! Featuring hundreds of mind-bending, head-scratching, intelligence-testing number games, puzzles, and quizzes -- plus tonnes of hilarious and fascinating number-based trivia -- this is a book that will make you think, laugh, and cry (and quite possibly stare in amazement as your kids solve things before you do!). We all know how important it is to nourish and train our bodies, but our minds need exercising too. So keep your brains active and lively, and test yourselves against your friends and family, with 2017's biggest and best book of numerical fun.

An absolutely essential book for every modern football fan, about the development of Premier League tactics, published to coincide with 25 years of the competition.

Praise for The Financial Numbers Game "So much for the notion 'those who can, do-those who can't, teach.' Mulford and Comiskey function successfully both as college professors and real-world financial mercenaries. These guys know their balance sheets. The Financial Numbers Game should serve as a survival manual for both serious individual investors and industry pros who study and act upon the interpretation of financial statements. This unique blend of battle-earned scholarship and quality writing is a must-read/must-have reference for serious financial statement analysis." --Bob Acker, Editor/Publisher, The Acker Letter "Wall Street's unforgiving attention to quarterly earnings presents ever increasing pressure on CFOs to manage earnings and expectations. The Financial Numbers Game provides a clear explanation of the ways in which management can stretch, bend, and break accounting rules to reach the desired bottom line. This arms the serious investor or financial analyst with the healthy skepticism required to drive beyond reported results to a clear understanding of a firm's true performance." --Mark Hurley, Managing Director, Training and Development, Global Corporate and Investment Banking, Bank of America "After reading The Financial Numbers Game, I feel as though I've taken a master's level course in financial statement analysis. Mulford and Comiskey's latest book should be required reading for anyone who is serious about fundamentally analyzing stocks." --Harry Domash, San Francisco Chronicle investing columnist and investment newsletter publisher

Soccer as you have never viewed it before--an eye-opening presentation of the world's favorite sport.

It's not that he's just not that into you—it's that there aren't enough of him. And the numbers prove it. Using a combination of demographics, statistics, game theory, and number-crunching, Date-onomics tells what every single, college-educated, heterosexual, looking-for-a-partner woman needs to know: The "man deficit" is real. It's a fascinating, if sobering read, with two critical takeaways: One, it's not you. Two, knowledge is power, so here's what to do about it. The shortage of college-educated men is not just a big-city phenomenon frustrating women in New York and L.A. Among young college grads, there are four eligible women for every three men nationwide. This unequal ratio explains not only why it's so hard to find a date, but a host of social issues, from the college hookup culture to the reason Salt Lake City is becoming the breast implant capital of America. Then there's the math that says that a woman's good looks can keep men from approaching her—particularly if they feel the odds aren't in their favor. Fortunately, there are also solutions: what college to attend (any with strong sciences or math), where to hang out (in New York, try a fireman's bar), where to live (Colorado, Seattle, "Man" Jose), and why never to shy away from giving an ultimatum.

Relationships come together, fall apart and are reinvented over time in this warm-hearted novel by the world's favourite storyteller, Danielle Steel. Eileen Jackson was happy to set aside her own career dreams in order to raise a family with her husband Paul. But when she discovers Paul's affair with a younger woman, she begins to question all those years of sacrifice and compromise. On the brink of forty, she fears it is too late to start over. Meanwhile, Paul's girlfriend Olivia is struggling to find herself while in the shadow of her mother, a famous actress, and her grandmother, a fiercely independent artist. With their love and support, Olivia takes a major professional step. But she realizes she still has much to learn about herself before committing her life to someone else. Ultimately, Eileen decides to chase her own dreams as well, thousands of miles away in Paris. What awaits is an adventure that transforms her life. At every age, there are challenges to be met and new worlds to discover. The Numbers Game is a reminder that it's never too late to turn a new page and start again.

The most ubiquitous feature of Harlem life between the world wars was the game of "numbers." Thousands of wagers, usually of a dime or less, would be placed on a daily number derived from U.S. bank statistics. The rewards of "hitting the number," a 600-to-1 payoff, tempted the ordinary men and women of the Black Metropolis with the chimera of the good life. This book tells the story of this illegal form of gambling and the central role it played in the lives of African Americans who flooded into Harlem in the wake of World War I. For a dozen years the "numbers game" was one of America's rare black-owned businesses, turning over tens of millions of dollars every year. The most successful "bankers" were known as Black Kings and Queens, and they lived royally. Yet the very success of "bankers" like Stephanie St. Clair and Casper Holstein attracted Dutch Schultz, Lucky Luciano, and organized crime to the game. By the late 1930s, most of the profits were being siphoned out of Harlem.

Here Come the Numbers is a fun rhyming book about numbers for children, and adults too. Learn about square numbers, negative numbers, prime numbers and much more. Written by Kyle D Evans, a maths teacher by day and award winning maths communicator and musical comedian by night. Illustrated by Hana Ayoob, an illustrator, a science communicator and a creative producer of science events.

How can one striker be better than three? Why do the best defenders never need to make a tackle? What's the secret of Tiki-taka? Welcome to Ruud Gullit's masterclass on how to 'read' a match. From his unrivalled perspective as player, manager and pundit, the Dutch football legend shows us everything to look for in a 90 minute match. From formations and tactical decisions to player qualities and pivotal moments, Ruud Gullit unveils the hidden patterns on the pitch. Packed with his acute insights, original observations and talking points, How to Watch Football will quite simply change the way you see the beautiful game.

Moneyball meets Freakonomics in this myth-busting guide to understanding—and winning—the most popular sport on the planet. Innovation is coming to soccer, and at the center of it all are the numbers—a way of thinking about the game that ignores the obvious in favor of how things actually are. In The Numbers Game, Chris Anderson, a former professional goalkeeper turned soccer statistics guru, teams up with behavioral analyst David Sally to uncover the numbers that really matter when it comes to predicting a winner. Investigating basic but profound questions—How valuable are corners? Which goal matters most? Is possession really nine-tenths of the law? How should a player's value be judged?—they deliver an incisive, revolutionary new way of watching and understanding soccer.

'Even one glass of wine a day raises the risk of cancer' 'Hate crimes have doubled in five years' 'Fizzy drinks make teenagers violent' Every day, most of us will read or watch something in the news that is based on statistics in some way. Sometimes it'll be obvious - 'X people develop cancer every year' - and sometimes less obvious - 'How smartphones destroyed a generation'. Statistics are an immensely powerful tool for understanding the world; the best tool we have. But in the wrong hands, they can be dangerous. This book will help you spot common

mistakes and tricks that can mislead you into thinking that small numbers are big, or unimportant changes are important. It will show you how the numbers you read are made - you'll learn about how surveys with small or biased samples can generate wrong answers, and why ice cream doesn't cause drownings. We are surrounded by numbers and data, and it has never been more important to separate the good from the bad, the true from the false. HOW TO READ NUMBERS is a vital guide that will help you understand when and how to trust the numbers in the news - and, just as importantly, when not to.

Our UK Commonwealth Editions have been reexamined to see how they align with UK education standards. Kumon offers four titles that support the Early Years Learning Stage curriculum and four titles that support Key Stage 1 curriculum. Give your child an edge in education with Kumon Workbooks.

How do the world's greatest golfers improve their game? Practice, sure, but Roland Minton says mathematics and statistics are also key to their success. *Golf by the Numbers* analyzes the mathematical strategies behind the sport, giving fans a behind-the-scenes look at how numbers drive the game. Computers, GPS trackers, swing simulators, and high-speed cameras have introduced new and exciting ways of seeing and understanding the complicated and endlessly fascinating game of golf. Players like Phil Mickelson are so good because they review the results of every swing they take. Minton's comprehensive analysis of statistics taken from the PGA Tour's ShotLink system walks readers through the mountains of data that pros use to inform and refine their play. The result is an insider's perspective of how the world's greatest golfers apply mathematics to the sport. Minton discusses randomness in golf (especially how much luck is involved in putting) as well as aggressive and cautious strategies both on and off the greens, and he explains, by the numbers, just how Tiger Woods was so dominant from 2004 to 2009. Here is a book that tells some truly engaging stories of modern golf, featuring famous players and memorable tournaments, all through the lens of elementary probability theory. Minton's informal style and clear and direct explanations make even the most detailed discussions accessible to all curious-minded golfers. His mathematical morsels are not only enjoyable to read—they may even help you improve your game.

Explains how to better understand the world and make more responsible consumer choices using accessible mathematical principles, in a guide that redefines the concepts of averages, risks, and statistics.

Love is worth more than the sum of its hearts... CPA Merrit Callahan learned early not to let passion unravel her orderly life. Back in college she fell hard for a football player, only to be devastated when she discovered he'd been duping her all along—dared by his teammates to score with his bookish tutor. Now, after her back-stabbing fiancé breaks off their engagement, Merrit flees to Baltimore to escape the fallout. After eight years in the pros, a series of concussions have forced Heath Gibson out of the NFL. The transition from player to coach for the Baltimore Blaze hasn't been smooth, but finding himself face-to-face with Merrit Callahan makes the ride even rockier. He's been filled with regret ever since a stupid team prank caused Merrit to run away from him a decade earlier. Merrit's stunned to reconnect with Heath. And despite the authenticity of his reignited feelings this time around, Merrit's got her mind set on payback. She'll give Heath a night he won't forget and then walk away. But Heath's hold on her heart—and the rest of her body—is difficult to break... This title was previously released with a different cover.

Written by a world-respected football historian, this football history unpacks the global game's greatest myths in a charming gift edition. Football has been completely mythologized: as a result, many of the things football fans think they know about the game and its history turn out not to be true. Written by Kevin Moore, the founding director of the National Football Museum (the world's leading football museum), this thoroughly researched and authoritative book debunks more than 50 of the greatest myths surrounding football. Moore unearths the truth behind many accepted myths, including: · The Germans took football to Brazil, not the English · Rugby and not football could quite easily have been the world's leading sport · There are gay professional players . . . and always have been! · Goalkeepers should not dive for penalties · Football hooliganism did not begin in England · Shirt colors do make a difference · Cambridge and not Sheffield is the home of the oldest football club in the world · Arsenal should not be in the Premier League . . . they cheated to be there · The Dynamo Kiev team were not executed after beating a German SS team in 1941 · England did not win the World Cup fairly in 1966 . . . but not in the way you think! The world certainly suffers no shortage of accounting texts. The many out there help readers prepare, audit, interpret and explain corporate financial statements. What has been missing is a book offering context and discussion for divisive issues such as taxes, debt, options, and earnings volatility. King addresses the why of accounting instead of the how, providing practitioners and students with a highly readable history of U.S. corporate accounting. *More Than a Numbers Game: A Brief History of Accounting* was inspired by Arthur Levitt's landmark 1998 speech delivered at New York University. The Securities and Exchange Commission chairman described the too-little challenged custom of earnings management and presaged the breakdown in the US corporate accounting three years later. Somehow, over a one-hundred year period, accounting morphed from a tool used by American railroad managers to communicate with absent British investors into an enabler of corporate fraud. How this happened makes for a good business story. This book is not another description of accounting scandals. Instead it offers a history of ideas. Each chapter covers a controversial topic that emerged over the past century. Historical background and discussion of people involved give relevance to concepts discussed. The author shows how economics, finance, law and business customs contributed to accounting's development. Ideas presented come from a career spent working with accounting information.

'Dazzling and engrossing' Colm Tóibín, *Guardian* A Granta Best Young American Author *Book of Numbers* is a novel about two men of the same age and with the same name: Joshua Cohen. The first Joshua is a writer whose keenly anticipated debut had the bad luck to be published on September 11, 2001. The other Joshua is the enigmatic billionaire Founder and CEO of the world's most profitable tech company. Autobiography, family memoir, phoned-in ghostwriting, international thriller, sex comedy – *Book of Numbers* brings to life the full range of modern experience in the course of its epic journey.

Explains how Billy Beene, the general manager of the Oakland Athletics, is using a new kind of thinking to build a successful and winning baseball team without spending enormous sums of money.

Treena is nervous for Rating Day. A single number will brand her forever--a valuable citizen, or a pathetic waste of space. Her top-Rated boyfriend is confident their scores will coincide so they can attend the academy together. But when the big day arrives, her true number shocks everyone. To get her life and boyfriend back, she must go undercover and expose a military spy.

In the mid-1990s, the NYPD created a performance management strategy known as Compstat. It consisted of computerized data, crime analysis, and advanced crime mapping coupled with middle management accountability and crime strategy meetings with high-ranking decision makers. While initially credited with a dramatic reduction in crime, questions quic

"Math information for kids while learning about basketball"--

The world's best negotiators have moved beyond the conventional wisdom by utilising cutting-edge studies and real-world results. It's time you did too. For over twenty years, David Sally has been teaching the art of negotiation at leading business schools and to executives at top companies. Now, using insights from social psychology and game theory, he delivers the proven, clear, actionable advice you need to stay one step ahead. By studying great examples, from Machiavelli to Wall Street, Xi Jinping and Barack Obama, he explores how the game's masters navigate the field strategically, craftily, even emotionally. The best know

every negotiation is different and that your tactics are, in part, determined by your opponent. One Step Ahead will make sure that you have what it takes to come out on top, no matter who you are facing across the table.

As seen on the Today Show: This true story of an unforgettable mother, her devoted daughter, and their life in the Detroit numbers of the 1960s and 1970s highlights "the outstanding humanity of black America" (James McBride). In 1958, the very same year that an unknown songwriter named Berry Gordy borrowed \$800 to found Motown Records, a pretty young mother from Nashville, Tennessee, borrowed \$100 from her brother to run a numbers racket out of her home. That woman was Fannie Davis, Bridgett M. Davis's mother. Part bookie, part banker, mother, wife, and granddaughter of slaves, Fannie ran her numbers business for thirty-four years, doing what it took to survive in a legitimate business that just happened to be illegal. She created a loving, joyful home, sent her children to the best schools, bought them the best clothes, mothered them to the highest standard, and when the tragedy of urban life struck, soldiered on with her stated belief: "Dying is easy. Living takes guts." A daughter's moving homage to an extraordinary parent, *The World According to Fannie Davis* is also the suspenseful, unforgettable story about the lengths to which a mother will go to "make a way out of no way" and provide a prosperous life for her family -- and how those sacrifices resonate over time.

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