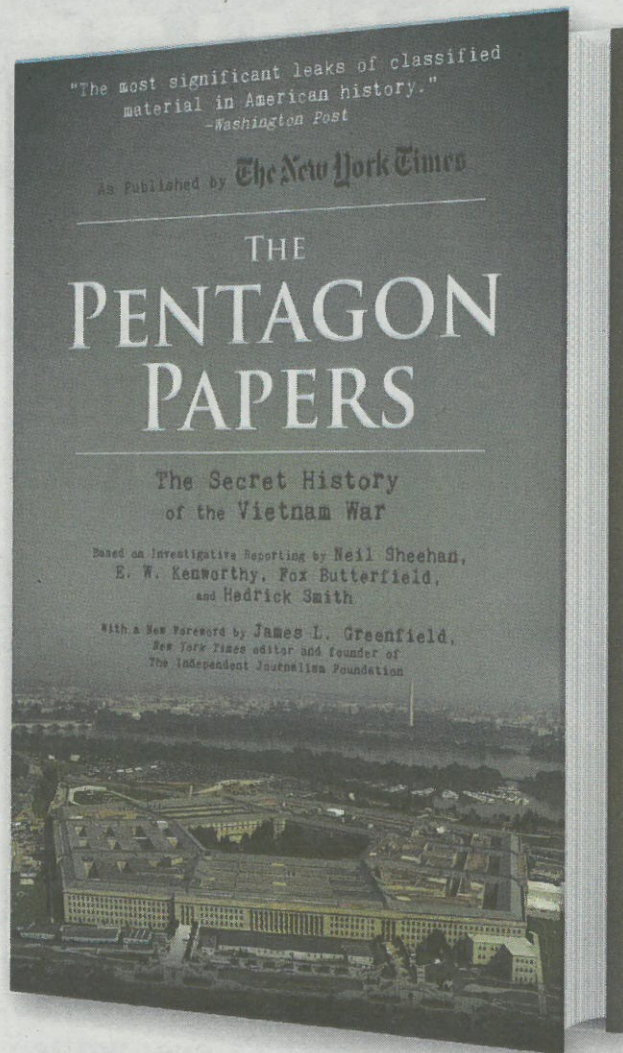


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**New**



**THE UNMAKING OF THE PRESIDENT 2016** By Lanny J. Davis. (Scribner, \$25.) Davis, the consummate Washington insider and former special counsel to Bill Clinton, offers his take on the 2016 election. In his view, the former F.B.I. director James Comey's announcement, 11 days before the vote, that Hillary Clinton's emails were under investigation again, dealt the

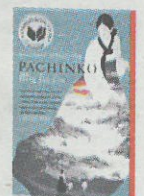
fatal blow. **MAKING THE MONSTER** By Kathryn Harkup. (Sigma, \$27.) Could Victor Frankenstein actually have succeeded in 1818, building a man out of spare parts? That was the year that Mary Shelley published her classic novel, and Harkup looks at the science behind the 19th-century culture of experimentation with dead bodies to which it was responding. **SISTER OF DARKNESS** By R. H. Stavis with Sarah Durand. (Dey St., \$26.99.) Yes, there are such things as "secular exorcists." Stavis is one (along with being, fittingly, a screenwriter of horror movies). After helping what she says are thousands of people expel their demons, she has decided here to speak of her unique power. **CHICAGO** By David Mamet. (Custom House, \$26.99.) The combustible playwright and screenwriter turns once again to fiction in his fourth novel, set in 1920s Chicago among small-time crooks and aspiring mobsters. It has all the trademarks of a Mamet production — electric dialogue and a hurtling pace. **CLOSE ENCOUNTERS WITH HUMANKIND** By Sang-Hee Lee. (Norton, \$26.95.) Lee, a paleoanthropologist, tells us much about our evolutionary origins by sorting through our ancestors' mortal remains. Examining wisdom teeth from various periods, for example, she was able to establish how long ago our life spans first allowed us to know our grandparents. It hasn't been that long: only 30,000 years.



## & Noteworthy

"The selection of Min Jin Lee's **PACHINKO** as one of the

Book Review's 10 Best Books of 2017 made me turn to the novel about four generations of a Korean family. While epic in scope — and, at nearly 500 pages, in scale — the book also makes vivid the quotidian details of its characters' everyday lives, from Sunja's visits to the 'fish broker' in Japanese-occupied Korea to the indignities suffered by Solomon as an aspiring Korean banker in 1980s Japan. The novel expertly portrays the rituals and mores specific to ethnic Korean culture even as it also poignantly captures the universally complicated relationships between family members, lovers and friends. The writing is spare and evocative: 'She could feel Noa's small hand when he was a boy, and she would close her eyes and think of his sweet, grassy smell and remember that he had always tried his best.'



— ROBIN POGREBIN, CULTURE REPORTER,  
ON WHAT SHE'S READING.