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THE ART OF
CHANGE
CREATION, GROWTH & TRANSFORMATION
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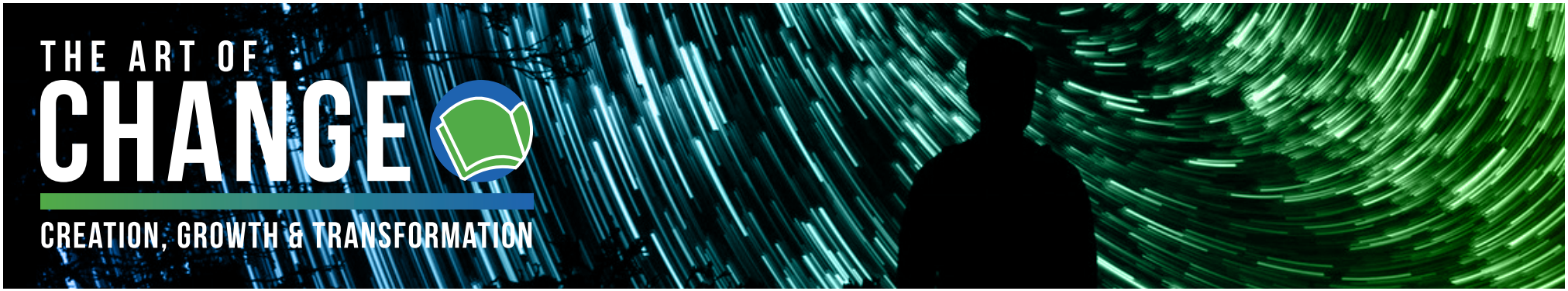
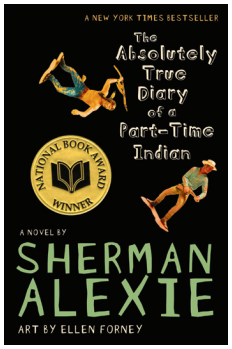


THE ART OF CHANGE

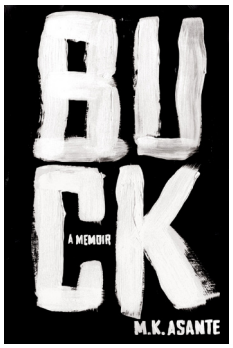
CREATION, GROWTH & TRANSFORMATION

Change may be chosen or involuntary, accepted or resisted, and is the foundational issue of both our temporal human existence and literature. The three books chosen for this series are memoirs and semi-autobiographical works in which the young adult narrators make decisions about how to respond to the great personal, social and cultural forces they encounter. Each protagonist moves forward toward positive change by, among other factors, their involvement in the creative arts. Each books raises important questions: How do we, as individuals and societies, respond to change? How can we use change as a transformative instead of a destructive force? What are the conditions that help us to use change to grow and thrive? How can we use the arts to create conditions for positive change?



The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian
by Sherman Alexie

Bestselling author Sherman Alexie tells the story of Junior, a budding cartoonist growing up on the Spokane Indian Reservation. Determined to take his future into his own hands, Junior leaves his troubled school on the rez to attend an all-white farm town high school where the only other Indian is the school mascot. Heartbreaking, funny and beautifully written, *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*, which is based on the author's own experiences, coupled with poignant drawings by Ellen Forney that reflect the character's art, chronicles the contemporary adolescence of one Native American boy as he attempts to break away from the life he was destined to live.



Buck: A Memoir
by MK Asante

A coming-of-age story about navigating the wilds of urban America and the shrapnel of a self-destructing family, *Buck* shares the story of a generation through one original and riveting voice. MK Asante was born in Zimbabwe to American parents: his mother a dancer, his father a revered professor. But as a teenager, MK was alone on the streets of North Philadelphia, swept up in a world of drugs, sex and violence. MK's memoir is an unforgettable tale of how one precocious, confused kid educated himself through gangs, rap, mystic cults, ghetto philosophy and, eventually, books. It is an inspiring tribute to the power of literature to heal and redeem us.

The Complete Persepolis
by Marjane Satrapi

Persepolis is the story of Satrapi's unforgettable childhood and coming of age within a large and loving family in Tehran during the Islamic Revolution; of the contradictions between private life and public life in a country plagued by political upheaval; of her high school years in Vienna facing the trials of adolescence far from her family; of her homecoming —both sweet and terrible; and, finally, of her self-imposed exile from her beloved homeland. It is the chronicle of a girlhood and adolescence at once outrageous and familiar, a young life entwined with the history of her country yet filled with the universal trials and joys of growing up. Edgy, searingly observant and candid, often heartbreaking but threaded throughout with raw humor and hard-earned wisdom — *Persepolis* is a stunning work from one of the most highly regarded, singularly talented graphic artists at work today.