

Kenneth E. Hartman

**Mother California***Life in a Maximum-Security Prison*

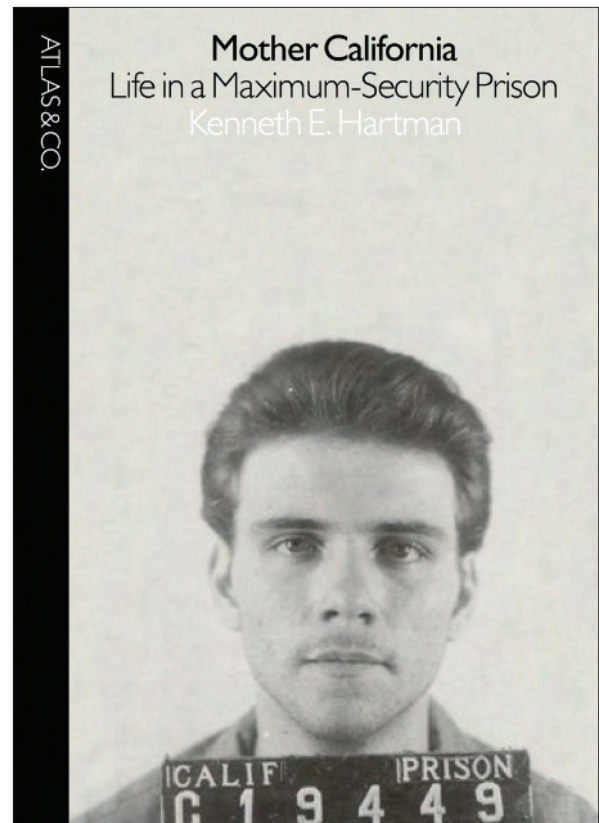
**A fierce but affecting memoir of a convicted murderer, whose growing self-awareness enables him to understand his crime and achieve redemption.**

In 1980, Kenneth E. Hartman was sentenced to a life term in prison for a murder he committed as a violent, drug-addicted nineteen-year-old. Over twenty-eight years, he transformed from a brutal inmate to a student of philosophy, a reader of books, a Buddhist, and a prison activist. Perhaps the greatest transformation of all for him was becoming a father.

While in prison, Hartman married, and he and his wife conceived a child who has become the emotional center of Hartman's life. He has also been involved in a two-decade effort to reform the California State Correctional System from within. The author is the founder of a program called "The Honor Yard," which has made it possible for motivated prisoners to live in a compound segregated from the general prison population and to enlist in rehabilitation programs.

Innately talented as a writer, Hartman is a remarkable autodidact, and his book is unique in the annals of prison literature.

**KENNETH E. HARTMAN** is a writer and prison reform advocate. He won the 2004 Power of Purpose Awards and a 2005 Maggie Award. Hartman is serving a life sentence at California State Prison, Los Angeles County.



• Author Web site: [www.kennethehartman.com](http://www.kennethehartman.com)

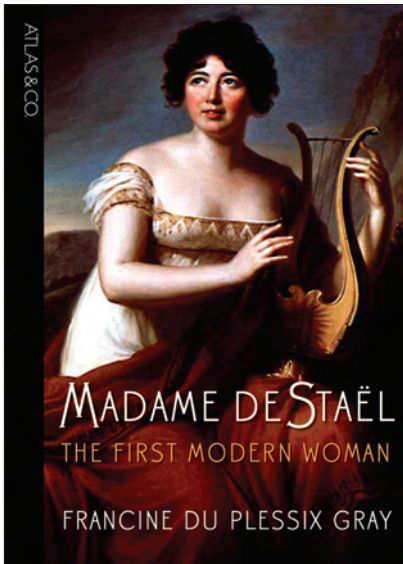
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FRANCINE DU PLESSIX GRAY's *At Home with the Marquis de Sade* was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize. She lives in Connecticut.

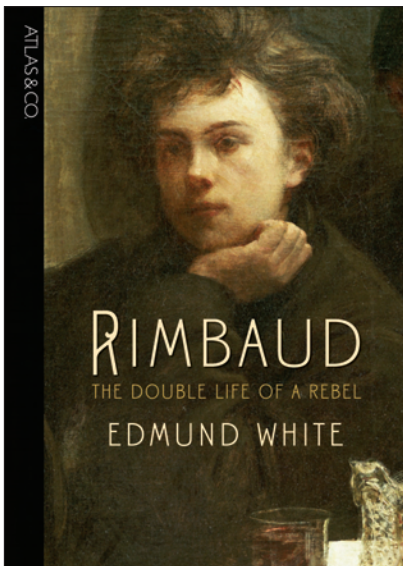
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**JAMES ATLAS** is the president of Atlas & Co. and founder of the Penguin Lives series. His numerous books include *Bel-low: A Biography* and the memoir *My Life in the Middle Ages*. He lives in New York City.

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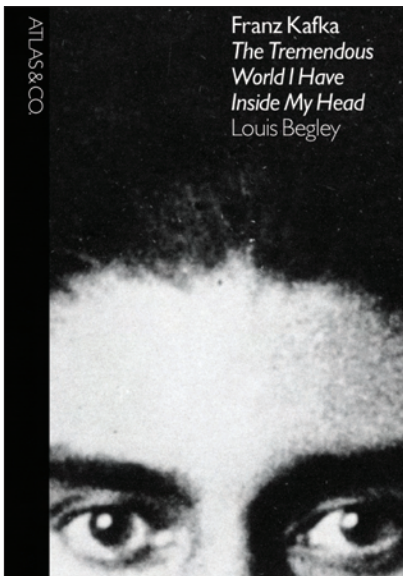
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LOUIS BEGLEY's most recent publication is *Matters of Honor*. He lives in New York City.

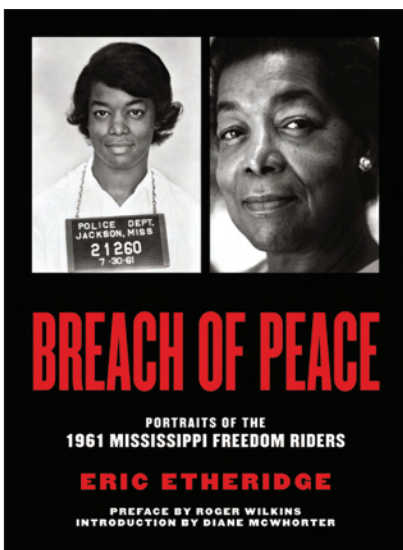
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ERIC ETHERIDGE grew up in Carthage, Mississippi. He lives in New York City.

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