

See page 2

before Sept. 15, mail to FBN, c/o WOMANBOOKS  
201 W. 92nd St, NY, NY 10025

after that, FBN, 1009 Valencia St, San Francisco  
Ca. 94110

# INVOICE

This is a subscription form for THE FEMINIST BOOKSTORES' NEWSLETTER, Vol. 6,

NAME:

ADDRESS:

PHONE:

Enclosed is \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for a one-year subscription to FBN (July, 82-June 83. 6 issues)  
(Sub. rates are \$30/year. Bookstores that can't afford that are welcome to pay what they can. Sadly, FBN does not afford to subsidize subscriptions to non-feminist institutions.)

\_\_\_\_\_ check here if you are a feminist bookstore and can't pay anything now.  
(FBN welcomes your creativity in creating a subscribe now & pay later plan, too.)

I am/we are:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> feminist bookstore                    | <input type="checkbox"/> feminist publisher/press                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> alternative bookstore<br>(what kind?) | <input type="checkbox"/> alternative publisher/press<br>(what kind?) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> gay bookstore                         | <input type="checkbox"/> gay publisher/press                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> general bookstore                     | <input type="checkbox"/> general publisher/press (what?)             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> other store (what?)                   | <input type="checkbox"/> other publisher/press (what?)               |

- library
- women's studies department
- individual subscriber
- other (what?)

what is your interest in the F.B.N.?

I am/we are:

- owned/operated by women only
- owned/operated by men only
- owned/operated by women and men
- individual: woman \_\_\_/man \_\_\_

I am/we are:

- a collective
- a partnership
- a corporation
- an individual
- part of a larger institution (what?)
- other (what?)

WHAT'S IN A NAME? See letter page 1 or 2

- I/we are attached to the name FBN. Don't change it.
- Call it THE FEMINIST BOOKSTORE MAGAZINE
- Call it FEMINIST BOOKSTORES
- Call it THE FEMINIST BOOKSTORE \_\_\_\_\_ spare me this. I can't cope.
- I have a better idea. Call it \_\_\_\_\_

# Feminist Bookstores Newsletter

Vol. 6  
No. 1

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DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE: SEPTEMBER 15

SEND INFO FOR THAT ISSUE ONLY TO FBN c/o WOMANBOOKS  
201 W. 92ND ST.  
NY, NY 10025

## HERdles»



Dear SisterBookWomen,

FBN rides again. Seems like its been a long time. The February issue came out in January to accomodate the need to respond to the issues of anti-Semitism raised in the preceeding issue. Then I decided to take a mental health break while I worked through ending a relationship So I skipped over the April issue, thinking to come out again in June, but things take longer than one expects (complicated by the ABA meetings, the NWSA meetings in Calif. and Gay Pride Week distractions and now the newsletter is on a new schedule and will come out the first of each odd numbered month (July, Sept., Nov, Jan, etc. ) Deadlines will be the following month. IE, next deadling is Aug. 15th for the Sept. edition. Got it?

I'm on leave from the bookstore and will be wandering around the country for a while and will do the next issue while I'm in NYC, so send everything for the next issue to FBN, c/o WOMANBOOKS, 201 W. 92nd St., New York, New York, 10025. Deadline is Aug. 15th.

The bad (?) news is that subscriptions are due again. The last volume was budgeted at 22 pages per issue, but the actual issues ran an average of 34 pages per, so we rather shot our wad, as it were, and FBN is broke. Subs this year will be \$30/store. More if you can, less if you can't. FBN is a little over-extended from this last year, so the more is needed, but if you can't afford the \$30, send what you can, and be sure to send the form back in. The point of FBN is for bookstores to be able to communicate with each other, and if you're a new store, or flat broke, we all especially need to be in touch with each other, so don't count yourselves out for lack of money (this is bookstores, only, non-bookstores have to pay their own way.) FBN makes if financially one way or another.

More on subscriptions: I mostly try to keep everyone on a system where everyone comes up for renewal at the same time, which keeps my work load down. But if you've paid something in the recent year, please try to figure out what you would owe for the rest of this volume & pay that. (For example, if you sent in a years subscription half way through the last year, --you got 2 of the 4 issues of Vol. 5, then you would owe for 1/2 of Vol 6, which would be \$15.) If you have questions, (and I know there will be lots) write and ask me, but please know that I won't likely answer until I get back from this trip in the fall. You'll keep getting FBN in the meantime. If you're a new subscriber and have just paid an invoice for a sub. to FBN, just return this form marked "paid" & all will be well. If you don't know, & don't pay now, you'll hear from me in the fall, after I'm back from traveling and am home w/ my record keeping.

WHAT'S IN A NAME? Somehow "newsletter" doesn't quite describe this 40 page magazine. This keeps coming up in two places: with my friends, when they don't get why I'm spending all that time on what they conceive of as a 4 page memeograph and when trying to sell advertising to the straight press. Given the changes I wrote about in THE CHAINS & US, I think that it could be beginning to be important for straight publishers to advertise\* in FBN, and it seems to me that they should begin to pay their own way for the services they are getting from FBN. But I think that they may have the same misconceptions about "newsletter" as my friends do, and so I'm sitting with an urge to change the name. To THE FEMINIST BOOKSTORE, (? a bit grandiose) or FEMINIST BOOKSTORES, or I play with a take-off on THE AMERICAN BOOKSELLER & want to call us THE FEMINIST BOOKSELLER, except that that omits about 75% of what we do & trivializes that. So there's a place on the subscription blank for your response.

And last, but far from least, thanks to the many women who have written support, or have been here and given me a hand getting through this rocky time.

Continuingly,

*Carol*  
Carol Seajay

\*FBN cheerfully accepts advertising from the straight press. At \$250/page and \$150/ per1/2 page. it helps with the budget. FBN's commitment, however, is to remain financially solvent w/o depending on advertising from straight publishers for the obvious reasons of independence and autonomy. Advertising revenue pays for frills and extra pages. And saves you from my typing.

Feb. 18, 1982

Dear Carol:

I've been trying to write this letter since the last FBN arrived; writing, sitting, rewriting, more sitting, more rewriting. The exchange on anti-Semitism I have xeroxed several times and passed on to friends; taken as a whole, those diverse letters and responses raise important questions that none of them could do alone. Thank you for printing them all, and especially thank you for putting yourself on the line.

I expected criticism of "medea media's" comment, but I was surprised by the inferences that were drawn from your remark about being accused of being anti-Semitic and uncaring of women because you didn't have a book in stock that was OSI at the publisher. I've read and reread what you wrote and still I hear nothing that trivializes anti-Semitism or suggests that Old Wives Tales doesn't value and carry books by and about Jewish women. Have any bookstore women responded to that specific comment? Is it possible that working in a bookstore provides a context within which your words would not be heard as anti-Semitic? I remember thinking, "Oh, yeah, like TOP RANKING," which we have had on (prepaid) order since September without a word (OS? OSI? OP?) from the publisher. No one has accused us of being racist or uncaring of women because TOP RANKING is not on our shelves, but if they had, I suspect that my reaction would have been very similar to yours.

Yes, situations do come up that I'd love to be able to blame on a publisher. When I began working at Lammas last summer, I very quickly became aware of all the many reasons that a book is not available in a particular store at a particular moment. For a week or so after January 1, we were out of both AIN'T I A WOMAN? and THIS BRIDGE CALLED MY BACK -- clearly not a good situation, with both books much in demand, but one that had more to do with the holiday rush and my own inexperience as book buyer than with racism. It happens with other books too. Our initial order a A WILD PATIENCE HAS TAKEN ME THIS FAR, which seemed daringly huge when I placed it in August, sold out in a week. Despite its steep price tag, THE POLITICS OF WOMEN'S SPIRITUALITY lasted about as long. In all these cases and many more, customers have (fortunately) been extremely understanding and patient.

In the best of all possible worlds, of course, we would never run out of anything. We would stock estoeoric and/or expensive books that might sell one copy every two years. We would special-order books on which we lost money. We wouldn't be deterred by high minimums and short discounts and prepay-or forget-it straight publishers. We would order sight unseen every self-published or small-press book by and about women. Needless to say, that isn't where any of us live. I'm as angry as you are that "access to most information in this country is based solely on profitability" and that to a certain extent feminist bookstores have to acquiesce in this miserable state of affairs. We put politics and prinicple above profit-- as long as we can stay financially and emotionally together enough to keep the doors open.

So that's (more or less) what ran throught my head when I read your introduction to the post-Women in Print issue of FBN, and that's how I could substitute the work "racist" or "anti-Semitic" in that sentence without intending to trivialize or offend anybody. As I read some of the letters in the last FBN, it seemd that we are backing ourselves into an unnecessarily, frutstratingly, no-win situation. On one hand, we acknowledge that no one who grows up in a racist/anti-Semitic/homophobic /classist/sexist/etc. society is entirely free of those attitudes; we even internalize the hatred and fear that are directed against us. On the other hand, the way we often go about confronting these attitudes seems better suited to scoring political-correctness points than to raising consciousness. As Irene Klapfisz's important article in WOMANEWS points out, indifference and silence are dangerous; so are ignorance and insensitivity. But they aren't the same as willful hatred. Yet we use the same words against our sisters who are open to change (I hope that this is a valid assumption about the readers of FBN - we do hold ourselves accountable to one another) that we use against the Klan, the Reagan Administration, and columnists in the Washington Post, who generally have no interest at all in confronting their oppressiveness.

What I remember most clearly from Women in Print is the racism/classism "workshop" where Jil Krolnik of Womonyre Books became the lightning rod for powerful, long-suppressed angers and frustrations and where I (and others, I think) was silent, saying nothing, offering no support, because, quite simply, I was terrified of speaking in that forum where hearing and understanding had become impossible. This incident was my deepest confrontation with silence in a very long time, the moment that more than any other made me doubt "the possibility of truth between us".

My reactions to what happened in that workshop, to what is happening in this exchange in FBN, are still contradictory. I don't want to say anything that implies that the anger is unjustified or wrong, or anything that implies that we should go back to stifling our rage and letting it choke us. But I want us to be able to talk and listen to and hear one another, and words used as weapons are endured rather than heard. Klepfisz's description of the fatal divisions between the Warsaw Jews and the Polish underground chills me too-- the more so as I watch us take our anger out on one another because we are more accessible and more vulnerable than the Klan, the government, the Nazis, or big corporations.

There's no neat conclusions to this letter. I am glad that women who don't work in bookstores are participating in the dialogue that is FBN but I hope that in future, before any of us rush to judgment, we consider the context in which words are written. For FBN that context is feminist bookstores and a network of very committed and conscientious women.

Susanna J. Sturgis  
1752 Kilbourne Place, N.W., Washington D.C. 20010

P.S. Re the enclosed: we were doing dramatic readings from the Bantam catalogue one Saturday. Gay Courage #38 broke us up for good, and we barely picked ourselves off the floor before the book party for THIS BRIDGE began. Do any of you guys know what the "dashing buccaneer" was?

All the best, Susanna



#### GAY COURAGE #38

She gave way to the passion within her and found herself courted by danger. As they sped away from the masquerade through the moonlit night, the lovely young preacher's daughter suddenly began to realize that the dashing buccaneer behind the wheel was not the man she had assumed him to be.

**MARKETING TIP:** Emilie Loring, bestselling author of romance, has over 37,700,000 copies of her books in Bantam print.

**TITLE:** GAY COURAGE #38  
**AUTHOR:** Emilie Loring  
**BOOK NUMBER:** 20569-2  
**PRICE:** \$1.95  
**CATEGORY:** Romance  
**PAGES:** 224  
**CARTON PACKING:** 72  
**HARDCOVER:** Little Brown

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4

3/10/82

Friends:

It was spring 1981 when we first heard of Zoe Fairbairn's futuristic feminist novel, *BENEFITS*, published originally in England. After reading it, we were very excited about the possibility of publishing an edition for U.S. readers. We quickly made arrangements to do just that, and were under the impression that all was agreed upon. We therefore proceeded to prepare *BENEFITS* for release this winter/spring, and included it in our current catalog. Very recently, we discovered that there had been a series of misunderstandings, miscommunications, and mistakes on our part. Justifiably upset by these, the author was reluctant to pursue our co-publishing arrangement and decided to withdraw the book from us. We remain enthusiastic about this important and timely political novel which will be available to U.S. audiences in the future from another publisher.

Sincerely,

The South End Press Collective  
302 Columbus Ave., Boston, MA 02116, 617-266-0629

1/20/82

Dear FBN:

I quite accidentally recently discovered that a feminist bookstore owner has put together a mail order catalog and made liberal use of *Womansplace Bookstore's Booklist*. This was done without asking my permission, nor was *Womansplace Bookstore* credited. I personally consider this a violation of professional and feminist ethics.

I wish to stress that I fully support the growth of feminist mail order as a business, and I'd like to see every feminist bookstore involved in mail order. I also enjoy networking with those involved. Through networking time and resource consuming aspects of the business can be minimized. (Karen London from *Womonbooks* in NYC and I talked about this at the Women in Print Conference, and I am in the process of writing my proposal to her regarding the use of my *Booklist* and annotations.) I have spent literally hours of thought and work writing\* and compiling the annotations on my catalog, as well as considerable financial expense to produce it, & I resent anyone using that work without my permission and without crediting *Womansplace Bookstore*. I feel that those of us who have researched, organized and produced material of use to others are entitled to payment for the use of that material!

This is why I am writing to make it known to all that no one may reproduce *Womansplace Bookstore's Booklist(s)* or *New Arrivals list(s)* without permission in writing from myself. This means, specifically, that I do not wish my work to be cut, pasted-up, re-typeset, reprinted or photocopied without my express written permission! This includes annotations ordering information, subscription coupon, etc.

My next edition and all future editions of the *Booklist* will be under copyright protection. I am also in the process of registering the logos (on business cards, stationary, *New Arrivals lists*, etc.) as *Womansplace Bookstore's* trademark.

Thank you,

Moonyean Grosch, *Womansplace Bookstore*, 2401 N. 32nd St., Phoenix, Arizona 85008; 602-956-0456

\*With help from *Ladyslipper, Inc.* for some of the record annotations (they're credited on the *Booklist*) and some help from publisher's promotional material

3/26/82

Dear FBN:

It looks like I will be able to continue my offer for paperback copies of THE JOY OF LESBIAN SEX for quite some time (thru this year). If any booksellers wish to buy copies at a 50% discount (\$10.95 retail), write to me. No minimums. I'll pay special 4th class freight. Prepayment required.

I also still have lots of Pleasure Cheques left. It is a booklet of perforated cheques that one gives to another as a gift. Some of them are quite clever, if I do say so myself. (Examples: Good for one Public Display of Affection; an unlimited number of kisses & hugs for one day; breakfast in bed --with everything.) They're also non-sexist. Retail at \$2.00. Write to me for a sample booklet and sales letter. I will sell them to groups looking for fundraising items, too.

For all those interested: my button supplier (for all buttons listed in the Booklist) is Ferne Sales & Mfg. Co., PO Box 113 TCB, W. Orange, NH 07057. Her rates are more than reasonable, in my opinion. Write to her for a catalog.

I have been asked repeatedly by other booksellers to please put publisher's names on the listings on my Booklist and New Arrivals lists. The reasons I don't put publisher's names are: 1) to save space and 2) quite frankly, the vast majority of my mail order customers don't care who the publisher is! However, I know how frustrating it can be, as a bookseller, to find the name and author of a good book and not be able to find out anything about where to order it from. So, any bookseller (or librarian, for that matter) who wants to know where to get something listed in the New Arrivals or Booklist, can write to me and I'll tell you. To make it easier for me and to get a quicker response, please do the following; list each title and author you want to know about on a plain sheet of paper, leaving enough space in between each for me to write in the name and address of the supplier. Send it to me with a self-addressed, stamped envelope. It might help to know that I get a good deal of my stock from Bookpeople.

Speaking of Bookpeople, I have evolved a system that works with them, and may be of interest to some of you. I order (by phone) from them every Monday morning. I also pay my oldest bill to them every Monday morning. This means I am perpetually in debt to them; my account with them is never at a zero balance. However, they don't seem to mind that, and as long as no invoice ever gets over 60 days old my account is not put on hold. When I order I usually have things sent UPS so it gets here by the end of the week. When I have a large order with only a few items I need right away, I'll split it and make two orders, (on the same day, same phone call). I have the things I need immediately shipped via UPS, and the rest shipped via special 4th class. I recently found out you can also specify that you want it shipped the cheapest way possible, and they will check it and send it that way.

I found out Bookpeople's criteria for discontinuing a title: if it doesn't sell at least ten copies in a month, it's out. (This does not apply to small press titles!!) It is very easy for them to keep track of sales with their computerized system. So the way to make sure they keep stocking any title you want is to order 10 copies a month!

My earlier letter to FBN about someone ripping off my booklist was written about Womankind Books in Nashville, Tenn. I have decided, after trying to be ethical and business-like about the whole thing, to make their name and deed "public" in an effort to get them to halt their practice of lifting other's work without permission or without crediting the authors of that work. I made this decision after Joanna Morrison of Womankind Books informed me that they would reprint their catalog with my annotations in them, would not credit me, would not sign a statement promising not to do it again, and would not pay me for my work. My next Booklist, as I said before, will be copyrighted, but meanwhile I am at a loss as to what to do. Any suggestions from sister booksellers are welcome.

Thank & in womanstrength,

Mooneyear

Womansplace Bookstore

2401 N.32nd St., Phoenix, Arizona 85008

602-956-0456

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4/24/82

Dear FBN:

I would like to share some rather distressing news with your readership about a book that is being threatened with going out of print. It may not be applicable to many of the stores as it is authored by a man, but the alternative and gay stores who receive your mailing need to know that JONATHAN LOVED DAVID: Homosexuality in Biblical Times by Tom Horner, Westminster Press, may soon see it's demise.

It is a very scholarly work, does include a section on Ruth & Naomi, has been very helpful to our Gay religious community. In these times of right wing moral majority arguments, it has been helpful to counteract verbal attacks with intelligent response.

We urge you to write Westminster Press, General Management Offices, 925 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, PA 19108. Tom would like to update the bibliography with new introduction to produce a second edition.

Thank you for this space.

Sincerely,

Arleen Olshan

Giovanni's Room

345 So. 12th St.; Philadelphia, PA 19107

3/27/82

Dear FBN

Thanks so much for publishing the letter from the Feminists in Alternative Business concerning the activities of Playboy Enterprises in feminist publishing and in the women's movement in Chicago.

At our recent meeting, our collective discussed this issue and we have decided not to carry any Playboy imprints in our store. We feel strongly that as feminists we cannot support Playboy, even if they publish important feminist works. We see this as a highly symbolic issue: that the line must be drawn here even though we all have to buy books from publishers owned by multinationals whose activities we certainly do not support. However, the oppression of women by Playboy is clear and visible and the compromises involved in supporting them would dishonour all that we work so hard to accomplish.

We wanted to share our decision with our sister bookstores and to tell you at the same time what a lifeline FBN is to us all.

In sisterhood,

Susan

Everywomans Books

641 Johnson St., Victoria, BC, Canada

### Future Women-in-Print Need Your Support

An open letter from Metis Press;

Chrysalis Publishing Collective is a group of young Chicago women currently publishing HOLDING HER OWN, a book about street, school and personal experiences of women age 21 and under. Poetry and prose have been collected from many women across the U.S.

During the past year the collective has learned and accomplished typesetting and layout for the book. Now at a point near completion, however, a computer error has erased approximately one-third of their typesetting. Many of us would have given up. Metis Press commends the Chrysalis Publishing collective for holding their own!

We feel that this book is important for our movement and are asking that women-in-print sisters support the collective in anyway possible: advance orders, letters of support, reviews, etc. Metis will gladly supply Chrysalis promo flyers to any groups who can include them in future mailings. Write to Chrysalis Publishing Collective c/o Janet Costa 1757 W. Wilson, Chicago, IL 60640

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3/19/82

Dear Womansplace:

I am writing to protest the inclusion of *The Kin of Ata* by Dorothy Bryant in your list of feminist books. The novel begins with the murder of a woman and proceeds to the rape of another. The raped woman bears a child by her rapist whom she now loves. This woman, who is the only developed female character in the novel attains many of the qualities of a witch: she is a wise woman and a healer, she can enter trance states and afterwards cause a tree to burst into flames. Instead of valuing these skills, she is ashamed of them and "voluntarily" enters a "spiritual fire" (reminiscent to me of suttee and witch burning) and emerges as a selfless worker at the most menial tasks. Finally her body is killed by a stray bullet. Do women need another myth that glorifies self-sacrifice?

It is interesting to note that Augustine, the main woman character, bears the name of the church father who developed the doctrine that the flesh is evil. The ideals of *Ata* are the same ideals "Saint" Augustine promotes in his "City of God". I believe that Christianity, in any disguise, is inimical to woman.

I would be happy to hear from anyone who can enlighten me about the feminist content of *Kin of Ata*. (The book was required reading for a class I'm taking. In our discussion, several women said they "liked" the book, but no one was able to defend it.) Unless it has redeeming value that I have overlooked, I suggest that you cease to promote its sale.

Best wishes for the work you are doing.

Sincerely,

Gretchen Whalen  
Tr. 4, Box 304H, Hendersonville, N.C. 28739

(This was sent to FBN by Mooneyear at Womansplace Bookstore who received it from a mail order customer of theirs. Mooneyear has never read *Kin of Ata* and is interested in other's responses.)

2/22/82

Dear Carol:

E.P. Dutton has remaindered the hard cover copies of *HAPPIER BY DEGREES: A COLLEGE REENTRY GUIDE FOR WOMEN* (1980). The book which has been very well received by reviewers is a resource and support book dealing with the many practical and psychological issues that confront reentry women. Excerpts have appeared in Good Housekeeping, New Woman and Sunday Woman. Mendelsohn's articles on the subject have been published in the Christian Science Monitor, Parents, California Living, etc. Dutton is still distributing softcover books at \$7.95. Mendelsohn has purchased most of the hard covers and would like to have them sold in bookstores at \$5.95. Bookstores receive 40% and pay postage. 30 day billing.

Mendelsohn will also be able to mail copies of *WITH NATURE'S CHILDREN: EMMA B. FREEMAN (1880-1928) - CAMERA AND BRUSH* by Peter Palmquist. Freeman was a feminist photographer who set up her studio in Eureka at the turn of the century. The book was reviewed in Ms. and was the subject of a show at the International Center of Photography in New York. Freeman is best known for her photographs of Northern California Native Americans and her lifestyle which was certainly atypical of Eureka, California. Morgan and Morgan distributes Palmquist's book for \$9.95. Palmquist owns all rights and will make it available to sell in bookstores for \$6.95. Book stores receive 40% and pay postage. 30 day billing. To order either or both books, write to Pam Mendelsohn, PO Box 4597, Arcata, CA 95521

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# The Invisible Lesbian/Feminist Printer

This is a letter about invisibility – the invisibility of lesbian/feminist-owned printshops and the women who work there. It is about how they will survive these economic and political times – or *not survive*. In particular, this is a letter about the Iowa City Women's Press and the struggles for survival that we are going through today.

By way of background: the Iowa City Women's Press was formed in 1972 by a collective of eight women. Our main reasons for forming the press were (1) to help women gain more control over their printed words and (2) to help women gain more control over their lives through access to skills. We hoped to accomplish this second aim by learning and teaching printing skills and by publishing skills manuals. The first goal came directly out of the Iowa City experiences of *Ain't I A Woman?* newspaper (published between 1970 and 1974), in which the male printers refused to print an issue that contained medical self-help photographs, saying that they would not print "pornography."

We started as a small, volunteer-run printshop in a converted garage, and we have grown into a business that employs 4-5 women full-time, with associated bindery and typesetting businesses employing another 3-4 women. For the past two years, we have chosen to concentrate more and more on printing books for lesbian/feminist publishers and self-publishing women, and on printing periodicals such as *Common Lives/Lesbian Lives* and *Sinister Wisdom*. We continue to produce our two skills manuals, *Greasy Thumb* and *Against the Grain*, which are now in their fifth printing. Over the next year, we plan to reorganize the publishing arm of the Press and hope to bring out several new titles.

Two of the problems we have faced continually in the years of our existence are (1) trying to compete as an under-capitalized business in a highly capitalized industry and (2) credibility. Because we do not have the money to acquire the highly technologized printing equipment that is now the standard in the printing industry (particularly in the book-printing industry, where 140 books per minute can be printed and bound on equipment that costs into the millions of dollars), we must rely on old and inefficient equipment. The credibility problem occurs when women are unable to recognize the dilemma we are in; when they see our mistakes as the result of carelessness, instead of the material problem they are; when they see our higher book prices as the result of mismanagement instead of the struggle to be an economically viable shop.

It has been our experience that, given the opportunity, *women strive for excellence*; and we feel the quality of work we have produced is a testimonial to this fact.

In spite of these dilemmas, we continue to receive support from women who understand the importance of the continuing survival of women-owned printshops. As economic times get harder, the support is even more needed and, at the same time, more difficult to get. These goals and problems are common to all lesbian-owned printshops. We feel it is time for women to consider seriously the ramifications of not supporting these shops. In recent times, lesbians and feminists who want to produce books, periodicals, or pamphlets, have easily found cheap male printers to do it. Do we really think that in five or ten years this will be so? We have found it hard to get women publishers to understand that the labor of producing a book goes hand in hand with the labor of writing and publishing a book. Lesbian/feminist publishers would find it inconceivable to publish a book written by a man; yet virtually all choose to have their books produced by men.

What does this boil down to? What do we hope to get out of making these problems public?

We are not asking women to pay twice as much to have their books printed by us. Nor can we produce the Madison Avenue four-color slick covers that seem necessary to sell books these days. What we hope is that women will put their political concern for freedom of the press before considerations of ease and small economic gains. We're not talking about getting rich from printing; nor are we talking about publishers not making a living from their efforts. What we are saying is that there should be enough to go around for everybody, and that how we use it is of real political significance.

What we are specifically asking is:

1. If you are a publisher of books or periodicals, consider having women-owned printshops do your printing. It is beyond our capabilities at this point to efficiently produce large runs of 300-page books. Where we can be competitive is in the area of smaller books and periodicals, such as 100-200 pages and 2000-5000 copies.
2. If you are involved in any women's organizations, ask where the letterhead, flyers, brochures, or posters are being printed. If there isn't a woman printer in your area who is capable of doing what you need, contact us for names of other women printers nearby.
3. When you go into a women's bookstore, be aware of what books and periodicals are printed by women (look for this information on the copyright page); and know that the money you pay for that book goes directly back to women, all the way down the line.

We are also asking women to think about and give us feedback on the following:

1. Would you consider paying \$.50 more for a book produced by women? This is a way for all of us to capitalize our own institutions.
2. As a bookseller, would you consider displaying women-produced books separately and explain and educate customers about the differences in prices?
3. As a publisher, even if you can't feasibly print all of your books with a feminist printer, perhaps you can print one or two books a year, especially those books that are of most importance to our lesbian culture, in a lesbian/feminist shop.

**T**his is a critical time for the Iowa City Women's Press. We are worried about our future, both in terms of our own jobs and the continuing existence of the press.

Right now the Iowa City Women's Press is the only lesbian/feminist press in the country in which a book can be typeset, printed and bound by women. Its loss would be a significant one. The loss of any lesbian/feminist press at any stage of its development is significant. The survival of our cultural institutions—our insistence on our public selves—is an important guarantee for the survival of our individual freedom.

*Barb and Joan for the Iowa City Women's Press Collective*

Dear Friends,

I have made a difficult decision.

I'm going to sell or close The Crazy Ladies Bookstore. Business has dropped during the last couple months. While this is a typical summer occurrence, I no longer have the capital not the emotional fortitude to survive these lower sales.

I really would like the bookstore to stay open by passing it on. I am proud of "Crazy Ladies" and sincerely believe that with new energy, it will continue to grow and reflect Cincinnati's alternative community.

Anyone with a desire to buy the bookstore or collectivize it, please contact me before July 31. If nothing has been initiated by then, I will make definite plans to close The Crazy Ladies Bookstore.

With sisterlove,  
Carolyn Virginia

SHIPS, SHOES AND SEALING WAX has a credit of \$4.50 from World View Publishers that they would like to pass on. contact them at 513 W. 7th, #4, Anchorage, Ak 99501

Dear Carol and FBN,

Enclosed is an advertisement from PUBLISHERS WEEKLY, shocking in the extent of its anti-Jewishness and anti-woman sentiment.

Hopefully our "network" can put some pressure on somewhere to prevent publication and/or distribution.

We need to write some letters.

In sisterhood,  
Simone  
Sisterhood Bookstore.

# HAVE WE GOT A BOOK FOR YOU.

Here is the first and last word on Jewish American Princesses and Princes, and all those people who just aspire to the title. (You don't have to be Jewish to be a J.A.P.) The fact is, J.A.P.'s are the

consummate consumers—Daddy can afford it—and THE OFFICIAL J.A.P. HANDBOOK is the consummate book for this enormous market. All the vital secrets are revealed!

- How to dress (should you wear mink before college?)
- What do J.A.P.'s make for dinner? (Reservations.)
- The truth about color coordinated closets.
- How to separate the Mercedes men from the boys.
- Where to shop (or why pay retail?)

There are even special quizzes to see if you qualify for JAP-dom. Like the 100 question Jewish American Princess Test, or The Super-JAP Designer Label quiz. And lengthy lists of things JAPPY (attorneys, cashmere, a real estate license) versus things UN-JAPPY (undertakers, Orlon, a fishing license).

All this and much, much more! THE OFFICIAL J.A.P. HANDBOOK will keep them laughing all the way to the country club.

**J.A.P. — Jackpot Advertising and Promotion.**

NAL will support THE OFFICIAL J.A.P. HANDBOOK with:

- National print advertising campaign
- Publicity
- Cooperative advertising
- Counter Displays in decorator colors
- Hilarious point-of-sale materials

A hardcover-size paperback from Plume in November. \$5.95

ISBN 0-452-25359-4 Z5359

**PRICE \$6.00  
BUT FOR YOU \$5.95**



## THE OFFICIAL J.A.P. HANDBOOK

BY ANNA SEQUOIA  
NÉE SCHNEIDER

PLUME

---

**THE COMPLETE GUIDE TO JEWISH AMERICAN PRINCESSES AND PRINCES**

<p>Where to be born (not Staten Island) and what to be named</p> <p>Education: or can you wear your mink to college?</p> <p>The single years: Daddy buys the co-op; Mommy hires the cleaning lady</p> <p>The first marriage: God forbid, a second</p>  <p>The Mercedes years</p>	<p>Charge plates, you buy and Daddy pays</p> <p>Breaking the engagement and keeping the ring </p> <p>Schools: Radcliffe-Schmadcliffe</p> <p>Employment: for others, of course</p> <p>Sex and headaches</p> <p>Tennis—doesn't everyone?</p> <p>Dieting—caviar and carrot sticks</p> <p>The J.A.P.-in-Training</p> <p>The J.A.P.-on-the-Run</p>
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See Pg 10

WRITE:

Distributed by **SISTERHOOD BOOKSTORE**  
Los Angeles

JUNE 25, 1982

New American Library Order Dept.  
P.O. Box 120, Bergenfield, N.J. 07621



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NAIAD PRESS BOOKS NOW AT BOOKPEOPLE AND OTHER NEWS.

Bookpeople is thrilled out of their minds. They consider that their whole trip to ABA was worth it for the Naiad contract, alone. Four different people came up to tell me their good news the last time I was there.

Naiad requests that bookstores that regularly stock Naiad books continue to order direct from Naiad whenever it's possible. Naiad's suggestion is that if you need one of those and a couple of that, then go ahead and pick it up at BP. But if you need a stock order, please order it direct. The reason for this is that BP takes a 15% commission on what they sell. (as do most distributors) and Naiad would rather keep that money in the immediate family and put it back into the publishing. Also that only the Naiad-published books, not the distributed books will be at BP, so the only way to get the new Elsa Gidlow book, LESBIAN PATH, & LESBIAN CROSSROADS, et al, is direct from Naiad, so be sure not to skip over them. Naiad's goal in going w/ BP is to reach stores that never will order direct, and stores that are interested in carrying only a few copies of a few titles., not to discontinue doing their major distributing.

More news:

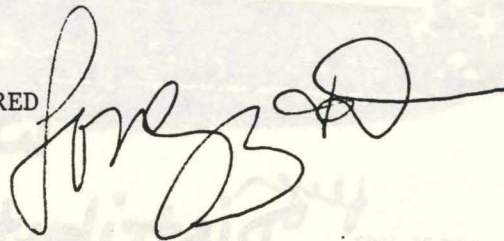
NAIAD PRESS plans to release 3 more titles to bring its 1982 total published books to 10 in the Fall season.

First off, MRS. PORTER'S LETTER by Vicki P. McConnell, the initial entry in a planned series "NYLA WADE MYSTERY SERIES". Vicki, as Gingerlox, wrote BERRIGAN, and has published poetry, SENSE YOU, under her own name. Price of MRS. PORTER'S LETTER is \$6.95 and release date is 8/10/82. Jane Rule's CONTRACT WITH THE WORLD, a \$7.95 paperback reprint, due out 9/10/82 and Tee Corinne's "sistine" chapel photographs of women in various erotic couplings, YANTRAS OF WOMANLOVE, price and release date not yet set. YANTRAS features Jacqueline Lapidus's poem, "Design For A City of Women" and is almost entirely a book of photographs.

The growth of NAIAD PRESS is astonishing even to the women of NAIAD, and work plans in the immediate future include a hard striking radical book, BLACK LESBIAN IN WHITE AMERICA, the work of Black activist Lesbian/feminist Anita Cornwell, whose earliest works date back to the middle 60's and include commentary and advice, fiction, autobiography and interviews with other black women, including Audre Lorde. It is possible that this book will appear in 1982, and if not, then early 1983.

An embarrassment of riches will be provided to the Lesbian reading community in 1983. NAIAD PRESS will be publishing Jane Rule's DESERT OF THE HEART in a mass market reprint size in its new VOLUTE series, to keep the price at a very low level, probably \$3.95. Following the unbelievable success of the three Valerie Taylor books, JOURNEY TO FULFILLMENT, A WORLD WITHOUT MEN and RETURN TO LESBOS, that began the Volute series in May, 1982, NAIAD has signed with Ann Bannon and will be reprinting in mass market uniform edition, the six novels of the Ann Bannon Sextet, the famous Beebo Brinker novels, ODD GIRL OUT, I AM A WOMAN, WOMEN IN THE SHADOWS, JOURNEY TO A WOMAN, THE MARRIAGE, BEEBO BRINKER. These should be \$3.95 books and will be available very early in 1983. More news later...

BACK IN PRINT IN JULY, THE LATECOMER \$5.  
MUSE OF THE VIOLETS \$4. & A WOMAN APPEARED  
TO ME. \$5.



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

June 23, 1982

Contact: Metis Press, (312) 929-4883  
Chicago Women's Graphics Collective, (312) 477-6070

**MIDWEST WOMEN-IN-PRINT GATHERING  
SEPTEMBER 10-12, 1982  
CHICAGO**

Inspired by the National Women-in-Print Conference held in October '81 in Washington, D.C., a group of Chicago women announces a gathering of women from midwest feminist and lesbian bookstores, presses, periodicals, archives, and publishers. This will be a time to strengthen the midwest women-in-print network, to form and renew friendships and connections with each other, and to discuss problems and successes.

There will be workshops on topics covering business practices and political issues, times for the specific groups (printers, publishers, etc.) to meet, and an opportunity to display and sell our books, posters, broadsides, buttons, papers, and magazines. And, of course, there will be parties.

Suggestions for the program and especially for workshops that *you* are willing to convene are most welcome.

The gathering will begin at dinner on Friday, Sept. 10, and end with lunch on Sunday, Sept. 12. The organizers are looking for a camp or conference site in the Chicago area. A confirmation letter will be sent to registrants containing directions to the site and more detailed information about the program.

If you need child care, please let us know at least one month in advance. Also, please let us know of your special needs.

Pre-registration is a must!

The women of Metis Press, Black Maria, and Omega Graphics are handling registration. If you want to be on the mailing list, send \$1.00 to: Midwest Women In Print, c/o Omega Graphics, 627 West Lake Street, Chicago, IL 60606.

Planned by the women from:

- Black Maria
- Chicago Women's Graphics Collective
- Feminists in Alternative Business
- Helaine Victoria Press
- Jane Addams Bookstore
- Metis Press
- Omega Graphics
- Women & Children First Bookstore

A good percentage of our sales are made at conferences & meetings. The advantages of going to these events is obvious -- there is usually somebody there who hasn't heard of or been to the store before; there's always those there that "have been meaning to get by". The disadvantages are that it's a lot of work -- selecting and packing the books, remembering to bring tax charts, sales pads, pens, etc. -- it is a lot harder than just sitting in the store & waiting for the customers to come to you.

I try to have Womensplace Bookstore represented at as many different events as possible. Recently we sold books at Arizona State University's women's week activities, at NOW's fundraising Christmas Boutique, and at an all day conference on religion and sexuality for clergy. There's also a professional women's networking group in town, a gay youth group, regular NOW meetings, a Parents of Gays chapter, and much more. The problem with having books at every monthly meeting of any given organization is that the members will quickly take you for granted and will stop coming by the store. I have also occasionally packed up the entire store and trucked off to a big event...I've been at each of the West Coast Women's Music Festivals, the National NOW Convention in LA, the IWY Conference in Houston. This kind of back-breaking work is something I'm good for about once a year.

Over the years, I have developed a way of dealing with these events/conferences/meetings; I share it here in hopes this information will help to make your lives easier and smoother.

Before deciding to attend a certain function, check carefully: is there a set table space fee? Plus a percentage of your gross sales? Find out the expected attendance at the event before committing yourself to go.

If you can't go yourself (it conflicts with store hours, other events, or your free time), see if you can hire or bribe a friend to go for you. You can offer her 1) a percentage of what she sells (not a good idea if you're also paying a percentage to the sponsoring organization) 2) a free book(s) of the friend's choice (within a certain price range of limit) 3) if cash flow is too tight to enable you to pay outright, perhaps an hourly wage to be used as credit in the store OR 4) a discount on what she purchases - agree ahead of time what the discount will be and how long it's good for. This will allow your store to be represented at many organizations and events that you personally don't have the time or interest to attend.

It may seem silly to say, but be sure the person representing your store can make change accurately, sometimes under hectic conditions, and will dress appropriately for the event. (I dress differently for a meeting of women lawyers of the state bar at the most expensive hotel in town than I do for a Sunday afternoon workshop for the lesbian mother's defense fund.) Also make sure that she can answer most questions about your store with something better than "I don't know".

Checklist - Things to Take:

Table - need to bring your own? Tablecloth?; folding chair(s); sales pads; pens; sales tax charts; business cards; store flyers (calendar of events, newsletter, mail order catalogs); change, cash box or money bag; charge card slips & machine; thermos (with tea, coffee, soup, whatever); card racks, table display racks, bookends; bookstore name tags; mailing list sign-up info.

If outdoors: Plastic (in case it rains); sunglasses; warm enough (or cool enough) clothing.

If indoors: will you need a sweater because of air conditioning.

Moonyean

Womensplace Bookstore

2401 N.32nd St., Phoenix, Arizona 85008

602-956-0456

# NORTHERN CALIFORNIA BOOKSELLERS ASSOCIATION SUES AVON BOOKS

In April, NCBA, Cody's Books and Andy Ross filed suit against Avon Books seeking injunctive relief which would assure that mass market publishers treat all bookstores equally. I think its one of the most exciting pieces of book news that I've heard in a long time.

What has been going on is that most of the mass market houses are giving an extra 4-5% discount to chain stores EVEN WHEN THEY ORDER IN QUANTITIES LOWER THAN WE DO. Which is blatantly illegal. (Violates the Robinson-Patman act.) But they do it anyway because chain stores are such a big % of the trade book market (about 40% now, will probably control 75% of the retail book business by 1987.....don't much expect that they'll carry a lot of feminist titles in 1987, either....)

What the mass market houses are doing is a little more blatant than common practice in the trade houses. There, there is a similar practice in which all the stores in a chain order on a single order, then the books are drop-shipped to each store, and the chain gets the large quantity discount of 48-50% and the publisher ends up doing just about the same amount of work as if 300 stores had ordered individually, except for there's one (long & complicated order) and only one bill. In other words, the work saved hardly justifies the extra 5-10% discount they get. Two publishers tried to refuse to do this deal with the chains and were boycotted until they submitted.

All of this adds up to two important points. 1) that the chain & discount stores run about 9% profit. Independent stores run about 1%. 5-8% of that is coming directly from better (and likely illegal) discount deals. But it is that same 5-8% profit that is empowering them to run independent stores out of business AND to discount books to compete with us all and draw our customers away, as best they can.\*

Now this is not news to much of the book industry. Apparently much of this was debated hot & heavy at the ABA meetings in 1981. The ABA board of directors left the meetings w/ a mandate to see what they could do about it legally and in negotiations. Now much talking was done, and some new improved discount plans and Freight Pass Through plans have emerged (most of all of which help the chains as much as us) but ABA has avoided the issue of lawsuits like the plague, spending \$100,000 in the process on lawyers to tell them good reasons not to do it. The real issue seems to be related to the fact that 60% of ABA's income comes from publishers....

Seeing that ABA was dragging its heels and not likely to do anything, NCBA decided to tackle the lawsuit themselves. Give the rate at which the chains are gobbling up the book market, there was little time to waste. One of the strongest goals of the suit is that a favorable ruling will give publishers strong ground to stand on to refuse the coercion of the chains. My belief is that there are a lot of publishers of integrity out there who don't want to be giving this kind of edge and advantage to chains. And they, too, know what is likely to happen to their publishing lines when chains control 75% of the market: basically there won't be a lot of point to publishing what the chains won't buy. Makes my blood run cold.

All of which adds up to me encouraging you to see if you can't find \$100 or \$75 or \$15 to send to NCBA to help with this suit. Make checks to booksellers legal fund c/o A Clean Well-Light Place for books, 21271 Steven's Creek Blvd, Cupertino, Ca 95014.

Carol Seajay

\*plus there are lots of other little ramifications....like if you buy at 50% discount, you can certainly afford to return your books at the 50% "penalty" rate that you get if you don't include invoice dates and numbers.....Why should they bother with that paper work. Sure saves the chains a lot of \$ & time....think about that the next time you're digging for an invoice number.....



## ORDERING FROM DISTRIBUTORS VS PUBLISHERS

The following information is from a workshop presented at the Northern California Book-sellers Association meeting 4/17/81 by Frank Gibson of Bookworks in Pacific Grove. He detailed his store's experience in ordering from 500+ sources, their brink of financial ruin, and decision making process about when to use distributors and when not to. It was the most thoughtful and most clearly articulated discussion on the topic I had heard, so I'm including his outline for FBN readers. (See also the following chart.) This whole conversation, of course, is limited to books that ARE available from distributors....and many (most?) of ours are not....Carol.

### HARD COPY FACTORS:

- A) Discount - Establish a minimum quantity, i.e. 25 books and compare
- B) Cash Discount of payment within 10 days from the E.O.M.
- C) Freight Policy - i.e. West Coast distribution points result in freight cost ranging from 2% to 3% vs 4% to 5% from back East.
- D) Freight Pass Thru Policy - Will increase your gross profit margin.
- E) Turn Around Time - Ranges from 2 days to 7 days for a West Coast distribution point, vs. up to 4 weeks from back East.
- F) Telephone Ordering Numbers - Toll free or collect acceptable. Can reduce your phone bill by several dollars per order.
- G) Advance Order Plans - Positive if they allow for additional discount - Negative if you must increase your buying quantity to participate.
- H) Delayed Billing Plan - Positive in that no immediate cash outlay - Negative if you must increase your buying quantity to participate.
- I) Return Policy - Clarity in understanding, ease in getting permission and degree of penalty if any. This factor should carry less weight in your decision in that you should be returning only a small percentage of your orders.
- J) Co-op Advertising - Same considerations as above (I).

### QUALITY COPY FACTORS:

- A) Ease and professional handling of our account.
- B) Availability of microfiche.
- C) Minimizing the potential of a Sales Rep "loading us up".

### OUR STORES EXPERIENCE:

We have found the following when using distributors with West Coast Distribution centers:

1. Our turn around time has dropped from weeks to days.
2. Our freight costs are 50% less.
3. Cash discounts (2/10 Net 30) increase our profit margin by 1.2%.
4. Our frequency of ordering has not changed but the number of inventory turns is increasing.
5. There are no telephone ordering costs.
6. Reduction of our "returns" problems (error and differences).
7. Reduction of the number of invoices, statements, and paper work load.
8. Reduction of our check writing from 450 accounts to 100.
9. Reduction of our office time (4) and functions.
10. Has allowed us to select those publishers who offer terms which are beneficial.

In short we have found that we must get at least 43% from a publisher to meet the terms and ease of buying from distributors.

	Minimum Purchase to Earn 40% Disc.	10 Books Backstock Disc.	25 Books Backstock Disc.	50 Books Backstock Disc.	100 Books Backstock Disc.	Combine All Trade Books for Disc.?	Offer Dating?	Cash Discount Amt.	Freight Pass-through Plan?	Advance Order Plan at Improved Disc.?	Stop Discount	Co-op Ads Based on Annual Purchase; or	Co-op Ads Based on One Supporting Order.	Returns—No Invoice Info.—No Auth. Req.	Returns—No Invoice Info.—Auth. Req.	Returns—Invoice Info. Req.—No Auth. Req.	Returns—Invoice Info. Req.—Auth. Req.	Discount for national chains
Crown	5	42	44	45	46	Y	Y	2%	N	N	35%	X					X	48
Delacourt	10	40	41	42	43	N	?	1%	N	Y	40%		X			X		46
Doubleday	6	40	40	41	41	N	?	2%	N	N	40%	X			X			45
Dover	5	40	40	40	40	Y	N	2%	N	N	40%	NOT AVAILABLE		NOT ALLOWED				45
Dutton	1	43	43	43	46	Y	?	0%	Y	N	40%		X	X AT 46%				46
FS&G	5	40	40	42	43	Y	N	1%	N	N	33%		X			X		46
G&D	11	25	40	42	42	Y	?	0%	N	N	0%	X					X	48
HBJ	1	46	46	48	50	Y	N	0%	N	N	40%		X	NOT ALLOWED				54
H&R	5 H 10 P	40	40	40	41	N	Y	1%	Y	Y	40%		X			X		47
Holt	3	40	41	41	42	Y	Y	0%	N	N	30%	X				X		46
Lane	1	41	42	43	43	Y	N	1%	N	N	40%	?	?		X			50
LB	5	40	44	44	46	Y	N	0%	N	N	35%		X	X				48
Macmillan	3	40	40	41	42	N	Y	0%	N	N	35%		X			X		47
McGraw	5	40	40	41	42	N	Y	2%	N	N	40%		X			X		50
Morrow	5	40	41	43	44	N	Y	0%	Y	N	35%		X			X		46
Norton	10	40	42	42	44	Y	Y	2%	N	N	40%		X	X				47
Penguin	10	40	41	41	42	Y	N	0%	N	N	40%	X			X			47
Prentice	5	40	40	41	42	N	Y	0%	N	N	35%		X	X				47
Putnam	100	39	39	39	40	Y	N	0%	N	N	30%	X	X			X		45
R. McNally	10	40	40	43	43	Y	Y	0%	N	N	38%		X			X		47
Random	10	40	43	43	43	N	Y	1%	N	Y	40%		X				X	47
St. Martin's	10	43	43	43	44	Y	Y	0%	N	N	40%		X			X		46
Scribners	5	40	46	46	46	Y	Y	1%	N	N	40%	?	?			X		48
S&S	10	40	40	40	41	Y	N	0%	Y	Y	40%	X			X			46
U.C. Press	5	40	40	40	42	Y	Y	0%	N	N	40%	?	?			X		50
Van Nost.	10	40	40	42	43	Y	Y	0%	N	N	40%		X			X		46
Viking	10	40	41	42	43	Y	N	0%	N	Y	40%	?	?		X			47

TRI-VIA

(A MEETING PLACE OF 3 ROADS)

We're not out of the woods yet: Joani Blank of Down there Press reports that her new book ANAL PLEASURE was rejected by 18 printers and several binders before it successfully became a book. (Moral of the story, etc.: There's good reason to support our own printshops and binders...Freedom of the press belongs to she who owns them...and we all know how that goes)

Meanwhile, back at the bills due dept.: It's true what you heard about straight publishers at WIP: You can get away with not paying them til 90 days - but that only applies to Straight publishers: Feminist presses have women, not corporations behind them and need to be paid on time - not in 60 or 90 days. Several feminist publishers have reported that previously current accounts started slipping past the 60+ day marks and they can't afford the lag in their cash flow, so clean up your account, gang, if this applies to you.

GOOD IDEAS: Every December, New Words does a window of books by and about Jewish women as a support form against the Christmas/Christianity madness. ICI-A Women's Place has a new Jewish Reading list including title, author, publisher and price ( no annotations) Send a long SASE to 4015 Broadway, Oakland, CA 94611, Attn: Natalie. It would probably be nice if you included \$1.00 against costs.

In her monthly (?) mailings, Irene at Smedleys is putting an \* in front of feminist press titles as part of her effort to increase customer awareness as to feminist publishers. She also suggests running announcements of Kitchen Table, Women of Color Press and the Third World Womens Archives urging readers to send contributions. The metal rack Linda Bubon (Women and Children first/Chicago) recommended at WIP is from Turnkey Material Handling, 36 Letchworth St., Buffalo, NY 14213. Cost is \$46 for the one she's seen. Holds 20-25 fliers.

WRITING WANTED: Cleis Press (PO Box 8281, Minneapolis, MN 55408) is hoping to publish a book on physically challenged women with emphasis on ableism in the women's movement. Maggie McKenna is gathering writings of women who have had prison experience - any form. 332 So. Silvercane, Sunderland, MA 01375. Send SASE and autobio. note. Lesbian present + former nuns - Please share your stories of convent life, coming out lesbian, struggles to transform your spiritual consciousness and anything else. Tapes and interviews welcome. Will be published by Naiad: Contact Nancy Manahan 1066 Terrace Drive, Napa, CA 94558 or Rosemary Curb, Rollins College, Winter Park, FL 32789.

ARCADIAN NIGHTS - bedtime stories for lesbians - lesbian identified erotica - to Victoria Ramsletter, PO box 20216, Cincinnati, OH 45220 by August 1

SINISTER WISDOM will be producing an issue on North American Indian women...send everything about everything to Beth Brant, 18890 Reed, Melvindale, Mi. 48122, send SASE by Jan 15, 1983

The BLATENT IMAGE is blooming again. Production starts Sept 1. As usual they are looking for everything exciting in feminist photography...want work that addresses visibility of women of color, disabled women, older women, lesbians, by the same, other invisible images (scars, birth marks, mastectomies (will someone send in some acne? I can't be the only feminist w/ 20+ years of adolescent acne...), also personal, aesthetic, critical, historical, practical, technical articles...your favorite photo & 250 words about it...send for info sheet. Blatent Image, 2000 King Mountain Trail, Sunny Valley, Or 97497. BLATENT IMAGE I is still avail. \$10., 40% to bookstores.

*Calvin*

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# THE CHAINS AND US

In 1972, the 4 largest retail bookstores controlled 11% of the retail book business. Only one company had more than 100 stores..

During the seventies, the chains grew. It seemed bearable. They concentrated on suburban malls and markets where there had previously been few bookstores. They also seemed to specialize in "non-book" books...cookbooks, auto-repair, coffee-table books....and sold them to people who ordinarily wouldn't buy books. The total tradebook business was booming and these chains seemed to be part of the additional sales to new markets.

In the eighties, though, the book industry is static. No growth. And the chains are mushrooming. In 1981, Dalton & Waldenbooks together had 1300 stores, did 250 million dollars in business and accounted for 25-30% of the retail bookstore market. And it is continuing to grow: According to Forbes Magazine (1/18/82) Daltons will spend \$300 million to add 556 new stores in the next 5 years. Walden books expects to continue to open 80-90 new stores per year. Daltons is testing the idea of a new discount chain....if it goes, they'll open 500 of them by 1986. This is only the top two chains. Add into that the rest of the "small" chains and discounters.... Keep in mind that these new stores won't go into suburban malls, suburban malls aren't much being built in the 80's. They are going into urban areas, are drowning out independent stores like mad. By 1987, 50% of the trade bookstore business will be done by Daltons and Waldens, and 25% of it will be done by the smaller chains. That leaves 25% to the independents. Down from 89% in 1972.

That means that 65% of the book buying in the land <sup>will have</sup> shifted from independent and diverse bookstores to chains that buy and stock by mass merchandising principles, emphasize best-sellers, and order by computer, emphasizing stores that all look alike and pay scant attention to local interests. This is likely to have a strong impact on what many publishers feel that they can publish, it certainly narrows the kind and quality of outlets that are available for what is published.

Meanwhile, in 1981 feminist bookstores sold \$4million in books. That's about 1% of the national trade market.(excluding college bookstores & the like.) And that's about 1.7% of the independent trade market. As that market shrinks, we could likely find ourselves doing 4-5% of the independent trade business even in a no growth economy. But we are likely to keep growing. Nothing has stopped us yet from growing and as independent stores are replaced by chains, there will likely be a fallout of liberal feminist women (and men?) who will seek out feminist stores where they didn't feel it necessary before. Especially if we figure out how to do outreach to these women. And that is all going to put us in a different and possibly more powerful position vis-a-vis the straight publishing industry, if we can find and make use of the connections. It is all very interesting.....Think about it. I'd love to hear from you about what this turns over in your minds and collectives.....

Carol Seajay

## NEW BOOKSTORES:

Feminist Books  
254 Rue Street  
North Fitzroy, Victoria 3068  
Australia

Women's Bookshop\*  
1120 Willow Street  
Christchurch, New Zealand

Edinburgh Books  
43 Candlemaker Row  
Edinburgh, EH1 2Q13

Brenda Lightbody\*  
310 E. Elizabeth  
Ft. Collins, CO 80524

Lindy Cogan\*  
803 N. 23rd  
Boise, Idaho 83702

Half the Sky  
6165 Lakeshore Drive  
Dallas, TX 75214

Women's Bookstore\*  
40 Myrna Fourwinds  
RT. 7 Box 324  
Norman, Oklahoma 73069

Tumbleweeds Books\*\*  
P.O. Box 216  
Regina, Sask. S4P2Z6

Lana Spear\*  
710 Clark  
Billings, Montana 59101

New Horizons Books, etc  
110 West Congiers  
Denton, TX 76201

Well of Happiness  
13121 Gulf Blvd.  
Madeira Beach, FL 33708

\* in process of becoming feminist stores

\*\*feminist inclusive, but not primarily a feminist bookstore

## THEY WENT THAT-A-WAY!

MAENAD, in case you've been missing it, is no longer at Bookpeople. BP discontinued it. (That doesn't help, BP!) SO IF YOU'VE BEEN GETTING MAENAD FROM BOOKPEOPLE (or you used to, and you don't know what's happened to it recently), drop them a postcard to order direct from them (terms: 40%, bkstr. pays shipping, returns welcome, net 60, min. order 5.) The current issue is a special on "The Lesbian/Heterosexual Split". The issue before was called "Violation." both look important. Standard price is \$4.50, special issue is \$5.50. If you've never seen the magazine, they'll send bookstores a free sample copy. Write them at PO Box 738, Gloucester, Ma. 01930. They'd like it a lot if you included the name of a couple other stores that might carry MAENAD.

SHEBA FEMINIST PUBLISHERS (England) are now being distributed by Bookpeople. ONLYWOMEN PRESS books should be available from Crossing Press (PO Box 640, Trumansburg, NY 14886) by the time you get this. CACTUS is excellent....a story in which lesbians come out in the 40's and the 70's, then the generations meet in small-town England in a produce shop....I like it a lot. And also....damn, but I can't think of the title & can't find the book anywhere....it's a pink book, and fat, (you'll know it soon), working/welfare class lesbian novel. I tried to read it this spring and couldn't because it was so exactly on about my own life at the moment that I couldn't stand it. (that's also a recommendation.) Order it as the pink working class novel" from ONLYWOMEN and the people at Crossing will figure it out. There should also be two other lesbian novels from them that I haven't seen....ONLYWOMEN is a lesbian feminist press in England.

OOPS! The title is BRAINCHILD

BLOODSISTERS, superb novel by Valerie Minor, originally published in England will be published by St. Martins Press this summer. Should be available from them by the time you get this. Distributors may not get it until actual pub. date in August. Paperback.

WHOLENESS IS NO TRIFLING MATTER by Adrienne Rich, to be published by Tea Rose Press (PO Box 591, E. Lansing, Mi. 48823) has been postponed indefinitely, due to health problems, so wait patiently.

Bookpeople is now stocking Norton titles, so you can get May Sarton, Audre Lorde, & Adrienne Rich there...

If you carry books in Spanish, Transnational Publishers, PO Box 278, Coronado, Ca 92118 claims that they can get any title or author published in Mexico. You might send your requests ATTN Jaime Tellez.

WE'RE HERE, (Conversations with Lesbian women), HARD FEELINGS (Fiction & Poetry from Spare Rib) PORTRAITS (Kate Chopin) & more English women's press books are now distributed by Charles River Books, One Thompson Square, Charlestown, Ma 02129. Write for catalogue...

LESBIAN CROSSROADS by Ruth Baetz, is now being distributed by Naiad Press as a remainder. The original price was 10.95. Naiad has it at 6.95 (retail) at 40%.

In case you didn't catch it: A WOMAN'S TOUCH (lesbian erotica) is back in print. from A Woman's Touch, PO Box 681, Grants Pass, Or 97526. 40% for 4+ (WHAT LESBIANS DO is out of print.) WILD WOMEN DON'T GET THE BLUES is back in print. \$4, 40% for 3+, Metis Press, PO Box 25187, Chicago, Ill 60625.

NEW SEED PRESS has moved, new address is 1665 Euclid Ave, Berkeley, Ca 94709. They do children's books, SILAS AND THE MAD SAD PEOPLE is the newest, preceded by RED RIBBONS FOR Emma (Native American struggling against nuclear power) next year a bilingual Chinese/English book about a young girl on Angel Island immigration quarantine in 1922. Some of their books are avail Bookpeople, but Some things you just can't do by yourself, (Soon to go into its 7th printing), FANSHEN THE MAGIC BEAR & PETER LEARNS TO CROCHET are avail D.O. only.

SUDDEN DEATH, by Rita Mae Brown has been postponed til April...will be from Bantam.

NEW ENGLAND FREE PRESS has closed down. (That certainly marks the end of an era....many thanks to them for years of hard and important work.) If you send a SASE, they may still send you a list of what you can still get from other sources.

And a piece of good news to end with: THOUSAND PIECES OF GOLD, biographical fiction about an immigrant Chinese woman sold out its first 5,000 copies in seven weeks and is deep into the second printing. It was picked up by The Quality Paperback Book Club for its spring selection.

DOES ANYBODY KNOW - if it's possible to order Nancy Stockwells book Out Somewhere and Back Again?? - write Susan at Bookwoman 324 E. Sixth St, Austin, TX 78701 20

March , 1982

At Women in Print, we promised a list of books in our "Children's Special Issues" section and I've had it ready to type long enough for it to need to be updated! Hopefully I'll make the deadline for this issue of FBN. At Charis, in Atlanta, almost one third of our stock is in children's books. In our store we have books arranged by age and then a separate, but adjoining section for children's education and special issues. To let you know our market for these books, we sell to some alternative schools, especially pre-schools, as well as to concerned parents and friends who are looking for books to help them explain to children, to encourage children to talk, or who want to sensitize their children to an appreciation of themselves and of people who differ from them. Because many of these books are in the form of stories, and because some people never look at "special issues", we have some of these titles interspersed with the rest of the children's books.

I am going to do this list by subject and include only the titles we most highly recommend on any subject. At the end of the list, a note about some gaping holes we've been unable to fill. If any of you have further resources/favorites to offer, please do!

**BIRTH:** Gabriel's Very First Birthday - Farrell - Pacific Pipeline 3.95

Where do Babies Come From - Sheffield - Random - 6.95

Wind Rose - Dragonwagon - Harper - 4.95

**SEX EDUCATION:**

What is a boy, What is a Girl? Waxman - Peace - 3.95

Growing Up Feeling Good - Waxman - Panjandrum - 4.95

Sex With Love - Hamilton - Harper 4.50

Period - Gardner - New Glide 6.00

**DIVORCE:** Silas and the Mad-Sad People - Jayanti - New Seed 3.00

When Megan Went Away - Severance; Lollipop; 2.50

Minoo's Family - Crawford; Before we are Six; 2.75

Divorce is A Grown Up Problem - Sinberg; Avon; 2.95

Talking About Divorce and Separation - Grollman; Harper; 3.95

Two Homes to Live In - Hazen; Human Sciences; 6.95

**FOR OLDER CHILDREN:**

It's not the End of the World - Blume; Bantam; 1.75

Boys and Girls Book about Divorce - Gardner; Bantam; 2.25

The Day the Loving Stopped - List; Avon 2.95

**STEPPARENTS:**

Please Michael, That's my Daddy's Chair - Mark; Before we are Six; 2.75

Now I have a Stepparent and its Kind of Confusing - Sinberg; Avon 2.95

**ADOPTION:** Just Momma and Me - Eber; Lollipop; 2.35

Families Grow in Different Ways - Parr; Before we are Six; 2.50

Is that your Sister - Bunin; Random; 4.95

**NEW BABIES/SIBLINGS:**

She Come Bringing me that Little Baby Girl - Greenfield; Harper; 8.95

Knee Baby - Jarrell; FSG; 6.95

Nodoby Asked me If I Wanted a Baby Sister - Alexander; Dial; 2.95

A Baby Sister for Frances - Hoban; Harper; 1.95

We Got This New Baby At our House - Sinberg; Avon; 3.95

**SPECIAL POPULATIONS:**

My Feet Roll - Mertens; Before we are Six; 2.75

Like Me - Brightman; Little Br.; 3.95

One Little Girl - Fassler; Human Science; 8.95

Darlene - Ford; Methuen; 7.95

My Friend Jacob - Clifton & DeGrazia; Dutton; 7.95

Alesia - Greenfield; Putnam; 9.95

Leo the Late Bloomer - Kraus & Aruego; Simon & Schuster; 2.95

Seeing Stick - Yolen; Harper; 6.95

My Special Father and Me - Jaffe; Shameless Hussy; 3.95

Seeing Summer - Eyerly; Harper; 9.25

SPECIAL POPULATIONS (cont.)

Roly goes exploring (also in Braille) - Newth; Ptunam; 12.95

Spectacles - Raskin; Atheneum; 2.50

On the Move - Savitz; Avon; 1.75

AGING: How Does it Feel to be Old? - Farber; Creative Arts; 3.95

Now One Foot, Now the Other - dePaola; Putnam; 3.95

DEATH: Annie and the Old One - Miles; Little Br.; 6.95

Nana - Hooper; Harper; 9.25

First Snow - Coutant; Random; 5.95

Blew and the Death of the Mag - Litchman; Free; 3.95

Last Visit - Jamison; Before we are Six; 2.75

FOR OLDER CHILDREN:

Bridge to Terebithia - Paterson; Avon; 1.95

Talking about Death - Grollman; Harper; 3.95

ANGER, NEGLECT, FEAR:

No Time for Me - Barret; Human Sciences; 6.95

Quarrelling Book - Zolotov; Harper; coming in paper

Hating Book - Zolotov; Harper; 4.95

There's a Nightmare in my Closet - Mayer; Dial; 2.95

My Momma Said - Viorst; Atheneum; 1.95

Alexander and the Terrible Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day - Biorst; Atheneum; 1.95

Grown Ups Cry Too - Haxen; Lollipop; 2.50

Stevie - Steptoe; Harper; 8.95

There is a Rainbow (dying children) - Celestial Arts; 5.95

ANTI-SEXIST ROLES:

Amy and the Cloud Basket - Pratt; Lollipop; 3.00

Ira Sleeps over - Waber; HMC; 2.95

Tatterhood - Feminist; Phelps; 5.95

Williams' Doll - Zolotov; 6.95

My Mother the Mail Carrier - Maury; Feminist; 3.50

The Forest Princess and the Return of the Forest Princess - Herman; Over the Rainbow; 2.95

Little Fox Goes to the End of the World - Tompert; Scholastic; 1.95

Peter Learns to Crochet - Levinson; Newseed; 2.50

ON INCEST, FOR CHILDREN:

No More Secrets - Adams; Impact; 3.95

Frances Ann Speaks Outs - Chetin; 2.00

SELF DEFENSE FOR CHILDREN:

Self Defense for Your Child - Tegner & McGrath; Thor; 2.95

A few treasures I'd like to mention. Our HR salesperson tells me that we must sell more of this particular book than anyone in the country, and the book has gone into only library binding, but I still find it to be one of the most comforting and helpful books on my shelf - at home or the store! The book is Crescent Dragonwagon's WILL IT BE OKAY? (HR 9.50) This is a book for young children that introduces and affirms life. Although the questioner in this book is a little white girl talking to a white mother, I have found the book useful with my own son, a biracial boy child, and with two parent families - and with adults! But the book takes selling - you do have to show it to people. Dragonwagon's WHEN LIGHT TURNS INTO NIGHT, also HR, is another beauty, but also only available in cloth. Another author I'm particularly fond of is Byrd Baylor, who publishes with Scribner's, in both cloth and paper, and who writes about the desert and desert people. She has a fine illustrator, Peter Parnell, and a book of theirs that shows people from all over the world is THE WAY TO START A DAY (8.95). THE DESERT IS THEIRS, about desert people (2.95) and HAWK I'M YOUR BROTHER (2.95) are two other well-tested favorites. HAWK is about a small dark boy who wants to fly. And a Four Winds book that I sell a lot as a gift is Mayer's LIZA LOU AND THE YELLER BELLY SWAMP.

I hope this information is helpful to you and hope that we can and will continue to keep each other aware of old and new good books on these subjects that are so crucial to our continued creation of a new world.

Linda Bryant, for Charis: Books and More

P.S. I can't quite quit! Do you all know:  
 CORNROWS - Yarbrough - Putnam; 2.95  
 THE STORIES JULIAN TELLS - Cameron; RH; 7.95  
 ASHANTI TO ZULU - Musgo; Dial; 2.95

Ms Meg by bulbul



**EVER GET THE FEELING SOMEBODY WANTS US POOR, IGNORANT AND DRUNK !!**

BONES & KIM, published by Spinster, Ink is available as recorded text on free loan from : Recording For The Blind, Inc. 215 East 58th St., NY, NY 10022.



3/16/82

Feminist Bookstore Newsletter

Bookstore & Gallery

317 W. Johnson Street  
Madison, WI 53703  
Phone: 257-7888

## April

Original Sins, Lisa Alther, 3.95, NAL, F

Rice Bowl Women: Writings by and About Women of China and Japan, Ed. Shimer, 3.95, NAL

Tar Baby, Morrison, 6.95, NAL, F

Love, Susan Fromberg Schaeffer, Pocket 3.50, F

## May

Death in a Tenured Position, Amanada Cross, Ballantine, 2.50, Myst.

Outward Bound, Juanita Coulson, 2.95, Ballantine, S.F.

Midwife, Gay Courter, NAL, price?, F.

Mary, Mary Mebane, Fawcett, 2.25, Bio.

Adult Education, Annette Jafee, Warner, 6.95, F

End of the Rainbow, Crenshaw, Bantam, 3.95, NF (Drug Abuse)

High and Outside, Linnea Due, Bantam, 1.95, YA-F, (alcohol abuse)

Living Alone and Liking It, Lynn Shahan, Warner, 3.50, NF.

Connecting: Handbook for Housewives Returning to Paid Work, Sally Ashley, Avon, 5.95, NF.

## June

Cinderella Complex, Donning, Pocket, price?, NF

Sardonyx Net, Lynn, Berkley, 2.75, SF.

American Rose, Julia Marks, Berkley, 2.95, F.

Sweetsir, H. Yglesias, Ballantine, 2.95, F.

Vagabond, Colette, Ballantine, 2.50, F.

Quest, Bio. of Elin. Kubler-Ross, Derek Gill, Ballantine, 3.50.

"I'm Not a Women's Libber, but...", Anne Bowen. Follis, Avon, 2.25, NF.

Rainbow Jordan, Alice Childress, Avon, 2.25, YA-F.

Dorothy Sayers, James Brabazon, Avon, 3.95, Bio.

Say Jesus and Come to Me, Ann Shockley, Avon, 2.95, Lesbian F.

Falling, Susan Fronberg Schaeffer, Avon, 3.50, F.

Baggar Maid: Stories of Flo and Rose, Alice Munro Bantam, 2.95, F.

Take Back the Night, ed. Lederer, Bantam, 4.50, NF

Homosexuality in Perspective, Masters & Johnson, Bantam, 5.95, NF.

Most Contagious Game, Catherine Aird, Bantam, 2.25, Myst.

## FROM OUR OWN PRESSES AND PUBLISHERS

STEPPING OUT OF LINE: A WORKBOOK ON LESBIANISM/FEMINISM. by Nym Hughes, Yvette Perreault, & Yvonne Johnson. \$6. "A unique contribution to consciousness-raising process by furnishing a method for bringing women together to investigate the links between lesbianism and feminism., based on 6 years of experience conducting workshops for 40+ women's groups. Adaptable to a variety on contexts." The excerpts look dynamite. I think this book will be of interest beyond its intended focus. PRESS GANG. 603 Powell St. Vancouver, BC V6A 1H2. Don't think it's out yet. Should be at Bookpeople when it is.

THE ANNOTATED GUIDE TO WOMEN'S PERIODICALS IN THE US. 150 listings by categories. Indexed by state and alphabetically. Updated bi-annually in Feb. & July. 20% for 5 plus from Terry Mehlman. 117 W. McMillan St. Cincinnati, OH 45219. it's about time for such a tool. Don't have the price. Sorry.

WE SHALL GO FORTH. Directory of resources in women's music and culture 1982. Production, distribution, booksings, record labels, and more. Toni Armstrong 6208 N. Hermitage, Chicago, IL 60660 This must be the 4th or 5th edition Toni has done. \$4.00. 25% off for 5+.

For May Sarton's 70th Birthday: WORLD OF LIGHT: A PORTRAIT OF MAY SARTON. A commemorative Issue of 1) Transcript of the film, plus additional poems & comments into a book \$6.95. and 2) a 60 minute cassette tape of the soundtrack and of Sarton's reading and talking. \$6.95. or both attractively bound for 12.95. 40%. You might also inquire about renting the film if you have access to a projector. We've shown it several times. It's wonderful and always draws a good audience.. Order from Ishtar, 305 East 11St. 2D, NY, NY 10003

THE LA LUZ JOURNAL. Written and published by Juana Marie Paz, a Puerto Rican lesbian w/ no degrees or financial backing, while living on \$100/mo, the AFDC rate for a woman with one child. "The LLJ documents the true and heartrending story of a tribe of women who tried to establish an autonomous woman of colour land community and failed. Taken from her personal journal accounts, includes poetry analysis, songs, history, self-examination and self-disclosure and reads like a novel. It gives an illuminating and sometimes painful insight to women's grandest visions and most dismal failures. \$5. 40% to bookstores." Prepayment, I think. Paz Press, 11 W. South St, Fayetteville, Ark. 72701.

FEMINISM FIRST/ FEMINISMO PRIMERO. "An overview of one of the most serious divisions in the feminist movement. Places lesbian-separatism in a historical and multi-national context." Published in English and Spanish. " Tsunami Press \$3.00. Price to bookstores \$2@ for 1-5. 1.80 for 6-10 and 1.70 for 11-15 plus postage. pls prepay. PO Box 22913, Seattle, Wa 98122. They also publish COMING OUT COLORED/SALIR A LA LUZ COMO LESBIANAS DE DOLOR.

FEMINISM IN THE 80'S: FACING DOWN THE RIGHT. pamphlet/speech by Charlotte Bunch. "Discusses feminism, its rise globally and the threat posed by the resurgence of the Right Wing. She argues that feminists must clearly communicate a radical vision of fundamental change and extend the borders of our politics in order to analyze the lives of women from a world perspective. She reminds us that we know too much to go back." \$3.00, 40% for 10+ from Antelope Publications, 1612 St. Paul St., Denver, Colorado, 80206. Antelope is a new publishing house interested in transcribing and publishing speeches to convey the politically important ideas and images that often have no distribution beyond the immediate audience. They'd like to receive tapes of such speeches to consider publishing.

LIVING IN A HOUSE I DO NOT OWN. Poetry by Mab Segrest, member of the FEMINARY collective. From Night Heron Press, PO Box 3103, West Durham Station, Durham, NC 27705. 40%, 60 days 10% post. Also from Night Heron is THE SOUND OF ONE FORK by Minnie Bruce Pratt.

GLOBAL LESBIANS. a superb special issue of CONNEXIONS, that has articles on lesbians all over. I'm especially excited by the information on lesbians in third world countries and the info on lesbians in Nazi concentration camps. Much info here that hasn't previously seen the light of print. I've wanted this book consciously for eight years. It goes right up there in my own personal list of most vital lesbian books. \$3.00 40% to bookstores. 4228 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, Ca 94609.

The Heresies Collective is reprinting their 1978 issue, THE GREAT GODDESS, which sold out almost immediately. Will come out later this summer. 7.50 price. Probably 40% to bookstores, should be avail. at BP or direct. PO Box 766, Canal St. Station, NY, NY 10013

THERE ARE NO MADMEN HERE, Gina Valdés. "A narrative collection of 3 short stories and a novelette. Investigates paradoxical perceptions of life on the borderland, emphasizing the thin line between sanity and madness. Valdés is a Chicana writing about external and internal realities, about the cruel reality of poverty, oppression and survival, joy, contradiction, concern and love. The central character of the novelette is a woman in a man's world who decides to become independent and fend for herself. 7.95 20% for less than 5, 30% for 6+. Maize Press, PO Box 8251, San Diego, Ca 92102.

ALIMONY OR DEATH OF THE CLOCK by Lynn Waston. (previewed in Sinister Wisdom #16). "A lyrical lesbian novel that takes you beyond fiction into the world of numerology, VW herstory, train folklore and a Holmes-Watson type mystery. Beautifully printed by the Iowa City Women's Press. Line drawings by the author. \$7.95. 30% for 2-5, 40% for 5+. Prepaid, inc. post. Checks & orders to Lynn Watson, 412 1/2 E. Bloomington St, Iowa City, Ia 52240.

BIBLE BELT OASIS: THE STORY OF ROSEALEA'S HOTEL (1968-78) By Rosalea. "This is the true story of a young woman who returned to her hometown of Harper, Kansas (pop 1800) to operate a century old hotel in a unique and creative manner. It begins during the hippie revolution and continues through the birth of the women's movement. Her struggles for emotional and financial survival, and efforts to maintain her identity and self-esteem in a community where conformity if the most and exposure to the outside world is limited, will inspire and challenge you. :paper. 10.95 40% to bookstores for 4+. Sweet-Art Publications, PO Box 121, Harper, Ks. 67058.

THE WIDOW. "An impression of an older woman's life alone. examines the themes of life, death, near-death and fear of death, solitude, the need to act rather than passively wait, the pleasures and deprivations of solitude, one's connections to family, friends, God, faith & church, acknowledging one's own power and value. \$7.00. 73 pages, 37 photos. order from Mary Clare Powell, Box 5541, Baltimore, MD 21204.

AVOIDING RAPE WITHOUT PUTTING YOURSELF IN PROTECTIVE CUSTODY. Marcia E M Molmen. "Teaches women the skills they need to know to prevent attacks and to deal with an attack if it comes. without exhorting women to stay home, avoid strangers, and take no risks. She argues that these traditional safeguards can actually increase women's chances of being raped and that seemingly innocuous attitudes and practices condition males to be rapists and females to be victims. She shows how to reduce risks w/o giving up freedom. Includes a section on self-defense for the handicapped, one on surviving rape when it cannot be fought off. " 7.95. At Bookpeople or THE Athena Press, 602 South 4th St. Grand Forks, ND 58201.

TEE-SHIRTS. The OUR BODIES, OURSELVES book collective has a shirt protesting the New Right's attempts to censor OBOS. It reads DON'T BAN OUR BODIES: STOP CENSORSHIP w/ a picture of the book in the middle. 20 or 30% (forgot which) discount to bookstores. \$8. for french cut sizes s-xl. \$7. for regular s-xxl. and \$6 for childrens s, m, & lg. from BWHBC, Box 192, Somerville, Ma 02144. and Naiad Press has a FAULTLINES t-shirt. Has that sweet rabbit on it, holding the Faultline sign, and a small discreet Naiad Press logo over the left breast area...\$4.25 per, order in dozens and half dozens after the first dozen. Sm-xxxxxl. in red, orange, yellow, blue, green, tan, lavender, & white.

LESBIAN STUDIES ed. by Margaret Cruikshank, Looks wonderful. Will include personal experiences of lesbians in academe, stories of coming out to colleagues & students, as well as thoughtful essays on what happens in the classroom, how to teach lesbian poetry, Jewish lesbians in literature, the psychology of women from a lesbian perspective, THE WELL OF LONLINESS and more. Incl. syllabi and bibliography. from the Feminist Press. should be out this fall. \$14.95 cloth, 7.95 paper.

## FROM THE SMALL PRESSES....

Alyson Publications have been at it again: three very exciting books, two of them lesbian. **ROCKING THE CRADLE** is a book about lesbian mothers & motherhood. How/why lesbians become mothers, & the social problems facing those who do. Includes extensive information on artificial insemination that will make it a standard tool. Also includes the depressing statistic that 80% of the children born through AI are boys....no one knows why yet. 5.95. **QUATREFOIL** strikes me as a **DESERT OF THE HEART** of the gay male community. Originally published in 1950, it is the classic book remembered by many gay men. What I loved in it was the quality of struggling and exploring and creating as the two men reach toward inventing a relationship. Inventing it out of the air, as we did then/do now, oftentimes. I was often frustrated by the very 50's male-ness of the book. ie the men's pride in making decisions without 'interference' by their emotions....I, of course, have a strong bias that we all need to read all the gay history we can get our hands on, and highly recommend it as a clear view of gay life in the fifties. Later this fall, Alyson is publishing **BETWEEN FRIENDS**, a novel in letter form, exploring all that stuff between lesbian and straight women. The cover is great. Alyson is offering complimentary reading copies to bookstores on request, so write them. All their books are or will be available from BP, as well as DO. PO Box 2783, Boston, Mass 02208.

**THE TRIPLE STRUGGLE: Latin American Peasant Women** by Audrey Bronstein. The excerpts look wonderful. "The voices of Latin American peasant women are rarely heard. Women in Bolivia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala and Peru express in their own words the triple struggle. It is a fight against the oppression of underdevelopment, the poverty of the peasant class, and the position of women in a male-dominated society. Sadly no USA distributor, so order from Third World Publications, 151 Stratford Road, Birmingham B11 1RD, England. £3.00 paper

**EMPLUMADA**, Lorna Dee Cervantes, U. of Pittsburgh Press. \$4.50 paper/10.95 cloth A first book of poetry by a strongly woman-identified straight Chicana. Her clear, precise, visual style speaks eloquently of the Chicana's experience to a broad audience. Her own press, Mango Publications, has a series of 15 colour broadsides of various Third World women artists and poets. Beautiful gift package for \$6.00 Mango Publications, PO Box 28546, San Jose, Ca 95159!

**WOMEN OF CUBA**, Inger Holt-Seeland "Using a series of interviews, the author describes how the profound changes that have taken place in Cuba since the revolution are affecting the lives of the women of Cuba. the subjects include a farm worker, a student Communist Youth Party member, a high-born housewife & an older black woman who remembers the early years of the century. It is an enormous task for Cuban women to eradicate the effects of centuries of backwardness. Will Cuban women win complete political, social, & economic freedom? The doors stand open. Lawrence Hill & Co. 7.95 paper.

**CONTRIBUTIONS OF BLACK WOMEN TO AMERICA** Vol. I: the arts, media, business, law sports. Vol II: civil rights, politics & government, education, medicine, sciences. ed by Marianna Davis. 24.95 each. discount not known. Kendary Press, PO Box 3097, Columbia, SC 29230

**MAY SARTON: WOMAN AND POET.** oops, not much information, just that it exists. might be a special issue of **PAIDEUMA**. Order from Paideuma, u. of Maine, Orono, Maine. 04469.

**TALON BOOKS** has been at it again. This announcement is a little late, but **LILY BRISCOE: A Self-Portrait** by Mary Meigs is being very hot in some of our circles. Deeply about being an artist, about the decision to listen to her own inner voices, and also exploring the triangular relationship between Meigs, Marie-Clair Blais, & Barbara Deming. paper 8.95. (At least 6 people have told me I should read it....more later when I get up my nerve and do it.) **ALSO: REAL MOTHERS**, a collection of short stories by Audrey Thomas, another Canadian writer., set in France, Greece, Africa and on Galiano Island, BC, these stories all concern themselves with women who are, one way or another, mothers. 7.95 paper. order from U. of Toronto Press.

**HETERODOXY, or RADICAL FEMINISTS OF HETERODOXY, GREENWICH VILLAGE 1912-1940.** by Judith Schwarz. This is one of those books that has been a long time coming...I first started hearing whispers about it several years ago, and wanted it then. "HETERODOXY can be read as the history of a remarkable club comprising of over 100 of the most creative, often politically active women of the twentieth century: Charlotte Perkins Gilman, Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, Mabel Dodge Luhan, Rose Pastor Stokes...It is also an important account of the spirited challenge and support that women committed to women can provide for each other. **NEW VICTORIA**, 7 Bank St, i. Lebanon, NH 03766. dist. Crossing. 6.95.

ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE. Yvonne Duffy. "The first book on sexuality of Differently Abled women to cover orthopedic characteristics from Arthrogyposis to the Werdnig-Hoffman syndrome. 75 women share their intimate feelings about themselves, their relationships, children and worlds. Celebrate the sometimes glorious, often painful reaffirmation of your own sexual being as you participate in their joys and sorrows, --setbacks and solutions--as they struggle to exercise their sexuality as physically challenged women in a changing society." 8.95. AJ Garvin & Assoc. PO Box 7525, Ann Arbor, Mi 48107. I think its at BP.

A STAGE FOR MEMORY: LIFE HISTORY PLAYS BY OLDER ADULTS. the work of women of the Hodson Senior Center Dramatic Group. Older Third work women from the South Bronx share their life stories and transform their fiminiscences into drama. This unique and pioneering work is described in the book along with two scenarios and a script of an original play. 3.50 40% 30days. from Teachers & Writers Collaborative, 84 Fifth Ave, NY, NY 10011.

STRUGGLE IS A NOME FOR HIPE Renny Golden and Sheil Collins. "Says Meridel LeSeur: 'Out of the silence or four grandmothers they speak...they bread in their journey the old mirrored traditional image of the private and romantic woman to reveal a broader, global, nourishing woman demanding life, not death, of our society...this book, the poetry of two women in struggle is a new road map and you won't arrive unless you use it.' Themes of the book are sexism, racism, the liberation struggles in Central America and working class experience. from West End Press, PO Box 7232, Minneapolis, MN 55407. \$3. profits go to Salvadoran refugees and black political rights.' 40%

THE CLEAR READ STONE. Alexandra Kolkmeier. Tells the tale of a young girl's dream about Mother Earth. Upon awakening, she learns the biological meaning of menstruation from her mother. A wonderful, comfortable book. I know it goes in the young adult section, but I've an urge to put it in the spirituality/ mythology section too. Sadly the plain (but lovely) silver print on purple cloth cover isn't going to do a lot about getting the book off of the shelf and into the hands of women and girls who want/need it, so take time to look at it so you can recommend it. 9.50 (40%, I assume) From In Sight, 535 Cordova Rd, Suite 228, Santa Fe, NM 87501.

## AND MEANWHILE, DON'T MISS:

Mercy! How the time slips by when one is reviewing books and getting ready for long trips. At this late hour, I can either skip all these books, mention them VERY briefly, haul them all to NYC where hopefully I'll have more time to give them, or skip the trip and stay home & review them all. Obviously the only choice is to do it BRIEFLY. But don't be confused, almost all of them are excellent books and worth a lot of attention.

FROM the Feminist Press (dist. BP, B&T, & ??) and about which I cannot say enough, but a very exciting book you probably already have: All the Women Are White, All the Blacks are Men, BUT SOME OF US ARE BRAVE: Black Women's studies. ed. Gloria T. Hull, Patricia Bell Scott, & Barbara Smith. Also from Fem. Pr. is RIPENING, Selected Work by Meridel Le Sueur. 1927-1980. LE Sueur is a midwestern writer, born in 1900. Her life and work could have been the impetus for SILENCES. I love her work for her wisdom, her grounded strength and on sense of going on. Goin on agianst, through anything. Depressions, oppressions, raging winter blizzards.

ENEMIES OF CHOICE The Right-To-Life movement and its threat to abortion. Andrew Merton. Beacon Press/ Harper & Row, Dist. Also from Beacon is the new edition of THE HIDDEN FACE OF EVE, Women in the Arab World by Nawal El Saadawi. that you were probably stocking from Lawrence Hill. if not, go for it. 8.25 paper. & worth it.

THE WOMAN WHO SLEPT WITH MEN TO TAKE THE WAR OUT OF THEM and Tree, two short works in on volume. by Deena Metzger."The first is a novel in dramatic form, Metzger considers how the very act of love might banish the impulse for war & draws from classical mythic structures to create a new image of woman warrior for the world. TREE is the journal she kept from the time she discovers she has breadt cancer through her post-surgery weeks at home. She celebrates the emotional aspects of healing that conventional medicine often ignores. Peace Press. At BP or do at 3828 Willat Ave, Culver City, Ca 90230

INSIDE THE RAINBOW, A Collection of Poems by black writer Joyce Carol Thomas whose novel MARKED BY FIRE (oh Dear, Bantam? Mass market for sure) you might have. It claims to be a YA novel but sure fooled me. An intense book, all the more so for being contemporary, when you're like to think that that era is past. Order the poetry from Penny Press, Zikawuna Communications PO Box 703, Palo Alto 94302. Zikawuna also has some greeting cards, batiks of African women that are some of the most popular cards in the store.

THE EVER SINGLE WOMAN was published in hardcover as OUR LIVES FOR OURSELVES (a better title, methinks) by Nancy Peterson. Explores the state of singledom for women. A strong & positive book. Another book to travel with. Hope it sells under the new title as well as it did the old. Morrow Quill. 7.50.

LETS TAKE BACK OUR SPACE. One of my favorite books ever. Originally published in German, now the text is translated into English, dist by BP, Crossing and the distributors, it is a collection of 2000 photographs that illustrate male and female body language (which is awesome enough) but then it explores the development and reversal of those roles in history via photos of sculpture all the way back into prehistory. One of the strongest feminist histories I've ever seen. I've spent hours pouring over this book. cheap at 15.95.

INVEST IN YOURSELF A WOMAN'S GUIDE TO STARTING HER OWN BUSINESS by Peg Moran. 9.95 Upstream Press PO Box 2033, Rohnert Park, Ca 94928.

THE COMPLETE GUIDE TO WOMEN'S COLLEGE ATHLETICS. Include over 10,000 women's athletic scholarships & recruiting rules and regulations. Carolyn Stanek. Contemporary Books, 180 N. Michigan Ave, Chicago, IL 60601. Excellent for High school women and is receiving no publicity. try distributors.

AN UNKNOWN WOMAN Alice Koller, Holt cloth 14.95. One of the most moving journals I've read. Needs to be read slowly and over time, as a woman discovers herself. Beautiful cover, too. Published in Feb, written in 1962-3, it's been read on PBS a couple times in the years in between and some women remember it from that. Whew.

SANDINO'S DAUGHTERS, Testimonies of Nicaraguan Women In Struggle. ed by Lynda Yanz., interviews by Margaret Randall. Randall is an American ex-patriot living in Cuba. In this book she has interviewed scores of women who fought in and won the Nicaraguan revolution. Brilliant, tough, inspiring & tender. New Star Books, 2504 York Ave, Vancouver V6K 1E3. dist. Crossing. paper.

THE REST OF LIFE, Laura Russell Hunter, . Journal entries from "an ailing, eighty-year-old widow, recovering from the shock of moving into a nursing home. Hurer, courage, and a commitment to the quality of life. 6.95 from Growing Pains Press, 22 Fifth St. Stamford, Ct 0690.

The PROMOTABLE WOMAN, BECOMING A SUCCESSFUL MANAGER. (which I'll never do, given my politics and spelling/typing) . text book format from Wadsworth.

VALERIE MINOR, one of my favorite contemporary writers has two books out in the USA . MOVEMENT, which traces ten years of changes in the main characters life. It's one of those books that is looking at our own lives, and they always seem to be bad or excellent w/ no middle ground. This one is excellent. One section on working in a publishing collective & deciding to say or go has haunted me ever since. 6.95 from Crossing Press (also at BP). BLOODSISTERS, her novel that was previously published in England will come out from St. Martin's press this summer. (should be available by now) This one has high drama, political conflict, the feminist vs nationalist political debate, and the main character falling in love w/ her cousin Beth. Set in England, highly concerned over the Irish independence movement, it made the London Times bestseller list. Will be a hot book on feminist bestseller lists, too.

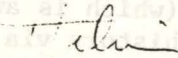
AMBITIOUS WOMEN by Barbara Ellen Wilson is the new book from Spinsters. I love her writing (She also has two collections of short stories from Seal press, Thin Ice and ???avail BP). This is a novel about women and working, The first of many, I hope, And about three women, their friendship and their confrontation with violence against women, terrorism and grand juries. It's the one book I'm holding for my vacation.

There are more. But sadly, they are going to have to wait for the next newsletter. Keep the faith, the books keep coming.

Hello,

Would you please list the following books which arrived in stock recently. Orders of 25 or more titles receive a 50% non-returnable discount. All titles are hardcover.

Vida by Marge Piercy. Summit. \$2.98  
Dorothy Richardson: A Biography by Gloria Fromm. Univ. of Illinois \$3.98  
Madame de Stael, Novelist: The Emergence of the Artist as Woman by Madelyn Gutwirth. Univ. of Illinois. \$4.98  
Morgan's Passing by Anne Tyler. Knopf. \$2.98  
Movers and Shakers: American Women Thinkers and Activists, 1900-1970, by June Sochen. Times (paperback) \$1.00  
Fat & Thin: A Natural History of Obesity by Anne Scott Beller. Farrar, Straus and Giroux. \$1.98  
Thanks much,

  
Helaine Harris

P.S. I noticed in the February issue of FBN that Room of One's Own listed the book Housekeeping by Mariylne Robinson, \$2.95 from Bantam coming out this month. This is a truly wonderful novel--the best new novel I've read in the past couple of years. It's a first novel which was published by Farrar, Straus in hardcover and she's not well known. All the main characters are women--two sisters and their transient aunt who is trying to care for them. It's a really powerful novel and I'm glad its out in paper because I've almost gone broke buying the hardcover edition to give to friends. Does anyone else out there have feelings about this book being special? Hope so. --Helaine

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