

Feminist Bookstore News

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THE FEMINIST BOOKSTORE NEWS is published six times a year, on or about the first of January, March, May, July, September, and November. Deadline for articles, copy, letters, ads, etc., is the fifteenth of the preceding month unless other arrangements are made. Signed articles are the responsibility of the authors; no editing is done on such work. FBN is compiled and published by Carol Seajay. Subscriptions are \$35.00 per year. (Sliding scale available to feminist bookstores.) Make checks payable to **FEMINIST BOOKSTORE NEWS**. Send subscriptions, correspondence, news, letters, ads and articles to FBN, P.O. Box 882554, San Francisco, California 94118 or phone (415) 431-2093.

THE FEMINIST BOOKSTORE NEWS is a communications vehicle for the informal network of feminist bookstores. It reaches 110 stores in the U.S. and Canada, as well as a number of libraries, women's studies departments, and feminist bookstores in Great Britain, Europe, Australia, and New Zealand.

ADVERTISING RATES are \$200 per full page, \$125 per half page. Inside back cover is \$225. Camera ready copy or layout and paste-up services available at a nominal fee. Contact FBN at P.O. Box 882554, San Francisco, California 94118 or (415) 431-2093.

BOOKS FOR REVIEW AND BOOK ANNOUNCEMENTS may be sent to FBN at P.O. Box 882554, San Francisco, California 94118. Feminist publishers are invited to write their own (short!) blurbs for listings. FBN believes that you know more clearly than we do why you choose to publish a particular book. Books published by the feminist press are listed in FBN only when FBN hears about them, so **DO** remember to send announcements. Pre-publication announcements facilitate early orders. All publishers should include bookstore terms. Please also include distributors who (will) carry the title for the benefit of small stores that order primarily from distributors. If you prefer that bookstores order directly from you, please include that information as well.

FBN welcomes letters, articles, announcements and trivia from publishers as well as bookstores. We are the left and right hands of the same goal.

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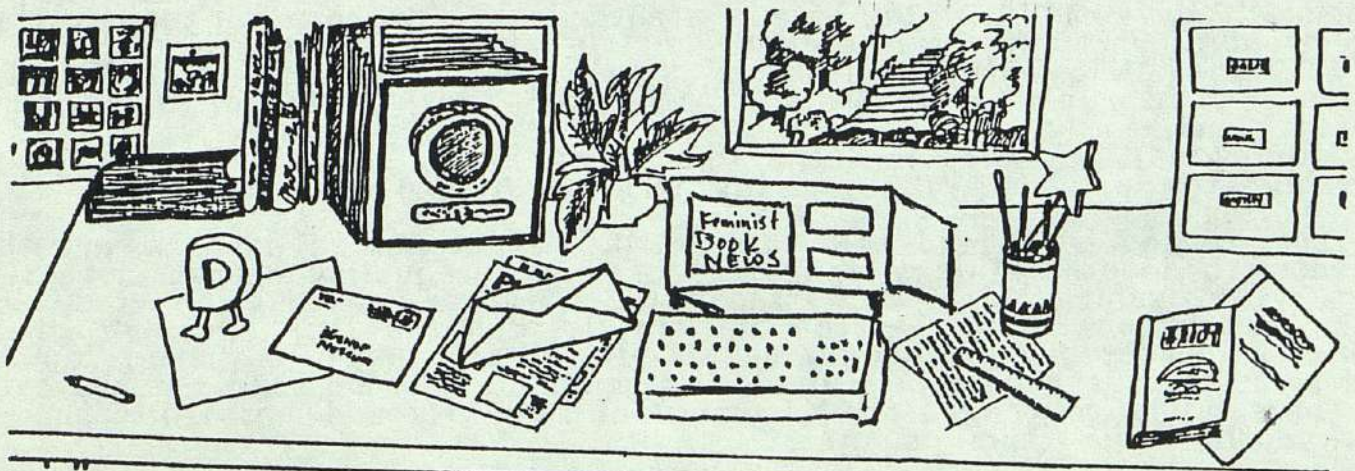
NOTES FROM THE COMPUTER TABLE

(written optimistically, sometime in early May.)

TADUM!

Oh, sweet success. What you hold in your hand is the first FBN produced primarily on a word processor/home computer. Let me sing it's praises. First off, it puts doing FBN back in the realm of possible. This lovely machine can handle the length that FBN has grown to with ease, lets me type up material as it comes in, then lets me rearrange it a more appropriate order, does a lovely version of typesetting which (should) make FBN considerably more readable than it has been in the past, finds and corrects spelling errors (I prefer to call that "traditionalizing spelling") and a lot of typos, too. Best of all, using a wordprocessor means that I can type up a draft with the information I have at hand, then when I get more info (like the bookstore discount) later, I can just slip it into the appropriate place and the machine moves all the rest of the letters around and makes it look fine. That same feature lets me change what I wrote last week (now that I finally read the book in question), lets me rewrite for clarity, and rewrite for the pleasure of a better, clearer, way to say something. And I can't begin to say what a relief that is. The pressure of trying to write camera-ready copy on the first draft on the old selectric was feeling like sticking my head in a vise every time I sat down to work. That was probably the single biggest drag in getting FBN out.

However getting to this issue has been a little slow. My original plan had been to get the last issue out, (settle into my new part-time job driving a Federal Express truck), and then spend six weeks or so figuring out which kind of computer and software to buy, then spend four weeks or so learning how to use them and then whip out an issue a month or so late. (This was in September.) It was a great plan. But reality was more interesting. And complicated. It took me more like 4 months to find software that would do all the odd things that FBN and the rest of my life wanted it to do that was also affordable. Learning to use it took more like a week and a half. That's learning to write and print. Hopefully I'll get the filing and data-base usage parts figured out fairly quickly or I won't



have labels to mail this issue out on. Your reading this page is evidence that I succeeded. For those of you who are looking into Computer Reality my new computer (actually I think of her as more of a roommate) is a KayPro 4 (400K disc drives) running Wordstar and Mailmerge. Her name is Alice, as in *Alice Through the Looking Glass* and in honor of inspiration from Alice Walker. Here's to writing through the looking glass!

July 10, 1984

Reality is SO much more interesting than fantasy. I finally understand what people mean when you call someone up (like your bank) to complain about some gargantuan mistake on your statement and they respond blithely "Oh yes, well, we've been going on computer. We'll get to that in six months or so. Don't worry about a thing." And the worst part about it is their absolute lack of concern. Like they're off in another reality.

What I've come to realize is that they are. "Converting to Computer" IS an altered state of consciousness. Like drugs and alcohol? Certainly safer in the short run (but like other forms of workaholicism, the long term studies aren't in yet.) But, on the other hand, if you are looking for a 6 to 9 month plan for escaping reality and can't afford Hawaii, consider a computer. You can do it at home, pay on time, and develop skills that might lead to an even more intense and higher paying form of alienated labor.

Seriously (?) though, all these "little things" keep happening. A classic experience: tractor feed attachment has to be attached to the printer. The directions are in four languages, none of which can I read. Eventually I find an English translation in the bottom of the box. But even after I find it, I can't make sense out of it. But it turns out that you need a "nippers" to install the tractor. And you don't happen to HAVE a "nippers". (What are "nippers"?) (At that point: What is a tractor? and why in the world do I want a tractor on a computer?) (A "tractor feed" is the gismo that feeds computer paper into the printer and keeps it aligned.) Insert a two day delay to figure out what a "Nippers" is. (Bad Joke: Q. What's a Nipper? A. "Meg Christian's cat.") and a day to find a pair to borrow. (Hell, I thought I was learning computer, not home tools and appliances!) ETC. Not to mention figuring out how to put the mailing and subscription lists on Mailmerge (a 40 hour project?), only to stumble onto access to Datastar that (seemed) to do all that much more effectively, only to get to the end of a three day marathon Datastar Study and find out that the program has this one limitation--after the info is entered, you can't print mailing labels from it. (...But there is this OTHER program, ReportStar for only \$495.00 that will take the info from DataStar and do what you want...)(*##!@@#!*) After the pulled out hair settles to the ground, I admit that learning to do DataStar was a lot more fun than getting proficient at PacMan. It just didn't get me where I wanted to go. But I didn't know how to ask the questions about would it do what I needed until I knew how to run the program. And that's how it is in Elementary ComputerLand.

But I will say that it has all been fascinating. Exploring computers has been on par with discovering life outside of the USA and with discovering sex.

All the hassles have paid off. (or will). Tractor feed paper means the freedom to do other things while my pokey letter-quality printer does it's part. The evening of the day I threw the DataStar book out the window, I picked up a job setting up the mailing list for the local women's craft store on computer via--you guessed it--DataStar. My own writing blooms under the joys of word-processing. It's worth it. To me, and I hope, over the next year, to you, as FBN comes out regularly and more fully than I could do it without the computer.

But going computer has lead to some compromises: This issue is out. But is missing many book reviews, announcements, articles, that needed to be in this issue. Learning the computer has been one thing. Getting out from under the backlog of accumulated everything else is something else. If your letter/article/book isn't included in this issue, please be patient a little longer and give it a chance to show up in the next couple issues. This issue is NEARLY up to date on the feminist-press books, but the small press published feminist books and everything else has had to wait for time to write them up and space to put them in. I have a file of would-be articles that is three inches deep. (And I decided that the only way to get this issue out was to refrain from opening it all together.) And there are numerous events that have come and gone without even a mention in the FBN. And to the women who had depended on FBN for that publicity, I am sorry that it didn't happen. Most of the time, though, FBN was able to provide mailing labels for those women to do direct mailings to the bookstores.

Keeping a sense of humor: Look for new and improved typos in FBN. Now that The Word (a spelling checking program) breezes through and catches the simple ones (ie "hte" For the), FBN and I have advanced to a new level: some of the one's I've caught are "slay" for "say" ("I'd just like to slay...") and booksore for...you got it. (A bedsore is what you get when you sleep with too many books in your bed?)

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE: August 20.

(You don't believe that? I understand your doubts, but let's go for it anyway.) I want to get a few issues out as quickly as possible to catch up with the backlog of information and to get into the swing to the new columns that different people said they would do at the bookstore meetings, and then settle down to a regular two-month pattern again.

Be assured: you really will get the issues you paid for. Even if it does takes longer than the original plan.

Keeping the faith,

Carol In Computerland

Correction:

In the article about Persephone Press in the last issue, I ran several sentences together into one and in the process the ideas ran together and lost their clarity. I meant to be saying that Michelle Cliff's *Claiming An Identity They Taught me to Despise* and Sally Gearhart and Susan Rennie's *The Feminist Tarot* were examples of the books Persephone published ("empowered into print") that reshaped the vision and consciousness of the feminist and lesbian feminist communities. Because I ran several ideas into one sentence, and then listed books that were examples of the different ideas without clearly stating which titles were examples of which ideas, it was possible to read that section as saying that Persephone conceived of the ideas and content in *Claiming an Identity* and *The Feminist Tarot*. While Persephone did think of books that needed to be written, and then did find the women to pull the books together, *Claiming an Identity They Taught Me to Despise* and *The Feminist Tarot* were not among those books. (Persephone's ability to recognize a book that needed to be written and published was another idea that was crammed into that one sentence.) I didn't mean to imply that either book was not the inspiration of its authors. Both books were offered to Persephone as completed manuscripts. I apologize for confusion and distress that resulted from my lack of clarity. --Carol Seajay

LETTERS

To Us/From Us

3/30/84

Dear Carol:

To misquote a recent ad, "WHERE'S THE F.B.N.?"

Those of us out in the backroads of America miss the contact with other store owners we get with FBN. And you do such a great job telling us of books, etc., we should get in our stores. So, I hope to see a FBN in my mailbox soon and I then will be content until I see you and everyone in Wash, DC on May 24. P.S. - I hope things are as good as B. Grier hints!

Love,

Joan -- Rubyfruit Books

(I have to add that this note came on a postcard--the picture on the front being Gladys Roy and Ivan Unger playing tennis on the wings of a bi-plane in flight. Circa 1925. Which is quite close to how I felt learning to use a computer and trying to put out an issue at the same time. It was the laugh that saved the week! Thank you! --Carol)

Celebration!

P.O. Box 13504
Austin, TX 78711
29 Sept. 1983

Dear Carol and FBN,

I appreciate your mention of our store in MS, but to be honest I think that we would have to be described as an alternative store. We're lesbians and our book focus is feminist spirituality but we do carry some wicca, tarot and herb books (and others) which would not normally be found in a strictly women's bookstore.

In April we moved from our tiny rooms upstairs to the street level space in the same building. Besides being a larger store, the access and visability are much improved.

Winifred Simon

Dear FBN,

I just had a most unpleasant jolt from our friends at Harper and Woe -- **Spiral Dance** is OSI with no plans to reprint UNLESS THEY GET HOUNDED, FLOODED WITH ORDERS, COMPLAINTS, ETC. This is one of our best and steadiest sellers, not to mention an important book! Argh!

Hint, hint, hint, if anyone has secretly warehoused 100 or so, we'll buy some.
Susanna S. (Lammas)

(They'll do it everytime: I just get the issue out and the book goes back into print. Both causes for celebration. Keep those gripes and complaints coming! --Ed.)

Gertrude Stein Memorial Bookshop c/o Anne Merrifield
1417 Monterey Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15212

Dear FBN -

Enclosed is \$30.00 for a subscription.

We are a new bookstore and are currently operating on a travelling or "floating bookshop" basis. Our first three sales have gone very well. Our sisters at Wildsisters Restaurant and Coffeehouse have kindly let us use some of their space on Tuesday evenings. The women's community here is starved for reading material and music. So we are very excited about our prospects.

Looking forward to being part of the Women's Bookstore Network.

Anne Merrifield, for the collective

January 20, 1984

Dear Carol,

I've only been meaning to write since August. Better late than ... As you can guess, I've been keeping busy. Yes, when I'm not busy with the store a nice, sweet woman called Dana occupies my time (she also is great with a hammer, good at making signs, reviews books and goes with me to conferences and sells books!)

Anyway, as the article says, the store finally got open in late August. In fact, just after the Ms. magazine article on bookstores. Thanks ever so much for mentioning the store. I had out-of-town calls, travelers and people here in town stopping by. A good response. I can imagine for bigger cities it was a fantastic boost for stores. I Now if only Ms. would repeat the listing every year.

I've gotten great response from this newspaper article which was distributed on the FSU campus and state office buildings. Many people who have come in have expected only a woman's store either because of the name or reopening talk. So I've had to stress that the store carries many varied topics. The store traffic is very connected to campus traffic and when FSU is closed, I don't see a lot of people. So I'm trying to get work out in the Tallahassee mainstream. I spent a small fortune on ads (radio, newspapers) to little avail. So now I'm concentrating on the alternative papers, flyers and a quarterly newsletter.

I'm still learning what people want. Some books I was certain would sell have sat. Also when it comes to feminist books many of the more scholarly books don't sell that well except when I go to a N.O.W. conference (as I did last weekend).

I almost called you a couple of times to ask how did you ever manage to keep up with everything (then I remembered that there were two of you in the beginning). I get overwhelmed and frustrated at times but I try to keep it in perspective. Also, it helps when I get FBN or Johncy's newsletter from Dallas and know everyone is struggling. And when it comes down to the basis, I really do love this work.

So, Barbara says you're a courier and liking that. And I'm excited to learn that you're getting a computer/word processor! Will we ever see Carol Seajay again?!?!?

Well, it's time to close and I'm off to see Helen Caldicott. Oh, we're postponing the trip to the Everglades due to lack of money. Maybe next year. In the meanwhile, Dana and I go fishing on Sundays.

I'll write again in a few months probably. Keep up the good work on FBN.

Take care - Joan

New Words
186 Hampshire Street
Cambridge, Mass. 02139 (617) 8760-5310
Dear Carol and FBN,

Here's our sub \$ plus some for the computer. I have recently been hooked into the computer world in search of an accounting software package and have decided that all software salesmen are white, male, more than half have beards, all wear suits and vests and are ignorant. Well, stupid, I guess.

We have access to a Victor 9000 and are contemplating a Solomon accounts payable package. The future is catching up to us.

We had a good end of year season (aka Christmas) and are finishing up inventory and book closing. One of the more boring aspects of business surpassed only by filing.

In April we're celebrating our tenth anniv. and our heads are full of party plans, nostalgia and, I think, relief that we really made it for a whole decade.

I think a computer for FBN is a grand idea. Word processing stuff is a real boon. I find I make fewer typos because I'm more relaxed about errors and the ease of correction of same. Good luck. small personal check is for the computer fund-- a cushion for the chair? Anyhow, good luck -
Best wishes and hugs,
Mary New Words

September 12, 1983
Feminist Bookstores News
PO Box 882554
San Francisco, CA 94118

Dear Women,

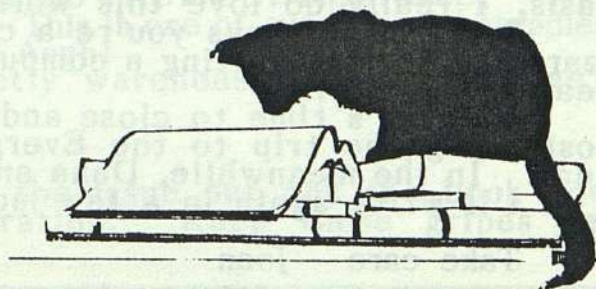
I have closed Womankind Books & Records in Santa Barbara, so please remove me from your mailing. It was sad to close the store, and the community misses it, but it frees me to pursue other things right now -- one of which is returning to graduate school. I have always enjoyed and benefited from the FBN and I wish to thank you for all your effort in putting it out.

I do have some stock left that I would like to sell. I have books, records, t-shirts, notecards, posters and buttons. I will sell them at the standard 40% discount. I will require pre-payment, but I will pay shipping costs. Would you please run such a notice in the next issue of FBN. Anyone interested should write to me and I will send them a complete list of my stock. Inquiries should be addressed to: Eva Anda, 487-D Whitman, Goleta, CA 94117.

Thank you.

In Sisterhood,

Eva Anda for Womankind Books & Records



1/12/84

Womanspirit (USPS 358-450)
2000 King Mountain Trail, S.V.
Wolf Creek, OR 97497

Dear Carol and FBN,

We can continue FBN this year. We always enjoy it.

In case you've misplaced it - here is a copy of the news I sent you in November and I do hope you'll get it into FBN in the nearest issue. And lots of gratitude for doing it:

1. **Woman Spirit** will cease publication of new issues in Summer 1984. This completes 10 years of regular quarterly publication and the schedule has been wearing us down. After the June issue (#40) our emphasis will shift to selling back issues.

We urge feminist bookstores to stock a selection of back issues. We think they will sell for you as they do for us.

We will continue our policy of full credit for returns in "new" condition -- 40% discount on retail price of \$3.00 and 6 months to pay. Please try this with us.

2. We also distribute the new and much more readable 1984 **Wemoon's Almanac**. It has a lovely orange and silver cover, pocket size -- packed with information and space for entries. It is feminist, self published by Mother Tongue Ink. It is \$6.00 retail. 40% discount/30 days or 25% consignment. Returns until August 1984 for credit if salable. Order from **Woman Spirit**.

We are also the sole source of classic **The Ancient Religion of the Great Cosmic Mother of All** by Sjøo and Mor in English speaking countries outside of Europe. Norwegian alternative press publisher is threatening to raise the price (and break our contract). We have a lot of copies with very slight damage to covers only -- and will supply these at \$4.00 to bookstore as long as we can. Suggested retail is \$7.00.

We hope that feminist bookstores will not forget us and our ten year relationship - after June 1984 please order 1) back issues 2) almanacs and 3) Ancient Religion.

Ruth and Jean Mountain Grove

Dear Carol, Dear FBN,

Thanks for your card - Coventry Books went out of business this summer. Last year I opened up a second store on the west side of town. I thought it would be a going venture and was until the shopping mall went bankrupt. So I closed it this spring. There were some legal attachments from one to the other store, so on Friday the one store closed and on Monday, the other was told to close by the courts. Within a month, eleven years of work disappeared: very quick, very legal and nothing left.

Cleveland women are also hit with the folding of **What She Wants**, our newspaper. (Eds. Note: **What She Wants** was being reorganized, last I heard.) We have no place to buy books and records, no ticket outlets, no central access to information. mmmm-scary.

Personally I'm going into my craft, bookbinding. I've been binding for several years in my spare (such as it was!) time. I love the freedom from the worries of running the store, and I love doing bookbinding. I like rare books a lot and maybe someday I'll get into that aspect of books for I honestly can't see me not in some aspect of books. But not now: I definitely need some space.

Please pass on my apology to the one or two people who got caught at the end.

Ellen Strong
Strong Bindery

Dear FBN:

River and I are late with ed. II of the Amazon Tarot, about 2-3 months behind schedule. We go to press in February at Iowa City Women's Press and are hoping for spring publication and distribution. The accompanying handbook (an expanded revised version of the 1978 *A New Women's Tarot*) will follow. We had hoped for simultaneous publication, but that is financially and gynesgetically impossible. Our news for the year is publication of Dusty Miller's Tahini cookbook and via our own mail order lesbian retail bookstore.

We distributes Oriethyla's *Lovesong for the Warriors*, Jean Sirius' little poetry gembooks: *Everyone of Us a Witch*, *Lesbian Love Poems*. Millers -- *The Magic of Tahini: Open Sesame*, Potts -- *Witches Heal: Lesbian Herbal Self-Sufficiency*. Bookstores may contact us at: Hecuba's Daughters, Inc., P.O. Box 488, Bearsville, NY 12409 and we'll be glad to send our terms letter, credit application, etc, etc.

Winter warm wishes,
Billie

Hi Carol and FBNers

Our holiday sales were good, up nearly 15% over last year, and we're in good standing now with pubs. We've started up our weekly programs again (after a hiatus in December), and I'm enclosing a copy for your information.

Here's a quick list of our hottest sellers from the women's press:
The Winged Dancer. Blazon Books in Chicago. Stores who haven't ordered this book should *gest on the stick. It's well-written, fast-paced. A lesbian adventure novel with a gorgeous cover. We've sold 50 in two months.
The Price of Salt.

Against the Season. Nalad.

Lovers in the Present Afternoon.

For Nights Like This One -- Frog in the Well.

Nights in the Underground -- Beaufort (now distr. by Kampmann) not a women's press -- but the book is a reprint of a lesbian classic.

Law of Return and Iris-- both Alyson (Carrier Pigeon)

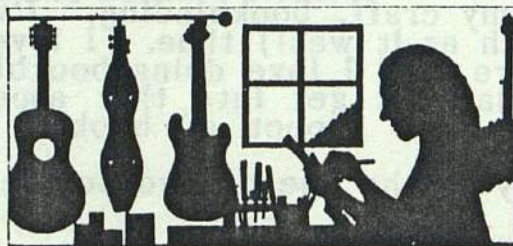
Look Me in the Eye and Out from Under -- Spinsters.

Burning -- JH Press (by lesbian playwright Jane Chambers).

Much love and sisterly wishes for a prosperous '84.

Linda

Women & Children First
922 W. Armitage, Chicago, IL 60614



11/4/83
Silkwood Books
633 Monroe Avenue
Rochester, NY 14607

Dear FBN,

We are a new women's bookstore having just celebrated our first birthday in Oct. FBN is a valued tool in our operations. I noticed you don't have a "must avoid" column; if you ever do I would like to mention a little book which sounded innocent in the flyer sent to us. The book is **Desire to Live Again** by Constance Casey -- Lyon Books in Phoenix, Arizona. The book written in 1983, manages to lower lesbian consciousness by 20 years. I've enclosed pages from the book -- we are stuck, prepaid -- and we refuse to sell the books. I don't think even the "boys" would try to market this book for lesbian readers. What a word processor will do for money!

Keep up the good work ...

Silkwood Books
Linda Pancoast

PS: Thought you might enjoy a copy of a mailing we do every 2-1/2 months - really helps generate sales.

May 21, 1984

On Our Backs
P.O. BOX 421916
San Francisco, CA 94142
(415) 751-7341

Dear Carol:

Below is the announcement we would like listed in your bookstore publication:

On Our Backs is the long-awaited, national sex magazine for adventurous lesbians. Our intent is to express sexual diversity with no taboos.

Our debut summer issue will be approximately 48 pages in length, 8-1/2 x 11 inches in size, and will contain erotic stories and poems, photos and graphics, articles, cartoons, personal ads and business advertisements.

On Our Backs is a quarterly, and will be sold in bookstores and by individual order. The retail cost will be \$4.00. Our first printing will be 5,000 copies.

Our terms for the debut issue are a 35% discount for bookdealers with a "return masthead of unsold copies for credit" policy. We will bill quarterly. Payment for the debut issue will be due ten days after receipt for your second issue order. Minimum order is ten copies. To order simply send your bookstore order form with name, address and number of copies to PO Box 421916, San Francisco, CA 94142.

We look forward to hearing from you soon, and welcome any inquiries for more information or ordering specifications."

Sincerely,
Deby Sundahl, Editor and Publisher

10/12/84

Dear Carol:

Thanks for all the coverage of the dispute. That's probably more direct information in one place than any other publication put out.

One correction: we did change our name, but not exactly as you printed. The store is now A Woman's Place, we dropped the ICI part. When we formed our CA corporation we wanted to use the name *AWP. But in CA that had already been taken as a corporate name. We don't know by whom, but in any case, (we had) to pick a name for the corporation we loved "Women & Children First." So that's what we took. However we have an official/legal DBA of A Woman's Place.

So if you can print a correction, please do. You got the women in Chicago a bit excited with the news.

How's it going with FBN? Do you need some help?
Darlene

The Feminist Bookshop
315 Balmain Road
Lilyfield NSW 2040
Telephone: 810 2666

Some interesting Australian feminist books:

"For Love or Money" - pictorial listing of women and work in Australia/by Megan McMurdey, Jeni Thornley and Margot Oliver/published by Penguin.

(full length film of same name available for purchase - contact Filmmakers Co-op, St. Peters Lane, Darlinghurst, N.S.W. Australia)

"Not the Marrying Kind" - single women in Australia/by Robyn Penman and Yvonne Stolk/published by Penguin.

"The Heartache of Motherhood"/by Joyce Nicholson/published by Penguin.

"We are bosses ourselves" - aboriginal women in Australian ed. Fay Gale/published by Institute of Aboriginal Studies.

"Gender at Work"/by Rosemary Pringle and Ann Game/published by Allen and Unwin (sex roles in the work place). "Raising the Roof, adventures of a woman carpenter/by Deanne Taylor and Carole Stewart/published by Hale and Ivemonger (book for teenage kids).

"Deanne and Sue Go Building" by Deanne Taylor and Carole Stewart. Picture story book for younger kids about 2 women building a house in New Zealand/published by Hale and Ivemonger.

Thought these may be of interest to some bookstores.

The Feminist Bookshop/Lilyfield

THE BOOKSTORE MEETINGS & THE ABA

A One Woman Report

Susanna Sturgis
Lammas Books. Washington, DC

I am sitting down to start this "report" knowing full well that I'm not going to get it done tonight -- however, I know my own avoidance tactics well enough to realize that I HAVE TO START NOW or it'll never get done. Needless to say, we have survived our first ABA -- I am now scheming to get to San Francisco next year, half for ABA and half because I've never been there. And half (this is feminist mathematics) because I figure you Bay Area girls will hostess a feminist bookstore meeting??

The meeting was wonderful -- I'm going to attach my workshop reports so that you can combine them with other women's reports*, so this is general impressions time. In attendance at various times were Womonyre (Kiriyo), Silkwood (Linda and Judy), Womanbooks (Karyn), Pandora Book Peddlers (Vivian), Women's Book Connection (Judy and Rachel), Gertrude Stein Memorial Bookshop (Felice and Fran), 31st Street Bookstore (Amy), Lammas (Mary and me), Charis (Kay and Linda), Rubyfruit (Joan), Women and Children First (Ann), Antigone (Edie), A Woman's Place (Darlene), and Nancy Braus, who used to work at DorrWar in Providence and is about to open a feminist/leftists/left/alternative store in southern Vermont. The group from Norfolk, Virginia, had car trouble and didn't make it. So we were a pretty east coast group but very mixed by size, age (longevity?), etc.

You will probably get reports from other participants (Ann Christopherson of Women and Children First is taking charge of recruiting list compilers for FBN -- I volunteered for science fiction once I heard that Paula Wallace was getting out of the biz). My general impression was that we were as a group

in good shape, that we are serious about both financial matters and taking care of ourselves. One area to work on that I don't think we did enough with it) was organizing for maximum clout with publishers, ABA, et al. We didn't do any organized press release at ABA -- I took care to identify myself as a feminist-bookstore person in all my dealings with publishers and distributors and assume others were doing the same. (I also distributed a good number FBN rate cards, especially to small press types. Hope it has some effect. You will probably notice if it does because all the cards had your home address on them instead of the FBN box number!) Some ideas that were mentioned, however: (1) getting a core feminist book list into the ABA "Basic Books" guide; (2) feminist input into ABA programs, especially the booksellers schools; (3) educating publishers about the importance of trade paperbacks in the feminist bookstore market. I'm curious to learn what our folks are doing, if anything, in their regional booksellers associations (Karyn London is a director of the N.Y. one) and in other regional groups, like the nascent progressive bookstore alliance in New England.

*At the time this issue went to press, Susanna's article was the only one I'd received, so I'm publishing all of her workshop notes. The rest of the reports will probably get here the day after FBN goes to the printer and they'll be in the next issue.

Various Observations:

Hardcover vs. trade paper. This is bugging the hell out of me, particularly when hard covers never make it into paper at all (Judith Arcana's *Every Mother's Son*, (forinstance). I talked with one of the editors from Beacon Press who pointed to *Pure Lust* and advance orders for the Judy Grahn book they're doing as evidence that all the complaints about hard covers from feminist (and other, I assume) stores were so much hot air. Another annoyance at the moment is St. Martin's, which seems to be picking up feminist science fiction authors (Joanna Russ, Octavia Butler, and now Elizabeth Lynn in August) and publishing their books in cloth only. We've sold a few Russ, we'll probably sell more Lynn, but we can only sell 2 or 3 Butler. Since the SF market is also a paperback (mass market) market, I wonder if Clay's Ark will make it into paper at all.



Susanna's Scheme to Improves the Deplorable State of Feminist Graphics

Movement In Black comes with a title you can't even see. Whoever is doing covers for Alyson has a terminal case of the cutes. Nalad -- forget it. How about the annual FBN award for best gay/feminist press cover? Award to be judged by a panel of graphic designers and bookstore workers -- i.e., artistic interests balanced by "does it sell books?"+

An ABA Story

We thought we were the only bookstore in the country that was having problems with E. P. Dutton. We got put on pro forma two or three years ago then, whenever we sent in a prepaid order, we wouldn't get our books. Twice we went through the whole routine -- call 6 weeks after the order was placed, get told that they had no record of the order, send them photocopies of the (cashed) checks. The whole thing was so frustrating that we stopped carrying any Dutton books we couldn't get from distributors. then they acquired Dial For Young Readers just as we were starting to build up our kids section. ARRGGH. Mary dealt with their credit manager, a fellow named Arthur Prick (excuse me, that was PRINK), who strongly implied that we were just too insignificant to deal with -- didn't have a high enough Dunn & Bradstreet rating (seriously!). The word was that this was the kind of snafu that could get settled at ABA, so before we could ruin our entire convention in anticipating a confrontation with Dutton, Mary and I went to visit. It was amazing. We met the woman rep for our area, with whom we got along fine and who told us that Dutton had thrown out the old credit department and started doing their own shipping because their old shipping service was so screwed up. All this took about ten minutes, including placing two orders.

Well, it turned out that everyone I talked to in the following 24 hours had had horrendous problems with E.P. I met one of our folks taking a break on a sofa near the bathrooms -- she said she had to talk to Dutton but had a block against finding their booth on the convention map. then (this was the good part) at the aforementioned party I was sitting at a table with several women, including Chris (sp?) Kleindeinst from Left Bank in St. Louis. She had a Dutton story: about how she got a call from some hysterical boy in the Dutton credit dept. about how the store was on hold and they better pay their bills, etc., etc. -- at the time Left Bank didn't owe Dutton anything. She tried to explain, the credit person got very abusive, and she finally hung up on him. Later his supervisor called up to apologize -- said that before the old credit people left, they had dumped all the files on the floor and that everything was a real mess.

Makes all our lockouts/lock-ins/collapses look sorta tame, don't it?

+I think an award with a joint panel is a wonderful idea. Actually, I have a few covers I'd like to nominate for the booby prize. But enough people hate me already....so I'll tell you what, someone/s who are NOT FBN organize the award and I'll announce the good (and bad?) news in FBN. It could be set up in conjunction w/ ABA, have some press releases and get the feminist press some free promo & publicity? Hmmmmmm THE PUBLISHERS could do the footwork on this one and let the booksellers (& artists do the judging?) (And could be in the position to scratch my booby prize ideal) Sounds good to me.***** C.

Under-Recognized Bookie Dept.

Enclosed is an article from the Washington Blade on gay presses and bookselling -- complete with picture and quotes from the Lammas bookie. Kent from Lambda talked about stocking everything that could possibly have a gay angle -- various informal conversations arose among the feminist bookstore women about what we carry and what we don't. This is another area I'd like to see discussed in FBN: how do we draw the line(s) between "censorship" and responsibility, judgment, or whatever you want to call it? I COULD blame everything on lack of money or lack of space (Mary and I were wondering by the way if, now that Djuna is no more, Lammas is the smallest feminist bookstore), but I know damn well that there are some books I wouldn't buy if I had all the money and all the space in the world. "Feminist" even more than "gay" is a word with plenty of gray area. Yet I understand the points made by one store owner, who stocks anything written by women who call themselves feminist . . .

Well, I'm going to wake up the the morning and start writing up my illegible notes. OK? We have an Alix Dobkin concert tomorrow night, and a "separatist sunday" potluck discussion at noon. As if my energy level weren't high enough already!

FEMINIST BOOKSTORE MEETING, MAY 24-25, 1984

Naturally, this being a feminist meeting, we didn't exactly follow the schedule. Usually one workshop was held in each time slot because no one wanted to miss it. The whole gang hadn't been in the first-day meeting room ten minutes before we were pulling the chairs into a circle.

Feedback For FBN

I made up a handout based on your notes and gave a summary of same. As mentioned before Ann Christopherson (Women & Children First) was taking names of volunteers for the various list. Nobody wants you to quit! I emphasized the need for all kinds of information, from booklists to store anecdotes. A couple of ideas thrown out: FBN as our tool for lobbying publishers (mostly mainstream publishers, I think) and in order to keep us all informed of the ongoing "state of the feminist-bookstore economy."

This is a little aside: Mary and I went up to Philadelphia a month or so ago for a mid-atlantic Booksellers Association, Meeting on the Booksellers Order Service (BOS) and had a chance to drop by Giovanni's Room for a little while. I was most surprised to see FBN offered for sale on the periodical rack. Is this done elsewhere? Is it a good idea?* I began thinking of all the things I wouldn't write that Lambda Rising and Common Concerns might read (mainly financial and ethical stuff), and when I added the general public I got writer's block. It also reminded me of the histrionics that happened after Women in Print when all those non-bookstore women leaped to

-----*Seemed like an interesting idea at the time. Arleen wrote saying that she thought that there was an over-the-counter market for the likes of FBN, I was looking for inspiration and vision, at the time (still am, in fact) and decided to try it and sent her five copies on consignment. If they're still there, it looks like there's no such market. Never know til you try, etc. --Carol *****

conclusions based on their unfamiliarity with the daily reality of feminist-bookstore workers. Anyway, the feedback workshop was more a presentation than a workshop. I hope it drummed up some volunteers . . .

Introductions

Naturally (once again) we introduced ourselves a lot, trying always to keep in mind that we are women and not bookstores. It's a fine line. During intros, we asked ourselves what issues/problems were most on our minds, and these were mentioned:

- Cash flow problems ¶
 - Undercapitalization ¶
 - Partners who can no longer work together
 - Too high a payroll and/or too many paid workers
 - Too high inventories and how to reduce them
- ¶ the need for financial planning

These issues -- how to avoid them and how to deal with them -- came up often throughout our two days together.

Bringing Money Into The Business

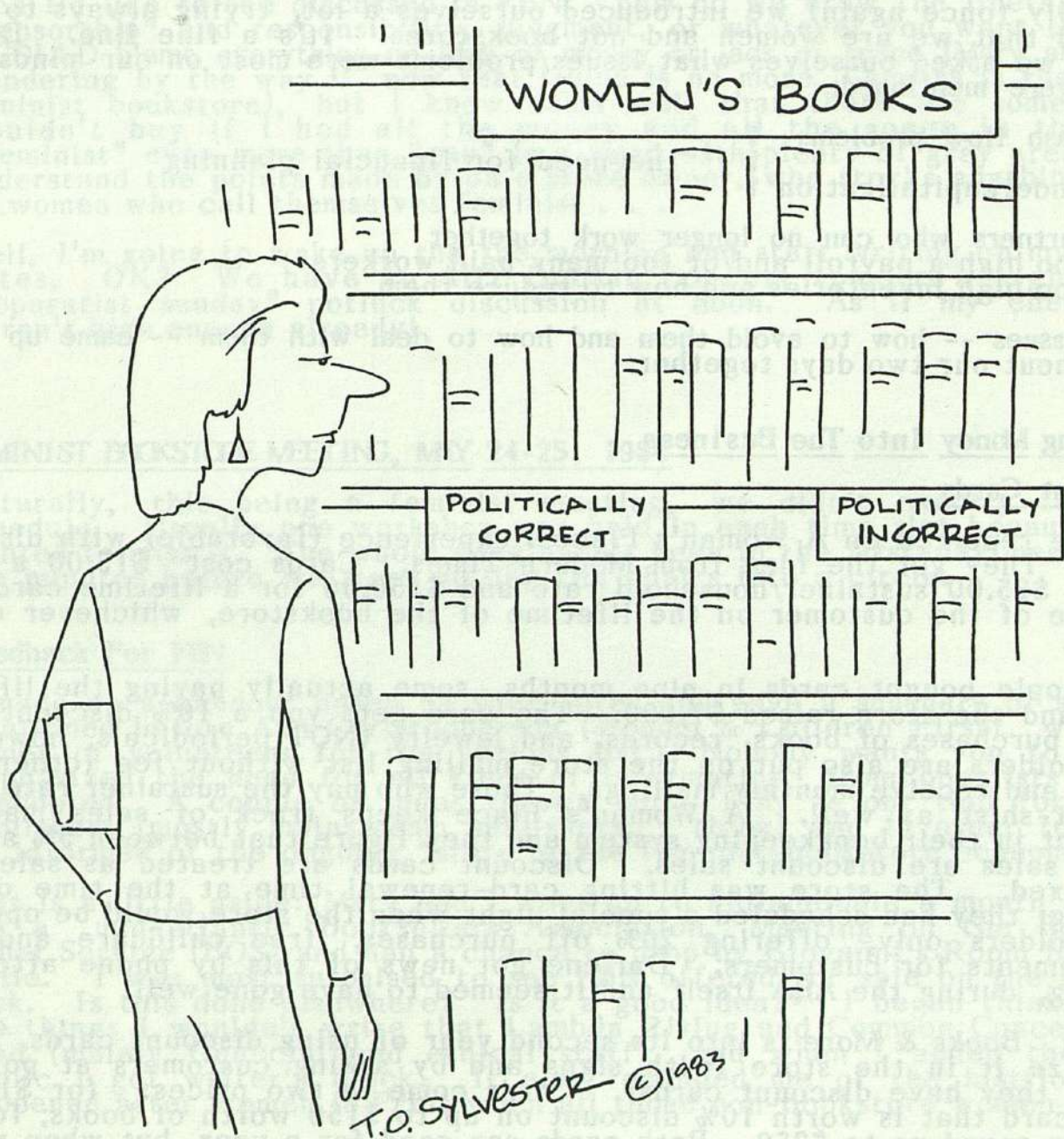
Discount Cards

Darlene reported on A Woman's Place's experience (favorable) with discount cards. They got the idea from Modern Times. Cards cost \$15.00 a year, with a \$25.00 sustainer/household rate and \$150.00 for a lifetime card (the lifetime of the customer on the lifetime of the bookstore, whichever comes first).

500 people bought cards in nine months, some actually paying the lifetime rate, and the store raised \$7,500. The card gets you a 10% discount on a year's purchases of books, records, and jewelry (NOT periodicals, however). Card holders are also put on the store mailing list without fee (others pay \$3.00) and receive monthly mailings. Those who pay the sustainer rate get a store t-shirt as well. A Woman's Place keeps track of sales made at discount in their bookkeeping system and they figure that between 5% and 7% of all sales are discount sales. Discount cards are treated as sales and are taxed. The store was hitting card-renewal time at the time of our meeting; they had scheduled a special night when the store would be open for card-holders only, offering 20% off purchases, free childcare and free refreshments for customers. Darlene got news of this by phone after our meeting, during the ABA itself and it seemed to have gone well.

Charis: Books & More is into its second year of using discount cards. They publicize it in the store (with signs and by asking customers at point of sale if they have discount cards). Cards come in two prices: for \$12 you get a card that is worth 10% discount on up to \$150 worth of books; for \$20 you can spend up to \$350. Both cards are good for a year, but when you've used yours up you can buy another one. They stop selling discount cards between September 1 and January 1, but if you have a card that isn't used up yet, you can use it during those months.

Room of One's Own has been using discount cards for 5 years. They have a separate key on their register for discount sales.



At dinner on Sunday night Mary asked Darlene and Linda (Charis) for more details on the bookkeeping involved. I listened to part of this conversation since I was in the middle of the table - then lost interest because the procedures seemed unnecessarily complicated. I didn't see why we couldn't treat discount cards the way we treat gift certificates (which are sort of cards worth 100% discount!) -- treating cards sold as (taxable) books, then not taxing the discounted part of the customer's sale. For more details here, you're gonna have to talk to the bookkeeper!

Sales

To reduce inventory and/or get a shot in the cash flow. Not to mention making customers happy.

A Woman's Place has a year-round sale, their "Annual Red Dot Sale." They pull cards for the serious non-sellers at inventory time, then mark them with red stickers, which means that the book is 30% off. A counter code is kept to make sure that no one is putting red dots on COLOR PURPLE, etc. (This kind of thing has happened enough to make the extra precaution worthwhile.) The red dots, which are put on the spines of books, are also used to guide store staff in pulling books for returns.

Lammas at end-of-year physical inventory pulls all books that haven't sold one copy in the previous calendar year (exceptions at discretion of staff). These go onto a special shelf and are marked at half-price. Our big sale, modeled on New Words' and now held at our (early August) anniversary, offers 15% off on books, periodicals, and records. We stock up for the sale, so it isn't really for inventory reduction. It lasts for two days. Sales do not fall off either before or after the sale - so far they haven't anyway.

"Friends of . . ." Programs

A Woman's Place has structured a non-profit arm, based on the fact that 30% of the store space is "community space" -- not used for retail sales but for childcare, community hangout, prison project, doing mailings, etc. (This structure was complex and probably has to be done just right to avoid legal complications -- I can't make enough sense out of my notes to summarize it in detail.) The end result is that the store can get non-profit rates at conferences, etc., where they sell books, apply for grants, etc.

Women's Book Connection also has a "Friends of . . ." non-profit group that has successfully applied for grants to produce readings and other programs in the store

Other Plans for Bringing Money In

Marking up remainders to cover markdowns of sale books.

Readings and signings: generally agreed that these do not make money, should be seen more as community services, generators of good will.

Rummage sales.

Selling (donated) used books.

Auction of signed copies of books.

Book tables at conferences/on the road sales. These have worked for some. Only caution is to be sure that they are cost-effective.

In-store programs. Did Kay Hagen give you info about the journal workshop she has been doing?

Dances. These can make money, especially if you're located in an area where not much else is going on.

The great Lammas 10th anniversary concert. Made between \$5-6,000 but took about six months' planning and work. Helped to finance our computer and some inventory expansion. Our feeling is that you can put as much work into many small, scattered events that don't make 1/10th as much money, so don't be afraid of the time involved.

Take advantage of agency plans and special discounts from publishers, e.g., buy non-returnable when you can.

Getting loans from women in the community.

Opening a Feminist Bookstore

(I think Vivian of Pandora will be reporting more fully on this. This is the stuff I jotted down while eating most wonderful Italian food and slurping grease on my notes.)

Network With Other Stores for Counsel

Read everything! (meaning FBN, PW, etc., not all the books in the store).

\$\$ -- don't overcommit money; consider the time as well as the money involved in projects.

Selling at events before you have space -- builds up inventory. Gertrude Stein in Pittsburgh does all of their ordering from distributors at this point. (Aside: A certain feminist publisher has become decidedly less absolutist on the much-debated point of "you should always order from publishers>")

One new storekeeper took no salary at all for the first year and now takes a percentage of the week's receipts (15%, I think). If receipts are low, she doesn't take anything. Older stores, here and in other workshops (see especially Charis' workshop on working together), stressed the importance of salaries, benefits if possible, and other ways of taking care of ourselves.

Borrowing -- borrowing from banks is mostly a fantasy. Borrowing from women in the community had been done successfully by several stores (including Lammas). One store with a local feminist credit union borrowed as individuals --- regulations, I believe, prevented the store from borrowing as a business, but the credit union people knew what was going on.

Inventory -- keep a close eye on it. Stores with huge inventories tend to find that (one store's figures) 15% of it moves and 85% of it doesn't. Booksellers as poets dept.: The 85% that doesn't move was referred to as "dogs," which led to some rather bizarre behavior at the diner table, i.e., feminist bookstore workers barking loudly at each other. Another workshop revealed the idea that store shelves are like apartment buildings, and books that don't pay the rent get evicted. We are a heartless crew.

to a better location, advertising, changing stock emphasis to reflect changing demand from customers.) And that they had already returned to the publishers all the dead stock that was returnable, had done sales on the rest and were clear of the "junk" that had accumulated, leaving them with a "clean" functional inventory. None of this is covered in this article.

These are all proposals for getting out of serious trouble, not for regular operating realities. Some of these proposals work only on a long term carefully planned basis. To put them into effect without a well-thought out long-range plan would be to put your store in an even worse position and to possibly do serious harm to our publishing and distribution networks, which is to hurt every other store around the country. My tone in the writing is light. The responsibility isn't. Your first approach should be to cut your overhead expenses wherever possible and clean up your inventory. Only after accomplishing this should you consider the following.

INCREASING YOUR INVENTORY

If you are in the position where your inventory can't generate sales that will cover your replacement cost and your operating expenses (and they're already as low as you can make them) AND you have a community that will buy more books if they are available, and/or more of your community will come in and buy books if you have a larger (more complete, more up-to-date) inventory, then you need to find a way to increase your inventory. Figure out how much inventory you need, at what rate of turnover, to support yourself. If you always wanted to go to salary, include that, too. Figure how much money you need to increase the inventory to that level and get it.

Sleep Well at Night Methods:

1) Get a major donation, with no strings attached, from your fairy-dyke mother (it has been known to happen, but not often).

2) Fundraisers. Dances, parties, picnics, concerts anything that creates enough more money than it costs in time and energy to be worthwhile, keeping in mind the amount you need to raise. (i.e. a bake sale that nets \$150

won't do it. A Cris Williamson concert that nets \$6000 would be worth it. Everywoman's Bookstore in San Rafael did this 2-3 times before they closed).

3) Memberships. Sell "memberships" to your community. If a benefit of the membership is a discount (10%) on books, the price of the membership has to be as much or more than 10% of the average annual purchase of a member, keeping in mind that members getting a discount may buy more of their books from you than previously which increases your sales. Membership discounts will also affect your cost of goods. What memberships get you is cash up front with which to buy stock. R&B hasn't yet implemented a membership program. Charis Books/Atlanta, A Room of One's Own/Madison and Modern Times/SF have memberships w/ discounts. Look for an article in the next FBN.

4) Loans. R&B borrowed \$11,000 to move and buy inventory. They borrowed from individuals at 12% to be paid back, that they found by printing a brochure (write them for copies. R&B, 524 15th Ave. East, Seattle 98112) and circulating to their community and by making alot of phone calls. Judy pointed out that this would be harder for feminist stores than for them. (women generally have less money, etc.)

They recently renegotiated most of these loans to an additional year, with a plan to make interest payments only for the first and second years, with principals to be paid in the third year.

THIS IS NOT A STOP GAP MEASURE.

5) Donations. You have more likelihood of success if you can make a deal with a non-profit umbrella organization that can give you the option of accepting tax-deductible donations. Again, a brochure, to their mailing list and alot of phone calls. This raised \$2000.

If you don't have the woman power to do this kind of fundraising, it is ethical and common practice in the world to "hire" someone else to represent you, make the calls, go door-to-door, whatever, and pay them a percentage of what they collect.

Deficit Buying

Or how to stay awake at night without No-Doz.

Usually this happens accidentally and/or without any planning. You just wake up one day and discover that you're on hold with half or more of your creditors and have no money to pay them and given average daily sales, there isn't going to be money to pay them any time soon. A lot of stores realize this just before they start getting put on hold, but in either case, you've been engaging in deficit buying without planning and the suggestions above and below will help get you out.

Theoretically a store could choose to do deficit buying to a scale that would give a functional inventory at which level they could replace their inventory and pay off their debt load over a 6-12 month period of time. On a much smaller scale, healthy expanding stores are regularly buying more stock than their open to buy would allow for, because they know they can sell it by the time the invoice is due. In this way, they expand their stock in a way that is healthy and satisfactory for them, for their publishers and their distributors. But Deficit Buying, intentionally or "accidentally" is a major commitment and requires a lot of planning and energy to get out of. In many situations it can be done. In the short run, it can be harmful to publishers. In the long run, it is better to pay a feminist press little by little over time than never at all. (i.e. you declare bankruptcy and close) that much is clear. If you are planning deficit buying, do it at the expense of the corporations, not feminist and movement presses.

Getting Out of Deficit Buying.

1) Juggling the Holds:

First and foremost you must stay alive if you are going to pay off your debts. Staying alive means both being open and having stock on your shelves. Good Stock. Current stock. The new titles and the books women want to read. Dead stock isn't going to do it.

So you have to keep your access to books open:

a) Distributors give the most access to the widest variety of books, so get those accounts clear, first and keep them open. (i.e. you can get a Dell title from a distributor, but you cannot ever get H&R from Dell.)

b) Rotate who you're on hold with: i.e., pay off RH. Buy a supply of books from RH, let that account go on hold while you pay off H&R, then lay in a stock of H&R titles. Then let H&R go back on hold while you pay off Norton, etc. Some stores have rotated distributors this way. Sadly, too many straight stores function on this system all the time.

2) Make a Re-Payment Plan.

Spread it out over a year or more, if you have to.

Sort your "outstandings" and your "holds" into different classes. For example, distributors that you use often and well go in the first group. Second are publishers whose books you need and want but aren't sold through distributors. Third are publishers who have some titles you want that aren't available from your distributors. Last, obscure publishers whose titles you can get along without for a time.

Include your politics in your plan. I.e., major corporate publishers aren't going to live or die on what you owe them. But what you owe and pay feminist and movement presses can make a lot of difference.

3) Develop a Relationship with your Creditors.

One phone call is worth a lot of letters and worth the price. Tell your creditors your situation and that you have created a plan for how to get out of it. Tell them what you can pay them AND PAY IT. Never promise what you can't pay. That destroys credibility you are re-creating.

If you call up with a repayment plan to offer, you may be able to work out a better plan to mutual satisfaction. Your creditor much prefers you to be open and repaying than closed and defaulting. They may have useful suggestions and/or alternative plans born of much experience. Maybe you can work out an arrangement with a distributor in which you can buy \$200 of books monthly if you pay \$300 a month, the \$100 to go against your accumulated balance.

Talk to the same person every time. In corporations, stores are usually assigned alphabetically or geographically. Find out who your person is and talk to them each time. Mail payments to their attention. (Send them an invitation to your store's birthday party?) Keep them informed and up to date. If you can't make a scheduled payment, let them know before it is due.

4) Once your credibility is re-established, you may be able to change your status, i.e. after making regular payments for 4 months following all the guidelines in #3, R&B phoned up all their creditors and asked that, given their regularity in making payments and their proven commitment to re-payment, could they place an order for Christmas stock. Half the companies said "yes". And they were off "hold" with them and continuing to make payments on past balances.

THE SUPPORTED BOOKSTORE

Even after all your best efforts, it may just be that your community can't support a feminist bookstore (replacement cost of books and overhead) for any number of good reasons: the community is too small, the price of rent for commercial property is inflated or has too much demand on it. But you and your community still want a bookstore. Then you have to create a regular, on-going support system for the store and include that work in the work of the store. Memberships might do it. Regular fundraisers are more likely. Do the annual Halloween dance, let the solstice crafts fair or spring flea market be an annual event that the whole community looks forward to and saves their "fleas" to contribute to it. Create good will and make it an event that everyone comes to and wants to support.

Part III: Continuing.

Keeping a financially troubled bookstore afloat is a long and hard task. To succeed, that is to get back onto the black, you need a good plan, perseverance, and a lot of recognition of the small successes that come along the way. But it is possible. This article was written in February. Red and I talked in July, and she said, "It's working." In August, R&B broke even! And that is their first books-in-the-black month since December of 1980. They are back to being on 30 days with most of the publishers and are almost entirely finished with their repayment plan. Quite an awesome accomplishment! Not that they are finished with all this.... They are still paying interest on the loans. And have to pay those loans back over the next two years. And they'll be able to do that.



LAMMAS SUMMER SALE A SUCCESS

Inspired by New Word's (Boston) talk of their annual anniversary sale at the 1981 Women In Print Conference, Lammas (Washington, DC) decided to try it. Last year they held a sale at 10% off on all books and records and they were pleased and decided to do it again. This year they combined the sale with their tenth anniversary bash (always a good weekend in terms of sales and good will and good times for Lammas) and did \$5600 in sales in two days. Their gross sales last year were about \$85,000, which is a monthly average of about \$7000, which gives a good picture of the value of a \$5600 boost in the middle of what the trade refers to as "a generally slow season". More good news is that they watched for sales to drop off before and after the sale both years and found that sales stayed pretty steady up to and after the sale, so the sale seems to have created book sales rather than rearranged them into a lower profit margin category. Last year, the two separate events (the sale and the anniversary party) combined to total of \$4600, so this year's sale was an even bigger success than last year.

More good news from Lammas is that their bills are basically paid up, thanks to the influx of \$\$ into the cash flow via the sale, unheard of in mid-summer.

And even more exciting, Lammas has increased their inventory in the last 12 months by 100% (AND has their bills paid up!) and expects their growth to put them "in the six-figure category" this year. The key to all this, Mary Farmer says is financial planning. Last summer, in a too-short talk Mary told me "even when you think you know what's going on in your store...and you really are accurate, there's more to know." That she had hired a financial consultant and they were just beginning to work. This growth seems to be the result of that work. Now the task seems to be to get Mary, or Susanna or their consultant to write up the details of WHAT they are doing differently that is working so well for the rest of us.

--Info from Susanna Sturgis and Mary Farmer/ Lammas Women's Shop.

THREE YEARS AT SHEBA PRESS

"Sheba Feminist Publishers is a women-only collective, who formed three years ago (April-1980) to publish new work by women in this country (England) and overseas, and to produce books which look interesting and lively, as well as being innovative reading.

To date we have published seventeen books, including an anthology of short stories, many of which are by writers breaking into print for the first time, various children's books, as well as theoretical works on sex and sexuality, such as *Rocking the Cradle: Lesbian Mothers*, and *For Ourselves, A Handbook on Female Sexuality*. We like to vary our output, so that feminist cartoon books stand alongside rather more serious studies on women in other countries, with visual appeal a strong element throughout.

There are seven of us on the collective. Only one of us is black. We are currently engaged in encouraging more black women to join us on the collective, and in paying more attention to black women's creativity. Future books will reflect this.

We are all part of the women's liberation movement in this country, and we hope our books both reflect the ideas of the movement, whilst reaching out to women who would not consider themselves feminists. One aim is to sell our books on supermarket shelves...But the main one is keep challenging the dominant male publishing ideology which says women cannot and should not get themselves into print. Our publishing house, and others like it, prove just how wrong that is.

-Info from Sigrid Nielsen
Lavender Menace Books
Edinburgh, Scotland

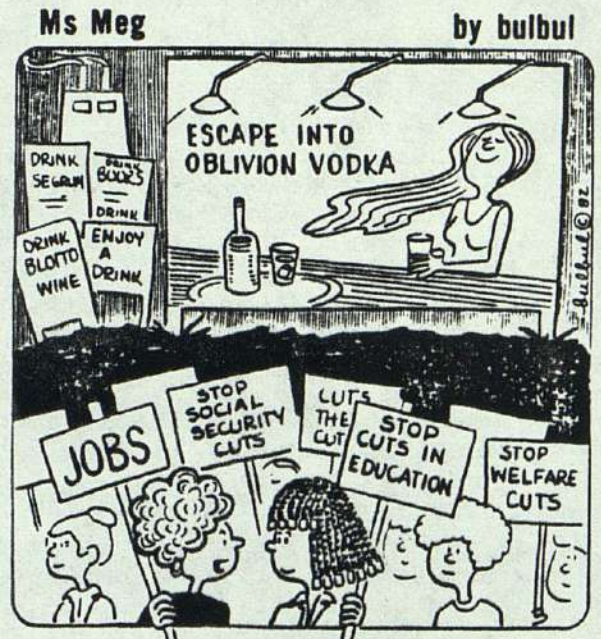
In the US, Sheba Press books are available at Bookpeople.

MID-WEST WOMEN-IN-PRINT CONF.

Preliminary planning has begun for the next Midwest Women-In-Print conference to be held in Madison in Spring of 1984. FBN will have info, or write to ARO³, above. Maybe with some urging, they'd let the rest of us come, too?

BOOKLIST:

WOMEN AND DRUG/ ALCOHOL ABUSE



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

If you don't already have a section on women and drug/alcohol abuse, you might want to start one. Methinks this will be one of the major issues of the next couple years in our communities. There are a number of good books available from small and mainstream presses. Women's presses are just beginning to attend to the need for women-centered, women-identified books.

Least you think this isn't really very important, or that alcohol isn't really a problem in your community, keep these facts in mind: That alcoholism affects just as many women as men--it's just that treatment programs for women don't get funded and the studies almost always exclude women. That only 4% of alcoholics look like the skid row stereotypes. That 30% of lesbian women will identify a drinking problem in themselves at some point in their lives. That every alcoholic affects the lives of 4 or 5 other people. That these figures don't include women addicted to or abusing street and prescription drugs. That co-alcoholism (enabling) is as dangerous a disease as alcoholism. And that people who grew up in alcoholic homes are increasingly looking to see how the family/relationship models learned there are affecting their adult relationships.

Comments are included on the books where the title isn't self-explanatory.

Invisible Alcoholics: Women and Alcohol Abuse in America. Marian Sandmaeir. McGraw-Hill. 4.95.

The Female Fix. Muriel Nellis. Viking. 3.95

Shaman Woman, Mainline Lady. Cynthia Palmer & Michael Horowitz, eds. Morrow 12.50
oversize paperback.

Lesbian Health Matters! O'Donnell, et al. Santa Cruz Women's Health Collective.
Chapter on alcoholism/co-alcoholism. Avail. BP 3.75

The Way Back: Stories of Gay and Lesbian Alcoholics. Whitman Walker Clinic. 2335-
18th Street, NW, Washington, DC. \$5.40

End of the Rainbow. Mary Crenshaw. Bantam. 2.95. (Valium addiction.)

I'm Dancing As Fast As I Can. Barbara Gordon. Bantam. 3.50. (Prescription drug
addiction.)

Lady Sings the Blues. Billie Holiday. Avon. 2.25.

Buried Alive: The Biography of Janis Joplin. Myra Friedman. Bantam. 3.95.

A True Story of a Drunken Mother. Nancy Hall. Daughters. 3.50. (Daedalus may still
have some left, otherwise unavailable at the moment.)

- The Cracker Factory. Joyce Rebeta-Burditt. Bantam. 2.95. Novel. Alcoholism.
- I'm Black and I'm Sober. Chaney Allen. CompCare. 6.95. PO Box 27777, Minneapolis, Minn. 55427.
- Sober, Clean, and Gay and Gay Drinking Problem. John Michael. CompCare Publications PO Box 27777, Minneapolis, Minn. 55427 or 2415 Annapolis Lane, Suite 140, Minneapolis, Minn. 55441. Both 6.95.
- Out From Under: Sober Dykes and Our Friends. Jean Swallow. Spinsters. 7.95.
- Another Chance: Hope and Health for the Alcoholic Family. Sharon Wegscheider. Science and Behavior Books. 701 Welch Rd. Palo Alto, Ca. 94306. \$12.95 cloth. (One of the few books that deals with co-alcoholism in a significant way. Also excellent for women who grew up in alcoholic homes.)
- It Will Never Happen to Me. Claudia Black. M.A.C. Publications, 1850 High Street, Denver, Co. 80218. Or can be ordered from ACT, PO Box 8536, Newport Beach, Ca. 92660. Don't know which is doing bookstore distribution. An excellent book for adult children of alcoholics who marry alcoholics, become alcoholics, or neither.
- My Dad Loves Me, My Dad Has A Disease: A Workbook for Children of Alcoholics. Claudia Black. \$7.95. MAC Publications. (See It Will Never Happen To Me.)
- Each Day A New Beginning. About 6.95. Pub. by Hazelden, PO Box 176, Center City, MN. 55012 or order from CompCare. This is a day book, modeled after the day books used by AA, Al-Anon, et al, but it is oriented to women and all the quotations are from women...everyone from Margaret Sanger to Ursulsa LeGuin to Laura Z. Hobson to Billie Holiday.
- The Twelve Steps for Everyone...Who Really Wants Them. CompCare. 4.95. Takes the 12 steps of the Alcoholics Anonymous program and re-writes them in anti-sexist language. Dumps the assumption that God has anything to do with "male".
- The Forgotten Children R. Margaret Cork. 2.95 Paperjacks, 330 Steelcase Rd., Markham Ontario, L3R 2M1. The pioneering work that insisted that a parent's alcoholism affected children in the home. Order after It Will Never Happen To Me and Another Chance.
- A Craving. Emily Arnold. Avon. 2.95. Novel detailing a woman's struggle and success re alcohol.
- Empowering Women Alcoholics To Help Themselves and Their Sisters In The Workplace. Robin J. Milstead. Kendall/Hunt. 2460 Kerper Blvd. 12.95 paper.
- Alcoholism in Women. Cristen C. Eddy. Kendall/Hunt (see above.) 9.95 paper. Includes a chapter on the Alcoholism Center for Women in LA.
- The Comfortable Corner. Vincent Virga. Avon. 3.50 Gay men's novel. The main character is in a long-term relationship w/ a drinking alcoholic. Focus is on the co-alcoholic. One of the very few books focusing on co-alcoholism.
- Stopping Valium. Eye Bargmann. Warner. 5.95.
- Women on Heroine. Marsha Rosenbaum. Rutgers University Press. 8.95.
- Substance Abuse: Pharmacologic, Developmental, and Clinical Perspectives. Gerald Bennett, Christine Vourakis, and Donna S. Wolf, eds, Wiley and Sons. 24.95
- No Laughing Matter: Chalk Talks on Alcohol. Father Joseph C. Martin. Harper & Row 11.95 Cloth.

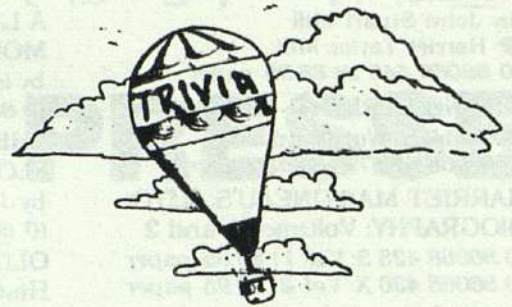
BOOKS RE: ALCOHOLISM FOR YOUNG ADULTS:

- High and Outside. Linnea Due. Bantam. 1.95
- The Late Great Me. Sandra Scoppottone. Bantam. 2.25 ***excellent!
- The Boy Who Drank Too Much. Shep Greene. Dell. 1.50
- My Name Is Davy, I'm an Alcoholic. Anne Snyder. NAL 1.50.
- Sarah T. Portrait of a Teen-Age Alcoholic. Robin Wagner. Ballantine 1.50.
- Living With A Parent Who Drinks Too Much. Judith Seixas. Morrow. 9.25 cloth.
- Alcohol--What It Is, What It Does. Judith Seixas. Morrow 2.95.

Compiled by Ede Rosen/Antigone Books
Tucson and Carol Seajay.

note: CompCare and Hazelden books can be ordered at 2415 Annapolis Lane, Minneapolis, Minn. 55441. 1-5 books, 25%, 6-24 40%, 25-49 42%, 49+ 44%.

TRIVIA Trivia? Trivia?



TRIVIA

The Gertrude Stein Memorial Bookstore is organizing in Pittsburg. They are looking for stores that have succeeded at becoming non-profit tax exempt. If you have and can share your 'statement of purpose' and/or copies of your 501 (c)(3) application and/or share any other help or advice, contact Paulette Balogh at 214 Dewey St, Pittsburgh, Pa 15218.

Sad news is that *Womanspirit Magazine* has decided to suspend publication at the end of their tenth volume, choosing to put their energy into *Blatent Image*, an annual photography magazine.

REMAINDERS: Outlet Book Co, One Park Ave, NYC 10016 has *Diana Nyad's Basic Training for Women* (544555) HB \$4.98
Alaska Mary Mackey (388847) HB \$2.98
Joy of Lesbian Sex (531593) HB \$3.98
So Long As There Are Women Perrin (395118) HB \$2.98. Thanx to Darlene at A Woman's Place/ Oakland, Ca.

FIRST BIBLIOGRAPHIC DATABASE ON WOMEN AND EMPLOYMENT. A database, should you not yet know, is a the library of the future, and will be a primary way of accessing information in the well before women are ready for it. To contact a data base--anywhere, what you need is a computer w/ a telephone hook-up and access. Access is rented (like a magazine subscription.) This data base, Catalyst Resources for Women (CRFW) is accessed through Bibliographic retrieval Services (BSR) (ask your library) and contains 3,000 published documents on women and work. Royalty fees for CRFW are \$15/hr, 25¢ for offline citations, 15¢ for on-line.

What is significant to the emergence of database technology is the significant absence of information about women. Since database info tends to be hi-tech, women are seeming to be even more invisible/absent than in print literature.

How will feminists get themselves in the positions to alter this? How will we use this technology? How will feminist literature/work be using this technology? How will we include it in the future of feminist bookstores?

Should you have missed it in PW, *The Burning Bed* by Faith McNulty, a true story about an abused woman who killed her husband by setting fire to his bed became a bestseller in Norway after the prosecuting attorney in a similar case there tried to prove that the woman got the idea from reading the book. Turned out that she didn't read the book until after the murder. She was acquitted and the book, due to the front-page news publicity became a best-seller. PW doesn't comment, but I'll bet it all makes Norwegian men think more than twice before they abuse women.



THE BEST BOOKS FROM THE BRITISH FEMINIST PRESSES



VIRAGO PRESS NEW TITLES:

- BELLY DANCING**
by Wendy Buonaventura
(0 86068 279 X) \$10.95/paper
- THE SUBJECTION OF WOMEN
& ENFRANCHISEMENT OF
WOMEN**
by John Stuart Mill
& Harriet Taylor Mill
(0 86068 445 8) \$6.95/paper
- JIPPING STREET**
by Kathleen Woodward
(0 86068 390 7) \$5.95/paper
- HARRIET MARTINEAU'S AUTO-
BIOGRAPHY: Volumes 1 and 2**
(0 86068 425 3: Vol. 1) \$9.95/paper
(0 86068 430 X: Vol. 2) \$9.95/paper
- APPEAL**
by William Thompson
(0 86068 450 4) \$5.95/paper
- LETTERS FROM EGYPT**
by Lucie Duff Gordon
(0 86068 455 5) \$9.95/paper
- UP THE COUNTRY:**
Letters from India
by Emily Eden
(0 86068 440 7) \$9.95/paper

VIRAGO PRESS BACKLIST:

- ACCOUNT RENDERED**
by Vera Brittain
(0 86068 268 4) \$7.95/paper
- ADA NIELD CHEW**
by Doris Nield Chew
(0 86068 294 3) \$8.95/paper
- BORN 1925**
by Vera Brittain
(0 86068 270 6) \$7.95/paper
- BREAD AND ROSES**
by Diana Scott
(0 86068 235 8) \$10.95/paper
- BREAST CANCER:**
A Guide to Its Early Detection
by Carolyn Faulder
(0 86068 287 0) \$5.95/paper
- THE CAUSE: A Short History
of the Women's Movement**
by Ray Strachey
(0 86068 042 8) \$8.95/paper

**CHARLOTTE MEW: Collected
Poems & Prose**
by Val Warner
(0 86068 223 4) \$10.95/paper

THE HOUND AND THE FALCON
by Antonia White
(0 86068 172 6) \$5.95/paper

**A LADY'S LIFE IN THE ROCKY
MOUNTAINS**
by Isabella Bird
(0 86068 267 6) \$8.95/paper

**THE LONDON JOURNAL OF
FLORA TRISTAN**
by Jean Hawkes
(0 86068 214 5) \$7.95/paper

**OLD WIVES' TALES: Their
History, Remedies, and Spells**
by Mary Chamberlain
(0 86068 016 9) \$7.95/paper

**SCARS UPON MY HEART:
Women's Poetry and Verse of the
First World War**
by Catherine Reilly
(0 86068 226 9) \$7.50/paper

**THE TAMARISK TREE: Vol I, My
Quest for Liberty and Love**
by Dora Russell
(0 86068 001 0) \$7.50/paper

**TICKLE MY FANCY & COLOUR
ME PINK**
(0 86068 334 6) \$3.95/paper

**TRAVELS IN WEST AFRICA:
Congo Francais, Corsico and
Cameroon**
by Mary Kingsley
(0 86068 266 8) \$10.95/paper

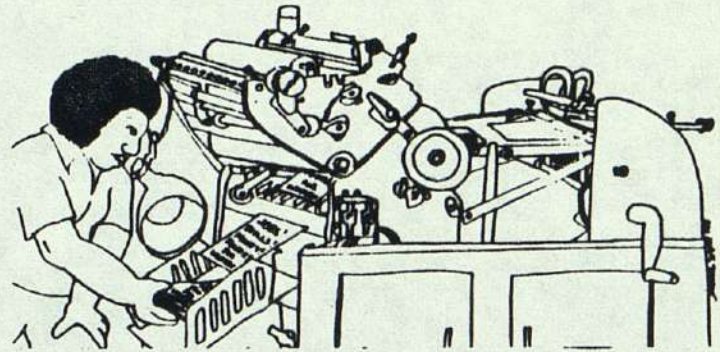
**WHY SUFFER? Periods and Their
Problems**
by Lynda Birke & Katy Gardner
(0 86068 284 6) \$3.95/paper

WOMEN'S PRESS NEW TITLES:

- LONE THOUGHTS FROM
A BROAD**
by Paula Youens
(0 7043 3881 5) \$4.95/paper
- KEEPING THE PEACE: Women's
Peace Handbook 1**
(0 7043 3901 3) \$5.95/paper

WOMEN'S PRESS BACKLIST:

- THE ALBATROS MUFF**
by Barbara Hanrahan
(0 7043 3827 0) \$2.95/paper
- AURORA LEIGH & OTHER POEMS**
by Elizabeth Barrett Browning
(0 7043 3820 3) \$9.95/paper
- THE AWAKENING**
by Kate Chopin
(0 7043 3822 X) \$3.95/paper
- FENWOMEN**
by Mary Chamberlain
(0 7043 3806 8) \$3.95/paper
- THE GIRL WITH THE
SWANSDOWN SEAT: Aspects of
Mid-Victorian Morality**
by Cyril Pearl
(0 8607 2043 8) \$6.95/paper
- HARD FEELINGS: Fiction and
Poetry from Spare Rib**
by Alison Fell
(0 7043 3838 6) \$4.95/paper
- LEARNING TO LOSE: Sexism and
Education**
Dale Spender & Elizabeth Sarah
(0 7043 3863 7) \$5.95/paper
- LOLLY WILLOWS**
by Sylvia Townsend Warner
(0 7043 3824 6) \$3.95/paper
- MARRIAGE AS A TRADE**
by Cicely Hamilton
(0 7043 3870 X) \$5.95/paper
- NO TURNING BACK: Writing from
the Women's Liberation
Movement 1975-1980**
(0 7043 3873 4) \$9.95/paper
- THE PEARL BASTARD**
by Lillian Halegua
(0 7043 3828 9) \$2.50/paper
- A PIECE OF THE NIGHT**
by Michele Roberts
(0 7043 3830 0) \$5.95/paper
- PORTRAITS**
by Kate Chopin
(0 7043 3844 0) \$4.95/paper
- A WOMAN IN YOUR OWN RIGHT:
Assertiveness and You**
by Anne Dickson
(0 7043 3420 8) \$5.95/paper



FROM OUR

OWN PRESSES

Just because we're bookstores doesn't mean we won't publish something if we think we need it. Womanbooks in New York City and The Common Woman in Edmonton, Alberta have both published major booklists this summer:

Womanbooks Lesbian Booklist. This complete resource to in-print lesbian literature and music has just been revised and updated by Judith McDaniel for Womanbooks. The 4th edition of this annotated catalogue sells for \$1.00 and is available once again for resale at other women's & gay stores at a 40% discount. They'll pay postage if you prepay. Order from Qbooks, 201 W. 92 St., NYC 10025. Qbooks also has a supply of out-of-print titles A Weave of Women by Esther Broner (Bantam \$3.50) and Nice Jewish Girls edited by Evie Beck (Persephone Press \$8.95) that they are wanting to share and keep available to other women's stores as long as possible. 40% discount, free postage if you prepay.

Common Woman Books has put together a beautiful catalogue. 88 pages of annotated book listings arranged by subject. I've just been enjoying reading it. I love listening to other booksellers recommend books, enjoy the synopses & comments. (ie My Mortal Enemy-1926 \$2.50 Willa Cather. A fascinating and furious character study written during a dark transitional period in the author's life.") They put the

books in a context and often make me want to sit down and read books I've skipped over for years. They've also marked with a ● books that are written by Canadian writers and so have provided a good place to begin for US stores that want to add to (begin to carry) books by Canadian women. Books of interest to lesbians are listed in the lesbian section or are marked with an inverted triangle. Probably you'll want at least one just to look at and enjoy. You may also want to find a way to make it available to customers to peruse and maybe order extra copies to sell to traveling customers. The Common Woman women didn't send ordering terms w/ the copy they sent me but they would probably send you a copy if you sent them \$2.00 + 50¢ for postage. US stores might send cash as that's probably easier to exchange than a check for \$2.50. Common Woman Books, 8208-104 Street, Edmonton, Alberta, T6E 4E6.

And while we're on booklists, you'll likely want to order Becky BIRTHA's list of books: Literature by Black Women. She sells it for \$3.00 @, 40¢ for 2+. Prepay would help. Order from Becky BIRTHA, 619 S. 18th Street, Philadelphia, Pa 19146.

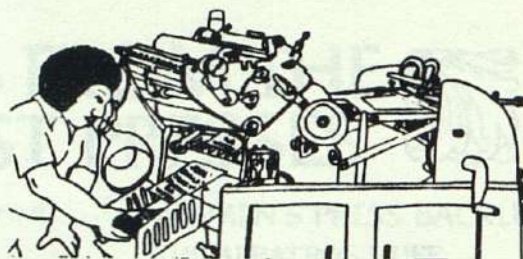
MORE BOOKS FROM OUR OWN PRESSES

After two years of doing the ground-work, Kitchen Table Women of Color press is in bloom! This summer sees their first book Cuentos: Stories by Latinas in print. And sees Kitchen Table able to pick up Home Girls: A Black Feminist Anthology which Persephone wasn't able to publish this spring, and also able to pick up This Bridge Called My Back and Narratives which will give them 4 books in print by fall in addition to their distribution service. If you're looking for an excuse to throw a party, you could throw a Kitchen Table success-celebration party for your customers. Show off KT's books, the books they distribute, do readings of favorite pieces, raffle off some autographed copies of their books (maybe KT could provide those at regular store discount--I don't know, this is off the top of my head) and you could send the proceeds to Kitchen Table toward the cost of printing This Bridge and your customers could feel a part of KT's support system. KT is a publisher that exists with the support of a lot of women and wouldn't exist without it.

The books: Cuentos: Stories by Latinas ed. by Alma Gómez, Cherríe Moraga, and Mariana Romo-Carmona, a collection of 30 stories by Latinas from the US & Latin America which breaks "la cultura de silencio" by depicting the myriad unrecognized ways Latinas have resisted colonization both in the flesh and in the spirit. The stories are fresh--quiet--painfully written--scratched out--daring. Exciting. released in June. \$7.95 paper. Includes writing in both Spanish and English.

Narratives: Poems in the Tradition of Black Women was self-published by Cheryl Clarke in December and sold-out by April. Kitchen Table did the distribution and has now become it's publisher. It is a collection of specific portraits. I'm waiting for this bit to show up as a poster: "In 1943, Althea was a welder/very dark/ very butch/and very proud/ loved to cook, sew, and drive a car/ and did not care who knew /she kept company with a woman." 4.95

Home Girls: A Black Feminist Anthology is Barbara Smith's book that you likely ordered from Persephone (or Bookpeople) & couldn't understand why it didn't come. God nose the customers were waiting for it. 42 articles by 35 contributors in four



sections: The Blood--Yes, the Blood/Artists without Art Forms/Black Lesbians--who will Fight For Our Lives But Us?/A Hell of a Place to Ferment a Revolution. Late Aug. 10.95 paper. 7500 first printing due to the large number of prepublication orders received.

This Bridge Called My Back: Writings by Radical Women of Color (co-edited by Cherríe Moraga and Barbara Smith) sold 20,000 copies in the Persephone edition and will be brought back into print by KT this fall. They're trying to raise enough to print 10,000 copies but may only be able to do 5000. Tax deductible donations can be made payable to the Working Women's Institute.

All of these books are or will be available from Kitchen Table (new address) Box 2753, Rockefeller Center Station, NY, NY 10185. 40% for 5+ of one title.

Kitchen Table also distributes the following titles to bookstores: She Had Some Horses by Native American writer Joy Harjo (publisher: Thunder's Mouth Press) 6.95. And two books by Fay Chiang: In the City of Contradictions (about her life as the daughter of Chinese immigrants in New York--"the city of contradictions") and Miwa's Song ('evokes a journey to Mexico, relationships with friends, and the death of her father.') both 4.50 and both published by Sunbury Press. Min order for 40% is 5 each title.

Lollipop Power announces a new addition to their list: Lots Of Mommies by Jane Sererance, illus. by Jan Jones. "Emily and her mother live in a big house with three other women. Each woman helps take care of Emily. Each does special things with her. But the children at Emily's school laugh when she says she has lots of mommies. Then an accident on the playground brings all of Emily's mommies to school and the children see another kind of family." \$3.25. paper. Lollipop Power, PO Box 1171, Chapel Hill, NC 27514. Write for their list if you don't have it. No distributors. 1-14 books, 30%. 15+ 40%.

MORE BOOKS FROM OUR OWN PRESSES

For Nights Like This One: Stories of Loving Women by Becky Birtha. First books come slow: the stories in this one are all at least three years old and leave me wanting to find what Birtha has written and published in the meantime. These stories are glimpses into lesbian lives and relationships, they look into interracial relationships, they go home to family where a white lover doesn't fit and reconsider the idea of home, they validate lesbian manogamy and basically add up to a book to reread. 4.75, paper, Frog in the Well Publishing, 430 Oakdale Rd, East Palo Alto, Ca 94303. Also dist. BP and Inland.

Walking on the Moon, a collection of six short stories and a novella by Barbara Wilson. Her third collection of short stories, this one, like the other two remind me that I like short stories, that they are to be saved and savored in those times when my life is too full, too frantic, too busy to indulge in a novel. In those times, a couple good short stories sneaked into the madness open my world. I indulge myself for a few minutes and remind me that I choose all this. These stories do that for me, perhaps because I know that Wilson is also a publisher, a translator and a novelist (Ambitious Women/Spinsters) and probably squeezes in the writing the same way I squeeze in the reading. I always find myself wishing her stories were *more* lesbian as I read them, then find myself wondering what happened with the woman who joined the circus, with the 12 year old who...and am glad that they are characters in my mind. What I like best in this collection is Wilson's ability to look at how seriously we take ourselves and to laugh at it a bit. \$5.95 paper, Seal Press, Box 13, Seattle, Wash. 98111. Also BP and Inland.

New Editions: Sapphistry's second & revised edition will be available Sept. 10, at \$7.95, tho god nose what in this book has been revised/replaced/deleted with what. Naiad Press.

✓ I am Annie Mae: An Extraordinary Woman in Her Own Words, collected and edited by Ruthe Winegarten. If finding this book had been the only benefit of going to ABA it would have made it worth the trip. Published by the editor when it was turned down by one too many publishers, she designed and created such a beautiful book that I'm almost glad that she had to do it herself. A beautiful cover, hundreds of photos inside, and a format that should become a model for oral histories--one that leaves the speakers words intact in the main body of the book, yet allows for notes in the margin to explain words or places that may not be familiar to the reader as well as more detailed notes in the back. None of which is nearly as important as the content of the book: the life story of Annie Mae McDade Prosper Hunt, and the stories of her mother and grandmother as she recalls them. Together they span 120 years of the lives of black women living, working, growing up, surviving in Texas from slavery times to the present. It is exactly the experience of women, of black people, or poor people, of the heartwomen that so rarely get told. I hope that this book gets picked up by distributors, by a publisher that gets it wide distribution, and makes it into every library in the country. But in the meantime, order it from Rosegarden Press, P. O. Box 49084, Austin, Texas 78765. Give one to a friend when you get it. \$12.50 paper. Bookstore terms.

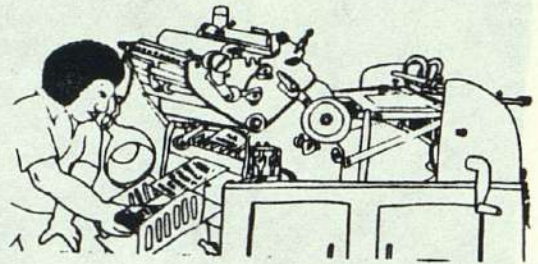
✓ Taking Responsibility for Sexuality. Joyce Trebilcot (Mothering: Essays in Feminist Theory/Littlefield-Adams 1973) Trebilcot is a feminist philosopher. Her work has appeared in QSpirit, Sinister Wisdom & J. of Social Philosophy. "For lesbians, this process of discovery/creation is known as 'coming out'. But this essay argues that all women should come out, all women need to define our own sexuality, rather than assume that sexuality is something given by nature or culture. Taking responsibility for our own sexuality not only gives us strength, independence and understanding, it can also lessen the heterosexim, lesbophobia, and lesbian hating that separate us." Acacia Books, PO Box 3630, Berkeley, Ca 94703. \$2.50 5+ 40%

MORE BOOKS FROM OUR OWN PRESSES

Eat Thunder and Drink Rain is a new collection of work by Southern Californian Black poet Doris Davenport. The work is brilliant, outrageous, demanding, sometimes giving, often sexual. Not scheduled for a reading at NWSA, Davenport arranged her own the the women's lounge across from the book exhibits. She's not willing to be missed. \$7.00 40% discount (She'll take 30%--this is self-publishing,says she.) PO Box 20452 Los Angeles, Ca 90006.

For all that I claim to hate, not understand, be overwhelmed by poetry, this issue is full of poetry that has moved me deeply. Magazine editors keep telling me that what lesbians are writing is poetry. That in poetry we are first-saying what is unsayable. Fiction and essay come later. The Women Who Hate Me strikes me as exactly that kind of poetry. The content is learning to speak back to these women, learning to claim self, what one is, refusing to pretty up oneself to be more acceptable--even to/especially to other women. A more accurate title might be "The Woman Who Is Hated Survives." The message of this book is: who we are comes from somewhere...and a movement that refuses any woman her culture/her childhood/her family is going to find itself abandoned in favor of something better. This is not an easy book of poems. I think it is a gift to every woman who has been trashed. I look forward to the prose that surely will follow. \$4.50. Long Haul Press, P.O. Box 592, Van Brunt Station, Brooklyn, NY 11215. Oops. The author is Dorothy Allison. Her work is also found in Lesbian Fiction. Lesbian Poetry & her editing in Quest and Conditions. Her work always reminds me that truth is a better bargain than passing. 5+ = 40% Probably at Inland.

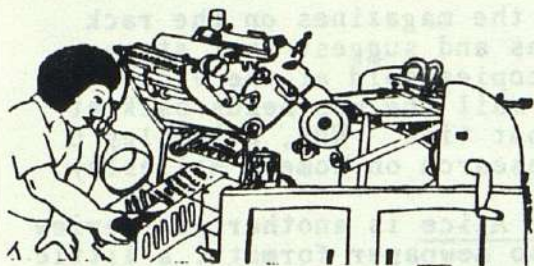
Never Said I Was a Lady. Poetry and illustrations by O. Rosenthal. "She was born and bread, educated, graduated, married, and so on." A collection of humorous poetry in short pieces. Wry more than radical. Starchand Press, Box 468, Wainscott, NY 11975. Standard bookstore terms. \$4.



Piecing It Together: Feminism & Nonviolence by the Feminism and nonviolence Study Group in Great Britain. Originally published in 1978, this is a revised US edition, including US contact addresses. It looks at various forms of violence, including nuclear wapons, explores the ideas of non-violence and feminism and suggests feminist approaches to more traditional theories of non-violence and looks at the experience of the women's liberation movement in confronting violence. It ends with a vision of the society we want. \$3.00, 60 pages. Order from Jennifer Tiffany, 525 S. Danby Road, Spencer, NY 14883. Also available Inland (?).

The Women of Skid Row, a pen and ink sketchbook with commentary by Ann Alexandra Wolken. At the Downtown Women's Center (provider of services to women on Skid Row), in Los Angeles, is an 80 foot mural created by Ann Wolken and the women who use these services. This sketchbook includes a collection of drawings/ interpretations she did on the way to doing the mural. You might want to pick up one at Bookpeople. 6.95

The Scholar in Hot Pursuit, Essays from WomanSpirit by Caroline Overman. NOT AVAIL. IN BOOKSTORES, but I mention it here for her fans and because it represents a genre that I think we're going to be seeing more of: Self-published collections of short stories, essays, articles or/and even brief anthologies published in short-run editions on hi-quality Xerox machines...the same way FBN is published/printed. With the disadvantages of staple-binding, they won't sell well in bookstores, except for short-term very-current topics. This used to be the domain of poetry books & I see this changing. Also a good way to get out research on a topic of general interest. Anyway, The Scholar in Hot Pursuit is available for \$6 postpaid from Pearlchild, 1199 Sunny Valley Loop, Sunny Valley, Ore. 97497.



FORTHCOMING BOOKS DEPARTMENT:

Cleis Press is still awaiting the arrival of the manuscript for Woman-Centered Pregnancy & Birth still being written by Ginny Cassidy-Brinn, Francie Hornstein, Carol Downer and the Federation of Feminist Women's Health Centers. This will be a self-help approach to pregnancy and birth, info on choosing the birth situation, "high risk" births and pregnancy self-help clinics. The writers are the authors of How to Stay Out of the Gynecologist's Office (Peace Press) and A New View of a Woman's Body (Simon & Schuster). In the far distant future is a disabled women's anthology, so pass the word to anyone you know who might be interested in writing for it.

Naiad has just signed all the papers to do a reprint of The Price of Salt by Claire Morgan. They are ecstatic and should be. Price of Salt is a 1952 novel about the love affair between two women, one married and upper middle class, the other young single and a waif, is the first positive realistic portrait of lesbian lives. It deals with marriage, divorce, child custody in a lesbian household, entrapment, the rights of women, all set in the post WW II era...the classic of classics. Early 1984? About \$7.95. Look for Barbara Demings Book of Travel and Kathleen Flemings Lovers in the Present Afternoon about the same time.

Coming almost immediately (Sept.) is Loving in the War Years/Lo Que Nunca Pasó Por Sus Labios, poems, stories and essays by Cherrie Moraga. Everything that Moraga writes interests me. She's a cutting edge. This book will be no less. \$7. South End Press. Order from them direct at 302 Columbus Ave./Boston Ma 02116 (& get their catalogue if you don't already) Should be at BP & Inland as well.

MORE BOOKS FROM OUR OWN PRESSES

Stage Four: The journey of an illness and a surrounding women's supportive network. Sonny Wainwright. You may remember her article in the OOB disability issue. This is the journal she kept while fighting breast cancer. Very much woven with the fabric of lesbian-feminist life in NYC, this is a strong, powerful & beautiful book. It will come out in the spring from Acacia books. Ordering info, et al, later.

PERIODICALS

SPECIAL ISSUES: WOMEN OF COLOR

Sinister Wisdom's last issue is a double issue titled A GATHERING OF SPIRIT, featuring writing, artwork voices and images of women from 40 Indian Nations. Edited by Beth Brant (of Turtle-Grandmother Books/Detroit). One of the many exciting aspects of this collection is that all the women writing in it knew that SW is primarily a lesbian journal, making this issue a document of lesbians supporting Indian women supporting lesbians. And all of us far richer for the coalition. And those of us who are both, saner, for having two such vital parts of ourselves in one place. Includes work by Paula Gunn Allen, Joy Harjo, Wendy Rose Carol Lee Sanchez//Some of the most moving work is by women not well read--especially the letters from prisons. If you don't already have a standing order of SW, you can start that when you order this issue. \$6.50/224 pages. 40% SW, Box 1023, Rockland Maine, 04841.

Fireweed #16 is edited by and features work of radical women of colour. Articles include: We appear silent to people who are deaf to what we say: Race, Class and the Limits of Sisterhood," "Lesbians of Colour: Loving and Struggling," "Profiles of Working Class East Indian Women". and "Black Women's Studies: Help or Hindrance to Universal Sisterhood?" plus poetry, short stories, reviews & visual arts. \$3.75. Fireweed, if you aren't familiar with it's a feminist journal from Canada, voice of Canadian

MORE BOOKS FROM OUR OWN PRESSES

women in the way that SW or CL/LL is in the states. Should be more widely read down here. Think they do a standard 40%. PO Box 279, Station B, Toronto, Ont.

In the works: Backbone's special issue on women of color has turned into a book called Gathering Ground. More details when it's closer to publication.

The new Connexions theme is Outrageous Women. Connexions, tho not a 'special issue on women of color' is a collective effort by women of diverse nationalities and political perspectives committed to contributing to an international women's movement. It features work in translation from the international women's press and always has many articles by/about third world women. This issue leads off with an article about Fatma Ahmed Ibrahim, owner of a bookstore in Sudan and former publisher of the independent women's newspaper Sudanese Women's Voice. The Global Lesbians issue should be back in print by now, and is an awesome document of lesbian history/present/ and diversity. \$3, 40% to bookstores.

Connexions, People's Translation Service, 4228 Telegraph Ave, Oakland, Ca. 94609.

Vol 4 #2 of Canadian Woman Studies/ les cahiers de la femme is a special multicultural issue looking at the diversity of cultural experiences of Canadian women. Included are many articles about immigrant women--from Viet Nam, Greece, Europe,--as well as the diversity of cultures that is Canada. A very interesting and readable issue. About half the articles are in French, but they have long synopsis in English at the beginning of each one. \$4.00 Canadian CWS/CF, 204 Founders College, York University, 4700 Kneele St, Downsview, Ontario M3J 1P3

NEW MAGAZINES:

The Women's Review of Books. Likely you've already received the pilot issue by now, so you know that it's handsome and thoughtful and intends to be a serious review magazine. If you don't have a copy, write for one. After the pilot issue, the price will be \$1.50. 40% discount to bookstores. It's a quarterly and they'd

like to keep the magazines on the rack for 3-4 months and suggest that stores pay for the copies sold at the end of each month & mail the mastheads back at the end of that time. WRB, Wellesley C Center for Research on Women, Wellesley, Ma. 02181.

Hurricane Alice is another new review journal. Also newspaper format...a little more academically inclined than WRP? Write to Hurricane Alice, 207 Lind Hall, 207 Church Street SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455 for terms.

Pink Ink is a new gay and lesbian journal out of Toronto, partly as an alternative to Body Politic, partly in protest of some of BP's stances....this movement is nothing if not diverse. PI is a well put together, enjoyable wander thru events and experiences in gay and lesbian Canada. The first issue is worth the price for the centerfold article on Florence Wyle and Frances Loring, two of Canada's finest sculptors, who lived, loved, and sculpted together for 60 years. \$1.50, monthly. Write PO Box 287, Station H, Toronto, Ontario M4C 5J2. 36 pages..a lot of mag. for the money. Cover is "moderately punk"...First time I've ever felt cozy with punkishness...progress for me, or a wild success for them. Try it.

Everything is an anarchist feminist magazine from Australia. One of the few anarcha-feminist mags around, I think. Write to them at Box 131 Holme Building, Sydney University, NSW, Australia 2066.

RENEWED:

Broomstick is the only national feminist journal by, for, and about women over 40. Circulation is about 3000 & they would like to distribute through more bookstores. Each issue has stories, articles & poetry, some issues have themes. Also book reviews, health notes, a legal column, comments on media & commercial agism & sexism, biographies & letters. Bimonthly. \$2.50. 40% to bookstores. No minimum order but no returns. (tho you can sell back issues out of your aging section...) If in doubt, write to them & they'll send your store a 6 month subscription free so that you can get a sense of what number of copies would be right for you. 3543 18th St, San Francisco, Ca. 94110.

FROM THE SMALL PRESSES

September will be a very hot month for the Crossing Press Feminist Series. I hope they throw a party to celebrate their good work and remarkable collection of new titles: First is the CPFS reprint of Zami, Audre Lorde's biography that went OP last spring just before Persephone closed. Being unavailable just a few months after publication is hard on a book... (she understated) especially when it is still on the upswing of its sales curve... so do what you can to tell your customers that its available again... display w/ new arrivals, windows, over the counter talk, what-ever. \$7.95. Movement in Black: Collected Poetry of Pat Parker was originally published by Diana Press in 1978 and has been out of print for several years. Foreword by Audre Lorde, Intro by Judy Grahn. Living in the Bay Area, I thought that Grahn and Parker were THE feminist poets in the world. You may remember Parker's readings from a national tour of black women artists/performers four or five years ago. 5.95 paper. Also, and AT LAST, Learning Our Way, Essays in Feminist Education edited by Charlotte Bunch and Sandra Pollack is the outgrowth of the book on feminist education that was listed (but never published) in the last Daughters catalogue. Tho it was listed in Books In Print, and customers have insisted for years that it's available and why won't I just get it for them? Contributors include Paula Gunn Allen, Evelyn Torton Beck, Sally Gearhart, Barbara Smith and Gloria T Hull. 9.95 paper/19.95 cloth. I like to think of

this book being in print as one of those fruits of the last Women In Print Conference, what I remember is a bunch of us sitting at lunch telling 'customer jokes' when the demand for this book came up, and someone turned to Nancy Bereano with "why don't you publish it?" and then Charlotte walked across the cafeteria... and now we have this revised edition of that idea from years ago already to go out into the world. Also from Crossing, and yes, in September is Three Russian Women Poets, Anna Akhmatova, Bella Akmadulina, and Marina Tsvetayeva, all women who lived as exiles in their own land, all ignored or suppressed. All needed by us now. And also, A Woman's Book, a blank book for women illustrated w/ quotes by & for women and Japanese illustrations. 4.95.

Crossing Press Feminist Series also includes calendars: Seeing Women: 100 Years of Women's Photography, edited by Joan E. Biren (JEB). JEB has a following from her collection of lesbian portraits Eye to Eye and from her wonderful slide show on women photographers that has toured the country. This calendar comes out of the research that made up that show and is a small feast. Women Friends edited by Nancy K. Bereano is the other "new" calendar in this series. It considers friendships between women from a number of perspectives... older and younger women, at work, traditional and non-traditional families, and in love. Some superb photos. And back again for 1984 are the Heroines wall calendar and the ever popular Women Writers desk calendar. All 6.95.



80 pages, paperback, \$4.95

A stunning exploration of women's sexuality in poetry/prose.

"Women like us used to be called all kinds of names. But its OK. Now, we just tell the story and they call us writers."

—Alta

"How often do a poet's words snuggle and soothe, tease and proposition you to feel? That's High Desire."

—Ntozake Shange

Available to the trade from Bookpeople, or individual orders direct to:

Wingbow Press
2940 Seventh Street
Berkeley, CA 94710

MORE BOOKS FROM SMALL PRESSES

Crossing Books and calendars are available from Bookpeople, Inland, and direct from Crossing Press, PO Box 640, Trumansburg NY 14886. Books: 5-49=40%, 50-99=42%, 100+=43%. Calendars, 50% non-returnable, free freight. 45% returnable, free freight.

Alyson Publications has Alice Bloch's (Lifetime Guarantee) The Law of Return which was previously announced by Persephone will be out in September. Novel looking at growing up Jewish in America, then exploring Israel...and one's heritage as a young adult, exploring coming to own lesbian feelings, giving up the dream of raising children, and friendship. 7.95. Will probably be an important novel. Also from Alyson is Franny, the Queen of Provincetown, by John Preston, already out, I dearly loved this novel...for the recognition and love of the place in gay history and gay pride held by the drag queens of the fifties and sixties. Now defined as Politically Incorrect by the Right On Q's Movement, it's a piece of pride & delight against-the-odds that we'd be better off—and richer and more honest--if we'd enjoy. I hope that a lot of women read it. \$3.95 Also out is China House gay male gothic/bit of romance featuring an old house, rich lovers, a father-son relationship. A pleasant bit of escape reading until the one female character is portrayed as a villain more cruel despicable than the murderer. \$4.95, But I love the cover--perfect gothic..big house on hill, moon & lovers embracing in the foreground.

High Desire. Leslie Simon. (Jazz Is for White Girls Too and I Rise/ You Riz/ We Born.) I know Simon only as a poet. This is "an autobiographical exploration and celebration of woman's sexuality. It examines sexually related topics, describes relationships and seeks to be erotic on occasion....while it arouses, it also comments on what constitutes the erotic and on how sex relates to love, death, science and politics." Wingbow Press. Dist. Bookpeople and Inland. 4.95.

The Wings, The Vines, Poems by Kathryn Machan Aal, Alice Fulton, Karen Marie Christa Minns & Sybil Smith. McBooks Press. "Contains poems of personal experience on classical themes, poems about the pain of incest and rape, and poems about love and survival. \$6.50 dist. Crossing.

MORE BOOKS FROM SMALL PRESSES

Burning is a lesbian gothic/historical novel in which two present day women move to an old New England farmhouse haunted by two desiring-to-be lovers, women, from the past.... This was published by an obscure mass market publisher 5 or 6 years ago, got no marketing, and went OP faster than I could get my hands on a copy. It's being re-published by the publisher of the author's plays, J.H. Press. \$6.95. 40% PO Box 294, Village Station, NYC, NY 10014. Inland?

Pie-Biter is a picture book illustrating the Chinese immigrant legend about Hoi who comes to America to work on the railroad & his outwitting the oppressions and conditions faced by Chinese workers. For kids of all ages. Available in English or Chinese. cloth \$11.95. At BP & Inland or direct from Design Enterprises, PO Box 14695, San Francisco, Ca 94114. Author is Ruthanne Lum McCunn who wrote Thousand Pieces of Gold.

Dictee, Theresa Hak Kyung Cha, "is a series of free-floating narratives in nine voices tracing names, events, and histories of individual personages in history, of existing persons, & fictitious characters." Likely available at BP & Inland if you want to try one of two, or direct from Tanam Press, 40 White St., NY, NY 10013.

Sources by Adrienne Rich is a poem in 23 sections exploring the apparent contradictions in her identity: woman, Jew, white southerner, lesbian, feminist, adaptive New Englander, confronting silences and voices from childhood, memories, questions, past, and present. 40 pages. Part of what is spectacular about this book is the design and printing. It is hand-printed/letterpress by book designer/printer/papermaker Robin Heyeck. Trade edition is \$8.50, 40% for 5+. She also has a collector's edition on hand made paper, autographed for \$160. (30% discount to the trade, 40% for 5+). Heyeck Press 25 Patrol Ct, Woodside, Ca. 94062 Heyeck Press also had The Arts of Fire, poetry by Frances Mayes. "In it Mayes traces her heritage from several generations of strong Southern women and her heritage as a poet from other women writers like Woolf, Bogan, Rhys, and Hardwick. And the poetry is great." \$8.50.

November Woman, is a collection of poems by Spinsters Ink founder Judith McDaniel. As I read, I was by how vividly I

recalled the pieces she read out here a couple years ago. Especially important to me are the poems of/for her mother & grandmothers. The image she has created of her grandmothers death while trying to achieve an abortion will stay with me for a long time. "Splitting Elm" I copied out to post over my typewriter. Loft Press, 93 Grant Ave., Glens Falls, NY, 12801. \$3.00 standard bookstore terms.

Duration is Jan Clausen's (Mother, Sister, Daughter, Lover) new collection of poetry and a long true-to-our-lives prose piece. \$5.00. Lesbian/Feminist/Mothering and always insightful. Also from the same publisher is The Glass Woman, poetry by Patricia Traxler. \$5.00 Hanging Loose Press, 231 Wyckoff St., Brooklyn, NY 11217.

Positions with White Roses, Ursule Molinaro. "The style is both direct and textured by interwoven interior narratives. The prevailing vision is darkly ironic. Beneath its contemporary theme and clear story line lies a complex reinterpretation of classical mythography." Treacle Press Box 638, New Paltz, NY 12561 \$9.95 cloth.



from The Women of Skid Row
Ann Wolken

MORE BOOKS FROM SMALL PASSES

I Thought People Like That Killed Themselves: Lesbians, Gay Men and Suicide. Eric Rofes. Definitely a needed and helpful book. Grey Fox Press, dist. Bookpeople. \$7.95. Chapters on the old myth, Lesbian & gay youth, Substance abuse, Activists and Ending Gay Suicide.

Despair and Personal Power In The Nuclear Age. Joanna Rogers Macy. A book-- the first?--to grapple with out psychological responses to planetary perils and to provide a framework for overcoming the culture of silence, for coming to terms with the real threats, and empowering people to go on and fight back. 7.95 New Society Publishers, 4722 Baltimore Ave., Philadelphia, Pa 19143. BP & Inland. 8.95 paper, 19.95 cloth.

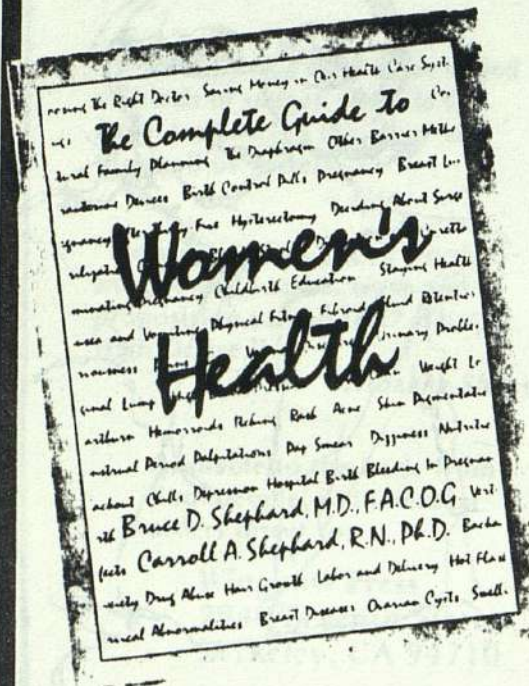
The Future of Women. Marlene Dixon. "A unique analysis of the superexploitation of women in modern capitalist society. Analytical and passionate. Addresses family life, abortion, sexuality, the women's movement, today's rising sexism, minority

women & perspectives on the gay movement. Includes a compelling, vivid history of the struggle to build a working class feminist organization. \$7.95 Synthesis Publications, PO Box 40099, San Francisco, Ca 94140, Inland & The Distributors.

From the Real Comet Press comes two books by underground cartoonist Linda Barry. Girls and Boys was published in 1981 and Big Ideas should be out by now. How to summarize Barry's cartooning for those who don't know it? Ribald, rowdy, feminist and perceptive. Twists the pain in irony into humor. She also had cards available from Maine Line Company (see last issue). Inland or DO, Real Comet Press, 932 18th Ave E, Seattle, Wa, 98112. 1-4=20%, 5-9=30%, 10+ =40%.

I Hitchhiked Out of My Life. Catherine Wolf. Found this at NWSA. It is an autobiographical, almost journal, rendering of the writer's experience hitchhiking across Europe for two months with her 17 year old son. Wolf is a member of the Women's Poetry Workshop. Don't have terms, \$6.95, Dickay Publishing, Box 664, Buckeye Lake, Ohio, 43008.

THE ONLY HEALTH GUIDE NEEDED FOR THE '80s



"A practical reference book, it represents a successful union of the women's movement and the consumers' movement to enable women to exercise greater control of their bodies and their lives."

Graduate Woman

"It is beautifully done. . . . The warm, sincere manner in which you have approached these subjects makes it a first class women's health book. I am very happy to recommend this book to all our affiliates."

Jean Burger

Executive Director

United States Women's Health Coalition

CONTACT

Ingram • Publishers Group West • Baker & Taylor
or
Mariner Publishing Company
10927 N. Dale Mabry
Tampa, FL 33618
(813) 962-8136

THE EUGUÉLIONNE

BY LOUKY BERSIANIK

The *Euguélonne* written by Louky Bersianik, a feminist Québécoise writer, is a feminist science fiction set in contemporary Quebec. It is a modern day novel confronting the problems of ancient established patriarchal standards of language, law, and church.

The main character, The *Euguélonne*, is a being from outer space who arrives on earth looking for her positive planet and the male of her species. She experiences many adventures of what it is like to be a woman on earth bound by men's insistence of what women want.

Bersianik does a thorough examination of women's condition through the eyes of The *Euguélonne* as an outsider and observer of the culture of "The Planet of Men". In particular, Bersianik examines the problems of the French language, its genders and implicit sexism. How are we able to change when we are bound by rules and conditions of our very means of expression?

The book is funny and as a parody on the Bible it is written in a modern version of chapter and verse. It is an exciting and innovative look at the issues of feminist examination. Published in English by Press Porcepic. \$9.95 paper. Canada: Order Fitzhenry, Whiteside. US: Order from Inland.

Donna Murray

Donna Murray is one of the translators of *The Euguélonne* and is a collective member of Everywoman's Books in Victoria, BC.

TOYS

Now you can make speculums available in your store: Package includes a plastic speculum, storage bag & self-examination instructions by the Federation of Feminist Women's Health Centers. \$3/package, 1.75 wholesale. Min. order is 6. Also: Menstrual Sponges...Each package includes A Toxic Shock Syndrome Notice, silk sponge linen drying/storage bag, & info card. \$3, 1.75 wholesale, min order 12. Fantastic Feminist Enterprises, 5388 Hillcrest Dr., Oxford, Ohio 45056.

Helaine Victoria Press has a new catalogue celebrating their tenth anniversary. Features their collections of postcards: includes the Women Under Apartheid, quilts, Georgia O'Keeffe, historical cards, international women, women of color...if you aren't on their mailing list, write for a catalogue: Helaine Victoria Press, 4080 Dynasty Lane, Martinsville, IN 46151

The Sunstone Note Card Collection features the work of 50 Southwestern US Artists--includes some images of Indian women and the work of several women. PO Box 2321, Santa Fe, NM 87501.

Mary Tansill has Women Celebrating Women cards...lettering w/ watercolor graphic background. 35¢ @ wholesale. Will send sample on request: 1638 SE Knight #5 Portland, Or 97202

CALENDARS 1984

SPORTSWOMEN WALL CALENDAR is a 16 mo. (Sept. 83-Dec. 84) featuring 22 B&W photos of basketball, soccer, softball, martial arts, synchronized swimming & more, with a history of women in the Olympic movement with quotes dating back to 1899. Includes lunar phases & a variety of women's collegiate and amateur sports events. 42% discount to feminist bookshops. \$5.95US/\$7.50/Canadian. Non-returnable. Brush Fire Press, c/o Laurie Usher, 2349 Indianola Ave., Columbus, OH 43202.

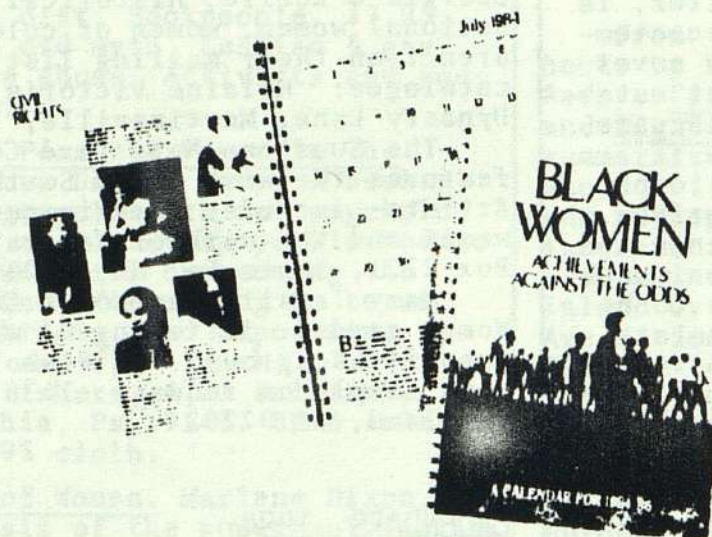
BLACK WOMEN: ACHIEVEMENTS AGAINST THE ODDS: A Calendar for 1984-1986. A three year, 6½x9" desk calendar. Research by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service. The last one was wonderful. See ad for terms.

EVER'WOMAN'S CALENDAR is a 12 month chart and color poster for recording your body cycles, rhythms, and menses developed and published by the Morning Glory Collective (they also run a storefront in Tallahassee featuring handmade, womanmade gifts and clothing). The calendar may be started any time of the year. \$4.00 33% for 6-23. 24+ = 40%. Laminated wall display calendar free w/ 24+ or for \$4.00. Also dist. by BP, Inland, & New Leaf. Or DO from Morning Glory Collective, PO Box 1631, Tallahassee, FL 32302. Comes well packaged in a 9x12" envelope w/ graphic & description and price on the outside, and a sheet of suggestions/directions inside.

BLACK WOMEN

ACHIEVEMENTS AGAINST THE ODDS

A CALENDAR FOR 1984-1986



- **BLACK WOMEN** is a 6½ x 9" 88-page desk calendar which can be used for the years 1984, 1985, and 1986.
- **BLACK WOMEN** features portraits and biographies of over 100 black women ranging from a slave poetess born in 1746 to a tennis player born in 1957. Research was done by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES).
- **BLACK WOMEN** includes women active in education, civil rights, religion, sports, labor, journalism, dance, theater, arts, government, the military, law, music, literature, medicine and business.
- This is what's been said about **BLACK WOMEN**:
Essence: "...an inspiration."
Bookman: "...useful to students, especially."
Report From the Capitol: "...worthy and fascinating"
- The *New York Times*, *People* and *Publishers Weekly* featured the 1981 edition as an outstanding calendar of the year.
- **BLACK WOMEN** retails for \$7.95. Your cost is:

6-24	\$4.75
25-49	4.50
50-99	4.25
100-	4.00
- For new accounts, advance payment is required or bank and 3 trade references. (For payment in advance, there is no shipping charge.)
- Terms are net 30 days. Books are sent from Concord, Mass. by UPS unless otherwise specified.

Check payable to
GMG PUBLISHING

Send Purchase Order or
check to:
GMG PUBLISHING
25 West 43rd Street
New York, N.Y. 10036

Delivery is August, 1983

Please send us _____ copies of **BLACK WOMEN** at \$ _____.
A check for \$ _____ is enclosed.

Our Purchase Order No. _____ is enclosed, together
with bank and 3 trade references.

Buyer's Name _____ Tel. No. _____

Store / Organization Name _____

Address _____

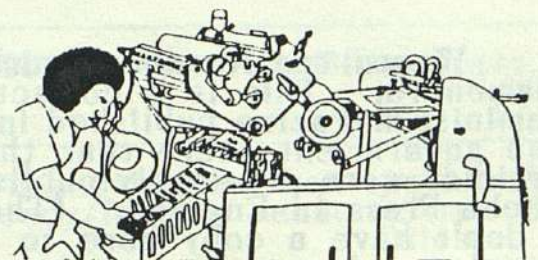
City / State / Zip _____

stories and verse, lesbian writing." \$7.00 paper, \$10.00 cloth. 40% bookstore discount. Order from WIM Productions, PO Box 367, College Corner, Ohio 45003. Also available: Woman in the Moon \$6.00, I'm Off to see the Goddam Wizard Alright! \$4.00 and tape by Cheryl Coleman "Take Back the Night" (music) \$7.50.

Hecuba's Daughters, the women from whom your order **Witches Heal** also has Dusty Miller's **Open Sesame: The Magic of Tahini**. What won't women next deem to be essential? Anyhow, it's lovely and fun, wonderful drawings and graphics by S. Shane. Sadly the book doesn't tell you what to do for the stomach ache that comes from eating too much tahini and I need to know. Order from Hecuba's Daughters, PO Box 488, Bearsville, Ny 12409.

The **Scum Manifesto** by Valerie Solanas is back in print thanks to the Matriarch Study Group in London. They spent two years trying to track down Solanas and to get her permission to reprint, and finally gave up and reprinted it, anyway. They've set aside royalties for her, so if you know anything of her whereabouts, please contact them c/o Sisterwrite Bookshop, 190 Upper Street, Islington, London, N1. You can order the book directly from them, or through Inland. It may be at BP as well. \$3.50.

And available nowhere else but from Boudicca Books is **A Reason to Kill** a classic lesbian who-dunnit featuring lesbian private eye Helen Keremos (your basic working class street dyke) who solves the homophobic murder of a young gay man. DumDeDumDum. Eve Zaremba. Originally published by Paperjacks in Canada in 1978 and never distributed in the US, the book has now been declared Out of Print. But you can get some of the remaining copies from through Boudicca Books. **A Reason to Kill** got a an A* rating in **The Lesbian in Literature** and you might well want to make it available to your readers quick, before it is no more. Orders must be prepaid, make your check payable to E. Zaremba. \$2 @ for 10+, (1-4 copies, \$3 @, 5-9 copies \$2.75 @). Post paid. (This is the US Dollar price.) Suggested list price, \$3.00 And while you're ordering, Boudicca has also published a feminist reading list about women & mental health. Great for social service professionals who've just discovered a feminist perspective, for feminist therapists who'd like to recommend readings for their clients, for librarians... Also helpful to new bookstore workers when customers want to know "What would YOU recommend?" and to general bookstores that want to improve the feminist content of their health sections. Fully annotated. **New Visions** by Janet Rogers. \$2.00 40% discount. Postage paid if prepaid. Returnable after 3 and before 12 months. Order from Boudicca Books, PO Box 901, Station K, Toronto, Ontario Canada M4P 2H2. Boudicca is a mail order service silling out-of-print books, specializing in books by and about women. If you'd like to receive their free list of books for sale, or want them to do a book search (no charge or obligation) on a title that's gone OP, let them know. Pass the word to your customers that it can be done.)



TOYS

I didn't know, but Press Gang, besides publishing books (available in the US from Bookpeople and Inland), has some great stickers including "E.T. is a Girl! And if she'd worked here she'd have been paid 51% less than the boys!", "Boycott South African goods", "This Exploits and Degrades Women" and "Christmas is a Capitalist Plot". Bumperstickers: "We'd rather be Smashing the State!" and "I'd rather be Working...And at equal pay." \$5.00 per hundred for the little stickers. \$2.00 for the bumper stickers.. Posters include the very popular "Class Poster" ("Class consciousness is knowing which side of the fence you are on. Class analysis is figuring out who is there with you.") and "I'm not mad; I'm angry." \$3.50. Bookstore discounts.

SMALL PRESSES

The Crossing Press Feminist Series has reprinted two of the former Persephone Press titles: **Nice Jewish Girls: A Lesbian Anthology** (\$8.95 paper, \$19.95 cloth) and **Zami: A New Spelling of My Name** (\$7.95 paper, \$16.95 cloth). Also from Crossing comes **Sister Outsider: Essays and Speeches** by Audre Lorde, putting into one place essays and speeches that are often talked about and too often hard to find. Having Lorde's essays in one place will be a delight, a relief and an inspiration. \$7.95 paper. \$16.95 cloth.

And out since January is **Abeng** Michelle Cliff's long awaited novel about a young girl growing up in Jamaica amid the contradictions of class and color, blood and history in a colonized country. Another book that I hope is frequently recommended and widely read. \$6.95 paper, \$16.95 cloth. Two other spring titles from Crossing are **Reclaiming Birth: History and Heroines of American Childbirth Reform** by Margot Edwards and Mary Waldorf (\$8.95 paper, \$19.95 cloth) and **Facing the Danger: Anti-Nuclear Activists Tell Their Stories** by Sam and Martha Totten (paper \$8.95, cloth \$19.95). All of Crossing's books are available at Bookpeople, Inland and direct from Crossing. PO Box 640, Trumansburg, NY 14886. 40% for 5+.

UNIVERSITY PRESSES

WORTH A MENTION: Women in Scientific and Engineering Professions, ed Violet B. Hass & Carolyn C. Perrucci. A collection of papers presented at the 1981 Conference on Women in the Professions: Science, Social Science and Engineering. \$12.50 paper, \$24.00 cloth. Latest volume in the Univ. of Michigan Press's Women and Culture Series. U of M, Ann Arbor, Mich.

PUBLISHERS ROW

Women and Russia: Feminist Writings from the Soviet Union, ed by Tatyana Mamonova. This is a collection of writings from the three issues of the feminist magazine published in the USSR in 1979 and 1980 which so threatened the government there that they deported four of its editors. Two of the articles were previously published in the book **Women and Russia** published by Sheba Press in England. (That's as per the credits on the copyright page. I don't have a copy here to compare article by article. If it is an exact reprint, please let me know and I'll print a correction.) The book addresses the issues of marriage, family, single motherhood, health care, abortion, lesbianism, alcoholism, prisons and the peace movement.

Classified Ads & Literary Personals

~~At last! The long awaited and much requested FBN CLASSIFIEDS!~~ Perfect for pushing cards, records, t-shirts and other non-book but book-store-saleable paraphernalia. Ideal for renovating backlist books ready for a new lease on life. For mentioning books that want more than the one-time only publication announcement that FBN manages. For PR-ing books that wouldn't get reviewed in FBN but may well be of interest to feminist bookstores. For the book you wrote. And for whatever else this community comes up with. And yes, Virginia, this is 1984 and literary personals are certainly accepted. We all need entertainment and fantasy. \$5 per line, 76 spaces per line. Prepaid. (Yes, m'dear, if you find a typo in your ad, you can have a second run of your ad absolutely free.) Go to it gang!

Nicole Hollander (Sylvia) fans send \$1.00 for catalogue of her cards, T-Shirts, and note pads, to Box 418FB, Rockport, Maine 04856.

Stock up on Sexuality books for Summer. Two new titles for kids, books on vibrators and anal sex, sex playbooks for women, men, and children. Down There Press/Yes Press, PO Box 2086, Burlingame, CA 94010. Most titles also available from Bookpeople and Inland.

The Magic of Tahini: Open Sesame by Dusty Miller, \$7.00 ppd. & Billie Pott's Witches Heal, \$9.00 ppd. from Hecuba's Daughters, Inc. PO Box 488, Bearsville, NY 12409.

Cohosh Corners Courier, herbal newsletter, \$6.00 yearly, from Billie Potts, L.F.R. PO Box 158, Summit, NY 12175.

What's a Literary Personal? Sounds very uptown and better than the bars? I'm at work on a pitch for an 82 character tweedy/fem/lip reader/citrus & spice typewho likes to perk thepicas. Celeste.

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE: August 20

NEW ADDRESS

FEMINIST BOOKSTORE NEWS

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