

Feminist Bookstores Newsletter

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Dear folks,

André's in Mexico, we moved I.C.I.--A Woman's Place this month, and I have resolved not to make any more rash promises concerning timely publication! Darlene's wonderful list is shorter this issue, since she also belongs to the I.C.I. collective, and we're all working double and triple shifts to put our new store together; however, we do have a new book list contributor this issue from Wisconsin. EMMA asks everyone to fill out the enclosed questionnaire and they'll let us know the results.

Two issues ago we included two "feedback forms" on our back page. We've received 15 responses (thanks, Sistermoon, Dandelion Wine, Plains Woman, Smedley's, Womankind, Bloodroot, New Words, Sisterwrite, Sonya Wetstone Books & Cheese, New Earth, Crazy Ladies, Fan the Flames, Small Changes, Charis, and Aradia).

On the issue of organizing to dialogue with publishers, eight bookstores said yes, they were interested in organizing. Two said no. Ten wanted the F.B.N. staff to write letters and report back; one didn't. Six offered to contribute money, four

offered to contribute energy. Three preferred to start an organization separate from the Feminist Bookstores' Newsletter; two offered to share in the labor of forming such an organization. Some wrote letters in response (see Dec. '80 issue).

Looking at these responses, I drew the following conclusions: a) very few subscribers even have energy to respond on this issue; b) most of those who are interested in organizing prefer that the F.B.N. staff do it; c) the F.B.N. staff is still having problems getting the newsletter and other business/correspondence done on time and shouldn't contract anything else until that's taken care of.

So, my inclination is to let the matter drop for now. I still heartily encourage anyone who is moved to protest unfair publisher policies to write them and send the F.B.N. copies of the correspondence.

Twelve stores indicated they'd be willing to jot down their ten "best-sellers" periodically, and thirteen wrote that they'd be willing to suggest ten "treasures" (favorite over-looked books). Aradia's correspondent wrote that she had reservations-- "I am afraid of this leading to favoritism--pressure to push certain books, etc.... I'm not sure how reliable /the "best-sellers"/ list would be--sometimes we can't get a book in stock for months (like Feminist Press books)." Anyway, I'd like to try these lists periodically, hoping that nobody will take them too seriously--but for this issue, we have another question (plus Emma's questionnaire).

That question is--to whom should the Feminist Bookstores' Newsletter go? This has been asked before, and some who answered strongly advocated that the circulation be limited to bookstores and publishers who are feminist and women-owned and operated. The feeling was that the F.B.N. could better be a forum for controversial and vulnerable material if it was available only to feminist women--also that straight stores receiving this information might undercut feminist stores in their area by ordering materials found in the F.B.N.

We want to pose the issue again because we (Carol, Andre, and I) have been making a few exceptions for alternative stores in towns where there's no feminist, women-run bookstore, and also sending the booklist portion only to some libraries. Now we're getting requests from other stores, libraries, straight publishers. What to do?

We've discussed asking for an okay from the local feminist store if a competitor in the same community wants the newsletter (lots of hassle and we wouldn't necessarily spot it)--or making individual exceptions based on the person requesting the newsletter (e.g. a feminist woman working within a straight publishing house, bookstore or library). But actually, we're inclined to just send it to anyone who asks--reasoning a) the more feminist books ordered, the better; b) no straight store is going to order so many feminist titles that it will seriously undercut a feminist bookstore; c) we can be just as controversial and too bad if someone's nose is put out of joint (we can always hold a bake sale if we get sued, right?) d) it's easier; e) we need the money.

A response form is on the back page--please fill it out.

Deliriously, Jesse Meredith for the F.B.N.





FLASH! FEMINIST BOOKSTORES GO INTO THE COSMETIC BUSINESS!

Soon after the straight media decided that toxic shock syndrome qualified as news, and a few local papers included in their articles the information that I.C.I.-- A Woman's Place in Oakland sells menstrual sponges, an investigator from the Food and Drug Administration came to visit I.C.I. She examined the sponges (supplied by Wimmin Take Back Control) asked if the bookstore workers knew of any other sponge retailers or wholesalers (funny, no, they didn't), and left her card.

On January 7, 1981, the F.D.A. sent I.C.I. Notice of Adverse Findings. This notice (addressed, Dear Sir:), refers to two cases of toxic shock syndrome in women using menstrual sea sponges which were reported to the Center for Disease Control; quotes an analysis by University of Iowa Hygienic Laboratory, finding sand, bacteria, trace minerals, various pollutants, and chemicals in sponges, and also finding a tendency for sponges to crumble into sharp particles. The notice continues, "Presently, FDA has not approved the sale of natural sea sponges for menstrual use since the safety and effectiveness of the sponges for that purpose have not been established. Sponges labeled for such use are considered to be investigational devices. Interstate distribution of these sponges is legal only when the sponges comply with the investigational device regulations published in the January 18, 1980 FEDERAL REGISTER. These regulations became effective on July 16, 1980. To date, we are not aware of any sponges which meet these regulations...We request that you advise this office in writing within fifteen (15) days of your position in this matter. If you are distributing or selling sea sponges, you should describe the product and the conditions under which the product is sold. Sincerely yours, Ronald G. Fischer, Director, Compliance Branch, San Francisco District."

Conversations by Darlene of the I.C.I. collective with Dr. Lillian Yin, head of OB/GYN medical devices division of the F.D.A., Dee Woods of Wimmin Take Back Control, Mr. Chu at the F.D.A. San Francisco District, and Louise at Emma Goldman Clinic for Women in Iowa City, yielded more information, some of it contradictory. The gist of it seemed to be that, while the bookstore could continue to sell sea sponges (as "cosmetics"), it could not in any way sell them as menstrual devices. This includes labelling, informal discussion with customers, etc. Should the F.D.A. find the bookstore not to be in compliance with its requirements, its agents may search the premises and seize and destroy any sponges found there.

This poses some problems for those continuing to sell sponges, as they cannot legally give out instructions for their use or even warn women that sponges may not be a safe alternative to tampons. Suggestions will be welcomed by the F.B.N. and by I.C.I.--A Woman's Place, 4015 Broadway, Oakland CA 94611.

Meanwhile, tampons continue to be marketed, albeit with a "warning label", and no one seems eager to release an analysis of their content. Could it possibly be that Proctor and Gamble carries more weight with the F.D.A. than Wimmin Take Back Control?

BOOK IMPERILLED...

Paula Wallace at Full Circle, Albuquerque New Mexico, advises us that the excellent hardback aimed at educating the parents of lesbians and gay men, Now That You Know, may be allowed to go out of print by Harcourt Brace Jovanovich. PLEASE WRITE IMMEDIATELY to Carol Meyer, Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 757 Third Ave., New York NY 10017, and urge the reprinting (preferably in paperback of this title. Do it now as they are reportedly making their decision any day now.



more NEWS...

CONFERENCE ON COLLECTIVE WORK IN BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

Various collectives in business in the San Francisco Bay Area are sponsoring a conference on working collectively, May 16, 1981, in Berkeley. Proposed topics include History of Collectives in the Bay Area, How to Start a Collective, Collectives: Small Businesses or Vehicles for Radical Social Change, How to Do Collective Work, Politics and History of Collectives in Revolutionary Movements, and Inter and Intra-Personal Relationships in Collectives. The conference will be held at Unitarian Hall, 1924 Cedar St., Berkeley, and is open to all. For more information, call Cory at 415/841-6853 or 658-4685; or write her at the Brick Hut, 3017 Adeline, Berkeley CA.

THEY WENT THAT-A-WAY: I.C.I.--A Woman's Place has moved to 4015 Broadway, Oakland CA 94611.

This is to remind FBN readers that, for all the other roles, identities, schizophrenias, etc., that Carol, Andre, and Jesse carry, none of us is Medea Media. And all of us are sworn to secrecy as to her identity. Complaints, threats and love letters (also objections) can be sent to MM care of the newsletter and we will be sure that she receives them, and/or publish them, whatever seems to be appropriate.

LETTERS letters L E T T E R S LETTERS letters L E T T E R S lllleettteeerrrrss



Helaine Victoria Press

Dear sisters:

I am writing to let you know that my new book, Pornography: Men Possessing Women, will be published in trade paper late April by Putnam's/Perigee. The book is an in-depth analysis of the meaning of pornography and the place of pornography in the male-supremacist sexual system in which we live.

The book was difficult to write, difficult to publish; and I am very proud of it. I hope that you will announce the publication of the book in your newsletter.

Thank you for your attention, and my best wishes for continued success.

Sincerely,

Andrea Dworkin



1/19/81

Dear F.B.N.,

Have been meaning to write for months, so this will be a hodge-podge of responses to the last several issues. We have been cleaning out six years of accumulated junk, doing inventory, in general making space for the new ideas and books coming to us, and it feels great! Of our collective of three currently running the store, one will be leaving in February, which gives us the chance to look at where we want to head, and bring in new energy towards that purpose(not that we won't miss Judy's presence!) One of the things we'd like to do is start a regional (Southeast) book newsletter--books, events, consciousness-raising about things like ITT & RCA buying up book companies, etc.

I've enclosed our statement of purpose, which we give to every new support staff person. It came out of a collective effort to define who we are and what Charis means to us, what are the underlying values that people can sense when they walk in the door. We have an abbreviated version on the wall of the kid's loft for customers to see. We have occasional potlucks with our support staff to ask for their input on decisions like the new store logo we're designing, to let them get acquainted with each other since they may not meet if their shifts are at different times during the week, and to have some time to appreciate them outside of work context. We've had a full and exciting year, our friendships have deepened as we've shared personal struggles, and as we've dealt respectfully and honestly with our political, spiritual, sexual/relationship differences. One difficult issue was whether or not to carry a book about self-abortion: we were receiving pressure from the local feminist women's health center, and we took several hours over a period of weeks to explore our values and concerns. Finally decided to post a sign about the book, saying it was available for perusal, with an address where it could be bought. The Feminist Women's Health Center was not pleased with us, announced they were able to get the book placed in a mainstream store with no problem. And I feel good about our careful process, and ability to compromise out of mutual respect. That is feminist process, as far as I'm concerned.

We've sponsored or assisted in several community events; done a booktable at a conference on Women in the South at a local Black women's college; had three women's poetry readings in our store, as well as a Native American storyteller for the children in our neighborhood. Local women artists and potters, weavers do occasional window displays for the store. We've hosted Ann Jones of Women Who Kill, and provided refreshments for the first production of a newly formed women's theatre group. If y'all thought the South was a backward place, you got another think coming! Looking at all we've done, I am impressed! (and resolve not to bitch so much when the next extra project comes along) Most of this stuff we do for free, by the way, considering it to be our contribution to an evolving society, in keeping with our vision and purpose.

We've gone through tightening up and organizational changes this year: in the process of buying ourselves from the umbrella organization that Charis originally formed under, we are now incorporating with a Board of Directors and all that jazz--a convenient way to keep a channel open for the valuable input from the two women who are no longer working here, but were an essential part of making Charis what it is. We are wondering with some concern about the economics of the coming year; buying assets for the store, higher rent, reduced sales? Since I have come to Charis, I have instituted various systems such as end-of-the-day reconciliation forms, monthly statements, special order forms, etc.

Letters--Charis, cont'd

Some of you out there would probably cringe at my compulsive organizing!

Would like feedback on others' advertising experience: Does it help? How do you know? Do you advertise locally? What percentage of your budget (if you have one, we don't yet) do you allocate for advertising?

By the way, our last year's Books in Print is available to any of you who want: please pay postage.

Since the A.B.A. convention is going to be here in Atlanta this year, we will look forward to seeing as many of you as can make it about that time! We would like to host feminist bookstores' representatives for an evening of sharing, perhaps a dinner.



Sincerely,

Julia Strong for Charis Books & More
419 Moreland Ave., N.E.
Atlanta, Georgia 30307

from Charis' statement of purpose:

"Charis started in the fall of 1974...Charis is a non-profit bookstore conceived as a place of service to the community. The women who operate Charis collectively are committed to making available quality literature which supports the following values:

- self-empowerment in all facets of our lives
- non-hierarchical human relations
- the integration of mind, body and spirit
- the development of non-destructive technology
- the development of alternative social, political and economic systems
- the development and appreciation of imagination

The books carried at Charis are selected to respond to community needs and to express our own political and spiritual vision."

for the complete statement, write to Charis Books and More at the above address.



Dear Wimmin,

Just a short letter of appreciation for your Bookstores Newsletter. I have already used the December issue to order (I'm the poster, cards, and miscellaneous orderer here) Some unfindables. I think you are doing an excellent job. Thank you all--

Iris Birch
It's About Time
5241 University Way N.E.
Seattle WA 98105

more letters...

12/11/80

Memorandum to FBN, from the Desk of Barbara Grier:

This should be on Naiad Press letterhead, but I am at work, and this is best. When I get through here today I go to my part time job at a local department store, and by the time I get home tonight I will not want to spend time on philosophical discussions.

Women periodically ask us why our books cost more than the trade press paperbacks and, indeed, some of the publications from other companies in the movement.

The reason is simple, and many women may know this but some of the bookstores ask us, and it is important that you know where our money goes. We do not support anyone, though we pay royalties. But we use a WOMEN'S PRESS with a printing capacity of less than 1/10 that of a large trade press. This means, in terms of money, that we pay TWICE as much per copy for our books than do those companies that have male run trade presses printing all of their material.

This means we have to forget about attending the 10-15 conventions deemed mandatory in the bookstore and book publishing business. We have never been to A.B.A. and I doubt we can afford it, our women all hold down full time jobs to be able to RUY the privilege of working all of our free time for Naiad.

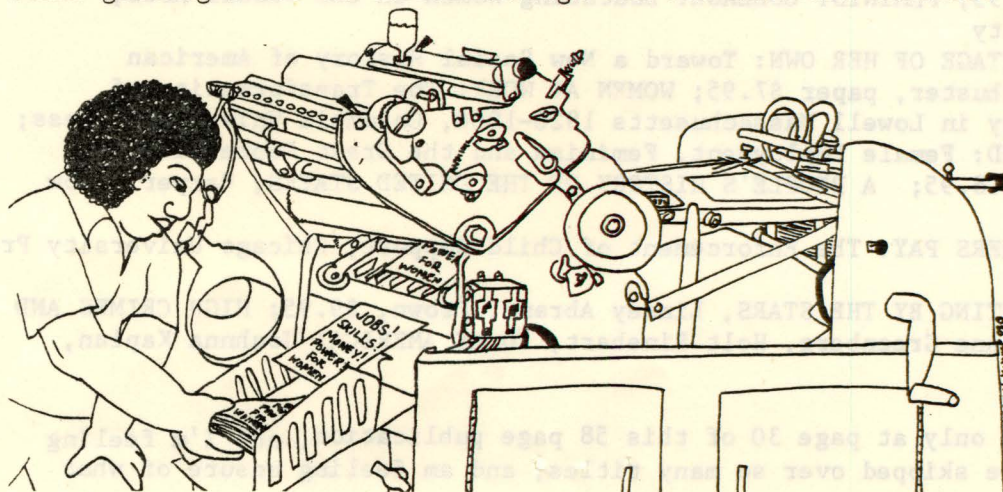
So far it simply sounds like talk...let's make everyone reading take a second glance. In 1980 this policy cost us \$8000. In 1981 it will cost us over \$16,000. Dear women, do not write and ask me again why my books cost so much.

Barbara Grier

other news from Naiad Press:

Beginning December, 1980, Naiad Press has changed its distribution method which will greatly speed up order processing. Orders will be filled on receipt and billed about 7-10 days later. Invoices will not, except in a few rare instances, be included in the shipments. Exceptions to this will be in the case of orders being held for books not yet out, such as our present situation with Tottie by Sarah Aldridge which is coming back in print after about a year out of print and we have a good backlog of orders being held.

Remember, our new address is P.O. Box 10543, Tallahassee, Florida 32302. We are still getting a lot of orders through the old Missouri address.



AND IF YOU LIVED IN WISCONSIN, HERE'S WHAT A FEW OF YOUR TAX DOLLARS WOULD BE DOING:

Cathy Loeb, the Women's Studies Specialist for the University of Wisconsin System, sent us a thick packet of annotated feminist bibliographies. Fabulous stuff! She offered to continue sending their mailings, so hopefully you will see the fruits of these women's labors in future F.B.N.'s.

One of the enclosed was a reprint of her article in Frontiers Vol. V #2 (the issue of Frontiers entitled "Chicanas in the National Landscape"), entitled La Chicana: A Bibliographic Survey. This is a 16-page article packed with books and pamphlets on Chicanas--I thought about giving you just titles and publishers, but realized it would be too crazy--get the copy of Frontiers. Their address is Frontiers, Women Studies Program, University of Colorado, Boulder CO 80309.

Here are some random selections from the University of Wisconsin's publication, New Books on Women & Feminism, No. 4, June 1980:

Anthropology and Cross-Cultural Studies: MOTHERS AND WIVES: GUSII WOMEN OF EAST AFRICA, University of Chicago Press, \$21.00; FIGHTING TWO COLONIALISMS: WOMEN IN GUINEA BISSAU, Monthly Review Press, \$16.50; WOMEN AND SOCIETY: AN ANTHROPOLOGICAL READER, Eden Press \$20.95

Autobiography/Biography: SECOND STORIES: CONVERSATIONS WITH WOMEN WHOSE ARTISTIC CAREERS BEGAN AFTER 35, Chronicle Books \$7.95; REVOLT AGAINST CHIVALRY: JESSIE DANIEL AMES AND THE WOMEN'S CAMPAIGN AGAINST LYNCHING; YAQUI WOMEN: CONTEMPORARY LIFE HISTORIES, University of Nebraska Press; A GENERATION OF WOMEN: EDUCATION IN THE LIVES OF PROGRESSIVE REFORMERS, Harvard University Press; DUTIFUL DAUGHTERS: WOMEN TALK ABOUT THEIR LIVES, University of Texas Press; NOT WORKING: AN ORAL HISTORY OF THE UNEMPLOYED, Holt-Rinehart; THE SPIRIT WOMAN: THE DIARIES OF BOÑITA WA WA CALACHAW NUNEZ, Harper & Row; MY HOME MY PRISON, Raymonda Hawa Tawil, Holt-Rinehart

Business/Economics/Labor: A WOMAN'S GUIDE TO CAREER PREPARATION: SCHOLARSHIPS, GRANTS, AND LOANS, Doubleday paperback; WOMEN FOR HIRE: A STUDY OF THE FEMALE OFFICE WORKER, St. Martin's; THE EFFECTIVE WOMAN MANAGER, Wiley; NATIONAL DIRECTORY OF WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS: WHO THEY ARE, WHAT THEY DO, from W.O.W., 1649 K St., NW, Washington D.C. 20006, paperback \$7.50; also from the same publishers, SHORTCHANGED AND SLIGHTED: AN ASSESSMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR'S NATIONAL RESPONSE TO WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING NEEDS

Education: BACK-TO-SCHOOL LINE-UP: WHERE GIRLS AND WOMEN STAND IN EDUCATION TODAY, from the Project on Equal Education Rights, 1029 Vermont Ave., N.W., Washington DC 20005; TOWARD A FEMINIST TRANSFORMATION OF THE ACADEMY: PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIFTH ANNUAL GLCA WOMEN'S STUDIES CONFERENCE, 1980, from Great Lakes Colleges Association Women's Studies Office, 220 Collingwood Ste 240, Ann Arbor Michigan 48103 \$5.00

Essays: DAGUERREOTYPES, AND OTHER ESSAYS, by Karen Blixen (Isak Dinesen), University of Chicago; JANET FLANNER'S WORLD: UNCOLLECTED WRITINGS 1932-1975, Harcourt Brace
Fine Arts: UNSUNG: A HISTORY OF WOMEN IN AMERICAN MUSIC, Greenwood Press \$22.95; JANET MARSH'S NATURE DIARY, Morrow \$24.95; PAULA MODERSOHN-BECKER: HER LIFE AND WORK, Harper \$15.95; FEMINIST COLLAGE: EDUCATING WOMEN IN THE VISUAL ARTS, Columbia University

History: A HERITAGE OF HER OWN: TOWARD A NEW SOCIAL HISTORY OF AMERICAN WOMEN, Simon & Schuster, paper \$7.95; WOMEN AT WORK: THE TRANSFORMATION OF WORK AND COMMUNITY IN LOWELL MASSACHUSETTS 1826-1860, Columbia University Press; TO WORK AND TO WED: FEMALE EMPLOYMENT, FEMINISM AND THE GREAT DEPRESSION, Greenwood Press \$18.95; A PEOPLE'S HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES, Harper & Row \$20.00

Law: MAKING FATHERS PAY: THE ENFORCEMENT OF CHILD SUPPORT, Chicago University Press, \$25.00

Literature: CHARTING BY THE STARS, Linsey Abrams, Crown, \$9.95; HIGH CRIMES AND MISDEMEANORS, Joanne Greenberg, Holt Rinehart; O MY AMERICA! Joahanna Kaplan, Harper \$10.00,...

well, folks, I'm only at page 30 of this 58 page publication, and I'm feeling overwhelmed...I've skipped over so many titles, and am feeling unsure of what

criteria to select by...Many of the titles listed are quite expensive and from small or textbook publishers, i.e. suitable for libraries but probably not for bookstores to carry on a regular basis--plus I'm leaving out all the juicy annotations. I think I'll go no further on this one except to say that you could write to Women's Studies Librarian-At-Large, 464 Memorial Library, 728 State St., Madison WI 53706, and ask for it. I don't know if there's a charge or other limitations. This is really an amazing storehouse of information and I don't think brief recaps can do it justice...

Also from Ms. Loeb comes a newsletter entitled Feminist Collections: Women's Studies Library Resources in Wisconsin. The address is the same except that it's 112 Memorial Library. We received Vol. 2 #1, which includes an annotated bibliography on the woman suffrage movement in children's books, information on feminist periodicals, Women's Studies in Wisconsin, Black Women Oral History Project, the Circle of Lesbian Indexers, book reviews on recent literature and feminist criticism in the field of socio-biology. Feminist Collections is published quarterly and is available to individuals and institutions at no charge.



Charis Books & More writes, "A couple of titles you might be interested in..."

WOMANCRAFT: The Conscious Development of Psychic Skills We All Possess, by Diane Mariechild. Order from Diane, 105 Elmwood Ave., Quincy MA 02170. \$2.40 each wholesale to bookstores, no minimum, prepay first order & include postage.

CONFRONTING HOMOPHOBIA, Bernice Goodman, \$2.00 retail, from J&P Distributing, 699 Oriole S., West Hempstead NY 11552.

CLEARNESS MANUAL: Processes for Supporting Individuals and Groups in Decision-Making. A gem for people in a time of conflict/decision/decision-making. @ 30% discount from Movement for a New Society, 4722 Baltimore Ave., Philadelphia PA 19143. Prepay @1.25 retail price.

An important new book...

A LEGAL GUIDE FOR LESBIAN & GAY COUPLES

ATTORNEYS HAYDEN CURRY
AND DENIS CLIFFORD

This practical guide covers all legal aspects
of gay living together:

- buying and selling property
- relating to former spouses
- child custody and visitation rights
- living together arrangements
- estate planning



Includes sample contracts, forms, agreements, and wills

THE FIRST COMPLETE LEGAL GUIDE OF ITS KIND

"This handbook makes an important contribution to helping gay men and women foresee problems and prepare for them. It is helpful, informative, and provocative."

—From the preface by Donna Hitchens, Directing Attorney,
Lesbian Rights Project

"Congratulations to the authors on the thoroughness of their efforts. The book de-mystifies the legal process, placing it sensibly and sensitively within the context of both psychology and law."

—Floyd S. Irving, Ph.D., Diplomate of Clinical Psychology,
Chicago, Illinois

"I think the book is excellent, very informative, and in an easily readable style. The book is unique in the scope and breadth of its coverage."

—Linda Guthrie, National Gay Task Force, New York

"Sound advice . . . easily understandable . . . I would be happy to see this book in the libraries of every lawyer and judge in the country."

—Plexus

"Overall — sympathetic, warm, and humorous. The book offers direction to those who don't know where to start. So little of this information has been published — this could become a very valuable resource."

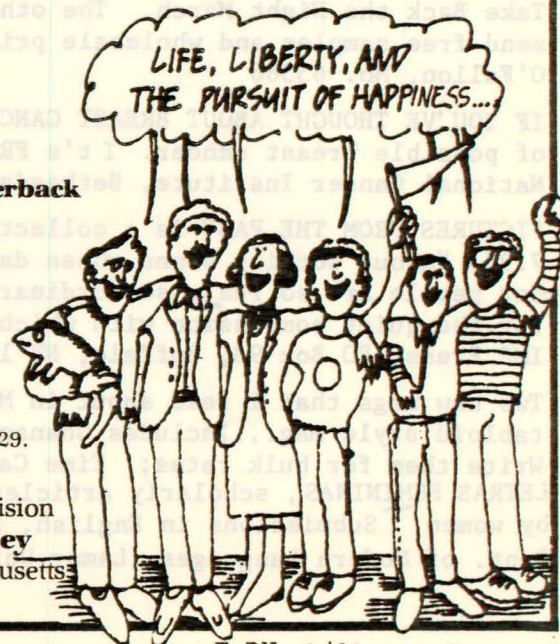
—Linda Gryczan, Lesbian Mothers National Defense Fund,
Seattle, Washington

\$10.95 trade paperback
288 pp.

For order information,
please contact:

Jo-Anne Gibely,
Sales Supervisor,
(617) 944-3700, ext. 2229.

General Books Division
▲Addison-Wesley
Reading, Massachusetts
01867



FROM WOMEN'S PRESSES, SMALL PRESSES AND SUNDRY FRIENDS

CONVERSATIONS IN A CLINIC by Helen Forelle. Haven't seen the book, it comes with a funny 'blurb' that I SUSPECT is a plot to get right-to lifers to read something pro-choice; "Have you ever wondered why women have abortions? This is the question that Conversations In A Clinic hopes to address. If you are involved in the abortion issue either as Pro-Choice or as a Pro-Life advocate, you must read it. Step with me into the waiting room, hall or treatment room of an abortion clinic, any abortion clinic, and let these women tell you why. Then tell me if you would really stop them all from proceeding." \$1.45 @. 2-10 1.25 @, 11-20 copies 1.15@, 20-49 1.05 @, 50+ .95@. Methinks she prefers prepayment, but this might be a retail price list she sent(?). Order from CONVERSATIONS PO Box 326, Harrisburg, S. Dak. 57032.

ELF & DRAGONS write that their AMAZON TAROT DECK and THE NEW WOMEN'S TAROT HANDBOOK are in their second and third printings respectively. Wholesale terms for the tarot deck for 10+ are \$7 per deck, they pay shipping. for 3-9, \$8 per, you pay shipping. New price on the handbook is \$3.00, \$2@ for 10+ (they pay shipping, no discount for less than ten, and you pay shipping.) They also offer wholesale terms on the Henry Doubleday Research Assn's comfry ointment, which they feel is the most effective ointment available for all skin injuries & good for chapped lips at 10+ 1 oz jars @2.50 + 2.50 shipping charge (the jars are glass). AND if you offer any of the above, you too can order AMAZONS ON PARADE #1 and #2, color postcards \$3.00 for 10 available only with orders from above. (I told you this was a sundries column.) They add, "We don't do consignment, do not offer 30 days credit terms and ship ONLY upon receiving payment. We are primarily a small, direct-mail retail business and wholesale these few items because they are unavailable elsewhere. We are womoon-owned and womoon-identified, functioning as a business subsidiary of the Shrine of the Universal Mother, a wimmin's religious and educational corporation. ...River, Susun & Billie.

EVERYBODY'S GUIDE TO NON-REGISTRATION Carol Delton and Andrew Mazer. Is exactly what it sounds like. Looks good, has special sections on gay and Chicano non-registration. Retail is \$2.50. If you order 10-24 they'll give you 15% off, and 20% off if you order 25 or more. Because they're local (I guess) we got ours on consignment, but they make you sign a form (in blood) that you won't mark the books up to get a 40% discount, or even 25%. I don't mean to pick on this one group, but I sure get tired of people who demand that their info is so vital and important that it has to be sold for the absolute minimum price (covering their costs, of course) who pay no attention to the fact that we, too, have to pay rent and a few other things just to exist and who decide for us, based on no information whatsoever how much we need to continue to maintain an information center to distribute their publications...Not that we probably wouldnt have agreed to do it anyway, but to be given NO choice in the matter.....enough. Their address is EGNR, 2000 Center ST. #1091, Berkeley, Ca. 94704.

MORE TASTEFUL IMAGES have two outrageous posters available....Both in the style of traditional Japanese erotica (or maybe it's a traditional style and I've only seen erotica?). One is a Take Back the Night March. The other might be about the ERA. (can't remember, sorry.) They'll send free samples and wholesale prices on request. Zuleyka V. Benitez, 503 Wooklawn Ave, O'Fallon, Mo. 63366

IF YOU'VE THOUGHT ABOUT BREAST CANCER..... is a how to do it manual for women who have a symptom of possible breast cancer. It's FREEphone 800-638-6694 or write Office of Cancer Communications, National Cancer Institute, Bethesda, Md 20205

PICTURES FROM THE PAST is a collection of short stories by Ruth Geller (Seed of a Woman). 7.95. "about working women whose daily lives are marked with their encounters with evil.... her people are so real, so "ordinary" that their heroism stuns me and I am grateful to her for the quiet compassion with which she does the writer's job." 7.95. Don't have the terms, IMP Press, PO Box 93, Buffalo, NY 14213. (terms proably the same as for her other book.)

Two new mags that I read about in MS: STRAIGHT AHEAD INTERNATIONAL, THE WOMEN'S LITERARY QUARTERLY tabloid style mag...Includes Ghanan writer AmaAata Aidoo in the first issue. Subs are \$10/yr. Write them for bulk rates; Time Capsule, Inc (SAI), Gpo Box 1185, NY, NY 10001. Also, LETRAS FEMININAS, scholarly articles, bookreviews and criticism of 20th century Hispanic lit. by women. Submissions in English, Spanish and Portuguese. Contact: Victorial Urbano, LF, Dept. of Modern Languages, Lamar University, Beaumont, Texas, 77710

WOMEN'S PRESS, ALTERNATIVE PRESS & SUNDRIES, ETC

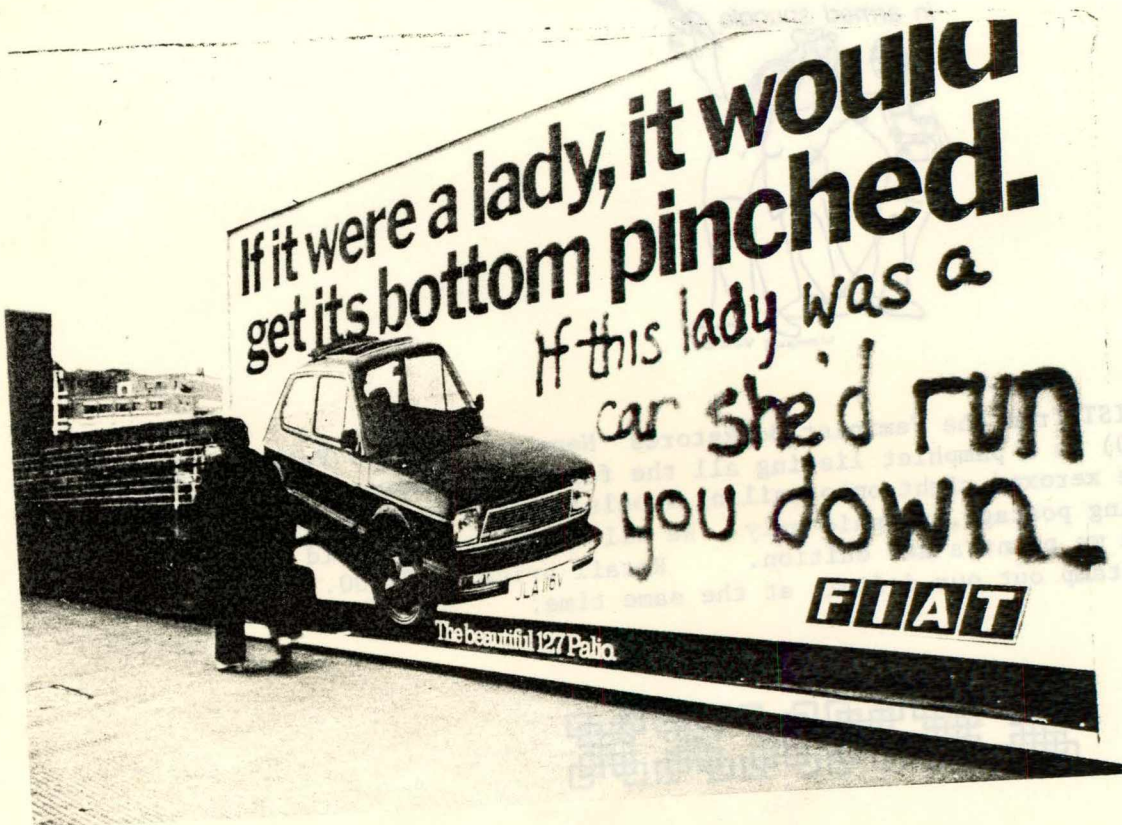


Willow Moon
Designs

Cassette tape: "Sheila and Jessie are two women who have been making music together for several years. They live close-by each other in a rural community in Northern California and their music reflects the life-style they've chosen. Their sound features rich vocal harmonies, rhythm guitar, Jessie's lively fiddle and throughfelt heart-to-heart lyrics. Sheila and Jessie's music gets me in the heart and the uterus." says late Night Liz Kmfb radio--Mendocino. I liked Boss Lady and Birth Control Blues myself. 5.40/7.00 Consignment might be possible. Sheila and Jessie, Box 372, Whitehorn, Ca. 95489.

HSIAO SAN'S MAGIC BRUSH A wonderfully illustrated story about a little boy (change the pronouns?) with a magic brush that paints a Kite that flies him from his home in San Francisco to China and Hong Kong and home again. A delicate connecting of an Asian American child's present life and cultural heritage. Available in Chinese/English, Japanese/English & Philipina /English. (The story is based on an old Chinese folktale.) 3.50. They didn't send bookstore terms, but be sure to specify which languages you want. And maybe a suggestion that they use girls as heros, too. Asian American Bilingual Center, 2168 Shattuck Ave., 3rd Floor. Berkeley, Ca. 94704.

MARVO NETWORKER. A newsletter for women interested in Africa. Its purpose seems to be twofold, 1. To show women how they can take the issues of importance in Africa and to African women and integrate them into their careers, ie in banking, marketing, developing internships for African women in the US, to cover news, congressional action, etc. etc. 2. And primarily, to be a networking tool to connect up women here and in Africa. They've decided that they can't do their whole task by just doing subscriptions and so would like to distribute via the bookstores as well. Mags. are 1.50 @, 35% discount to bookstores. They'll also give stores that sell a subscription a cut. PO Box 4447, Wash. DC 20017.



This glossy postcard is available from Deviant Productions, c/o Sisterwrite, 190 Upper St., London N1, England. I.C.I. buys them 100 at a time, for 12 pounds (\$29.40) wholesale, including shipping, or almost 30¢ each. Also available: postcard of women in front of a banner reading "Sappho Sisters".

Address for Hoodoo requested in last F.B.N.: Energy Earth Communications, box 1141, Galveston TX 77553--Thanks, Charis Books & More

FEMINIST PRESSES

From Kady Daughter of Ann Daughter of Kate Daughter of Anna, re THE NOTEBOOKS THAT EMMA GAVE ME:

THE SECOND PRINTING IS SOLD OUT. THANK YOU. A Lesbian is setting beautiful large type like this for the Second Edition. There is a dangerous new Afterword. Your order will help pay the printer. THE NOTEBOOKS THAT EMMA GAVE ME, THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A LESBIAN—\$6

Copies should be ready about the middle of February. Terms are 40% discount, no minimum, plus 4th class postage, prepaid; send \$11.83 for 3, \$19.25 for 5, \$37.91 for 10, \$56.17 for 15, \$74.29 for 20, \$108 for 30 (postage free). Order from Kady, box 99 Rd. 1, Monticello NY 12701

The 1981 INDEX/DIRECTORY OF WOMEN'S MEDIA, Published by the Women's Institute for Freedom of the Press, includes 310 periodicals, 75 presses and publishers, 72 bookstores, 48 theater groups, 41 music groups, 29 special collection, 26 media organizations, and more. Retail price is \$8, bulk rate for 3 or more is 50% discount, pre-paid only. If you're listed in the Index and want to buy a single copy, it's \$6. Order from WIFP, 3306 Ross Place, N.W., Washington DC 20008.

PRIMAVERA, "The unique women's magazine of literature and art originating in Chicago," has now published 5 issues. Prepaid orders only, 45% discount (= \$2.10 each). Consignment available in Illinois only; sample copy available for 50¢, to be returned within 30 days if you don't order more. PRIMAVERA, Bookstore Distribution, 1212 E. 59th St., Chicago IL 60637



FEMINIST BOOKSTORES LIST from the Feminist Bookstores' Newsletter (1009 Valencia St., San Francisco CA 94110) is a pamphlet listing all the feminist bookstores we know of in matrix form (can be xeroxed right onto mailing labels). Five or more wholesale for \$1.20 each including postage, prepaid only. We will exchange your old copies for new ones each time we print a new edition. Retail price is \$2.00. Help us get the word out and stamp out our deficit at the same time!



AND FROM THE BOYS' PRESSES:

WE DIDN'T HAVE MUCH BUT WE SURE HAD PLENTY Stories of Rural Women. Collected by Sherry Thomas. Doubleday 7.95 The first book ever to seriously look at the lives of rural women and farm women and SEE them and their lives and the work they have been doing all along. To see women as farmers, not as farmer's wives. To document their work in dairy herds, in the fields, on the farms, their own, rented, shared and sharecropped. To document skills, strengths, stubbornness and competence that women via the women's movement have been re-inventing these past few years ignorant of the heritage just a generation or two behind us. Even if I wasn't especially interested in the lives of country women (which I am) this book would fascinate me for the images of strong competent women doing as they pleased, overcoming incredible obstacles, continuing. It enriches me with images of possibilities. Reading it, and finding that these women, who are both my grandmothers and are also very far from my own life struggle and grapple with the same problems and issues that make up our lives and struggles now: incest, wife-beating, a legal system that seems determined to destroy us, self-concept. "I was always a mannish woman," they say, over and over, lacking a community that gives broad definition to who and what women are, and going on with their lives, anyway. Thomas traveled 22,000 miles in 3 1/2 months to collect these stories working from contacts made through COUNTRY WOMAN magazine and word of mouth. The book illustrates a vision and a faith in the lives of women and a determination to go and see. To ask and to listen. It is a book you can give to your grandmother or your mother, and then sit down and begin talking about what really happened in their lives, as well as a book to cherish for your own self. Most of the stories are illustrated with paintings of the women interviewed. Not least important is Thomas's skill in asking the right questions, being the listener to whom such stories are revealed, and in transforming the question-and-answer tapes into stories that fascinate and keep intact the language of the woman's own geography and class. Now I admit that I might be a bit prejudiced because I liked very much Thomas's work in the COUNTRY WOMEN book, or because she's my co-worker in the bookstore, or because I sat with her in Atlanta in the midst of her travels saying YES, to continue continuing with this book, or even because we have been being lovers all through the collecting and writing and publishing of this book, but it doesn't diminish the power or strength or beauty of the book in the least.--CS

BLACK WOMEN IN THE LABOR FORCE, Phyllis A Wallace. MIT press. \$15.00 Looks Excellent.

DAUGHTERS OF RACHEL, Women in Israel, Natalie Rein. Penguin paperback 4.95. ..."The untold history of Israel--the history of its women. What happened to the daughters of the early pioneers and settlers and their dreams of equality and emancipation?...how the promise of the first waves...changed as the reality of Israel and Zionism demanded the perpetuation of traditional female roles...."

A LEGAL GUIDE FOR LESBIAN AND GAY COUPLES^{of} which you may have already received a sample copy. The book is put together under the auspices of NOLO Press which is a very credible Berkeley publishing house doing self-help legal guides. The authors (both male) said that they expect the book to sell primarily to women because of the organization & network of feminist stores, tho the book addresses questions of importance to both male and female couples, uses examples from both sexes, etc. Even though there's been no publicity yet (as of this writing, anyway) we got 10 on our initial order and sold 9 of them within the first 6 days. I knew there would be interest in the book but...Watching who bought them was interesting. Sometimes it was our "borderline customer". Sometimes middle aged and older women that I wouldn't have guessed were gay...It was pretty consciousness raising for me to be selling them. When we got down to having only one left, we put it spine out, in the gay section, and didn't sell it. Got some more in, put it on new arrivals, and off they went again.....all very interesting, and an excellent book, besides. Order from Addison-Wesley.

ARE YOU A TARGET? A Guide to Self-Protection, Personal Safety and Rape Prevention, Judith Fein. Wadsworth Press 8.95 Fein is a hard-hitting, honest feminist. I haven't seen her book yet, but expect it to be excellent. Her self-defense classes have an excellent reputation all through the Bay Area. Wadsworth is primarily a textbook publisher, but tell them you're a bookstore and you'll likely get 40% Wadsworth Pub. 10 Davis Drive, Belmont, Ca. 94002.

PORNOGRAPHY: MEN POSSESSING WOMEN, Andrea Dworkin, Putnam's/ Perigee, paperback, price? April

PORNOGRAPHY AND SILENCE: Culture's Revolt Against Nature, Susan Griffin, Harper \$11.95 April

DARLENE'S MYSTIFYING LIST

- BETTER SHAPE THAN EVER: The Complete Exercise Program for Keeping Your Body Fit & Firm During Pregnancy by Pudaloff & Feldman - A & W 6.95 (paper)
- TOO LONG A SACRIFICE by Mildred Broxon - Dell 2.50 3/81 (fantasy)
- PLAYING FOR TIME now has 265,000 copies in print.
- TAROT: A New Handbook for the Apprentice by Eileen Connolly - New Castle 9.95 (paper)
- EXIT HOUSE by Jo Roman - Seaview 9.95 (cloth) (one woman's ideas on rights to suicide)
- THE SIRIAN EXPERIMENTS: The Report by Ambien 11 of the Five by Doris Lessing - Random House 11.95 (cloth)
- LOVE by Susan Fromberg Schaeffer - Dutton 14.95 (cloth)
- A SENTIMENTAL EDUCATION: Stories by Joyce Carol Oates - Dutton 11.95 (cloth)
- INNOCENT BLOOD by P. D. James - CBS/Fawcett 3.50 4/81 (mystery, reprint)
- KISS MOMMY GOODBYE by Joy Fielding - Doubleday 11.95 3/81 (divorced father kidnaps the kids)
- IMPROBABLE FICTION: The Life of Mary Roberts Rinehart by Jan Cohen - University of Pittsburgh 4.95 (paper)
- MY SISTER, MY LOVE by Lucille Iremonger - Morrow 11.95 (historically accurate novel of Byron/Shelley/Wollstonecraft folks)
- LESS THAN ANGELS by Barbara Pym - Dutton 10.95
- A LIFE TO LIVE by Yvonne Burgess - Taplinger 8.95 (South African writer) (Also author of "The Strike")
- MEETING ROZZY HALFWAY by Caroline Leavett - Seaview 11.95 (Rave reviews, novel)
- THUNDERING SNEAKERS by Prudence Mackintosh - Doubleday 8.95 (Memoirs of everyday domestic life. PW: "a gem.")
- AN AMBASSADOR'S WIFE IN IRAN by Cynthia Helms - Dodd, Mead 12.95 ("sanitized", personal and not political)
- COSIMA WAGNER by George Marek - H & R 15.95 (based on the recently published Diaries)
- THE NAZI EXTERMINATION OF HOMOSEXUALS by F. Rector - Stein & Day 12.95
- CHILD ADVOCACY HANDBOOK by H. C. Fernandez - Pilgrim/Seabury 6.95 (paper)
- PORTRAITS by Kate Chopin - Women's Press/Horizon 4.95 (paper)
- DOMESTIC ARRANGEMENTS by Norma Klein - Evans/Dutton 11.95 3/81 (cloth) (If you think Brooke Shields is a disturbing phenomenon, that's this novel)
- LOOK FOR THE WOMAN: A Narrative Encyclo of Female Poisoners, Kidnappers, Thieves, Extortionists, Terrorists, Swindlers and Spies, from Elizabethan Times to the Present by J. R. Nash - Evans/Dutton 17.95 5/81
- GUINEVERE by Sharon Newman - St. Martin's 10.95 (Guinevere's childhood)
- COLLECTED STORIES OF ELIZABETH BOWEN - Random House 17.95
- THE LONE PILGRIM: Stories by Laurie Coxwan - Random House 9.95
- STORIES OF ELIZABETH SPENCER - Doubleday 14.95
- ON OUR OWN by Gibson, Catterson and White - St. Martin's 10.95 (R.N.'s set up independent medical/psychiatric practice)
- ALIENATED AFFECTIONS: Being Gay in America by Seymour Kleinberg - St. Martin's 14.95 (cloth) (ed. of "The Other Persuasion")
- NAKED AT THE FEAST: A Biography of Josephine Baker by Lynn Haney - Dodd, Mead 15.00
- THE NAZI/SKOKIE CONFLICT: A Civil Liberties Battle by D. Hamlin - Beacon/H & R 12.95 (cloth)
- TEENAGE SURVIVAL GUIDE by Kathy McCoy Wallaby - S & S 7.95 (co-author of Teenage Body Book)
- FALLING IN PLACE by A. Beatey - CBS/Fawcett 2.95 5/81
- LIMITS: Values for a New Era by Maxine Schnall - Crown 14.95 4/81 (cloth)
- WIDOW'S WALK by Pamela Cuming - Crown 4/81 12.95 (biography of a young widow)
- NOTES TO MY DAUGHTER by Cathy Spellman - Crown 11.95 5/81 (letters between mother and daughter)
- WOMEN IN AMERICAN THEATRE by H. Chinoy and L. Jenkins - Crown 19.95 3/81
- CELEBRATIONS by Caterine Milinaire - Crown 25.00 4/81 (photo-journalist on human need to celebrate. Author of "Birth")

Darlene's Mystifying List - Cont'd.

- LOVE AND FRIENDSHIP: And Other Early Work by Jane Austin - Crown 3.95 3/81 (paper)
WOMEN IN HISTORY: Thirty-Five Centuries of Feminine Achievement by Raven and Weir ("From Sappho to Margaret Thatcher") (?) - Crown - 19.95 - 5/81 (cloth)
RANDOM WINDS by Belva Plain - Dell 3.50 4/81
A GIFT HORSE: and Other Stories by Kate Cruise O'Brien - Braziller 8.95 (cloth)
THE COMPANY OF WOMEN by Mary Gordon - Random House 12.95 (cloth) ("Final Payments")
THE MIDWIFE by Gay Courter - H-M 13.95 (Jewish midwife at turn of century)
THE YOUNG VICTORIA by Alison Plowden - Stein & Day 12.95 (PW: "outstanding bio")
WOMEN AND RELIGION IN AMERICA: Vol. I: 19th century by Rosemary Reuther and Rosemary Keller - H & R 12.95 (cloth) (first of 3 vols.)
SONYA: The Countess Tolstoy by Anne Edwards - S & S 15.95
SOMEONE CRY FOR THE CHILDREN: the Unsolved Girl Scout Murders of Oklahoma and the Case of Gene Leroy Hart by Michael and David Wilkerson - Dial 10.95
HARD WORDS AND OTHER POEMS by Ursula Le Guin - H & R 10.00
THE JUDGE by Rebecca West - Dial 6.95 (part of the Virago reprints) (paper)
EYES OF DARKNESS by Leigh Nichols - Pocket 2.75 (thriller/psychic) (paper)
THE LEGALITY OF LOVE by J. Sonenblick & Martha Sowerwine - Jove 3.95 (paper)
VOICES FROM THE HOLOCAUST ed. by Sylvia Rothchild 14.95 4/81 (cloth)
HOW WE LIVED: A documentary history of immigrant Jews in America, 1880-1930 by Irving Howe & K. Libo 6.95 4/81 (paper)
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KIDS

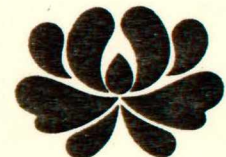
- GEORGE THE BABYSITTER by Shirley Hughes - Prentice-Hall 2.95 (paper)
CARETAKERS OF WONDER by Cooper Evans - Green Tiger 6.95 (paper) (Adults will probably buy it for other adults)
DISAPPEARANCE by Rosa Guy - Dell 1.75 (reprint) (author of Ruby and The Friends)
CRY SOFTLY: The story of child abuse by Margaret Hyde - Westminster 8.95 (cloth) (for kids)

REPRINTS

- GETTING GRANTS by Smith & Skjei - H & R 4.95 (paper)
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ORDEAL by Linda Lovelace - Berkeley 2.95
STYLES OF LOVING: Why you love the way you do by Marcia Lasswell and Norman Lobsenz. Ballantine 2.50.
LOVE, ETC. by Bel Kaufman - Avon 2.75
LAYING WASTE: The poisoning of America by toxic chemicals - Pocket 3.50
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THE BEGINNING PLACE by Ursula Le Guin - Bantam 2.25
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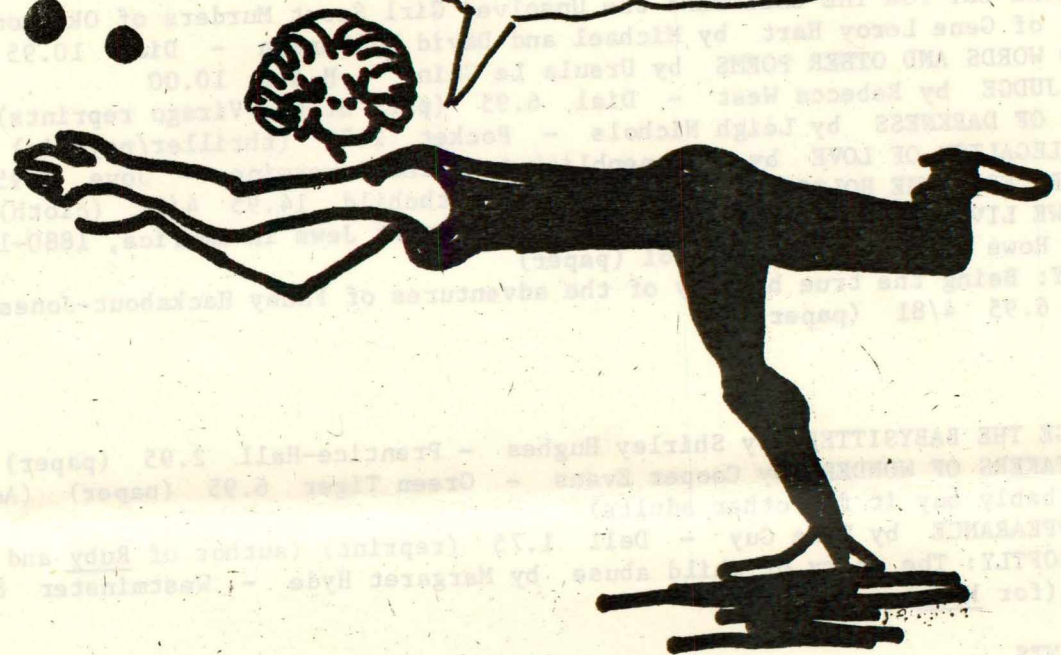
OUT-OF-PRINT

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LOVE AND FRIENDSHIP: And Other Early Work by Jane Austen - Crown 3.95 3/81 (paper)
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 Sappho to Margaret Thatcher") (3) - Crown - 12.95 - 3/81 (cloth)
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 A CAT, A HORSE, AND... by Mary Gordon - Crown House 12.95 (cloth) ("Final Payments")
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 HARD WORDS AND OTHER FORMS by Ursula... - Dell 5.95
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You can plan and plan but somehow
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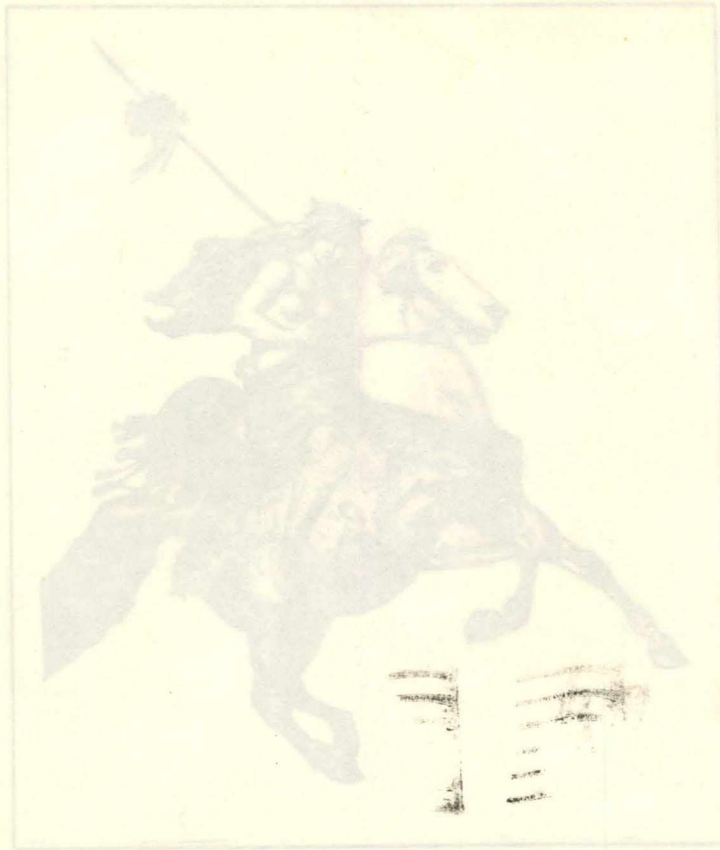
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