# Feminist Bookstore News I:\\I:III

Sidelines

se.C.



July/August 1999 Volume 22 Number 2

# The Coloring Book for Big Girls By Sudie Rakusin



28 pages 8<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" x 11" Full color front and back covers

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Sidelines



OK, I admit it. I did actually dance around the office singing "Ding dong, the witch is dead. The wicked witch is dead...." when I heard that the Ingram/B&N deal had collapsed. And I'm sure I'm not the only one! What a relief! It feels like the first major break in what has been a relentless onslaught. It gives one hope that there might be a future for independent bookselling after all.

More good news: The new feminist bookstore in New York City, Bluestockings, is open. (See page 13.) I cannot begin to say how wonderful it is to have a women's bookstore in NYC again, how important it is for our collective visibility and image, and what a significant and ongoing impact having a viable and

visible NYC store will have on corporate publishing for our communities. Now our job is to all pitch in and help with the visibility and viability part. Help any way you can: Tell everyone you know about the new store. Send travelers there. My contribution will be to make some introductions and connections while I'm in NYC in July. And my personal campaign? I'd like to find someone(s) to finance getting the new store up on

Booksense.com for the first year (\$500 for the setup, then \$200/month for 12 months), so that all the ex-Judith's Room, Djuna Books, and WomanBooks customers can order books from the new store, regardless of how often they actually get to Bluestockings' lower east side neighborhood. Anyone want to take me up on it?

More good news: Pride and Joy, the Northampton bookstore, was featured on The Roseanne Show, as part of Roseanne's "Lesbian Show" (in which Roseanne and everyone else on the show went out of their way to demystify that scary scary scary word,

Turn to page 37 for all the best sidelines for fall and holiday sales.

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"lesbian" by saying it as often as possible). That was fun, but unfortunately no one asked Roseanne about her past life as a feminist bookseller; she was a member of Denver's old Woman to Woman feminist bookstore collective. I recall her saying, years ago, that it was those women who first understood her humor, told her she was funny, and came to all her gigs.

Energy at ABA/BEA was high, too, (see page 6) as independent booksellers imagined a future with

successful, affordable Internet sales sites, celebrated the increasing stability of independents' market share (and the fact that sales at the four biggest chains rose only 8.7 percent last year — vs. 14 percent the year before — the slowest rate of growth in six years), and, of course, celebrated being in a different venue.

Enjoying all this fun stuff and good news? Turn to page 5 for the

latest in the Amazon Bookstore vs. amazon.com lawsuit. Personally, I'm entertained by how quickly amazon.com jumped to add disclaimers to all of its Web pages the minute the NYT complained that amazon.com was illegally publishing its bestseller lists and using its trademark. But, gee, it never has done the same for Amazon Bookstore, despite using its name all these years. To remedy that, Amazon Bookstore has filed a preliminary injunction asking for a disclaimer, a hyperlink, and the cessation of all advertising in the Minneapolis/St. Paul metropolitan area now, rather than waiting for the results of the trail.

Meanwhile, here at FBN, we're facing the same financial challenges that all the rest of the independent book industry is facing. Most of our subscribers are independent bookstores, and when they close, we lose one of our sources of income. Independent and small presses - including feminist presses - have been forced to cut advertising budgets as they attempt to navigate the difficult terrain of publishing in a transition time. Meanwhile, the ever-consolidating corporate publishers are cutting the number of "mid-list" titles they publish (all too often these are the titles that would be feminist-bookstore bestsellers), as well as advertising and promotional budgets. All of which puts dents in our other primary source of income. We've compensated in the short run by splitting up the office manager job among the remaining staff (Kristin, do we ever miss you!), by consolidating Announcements, Thataway, Back to Press, and Writing Wanted into one article in this issue, by holding some news stories for next issue, and generally tightening our belts in every way possible. If anyone has ever had the urge to lay a few grand on FBN, this would be the best possible time to do it! If

you have contacts for successful fundraising, call me at FBN or contact any of the fundraising committee members (see page 8).

And last — but perhaps most importantly — I'd like to thank all of FBN's staff: Kathryn Werhane, Teri Mae Rutledge, and Lisa McGowan (who has come back on a part-time basis to get us through the summer) for taking up the slack, taking on more jobs than are really possible, carrying my load when necessary, and for their incredible personal support as I strive to keep a place in the world for FBN, to find ways to finance the work it does, and walk through other challenges. This Sidelines issue, and the May/June issue, are truly their gifts to the feminist book world.

Yours in Spreading the Words, Carol Seajay

P.S. Our primary email server imploded as we went to press. We trust we'll have everything transferred to a new service and working again long before you read this.

	Fall Announcements Sept - Oct		Jan - Feb
n arrent for a start of		Nov - Dec	
Articles	July 2	September 3	November 5
Ad Reservations	July 9	September 10	November 12
Ad Mechanicals	July 16	September 17	November 19
News Column Items	July 16	September 17	November 19
Letters	July 21	September 22	November 24

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#### "Stop Using Our Name in Our Town!"

#### Amazon Bookstore vs. A.com Update

On Monday, June 21, Amazon Bookstore and its law firm, Fish and Richardson, filed a motion for a preliminary injunction to keep amazon.com from using Amazon Bookstore's trademark in the seven counties making up the Minneapolis/St. Paul metropolitan area.

The injunction requests that the court order amazon.com to refrain from advertising (via newspapers and magazines, television, radio, billboards, buses, bus shelters, etc.) in the seven counties, and also to place a disclaimer and hyperlink on amazon.com's homepage. The disclaimer request is in lieu of asking amazon.com to refrain from displaying their Web site or from shipping books to the seven-county area. It would alert customers looking for Amazon Bookstore's Web site that they are not at the correct site. The hyperlink would get them to Amazon Bookstore's site quickly and efficiently. All of amazon.com's Minneapolis/ St. Paul-based affiliates would also be required to add disclaimers and hyperlinks.

"Amazon.com's aggressive and accelerating efforts to promote its name," the motion reads, "threaten to overwhelm Amazon Bookstore in an area where amazon.com unquestionably has no right to use the name 'Amazon.' Its actions warrant injunctive relief to prevent continued encroachment upon Amazon Bookstore's trademark rights while [the lawsuit] is pending. Amazon Bookstore is entitled to much broader injunctive relief and will prove that at a full trial on the merits. In the interim it must protect what is — indisputably — its home turf."

The motion cites a wealth of evidence and outlines the legal precedent for such pretrial injunctive relief — including the fact that Amazon Bookstore has been using the trademark since amazon.com founder Jeff Bezos was six years old.

The motion also cites Bezos' and amazon.com spokespeople's statements that the name "amazon" was carefully chosen over a period of months and that a trademark lawyer was involved in the process. It also points out that, assuming that a competent trademark search was done, amazon.com knew about Amazon Bookstore well before it went online, given that any competent trademark attorney would have ordered a search from a trademark searching service and any such service would have included a search of the Dun & Bradstreet database and the American Business Information database (which includes phone books and directories). Trademark searches cost about \$330 in 1995, the year the organization that became known as amazon.com was choosing a name. The motion points out that Amazon Bookstore has been listed in Dun & Bradstreet since 1991 and that it has been listed in the telephone book since at least 1980. The motion further points out that amazon.com, which joined ABA in 1994, would have had access to ABA's membership lists, and that Amazon Bookstore has been a member of ABA since 1986.

It *also* cites Amazon Bookstore's interaction with amazon.com at the 1997 ABA convention, the first convention where amazon.com had a public presence.

The motion states, "[Bezos] spent three months of deliberate thinking looking for an alternative name [when his first choice, Cadabra, was vetoed]. The name 'Amazon,' undeniably arbitrary and distinctive, was perfect in every sense — except for the fact that a presumably small, Midwest-based independent bookstore was using it. While a final answer to this question will be had only after depositions of Mr. Bezos and his trademark attorney, it seems likely that

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The motion also outlines the ways that Amazon Bookstore and amazon.com compete — in the sales of books, CDs, videos, and other sidelines — and evidences that Amazon Bookstore was selling all of those products well before amazon.com. It outlines legal precedent for determining ownership of a trademark which include problems between the similarity of the trademarks, customer confusion, vendor confusion, other kinds of business confusion (such as the confusion among amazon.com's associates - many of whom call themselves associates of "Amazon Bookstore" or an "Amazon Bookstore Associate"), and the confusion in the media (in which amazon.com is referred to as "Amazon"). Customer confusion works in two directions: those who are looking for Amazon Bookstore and end up at amazon.com (and then buy books from amazon.com when they intended to buy from Amazon Bookstore), and those who are looking for amazon.com but end up calling Amazon Bookstore's 800-number (or faxing or emailing) for customer services.

The motion also stresses that the burden on amazon.com of complying with the injunction would be minimal and cites amazon.com's own actions as proof: Amazon.com recently began placing the following disclaimer on its home page, "The New York Times is the registered trademark of The New York Times Company, which is not affiliated with and does not sponsor or endorse the services of amazon.com." Amazon.com did this because it was using the NYT's trademark, "The New York Times Best-Sellers List." When the NYT brought this to the attention of amazon.com, amazon.com voluntarily placed the disclaimer on its Web page and, subsequently, when amazon.com filed for a declaratory judgment, it argued that its actions were a reasonable solution to the confusion.

Amazon.com had not yet responded to the motion as FBN went to press.

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#### ABA/BEA 99

BEA 99 was a livelier show than either of the last two shows in Chicago. We (still) have not seen final attendance figures. Although preliminary figures indicated a slightly-less-than-last-year figure for booksellers, *FBN* did more business on the convention floor and sold more new subscriptions than in both of the previous years combined. Almost twice as many booksellers attended the Feminist Bookstore Network's annual conference (scheduled, as always, for the two days before BEA opens) as last year.

The difference was, of course, that the show was in a different part of the country and so brought in "new" faces — booksellers who hadn't attended the Chicago show in years, booksellers who live closer to the Los Angeles venue, and booksellers who would rather travel to California than Chicago. While there was the to-be-expected grousing, traveling around

the multi-halled facility was no more complicated than shopping in a typical mall. Unfortunately, BEA is back to Chicago next year. And in 2001 as well. That's not a decision that is in booksellers' best interests.

#### FB-Days

Almost half (47 percent) of attending feminist stores reported that they were encouraged or optimistic about the future and an additional 35 percent reported that sales had stabilized over the last year or two, with one store reporting that the future looked dismal and that there was a high likelihood that it would close, and two stores reporting uncertain futures. The overall shift to a more optimistic outlook was due in part to the sad fact that many of the stores experiencing difficult financial situations during the past few years have closed. But the optimism at FB-Days reflected the mood of the entire BEA/ABA convention.

Feminist booksellers discussed ways of improving customer service skills among staff (including ABA's new-staff training module), magazine distributors, Y2K preparation (both in-store and in the community), selling textbooks, marketing and advertising in the community, and making alliances with national GLBT and feminist organizations. ("Keep your business in the community; keep your commu-

> nity in business," is a promotion slogan My Sisters' Words adapted from Herland's materials last year and has used with great success.) One topic that the

Discussion at FB-Days extended beyond the meetings to mealtimes. Feminist booksellers are intent on conversation as they enjoy their lunch, provided by Koen Book Distributors, Inc.



group returned to again and again was the possibility of creating a joint Web site to promote feminist books and bookstores. While it was clear that such a site would be an asset to individual stores as well as the feminist/lesbian book community, and while there were many (usually non-conflicting) visions, it was also clear that some kind of outside funding would be necessary to launch an adequately large and complex site, and such monies have not yet been forthcoming.

Booksellers also discussed — at length — fundraising both to support network activities and programs that can no longer be supported by *Feminist Bookstore News* (given that it has also experienced declining revenues in the current book industry situation) and to alleviate the accumulated debt. We also discussed the likelihood that *FBN* will begin publishing various columns online rather than in print. A fundraising committee was appointed to address a number of needs. Members include Barb Wieser (coordinator) of Amazon Bookstore (Minneapolis MN) <amazon@amzonfembks.com>, Mary Ellen Kavanaugh of My Sister's Words (Syracuse NY) <mek.msw@juno.com>, Linda Bryant and Sara Look of Charis Books (Atlanta GA) <charisbook@aol .com>, Gilda Bruckman of New Words Bookstore (Cambridge MA) <newwords@world.std.com>, Ann Christophersen of Women and Children First (Chicago IL) <wcfbooks@aol .com>, and Teri Mae Rutledge of FBN <terimae@ fembknews.com>.

Lunches and snacks for the two-day event were provided by Koen Book Distributors, Inc.

#### FB-Net for Next Year

Sara Look will facilitate FB-Days next year. Sandi Torkildson of A Room of One's Own (<room@ itis.com>), with consultation from Chicagoan Ann Christophersen, will do facilities. Suzanne Corson of Boadecia's Books (<boadbks@ norcov.com>) offered to take over maintenance of the FB-Net e-list. The Feminist Bookstore Network Steering Committee for the next year will be co-coordinators Catherine Sameh of In Other Words (<othrwrds@ teleport.com>) and Sandi Torkildson, treasurer Dotty Faisby of Wild Iris Books (<wildirisbk @aol.com>), Gilda Bruckman, Mary Ellen Kavanaugh, and Linda Bubon of Women and Children First (<wcfbooks@aol.com>).

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ARGE

#### ABA

The mood among ABA members was distinctively upbeat. Booksense.com, ABA's latest brainchild, was the show hit. Enthusiasm replaced skepticism as booksellers had a chance to explore the demos and ask questions.

A part of ABA's larger Book Sense promotion program, Booksense.com will provide each participating bookstore with a "front-end" Web site that will be unique to that store and have space for a number of unique store features, as well as all of the now-standard features — a huge database with 1.6 million titles, search engines, book blurbs, covers, point-and-click ordering, credit card payment, and wholesaler-based fulfillment — all available for \$200/month plus a \$500 set-up fee. Independent booksellers, by and large, see the program as their opportunity to compete with online supersite booksellers and to regain a portion of their customer base and improve sales.

The most common "complaint" seemed to be that the program wasn't available last year. Stores also expressed concern that the module that allows stores to include their own database (and redirect shipping from the wholesaler to the store and/or their favorite wholesaler) won't be available for several months after the program is launched, that the referral structure favors general independent bookstores (without accommodating the wide range of

specialty bookstores that make up ABA's membership), that there is no international shipping, and that there isn't enough access to titles (since the program will launch with only one wholesaler, leaving the participating bookstores with a new burden of "special ordering" the titles on the database that are not available at the wholesaler).

Booksellers were also encouraged by the Book Industry Study Group report that independent bookstores' share of the marketplace appears to be stabilizing, rather than continuing on the same downward trend. The fact that the number of main-store members (5200 in 1993, 3400 in 1999) actually increased during a recent month — the first increase in years — was also cheering.

Members gave the Board and staff a strong show of support by enthusiastically approving the proposed by-laws changes. The new, seven-member board includes Roxanne Coady (R.J. Julia Booksellers, Madison CT), Ann Christophersen (Women and Children First, Chicago), Matthew Miller (Tattered Cover, Denver), Karl Pohrt (Shaman Drum Bookshop, Ann Arbor), Miriam Sontz (Powell's, Portland OR), Brian Weese (Bibleot, Baltimore), and Lila Weinberger (Reader's Books, Sonoma CA). Board members who were elected in the recent elections will serve on the Booksellers Advisory Council, which will also include booksellers from all of the regional associations as well as the Association of Booksellers for Children and the Feminist Bookstore Network. FB-Net will be represented by Mary Ellen Kavanaugh (My Sisters' Words). FBN publisher and editor Carol Seajay has been appointed to the Industry Advisory Council.

#### **B&N/Ingram Deal Dead**

Within days after a Federal Trade Commission staff member commented to the media that the FTC staff was planning to recommend that the Commission block Barnes & Noble's application to purchase Ingram, B&N and Ingram announced that they would abandon the plan.



Teri Mae Rutledge (FBN) and Claudia Lamperti (New Victoria) enjoy a rare quiet moment in their shared BEA booth.

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#### **Beloved Sisters** and Loving Friends

Letters from Rebecca **Primus and Addie Brown** 1854 - 1868

Farah Jasmine Griffin, editor

A riveting collection of letters between two African American friends and romantic companions in 19th-century New England.

Rebecca Primus was one of the many women who traveled south after the Civil War to teach the newly freed slaves. Addie Brown worked as a domestic servant in Connecticut and New York. Their letters provide a rare glimpse into the lives and thoughts of two 19th-century New England Black women: confrontations with southern prejudice, the politics of Reconstruction, the struggle to make a living, self-education, growing political consciousness, and the love of two women for each other.

Knopf

0-679-45128-5 \$26

B&N stated that while they did believe the sale could withstand the tests of litigation, they did not wish to invest the financial resources and could not accept the delays litigation would create. B&N will instead proceed with "Plan B" and open warehouses in several locations to fulfill its (projected) consumer orders for books sold through barnesandnoble.com. Ingram, in withdrawing from the deal, stated that it would continue to look for another "appropriate" sale and made several statements that this reporter took to be threatening, to the effect that it might not be able to continue providing the same level of services to independent bookstores.

Because Ingram and B&N withdrew their application to the FTC for the sale, the FTC will never make an official ruling on the proposal, thus sparing both companies from having to admit they have been turned down by the FTC. The fact that the ruling was never made means that the decision cannot be cited in future actions. While it's to the definite advantage of independent bookstores to have had this issue resolved as quickly as possible, it would have been satisfying to have had a definitive statement. The media blitz that would have resulted from such a ruling would have reached a lot of people. And we lost the chance to quote the FTC in the ongoing campaign to educate the public about the dangers of putting information distribution in the hands of a few large profit-based conglomerates.

The FTC did a thorough investigation of the situation and concluded that the impact on the retail marketplace for books would be devastating. FTC's investigators heard the concerns of booksellers, consumers, and others.

Political entities like the FTC, however, don't operate in a vacuum. The outpouring of letters from booksellers when the deal was first announced, the significant support from various members of Congress, the petition drive (which collected more than 125,000 signatures from customers), and the 36,000 letters generated by Working Assets' Citizen Action program, which kept the public eye and the pressure on the FTC, all contributed significantly to FTC's decision to review the merger very carefully.

But nowhere have I seen anyone address the difference between this FTC investigation and FTC's investigation years ago of the trend among publishers to give preferential terms to chain bookstores to the detriment of independent bookstores. FTC conducted a huge investigation, independent bookstores waited - for years - for the FTC to take action, and then the investigation was simply dropped. There were no conclusions or recommendations, leaving booksellers to mount their own investigations, file their own lawsuits, generate clear policies (via the courts) for how fair trade laws apply to the book industry, and then, using those policies, to obtain consent agreementsand significant damages — when those policies were violated. Independent bookstores — via their trade organization, the American Booksellers Association - have shown that they will not tolerate clearly illegal behavior, that they are ready and able to litigateand win. The FTC, in considering whether to prioritize this investigation, faced a significantly different retail, political, and legal climate than was in existence when it dropped its earlier investigation. And ABA's success with litigation is a vital part of that -CS O changing climate.

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# **Feminist Bookstore Opens in**

New York City

- Kick-off Party Draws 350

#### By Teri Mae Rutledge

On a hot June weeknight on New York City's lower east side, 350 people gathered to celebrate the grand opening of the city's newest independent and only feminist bookstore, Bluestockings.

One of the women behind Bluestockings, Kathryn Welsh (front-end member of the fledgling collective), said that the party was "Wonderful. Very touching. People kept coming up to me and telling me how moved they were by [the establishment of a feminist store in New York City].

"The store was packed, the sidewalk flooded. I kept having to interrupt the program to rearrange people."

Amy Cahn (a back-end Bluestockings collective member — she lives in New Orleans) said that the crowd could have easily filled *another* space the size of Bluestockings. "The party took up half the block!" she said.

The party program boasted readings by Minnie Bruce Pratt, Alix Olson (OutWrite poetry slam winner and national slam competitor), Emmy Gay (comedienne), Ali Liebegott (another talented young writer), and "bitch" (a local performer). Alix wrote a poem about her search for the history and derivation of "Bluestockings" for the event, which will be framed and on display in the store.

The opening of the store was widely (and obviously well) publicized, and write-ups of the opening appeared in the City pages (a local section) of the *New York Times* and the *New York Blade*. On June 12,



Dorothy Allison provided the store with its second huge headline event.

The opening-night crowd was mostly young women, reports Kathryn, who wondered if some of the older members of the feminist community were turned off by the billing of the event. Bluestockings advertised the event as a party, and Kathryn speculates that more women may have come if the event were simply called a "reading." Additionally, she wondered if working people might have been put off by the idea of a party on a weeknight.

But the involvement of all those young feminists was tremendously gratifying, she says. The general feeling was one of ownership, that Bluestockings was their place.

Amy Cahn concurs. "The thing that has amazed me, from the moment I stepped into the space, is how much a collective it really is, how much a part of the



neighborhood." Amy credits the community-owned feel of Bluestockings to Kathryn's approach to her customers, her volunteers, and the media. "People are claiming the store as theirs," she says.

Amy has some collective bookselling experience under her belt - she worked in an anarchist collective bookstore in New Orleans. "I'm definitely committed to being a part of a feminist collective space," she says. She plans to move to New York this

fall. She and Kathryn have been scheming to open Bluestockings since last summer. The store is still moving in a collective direction; there is already a solid core of volunteers, and at the opening event, 20-30 more women committed to volunteering.

One of the things that particularly struck Amy was how enthusiastic the crowd was about the books. Though the store only had about half its ordered stock for the party, women were making suggestions, giving feedback. There was a handful of women who complained that Camile Paglia was on the shelf (a requisite occurrence — they were feminists, after all), and dozens more picked things up, got excited, and headed to the cash register. Amy says that the women really communicated that "the need for spaces and centers like this is huge. People were so excited about the books, making suggestions, telling What 172 Allen Street looked like before the Bluestockings contractor got her hands on it. Less than two months, one ripped out ceiling, and a coat of paint later, Kathryn and the contractor realized their vision....

us what they wanted. And telling us that they want these things from a feminist bookstore." The event, which was free, grossed about \$350 in donations and sales. (Amy says that Kathryn probably made a few dollars by making a plug for an air conditioning unit.)

As for the space itself, Amy says that it is gorgeous. The building contractor used recycled materials to create a space that is bright and colorful. She fashioned a front counter from two old doors and removed

the dropped ceilings to reveal a tin ceiling above, opening up the space. "It's welcoming," Amy said, "A very nice space."

Bluestockings, which will eventually be a collectively run and fully volunteer-staffed space, is open for business!

Bluestockings, 172 Allen St., NY NY 10027; 212-777-6028, email <bluestocking@jps.net>. (Note the new telephone number and email address.)



172 Allen Street, now officially and beautifully Bluestockings, on opening night! (Look closely and beautifully Bluestockings, on opening night! (Look closely — it really is the same space!) Minnie Bruce Pratt, the first of five performers, reads to an overfilled house. Volume 22 Number 2

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# 100 "Best" L & G Novels?

or

# The Problem with "Best of" Lists

#### A project sponsored by the Publishing Triangle

- 1. Death in Venice by Thomas Mann
- 2. Giovanni's Room by James Baldwin
- 3. Our Lady of the Flowers by Jean Genet
- 4. Remembrance of Things Past by Marcel Proust
- 5. The Immoralist by Andre Gide
- 6. Orlando by Virginia Woolf
- 7. The Well of Loneliness by Radclyffe Hall
- 8. Kiss of the Spider Woman by Manuel Puig
- 9. The Memoirs of Hadrian by Marguerite Yourcenar
- 10. Zami by Audre Lorde
- 11. The Picture of Dorian Gray by Oscar Wilde
- 12. Nightwood by Djuna Barnes
- 13. Billy Budd by Herman Melville
- 14. A Boy's Own Story by Edmund White
- 15. Dancer from the Dance by Andrew Holleran
- 16. Maurice by E. M. Forster
- 17. The City and the Pillar by Gore Vidal
- 18. Rubyfruit Jungle by Rita Mae Brown
- 19. Brideshead Revisited by Evelyn Waugh
- 20. Confessions of a Mask by Yukio Mishima
- 21. The Member of the Wedding by Carson McCullers
- 22. City of Night by John Rechy
- 23. Myra Breckinridge by Gore Vidal
- 24. Patience and Sarah by Isabel Miller
- 25. The Autobiography of Alice B. Toklas by Gertrude Stein
- 26. Other Voices, Other Rooms by Truman Capote
- 27. The Bostonians by Henry James
- 28. Two Serious Ladies by Jane Bowles
- 29. Bastard Out of Carolina by Dorothy Allison

Would it have been so difficult to come up with nine more great lesbian novels?

In an effort to provoke discussion and broaden the audience for lesbian and gay literature amongst all readers gay and straight, The Publishing Triangle assembled a team of 14 judges to create a list of "The 100 Best Lesbian and Gay Novels."

Criteria included literary merit, influence, and significance to lesbian and gay readers and writers. The judges were the lesbian and gay writers Dorothy Allison, David Bergman, Christopher Bram, Michael Bronski, Samuel Delany, Lillian Faderman, Anthony Heilbut, M.E. Kerr, Jenifer Levin, John Loughery, Jaime Manrique, Mariana Romo-Carmona, Sarah Schulman, and Barbara Smith. The judges created a list of 500+ nominations that was whittled down to the published list amid much debate and conflict. Votes were tallied using a weighted average system.

A national publicity campaign includes "Expanding the Canon: What is a 'Gay' or 'Lesbian'

Book and What Do We Mean by 'Best?'" events, promotions kits, and mailing out 700 posters featuring the "100 Best" list.

Charles Flowers, chair of The Publishing Triangle, says the list "raises questions unique to gay and lesbian literature and serves a different purpose than previous literary lists. We hope this list will provoke debate about how to define a 'gay

book' and the implications of such a category. Consider the recent success of Michael Cunningham's *The Hours*, a wonderful book which some readers are considering 'gay' while others are considering it 'crossover' — where does the line between gay and straight fall? We hope the list will solidify a literary heritage that has been vital to building a lesbian and gay community and instrumental in defining our

30. The Heart Is a Lonely Hunter by Carson McCullers 31. Mrs. Dalloway by Virginia Woolf 32. The Persian Boy by Mary Renault 33. A Single Man by Christopher Isherwood 34. The Swimming Pool Library by Alan Hollinghurst 35. Olivia by Dorothy Bussy (Dorothy Strachey) 36. The Price of Salt by Patricia Highsmith 37. Aquamarine by Carol Anshaw 38. Another Country by James Baldwin 39. Cheri by Colette 40. The Turn of the Screw by Henry James 41. The Color Purple by Alice Walker 42. Women in Love by D. H. Lawrence 43. Little Women by Louisa May Alcott 44. The Friendly Young Ladies by Mary Renault 45. Young Torless by Robert Musil 46. Eustace Chisholm and the Works by James Purdy 47. The Story of Harold by Terry Andrews 48. The Gallery by John Horne Burns 49. Sister Gin by June Arnold 50. Ready to Catch Him Should He Fall by Neil Bartlett 51. Father of Frankenstein by Christopher Bram 52. Naked Lunch by William Burroughs 53. The Berlin Stories by Christopher Isherwood 54. The Young and Evil by Charles Henri Ford and Parker Tyler 55. Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit by Jeanette Winterson 56. A Visitation of Spirits by Randall Kenan 57. Three Lives by Gertrude Stein 58. Concerning the Eccentricities of Cardinal Pirelli by Ronald Firbank 59. Rat Bohemia by Sarah Schulman 60. Pale Fire by Vladimir Nabokov 61. The Counterfeiters by Andre Gide 62. The Passion by Jeanette Winterson 63. Lover by Bertha Harris 64. Moby Dick by Herman Melville 65. La Batarde by Violette Leduc 66. Death Comes for the Archbishop by Willa Cather 67. To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee 68. The Satyricon by Petronius 69. The Alexandria Quartet by Lawrence Durrell

identities. We also hope it will entice straight and gay readers alike to read the best of our novels." Flowers added, "We make no claims to creating the definitive added, We thank and Gay Novels list, and we encour-100 Best Lesbian and Gay Novels list, and we encourage others to challenge ours with their own." In fact, during the month of June, the Triangle will invite readers to respond to the list on its new Web site ers to respect <www.publishingtriangle.org>, thereby creating a second, "reader's choice" version of the list.

The Publishing Triangle is an association of lesbians and gay men in publishing.

-The Publishing Triangle

#### Where are the Lesbians? By Carol Seajay

Creating "100 Best" lists always strikes me as a futile exercise. Such lists are frequently harmful and are just plain troublesome at best.

The problems are legion:

First, best is best according to whom? If these 100 are best, then obviously everything else is, well, second rate. Such lists assume that the creators know all of the yo-yos, restaurants, novels, whatever, that should be considered. "100 Best" lists are, in practice, subjective offerings dressed up to pass as concrete and objective realities.

Second, beating out someone else just isn't the point of literature.

Then there's the analysis, "My \_\_\_\_ is bigger and better than yours is" just isn't a feminist thing.

But more to the point, as a disenfranchised community, lesbians don't have such a wealth of acknowledgment (in terms of having our work published, for instance) that we can afford to create lists that imply that these books are important - but the rest of them don't matter as much. Given that most of our work has yet to reach its audience(s) (not to mention the critics), it's unlikely that a simplistic vote-for-thebest-book approach is going to give women writers never mind lesbians — a fair chance given the effects of centuries of discrimination. To expect this process to unearth the "best" of lesbian literature, given that our literature didn't get the promo budgets, the press runs, or the critical attention that would make it visible to more than a few of the judges, is to ignore the complex Volume 22 Number 2 effects of discrimination.

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The point of this list, of course, is to create a buzz for gay and lesbian literature. To "legitimize" it. But for whom does it create a buzz? Whose literature becomes "more legitimate" — and at whose expense?

Surely no one wants to impose quotas (and obviously, no one did), but to create — and publish — a list that claims to be the best "Lesbian and Gay" novels wherein almost 60 percent of the books are by/about men and only 41 percent are about women (plus two books by women about gay men) makes a number of totally unacceptable — and harmful — statements. And only five of the top twenty books are lesbian? This list may serve gay men's publishing, but it doesn't do lesbian literature much good. First, the most obvious implication: Gay men write more/better books than lesbians do. Implication number two: there just aren't 50 "great lesbian books." Number three: Books by/about lesbians are less valuable .... Ad nauseam.

But the reality is not that lesbians (and other women) don't write excellent books. It's much more likely that lesbian judges read and voted for more books by/about gay men than male judges read and voted for books by women. Or maybe the women on the panel were selected because they read (and value) gay men's literature while no such balancing requirement was enforced in selecting the male judges.

I have that familiar feeling, reading through this list, that lesbians have been invited to the party only to be insulted. But if we complain, we're "ungrateful?"

Maybe the list just reflects the reality that there are, and have always been, more men in positions of power in the publishing industry than there are women (and, consequently, more gay men than lesbians), and that these men were able publish and nurture "their own" in a way that lesbians never could. Perhaps the list "just" reflects that homophobia is dissolving more quickly than sexism in the publishing world, and that there are currently more out gay men than out lesbians in the industry. That reality has a tremendous impact on who gets published, what gets promoted, what stays in print, and what is remembered — and thus what makes these kinds of lists.

To publish a list that is so heavily skewed by gender with no comment regarding the extreme bias it reflects and consequently promotes is irresponsible, hurtful, and damning. It is all too clear who it benefits - and all too familiar who it harms.

- 71. The Changelings by Jo Sinclair
- 72. Paradiso by Jose Lezama Lima
- 73. Sheeper by Irving Rosenthal
- 74. Les Guerilleres by Monique Wittig
- 75. The Child Manuela (Madchen in Uniform) by Christa Winsloe
- 76. An Arrow's Flight by Mark Merlis
- 77. The Gaudy Image by William Talsman
- 78. The Exquisite Corpse by Alfred Chester
- 79. Was by Geoff Ryman
- 80. Therese and Isabelle by Violette Leduc
- 81. Gemini by Michel Tournier
- 82. The Beautiful Room Is Empty by Edmund White
- 83. The Children's Crusade by Rebecca Brown
- 84. The Story of the Night by Colm Toibin
- 85. The Holy Terrors (Les Enfants Terribles) by Jean Cocteau
- 86. Hell Has No Limits by Jose Donoso
- 87. Riverfinger Women by Elana Nachman (Elana Dykewomon)
- 88. The Man Who Fell in Love with the Moon by Tom Spanbauer
- 89. Closer by Dennis Cooper
- 90. Lost Illusions by Honore de Balzac
- 91. Miss Peabody's Inheritance by Elizabeth Jolley
- 92. Rene's Flesh by Virgilio Pinera
- 93. Funny Boy by Shyam Selvadurai
- 94. Wasteland by Jo Sinclair
- 95. Mrs. Stevens Hears the Mermaids Singing by May Sarton
- 96. Sea of Tranquillity by Paul Russell
- 97. Autobiography of a Family Photograph by Jacqueline Woodson
- 98. In Thrall by Jane DeLynn
- 99. On Strike Against God by Joanna Russ
- 100. Sita by Kate Millet

A lot of people worked hard on this project, and many fought for a more inclusive, representative list they have my sympathy. I respect their efforts and sympathize with the frustration inherent in this undertaking. But the problem is that "Best-of" lists are a no-win situation. It's the very premise that is flawed.

Perhaps it would have made more sense to have created two lists: "The 100 Best Lesbian Novels" and "The 100 Best Gay Men's Novels." The least the

Publishing Triangle's list could have achieved is a 50/50 split. Would it have been so difficult to come up with nine more great lesbian novels?

Granted, it's much easier to critique a list than to create it. Personally, I think that neither effort is worth much, but given the tremendous imbalance between the number of gay male and lesbian books on this list, it becomes imperative to look at what lesbian work has been skipped over to create a list so

biased in favor of a male literature. The criteria is obviously wide open authors don't have to be gay for their books to be on the list, characters don't have to be out (yet), novels don't

A list that's almost 90 percent white folks just doesn't cut it.

even appear, necessarily, to require gay/lesbian content .... The following suggestions are hardly exhaustive: I compiled them in about ten minutes standing in the middle of my living room.

So let's start with: Have the contributors heard of Sarah Orne Jewett? Rosamund Lehmann? Vita Sackville-West? Renée Vivien?

What about Jane Rule? (Dorothy Allison argues for "books that have saved lives" and I'm here to tell you Rule's This Is Not For You certainly saved my sorry 17-year-old ass.) It was only published in three countries, by three different publishers — and in an era that was hardly lesbian-friendly. What about Desert of the Heart? (Or do we just write off a novel if we didn't like the movie?) Maybe it's simply been too long since I read The Square by Marguerite Duras, and it's not literature?

Where are the rest of the early classics: Gale Wilhelm's We Too Are Drifting and Torchlight to Valhalla, Diana: A Strange Autobiography by "Diana Frederics," and Trio and Cassandra at the Wedding by Dorothy Baker? What about Kathryn Hulme's A Nun's Story?

Maureen Duffy's That's How It Was and The Microcosm? Ebba Haslund's Nothing Happened, or the sweet, spare prose of Lillian Halegua's The Pearl Bastard (in which the narrator was certainly as lesbian as Scout is in To Kill a Mockingbird)? If we get Scout (and I do claim her as ours), then why would we stand without Toni Morrison's Sula? (And if you don't know why, all I can say is, "Girl, girl, girl, girl. But we was girls

together.") And Their Eyes Were Watching God - Zora Neale Hurston never was one to be pleased with

Has no one read Valentine Ackland's For Sylvia (Townsend Warner)? (OK, so there's an argument about whether it's a novel or autobiography. Do we need to care? We're talking 1949.) What about Barbara Deming's A Humming Under My Feet or Margaret Anderson's more recently discovered and published Forbidden Fires?

At the risk of belaboring the obvious, a list that's almost 90 percent white folks just doesn't cut it. Only three women of color? Lesbians of color have such a proud publishing tradition. I have

to ask, how many of the judges have actually read Anchee Min? Willyce Kim? Shani Mootoo? Sky Lee's Disappearing Moon Café? Helen Elaine Lee's Serpent's Gift, Cherry Muhanji's Her? Dionne Brand's In Another Place, Not Here? Sara Levi Calderon's Two Mujeres? Keri Hulme's The Bone People? (It only won a Booker.)

Is the problem with Gloria Naylor's National Book Award-winning The Women of Brewster Place that it doesn't have enough lesbian characters? Are they less "out" than Scout? Or just not as white? Do we not count, not value, not recognize, not honor the forced-into-pregnancy lesbian character(s) in Margaret Atwood's The Handmaid's Tale? (Do I detect some kind of double standard? Books with lesbian characters can be "best" if written by straight men, but not if written by straight women?) What about Mary McCarthy's The Group? (Clearly some of the

Only five of the top twenty books are lesbian?

books on the list were selected for impact rather than brilliance. No one would argue that The Well of Loneliness was Radclyffe Hall's best book.) Or, more currently, what about Ann

Patchett's Magician's Assistant?

What about Pat Barker (but then, she only gets literary prizes in Britain, not here), Doris Grumbach, Paula Sharp, Rose Tremain, Nicole Brossard, Barbara Wilson, Maureen Brady, Sheila Ortiz Taylor, Anna Livia, Judith Katz, Mary Dorcey (who, of course, only gets literary prizes in Ireland), Carol Guess, April Sinclair, Emma Donoghue ...?

And where is it written that the definitions of "lesbian" and "fun" are either self-cancelling, or simply do not apply if we're talking "best" books? If there's a place for *Rubyfruit Jungle*, what about *Fried Green Tomatoes* and *Stone Butch Blues*? Ditto the lesbian mystery genre, where many of our core issues are even addressed, on occasion, with great literary merit. I also fail to understand why YA books are, a priori, presumed to be *not* great literature — but again, perhaps that's only because YA is historically a "woman's" field. That said, someone still needs to explain to me why *The Friends, Annie on My Mind*, and *Happy Endings Are All Alike* are not "Best Lesbian Novels" by every definition of the concept.

Or let's just get serious about what makes up a great lesbian novel as defined by readers in the late 1990s and go directly to Nina Revoyr's *The Necessary Hunger*. It deals with the issues of our age: class, racism, multiculturalism, sexism — and drive, passion, ambition. All the issues and qualities that make books great — unless they're about women.

The problem with the "100 Best Lesbian and Gay Novels" list is not that there's a shortage of "best" lesbian novels — the problem is that it perpetuates the invisibility of lesbians and lesbian literature, even while claiming to promote them. And that it's done by a group of people who *should* be committed to eradicating that invisibility, not perpetuating it. O

## Dorothy Allison on "The List"

I agreed to work on compiling the list of the 100 best lesbian and gay novels on the understanding that it would be yet another zen exercise, a task impossible by definition — but an aesthetic and ethical struggle useful to me and my community.

I do not believe that there is ever going to be one list of the best of anything, and this list is more problematic than most. What, after all, is a lesbian novel or a gay book? This is something the literary and queer communities have been questioning for years. No, it is not enough that a book is written by a lesbian or a gay man — though I do like to know that fact and I do believe it profoundly shapes the work. I believe that there is indeed a lesbian sensibility and a gay sensibility and that those are both distinct and overlapping. Most of all I believe that these books reflect a passionate depth to our community.

I came to this list as a lesbian, a writer, and a feminist, but most of all I came to it as a reader — someone who owes her survival to the power and grace of books. That was my measure for nominating books to be considered, and that was my measure for voting for which I would want to see named "best." I also wanted to be an advocate for women novelists in a world that so often undervalues the work of women writers — particularly lesbian writers.

Last fall when I first saw a list of the 100 best novels, I remember feeling first appalled - there were so few books by women on that list — and then predictably pushed to start thinking about what I would put on my own list of the best. Which books would I name as life-saving? That is how I came to this work, trying to think about what books made me more able to understand my life and the world around me. Yes, of course, Virginia Woolf. Yes, certainly James Baldwin and Jo Sinclair and May Sarton and Audre Lorde and Bertha Harris and Randall Kenan and four hundred others who did not make it past the voting process of the committee. Some of the books chosen for the final list would not have made it to my own personal shelf of the "best ever," but all of them meet my criteria of life-saving.

What I hope this list will accomplish is to provoke people to make up their own lists, and to prompt young readers to go hunting for books they might have trouble finding. I want young people to read Dorothy Bussy and James Purdy — so they can judge how much the world has changed and how much it has not. I want critics and reviewers and readers and bookstore staffers to start arguing about what they would put on their own lists, and maybe wondering why *Little Women* [made] it on this one, and *Sula* [did] not.

Every generation defines itself in its own terms. Every generation redefines itself against the dismissals or misunderstandings of those it must confront to survive. Every generation speaks both to the one before it and to the one that follows. This is what I know about being a lesbian and about writing. What I want most of all are the books to come, the ones we will add to this list gratefully and without question. —Dorothy Allison O



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July/August 1999

ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### By Teri Mae Rutledge

#### **Small Press News**

South End Press, which publishes books by Noam Chomsky, bell hooks, Howard Zinn, Winona LaDuke, and Holly Sklar, has joined Consortium Book Sales and Distribution.

*The Volcano*, a zine for your subversive dyke clientele, is now available from AK Press, 415-864-0892.

Egales Press, a Spanish gay/lesbian publisher based in Madrid, has bought the rights for their fifth Naiad Press novel, Peggy Herring's A Moment's Indiscretion. Egales has also obtained its first gay men's fiction titles as well as rights for Rita Mae Brown's Six of One. Barbara Grier compares the buying patterns of the fledgling publisher to that of Silvermoon of the U.K. (which has published 70 Naiad titles) and Fauenoffensive of Germany (which published 50 Naiad titles).

Small Press Distribution is again running their promotional program Get Lit. SPD will give any store that puts up a Get Lit display a 45 percent discount on display titles as well as posters, signs, and free national advertising. Last year 30 stores participated; SPD is hoping to get 100 involved this year. For more information, contact Brent Cunningham by email <brent@spdbooks.org> or fax 510-524-0852.

#### **Electronic News**

In Other Words (Portland OR) has email. Contact them at <othrwrds@teleport.com>.

Prairie Moon (Prospect IL) has a Web site. Visit them at <www.enteract.com/~moongrrl>.

Crazy Ladies (Cincinnati OH) has a Web site. Access it by going to <www.crazyladies.org> and clicking on the bookstore link.

#### Awards

The 1999 Lambda Literary Award winners were announced at BEA in Los Angeles. For gay men's fiction: An Arrow's Flight by Mark Merlis (St. Martin's); for lesbian fiction: Cavedweller by Dorothy Allison (Dutton); for gay men's studies: The Other Side of Silence by John Loughery (Henry Holt); for lesbian studies: A Fragile Union by Joan Nestle (Cleis); for children/ young adults: Telling Tales out of School edited by Kevin Jennings (Alyson); for lesbian and gay small presses: the bull-jean stories by Sharon Bridgforth (RedBone Press); for lesbian poetry: Marianne Faithfull's Cigarette by Gerry Gomez Pearlberg (Cleis Press); for gay men's poetry: Ten Commandments by J.D. McClatchy (Knopf); for lesbian mystery: Shaman's Moon by Sarah Dreher (New Victoria) and Blue Place by Nicola Griffith (Avon); for gay men's mystery: Outburst by R.D. Zimmerman (Delacorte); for lesbian biography/autobiography: The Indelible Alison Bechdel by Alison Bechdel (Firebrand); for gay men's biography/autobiography: Wisecracker by William Mann (Viking); for lesbian and gay fiction anthology: Columbia Anthology



Lambda Publisher Service Award winner, Joan Drury

of Gay Literature edited by Byrne R.S. Fone (Columbia University Press); for gay and lesbian nonfiction anthology: Mom edited by Nisa Donnelly and Donna Allegra (Alyson) and Q&A: Queer in Asian America edited by David L. Eng and Alice Y. Hom (Temple University Press); for lesbian and gay humor: Alec Baldwin Doesn't Love Me by Michael Thomas Ford (Alyson); for gay and lesbian SF/fantasy: Bending the Landscape edited by Nicola Griffith and Stephen Pagel (Overlook Press) and Galilee by Clive Barker (HarperCollins); for lesbian and gay drama: O Solo

## WRITING WANTED

Amy Blake and Kelly Smith of A Woman's Prerogative (Ferndale MI) are seeking manuscripts for their new publishing company, Bella Books, specializing in lesbian romance and mystery novels. They are planning to begin publishing in the Fall season, 2000. For more information, contact Bella Books, 175 W. Nine Mile Rd., Ferndale MI 48220; 248-545-5703, email <Bellabooks@aol.com>.

Alyson is seeking poetry, short fiction, memoir, creative nonfiction, personal essays, and cartoons about lesbians and therapy for a humorous anthology: *Dykes with Baggage: The Lighter Side of Lesbians and Therapy*. For more information, email <LezTherapy@aol.com>. Send work (with a bio and SASE) or queries to Riggin Waugh, Anthology, PO Box 5243, Takoma Park MD 20913. Deadline August 15.

Cherub Productions is holding a "One in Ten Screenplay Competition" for screenplays with gay and lesbian content. Winners will receive a cash prize as well as "industry contacts." Winners will be announced at the 1999 Boulder Gay and Lesbian Film Festival this fall. For entry forms and complete guidelines, visit Cherub's Web site: <members.aol.com/ cherubfilm/> or send a SASE to Cherub Productions, One in Ten Screenplay Competition, PO Box 540, Boulder CO 80306; 303-629-3072, email <cherubfilm@aol.com>. There's a \$35 entry fee. Deadline September 1. Homo edited by Holly Hughes and David Roman (Grove Press); for gay and lesbian photography/visual arts: Women in Love by Barbara Seyda and Diana Herrera (Bullfinch/Little, Brown) and The Male Nude by David Leddick (Taschen); for lesbian and gay religion/spirituality: Ferocious Romance by Donna Minkowitz (Free Press); and for transgender title: The Empress Is a Man by Michael Robert Gorman (Harrington Park Press).

Joan M. Drury of Spinsters Ink was given the Publisher Service Award for her many contributions to gay and lesbian publishing. Katherine V. Forrest was awarded the Pioneer Award. The Editors' Choice award went to *The Boy* by Naeem Murr (Houghton Mifflin). *Overcoming Heterosexism and Homophobia* edited by James T. Sears and Walter L. Williams (Columbia University Press) won the GLSEN Contribution Toward Excellence in Education Award. Ken Yeager won the Victory Foundation Civic Leadership Award for his *Trailblazers: Portraits of America's Gay and Lesbian Officials* (Haworth Press). Finally, Lillian Faderman and Jonathan Ned Katz won the Monette-Horwitz Award for Excellence in Gay and Lesbian Studies.

The 1999 Firecracker awards were also announced at BEA. Among the winners are: for fiction, *The Leather Daddy and the Femme: An Erotic Novel* by Carol Queen (Cleis Press); for nonfiction, *Cunt: A Declaration of Independence* by Inga Muscio (Seal Press); and for zines, *The Fish Tank* published by Teresa Cooper and Lisa Zale. Cleis Press was named the outstanding independent press of the year.

Finally, the 1999 American Book Awards (given by the Before Columbus Foundation) were announced at BEA. Among the award recipients are: *The Farming* of Bones by Edwidge Danticat (Soho Press), *The Floating* Borderlands: Twenty-Five Years of U.S. Hispanic Literature edited by Lauro Flores (University of Washington Press), Ghost Dancing by Anna Linzer (Picador USA), Charming Billy by Alice McDermott (Delta), *The Men of* Brewster Place by Gloria Naylor (Hyperion), First Fish, First People edited by Judith Roche and Meg McHutchison (One Reel/University of Washington Press), and Sometimes the Soul by Gioia Timpanelii (Norton). Also, Bobby and Lee Byrd of Cinco Puntos Press won an editor/publisher award. By Nan Cinnater Now Voyager/Provincetown, MA

In the heat of summer, most of us are looking for mindless entertainment, page-turning good reads, beach books. My spring and June columns covered most of the potential summer blockbusters. But who says beach books can't be politically correct? Here are some entertaining yet political mysteries that could end up with sand between the pages.

At first glance, **Sing It to Her Bones** by Marcia Talley looks like any other cozy suburban mystery with a housewife heroine, but there is a difference. Talley's fictional sleuth, Hannah Ives, has breast cancer. As the book opens, Hannah has already been through a mastectomy and chemo, and is considering breast reconstruction surgery. Hannah tackles the cancer head-on with humor and courage, and she's a resourceful sleuth as well. The rationale for Hannah's involvement in a murder investigation, always a problem with amateur detectives, seems particularly thin, but once disbelief is suspended the action moves briskly. All in all, this is something a little more thoughtful to offer the "Murder She Wrote" crowd. \$5.99 pb, 0-440-23517-1, August, Dell.

Maximum Insecurity by P.J. Grady features a Latina private eye named Matty Madrid based in Santa Fe, New Mexico, working on the killing of a convict in the New Mexico State Penitentiary. Matty is a low-rent P.I. who will take almost any case and doesn't always get paid, but she's tough, smart, and has a strong network of allies in New Mexico law enforcement. The author actually worked in the Santa Fe prison, and her insider's knowledge shows in the many scenes set in the penitentiary. In fact, Maxiumum Insecurity is so gritty and authentic it's reminiscent of Elmore Leonard's prison novels. \$12.95 tp, 0-9661072-4-1. Avocet Press, 635 Madison Ave. Suite 400, NY NY 10022; 212-754-6300.

After years of being underrepresented, and nearly un-represented, African American women are rapidly catching up in the mystery genre. What a Woman's Gotta Do by Evelyn Coleman (reviewed in the January 98 FBN) is a romantic thriller with mystical elements and a strong African American heroine, an Atlanta journalist. (\$6.50 pb, 0-440-23500-6, Dell.) Watch for the sequel to What a Woman's Gotta Do, out from Simon & Schuster in September (sorry, no details). Easier to Kill is the latest in Valerie Wilson Wesley's excellent series featuring Tamara Hayle, African American private eye from New Jersey. Here she's hired to protect a radio personality being stalked by a fan. (\$6.99 pb, 0-380-72910-5, Twilight/Avon.) Shades of Justice by Linda Bullard introduces a Black woman lawyer who's the special prosecutor on a high-profile case. (\$6.99 pb, 0-451-19768-2, Onyx.)



In May, Pamela Thomas-Graham published **Blue Blood**, the second in her Ivy League mystery series about African American Harvard economics professor Nikki Chase, this time at Yale to help out a friend. (\$23 cl, 0-684-84527-X, Simon & Schuster.) I thoroughly enjoyed Thomas-Graham's debut set at Harvard, **A Darker Shade of Crimson**. (\$6.99 pb, 0-671-01670-9, Pocket.) Thomas-Graham really knows whereof she

AYSTERIES

writes; she has not one but three degrees from Harvard: a B.A., an M.B.A., and a law degree! Her sleuth Nikki Chase is a liberal and a feminist with a clear take on racism, which makes this "traditional" academic mystery both fresh and refreshing. How often do amateur detectives round up suspects to debate the merits of the white male Western canon versus a multicultural curriculum?

Another contender for the Amanda Cross crown is Joanne Dobson, who writes about outsider academic Karen Pelletier, a working-class scholar and former battered wife. In addition to a neat evocation of academic politics (which we all know can be murder), the mysteries themselves turn on clues found in scholarly research. I liked the first of these, Quieter than Sleep, which delves into research on Emily Dickinson. (\$5.99 pb, 0-553-57660-7, Bantam.) Dobson's new paperback, The Northbury Papers, concerns forgotten 19th-century women writers (\$5.99 pb, 0-553-57661-5, August, Bantam), and her new hardcover, The Raven and the Nightingale, is described as "an Edgar Allan Poe mystery" (\$21.95, 0-385-49339-8, October, Doubleday).

Ordinary Justice by Trudy Labovitz provides a strong feminist perspective on domestic violence. Zoe witnessed her best friend's murder at the hands of an abusive husband. Now a private detective in D.C., Zoe runs into another abusive situation. \$12 tp, 0-883523-31-1, Spinsters Ink.



A number of lesbian mysteries are out in mass market from mainstream publishers. You can't afford to miss Gonna Take a Homicidal Journey by Sandra Scoppettone, latest and last (?) in her series about New York P.I. Lauren Laurano. (\$5.99, 0-345-43118-9, Ballantine.) Mary Wings is back with She Came in Drag. It's Halloween in San Francisco; need we say more? (\$6.50, 0-425-16935-9, Berkley.) And multiaward-winner Ellen Hart has another paperback in her Jane Lawless series. In Wicked Games Jane copes with a long-distance relationship and a psychic tenant who predicts murder. (\$5.99, 0-312-96707-1, St. Martin's.) Hart's new hardcover, Hunting the Witch, takes up where Wicked Games left off, when a patient of Jane's lover is murdered. (\$24.95. 0-312-20386-1, September, St. Martin's.)

Lost Daughters is the long-awaited new hardcover from J.M. Redmann, the sequel to her Lambdawinning The Intersection of Law and Desire. Here bayou-bred New Orleans P.I. Mickey Knight searches for her own mother. (\$24.95, 0-393-04028-3, Norton.) In September we'll have Sleeping Bones, the new hardcover from Katherine V. Forrest, published by Prime Crime/Berkley. (\$21.95, 0-425-17029-2.)

Absent Friends is the latest in Gillian Linscott's series about suffragette Nell Bray. Celebrating the end of the Great War, a man dies lighting a firecracker, and Nell investigates on behalf of his widow. The catalog copy says, "she must show a dedication to truth as strong as her loyalty to women's rights in order to solve the case." So far, this series has not appeared in paper, so it hasn't developed a large following, but it sounds great. \$20.95 cl, 0-312-20765-4, St. Martin's.

There are lots more summer mysteries which may be less political, but are nevertheless of interest to feminist booksellers and readers. One of my favorite British writers, Janet Neel, has a new mystery featuring civil servant Francesca Wilson and her policeman husband. In To Die For, Francesca helps out old friends Selina and Judith, restaurateurs who are being pressured to sell. Neel comes as close as anyone has to writing contemporary versions of Dorothy L. Sayers' golden age mysteries, which is saying quite a lot. \$21.95 cl, 0-312-20598-8, St. Martin's.

On the darker British side, Julia Wallis Martin's first novel, A Likeness in Stone, was nominated for an Edgar Award, and she is being compared to Minette Walters. In A Likeness in Stone, retired detective Bill Driver reopens an old case when the body of a missing woman is finally found in a house long submerged by a reservoir. (\$6.50 pb, 0-312-97077-3, August, St. Martin's.) Apparently Martin, like Walters, is not writing a series; her new novel, The Bird Yard, features a different British detective hunting down the killer of several missing children. The Cambridge Evening News called it "Immaculately crafted, chilling, and...compulsively readable." (\$23.95 cl, 0-312-20500-7, September, St. Martin's.)

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Another Walters wannabe, Teri Holbrook, brings American Gale Grayson back to England, where she finds a body in a mill stream in **Sad Water**. This is the third in Holbrook's much-nominated series, but she has yet to find her audience in our store. Her previous titles were *The Grass Widow* and *A Far and Deadly Cry*. (\$5.99 pb, 0-553-57718-2, Bantam, September.) In September Elizabeth George herself brings out her first novel in a couple of years, **In Pursuit of the Proper Sinner**, featuring Inspector Thomas Lynley and Sergeant Barbara Havers. (\$25.95 cl, 0-553-10235-4, Bantam.)

Old hand Linda Barnes brings back Boston cab driver and private eye Carlotta Carlyle in **Flashpoint**, about burglary, arson, and real estate development. (\$22.95 cl, 0-7868-6317-X, September, Hyperion.) Hyperion is reissuing the first Carlotta Carlyle mystery, **A Trouble of Fools**, about drug running, gun running, and Irish politics, which, as I recall, was excellent. (\$4.50 pb, 0-7868-8953-5, October.)

Judging from the sales in our store, Sarah Andrews is poised to break through with her series about geologist Em Hanson. Andrews' new paperback is **Only Flesh and Bones**, in which Em is helping young Cecilia Mencken recover her memory after her mother's murder. (\$5.99 pb, 0-312-96702-0, August, St. Martin's.) In Andrews' new hardcover, **Bone Hunter**, Em attends a paleontology conference where a colleague is found dead, stabbed with a dinosaur bone. (\$23.95 cl, 0-312-20381-0, September, St. Martin's.)

Linda Fairstein, the assistant district attorney in charge of sex crimes in Manhattan, writes with an insider's expertise about a New York City D.A. in a series that's a favorite in our store. Fairstein's latest, **Cold Hit**, will be out in September from Scribner. Her previous paperbacks are *Final Jeopardy* and *Likely to Die*. \$25 cl, 0-684-84846-5.

Sujata Massey's sleuth, Rei Shimura, is a Japanese American antique dealer living in Tokyo; Massey does a nice job of contrasting traditional Japanese culture with Rei's independent American values. In **The Flower Master**, Rei takes a course in flower arranging only to have her teacher murdered during the first lesson. \$24 cl, 0-06-019228-3, HarperCollins.

The latest comic outing for early 20th-century Egyptologist and feisty feminist Amelia Peabody is The Falcon at the Portal by Elizabeth Peters. \$24 cl, 0-380-97658-7, Twilight/Avon.

Artist/sleuth Sam Jones is the girl in **The Black Rubber Dress**, a debut mystery by Lauren Henderson that looks to be a very hip, noir mix of white collar crime, drugs, and murder. \$12 tp, 0-609-80438-3, Crown.



Notable summer mass markets include Blind Bloodhound Justice by Virginia Lanier, third in a series about tracker/trainer Jo Beth Siddons and her intrepid bloodhounds. (\$6.50, 0-06-109971-6, HarperCollins.) On a completely different doggy note, Alaskan dogsled racer Jessie Arnold is back in Deadfall by Sue Henry, and she's up against a stalker on an isolated island. Customers say that Henry gives good Alaska. (\$6.50, 0-380-79891-3, Avon.) Moon Music by Faye Kellerman departs from her orthodox Jewish series, introducing instead Romulus Poe, a Las Vegas cop investigating a 25-year-old murder. (\$7.50, 0-380-72626-2, Avon.) Back in early 20th-century San Francisco, outspoken, independent Fremont Jones investigates murder at a seance in Emperor Norton's Ghost by Dianne Day. Day incorporates supernatural elements as well as feminism in these historical mysteries, making for a strange but popular brew. (\$5.99, 0-553-58078-7, Bantam.) Day's new hardcover, Death Train to Boston, will be out in September from Doubleday. (\$21.95, 0-385-48609-X.)

Later in the Fall St. Martin's will have a couple of interesting hard/soft combinations from women unknown to me. **Zen and the Art of Murder** by Elizabeth M. Cosin introduces Los Angeles private eye Zen Moses, survivor of lung cancer and numerous hangovers. (\$5.99 pb, 0-312-97948-1, October.) This is followed by **Zen and the City of Angels**, in which Zen stumbles upon a body while searching for a missing dog. (\$23.95 cl, 0-312-20611-9, October.) Meanwhile, Nancy Bartholomew introduces the first *See* Mysteries, page 122.

# RT BOOKS

By Tee A. Corinne

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Feminism and Documentary edited by Diane Waldman and Janet Walker is an extremely readable collection of essays that are more interesting than some their titles indicate. Of special note is the chapter on Michelle Parkerson in which Gloria J. Gibson discusses Storme: The Lady of the Jewel Box, The Life and Work of Audre Lorde, and Gotta Make This Journey: Sweet Honey in the Rock. \$19.95 pb, 0-8166-3007-0; \$49.95 cl, -3006-2, University of Minnesota Press.

Documenting a Myth: The South as Seen by Three Women Photographers, Chansonetta Stanley Emmons, Doris Ulman, Bayard Wootten, 1910–1940 by Naomi Rosenblum and Susan Fillin-Yeh presents the humanist-inspired imagery of one Southern and



Audre Lorde and her daughter, in Feminism and Documentary (University of Minnesota Press)

two Northern white women photographing rural, mostly African American subjects. Rosenblum's essay is especially useful in positioning the imagery in an historical framework. \$19.95 pb, 0-295-97767-1, Cooley Gallery, distributed by University of Washington Press.

Devouring Frida: The Art History and Popular Celebrity of Frida Kahlo by Margaret A. Lindaueris a complex examination of the myths and discussions which have developed since the 1970s around Kahlo (1907-1954), the intriguing Mexican painter. \$19.95 pb, 0-8195-6348-X; \$45 cl, -6347-1, Wesleyan University Press, distributed by the University Press of New England.

The Family of Women: Voices Across the Generations by Carolyn Jones is a feel-good gift book

that's lovely for the quality of photographs, the sympathetic editing of individual stories, and the wide variety of women represented. \$24.95 cl, 0-7892-0338-3, Abbeville.

Bachelors by Rosalind Krauss is too serious to be called quirky, yet it contains so many elements of surprise and delight that hardly another word fits. A discussion of the work of several 20th-century artists including lesbian photographer Claude Cahun. According to Linda Nochlin, "...it provides feminist scholarship with new angles of vision." \$29.95 cl, 0-262-11239-6, MIT Press.

Georgia O'Keeffe: The Poetry of Things by Elizabeth Hutton Turner is a luscious book with some of the most sensual/sexual O'Keeffe images I've See Art Books, page 28.

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By Heather Whipple/Swarthmore College Library, PA, and Laura Quilter/The Exploratorium, CA

A couple of books previously mentioned in this column have received Hugo nominations: in the category of best novel, Mary Doria Russell's **Children of God** (Villard) and Connie Willis's **To Say Nothing of the Dog** (Bantam Spectra); in the category of best novelette, Ellen Klages' 1999 Lammy-winning story "Time Gypsy" from **Bending the Landscape: Science Fiction** edited by Nicola Griffith and Steven Pagel (Overlook).

*Femspec* is a new interdisciplinary feminist journal dedicated to critical and creative works in the realms of SF, fantasy, magical realism, and other supernatural genres. Subscription rates are \$30 for a charter subscription, \$20 for a low-income subscription. For more information or to subscribe, write to Femspec, Department of English, Cleveland State University, Cleveland, OH 44115; email: <femspec @popmail.csuohio.edu>.

#### Ace

The third novel in Sharon Shinn's Samaria trilogy is now in paperback. **The Alleluia Files** follows *Archangel* and *Jovah's Angel* to resolve the conflict between Jovah, the angels, and the people of Samaria. Required reading for fans of the first two books. \$6.99, 0-441-00620-5.

#### Avon Eos

The ever-popular Sheri S. Tepper continues to wrestle with eco-feminism and societal control over women in her latest book, **Singer from the Sea**. On the planet Haven, a young noblewoman is faced with living out her life in the stiffling, formal, and socially regulated manner expected of her gender and class. However, obscure lessons from her dead mother and her own questions about why she must do what is expected of her lead her to discover the terrible secret at the core of Haven culture. \$24 cl, 0-380-97480-0.

#### Bantam

**Panagaea Book 1: Imperium Without End** by Lisa Mason (*Summer of Love, The Golden Nineties*) takes place in a society where a benevolent tyranny controls, through its dreams, the people of Panagaea. When the Imperium works, its pure visions repress violence, passion, and eroticism among the people, creating a stable and calm caste society. But when one of the dreamers is murdered, new revolutionary dreams of violence, sex, and freedom begin to shake things up. The new dreams are apparently related to mysterious earthquakes threatening the planet, and members of different castes must learn to work together to search for answers. The concluding volume will be published in October. \$6.50 pb, 0-553-57571-6.

Bantam has reprinted Tanith Lee's 1981 novel **The Silver Metal Lover.** Girl meets Robot. Girl loves Robot. Girl realizes Robot is much more than a Robot. Lee's science fiction romance is a coming-of-age story about Jane, a privileged teen who leaves home after meeting Silver, the (artificial) man of her dreams. It soon becomes clear, however, that Silver is more than mere machine, and his existence may be a deadly threat to humanity. The novel was also optioned for film. \$5.99 pb, 0-553-58127-9.

**Bucknell University Press** 

If you carry nonfiction titles about science fiction and/or Latin American literature, consider Fantasies of the Feminine: The Short Stories of Silvina Ocampo by Patricia Nisbet Klingenberg. Klingenberg offers an analysis of Ocampo's short fiction from the perspective of current Euro-American feminist theory. Ocampo was a great Latina writer who wrote speculative fiction, although very little of her work has been translated into English. \$42.50 cl, 0-8387-5389-2.



#### Circlet

Your press for one-stop erotic speculative fiction shopping, Circlet has three new anthologies edited by Cecilia Tan as well as a serial novel written by her. Fetish Fantastic edited by Tan includes eleven stories of S/M bondage and other power-exchange fetishes. \$14.95 tp, 1-885865-13-9.

The title of forthcoming Sexcrime: Subversive Erotica edited by Tan is taken from George Orwell's 1984. \$15.95 tp, 1-885865-26-0, October.

Originally published in 1995, the new edition of S/M Futures: Millennium Edition edited by Tan includes a new story by Tan and an introduction by S/Mauthor Laura Antoniou. \$14.95 tp, 1-885865-29-5.

The Velderet: A Cybersex S/M Serial by Cecilia Tan. From the cover blurb: "Bellonia is a peaceful utopia of a world where 'inequality' is taboo. But that leaves our heroes, Merin and Kobi, unfulfilled. For these two roommates share a secret obsession: the playing of master/slave sex games. Their sexuality becomes the key to their world's survival, though, when conquerors from another world arrive. Originally published as a serial in Taste of Latex magazine, The Velderet ran for six issues before the magazine folded. Find out now what happens in the end!" \$14.95 tp, 1-885865-27-9.

#### Daw

Sword & Sorceress XVI, edited by Marion Zimmer Bradley, contains 25 all-original stories of strong, heroic women by Diana Paxson, Elisabeth Waters, and Dorothy Heydt, plus an introduction by Bradley. Like the previous 15 volumes in this very popular series, the fantasy stories here celebrate female warriors and wizards who face peril and come to the aid of those in need. \$6.99 pb, 0-88677-843-3.

#### HarperCollins/HarperPrism

In award-winning author Elizabeth Hand's Black Light, a Halloween party in little Kamensic Village takes a turn for the weird when the walls between worlds come crumbling down and the old gods come out to play. \$25 cl, 0-06-105266-3.

What if the Native Americans of the Western plains had united to conquer the encroaching Civil War-weakened Euro-Americans? Pamela Sargent provides a well-researched and plausible alternate history in Climb the Wind. \$25 cl, 0-06-105029-6.

#### Roc

The short stories collected in Not of Woman Born edited by Constance Ash explore the possibilities, positive and negative, of alternative reproduction technologies. Authors include Kara Dalkey, Debra Doyle, Nina Kiriki Hoffman, Patricia McKillip, and Robert Silverberg. \$6.99 pb, 0-451-45681-5.

#### Art Books, continued from page 26.

ever seen. The text, too, is fascinating. \$35 cl, 0-300-07935-4, Yale University Press.

The revised edition of I Dream a World: Portraits of Black Women Who Changed America by Brian Lanker with a foreword by Maya Angelouis an exceptionally beautiful and moving book. Angelou writes, "Brian Lanker...has discovered women whose images show us the high cost of living and the rich reward of thriving." \$40 cl, 1-55670-888-2, Stewart, Tabori & Chang.

One of my favorite books is back in print: The Lives of Lee Miller by Anthony Penrose. Miller (1907–1977) — possibly a molested child, fashion model, mistress of Man Ray, photographer, journalist, wife (twice), mother — had an amazing eye as an artist. Her photographs of World War II are devastating, her portraits surprising. The text gives a sense of continuity to her life, something that those who knew her probably didn't experience. \$24.95 pb, 0-500-27509-2, Thames and Hudson, distributed by Norton. Volume 22 Number 2



#### Magazines

I was so sad I missed the 20th-anniversary issue of Kalliope, the feminist literary journal from Jacksonville, Florida, when it came out last fall. This expanded issue includes past and present editorial collective members as well as many famous types like Margaret Atwood, Ruthann Robson, Marge Piercy, Denise Levertov, Maxine Kumin, and Joy Harjo. A journal collecting poetry, fiction, essays, art, and reviews by women, Kalliope remains a treasure. Remind your customers of it with this special issue. \$7. Kalliope, Florida Community College at Jacksonville, 3939 Roosevelt Blvd., Jacksonville FL 32205; 904-381-3511. For the 20th anniversary issue, order direct from Kalliope. The spring issue is available from Ingram Periodicals, Koen, Ubiquity, Small Changes, and Armadillo. -TMR

#### Naiad Press

The Dawning is the latest from Laura Adams (nom de plume of well-known lesbian romance writer Karin Kallmaker), whose compelling sci-fi work includes the critically acclaimed *Christabel* and *Night Vision*. Thirteen years after a terrible accident that killed seven people and shattered the lives of thousands more, guilt-stricken Amanda Martin receives the power to change the past — but doing so could destroy her future. \$11.95 pb, 1-56280-246-1, September.

Bestselling romance author Marianne Martin (*Dawn of the Dance, Legacy of Love,* and *Love in the Balance*) continues the saga of Sage Bristo in the emotion-filled **Never Ending**. Although strangers might be fooled by Sage Bristo's air of extreme confidence, her lover Deanne suspects that Sage's emotional wounds are hidden rather than healed. But in trying to find out more about Sage's pain-filled past, Deanne unwittingly undermines the trust that is the foundation of their relationship. \$11.95 pb, 1-56280-247-X, September.

Claire McNab's **Set Up** is another sensational installment in this riveting lesbian mystery series! While tracking down a ruthless hired killer, Australian top cop Carol Ashton is tempted by the seductive charms of a mysterious stranger, a woman whose shadowy secrets could be leading Carol to the dark side of desire. Previous installments of this award-winning mystery series include: *Past Due*,



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Chain Letter, Double Bluff, and Inner Circle. \$11.95 pb, 1-56280-255-0, October.

Intimate Stranger is a surefire bestseller from popular romance writer Laura DeHart Young (Private Passions, Love on the Line, Family Secrets, and There Will Be No Goodbyes). While covering a gruesome murder, Chicago Tribune crime photographer Cole Evans finds herself strongly attracted to the victim's niece, Tray Roberts. Although Cole has yet to resolve her feelings for her ex-lover and best friend, interior designer Jan Hart, she and Tray begin a heated flirtation that quickly ignites into blazing passion. \$11.95 pb, 1-56280-249-6, October.

In Kaye Davis' fourth Maris Middleton Mystery, Shattered Illusions, independent crime scene specialist Maris Middleton and her lover, FBI agent Lauren O'Conner, join forces when three young women are brutally slain at a dog grooming shop. Frustrated by the case and under intense public scrutiny, Maris and Lauren feel their relationship slowly unraveling. And all the while, someone is watching and waiting. A professional criminalist, Kaye Davis is the author of Devil's Leg Crossing, Possessions, and

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Until the End. \$11.95 pb, 1-56280-252-6, October.

Naiad Press, PO Box 10543, Tallahassee FL 32302; 800-533-1973. Available from the publisher and BP -Naiad Press

#### Odd Girls Press

Monologues and Scenes for Lesbian Actors by Carolyn Gage. Finally, a book for lesbians who are tired of "passing" at auditions and in acting classes and workshops! Here at last, from one of the most talented and inventive contemporary playwrights, is a book of more than twenty monologues and more than forty scenes by, for, and about lesbians. Here are dramatic portrayals of our coming-out stories, our strategies of resistance, our rescue of survivors of sexual abuse, our passions, our torture, our triumphs. The settings are historic and contemporary, ranging from the goddess temples of Lesbos to the locker rooms of a softball team. \$11 pb, 1-887237-10-0.

Pelt by Daphne Gottlieb. Using the language of the everyday to express the extraordinary, poet Daphne Gottlieb searches for the truths of human experience and finds them in relationships, childhood, and a woman on fire. Pelt is a document of survival in a slaughterhouse culture. From preying to praying, to the loss of innocence and the innocence of loss, to the most cruel and unusual stuff of all-love - these poems represent a strong, fresh voice in contemporary poetry. \$9 pb, 1-887237-09-7.

Odd Girls Press, PO Box 2157, Anaheim CA 92814; 800-821-0632, email <publisher@oddgirlspress.com>. Also available from BP, Koen, and Alamo Square. -Margaret Gillon



#### Seal Press

From the Djuna Books series, Seal is re-releasing Paula Martinac's novel Out of Time, winner of the Lambda Literary Award. Susan Van Dine steals a 1920s scrapbook from an antique store on Manhattan's West Side, inextricably linking her to four women photographed there, a group who called themselves "The Gang." Susan begins to feel that the past is collid-ing with the ing with the present, and that she is being haunted by the women in the present, and that she is being haunted by the women in the scrapbook. Evocative of time, space, and characteristics and character, **Out of Time** is a novel about love, history and the scrapbook. Evocative of unever history and the scrapbook. history, and the persistence of passion. \$12.95 pb, Volume 22 Number 2



1-58005-020-4. Seal Press, 3131 Western Ave. #410, Seattle WA 98121; 206-283-7844, fax 206-285-9410, email <sealprss@scn.org>. Distributed by PGW. —*TMR* 

#### Whiteaker Press

Now Breathe: A Very Personal Journey Through Breast Cancer by Claudia Sternbach is an extremely well-written and accessible account of one woman's life with breast cancer. I'm starting to feel that there's a whole lot of material out there on women's experiences with cancer, so a book that is this engrossing is certainly something to stock, something to handsell, and to feel good about. Sternbach is at turns poignant, smart, and funny. The section from which the title is taken is achingly beautiful. Anne Lamott said of the book, "Claudia Sternbach spills her life out on these pages and does it with grace and humor. It is her story of living with a cancer diagnosis and she tells it beautifully." \$13.95 pb, 0-9653800-4-1. Whiteaker Press, 204 First Ave. South, Seattle WA 98104; 800-489-9095, email <cmauro1@aol.com>. Distributed by Words. -TMR



#### Wolfe Video

New releases from the Wolfe Pack:

**Companions.** These seven short films glimpse into the funny, edgy, and oftentimes seductive encounters between women and their companions. Includes shorts on: anticipation — *Breakfast with Gus* by Siobhan Devine (8 minutes), searching — *Traveling Companion* by Paula Goldberg (20 minutes), petty theft — *Peppermills* by Isabel Hegner and Karen Jaroneski (14 minutes), flirting — *The Dinner Party* by Lisa Cholodenko (*High Art*) (9 minutes), revenge — *My Pretty Little Girlfriend* by Jennifer Gentile (7 minutes), waiting and waiting — *Between 7 and 1* by Christina Petropoulos (17 minutes), and fantasy — *Girl Talk* by Judith Cobb (5 minutes). Highly recommended. \$39.95, 80 minutes. Salmonberries: Collectors' Edition. k.d. lang portrays Kotz, an Alaskan orphan and misfit, with a troubled mix of innocence and desire. She pursues the town librarian, Roswitha (Rosel Zech), an embittered German expatriate. Initially rebuffing Kotz, Roswitha soon learns that they are more alike than different. While the younger searches for a past, the older runs from one. Through their deepening involvement, Kotz and Roswitha find in their yesterdays the power to live today. Music video added to this collector's edition. \$19.95, 98 minutes.

Gods and Monsters. Academy Award nominee and openly gay British actor Sir Ian McKellen brilliantly recreates the last days of Hollywood's only openly gay director of 1930s horror films, James Whale. Long after directing *Frankenstein*, Whale retired into seclusion in an attempt to escape his past. Gods and Monsters explores his fascination with a young gardener (Brendan Fraser). Lynn Redgrave, another Academy Award Nominee, delivers an outstanding costarring performance in this multilayered fictional exploration of Whale's life and work. Highly recommended. \$104.95, 104 minutes.

**Baseball Girls.** From the 19th-century Bloomer Girls to the present-day Colorado Silver Bullets, from seven-year-olds to grandmas, from the forgotten scorecards of Black women players to the struggles of female umps, **Baseball Girls** documents the past and present and looks to the future. Perfect companion to *We Got Next* (WNBA highlights) and *1998 Olympic Hockey Highlights.* \$19.95, 82 minutes.

Slaves to the Underground. Shelly is torn between her feelings for her boyfriend and the exciting emotions she feels for the rebellious Suzy. Set amidst the raucous club scene, raging hormones give way to adulthood in this funny, sexy, involving drama. \$59.95, 92 minutes.

Price reductions: Love and Death on Long Island, to \$19.95.

DVD availability: Billy's Hollywood Screen Kiss (\$29.95), Bound (\$29.95), Claire of the Moon (\$29.95),

Entre Nous (\$29.95), First Wives Club (\$29.95), Fried Green Tomatoes (\$34.95), GI Jane (\$29.95), Henry & June (\$29.95), In and Out (\$29.95), Living Out Loud (\$29.95), Man of the Year (\$29.95), Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil (\$29.95), More Tales of the City (\$49.95), Muriel's Wedding (\$29.95), Opposite of Sex (\$29.95), Priscilla, Queen of the Desert (\$29.95), Thelma & Louise (\$29.95), and Wild Reeds (\$29.95). Wolfe Video, PO Box 64, New Almaden CA 95042; 408-268-6782, fax 408-268-9449. —Wolfe Video

#### Women, Ink

OOK

Local Action, Global Change: Learning About the Human Rights of Women and Girls by Julie

#### Publisher of the Sarah Aldridge Novels

The first Sarah Aldridge novel was published more than 20 years ago. Since then it has been followed by 12 more:

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A FLIGHT OF ANGELS 1992 \$9 95	
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July/August 1999

Mertus with Nancy Flowers and Malika Dutt, published by UNIFEM and the Center for Women's Global Leadership, puts into definitive terms the meaning of "human rights of women and girls." This book, according to Charlotte Bunch in her foreword, "expresses both women's determination to claim our full birthright as one half of humanity and our exasperation that such an obvious assertion has taken so long to gain international acceptance. As the recognition of women's and girls' human rights has grown over the past decade, so too has the need for more works that explore and expound upon their meaning." An analysis that reveals women's dehumanized status all over the globe and proposes strategies for change. \$25.95 spiral bound, 0-912917-01-6. United Nations Development Fund for Women, 304 E. 45th St. 15th floor, NY NY 10017; 212-906-6400, fax 212-906-6705, email <unifem@undp.org>. Distributed by Women Ink, 777 United Nations Plaza, NY NY 10017; 212-687-8633, fax 212-661-2704, email <wink@womenink.org>. -TMR

#### Women's Press — U.K.

Encounters with Strangers: Feminism and Disability edited by Jenny Morris addresses how feminism has ignored and marginalized disabled women and how the disabled people's movement has marginalized women. Writers and activists explore the ways that feminism must acknowledge disabled women for the benefit of everyone. This book offers many strategies for the experiences of disabled women's experiences to transform and revitalize feminism. \$17.95 pb, 0-7043-4400-9.

Brought to Book: Murderous Stories from the Literary World with Mary Wings, Barbara Wilson, Stella Duffy and Many More edited by Penny Summer is a collection of stories from mystery writers about the scary, the scandalous, the suspenseful publishing world. The authors wreak literary revenge on their editors, set murders at such publishing events as award dinners, conferences, and writers' groups. Looks like great fun, though from my vantage point on the "publishing" side of things, it's hard to imagine a conference inspiring anything but sleepiness. \$13.95 pb, 0-7043-4578-1.

The Women's Press — U.K., 34 Great Sutton St., London EC1V 0DX. Distributed by Trafalgar Square, North Press Volume 22 Number 2 North Pomfret, VT 05053; 800-423-4525.



#### By Teri Mae Rutledge

Correction: In the last issue, I reviewed a very smart book by Dee Rosenfeld on handling on-the-job troubles of support workers. Her analysis is dead-on; it should be required reading for secretaries, administrative assistants, office managers, clerks, et al. If any of you have tried to order it, you probably had trouble because I got the title of the book wrong. The real title is: **The Office Worker's Game of Up from Under** by Dee Rosenfeld. My apologies! \$8.95 pb, 0-9669335-08. MDR Press, 45 Lottie Bennet Ln. #5, San Francisco CA 94115; 415-346-9534. Also available from Ingram.

The very talented Michelle Tea of San Francisco's spoken word group, Sister Spit (if you ever have a chance to hear her read, do — Sister Spit often tours the country), has written a memoir of roughly five years, from high school to young adulthood: **The** 

Passionate Mistakes and Intricate Corruption of One Girl in America. Mary Gaitskill said of her, "Dirty-sweet, pop and poetic, Michelle Tea is like a twisted Spice Girl who can actually sing - and write." Flipping through, I'm struck by Tea's incredible memory, her attention to and the poignancy of detail, and the strange places she's been. Whether talking about prostitution, her girlfriends, or her goth days in high school, her clip is fast, edgy, compulsively alert. From the book: "This was my life in Tucson. Early Tucson, before I was whoring, when I wasn't even working at all. What bliss. It seemed natural, Tucson so slow and lazy. Did anyone work? Not me. I was up with the sun in the toxic gold of my bedroom. It took 12 cans

of spray paint to make the walls glow like that, my trigger finger cramped and sticky and I blew my nose gold for a week. Climb out of bed and yank down the black flannel curtains so the day could begin. Make some food in the little yellow kitchen, tea with honey, avocado on pita, bring it all into the backyard and eat naked on a towel in the sun.... The backyard was marvelous. Small but fenced so you could get naked though I kept my panties on because I was afraid of that Arizona sun on my pussy." Tea's voice is astonishingly new, strong, and engaging. She's a writer to watch. (In particular, keep an eye out for her debut novel, due from Seal in Spring 2000.) \$8 pb, 1-57027-074-0. Semiotext(e), 522 Philosophy Hall, Columbia University, NY NY 10027; 718-963-2603, email <semiotexte@aol.com>. Available from BP.

Another compelling debut is out from a young San Francisco author: Marci Blackman's **Po Man's** 



Ilustration by Diane Palmisciano, in Last Licks (DK Publishing)

Child. Ellen Myles said of her: "Marci Blackman is one of the best natural talents I've read in a long time. This novel flips everyone out — with its tenderness, perversity, and force. It's a woman's story about a girl and the tragedy of the American family, and along the way it demonstrates how totally new a novel can be in the hands of a true poet." Blackman's writing is strong, probing, and poetic as she tracks the family history and life of her lesbian protagonist, Po. From the book: "Scalpel in one hand, bracing my arm with the other, Mary's eyes catch mine to see if I'm ready. One word from me and the game stops. Did Uncle George have a safe word? What was running through his head as the whip came down? Stories? Songs of freedom? Anticipation of the end? Did the overseer

# A Detail in that Story

poems by Sondra Zeidenstein

A Detail in that Story by Sondra Zeidenstein is quite simply one of the best and most honest books I've read this year. Sapphire

She examines a long-term marriage from every possible angle - that of a daughter, of a loving wife and partner, of a passionate young woman and a passionate older one. She flinches from nothing; she remembers everything. This is the book that many women would be writing if they had the guts. Sue Ellen Thompson



\$12.95 plus \$2.00 shipping 1-887344-05-5 available from Small Press Distribution or Chicory Blue Press 795 East Street North Goshen CT 06756 (860) 491-2271 fax (860) 491-8619

July/August 1999

ever check to see if he was ready? Holding fast to the ever check to use as the cadence of my words, I close my eyes.... But did you it Uncle George?... No longer ( get off on it, Uncle George?... No longer from the get off off it, of pain alone, but from the sheer pleasure of its cheek rubbing against your bones. Did you? Ever? Get off?" Ultimately, this is a stunning novel about family, history, memory, and coming of age. Again, this is an incredibly original book Blackman's writing is stark and honest enough to make me suck in my breath. \$12.95 pb, 0-916397-59.9. Manic D Press, PO Box 410804, San Francisco CA 94141. Distributed by PGW.

In Slut! Growing Up Female with a Bad Reputation, Leora Tanenbaum gives us the stories of young women who have stood up to name-calling. Tanenbaum published an article in Seventeen about having a reputation as a slut growing up. It "caused a sensation" among Seventeen readers, and prompted her to write Slut! Here, she presents stories of overcoming sexual labelling from a diverse pool of girls and women, she tells her own story, and she provides an analysis of the underlying problem of sexual stereotyping. This book is blurbed by Susan Faludi and Elizabeth Wurtzel and includes an appendix outlining courses of action that girls can take to stop or prevent harassment. \$23.95 cl, 1-888363-94-0. Seven Stories Press, 140 Watts St., NY NY 10013; Web site <www.sevenstories.com>. Distributed by PGW.

I had a lovely time paging through the bright orange, impossible to ignore, new urban-girl book, She's Gonna Be: Stories, Poems, Life edited by Ann Decter. This book pulsates with great writing from young women from the Toronto area. From Decter's introduction: "Women write anger, yes, and desire. Women write trueness, words truly aimed and flying to the heart. Those clear, enchanting notes of the spirit. Women write potent realities, everyday cataclysms and hidden triumphs. Women write the quiet hunger of a refugee girl watching longshoremen load boats in occupied France, a fresh blast of winter infatuation tumbling into a bar for a quick scotch, feminestos and stalking stories, biker trips and buried babies." A stunning collection, certainly a must for your young women customers and all others who hunger for for the state of the state hunger for fresh, vibrant, passionate writing. \$10.95 pb, 0-9608064 pb, 0-9698064-6-9. McGilligan Books, PO Box 16024, Volume 22 Number 2


859 Dundas St. West, Toronto ON M6J 1W0, Canada; 416-538-0945, fax 416-538-0547, email <mcgilbks@ idirect.com>. Available from University of Toronto Press, 888-550-8055; in Canada, 800-565-9523.

"Condé's story is rich and colorful and glorious. It sprawls over continents and centuries to find its way into the reader's heart." -Maya Angelou. Windward Heights is Caribbean author Maryse Condé's retelling of Emily Bronte's Wuthering Heights, transposed to the island of Guadeloupe. Here the "African," Rayze, named for the heath-covered cliffs on which he was discovered (having been abandoned as an infant), falls for the mulatto daughter of the man who takes him in. Rayze journeys to Cuba to make his fortune, only to find later that Cathy has married the weak scion of a socially prominent Creole family. Rayze's rage turns to a vengeance that remains unappeased for a generation. Condé's retelling of this tale in Guadeloupe preserves all the emotional pull of the original, but the story grows from new soil to illuminate post-emancipation Caribbean society. I'm tempted to recall Wide Sargasso Sea, which of course switches character focus to completely redefine Jane Eyre. Here I'm sure the setting change will be every bit as interesting and illuminating. \$23 cl, 1-56947-161-4. Soho Press, 853 Broadway, NY NY 10003. Distributed by FSG.



Carrol and Graf has just released an anthology of literary lesbian short fiction: **The Mammoth Book of Lesbian Short Stories** edited by Emma Donoghue. This 600+ page anthology showcases some of the best lesbian writers around. Most of the stories have never before been published. Includes work from Dorothy Allison, Patricia Dunker, Tanith Lee, Jennifer Levin, Anna Livia, Ingrid MacDonald, Sara Maitland, Shani Mootoo, Elizabeth Taylor, and Shay Youngblood. The contributors are from the U.S., Canada, the U.K., Australia, and New Zealand. \$10.95 pb, 0-7867-0627-9. Carrol and Graf, 19 W. 21st St. Ste. 601, NY NY 10010; 212-627-8590. Distributed by PGW.

Academy of Chicago publishers has rediscovered a novel written during and about the late Victorian period. A Writer of Books by George Paston (Emily Morse Lymonds) has been long out of print; in the U.S. only two copies of the British-published book are available. Protagonist Cosima Chudleigh is a sheltered, bookish, middle-class 22-year-old who comes to London to begin her career as a novelist. She decides to study life and acquire experience. However, she really isn't versed in the ways of society, and convention collides with her determination to socialize to create "trauma after trauma." Among the colorful characters she encounters are Bess Heywood, a lesbian actress who carries a vendetta against all the men who have wronged her friends, and Quentin Mallory, a historian who encourages women to break out of suffocating confinement. I'm so glad that this important book is available on the 100th anniversary of its first publication. \$15 pb, 0-89733-465-5; \$35 cl, -466-3.

Appalachian Mountain Girl: Coming of Age in Mine Country by Rhoda Bailey Warren is a memoir of Warren's experience growing up in mining country. She shows the strength of those in Appalachia, fed by the religion and family values that sustained the community. As a teenager, she begins to glimpse another world through reading *True Confessions* and perusing the Montgomery Ward Catalog. When she marries and leaves home for New York state, her memories haunt her. She returns, now a "New Yorker," and finds that the town she left is no longer the place of her memories. \$22.50 cl, 0-89733-464-7.

Academy of Chicago Publishers, 363 West Erie St., Chicago IL 60610; 312-751-7300. Available from the publisher and from B&T, the distributors, Koen, New Leaf, and Ingram.

Last fall, Arte Público Press published a novel I'm sad I missed: Women Don't Need to Write by

Raquel Puig Zaldívar. The novel opens in Cuba just after Castro's takeover. Rosa Gerach's grandson is taken by security police because of the counterrevolutionary activities of her son and daughter-in-law. Zaldívar then moves the narrative back to Spain, when Rosa marries her husband Juan and bears four sons. From a Kirkus review: "An unpretentious feminist tale of love and determination, refreshingly unsentimental." \$13.95 pb, 1-55885-257-3. Arte Público Press, University of Houston, Houston TX 77204; 713-743-2999. Available from B&T, BP, Small Press Distribution, and Ingram.



Set in Egypt and reflecting that country's political climate is Yesterday Is Gone Forever by Soha Abdel Kader. Mona Fahmy is a weathy young Egyptian woman coming of age in the conservative culture during the era of Anwar Sadat. Her parents are progressive, but still plan to arrange her marriage. Meanwhile, a political prisoner, Khaled Nour El Din,

envisions Egypt "cleansed" of all foreigners and infidels. This book explores the road that Khaled's life took to change him from a charismatic leader to a terrorist as it shows Mona being drawn into his crusade. As the blurb says, "From the shadows of the pyramids to the back alleys of unrest, this story illuminates Egypt's determination to reconcile its glorious past with an uncertain political future." \$7.95 pb, 0-9659308-3-1. Erica House Book Publishers, PO Box 1109, Frederick MD 21702; 301-631-9073, email <market@ericahouse.com>. Available from the publisher and from B&T and Ingram.

The Maquiladora Reader: Cross-Border Organizing Since NAFTA edited by Rachael Kamel and Anya Hoffman provides an overview of the maquiladoras, plants owned primarily by U.S. companies along the Mexico/U.S. border. Since the enactment of NAFTA, these "global sweatshops" have mushroomed to over 3000 and employ a million workers. The collected articles demonstrate the creativity and determination of maquiladora activists See Small Presses, page 89.

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## Bookselless' Faves & Raves

Compiled by Teri Mae Rutledge and Kristin Redmon

### Antisone Books

#### **Tuscon AZ**

We've gone wild lately with journals and greeting cards. It seems the more we expand these areas, the more we sell. Some great lines for journals are Brush Dance (see ad page 40, listing page 70), Cachet, and Running Rhino (800-574-4665). Two new lines for us that are fabulous are Salamar, featuring beautiful calligraphy of heartfelt sayings (see ad page 83, listing page 80), and Michael Roger Press, which creates well-made straightforward hardbacks with spiral binding and some truly immense black sketchbooks. Many of these companies make nice photo albums, too, which I finally broke down and tried after years of requests! They sell very well. (Be sure to stock photo covers, too.)

I also want to recommend selling Bandilies stationary by the sheet. We carry the earthy tones (20 cents an envelope, 10 to 15 cents a sheet for paper.) It does amazingly well.

Also, I've just got to rave one more time about candles from Three Tacky Texans! They're hilarious "religious" candles with everything from "Protections from the Politically Correct" to "Our Lady of Tattoos and Piercings." They sell very well for \$9.95 each. (See ad page 70, listing page 69.) —Kate Randall

## Brigit Books

### St. Petersburg FL

We have an inexpensive new sideline that does very well. Focus Stones from Lifeforce Publishing are small, brightly colored oval pieces of glass about the size of a 50-cent piece with words or sayings on them. Examples of words used are "healing," "tranquility," "protection," "creativity," etc. There was also a heart-shaped glass for Valentine's that read "I Love You." Recently I got some with pagan phrases like, "Blessed Be," etc. on them. Kristina, the president of Lifeforce, is very open to suggestions and will also do custom orders. The stones are 75 cents each wholesale. I sell them right at the desk in a glass bowl. They are irresistible, and most people look through them while I'm ringing up their purchases. Like bumperstickers, these encourage those who see them to ask where they came from — free advertising. (See ad page 41, listings pages 76 and 87.) —Patty Callaghan



### Charis Books

#### Atlanta GA

1. Jane Iris candles. We really love her stuff. We just got three new additions to her line: Wishes, Dreams, and Serenity candles. We assume that they'll sell just as quickly as all of her other candles. (See listings pages 69 and 79.)

2. We still really love the Tin Lizzies by Pleidies.

3. We've also been selling leather-bound journals from a company called Oberon.

4. There's a new card company that we've just ordered from called Beneath the Surface. They're a lesbian-owned company that produces handmade cards with poems inside. They're really quite sweet.





They're the kind of cards that you send if you want to "say it all," and so far they're selling really well for us. They're also quite reasonably priced for handmade cards: They retail for \$2.50. The gals there are Quita

5. During the holiday season, we stocked pewter sculptures from Touch and Be Touched and could not keep them in the store! The company makes both sculptures and candle holders. They stand one to two inches tall and are reasonably priced. They were definite hits! (See ad page 42, listings pages 70 and 74.)

6. Smart Glass Jewelry is a company based in Atlanta that sells jewelry nationally. The jewelry has a stained-glass look to it - it's really brightly colored - but the glass is a bit rounder than stained glass. Smart Glass produces necklaces - both sterling chains and chains with a more industrial look, earrings, and beautiful bracelets. Contact: Kathleen.

7. We still love Nan McMan's goddess figurines from Slitherings! She's also Atlanta-based. (See ad page 39, listing page 78.)

8. By far, our bestselling sidelines come from Salamar. They do about ten different journals as well as poster cards and affirmation cards. Poster cards are 8.5" x 11" and produced on thick cardstock. They have calligraphy as well as artwork and retail for \$6.50. The affirmation cards are smaller and more like poems. Both are beautiful. We find that we are needing to constantly reorder from Salamar; we really love their products, and they all move for us! (See ad page 83, listing page 80.) -Sara Look

## FBN

### San Francisco CA

Saige Street Studio just sent FBN a big box of their products. Their stuff is pricey, but the designs are pretty darn cute. There are sweatshirts and t-shirts and aprons with big yellow caution signs, one with the caption, "Caution, Bitch Approaching," another with "Caution, Menopausal Woman Approaching." The back of the bitch t-shirt has some nonsense about bitches being "Bodacious, Intelligent, Truth-seeking, Confident, Hellraiser" so I'd recommend wearing a yellow cardigan over the shirt to emphasize the more in-your-face front side. The "Bitch Bag" and "Tramp Tote" have fake daisies and the same reverse-side bit. Me, I'm gonna take my

new tramp tote to Safeway, where hopefully the checker will start calling me "floozy" instead of "Mrs. Rutledge." T-shirts wholesale for \$10.50-\$12.50, sweatshirts wholesale for \$20-\$23, and totes wholesale for \$10 (minimum order: six per design). Saige St. also sells the Vintage Series, a set of cards with vintage pictures, hand touched (somewhat clumsily to my eye) with color. But some of the captions are pretty clever. My favorite is the "Congratulations on your Divorce" card. There are also a few that specifically celebrate menopause. All of them celebrate women and include quotes from Erica Jong, Sophia Loren, Lewis Carroll, Patricia Schroeder, and more. Cards are \$11.90 per dozen wholesale. (See ad page 71, listing page 72.) —TMR

### Inklings

#### Salt Lake City UT

Liz Brackeen says that Inklings sells a lot of Cowgirls Ride the Trail of Truth: A Game for Women. Though it's expensive (retail: \$50), "It really goes." She describes the game as being a mix of truth-or-dare and Trivial Pursuit — a "sharing" game. Created by Side Saddle.

She also says that Quotable Cards — cards and postcards with all sorts of quotes on them — "just fly."

### Lammas Women's Books and Moze

### Washington DC

Denise Bump raves about Rebecca R. Rod's pottery rattles. R.R.Rod produces handmade, egg-shaped rattles in addition to priestess, shaman, and full-moon rattles. The company also creates altar bowls, which also do well at Lammas.

## Lavender Dragon

### Menlo Park CA

Owl Blossom told us that she sells a lot of Water Sounds fountains. Available in a variety of shapes and colors, the fountains use a pump that is silent; the only thing you hear is the water flowing over the rocks. Owl says they're great for Feng Shui. \$40 to \$65 wholesale. (See ad page 42, listing page 74.)

### Dut Word Bound Indianapolis IN

Tamara Tracy from Out Word Bound in Indianapolis says their number one bestselling sidelines are the talistones from Alchemist. These polished and carved river stones are available in a wide variety of designs: Some have words like "balance," "simplify," "love," "destiny," "passion," and "dance," and others have images like two dancing women, swords, a shaman's hand, Japanese calligraphy, and the woman symbol. Tamara said that Alchemist will do custom work, but they have so many strong designs (over 250), that she's never taken advantage of this in her frequent reorders. Most of the stones are small and will fit in your pocket (also a great gift; the stones are \$5, and customers can buy a black velvet bag for the stones for 50 cents). "These are great for the counter and take up very little space. They come in a nice display box that's about 8" x 10" - great quality at a great price point!" (See ad on back cover, listing page 86.)

On the opposite end of the money spectrum, Tamara reports selling a good number of solid slate



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stone fountains from Stone Art (retail price: just under \$100). She says that they have a beautiful, wonderful sound. She also said that the company was a little hard to work with (they're hard to get a hold of and fulfillment can take a long time), but it's been well

Tamara was initially skeptical of this next product, but it's become a hit at Outward Bound: sunglasses. They retail for \$9.98, look nice, and Danziner Wholesaler, the supplier, will guarantee

Finally, Outward Bound has started selling floating gel candles by a company called If. She says that the candles are lightly scented and brightly colored.

### Prairie Moon

### Mt. Prospect IL

We have pretty much stayed with the old favorites: jewelry by Pat Pearlman (see ad page 82, listing page 79), Jane Iris (see listings pages 69 and 79), K. Robins, Gina and Ann Lewis; candles and incense; and "Women Fly" t-shirts, patches and hats from Speak Inc. However, our rep for Brush Dance (our bestselling cards, posters, and journals) introduced us to Two Women. We tried just the pins, bookmarks, and journals from their extensive line which also includes notecards and much more stuff decorated with art stamps. They were very well received by our customers. -Linda Mowry

## Sisterhood Books

### Los Angeles CA

1. Dream Candles from The Alchemist Shoppe (Moundsville WV — not to be confused with Alchemist out of CA). We've really been getting into candle sales lately. These are homemade, scented, rainbow candles. They come in triangles, in groups of four on a string.

2. A new sideline for us is Colorado Card & Curiosity, a company that sells journals and cards. Their products have the most peaceful, beautiful, wonderful images of women. They are photographs of clay sculptures of women, and I just love them. Call and ask for a brochure! (See listing page 72.)

3. Amy Bartel's AE Originals. Amy Bartel used to sell a lot of her products through the Syracuse

Cultural Workers but now has her own line of products. These are incredible new images on greeting cards. They're selling really well for us.

4. Laurel Birch mugs from Henriksen Imports are also wonderful! They come in two sizes, both big, with bold, colorful prints; one popular mug features cats. They also move really well for us.

5. Out of the Dreamtime also produces votive candles and candleholders that are popular for us. The holders are copper and have goddesses or cats around the bottom. (See ad page 72, listing page 70.) -Simone Wallace

### Venus Envy

### Halifax, Nova Scotia

My favorite new add-on is Magnetic Poetry. We sell the original, the erotic, the artist, the cook, and the romantic versions. They absolutely sell themselves and because only two other stores in town have them, we draw new clientele all the time (when the other stores run out of certain types). -Shelley Taylor

### Wild Izis

#### Gainesville FL

These two sidelines are new to us: Enchanted World of Boxes Inc. creates great wooden boxes. There is a set of zodiac boxes that has been popular, other designs also sell well. The boxes are made in Poland.

Nomenclature Notecards from Minnesota Women's Press Inc. feature quotes from famous and should-be-famous women. Individual cards are \$9 per dozen; boxed sets of ten different cards are \$5 per box. They are great! I am getting ready to do my second reorder. (See listing page 72.) -Dotty Faisby

### Women and Children First Chicago IL

We do really well with Oberon journals. And not just their journals, but their entire line of products, including card holders and checkbook covers. It's really nice to have an expensive sideline that sells! Everyone can sell bumper stickers and magnets, etc., and though it is satisfying to see those go, you can sell hundreds of them and not really make any money. So to sell something steadily that does bring a good profit is really exciting! -Linda Bubon

### A Woman's Prerogative Ferndale MI

Amy Blake said that Tribe of Diynah's Color of Women coloring books and cards by Shiloh McCloud were doing very well. "They're full of empowering images of women," she says, and reports that she sold her whole order before she even got the bill. (See ad page 43, listing page 73.)

## Wonderworks

### **Toronto ON**

Melanie Collum is the owner of Riverbank Pottery. She does wonderful plates, bowls, mugs, and plaques in the Womynspirit theme. We have carried her things for a number of years, but lately her creativity has really blossomed and her pieces are even more varied and beautiful. (See listing page 74.) -Mary Anderson O

### Color of Woman A Coloring Book and Journal



"A wonderful creative sanctuary designed to inspire a spiritual journey. Filled with 28 beautiful images, each of which holds the vision of woman as creator. 115 thick pages, so almost any medium can be used. A space to play,

dream, heal, pray, and create. I was so excited, I wanted to jump right in and color!" ---FBN

Shiloh McCloud, Tribe of Diynah 888-385-6866, 707-933-8875 www.colorofwoman.com Covered spiral binding, 9" x 11". Retail price \$19.95 Also: she-shirts • cards • prints



Kate Clinton "Comedy You Can Dance To" UP 3790 - CD and Cassette America's Premier Fumerist 1999 GLAMA Comedy Award Winner





Kitten With A Wit

Elvira Kurt "Kitten With A Wit" UP 3800 - CD Self-Described "Fella Girlie"

### Maryellen Hooper

"Dignity Under Duress" UP 3792 - CD and Cassette 1998 Female Comedian of the Year





Neurotic by Nature

Michele Balan "Neurotic By Nature" UP 3801 - CD The Comic Princess

Distributed by Ladyslipper (1-800-634-6044) and Goldenrod (1-517-484-1712)

July/August 1999

Volume 22 Number

## Sidelines for a New Feminist Front

By Kristin Redmon

Cunt-shaped soap and cutting-edge, queer-girl films. Sparkly pussy stickers and t-shirts that demand real (read: not spice-laden) girl power. Punk-rock covers of Chris Williamson songs (yes, I do know who she is) and zines, zines, glorious zines.

These are the kinds of things I want to see in feminist bookstores. Yes, I am under 30, and yes, I am a feminist. And the way I see it, girls and young women are integral to the survival of feminism feminism and feminist bookstores. While it is true that feminist bookstores are becoming increasingly girl-friendly, there's still lots that can be done to let us know that you want our dollars and ideas in y/our community. Addressing the needs of a new generation of feminists is no small task, to be sure, but damn, it's important.

Young women who walk into feminist bookstores for the first time need to see evidence of their ever-so-third-wave feminism or they won't stick around long enough to see that you do, in fact, carry Ani. Lucky for you, the past five years have seen more than a fistful of grrrls, girls, dykes, and young women donning the "f" word proudly as they've started up zine distributions (distros), independent record labels, film and video distros, and companies producing sidelines ranging from t-shirts to stickers to menstrual-product alternatives.

Supporting these kinds of companies is good for you. Doing so shows your commitment to your young feminist customers as well as your commitment to young feminist entrepreneurs. Most importantly, ordering and stocking these products shows your commitment to girls who are growing

and have grown up to be whomever and whatever they wanted to be - just like y'all told us we could.

### one angry sizl

I love wearing my "Fuck Your Fascist Beauty Standards" t-shirt to the mall. Hands down, this lovely white shirt with its tastefully scripted black message gets me more attention than a Lesbian Avenger kiss-in ever did. I've got Jill at one angry girl designs to thank for that. One hundred dollars, a boring temp job at an insurance company, a t-shirt printer who was not afraid of the "f" word (um...not feminist), and, well, one angry girl combined to create one angry girl designs. In August 1996, Jill, a recent college grad, took her twelve shirts around to stores in Portland, Oregon, sold them on consignment, and the rest is history. And, as the extremely popular oag shirt tells us, "Well Behaved Women Rarely Make History." After a small paragraph in Ms. magazine in 97, the orders started flying in, so Jill chopped up a



Vicki's Secret catalog, put shirts on the models that said things like "Start a Revolution, Stop Hating Your Body" and started distributing her catalog. Four years, a Web site, all sorts of national press, and customers in 42 states and 6 countries later, one angry girl designs has become something of an institution with the under-35 feminist set. Now Northern Sun is distributing some of Jill's angry shirts as well as coffee mugs, buttons, and stickers all emblazoned with angry-girl slogans.

While Jill's not among that rare breed of rich feminists just yet, she thinks (as do lots of others) that she's done an excellent job for an English major who flunked accounting. Girls can do anything! And that's exactly what Jill tells the young women who attend her workshops. Jill says "No one ever told me, 'Jill, when you grow up you can be a businesswoman."" So, she has made it one of her goals to make sure that girls do hear this message. Asked about her plans for the company and the angry girl herself, Jill says, "National name recognition, influence, power, sovereignty, and more shirts!" I say yay!

Some one angry girl designs are distributed





through Northern Sun Distributors, 2916 E. Lake St., Minneapolis MN 55406; 800-258-8579 (See ad on page 67), but the full range of t-shirts and bumperstickers is only available directly from one angry girl designs, PO Box 400674, North Cambridge MA 02140; 1-888-ANGRY-11, Web site <www.ici.net/~angrygrl>. (See oag ad page 47, listings pages 77 and 85.)

### Pander Zine

So, now that you've got young feminists coming to your bookstore, they're going to start demanding stuff to read. Go figure. Well then, it's been said over and over (cuz it's true) that some of the most radical, cutting-edge, and feminist writing by young women today is happening in zines. Because of the self-published nature of zines, they can be difficult to find, learn about, and actually get into the store. Part of this has to do with the fact that neither writing nor distributing zines has anything to do with making money.

This is a point that Erika of Pander Zine, a not-for-profit zine distributor, makes time and again. Erika started Pander in 1995 as a tiny catalog that stocked a few zines by Erika and her friends. Pander now boasts a snappy print catalog with descriptions and Erika's comprehensive insights on over 100 titles, including Slant, Bitch Dyke Whore, and Hurricane Girl. Pander also has a successful electronic catalog on the Web.

Erika says that Pander's primary goal is to make zines accessible, especially to girls. While she offers her catalog at half off the cover price of one dollar to stores (for sale or reference), Pander won't actually sell the zine of the cover price of one detually sell the zines in the catalog to be resold in stores. The Volume 22 Number 2

policy on this stems from Erika's belief that it is important that the girls and women who write the zines maintain control over where their work is available.

So while Pander doesn't distribute to bookstores in a traditional way, it is an excellent resource for some of the hippest girl and queer-chick zines out there. And Erika promises to get stores contact info for any zines appearing in her catalog. Hey, it's intentionally no Ingram, but stores might think of and use Pander as a filter for that massive sea of zines out there.

No bones about it, if you stock a good selection of zines (and Pander can help you do this) and get the word out to the right folks, they're going to sell. Their presence on your magazine rack is also going to send a concrete message to young women that their ideas, their communities, and their cash are welcome at your feminist bookstore. A self-avowed feminist under 35, Erika says that Pander has always been supported by feminist communities. "Women and girls in zines, women and girls in Riot Grrrl for example that is my community. I support them and they support me." Feminist bookstores need to support these zines exactly because they are grassroots endeavors. Not to mention that you don't need to sink a lot of cash to start building up a respectable selection of zines. As Erika points out, "Zines are not about making money; this is about communication."

Pander's catalog is available to stores at half off the \$1 cover price with a minimum order of 5 copies. P.O. Box 582142, Minneapolis MN 55458; Web site <http://members.aol.com/GOpanderGO/>.

### Mr. Lady

Outfitting your bookstore for the fierce young feminist front just isn't complete without videos and music. While Claire of the Moon might be a classic, and Ann Reed does have that song about the power tools, there's a decidedly different flavor to the kinds of media that young feminists are craving and creating. Case in point: I can't tell you how happy I was when I first heard the band Team Dresch. It was the first time I realized that gay people didn't have to listen to disco and that feminists could do music other than folk.

Kaia Wilson, a former member of the band Team Dresch and current member of the band The



Butchies, and Tammy Rae Carland, a filmmaker and assistant professor at the University of North Carolina, have a keen awareness of the kinds of media I'm talking about. The two run Mr. Lady Records and Video Art Distribution Company so that girls will never again have to be as egregiously wrong as I was. Thank you! The two started Mr. Lady because they felt there weren't enough options in independent music labels and video art distribution, specifically options that were queer, feminist, and women operated.

Mr. Lady is entirely women and/or queer run and focused. Tammy Rae and Kaia chose to combine a record label with a video distribution service because they found there were few options for affordable video distribution aimed at an audience of their peers. The combo also serves them in terms of their own art and music. Their list is as diverse as it is cool, with especially not all in one place — from young women with right-on feminist politics. They've got bands like The Butchies and Third Sex listed right beside films by Art House-darling Sadie Benning and a videozine

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Graphic from Sticker Sisters' Web site

by Mary Patten called Riot Grandmas. Can't go with that wrong lineup.

Mr. Lady is a slick distro outfit that sells its products to all sorts of folks including queer youth, alternative music folks, artists, and art

students as well as music stores and bookstores. You really do want to have what they've got in your store. The diversity and freshness of their outlook is exceptional.

Their politics alone ought to be enough to earn them a place on your video shelf and some slots in your CD display. Tammy Rae says that maintaining a feminist focus in youth movements is a major goal for Mr. Lady. Part of the reason they're "working their butts off" trying to get their two-year-old company out of the hole is because they don't want to see feminist action and discourse disappear from queer youth and alternative music cultures. So, in essence, supporting Mr. Lady is like supporting yourself. Asked what the future holds, the Mr. Lady ladies say they aim to release more music and videos, and that they would love to produce music tours and video screenings as well as to develop workshops that offer girls and young women hands-on experience with video and music equipment. Their major goal is to cut a profit and get some time off for their ever-so-hardworking girl-selves. These ladies deserve it.

Mr. Lady is on the Web at <www.mrlady.com>. Their address is PO Box 3189, Durham NC 27715; 919-682-1150, email <Mrlady@mindspring.com>.

As third-wavers - daughters of second-wave feminists, riot grrrls, queer chicks, punk-rock dykes, and young women learning about feminism for the first time — we need the support, resources, and community that feminist bookstores have built and offered women from their inception. Our stuff may look a little different, and approaches may vary from generation to generation, but the basic goals of femi-

## Additional Girly Resource List

- Pretty Pussy Products, Carly Ptak, PO Box 476680, Chicago, IL 60647. Sparkly pussy stickers, jewelry, lampshades — all pussy power!
- Ladies Art Revival, PO Box 217, Morristown NJ 08057; email <ladiesartrevival@hotmail.com>. Distro for lady-made comix, music, video, and
- Blood Sisters, Quebec Concordia, Qprig Room 101, 2130 rue Mackay, Montreal Quebec H3G 2J1. Canada; 800-REDZONE (733-0663), email <bloodsisters@pirg.ca>, Web site <www.pirg.ca/~bloodsisters>. Cool chicks on a rampage to bring menstrual politics out of the closet! Accessorizing menstruation with reuseable menstrual products, stickers, and pro-period t-shirts, work shirts, and panties.
- Lisa Buttonow, PO Box 1245, Madison WI 53701. Inga Muscio lists her in the resource pages of Cunt as the maker of cunt-shaped soap!
- Sticker Sisters, PO Box 11480, Takoma Park MD 20913; email <stickersisters@aol.com>, Web site <www.stickersisters.com>. Stickers include "Girl Power!," "This Insults Women," and "Punk Rock's Not Just For Your Boyfriend!" Oh, and now they've got shoelaces! Run by an awesome girl named Ariel Fox who says, "I do Sticker Sisters because I want to help girls be proud of themselves." Send a stamp for a catalog. (See ad page 46, listings pages 75 and 77.)

 Lady Lazarus Mail-Order, 120 NE State #1488, Olympia WA 98501. Hand-screened "Teen Girl Liberation Army" t-shirts; distro for tapes, zines, patches, and stickers. Send a stamp for a catalog.

• Suz and Jam, 192 Warren St., Waltham MA 02453. A couple of twelve-year-old girls who started their business last year with their t-shirt that says "Work for a Better World (Where Volume 22 Number 2 Girls Rule)."

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The Joy of Selling Sex Toys

A Primer for First-Time Sellers, Toy Reviews, Carol Queen, and More...

### By Teri Mae Rutledge

Materialist that I am, I've always loved new toys. As a child, I was attracted to anything brightly colored (with a special passion for hot pink), anything with moving parts, anything glittery, anything that had the delicious sharp smell of new plastic.

Things haven't really changed so much now that I'm big. During the staff's Sidelines Issue summit, my smart officemate Kristin Redmon mentioned that FBN hadn't recently run an article on my favorite whirligig plastic sideline ever: sex toys. And being the self-serving worker that I am, I volunteered to write a sex toys update. After making far too many jokes about "review requesting" sex toy samples for my research (ha ha), I decided to visit the very fine toy store Good Vibrations here in San Francisco. I spoke with sex and sex-toy maven Carol Queen about the business of selling toys, tips for fledgling toy merchants, and all the lovely silicone, vibrating, sparkling products to stock. I also had a chat with Jo denBoer of Amazon Bookstore (Minneapolis) about expanding the store's collection, publicity ideas, a few tips for bookstores selling toys, and her toy recommendations. (Amazon had just begun stocking toys when we ran our last sex-toy article.) Finally, Kristin and I talked to the women at Lammas, Venus Envy, and A Woman's Prerogative to see what toys they love to sell.

Though I originally intended this article to be primarily product driven, I changed my tactics after researching *FBN*'s sex-toy article archives. Five years ago, *FBN* ran a feature that focused on safe-sex toys, and it remains a strong resource for specific products. (See Sidelines Issue, 1994.) A few months later, two booksellers wrote a letter to *FBN* about their responses to the sex-toy article and their decision to stock toys. While it was obvious that adding a sex-toy



line was a good decision for them (both personally and financially), I was shocked by how little they knew of sex products and how tentative they were about them.

It made me realize that, as a seasoned sex toy consumer, I take for granted a certain level of sex positivity, toy positivity, and sex-toy expertise in those who sell me toys. It made me realize that, though the bright, lucrative world of toys may tempt my materialistic soul, a focus solely on products is an incomplete preparation for prospective sex toy merchants.

So I thought I'd ask an expert for some advice: Member of the Good Vibrations Collective and certified sexpert Carol Queen (Sex Spoken Here, Pomosexuals, Exhibitionism for the Shy, The Leather Daddy and the Femme, etc.) holds a Ed.D. in sexology, the academic or scientific study of sexuality. Queen agrees that sex toy education is essential for successful toy selling. She recommends The New Good Vibrations Guide to Sex: How to Have Safe, Fun Sex by Cathy Winks and Anne Semans (\$21.95 pb, 1-57344-069-8, Cleis) as a good, general educative resource for sex toy merchants and prospective sexperts. "It's a comprehensive guide that speaks to everyone," Queen says, largely because Winks and Semans consulted the customers of Good Vibrations when putting together The Guide. Therefore, it

An early vibrator from 1883, illustrated in The Technology of Orgasm (Johns Hopkins)



successfully addresses questions from all over the sexual-behavior spectrum. In addition, The Guide speaks to a number of alternative sexualities, making it a reference that can help toy sellers anticipate the many places that their customers may be coming from, as well as providing excellent information. This is a guide that first-time toy sellers can use to become knowledgeable about toys, and for seasoned toy sellers to hand to new employees, and to use as a reference. It's also, of course, a book to keep in stock for your customers. (Displaying it - and other sexuality books — near the toy section is an easy way to increase sales and educate your customers).

Queen also encourages both prospective and experienced toy sellers to visit stores like Good Vibrations. There are eight women-owned/oriented sex shops around the country: Good Vibrations (San Francisco and Berkeley), Eve's Garden (New York City), Toys in Babeland (Seattle and New York City), Grand Opening (Brookline MA), It's My Pleasure (Portland OR), and A Woman's Touch (Madison WI). There are also, of course, women's bookstores who have successfully added sex toys to their repertoire,

including: Amazon Bookstore (Minneapolis), the including: Autority, Lammas Women's Books and Book Garden (Denver), Lammas Women's Books and Book Garden (De DC), A Woman's Prerogative More (Washington DC), A Woman's Prerogative More (Washing of Venus Envy (Halifax, Nova Sco-(Ferndale MI), and Venus Envy (Halifax, Nova Sco-(Ferndale 1917) tia). In the past, Good Vibrations has even allowed tia). In the past, Good Vibrations has even allowed tia). In the pass, future toy sellers to intern at the store, giving women hands-on experience with handling toys, customer service, ordering, etc. Toys in Babeland and Grand Opening are two sex shops that benefited from Good Vibrations' tutelage. Good Vibrations had to discontinue internships because they were too demanding of staff time, but Queen still encourages women to visit and experience sex shops, to ask questions, and to see how sex shops display their materials.

Another (albeit less tactile) resource is Good Vibrations' wholesale list, which is available for \$100. Jo denBoer used Good Vibes' list to request catalogs and develop Amazon's initial toy stock in 1993. The internship program and the availability of Good Vibes' list are legacies of original Good Vibrations owner Joani Blank, whose commitment to community-building prompted her to encourage similar businesses in cities around the country. The Good Vibes people continue to emphasize her philosophy in the company's 22nd year.

Queen also recommends that prospective sex toy merchants become members of organizations like Quad S (Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality), to which many sex shop proprietors belong. Quad Sis an organization open to nontraditional sex educators, such as women who sell sex toys. Its membership also consists of biologists, physicians, nurses, therapists, psychologists, sociologists, anthropologists, historians, educators, and theologians. Its mission is to advance the knowledge of sexuality and the communication of information about sexuality to professionals, policy makers, and the general public. Quad S is located at PO Box 208, Mount Vernon IA 52314, or visit them on the Web at <www.ssc .wisc.edu/ssss/home/html>. Another excellent source of information is the Society for Human Sexuality Web site, <www.sexuality.org>, which boasts a huge online archive of sexuality materials, a comprehensive sex education section, articles by well-known sex educators, links to many more sex information sites, and reviews on sex products, books and it books, and videos. In addition, the Society has created a Web ring of the society has created a Web ring called the Sex Education Web Circle Volume 22 Number 2

which links "select sites which offer a unique, substantial, and free contribution of some kind to Internet sex education." The circle emphasizes factual accuracy and pleasure positivity. There are many more Internet resources in the "Sex Information" chapter of Anne Semans and Cathy Winks' The Woman's Guide to Sex on the Web (\$15 pb, 0-06-251548-9, HarperSanFrancisco).

In general, Queen urges sex toy merchants to become as knowledgeable as possible. People selling sex toys do get asked about matters sexual, and a solid base of knowledge is the best way to respond to those vastly varied inquiries responsibly and with the proper amount of enthusiasm for customers' sense of fun, sex, and adventure.

Before making initial orders, Queen suggests that stores talk to their customers. It's a way to get a little advance publicity for the sex-toy line as well as assessing what the demand will be among your regular clientele. Queen also recommends developing a customer survey to get an idea of what, precisely, customers will be interested in. (I suppose the danger is that those of us who might be tempted to order a case of silver dildos based on our personal desire to own one — at a wholesale price — may not be able to convince our customers of how glittery-wonderful they are.)

Queen also encourages store owners to consider the new customers that the toy section will bring in. Chances are, your store will be one of the few, if not

the only safe space for certain sex-toy consuming segments of your community. People who identify as female-to-male may seek out the store, and Queen says that for them, "Representational dildos will be particularly meaningful, along with a good FTM literature section." Store owners should also remember the needs of their straight female customers (stock that KY) as well as gay male clientele.

I thought it wise to ask Carol Queen's advice on publicizing a bookstore's addition of toys to its roster. She said that, first of all, a store must ask itself, "How many folks do I want to know the toys are here?" If the store is in a conservative area, it may not want overwhelming amounts of

publicity. Queen suggests that you know your state law and know for what you might get in legal trouble for selling. Call the ACLU if you're not sure what your state prohibits. (In Alabama, sex toy proprietors recently breathed a sigh of relief when a law prohibiting the sale of things "obscene...or designed or marketed as useful primary for the stimulation of human genital organs" was overturned by a U.S. District Court judge. But Alabama's attorney general is considering an appeal.) That said, if a store wants lots of publicity, it should develop fliers to post at women's cultural events, university women's centers, coffeehouses, gay bars, etc. A press release should go to the local gay rag, women's newsletters/newspapers, queer community newspapers, and (heck, why not?) your local newspaper. Queen adds that publicity can generate crank calls as well as new customers and suggests that the staff should be prepared to handle that.

If the store happens to have a sex expert, the press release should highlight that (so that when Channel 5, your local talk show, Oprah, or whoever wants an official word from someone in the sexual know, they'll know to call and interview you — and, of course, mention the store). This sort of "expertise" publicity will prove invaluable — more effective, Queen says, than any other kind of publicity.

Queen also suggested some special events to introduce your toys to the community, such as hosting erotica readings and toy-oriented open houses in the store or the local women's center. The readings



Toys in The Good Vibrations Guide to Sex (Cleis Press)

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For Color Catalog Or Wholesale info Please visit us at:

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should get sex-interested community members into your store (where the erotica will turn them on, and, conveniently, there will be all your sex toys prominently displayed).

Amazon Bookstore also has a great program that Io denBoer recommends: a sort of sex-toy Tupperware party. A bookstore employee (in Amazon's case, a young, enthusiastic, knowledgeable woman who loved to do the parties) gathers up some sex toys, travels to the party site (where 12-20 women have assembled), and shows and sells the toys. DenBoer says that they're a good moneymaker for Amazon, granting that the store definitely had the right person to run them. Amazon has developed a short contract for their hosts outlining the basic parameters of their parties (there's a two-hour limit, there must be between 12 and 20 people attending) and a few statements: "We know you cannot guarantee everyone at your party will purchase sex toys, but please understand we are bringing merchandise for sale, not just for demonstration." And: "You will be responsible for any theft that may occur and for the safety of our employee. We are not liable for any accidents or injuries in your home. We are responsible for the quality of our products. If a product is defective it may be returned to our store for a full refund. Otherwise, all sales are final." The contract helps everyone take the event more seriously and conveys that Amazon expects to make sales at the event.

In Minneapolis, Amazon is the only source for women-sold sex toys. Jo denBoer told me that the stock at Amazon has grown in the past five years from a couple of vibrators and a couple of kinds of lube to enough toys to fill two display cases. She says that sex toys are certainly high-selling items for their price range and that Amazon is quite pleased with the amount of sales their toy collection garners. She speculates that sales could be even higher if Amazon had the space and inclination to set up a private viewing room for the toys, but the store does wish to keep its emphasis on books. She recommends that stores keep toys in a locked case, as Amazon initially experienced a lot of theft. "There's that shyness issue," Jo says, "and then, of course, toys are also expensive."

And now, finally, The Toys!! I asked Carol Queen for a basic must-have toy list. "Stores absolutely should carry at least a small range of electric

vibrators," she said, including that perennial favorite, the Hitachi Magic Wand, and the quieter Wahl vibe. Queen also suggests stocking a couple of battery-operated vibrators for women who want something "buzzy and insertable." She recommends stocking safe-sex supplies, lube (be sure to stock at least one brand of water-based lube such as Slippery Stuff — Queen says that yours could be the only store in town that carries it, and all those ladies who sprout yeast at the very mention of glycerin will thank their lucky stars that you're around), and possibly some S/M and light bondage toys. (I'm not going to open the whole S/M can of worms: The appropriateness of S/M products will vary from store to store, store owner to store owner.) In general, Queen recommends casting a wide net among the small companies that produce sex toys. She says, "It's an industry in which it's easy to support small woman-owned companies, and the quality of your stock will be higher for your careful research."

I also asked Carol Queen what's new and exciting in the world of sex toys. She recommended the work of Inner Space (contact: Guy, 818-997-8007), which creates insertable toys from Lucite - a beautiful, smooth, break-resistant material. Queen says that while it's a hard substance (without much give, unlike silicone), it's great for G-spot stimulation and Kegel muscle exercise. Inner Space also creates a curvy, goddess-shaped, clear dildo. "It's gorgeous and classy-looking enough to put on your mantel," she says. Finally, she recommended a newish harness from the folks at Stormy Leather (1174 Howard St., SF



from 1910, The Technology of Orgasm (Johns Hopkins)



CA 94103; 415-626-6783), which is outfitted with packets that allow both the wearer and the recipient to experience vibrations.

Jo denBoer's toy list starts off with, for high-quality silicone dildos, Scorpio Novelty Products, 5414 Kings Hwy. 1st Floor, Brooklyn NY 11203; 718-629-1149. More lovely silicone dildos are available from Tantus, 2856 Delta Dr., Colorado Springs CO 80910; 719-391-4200, email <tantus@concentric.net> and from Vixen, 1004 Revere Ave. Suite B-49, SF CA 94124; 415-822-0403. El Dorado, a distributor, sells "lots of fun stuff" including cheap vibrators and a few Stormy Leather harnesses: 1840 Commerce St., Boulder CO 80301; 800-525-0848. Amazon also orders direct from Stormy Leather. (See Carol Queen's recommendations for contact info.) Jo orders the extremely popular, pleasurable Magic Wand and attachments direct from Hitachi National Headquarters, 3890 Steven Reynolds Blvd., Nacross GA 30093; 770-279-5600. She orders Probe lubricant from Dauryan Laboratories, 3812 SE Taylor St., Portland OR 97214 and Astroglide lubricant from Paradise Marketing, 5661 Palmer Way, Carlsbad CA 92008; 800-993-3664.

Shelley Taylor of Venus Envy (Halifax, Nova Scotia), a women's book, health, and sexuality store that opened a year ago says, "Our very best seller is the

Pocket Rocket, a mini vibe used primarily for clitstime " It sells for \$29.95 alone or for \$39.05 Pocket Kocket, a star \$29.95 alone or for \$39.95 with a ulation." It sells for \$29.95 alone or for \$39.95 with a ulation. It series the also raves about Tantus' latex head attachment. She also raves about Tantus' latex head attack produces silicone dildos in a super toys: "Metis Black produces silicone dildos in a super liter silicone, by hand. She has a for the rior-quality silicone, by hand. She has a fairly new business, makes the best toys I've ever sold or used, and produces many of her toys specifically with women in mind. Her Rhythm dildo in copper and purple sell extremely well for us as they are the best G-spot stimulator on the market (I think anyway). Her toys are inexpensive and beautiful and have liberated many of my customers and friends!" (See Amazon's recommendations for Tantus' contact info.)

Amy Blake of A Woman's Prerogative (Ferndale MI) says that the bestselling sex toys in her store are Stormy Leather harnesses and Vixen dildos, both of which she orders direct (see Amazon's recommendations for contact info). She also sells lots of Succulents Foreplay lubes. Her favorite sex toy in the store -which doesn't sell all that much, but not for lack of trying — are the remote-control vibrating panties by Swedish Erotica. She says that they are "a nice addition to housework activities." She orders lube, vibrators, dildos, and the vibrating panties from Honey's Place in Los Angeles (4711 Exposition Blvd, Los Angeles CA 90016; 323-730-5070) and Nalpac in Ferndale (800-837-5946).

Denise Bump of Lammas Women's Books and More (Washington DC) says that the store's bestsellers are vibrating nipple clamps from El Dorado. Other strong sellers include the Texas 2-Strap harness, both the leather and the nylon (Malibu) version, available from Stormy Leather. They also sell lots of the Treasure Chest, a dildo from Vixen that has space in the base for a vibrator. (See Amazon's recommendations for contact info.)

So ladies, in sum: get reading, get educated, talk to your customers, product test, product test, product test! I must admit, I am a little envious of you all alone in your storerooms, opening those boxes and getting that first virginal whiff of new plastic — yum! Hope fully for many of you, these toys will appeal to more than worked than worked than worked than worked than worked than worked than the second that the second than your plastic lust, they'll appeal to your good business sense. Sex toys can be an incredibly fun way to expand to expand your store's role in your community and to add a next little add a neat little moneymaker as well. Lots of luck and 0 Volume 22 Number 2 good fun to all!



## Calendar Round-up 2000

### Ordering Strategies

Sandi Torkildson told us about her sure-fire calendar-ordering strategies. She suggests that stores place their initial orders direct with publishers, order conservatively, and take the higher, non-returnable discounts. Ordering direct has a few advantages: Usually, publishers will not ask for more than a ten percent payment up front; stores then have 90 days to pay for their calendars. Also, publishers offer higher discounts, including a non-returnable option, than distributors. As Sandi says, "Everyone needs calendars; they're an easy way to make money. If you can take the higher discount, you may as well." She orders conservatively, and then re-orders in October

from a distributor if necessary. When stores have tons of leftover, heavily discounted calendars each year, customers will notice and wait for those clearance prices. By ordering just enough or a little less than enough, stores guarantee that most of their stock will be sold at full price. Sandi also reminds everyone that calendars are not like books: People will take a substitute, even if they have a particular calendar in mind. Again, everyone needs a calendar, and if you

have attractive stock, people will find something that fills their need. Sandi also suggests devoting some room and creativity to a nice calendar display, especially during the peak months of November and December. At A Room of One's Own, Sandi uses one of her New Books display shelves for the calendar display. —TMR



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## Calendars

By Sandi Torkildson A Room of One's Own/Madison WI

Pomegranate does some of the bestselling calendars in our store. I often sell as many as 250 of them. Two of the 366-day, page-a-day calendars that do well are **Women's Wit & Wisdom\*** (\$10.95,

0-76490-786-7), with a daily quotation by a woman, and the **Gay & Lesbian\*** calendar (\$10.95, 0-76490-442-6), filled with facts about the social, political, and historical forces in gay and lesbian life. The **Women Who Dare\*** wall calendar (\$12.95, 0-76490-848-0) and engagement calendar (\$13.95, 0-76490-881-2) both sell well. Pomegranate also publishes a good list of art calendars. The **Georgia O'Keeffe\*** (\$12.95, 0-76490-848-0), the **Susan Seddon Boulet Shaman\*** (\$12.95, 0-76490-843-X), and

the larger 16" x 13" **Boulet's Goddesses\*** (\$16.95, 0-76490-888-X) are always favorites with our customers. They have others you may wish to try, like **Margaret Mee's Flowers of the Amazon.\*** Mee was one of the first English women to go to South America

Note: Calendars in this section are available from Ingram, \* titles are also at Bookpeople.

and paint the flora and fauna. (\$12.95, 0-76490-839-1.) Pomegranate, PO Box 6099, Rohnert Park CA 94927;

Brush Dance Cards does a Live with Intention\* 800-227-1428. wall calendar (\$11.95, 1-891731-17-3), which has

simple brush-stroke paintings and inspirational sayings based on their line of cards. Brush Dance, 100 Ebbtide Ave. Building 1, Sausalito CA 94965; 800-531-7445.

Women artist calendars always do well, and one of the annual big sellers is the Sara Steele Originals\* wall calendar (\$11.95, 1-559494-67-0) and her desk diary (\$14.95) from Tide-Mark. Tide-Mark is doing a new

calendar this year called Women of Vision\* that celebrates women activists and artists with illustrations from the National Museum of Women in the Arts. (\$11.95, 1-559494-74-3.) Tide-Mark, PO Box 280311, East Hartford CT 06128; 800-338-2508.

The British Women's Press' Women Artists Diary\* sells well because of the art but also because it is a good size to carry around — smaller than most



desk engagement calendars but with enough room desk engagenten to write in. \$13.95, 0-7043-4610-9. Women's Press U.K., 34 Great Sutton St., London England ECIV U.K., 34 Great Stand ECIV ODX. Distributed in the U.S. by Trafalgar Square,

Andrews McMeel is doing a day-by-day and an engagement calendar set titled Believing in Ourselves\* with thought-provoking and inspirational quotes from great women such as Eleanor Roosevelt and Toni Morrison. Daily: \$9.99, 0-8362-0379-8; engagement: \$10.99, 0-8362-1798-5. Andrews McMeel, 4520 Main St. Ste. 700, Kansas City MO 64111; 800-826-4216.

Cedco Publishing Company is doing four different SARK calendars for the first time. The World According to SARK\* combines twelve of her bestselling posters including "How to Be an Artist." (\$12.95, 0-76833-522-1.) Change Your Life Without Getting Out of Bed\* is based on her new book by the same title. (\$12.95, 0-76833-347-4.) Finally, two engagement calendars are filled with her art and wisdom, My Bodacious Day\* (\$13.95, 0-76833-553-1) and





RETURN OF THE GODDESS An Engagement Calendar for 2000 ISBN 1-55670-906-4 • \$17.95



A WOMAN'S JOURNAL OF HOPES, DREAMS & DESIRES ISBN 1-55670-725-8 • \$15.95



ONE DAY AT A TIME JOURNAL ISBN 1-55670-520-4 • \$15.95

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The Succulent Wild Woman\* (\$9.95, 0-76833-564-7). Cedco Publishing Company, 100 Pelican Way, San Rafael CA 94901; 800-227-6162.

Another popular woman artist, Jane Evershed, will have a calendar out from Ronnie Sellers Productions, The Power of Women.\* \$11.95, 1-569061-44-0. Ronnie Sellers Productions Inc., PO Box 71, Kennebunk ME 04043; 800-MAKE-FUN.

Chronicle Books is doing a calendar based on the new book titled Dancing with Cats\* by the same authors of Why Cats Paint. It is a great one for cat lovers. \$12.95, 0-8118-2416-0. Chronicle Books, 85 Second St. 6th Fl., San Francisco CA 94105; 800-722-6657.

Some of my favorite quilt calendars come from Collector Books. They produce a wall calendar, American Quilter's Society (\$8.95, 1-574327-25-9), with photos of extraordinary quilts from the 1999 AOS quilt show and contest, and an engagement calendar, Quilt Art 2000 (\$9.95, 1-574327-14-3), with traditional and contemporary designs. Dutton (Penguin) has the Quilt Engagement Calendar 2000, which features primarily antique pieces. (\$13.95, 0-670-88544-4.)

Llewellyn Publishing does Yasmine Galenorn's Witches' Datebook 2000\* (\$12.95, 1-56718-951-2) and Witches' Wall Calendar 2000\* (\$12.95, 1-56718-951-2) which are filled with seasonal topics, festivals, and a full moon ritual. Llewellyn Publications, PO Box 64383, St. Paul MN 55164; 800-843-6666, fax 612-291-1908.

Pocket Books (Simon & Schuster) is doing a Women of Star Trek Calendar for the first time. \$12, 0-671-03272-0. Simon & Schuster, 1230 Avenue of the Americas, NY NY 10020; 800-223-2336.

Price, Stern, Sloan (Penguin) will do the Wild Words from Wild Women\* again with opinionated and candid quotes on life, love, and more. \$10.99, 0-843174-89-7.

Stewart Tabori & Chang will do the I Dream A World\* wall calendar featuring twelve African American women who have made an impact on this country. (\$11.95, 1-55670-918-8.) They also produce the Return of the Goddess\* engagement calendar that has 24 full-color plates and a wire binding. (\$17.95, 1-55670-906-4.) Stewart Tabori & Chang, 115 W. 18th St. 5th Fl., NY NY 10011; 800-932-0070.

Universe Books, distributed by St. Martin's, is doing A Room of Her Own wall calendar with photos



from the creative spaces of some of America's talented women. (\$13.95, 0-78930-312-4.) Their Simple Abundance engagement calendar has been a very good seller for the past two years at our store. (\$13.95, 0-78930-280-2.) This year there is also The Something More Date Book by Sarah Ban Breathnach based on her new book with the same title. This calendar is filled with thoughts and quotes selected by the author, aimed at helping women discover their authentic selves. (\$13.95, 0-78930-281-0.) Universe Publishing, 175 Fifth Ave., NY NY 10010; 800-221-7945.

We order the Everywoman's Almanac from LPC (they give a 55% discount for orders of ten or more), which does well for us every year. \$8.95, 0-88961-233-1. Women's Press-Canada, 517 College St. #233, Toronto ON Canada M6G 4A2, 416-921-2425.

Also from LPC is the Women's Daybook (again, a 55% discount is available for orders of ten or more), which is a practical and beautiful planning calendar from Second Story Press. 720 Bathurst St #301, Toronto ON, Canada M5S 2R4; 416-537-7850.





Last year we stocked the Sierra Club calendars\* - and sold about 75 of them. At the time, they were available from Random House, but Sierra Club moves around so much, the calendars might not be available from there this year.

Finally, on a calendar-related note, Snake-and-Snake produces cards with the lunar cycle that women can use to track their menstrual cycles. I order twelve dozen a year at \$9 per dozen and sell them for \$1.50 a piece. You might also check out their t-shirts. Snake-and-Snake, 511 Scott King Rd., Durham NC 27713.

## And More Calendars ...

By Teri Mae Rutledge

Millennial shoppers have many a treasure to choose from (both old favorites and new) in their quest for the perfect year-2000 calendar. What follows is an ever-so-brief sampling from the Bookpeople calendar catalog. (I'm grateful to Leisa Mock for getting me calendar listings from their catalog two months

before it releases in late summer.) For a fuller (and more fleshed-out) selection, order the catalog by call-

A perennial favorite from the ladies who produce the magazine of the same name, the SageWoman Calendar 2000: Feasts of the Goddess features mouth-watering recipes, Goddess lore, holidays, and lovely artwork. \$9.95, 1-928861-00-8. SageWoman, PO Box 641, Point Arena CA 95468;

Syracuse Cultural Workers is again releasing its strong-selling Carry It On: Peace Calendar 2000 (\$12.95, 0-935155-27-9) as well as Special Days: 20th Century Political Posters (\$8.95, 0-935155-29-5) and Women Artists Datebook 2000 (\$12.95, 0935155-28-7). Syracuse Cultural Workers, PO Box 6367, Syracuse NY 13217; 315-474-1132.

Running Press is again producing their classic Woman's Day-by-Day Engagement Calendar 2000 (\$14.95). Running Press, 125 S. 22nd St., Philadelphia PA 19103; 800-345-5359.

Women's Bodies, Women's Health: The Mind/Body Connection by Christine Northrup, M.D., is a perpetual calendar filled with quotes that will "provide sustenance for your body, mind, and soul throughout the year." Includes thoughts on getting your history straight, sorting through your beliefs, respecting and releasing emotions, and learning to honor your body. \$11.95, 0-945923-48-1. Hay House, PO Box 5100, Carlsbad CA 92018; 800-654-5126.

The Mother Tongue women are at it again this year with We'Moon 2000 (available in both a bound and an unbound edition). It's an appointment book, astrological moon calendar, spiritual guide, and multicultural handbook in natural rhythm. Includes: week-at-a-glance format, daily astrological aspects, daily moon phases and signs, complete ephemeridies, herbal lore, and astrological predictions for each sign. This year's theme is opening (or the fool, the zero, or the void). \$14.95, bound: 1-890931-03-9, unbound: 1-890931-04-7. Mother Tongue Ink, 37010 S. Snuffin Rd., Estacada OR 97203; 503-630-7848.

Amber Lotus is publishing a calendar for the year 2000 called Sacred Mysteries of the Divine Feminine by Sandra Stanton. Stanton paints portraits of ancient goddesses (like Hera, Brigit, Lilith, Raven Volume 22 Number 2

Woman, Ishtar, and Sekmet) with animal companions and cultural artifacts. (\$12.95, 1-56937-248-9.) Amber Lotus is publishing two other

calendars of interest to women: **Rituals of the Goddess** from artist Amy Zerner includes fabric collage tapestry portraits of multicultural goddesses accompanied by monthly rituals. (\$12.95, 1-56937-247-0.) Visual artist Helen Nelson-Reed has painted images of Celtic goddesses for her **Call of the Goddess** calendar. Each image is accompanied by a moving

description. (\$12.95, 1-56937-249-7.) Amber Lotus, PO Box 31538, San Francisco CA 94131; 800-345-0096.

Available again from the folks at Workman: For Women Who Do Too Much, the daily reflection calendar, includes thoughts on spirituality, friends, taking responsibility, and creativity and features quotes from Maya Angelou, Oprah Winfrey, Willa Cather, and Margaret Fuller. (\$9.95, 0-7611-1565-X.) Also, the Medieval Woman Calendar for 2000 by Sally Fox, text by Teresa Leslie, is lush and lovely as usual. Leslie writes of how women back in the day were as competent multitaskers as we are today: Women were writers, aristocrats, midwives, hunters, and innkeepers. The artwork is drawn from original work from the Louvre, the Uffizi, and the Berlin State Library. \$9.95, 0-7611-1520-X. Workman, 708 Broadway, NY NY 10003; 800-722-7202.

Hipness abounds in Geek Girl 2000 by Rose Cross from Ink Group. I'm not so sure about this humorous calendar, which features Geek Girl, a "cyber funky babe who has a major attitude as well as a great bod." The cover has scantily clad Geek Girl pointing her hair dryer at the Millenium Bug. Wish I could see this. It's one of those that could go either way: it might be extremely witty and urbane and fun, but it might also be really bad. Read the full catalog description before you order! (\$11.99, 1-876-55143-7.) Also from Ink Group are the Two Fat Ladies! The BBC duo, authors of two cookbooks and stars of their own cooking and lifestyle show, are now featured in Two Fat Ladies Ride Towards 2000. It's as outrageous and fattening as you'd expect; the catalog reprints their "Cooking a Whole Beast on a Spit" recipe. (\$11.99, 1-876-32790-1.) Ink Group, PO Box 5517, Novato CA 94948; 800-711-4465.



For your teen girl market: gURL 2000 is a wall calendar taken from the enormously popular gURL

Web site, featuring smart, funny, and honest stories and illustrations about teenage life. Andrews McMeel says the calendar is as savvy, saucy, and slick as the site itself. (\$10.99, 0-8362-1847-7.) Andrews McMeel also publishes calendars from Mary Engelbreit (whose art studio posted more than \$100 million in sales last year — makes you stop and think, doesn't it?). She Who Laughs, Lasts, a mini wall calendar is perfect for

office settings, where (we all know) the busy, stressed millennial lady could use a good chuckle. (\$5.99, 0-8362-8775-4.) The Life...Put Your Heart in It 2000

### Snake and Snake Productions 511 Scott King Rd, Durham NC 27713

The 1st Lunar card and still the best! Women have marked their cycles on my card for 22 years now and have come to depend on it. Still only \$9.00 per doz wholesale.



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I also wholesale my t-shirts of Goddesses Dancing, and my new design, Owl's Moon, & many more. All sizes: S- XXXXL. -Susan D. Baylies See it all at my website: www.snakeandsnake.com phone: fax: 919-544-2028 919.493.7210 e-mail: susan@snakeandsnake.com

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**Desk Calendar** encourages planning ladies to do just that with a charming illustrations on each page and gentle reminders to have fun, enjoy life, and stay

lighthearted. (\$10.99, 0-8362-8777-0.) Something to Do the Whole Year Through to Bring Out the Best in You, is an activity calendar for children based on her *Something to Do* books. (\$8.99, 0-8362-8773-8.) The Girlfriends women are releasing another Girlfriends daily calendar for 2000. Based on *Girlfriends, The Girlfriends Keepsake Book,* and *Girlfriends Talk About Men,* this calendar



celebrates the invisible bonds and enduring ties of girlfriends everywhere. (\$10.99, 0-8362-0564-2.) Andrews McMeel, 4520 Main St. Ste. 700, Kansas City MO 64111; 800-826-4216.

The **Girl Thing** calendar is a photo-album calendar with "wild" borders, "crazy" patterns created just for teens. (\$15.99, 1-56894-807-7.) Also available: Avalanche's **U.S. Women's Soccer 2000** (\$11.99,



1-56894-794-1). Avalanche, 15262 Pipeline Ln., Huntington Beach CA 92649; 800-888-6421. For sports lovers: Tom Boyz' **Women in Sports** 

**2000.** \$12.95, 0-9646697-3-0. Tom Boyz, 4260 25th St., San Francisco CA 94114; 415-821-2178.

Hey, lesbians! There are a few more calendars to choose from this year. OK, many of them seem to be that same old airbrushed thing from the same four photographers, but there are a few new ones here that sound promising.

The G-Gallery has a line of lesbian-

and gay-themed calendars. Allure 2000: The Best of Sunny Bak is a full-color photography calendar filled with Bak's work. Bak's shots capture passion, intimacy, and romance. (\$12.95, 1-892465-19-1.) Intimate Moments by Debranne Cingari reflects love, friendship, family, commitment, and the joy of lesbian parenthood. (\$12.95, 1-892465-10-8.) Photographer Judy Francesconi has created Passion 2000. The publisher copy has lots of exclamation points and words like "sizzle" and "heat." Black and white images with red and silver accents "promise to ignite a fever in any woman or man who lays eyes on them." Naiad for your wall, ladies. (\$12.95, 1-892465-11-6.) Also, Best of Judy Francesconi 2000 is an oversized black and white photography calendar highlighting Francesconi's work. (\$22.95, 1-892465-21-3.) Here's two more that I haven't seen yet (again, please check the catalog before you order): Tender Romance 2000 by Ellis Studios is reproduced paintings of the female form (\$12.95, 1-892465-16-7), and Visible for a Change by Lorraine Inzalaco collects paintings that "celebrate the beauty and power of the feminine physique and spirit" (\$12.95, 1-892465-17-5). G-Gallery, available from Bookpeople.

Also, 10 Percent is back with their high-gloss contributions: **Desire** by Theresa Loschiavo "captures the essence of female beauty with an elegant, rich sensuality." She and her model "explore the mysteries of the female persona." (\$14.95, 1-886888-51-5.) **Moments Together** by Debranne Cingari collects romantic moments between women. (\$14.95, 1-886888-44-2.) Russell Bush's (*Affectionate Men*) **Affectionate Women** is a photographic history of female couples. (\$14.95, 1-886888-45-0.) 10 Percent, available from Bookpeople.



### By Susan Frazier Goldenrod Music

Wonderful women artists, soundtracks, compilations, comedy discs, and a songbook — everything you could ask for can be found under the music tree this summer. With festival season in full gear (and continuing through September in many parts of the country), it's a good time to highlight music in your store. Capitalize on this by creating a display and/or holding a sale that features the artists performing at the festival of your choice, with a sign saying "Can't make it to the (fill in the blank) festival this year? Take the music home instead!"

### Women's Music

The Falling Places/Edie Carey. A listener once described Edie's music as "white girl" soul. A GLAMA (Gay and Lesbian American Music Awards) nominee, Carey's style is reminiscent of Ani DiFranco, with a mix of Ferron and Joni Mitchell tossed in for good measure. Though she may be accused of being one of the "Ani wannabes," her style is her own. Her clever lyrics on the inconsistencies of romance fall closer to wry humor than they do to Ani's angst. This Brooklyn-based singer/songwriter is just starting to do national tours. Get on board early with this one! APP 2426.

Party Doll and Other Favorites/Mary Chapin Carpenter. In her tenth year with Columbia Records, Mary was asked to create a greatest hits package. After much deliberation, this is the result. Yes, it has hits like "I Feel Lucky" and "Shut Up and Kiss Me," but Mary has taken it a step further. She includes two new tracks and several live versions of old favorites as well as different versions of other hits from benefit albums, soundtracks, and special projects. Sure to please old and new fans alike! Columbia 68751. Swango/Candye Kane. "I'm 200 pounds of fun/I've got enough for everyone." Candye's a diva for the 21st century. A sexual libertine sent to free us from our hang-ups, forgive us our sins, and just plain put a smile on our faces by crooning, "If you're feeling wrong tonight, I'll make it right." And who, in their right mind, would turn down an invitation like that? Candye describes one of her shows: "It's like a revival meeting in an X-rated bookstore parking lot." Sire 31028.

Mirrorball/Sarah McLachlan. It seemed destined to happen. This "best of" CD features powerful live performances of 14 of Sarah's songs that span her entire catalog and career, including classics from her five-time platinum, multiple Grammy-winning



album, *Surfacing*. She will be touring once again with Lilith Fair 99. Arista 19040.

**Daughter of Lir**/Mary McLaughlin. Celtic artist Mary McLaughlin takes listeners on a journey which bridges the gap between mythical and modern Ireland on this beautiful, evocative album. The songs are original and provide a platform for her lush, multilayered vocals. The arrangements are embellished by the addition of guitars, keyboards, cello, and uilleann pipes, giving an overall soundscape that is almost visual. Gourd 401.

Hold Me Close/Marieann Meringolo. A GLAMA nominee for best debut artist of the year, Marieann is a powerful vocalist. With shades of k.d. lang and Barbara Streisand in her vocals, Marieann nonetheless has a unique voice, intense passion, and sensitivity. She has the natural ability to find new and inspiring ways to transform songs like "People Will Say We're in Love" or "Chances Are" into her own style. There are many classics here for a vocalist of her talent and range, as well as some originals that sound like classics. GCORD 1.

Les Sampou/Les Sampou. Les' new release is a

roots-to-rock eclectic span of musical styles. This recording has more of a mainstream feel than her previous recording, and she is being compared to the Indigo Girls and Alanis Morissette. True to her style and her strengths, however, her lyrics reveal unflinching honesty and are insightful and witty. Her songwriting remains deeply personal and poetic. Flying Fish 677.

Sunday in Nandua/Karen Savoca. Her music is hard to label, but once heard, listeners will be hooked! Savoca, who plays conga and other percussion, has been working with Pete Heitzman since the mid-80s. Incorporating folk, pop, country, soul, and even funk elements, the songs range from "Nowhere to Go," a lovely, mystical ballad, and "That's How I Remember," a gentle tribute to someone who's been lost, to the snappy accusative "You Just Don't Get It" and the funky rocker "Here They Come," a prickly litany of global concerns. Well suited for in-store play. AL 31597.

Three Wishes/Erica Wheeler. Produced by Steven Miller (Dar Williams' End of the Summer), Three Wishes broadens Erica's musical palette with

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Alice Gomez's newest release and Silver Wave debut, is inspired by ancient music of North, Central, and South America. Weaving rhythms of the ancestors with Gomez's original melodies, **Obsidian Butterfly** gracefully spreads its wings and flies, echoing her bestselling album **Flute Dreams**.

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a stately and lush band sound. Musicians include guitarist extrordinaire Larry Campbell and members of Bob Dylan's road band. Erica's songs of life and love gone wrong shine in the company of her covers of songs by James McMurtry and Bill Morrissey. With **Three Wishes**, Erica Wheeler has blossomed into one of folk's most distinctive singer-songwriters. Signature Sounds 71250.

### Comedy

Neurotic by Nature/Michele Balan. Leave it to Uproar to make the world a better place by recording the humor of lesbian comics and letting us all laugh along! Michele's played the comedy and festival circuit — now folks will have the chance to take a bit of her home. Uproar 3801.

Kitten with a Wit/Elvira Kurt. Elvira wowed the audience at the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival and has played most of the major women's festivals. She was featured on *Gay from Las Vegas*, but this is her first solo release. Uproar 3800.

### Soundtracks

Xena: Warrior Princess Volume 4. More Xena episodes have resulted in more Xena soundtrack material, and fans are clamoring for it. In this, the fourth recording of music from Xena, there are 70 minutes of music created by soundtrack composer Joseph LoDuca. Hey — it's Xena. Simply put it in your store where folks can find it, and it will sell itself! Vares 6031.

## Compilations

Fish Tree Water Blues. This group of innovative musicians led by Willie Dixon came together to help spread the word about the importance of things like wild salmon, ancient forests, and clear water in the Great Northwest. Blues was the chosen genre of music to help convey the "facts of life" about our environment. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Earthjustice Legal Defense Fund (formerly the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund). If all of that isn't enough, Ani Difranco happens to be on this one, along with Tracy Nelson, Etta James, and Loudon Wainwright III. Bullseye Blues 9618.



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Lilith Fair, Volume II and Volume III. Because just one double-CD set could never do it justice, they came out with two more single discs to capture the essence of this popular summer festival. Volume II includes Shawn Colvin, Emmylou Harris, Wild Strawberries, Sinead O'Connor, Angelique Kidjo, and Queen Latifah. Volume III has tracks by Me'Shell Ndegeocello, Holly Cole, Luscious Jackson, Indigo Girls, K's Choice, Suzanne Vega, and Bonnie Raitt. Lilith Fair founder Sarah McLachan is also featured on both albums. Arista 19079 and 19081.

The Silverwolf Story. Silverwolf is a label dedicated to quality folk music and well-produced recordings. And Silverwolf is blessedly free of the bias against women artists in their compilations. This recording opens with "Coming Up" by Ani Difranco. Other contributors to this release include: Caroline Aiken with the Indigo Girls, Catie Curtis, Dar Williams, Odetta, Wendy Bucklew, and Michael Veitch with Shawn Colvin. The cover is not exciting, but the music is fabulous! Silverwolf 1013.

Women of Kerrville, Volume II. This compilation follows closely in the wake of the hugely successful *Women of Kerrville*. Includes all the performers at the Kerrville Folk Festival, many of them folk favorites: The Burns Sisters, Dee Carstensen, Barbara Kessler, Cosy Sheridan, Betty Elders, Katy Moffatt, Sally Fingerett, Anne Hills, Pele Juju, and many others. A fabulous women's folk compilation. Silverwolf 1014.

## Available Again

Give It All Up and Permanent Happiness/ Zrazy. These first two albums from this wonderful Irish duo are once again available in this country. Note: Permanent Happiness is the Irish version of *Come Out Everybody*, which was released last year through PGD and is no longer available. Give It All Up: Zrazy 2015. Permanent Happiness: Zrazy 1000.

Cris Williamson Songbook. Finally, after years of waiting, Cris' songbook has been rereleased. With favorite songs from her first six albums (including "Changer and the Changed") this in-depth songbook with piano and guitar chords (as well as lots of photographs) will make her songs accessible to many who love her music. One large improvement over the original is the spiral binding. WMR SBCW.

By Liz Wermcrantz A Room of One's Own/Madison WI

Even for more discriminating movie-watching lesbian/feminist ladies, there are quite a lot of movies out in the wide world these days. Every month, Wolfe Video sends a list of new videos as long as my arm. But how does one make choices from the — how do I say this delicately —chick-flick slush pile? We asked movie watcher and video expert Liz Wermcrantz for her recommendations of those great movies that no feminist/lesbian video proprietress should be without. —TMR

A not-quite-complete list of some of my favorite feminist and/or lesbian films:

All Over Me. Totally cool, refreshing movie about young women living in Hell's Kitchen, NY, brought to us by the producers of *The Incredibly True Adventure of Two Girls in Love*. Exploring the blurry lines of a relationship between a young dyke and her somewhat-straight best friend, the movie captures the sense of naïve promise of a first relationship, something most of us have experienced. The young women deal with a lot of hard-core issues like drugs, murder, and absent parents as they try to make sense of their world. It is funny, poignant, upsetting; you won't be the same after viewing it. Available from Wolfe Video and Naiad Video.

**Born in Flames.** This futuristic film was first released in 1983 but has been in moratorium for many years. Recently rereleased, it is so right-on in so many ways. Not only is it an amazingly written, acted, and directed film, it drives its message home in a way that is interesting, provocative, and enlightening. It's set ten years after the social democratic war of liberation, and we get the chance to look back on what has happened. Instead of the egalitarian society that social democracy proposes, we witness the typical compromises that occur when a political party comes to power. The strong women in this film fight back. They struggle and rage against conflicts women face under all types of governments, in all times. Available from Wolfe Video.

Video News

**Girlstown**. Written by the cast in a few stream-of-consciousness sessions, this film tells the story of teenage girls coming of age. Brilliantly acted, it sheds light on issues such as teenage pregnancy, suicide, and date rape. The friendships portrayed in this film serve as a testament to female friendships everywhere. Funny, disturbing, poignant, and an overall great movie. Available from Naiad Video.

Paris Was a Woman. A fascinating and riveting account of the early decades of this century in Paris. Expanding upon the idea that Paris was always referred to in female form, the film showcases the lives of several truly creative and inspirational women, records the early transformation of bookselling into an art form, and, overall, shows the importance of literature and the arts in the development of culture and humanity. It offers us glimpses into the lives of Gertrude and Alice, Djuna Barnes, Berenice Abbot, Sylvia Beach, and many more important women in our histories. It's a great movie for everyone: educational, interesting, and inspirational, a welcome enhancement for women's history classes or just a good flick for a weekend get-together. It is full of discussion of bookselling, writing, art, lesbianism, feminism and much more. Not to be missed. Available from Wolfe Video.



Out of the Past. Using the underlying notion that inclusion of gays and lesbians in history creates a reference point for young people, this film portrays the story of the courageous young woman Kelli Peterson as well as several other gays and lesbians in history. As you might remember, Kelli started a gay-straight alliance at *See* Videos, page 88.

Volume 22 Number 2

8

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**MV-126** 

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- RHYTHM MUSIC MAGAZINE

- Liz Doan, MUSIC DESIGN - CONSCIOUS CHOICE

- NAPRA REVIEW

- AFIM MUSIC MIX

All of the royalties from this album are being donated to various Tibetan causes.



### a By Chloé Goodchild

"SURA is a profoundly inspirational listening experience. Frankly, I have never been so affected. I could not give any album a higher recommendation – musically or spiritually. A truly astounding work of art, production, and devotion." — NAPRA ReView

"The human voice has been described as the very personification of Heaven. Nowhere is this idea better displayed than Chloé Goodchild's awe inspiring new CD, SURA...Ms. Goodchild's instrument possesses such incredible versatility that it serves to redefine what it is that the voice is capable of." — Carpe Noctem Magazine

"...one of the most crystalline voices ever recorded. This impeccable album is a celebration of the human voice." — New Age Retailer "...a voice defying gender and categorization, soaring beyond mortal bounds."

- Rhythm Music Magazine



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# The Sidelines

### Bumperstickers

**Donnelly/Colt** — Our 24th year. We design, make, and distribute hundreds of different progressive messages on buttons, bumperstickers, postcards, t-shirts, posters, labels, and more. Plus we offer fast, quality custom printing of your designs/messages at the lowest prices anywhere. Reach us 9–5 EST, Monday–Friday at 860-455-9621 or fax 24 hours a day at 800-553-0006. Write Box 188-FBN, Hampton CT 06017, email <donco@neca.com>, or visit <www .donnellycolt.com>. See ad page 80.

Northern Sun — The one-stop shopping choice preferred by retailers in search of quality feminist, political, GLBT, environmental, and multicultural products. We carry over 200 t-shirt designs, including the Jane Evershed and Tom Tomorrow lines. Our bumperstickers are in color, taking the guesswork out of ordering. Choose from over 300 button designs and 75 posters. Imports include sarongs from Bali, pouches from Guatemala, hemp hats from Romania, and clay flutes from Peru. Mugs, magnets, notecards, postcards, recycled stationery, calendars, and much more. 2916 E. Lake St., Minneapolis MN 55406; 800-258-8579. See ad this page.

### Buttons

**Ephemera** has outrageous humor, famous women's quotes, campy lurid paperback art, colorful Hindu goddesses, Xena, and Electra Woman on buttons, magnets, stickers, and key chains. These sidelines are an inexpensive way for your customers to express themselves and have fun at the same time. Request our full-color catalog with many display options. Ephemera, PO Box 490, Phoenix OR 97535; email <ephemera@mind.net>, phone 800-537-7226 or 541-535-4195, fax 541-535-5016. See ad page 68.





Donnelly/Colt - Our 24th year. We design, make, and distribute hundreds of different progressive messages on buttons, bumperstickers, postcards, t-shirts, posters, labels, and more. Plus we offer fast, quality custom printing of your designs/messages at the lowest prices anywhere. Reach us 9-5 EST, Monday-Friday, at 860-455-9621 or fax 24 hours a day at 800-553-0006. Write Box 188-FBN, Hampton CT 06017, email <donco@neca.com>, or visit <www.donnellycolt.com>. See ad page 80.

### Calendars

Snake and Snake Productions - Susan D. Baylies has produced the Lunar Phase Card for 22 years, a great-selling card/calendar on which womyn mark their cycles; wholesale \$9/dozen. Solstice cards \$5/dozen. She also makes t-shirts (S-4XL) of empowering imagery: goddesses, moons, dancing womyn, kitty yin yang, and the new owl's moon shirt. Phone: 919-544-2028, fax: 919-493-7210, Web site: <www.snakeandsnake.com>, mail: 511 Scott King Rd., Durham, NC 27713. See ad page 59.

We'Moon '00 is a bestselling Womyn-identified appointment book, astrological moon calendar, earth-centered spiritual guide, and multicultural handbook in natural rhythm. Now available in two editions: We'Moon '00 (1-890931-03-9) which is bound with a durable lay-flat binding and We'Moon Unbound '00 (an unbound edition, 1-890931-04-7). \$14.95, August. Mother Tongue Ink, 37010 SE Snuffin Rd., Estacada OR 97023; 503-630-7848 or toll-free 877-693-6666, email: <wemoon@teleport.com>. Also available from B&T, BP, Ingram, Koen, Ladyslipper, New Leaf, Samuel Weiser, Small Changes, and Vision Works in the U.S. Available from Airlift (U.K.), Dempsey (Canada), and Neue Erde (Germany). See ad page 60.

The '00 Lunar Calendar: Dedicated to the Goddess in Her Many Guises — "...the Grandmother of all the Goddess calendars...combining beauty with a wealth of information," says SageWoman Magazine. 24th annual edition! Features 23 artists, poets, and writers, 13 graceful lunations, definitive moon data, the whole lunar year-at-a-glance, complete instructions, and an Volume 22 Number 2

Feminist Bookstore News enormously intriguing, our Icons allegedly work -

excellent bibliography. 32 pages, wall calendar 11" x 17", recycled paper, soy-based inks, printed in the U.S. Retail still only \$20, 1-877920-10-X. Nancy FW Passmore, editor. Cover by Jamie Hogan. Luna Press, PO Box 15511, Kenmore Station, Boston MA 02215; 617-427-9846. See ad page 57.

The Power of Women Calendar by Jane Evershed -Subtitled "The New Millennium and Beyond ... " this calendar celebrates the power, wisdom, and beauty of women. Jane believes the new millennium is an opportunity to take a wild, heartfelt journey into our innermost lives. Ronnie Sellers Productions publishes 48 calendar titles in a variety of themes and is pleased to introduce a new line of boxed notecards. For a free catalog call 1-800-MAKE-FUN or write to us at PO Box 71, Kennebunk ME 04043. See ad page 69.

2000 Carry It On Peace Calendar features Iroquois artist Nancy Yaki's work on the cover. Other themes: Zapatista's Revolutionary Law for Women, bicycle activism, the Mike Alewitz Iraq mural, the 25th anniversary of the end of the Viet Nam war, community-supported agriculture, people's history, and more. Women Artists Datebook showcases work by Anna Oneglia and over 30 others. Beautiful, practical, spiral-binding, smudge-free paper. New Perpetual Calendar sums up the 20th century with Twelve Great Political Posters. All union-printed, real recycled paper. Syracuse Cultural Workers — Tools for Change. FBN special discount. Call Donna 315-474-1132, ext. 102; toll-free fax 877-265-5399. See ad page 38.

Stewart, Tabori, & Chang - Publishers of calendars and books of unusually high quality and beauty. The popular Return of the Goddess: An Engagement Calendar for 2000 is back and gorgeous as ever. (\$17.95, 1-55670-906-4.) Also offering two journals for women: A Woman's Journal of Hopes, Dreams, & Desires (\$15.95, 1-55670-725-8) and One Day at a Time Journal (\$15.95, 1-55670-520-4). 115 West 18th St., NY NY 10011; 800-932-0070. See ad page 56.

## Candles

Everyday Icons Devotional Candles. A master key to success! We have illuminating Everyday Icons for all 90s neuroses. Filled with heavy symbolism and

a free catalog. Three Tacky Texans, 1028 First Ave. S., Seattle WA 98134. See ad page 70. Jane Iris Designs, Inc., known for Goddess and Nature jewelry for 17+ years, also offers Egyptian, Kindred Spirits, Tools for Transformation, Pendulum, Life Cycles, and Herotica lines of sterling,

bronze, and 14K "wearable art." In addition, we offer Prayer Candles of Intention and Release, candles for Wishes and Dreams, Serenity candles, and our very

although they are intended for entertainment pur-

poses only! The perfect gift for coworkers,

dysfunctional family members, or anyone on your list

who needs to "lighten up!" Call us at 888-621-8599 for



### The Power of Women Calendar & Notecards by Jane Evershed

Calendar Retail: \$11.95 • ISBN: 1-56906-144-0 Notecard Retail: \$12.95 for 16 cards, 4 ea. of 4 images

### Call for catalogs of calendars, boxed notecards and greeting cards

RONNIE SELLERS PRODUCTIONS, INC. P.O. Box 71, Kennebunk, ME 04043 PHONE: 800-625-3386 • FAX: 207-985-4105 WEB: www.calendarsite.com • E-MAIL: rsp@rsvp.com

popular beeswax Spirit Candle Goddesses. Please call us for a free beautiful color catalog at 800-828-5687 or fax us at 619-491-0827.

## Candleholders

Out of the Dreamtime, Inc. — Need a little light in your life? Our votive holders, shadowcasters, night-lights, wall sconces, and lanterns are just the thing for you! We have many female images to choose from. Our fairy designs have proven to be our most popular items yet! Products are available at both the wholesale and retail level. Please give us a call at 800-643-1658 or visit our Web site at <www.candleholder.com>. See ad page 72.

Touch and Be Touched has produced female imagery in sculpture and pewter since 1994. Brenda's newest line is her popular pewter miniatures. Images such as "Circle of Friends," "Story Teller," "Drummer," "Expecting," "Nursing Mamma," "Family," and "Dream Catcher" offer a piece to adorn any altar or honor a special occasion. Each miniature is

hand-polished and arrives with a pouch, name tag, and inspirational poem. Call for your free color and inspiration of email <br/>spiration of email <br/>brenda@istar.ca>. See

### Cards

Brush Dance creates imaginative, provocative, meaningful, spiritual greeting cards, journals, calendars, magnets, candles, and more. Poetry of Rumi and Thich Nhat Hanh calendar, journal, and cards. Live with Intention calendar and lots of cool stuff by Renee Locks. Care of the Soul journal. Stephen Levine, Living on the Edge journal. Brush Dance, 100 Ebbtide Ave, Sausalito CA 94965; 800-531-7445, Web site <www.brushdance.com>. See ad page 40.

Design in Paradise — Unique, contemporary greeting cards from my original designs. Artistic "stick people" designs on interesting, bright watercolor backgrounds are simple yet meaningful. Greeted insert is removable (like a post-it note) if customer prefers a blank card. Greetings can be customized - ask


for details. 36 designs — includes romance, encouragement, sympathy, friendship, outdoor activities, birthday, holiday. Retail: \$1.95, wholesale: \$1; no minimum. For a free catalog, call or write Suzi Moore, Design in Paradise, PO 10074, Winston-Salem NC 27108; 336-725-4927. See ad page 74.

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Espresso Press - Postcards and notecards with short stories and illustrations. 20 different cards, printed on 100% post-consumer waste recycled paper. Subjects include women, vegetables, gods and goddesses, spelling, bathing, squirrels, fashion, desks, transportation, and more. New: The History of Pantyhose in America. Collection of humorous stories by different authors contained in cardstock envelope resembling pantyhose packaging. Free catalog available. PO Box 2042, Madison WI 53701; 608-249-8897. Website <www.espressopress.com>. See ad page 75.

Women's Mysteries is a collection of eight distinct greeting cards from Arbrador Arts. "Peaceful, bright, profound, and devoid of cliche." Each card is a reproduction of an original egg tempera painting by Lora Arbrador, award-winning painter. Price: \$10/dozen wholesale (deeper discounts for bulk orders), with a suggested retail price of \$1.95 or above. Samples available. 415-824-7668, email <arbrador@crl.com>; Arbrador Arts PO Box 460265, San Francisco CA 94146. See ad page 73.

Culture Q Connection has a growing line of lesbian and gay movies and is the exclusive source for Gender Benders, a greeting card line with over 90 different lesbian and gay cards. Our video releases include Significant Others, which includes a Cheryl Dunye short, and Different Strokes starring Dana Plato from the 70s TV sitcom "Diff'rent Strokes." Call us at 888-542-5421 toll-free or 520-888-5421; email: <glvideos@cultureqconnection.com>, Web site: <www.cultureqconnection.com>. See ad page 76.

Solstice, Holiday (Christmas/Chanukah/ Kwanzaa) cards, packages of twelve labeled with holiday and greeting for easy merchandising. Six new 4" x 6" designs, only \$4.25/dozen. New 5" x 7" holiday cards, too. All-occasion counter cards and over 40 postcards — political, feminist, womanist, beautiful, inspiring. Syracuse Cultural Workers



-Tools for Change. Call Donna 315-474-1132, ext. 102, toll-free fax 877-265-5399. FBN special discount. See ad page 38.

Kenita'a blank notecards feature the colorful work of artist Dana Squires, whose drawings are inspired by her experiences living, working, and travelling among the women of Africa, the Solomon Islands, and Southeast Asia. The cards are printed in vegetable-based inks on recycled paper and come with color-coordinated envelopes. Contact our woman-owned company and ask for our free, full-color brochure. 20104 E. Buckeye, Otis Orchards WA 99027; phone/fax 509-922-7229, email <Kenitaa@aol.com>. See ad page 73.



Amber Lotus offers a complete line of greeting cards, calendars, journals, books, and other products printed on recycled paper using soy-based inks. We feature cards and calendars of Call of the Goddess, Sacred Mysteries of the Divine Feminine, and Rituals of the Goddess. Other beautiful card series include Magical Reality, Spirit of Tibet, Inner Rhythms, Primal Echoes, Symbols of the Sacred, and Medicine Wheel. Calendar titles include Feng Shui, Mandala, Voyager Tarot, Japanese Gardens, and Sacred Images of Tibet. We also offer a selection of journals, gift wrap, art books, posters, and meditation cards. Book titles include The End of Patriarchy and The Experience of a Lifetime. Many products benefit such organizations as The Global Fund for Women, The Conservation Alliance, and the Tibetan Children's Village. PO Box 31358, San Francisco CA 94131; 800-326-2375, fax 415-695-0300, email <info@amberlotus.com>, Web site <www.amberlotus.com>. See ad page 58.

Donnelly/Colt - Our 24th year. We design, make, and distribute hundreds of different progressive messages on buttons, bumperstickers, postcards,

t-shirts, posters, labels, and more. Plus we offer fast, quality custom printing of your designs/messages at the lowest prices anywhere. Reach us 9-5 EST Monday-Friday, at 860-455-9621 or fax 24 hours a day at 800-553-0006. Write Box 188-FBN, Hampton CT 06017, email <donco@neca.com>, or visit <www .donnellycolt.com>. See ad page 80.

New this year from the creators of the bestselling calendar, We'Moon: Lunar Power Packet '99 and Lunar Power Packet '00. Each Lunar Power Packet (LPP) includes a mix of 13 beautiful, full-color, 4" x 6" postcards of eight original art pieces that have been published in either We'Moon '99 (LPP '99) or We'Moon '00 (LPP '00) and a "Lunar Power" bumpersticker. August. Mother Tongue Ink, 37010 SE Snuffin Rd., Estacada OR 97023; 503-630-7848 or toll-free 877-693-6666, email < wemoon@teleport.com>. See ad page 60.

Nomenclature cards — Created by women, these notecards feature quotes - inspiring, sassy, poignant, wise - from famous and should-be-famous women, speaking to what women are thinking, doing, and accomplishing in their everyday lives. Since their creation three years ago, these cards have been the bestselling cards in our retail store. Created by Minnesota Women's Press, Inc. Retail \$1.50, 50% discount. For information/samples: Minnesota Women's Press, 771 Raymond, St. Paul MN 55114; 651-646-3968, email <books@womenspress.com>.

Cards that really say something: "Thanks for leaving, I've never been happier," "Embrace Menopause," "Applaud your stretchmarks," and much more. 24 beautiful, outrageous, and inspirational greeting cards. Saige Street Studio celebrates the Bitch. Release her! 100% cotton t-shirts, totes and aprons, heavy 90/10 sweats, baseball caps, buttons, and cards. Fax us for a brochure and wholesale price list, 503-230-0639. Six free "I'm proud to be a Bitch" buttons with every order. See ad page 71.

Cool Cards, Hot Journals! Colorado Card & Curiosity's growing line of art cards and blank journals has become a favorite with women's bookstores. Art ranging from "fine to funky" with lots of great images "by women for women" characterize our line.

We have gorgeous catalogs showing our everyday, holiday, and journal lines that we'd be thrilled to send you. We will even send free samples! Please just call us at 800-789-6221, fax us at 800-892-8343, or visit our curious Web site at <www.coloradocard.com>. Ask about our money-making "Everyday-Holiday" specials and our new customer-guaranteed sales program when you call! See us in "Booksellers' Faves and Raves." Thank you!

### Coloring Books

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The Coloring Book for Big Girls by Sudie Rakusin is a delightful adult book filled with drawings of strong, high-spirited womyn. There are goddesses, guides, angels, and friends, many with animal companions. Each drawing has a descriptive caption. The experience of coloring in this book takes you away from the chaos of the outer world into a place of centered calm. With a box of colored pencils or crayons, it makes a wonderful gift for all sorts of celebrations and rites of passage. **Winged Willow Press**, distributed by Ladyslipper and New Leaf. See ad inside front cover.

Color of Woman: A Journal and Coloring Book celebrating women! Includes 28 illustrations of women that are powerful, mystical, liberating and nurturing, portraying archetypal moments in our lives. Color of Woman is a creative sanctuary designed as a healing tool and an invitation to explore the mystery and splendor of womanhood! \$19.95 retail, 9" x 11", covered spiral binding, 115 pages of 110 lb. recycled card stock. 10% of profits go to women's causes. Independently published by Shiloh McCloud, artist. Paintings, prints, she-shirts, and cards too! **Tribe of Diynah**, Shiloh McCloud; 888-385-6866, 707-933-8875 (new phone!). See ad page 43.

Goddesses of the Celts: A Coloring Book for anyone of any age! Fifteen Celtic Goddesses, elaborate borders, warrior lovers, and healers with fascinating stories adapted from Patricia Monaghan's The New Book of Goddesses and Heroines. Bright red glossy cover, very eye-catching, full-size. \$4.95. Wholesale: Net/30, we pay shipping. Available from **Triple Spiral Publications**, PO Box 140959, Gainesville FL 32614; 888-377-8790.



### Comedy

Uproar is the leading producer of comedy CDs and cassettes by women. Our catalog features recordings by the most talented comediennes around: Kate Clinton (1999 Best Comedy Album - GLAMA), Suzanne Westenhoffer (1998 Best Comedy Album — GLAMA), Margaret Cho, Marga Gomez, Karen Williams, Kathleen Madigan (1997 Female Comic of the Year — American Comedy Awards), Maryellen Hooper (1998 Female Comic of the Year — American Comedy Awards), The Hot & Spicy Mamitas, Monique Marvez, Elvira Kurt, and Michele Balan. Call 818-889-3757 or fax 818-889-3758. See ad page 44.

### Crafts

Riverbank Pottery - Handcrafted porcelain provides the canvas for sensuous airbrushed designs in rich shades of purple, blue, green, and turqoise. Inspired by ancient cultures, Melanie brings art and women-positive images into everyday use. Amulets, Flying Goddesses, Scrying Bowls,



Feminist Blessing Pieces, Rectangle Plates, and Platters decorated with images of women, goddesses, and animals. Much much more. Contact Melanie Collum, 93 Nottingham Street, Guelph Ontario N1H 3M9, Canada; 519-822-1196.

Touch and Be Touched has produced female imagery in sculpture and pewter since 1994. Brenda's newest line is her popular pewter miniatures. Images such as "Circle of Friends," "Story Teller," "Drummer," "Expecting," "Nursing Mamma," "Family," and "Dream Catcher" offer a piece to adorn any altar or honor a special occasion. Each miniature is hand-polished and arrives with a pouch, name tag and inspirational poem. Call for your free color photo: 416-537-8151 or email <brenda@istar.ca>. See ad page 42.

Bits of Glass offers artistically unique stainedglass lightcatchers celebrating women, nature, and empowerment through symbols. You won't be disappointed with the quality or price of these individually created treasures. For information, call 616-361-1970 or write PO Box 3135, Grand Rapids MI 49501. See ad page 77.

Water Sounds - Small indoor fountains crafted for the sounds they make. Water Sounds offers a large selection of beautiful and affordable fountains. Each fountain is ready to enjoy. Just fill it with water and plug it in. Each is made in a handcrafted pottery base by Northern California artisans. Our long-lasting water pump is quiet and reliable. It is easy to clean and has a flow-adjusting feature. The pump has a one year guarantee. Water Sounds caters to the small retailer. We have stock on hand and are able to ship today. We have a low minimum order and offer a drop-shipping service for your convenience. For a free catalog call 650-366-9750, fax 650-365-3661, or email <watersounds@earthlink.net>. See ad page 42.

All One Tribe® Drums — Authentic shaman's drums, handmade and individually signed by master Native American drummakers in Taos, New Mexico, world-famous for fine drums. Designed for ritual with the renowned, patented, adjustable sheepskin-and-leather handle for long-term drumming comfort. Handprinted (using non-toxic inks) Volume 22 Number 2

July/August 1999

with 24 exquisite designs, including Celtic, Goddess, and Labyrinth. Free handmade beaters. Goddess, have enormous appeal and are actually four things: musical instruments with superb ally four the gwall art, handmade native craft, and tools for healing. (Recent biofeedback research shows that drumming for 15 minutes with your heartbeat alters your brainwaves and dramatically reduces stress.) Other products include drumbags, fringed beaters, decorative drum hangers, Unity Shakers™, ceremonial fans, talking sticks, ceramic doumbeks, tapes, t-shirts, and posters. Wholesale prices: \$7-\$122. All One Tribe is a woman-owned Co-Op America Green Business that gives a percentage of profits to indigenous causes. Web site <www.allonetribedrum.com>. Free brochure: 800-442-DRUM. See ad page 77.

### Decals

Sticker Sisters presents girl-empowering messages on high-quality stickers, shoelaces, buttons, magnets, and patches. "Girl Power," "Girls Can Do Anything," "Action not Glamour," "Girls Rock," "My Body is Mine," and more. New: Girl Power magnetic poetry kit. For a catalog and wholesale price list, contact us at 301-270-2627 or <stickersis@aol.com>. Sticker Sisters, PO Box 11480, Tacoma Park MD 20913. Sticker Sisters, owned by a 17-year-old girl, has been providing pro-girl products for three years. See ad page 46.

Signs of Pride began in 1991 when Susan and Nancy decorated their van with seasonal decals and dreamed of replacing them with pride-symbol decals. That dream turned into a thriving business, and we now offer over 100 decal designs. All decal designs are now available as magnets and buttons. Nancy runs Signs of Pride from their home, with the "help" of their preschool-age daughter, Morgan. Contact Nancy for a free catalog: 888-852-7833, email <SignsPride@aol.com>. See ad page 79.

### Displays

We make displays and merchandisers for books, greeting cards, audio and video media, and the best calendar display available. Clear Solutions are known for increasing sales by the beautiful way they

#### espresso press

ll across the country women have started to eat again and it doesn't appear that they intend to stop soon. No one is entirely sure why the women are eating and when asked, 🔦 a common response is 'I was hungry.' ... from "Say Grace"



Persephone's discovered she's a Fall, not a Winter, and now none of her accessories match ... from "Self-Help"

20 different "post a story" notecards and postcards, all printed on 100% post-consumer waste recycled paper. Free catalog available.



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present merchandise — without calling attention to themselves. And they are guaranteed against break age for a year. Clear Solutions, PO Box 2460, West age for a year. Brattleboro VT 05303; 800-257-4550, Web site <www.clearsolutionsdisplays.com>. See ad page 78.

### Distributors

phs Wholesale — Manufacturer and distributor of quality Pride merchandise. Over 2,000 items for lesbian/gay/alternative stores. Stickers, static cling, buttons, magnets, key chains, jewelry, wallets, lapel pins, lighters, purses, backpacks, totes, belts, caps, t-shirts, pet collars/leashes/tags, luggage tags, candles, candleholders, mugs, martini/wine/shot glasses, stained glass, wind socks, flags, towels, coasters, housewares, bears, mouse pads, bookmarks, license plates, and more! Contact us for your 56-page 1999-2000 color catalog. 800-736-8919. See ad page 81.

### Flass

Donnelly/Colt - Our 24th year. We design, make, and distribute hundreds of different progressive messages on buttons, bumperstickers, postcards, t-shirts, posters, labels, and more. Plus we offer fast, quality custom printing of your design/messages at the lowest prices anywhere. Reach us 9-5 EST, Monday-Friday, at 860-455-9621 or fax 24 hours a day at 800-553-0006. Write: Box 188-FBN, Hampton CT 06017, email <donco@neca.com>, or visit <www .donnellycolt .com>. See ad page 80.

## Gilts

76

Focus Stones sell by the fistful! These colorful1" glass stones retail for only \$1.49, and a basket display is free with 100 stones. We also produce Love Stones, Wisdom Stones, Lucky Stones, and Holiday Stones. Custom work is available with no set-up charges. Lifeforce Publishing is a woman-owned business of family and friends. Ask any of our customers, they'll tell you about our great service. See our Web site at <www.lifeforceonline.com> or call 800-828-3870. See ad page 41.

New Victoria came upon the idea of love coupons for lesbians when we saw that a heterosexual Volume 22 Number 2

version was selling like hotcakes. **Hot Tickets** (ISBN 0-934678-99-5), for only \$5.95, features tear-out coupons promising, for example, "When we are apart, good for one hot phone call to remind us of what we are missing." Or one can give the whole book to a special friend who then redeems them. Each ticket has an erotic quote on the back — and the graphics are great fun. New Victoria Publishers, 800-326-5297, email <newvic@aol.com>. See ad page 80.

### Girl Merch

Spiral Woman creates original art for women and girls. Great-selling designs include girl power, goddesses, political, cats, and totem animals. Organic and earth-friendly materials. T-shirts for adults and children: \$7.50–\$11. Magnets: \$1.50. Colorful computer mouse pads: \$7. Also: desk and wall clocks. For catalog: PO Box 14772, San Francisco CA 94114; 415-626-7821, fax 415-863-1935, email: <spiralwomansf@yahoo.com>. See ad page 82.

one angry girl designs is a three-year-old, one-woman company designing and selling uniquely feminist t-shirts to anyone brave enough to wear them. Recently, o.a.g. introduced a successful line of bumperstickers as well. To check out products, visit <home.ici.net/~angrygrl> or send a 33-cent stamp to one angry girl designs, PO Box 400674, North Cambridge MA 02140. Reasonable retail and wholesale price quotes are available by calling 888-ANGRY-11. See ad page 47.

Sticker Sisters presents girl-empowering messages on high-quality stickers, shoelaces, buttons, magnets, and patches. "Girl Power," "Girls Can Do Anything," "Action not Glamour," "Girls Rock," "My Body is Mine," and more. New: Girl Power magnetic poetry kit. For a catalog and wholesale price list, contact us at 301-270-2627 or <stickersis@aol.com>. Sticker Sisters, PO Box 11480, Tacoma Park MD 20913. Sticker Sisters, owned by a 17-year-old girl, has been providing pro-girl products for three years. See ad page 46.

*Teen Voices* is an interactive quarterly feminist magazine written by and for teenage girls, challenging the oppressive images of girls and women in the



media. Published by a multicultural collaborative of teen and adult women, *Teen Voices* addresses issues such as self-esteem, women's rights, racism, sexism, violence against girls and women, pregnancy prevention, and sexuality. *Teen Voices* empowers teen girls toward social activism and honors their potential as leaders. Ages 13–19. \$3.00 U.S., \$4.25 in Canada, ISSN 1074-7494. Women Express, Inc. Available from Koen, Ingram, Ubiquity, Small Changes, One Source, Daybreak, and Desert Moon. See ad page 85.



### Goddess Imagery

Spiral Woman creates original art for women and girls. Great-selling designs include girl power, goddesses, political, cats, and totem animals. Organic and earth-friendly materials. T-shirts for adults and children: \$7.50-\$11. Magnets: \$1.50. Colorful computer mouse pads: \$7. Also: desk and wall clocks. For catalog: PO Box 14772, San Francisco CA 94114; 415-626-7821, fax 415-863-1935, email: <spiralwomansf@yahoo.com>. See ad page 82.

Slitherings creates magical Goddesses for sacred space in your home, garden, and workplace. Beautiful, handmade, wild woman-made goddess

The Fine Art of Presentation Show your product with the Clear Solution® you can't see. Display racks to fit your every need. Glear solutions inc. call toll free for a catalog 800.257.4550 The Fine Art of Presentation P.O. Box 2460 West Brattleboro, VT 05303 603•256•6644 603•256•8057 FAX July/August 1999

figurines, garden goddesses, goddess fountains, bird feeders, bird baths, rattlesnakes (they rattle!), and ceramic drums. New indoor and garden goddess wall plaques and much more! Sizes range from palm-sized to 18". Prices start at \$5. Free wholesale catalog. Custon work also available. Slitherings, 733 Ormewood Ave., Atlanta GA 30312; 404-627-2328. See ad page 39.

### ID TASS

Personalized dog tags are not just for dogs or G.I.'s. Offer our custom service to your customers. Genuine embossed stainless steel, rustproof tags with 24" nickel-plated ball-chain necklace or 4" key chain. Black rubber silencer available. 5 lines, 15 spaces per line. \$3.50 each postpaid wholesale (retail for \$7) prepaid orders only. Company check by mail; Visa or Mastercard required for faxed orders. 24-hour toll-free fax: 800-553-0006. Order forms, sample: Donnelly/Colt, Box 188-FBN, Hampton CT 06017; 860-455-9621 (M-F, 9-5 EST), email <donco @neca.com>, or visit <www.donnellycolt.com>. See ad page 80.

### Jewelry

Pat Pearlman Designs - Original designs including Woman/Woman, Man/Man, Man/ Woman, and Goddess figures in sterling silver, bronze, and 14K gold with beads, pearls, and stones. Pat creates classic, realistic Nature Images, wildlife, sea life, wild flowers, figures, and celestial themes. For over 27 years, Pat has been designing miniature sculpture to wear, guaranteeing quality and customer satisfaction. It is a woman-owned and operated business. Color catalog available upon request, call 800-457-7706. See ad page 82.

Dion Manley Custom Design - With over 12 years' experience as a jeweler, Díon Manley is now offering 14K white and yellow gold wedding and commitment rings wholesale. They have sold very well in San Francisco Bay Area stores and Pride events statewide. We now have a beautiful catalog of our quality rings affordably priced and are looking to expand our market. "Díon Manley's popular tiny freedom rings are still the rage!" -Curve, Summer 99 catalog and Web site. We stand behind our work and will meet

Signs of Pride P.O.BOX 762 SIMPSONVILLE SC 29681 DECALS We offer the widest selection of Gay/Lesbian static cling decals including: Rainbow Pride V Pink Triangle V **Black Triangle Rainbow Triangle** V Rainbow decals with silhouette of each state Many others! V Great quality, good prices and super fast service. Free wholesale and retail catalogues.

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anyone's price for top-quality mini pridewear and gold rings. Call, fax, or write to Díon Manley Custom Design, PO Box 14867, Berkeley CA 94712; 510-540-5395, fax 510-540-5395-79. See ad page 84.

Jane Iris Designs, Inc., known for Goddess and Nature jewelry for 17+ years, also offers Egyptian, Kindred Spirits, Tools for Transformation, Pendulum, Life Cycles, and Herotica lines of sterling, bronze, and 14K "wearable art." In addition, we offer Prayer Candles of Intention and Release, candles for Wishes and Dreams, Serenity candles, and our very popular beeswax Spirit Candle Goddesses. Please call us for a free beautiful color catalog at 800-828-5687 or fax us at 619-491-0827.



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### Journals

Salamar, Inc. — Owned and operated by mary anne mbl radmacher. From a lifetime of writing and keeping a journal, mary anne establishes a decisive set of requirements for what her journals must be Sturdy. Recycled. Beautiful paper. Easy to write on. The covers of the blank-book journals can be any card from the entire Salamar greeting-card line. The smaller journals have a selection of over 35 beautiful and inspiring cover panels. Call 800-408-1690 for the representative nearest you or to receive more information. See ad page 83.

Stewart, Tabori, & Chang - Publishers of calendars and books of unusually high quality and beauty, The popular Return of the Goddess: An Engagement Calendar for 2000 is back and gorgeous as ever. (\$17.95. 1-55670-906-4.) Also offering two journals for women: A Woman's Journal of Hopes, Dreams, & Desires (\$15.95, 1-55670-725-8) and One Day at a Time Journal (\$15.95, 1-55670-520-4). 115 West 18th St., NY NY 10011; 800-932-0070. See ad page 56.

### Magazines

Fabula Magazine — \$3.25. Fabula gives its readership (women in their 20s and 30s) the content they've been craving. Savvy as well as engaging,



Lesbians will love this delightful package of gift coupons. Designed to tear out and give to friends or lovers, these tickets promise exciting and intriguing ways to please the women you love. Filled with fun graphics by Yohah Ralph. Seductive quotes on the back of each coupon, like "Is this my tongue that has found the sweet salty very center of the earth?" (Barbara Deming) make this a gift that keeps on

giving. With this book, you can guarantee your customers that they will never again be accused of being romantically impaired being romantically impaired. ISBN 0-934678-99-5 \$5.95 New Victoria Publishers • PO Box 27 • Norwich, VT 05055 • 800-326-5297 Distributed by Inbook/LPC 800-243-0138

Fabula covers the issues that are shaping culture and Fabula cover boundaries. Whether catching up with forging item Deborah Harry or examining the latest platinum depression therapy, Fabula investigates the issues that matter. The result: a respectful, newsworthy, and stylish magazine that encompasses the multifaceted perspectives of women today. Fabula is a quarterly publication, distributed nationally through DEYCO, 516-576-9400, and available through several major wholesalers. For more info call 415-255-8926 or visit <www.fabulamag.com>. See ad page 84.

Moxie: For the Woman Who Dares. Sometimes called "the NPR of women's magazines," Moxie fills a gap in the media by mirroring young women's strengths. Filled with positive, upbeat, first-person accounts aimed at women in their 20s and 30s who are putting together lives that work, Moxie provides vibrant, often feisty examples of real women doing real things in the real world. Quarterly; distributed through Ubiquity, Small Changes, Desert Moon, Koen, Ingram. Cover price: \$3.95. See ad page 86.

BookWomen: A Readers' Community for Those Who Love Women's Words - It's a different kind of book review publication. Carol Seajay called BookWomen "a nifty little 'zine - full of the kind of bookseller- and customer-to-customer chat that you love to hear in your own store." \$5 cover price, 40% discount, 5-copy minimum. Sample copy available. Center for Feminist Reading, Minnesota Women's Press Inc., 771 Raymond, St. Paul MN 55114; 651-646-3968, email <books@womenspress.com>.

Teen Voices is an interactive quarterly feminist magazine written by and for teenage girls, challenging the oppressive images of girls and women in the media. Published by a multicultural collaborative of teen and adult women, Teen Voices addresses issues such as self-esteem, women's rights, racism, sexism, violence against girls and women, pregnancy prevention, and sexuality. Teen Voices empowers teen girls toward social activism and honors their potential as leaders. Ages 13-19. \$3.00 U.S., \$4.25 in Canada, ISSN 1074-7494. Women Express, Inc. Available from Koen, Ingram, Ubiquity, Small Changes, One Source, Daybreak, and Desert Moon. See ad page 85.



Sojourner: The Women's Forum is the oldest and most widely respected feminist newspaper in the United States, with readers in every state and in nearly two dozen other countries. Sojourner is committed to publishing women's writing in a variety of formats feature articles, letters, short essays, personal stories, interviews, fiction, poetry, reviews, and investigative reports. You're in the best of company when you carry Sojourner: The Women's Forum. 42 Seaverns St., Jamaica Plain MA 02130; 617-524-0415, fax 617-524-9397, email <info@ sojourner.org>, Web site <www.sojourner .org>. See ad page 86.

Circles is a quarterly publication focusing on regional, national, and global issues relevant to the



lives of lesbian, bisexual, and transgender women Recent features include in-depth interviews with Dorothy Allison, Jewelle Gomez, and Kate Clinton; profiles with activists and community leaders; articles and book excerpts on gender, sexuality, and legal issues; lesbian mothers and second-parent adoptions; lesbians and FTM partners; and excerpts from new and classic lesbian novels and short stories. Circles is available from Ingram, Small Changes, New Leaf, Ubiquity, Armadillo, and Desert Moon Doormouse (Canada) or direct from Circles Magazine, PMB 326, 1705 14th St., Boulder CO 80302-6321; 888-633-0055 email <circles@circlesmagazine.com>, Web site <www.circlesmagazine.com>.

### Magnets

Ephemera has outrageous humor, famous women's quotes, campy lurid paperback art, colorful Hindu goddesses, Xena, and Electra Woman on buttons, magnets, stickers, and key chains. These sidelines are an inexpensive way for your customers to express themselves and have fun at the same time. Request our full-color catalog with many display options. Ephemera, PO Box 490, Phoenix OR 97535; email <ephemera@mind.net>, phone 800-537-7226 or 541-535-4195, fax 541-535-5016. See ad page 68.

### Music

Linda Allen/October Roses - A time-honored classic on CD for the first time! This beautifully and lovingly crafted collection of songs is a salute to the cycle of women's lives. From the exquisite title song, "October Roses," to the poignant and tender, "Just Friends," Linda takes listeners through the humor, insight, wisdom, and power of being a woman. Other Linda Allen releases include Lay It Down, Women's Work, and Rainbow Dancer. Watch for her new release, The Long Way Home, coming in the fall. Visit <www.lindasongs.com>. Available from Ladyslipper Music. See ad page 61.

Raven Recording is the publishing outlet of Gabrielle Roth, internationally renowned philosopher, director, teacher, recording artist, and bestselling author who has spent her life exploring the ecstatic experience in artistic, teaching, and healing venues Volume 22 Number 2

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throughout the world. She is an inspiration to the European rave scene and, as one critic noted, "is the only woman in America making tribal ambient music...and she's been doing it for 20 years." For information, visit <www.ravenrecording .com> or email <ravenrec@panix.com>. See ad page 66.

Begun in 1975, Goldenrod Music is the oldest and largest wholesale distributor of women's music in the United States. Specializing in music by gay and lesbian artists, we also carry a wide selection of Native American, Celtic, and folk titles. Fast service (most orders are shipped same day), friendly sales staff, in-store play copies, and displays available. New Accounts — Free shipping for your first three orders. Goldenrod Music, 1310 Turner St., Lansing MI 48906; 517-484-1712. Call collect. See ad page 64.

Ladyslipper Music offers a vast selection of recordings by women in all categories: women's/feminist/lesbian music, women's spirituality, international, African heritage, Native American, Jewish, classical, alternative, singer-songwriter, holiday plus gay men's music, songbooks, and more. Fast service, immediate stock status by phone. Request our fully annotated catalog: PO Box 3124, Durham NC 27715; 800-634-6044, fax 800-577-7892, email <music@ ladyslipper.org>. Our complete catalog is online! Visit us: <www.ladyslipper.org>. See ad page 63.

Silver Wave Records — Expanding musical horizons for over twelve years, we boast 60+ titles spanning the genres of Native American, new age, contemporary jazz, folk, and world music. Our recording artists include: Joanne Shenandoah, Joy Harjo & Poetic Justice, Alice Gomez, Mary Youngblood, and Eliza Gilkyson among many others. Our cassettes and CDs are available through many distributors including Goldenrod, Ladyslipper, New Leaf, and Music Design. For more info, contact us directly at 303-443-5617, fax 303-443-0877, Web site <www.silverwave.com>. See ad page 62.

Songs for Earthlings: A Green Spirituality Songbook compiled and edited by Julie Forest Middleton is a songbook for the women's spiritual movement that contains 433 songs, 35 illustrations, 50 pages of text, source material, biographies, and "How to Read Music in Nine Concentrated Lessons." A satisfied customer raves, "This is *the* definitive work on women's spirituality music." \$27, 0-9663715-2-6. **Emerald Earth Publishing**, 888-333-3929. Distributed by Koen, New Leaf, and Ladyslipper. See ad page 63.

All One Tribe® Drums - Authentic shaman's drums, handmade and individually signed by master Native American drummakers in Taos, New Mexico, world-famous for fine drums. Designed for ritual with the renowned, patented, adjustable sheepskin-and-leather handle for long-term drumming comfort. Handprinted (using non-toxic inks) with 24 exquisite designs, including Celtic, Goddess, and Labyrinth. Free handmade beaters. These drums have enormous appeal and are actually four things: musical instruments with superb tone, stunning wall art, handmade native craft, and tools for healing. (Recent biofeedback research shows that drumming for 15 minutes with your heartbeat alters your brainwaves and dramatically reduces stress.) Other products include drumbags, fringed beaters, decorative drum hangers, Unity Shakers™, ceremonial fans,

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"...this lively magazine 'for the female mind' sees past the gridlock in feminist debate, offering viewpoints as fluid and realistic as the women who read it." -The Utne Reader May/June 1999



talking sticks, ceramic doumbeks, tapes, t-shirts, and talking stress, comparises \$7-\$122. All One Tribe is a woman-owned Co-Op America Green Business that gives a percentage of profits to indigenous causes Web site <www.allonetribedrum.com>. Free brochure: 800-442-DRUM. See ad page 77.

### Posters

New posters include Ann Altman's The Guardians, Girls in Sports, The Alternative Alphabet, Zapatista's Revolutionary Law for Women, and How to Grow Organic. Also Audre Lorde, Dancers, How to Build a Community, and over 75 more! Shrinkwrapping available, poster rack info. 100% cotton t-shirts with over 18 popular images/quotes (children's, too). 4 new designs! Syracuse Cultural Workers -Tools for Change. Call Donna 315-474-1132, ext. 102. toll-free fax 877-265-5399. FBN special discount. See ad page 38.

Donnelly/Colt - Our 24th year. We design. make, and distribute hundreds of different progressive messages on buttons, bumperstickers, postcards, t-shirts, posters, labels, and more. Plus we offer fast, quality custom printing of your designs/messages at the lowest prices anywhere. Reach us 9-5 EST, Monday-Friday, at 860-455-9621 or fax 24 hours a day at 800-553-0006. Write Box 188-FBN, Hampton CT 06017, email <donco@neca.com>, or visit <www.donnellycolt.com>. See ad page 80.

### Sex Toys

Tantus — A silicone adult toy manufacturer who believes that silicone dildos and plugs should not only be wonderfully stimulating, but also reasonably priced and accessible to everybody. Brilliant colors, respectful packaging, and guaranteed quality. Silicone Starter Kit special offer now available. Call or write for a whole sale packet. 2856 Delta Dr., Colorado Springs CO 80910; 719-391-4200, fax 719-391-4201. See ad page <sup>50</sup>.

Vixen Creations — Where fine art and sex toys meet. Our silicone dildos and plugs are handcrafted using the finest quality materials available. Our products come in a range of color, size, and shape and have a lifetime replacement policy. Call or write for a free Volume 22 Number 2

wholesale color catalog and information or visit our Wholesale downw.vixencreations.com>. 1004 Revere Web site at 49, San Francisco CA 94124; 415-822-0403. See ad page 52.

### T-shirts

one angry girl designs is a three-year-old, one-woman company designing and selling uniquely feminist t-shirts to anyone brave enough to wear them. Recently, o.a.g. introduced a successful line of bumperstickers as well. To check out products, visit chome.ici.net/~angrygrl> or send a 33-cent stamp to one angry girl designs, PO Box 400674, North Cambridge MA 02140. Reasonable retail and wholesale price quotes are available by calling 888-ANGRY-11. See ad page 47.

Snake and Snake Productions - Susan D. Baylies has produced the Lunar Phase Card for 22 years, a great-selling card/calendar on which womyn mark their cycles; wholesale \$9/dozen. Solstice cards \$5/dozen. She also makes t-shirts (S-4XL) of empowering imagery: goddesses, moons, dancing womyn, kitty ying yang, and the new owl's moon shirt. Phone: 919-544-2028, fax: 919-493-7210, Web site: <www.snakeandsnake.com>, mail: 511 Scott King Rd., Durham NC 27713. See ad page 59.

Northern Sun — The one-stop shopping choice preferred by retailers in search of quality feminist, political, GLBT, environmental, and multicultural products. We carry over 200 t-shirt designs, including the Jane Evershed and Tom Tomorrow lines. Our bumperstickers are in color, taking the guesswork out of ordering. Choose from over 300 button designs and 75 posters. Imports include sarongs from Bali, pouches from Guatemala, hemp hats from Romania, and clay flutes from Peru. Mugs, magnets, notecards, postcards, recycled stationery, calendars, and much more. 2916 E. Lake St., Minneapolis MN 55406; 800-258-8579. See ad page 67.

Spiral Woman creates original art for women and girls. Great-selling designs include girl power, goddesses, political, cats, and totem animals. Organic and earth-friendly materials. T-shirts for adults and children: \$7.50-\$11. Magnets: \$1.50. Colorful

computer mouse pads: \$7. Also: desk and wall clocks. For catalog: PO Box 14772, San Francisco CA 94114 or call 415-626-7821, fax 415-863-1935, email: <spiralwomansf@yahoo.com.>. See ad page 82.

Donnelly/Colt - Our 24th year. We design, make, and distribute hundreds of different progressive messages on buttons, bumperstickers, postcards, t-shirts, posters, labels, and more. Plus we offer fast, quality custom printing of your designs/messages at the lowest prices anywhere. Reach us 9-5 EST, Monday-Friday, at 860-455-9621 or fax 24 hours a day at 800-553-0006. Write Box 188-FBN, Hampton CT 06017, email <donco@neca.com>, or visit <www.donnellycolt.com>. See ad page 80.

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Also Audre Lorde, Dancers, How to Build a Community and over 75 more! Shrink-wrapping available, poster rack info. Syracuse Cultural Workers — Tools for Change. Call Donna 315-474-1132, ext. 102, toll-free fax 877-265-5399. FBN special discount. See ad page 38.

### Tools (or Transformation

Since 1975, we, **The Alchemists**<sup>®</sup>, have dedicated ourselves to the production of more than just quality handcrafted items. We have looked to the images themselves and the meanings behind them. Our present flagship product Talistones<sup>™</sup>, sand engraved river pebbles of quartz, jasper, and agate, represents The Alchemists' continued excellence in original design and quality customer service. Talistones<sup>™</sup> are the perfect gift, combining magic with meaning. Informative card comes with each stone. Call us at 800-735-0830 for a free catalog. See ad on the back cover.

All One Tribe® Drums — Authentic shaman's drums, handmade and individually signed by master Native American drummakers in Taos, New Mexico, world-famous for fine drums. Designed for ritual with the renowned, patented, adjustable sheepskin-and-leather handle for long-term drumming comfort. Handprinted (using non-toxic inks) with 24 exquisite designs, including Celtic, Goddess, and Labyrinth. Free handmade beaters. These drums have enormous appeal and are actually four things:

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musical instruments with superb tone, stunning wall art, handmade native craft, and tools for healing. (Recent biofeedback research shows that drumming for 15 minutes with your heartbeat alters your brainfor 15 minutes with your heartbeat alters your brainwaves and dramatically reduces stress.) Other products include drumbags, fringed beaters, decoraproducts include drumbags, fringed beaters, decorative drum hangers, Unity Shakers<sup>™</sup>, ceremonial fans, talking sticks, ceramic doumbeks, tapes, t-shirts, and posters. Wholesale prices: \$7–\$122. All One Tribe is a woman-owned Co-Op America Green Business that gives a percentage of profits to indigenous causes. Web site <www.allonetribedrum.com>. Free brochure: 800-442-DRUM. See ad page 77.

Focus Stones sell by the fistful! These colorful 1" glass stones retail for only \$1.49, and a basket display is free with 100 stones. We also produce Love Stones, Wisdom Stones, Lucky Stones, and Holiday Stones. Custom work is available with no set-up charges. Lifeforce Publishing is a woman-owned business of family and friends. Ask any of our customers, they'll tell you about our great service. See our Web site at <www.lifeforce online.com> or call 800-828-3870. See ad page 41.

We are committed to using natural substances rather than synthetic or composite materials. The original runes were carved on pieces of oak, something natural and durable. The search for "just the right rune stone" became extremely important. We went to the source we knew best, our Mother, the ocean — and, there they were — natural beach stones washed up on shore just for us to pick up and use. Pure, ancient energy and a great gift to all women. **Earth Gypsy**, 303-322-8309 or New Leaf Distribution. See ad this page.

### Video

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**Culture Q Connection** has a growing line of lesbian and gay movies and is the exclusive source for Gender Benders, a greeting card line with over 90 different lesbian and gay cards. Our video releases include *Significant Others*, which includes a Cheryl Dunye short, and *Different Strokes* starring Dana Plato from the 70s TV sitcom "Diff rent Strokes." Call us at 888-542-5421 (toll-free) or 520-888-5421. email: glvideos@cultureqconnection.com>, Web site: <www.cultureqconnection.com>. See ad page 76. Naiad Press continues to offer full-service video products. We stock several hundred videos and try for three-day turnaround service on all such products. Special orders can take up to six weeks (and we are powerless to change that). Mix your book and video orders — it makes for one-stop shopping. Please feel free to ask about videos you do not see listed in any of our mailings. If we cannot get the product, we are happy to help you find it elsewhere. Service is the point. Call us at 800-533-1973. Watch for a fall announcement about a hot new lesbian film.... Visit our Web site at <www.naiadpress.com>.

Wolfe Video takes pride in bringing you the most complete selection of lesbian, feminist, and gay home video entertainment available anywhere. We stock hundreds of titles and products — and our sales experts will make sure that you have the bestselling merchandise when you need it and at the best price! Call us today for the latest releases! 800-642-5247. See ad page 88.



### Videos, continued from page 65.

her public high school in Salt Lake City. The school board and much of the community freaked and ultimately banned any non-academic club from meeting at the school rather than allow hers to continue. Spearheading many rebuttal rallies, Kelli fought for her rights until a court overturned the school board's decision. In her fight, Kelli changed history and enlightened many folks in Utah as well as the rest of the country. Kelli is a role model for us all and her story, told here, is amazing. Available from Wolfe Video.

Trevor. This amazing short film by Peggy Rajski won the 1994 Academy Award for Best Live-Action Short. It is the bittersweet story of Trevor, an earnest, honest, and enjoyable kid who favors Diana Ross and the school stud Pinky. With the innocence only



childhood lends, Trevor shows his affections whole heartedly only to be teased and ostracized. After a darkly comic suicide attempt, Trevor regains some of his lost innocence and looks forward to the next day when he gets to accompany his cute gayboy candy striper to a Diana Ross concert. As Ellen Degeneres says in her introduction of the film, it's really the story of anyone and everyone who has ever felt different from those around them. Available from Wolfe Video.

Cris & Tret's A Peek Between the Covers. A sneak peek at the making of the Cris Williamson and Tret Fure's bestselling, highly enjoyed, lesbian love album Between the Covers. In this behind-the-scenes video, we are invited to take part in every aspect of the album's creation. Included are in-depth interviews with the artists, mixing, editing, improv, and a few faux heavy metal jam sessions. Filmed mostly at Wolf Moon Studios, which also doubles as Cris and Tret's home, the video has an inviting and warmair to it and none of the self-indulgent aspects found in most behind-the-scenes videos. Rather, the experience is uplifting, down-to-earth, and hilarious. It showcases the many talents of Cris, Tret, and the other players but in a more roundabout way: their talent shines through naturally, without pretense or effort. Whether you're a hard-core Cris and Tret fan or more of an Ani gal like me, it's hard to miss the incredible, important, and heartwarming work these women do. Available from Wolfe Video.

High Art. Ally Sheedy sheds her brat pack image in this stunning reentry into film. She plays Lucy Berliner, a coke-addicted photographer who has given it all up at the tender age of 30. Her attention is divided between Syd, her newly acquired editor at a high-glam photo mag, and her longtime girlfriend who, for all intents and purposes, represents the darker side of her existence. Yes, it is in some respects a dark and dreary film, but it is marked with some amazing subplots and really speaks to the struggles we all have with our inner demons and how they affect the choices we make. Available from Wolfe Video and Naiad Video.

Other good flicks: Incredibly True Adventure of Two Girls in Love (Naiad Video, Wolfe Video), An Angel at My Table (Wolfe Video), Antonia's Line (Naiad Video, Wolfe Video), Fire (Naiad Video, Wolfe Video), Tales of the City series (Wolfe Video), and Serving in Silence (Wolfe Video).

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Small Presses, continued from page 36. as they work to improve wages and working condias they work as to protect their communities from tions as well as to protect their communities from tions as inclusion mental hazards. The activists health and relationships across the border: with unions, build religious groups, and community organizations. A valuable resource looking at the effects of "globalized" commerce on those people most involved: the workers. \$14.95 pb, 0-910082-35-9. The American Friends Service Committee, 1501 Cherry St., Philadelphia PA 19102; 888-588-2372 or 215-241-7059. Bulk and trade discounts available.

In The Space Between Us: Negotiating Gender and National Identities in Conflict, Cynthia Cockburn explores women's alliances in Northern Ireland, Israel/Palestine, and Bosnia/Hercegovina to show how women on different sides of ethnic conflict can come together to create spaces of peace and a political force that crosses battle lines. Filled with photos, this is another important book from the folks at Zed. \$25 pb, 1-85649-618-X. Zed Books Ltd., 175 Fifth Ave., NY NY 10010. Distributed by St. Martin's Press.

Nadia, Captive of Hope: Memoir of an Arab Woman by Fay Afaf Kanafani is an autobiographical account of the author's life in one of the most tumultuous regions in the world. An Arab Muslim woman born in Beirut in 1918, Kanafani was engaged at 13, married and living in Palestine by 17. After her husband was shot and killed, she was trapped by tradition. She studied in order to gain employment and escape the restrictions placed on her by the men in her life: her father, her brother, and her father-in-law. This is a story of a woman's journey to autonomy, her realization of feminist outrage long before exposure to "Western feminism." Also reveals the oppressive existence of women in two countries, Palestine/Israel and Lebanon. \$19.95 pb, 0-7656-0312-8. M.E. Sharpe Inc., 80 Business Park Dr., Armonk NY 10504; 800-541-6563, fax 914-273-2106. Available from most wholesalers, including B&T and Ingram.

Yuval Taylor, the editor of Lawrence Hill Books, has collected 20 of the most significant slave narratives in the two-volume set, I Was Born a Slave. Lawrence Hill's Library of Black America series produces the unabridged accounts. The first volume includes stories of Africa, pirate ships, witches, a slave who had ten owners, a slave who led a rebellion that killed 44 whites, and the kidnapping of a white woman and her rescue by a slave. The second volume includes more incredible accounts: One man born free was kidnapped and enslaved for twelve years. Another was experimented upon by a doctor to see how deep his dark skin went. One disguised herself as a male slave owner, and one hid herself from her lustful master in a crawlspace for seven years. In all, an important and amazing collection. \$21 each pb. Volume I, 1772-1849: 1-55652-331-9; Volume II, 1849-1866: 1-55652-332-7. Distributed by Independent Publishers Group.



Jean McNeil's debut novel, originally published in the U.K., is now available in the U.S. Hunting Down Home is the story of Morag, who lives with her grandparents off the coast of Nova Scotia and only knows her mother through the postcards she sends from Africa. It is a novel detailing isolation on the farm, the formation of Morag's identity, and the bonds of family. On a road trip that, as the copy says, "borders on kidnapping," Morag realizes that she must take her future into her own hands. \$16 cl, 1-57131-026-6.

Milkweed has begun publishing books for young readers. In The Spider's Web, Laura E. Williams chronicles 13-year-old Lexi's search for belonging. She falls in with a group of neo-Nazi skinheads and decides that she feels more comfortable with them than she does in her own house. As the group begins to do things that make Lexi uneasy, she meets an old woman, Ursula Zeidler, whose secret prompts Lexi to "set off a chain of events that places everyone she cares about in danger and leads her to make the most important decisions of her life." \$6.95 pb, 1-57131-622-1.

Treasure of Panther Peak by Aileen Kilgore Henderson is a mother-daughter tale. Twelveyear-old Page and her mother move to the canyons of Texas where her mother will teach in a one-room schoolhouse. Page's initial unhappiness with the move quickly changes to curiosity with her surroundings, a world of wild animals, horses, ghosts, and hidden dangers. The novel culminates with her

search for the treasure at Panther Peak. \$6.95 pb, 1-57131-619-1.

Milkweed Editions, 430 1st. Ave. N. Ste. 668, Minneapolis MN 55401; 612-332-3192, fax 612-332-6248. Distributed by PGW.

Crazy in the Cockpit is a new novel by experienced pilot and daughter of Judy Blume, Randy Blume. Twenty-year-old Kendra Davis takes a flying lesson on a whim and gets hooked on the experience. Deciding to forego graduate school in order to pursue flying, Kendra fights her mother, other male pilots, and her employers in her quest to realize her ultimate goal: to become an airline pilot. A great story about being a woman in the cockpit from someone who's been there. \$21.95 cl, 0-7894-2572-6.

For children ages 10 and up, Susan Butler's fantasy novel, The Hermit Thrush Sings, is the story of Leora, an orphan and outcast in her mother's household. She hides her webbed hand, fearing being sent to the Institute even though her "deformity" enables her to draw haunting pictures, pictures that seem to predict the future. Leora frees a baby birmba, a member of the "mutant interspecies" that the villagers fear, sending her on an adventure that takes her to the forbidden "Outside." The journey enables her to find her self-confidence and become a leader in a new society. \$17.95 cl, 0-7894-2489-4.

In lyrical prose, Joan Vannorsdal Schroeder brings us the story of two people who must come to terms with grief in The Hearts of Soldiers. Allison, whose father murdered a man when she was twelve, must "face her own merciless truths:" the accidental death of her daughter, the difficulties of connecting with her remaining daughter, the unraveling of her marriage as her minister husband turns away from God, and her intimate friendship with a reclusive Vietnam vet. Next door, Cal, the chief of police, must figure out if his wayward son is the man burning down churches in Gettysburg, even as he mourns his wife's departure. As the copy says, this novel tells the story of people "struggling to come to terms with the fragility — and strength — of love and the power of truth: what happens when you don't admit it and what can happen when you do." \$24.95 cl, 0-7894-2553-X.

Last Licks: A Spaldeen Story by Cari Best, pictures by Diane Palmisciano, is a picture book for

ages 6 and up about Annie Ellis and her Sky-High Super Pinkie ball. (Those Spaldeen balls, once a major fad, are apparently making a comeback.) Annie manages to avoid getting her pinkie snatched by her teacher, by Mrs. O'Donnell's dog, by the sewer. (It is, after all, a lucky ball.) She has even avoided the school super, who has an extensive collection of neighbor. hood pinkies. When Annie's ball is the last one left, she must risk losing it in the weekly punchball game. Annie's final amazing pop will put her and her pinkie face-to-face with the super. How she handles it shows her as the good sport that she is, respecting as she does an excellent catch. \$15.95 cl, 0-7894-2513-0.

DK Publishing Inc., 95 Madison Ave., NY NY 10016; 888-342-5357, fax 800-774-6733, Web site <www.dk.com>. Available from all major wholesalers.



Ursula Le Guin has written a new Catwings book: Jane on Her Own: A Catwings Tale illustrated by S.D. Schindler, in which bored Jane (who doesn't get to fly anywhere or do anything interesting because it's too dangerous) finally flees to the city for adventure. She finds it when she flies right into the room of a man who makes her a TV star. But the pampered life has restraints of its own, and Jane escapes again, back to the farm, to her old friends, and to real freedom. \$14.95 cl, 0-531-30133-8. Orchard Books, a Grolier Company, 95 Madison Ave., NY NY 10016.

Jackie Kay, the Scottish author of the novel Trumpet, has published many books of poetry. One of them is now available in the states: Off Colour explores, according to the blurb, "sickness, illness, and health, past and present, in a dynamic and original way. [The poems] examine not just the sick body, but the sick mind, the sick society, the sickness of racism and prejudice." \$16.95 pb, 1-85224-420-8. Bloodaxe Books Ltd., PO Box 1SN, Newcastle upon Tyne NE99 1SN. Distributed to the trade by Dufour Editions Inc., Chester Springs PA 19425; 610-458-5005, fax 610-458-7103.

The Vancouver Sun has called poet Sheri-D Wilson "A gutsy modern broad who has created a sexualized feminism." Her new collection, The Sweet Taste of Volume 22 Number 2



Lightning, is richly urban, sensual, and feminist. \$12.95 pb, 1-55152-060-5. Arsenal Pulp Press, 103-1014 Homer Street, Vancouver BC V6B 2W9, Canada; 604-687-4233, fax 604-669-8250. Distributed by LPC.

For stores with strong poetry collections, **The Perfect Day**, poems by Andrea Potos, draws upon the poet's experiences with her Greek grandparents, with pregnancy, with motherhood. \$10 chapbook, 1-893311-03-1. Parallel Press, Memorial Library, 728 State St., Madison WI 53706; 608-263-4929.

The Complete Poems of Sarah Orne Jewett collects for the first time the poetry of Jewett (1849–1909), who was best known for her fiction. Jewett chronicled the local color of her New England coastal community as well as mapping her internal life and her relationships with women. \$12.95 pb, 0-9655309-3-0. Ironweed Press, PO Box 754208, Parkside Station, Forest Hills NY 11375; 718-544-1120. Available from B&T and Ingram.

Now available in paperback: Winona LaDuke's (the internationally renowned Native American activist) first novel, **Last Standing Woman**, in which LaDuke chronicles the lives of seven generations of Anishinaabe (Ojibwe/Chippewa). An incredibly important book. \$14.95, 0-89658-452-6, August. Voyageur Press, St. Paul MN; 800-888-9653; fax 651-430-2211. Available from B&T and Ingram.

The Bisexual Resource Guide edited by Robyn Ochs is now available in a third edition. The guide provides a listing of novels, stories, nonfiction books, articles, and films with bisexual themes; bisexual Internet resources; and listings of bisexual and bisexual-inclusive groups around the globe. An essential resource. (And former *FBN* office manager Danielle Bauter was the regional editor for all the San Francisco Bay Area listings.) \$12.95 pb, 0-9653881-2-3. 5–9 copies: 20%, 10–19 copies: 30%, 20+: 40%. The Bisexual Resource Center, PO Box 40639, Cambridge MA 02140; 617-424-9595, email <br/>c@biresource.org>. Available from BP, Alamo Square, and Bookazine.

Bi Lives: Bisexual Women Tell Their Stories edited by Kata Orndorff contains in-depth interviews with 18 bisexual women ranging from 21 to 57. Some of the interviewees are in relationships with women, some with men, and some with both. They are mothers, disabled women, women of diverse ethnicities and classes, performance and visual artists, writers, nurse-midwives, bi activists, safe sex educators, single and coupled women, women in group marriages, and HIV-positive women. The book addresses sexual awakening, life and relationship histories, safe sex and sexual practices, coming out to friends and family, dealing with gay, lesbian, straight, and bi communities, body image, feminism, the political aspects of bisexuality, and the differences between relationships with men and women. \$14.95 pb, 1-884365-09-4. See Sharp Press, PO Box 1731, Tucson AZ 85702; 520-628-8720, email <seesharp@earthlink.net>. Distributed by LPC.



There are plenty of books around that chronicle a straight person's journey from marriage to a homosexual relationship. But there is also a growing population of straight spouses dealing with the unique sense of abandonment they feel when their partners come out. In Lisa Rogak's new novel **Pretzel Logic**, a five-year marriage dissolves when the protagonist's husband decides to explore his bisexuality, eventually arriving at the realization that he is gay. The novel is loosely based on the author's own two-year marriage to a gay man. The novel accurately depicts the complexity of the relationship and the humanity of everyone involved. Also includes a "Clueless Spouse" support group, a bisexual male safe sex workshop, and plenty more group therapy fun. \$15 pb, 0-9652502-4-5.

Williams Hill Publishing, RR 1 Box 1234; Kinsman Highway, Grafton NH 03240; 800-639-1099, fax 603-523-7877, email <LRK@endor.com>. Distributed by Alan C. Hood & Co., 717-267-0867. Also available from B&T and Ingram.

Celebrating the Coyote by Barbara Waters is a woman's memoir of lifting herself out of the grief resulting from her husband's death. She had spent 25 years with her husband, Frank Waters, a gifted writer and "spiritually powerful" man. Waters shares poignant memories of her life with Frank and beautifully portrays the life of solitude that has slowly risen in its place. "Celebrating the Coyote is the most candid and empowering exploration of what marriage truly is - a continual act of immense creative relationship to the Other - that I have ever read." -Denise Chávez. \$16 pb, 0-9659521-4-2. Divina Books, an imprint of MacMurray & Beck, Alta Court, 1490 Lafayette Ste. 108, Denver CO 80218; 303-832-2152, fax 303-832-2158. Available from B&T, Bookazine, BP, Books West, Koen, and Ingram.



In Legacy of Shadows, Lillian Moats lyrically takes readers through the lives of three generations of Moats women to help her understand the nature of a personal breakdown she experienced in her late 20s. She begins her exploration with the death of a small child in 1904, moving from Lincolnshire, England, to Toronto, New York, and then Chicago. Along the way, she reveals the interior landscape of mother, daughter, and granddaughter in turn as well as the unresolved grief and emotion that was her matrilineal legacy. \$18 cl, 0-9669576-0-1, August. Three Arts Press, 1100 Maple Ave., Downers Grove IL 60515, 800-777-2997, fax 630-968-1623, email <iiiarts@aol.com>. Distributed by BookMasters, 800-247-6553, fax 419-281-6883. Also available from B&T.

Kelly Brown Douglas, a professor of theology at Howard University, takes on the taboo subject of sexuality within the Black church and community in Sexuality and the Black Church: A Womanist Perspective. She argues that the avoidance of the issue by the Church has "interfered with constructive responses to the AIDS crisis and teenage pregnancies, fostered intolerance of sexual diversity, frustrated healthy male/female relationships, and rendered Black and womanist theologians silent on sexual issues." A necessary analysis. \$14 pb, 1-57075-242-7.

The Vision of Peace: Faith and Hope in Northern Ireland by Mariread Corrigan Maguire, winner of the 1976 Nobel Peace Prize, and edited by John Dear includes a preface by the Dalai Lama and a foreword by Archbishop Desmond Tutu. This volume is the first collection of Maguire's writing. She organized some of the largest peace demonstrations in the history of Northern Ireland, co-founded the Community of Peace People to carry on the peacemaking initiatives begun at those rallies, and continues to speak and participate in grassroots peace efforts worldwide. \$14 pb, 1-57075-251-6.

Orbis Books, PO Box 308, Maryknoll NY 10545: 914-941-7636. Available from BP and Ingram.

Remember When God Was a Woman: Tales of the Feminine Journey by Peggy Lumpkin is (even though the title doesn't say so) all about menstruation. Lumpkin decided to write the book after hearing the hilarious, embarrassing, and certainly taboo stories her friends told about menstruation. The first section, Tales of the Taboo, is a collection of stories about how a woman's bleeding sometimes collides with polite society (lots of ruined upholstery in this section). The second section, The Power and the Punishment, explores contemporary menstrual superstitions and taboos around the world. The final section, (the title of which makes me wince, but here it goes) No Womb for Tears, collects the thinking of doctors, philosophers, clergy, and artists to find a way to better health that avoids the pharmacy. \$19.95 pb, 1-58151-024-1. BookPartners Inc., PO Box 922, Wilsonville OR 97070; 503-682-9821. Available from the publisher and from Partners, New Leaf, B&T, BP, Koen, and Ingram.

The Divine Feminine in World Mythology written and illustrated by Sandra Stanton is a journal/reader inspired by myths revealing the creative vision and teaching of women. Includes 31 full-color painting reproductions of goddesses past and present from around the world. Each is portrayed with her animal companion and cultural artifacts. Each

portrait is accompanied by the myth of the goddess pictured and quotes from women authors (like Luisa Teish, Merlin Stone, and Starhawk) about nature, spirituality, and the Earth. \$15.95 spiral bound, 1-56937-240-3.

Amber Lotus, PO Box 31538, San Francisco CA 94131;415-695-0311, fax 415-695-0300. Available from BP and New Leaf.

Best Friends: Tons of Crazy, Cool Things to Do with Your Girlfriends by Lisa Albreghts and Elizabeth Cape gives girlfriends (ages 8–12) 125 fun activities to do together. From tie-dying t-shirts Nigerian style to staging an old-time radio show to making "snow cream," this book celebrates girls' friendships, and actually has some pretty good activities listed. Carmen Renee Berry, the co-author of *Girlfriends*, said that **Best Friends** is "The perfect book for girlfriends wanting to create unforgettable memories, share experiences that can turn new friends into soul sisters and enliven lifelong friendships." \$12.95 pb, 1-55652-326-2. Chicago Review Press, 814 North Franklin St., Chicago IL 60610. Distributed by Independent Publishers Group.

The Women Who Broke All the Rules: How the Choices of a Generation Changed Our Lives by Susan B. Evans, Ed.D., and Joan P. Avis, Ph.D., is an examination of the social changes that the 18 million women born in the first years of the baby boom effected as they came of age and moved into adulthood. The authors purport that women of this generation made transgressive, rebellious decisions without precedent or role models, defining a new way for adult women to live. As an example of this transgression, the authors quote Hillary Rodham Clinton: "I have often thought of myself and my friends as transitional figures.... Friends of mine have described our coming of age as being on the cusp of changes that fundamentally redefined the role of women." \$18.95 cl, 1-57071-430-4. Sourcebooks Inc., PO Box 372, Naperville IL 60566; 630-961-3900, fax 630-961-2168. Available from the publisher and most major wholesalers.

The Lesbian Polyamory Reader: Open Relationships, Non-Monogamy, and Casual Sex edited by Marcia Munson and Judith P. Stelboum is a collection of essays, stories, and poetry about how women achieve love and happiness through multiple intimate involvements. The women here theorize and testify about a new way of defining how relationships work. As Donna Allegra says in her foreword, "In the good old days of yore, feminist thought focused on identifying the constructs of patriarchy and dismantling its prison cells. The second wave of feminism explained how marriage, and its younger brother, monogamy, stemmed from women's oppression." These women fight the oppression and shake up traditional notions of love, commitment, and intimacy. \$24.95 pb, 1-56023-120-3, Harrington Park Press, an imprint of the Haworth Press.



In In Your Face: Stories from the Lives of Queer Youth by Mary L. Gray, teens age 14 to 18 discuss their lives, personal backgrounds, and visions for the future, giving researchers, parents, and educators insight into the experience of being queer and young in this country. \$17.95 pb, 1-56023-887-9, Harrington Park Press, an imprint of the Haworth Press.

Love Matters: A Book of Lesbian Romance and Relationships by Linda Sutton reprints the author's advice columns and personal reflections to help lesbians validate and appreciate their unique relationships. Robin Morgan blurbed this: "In Love Matters, Sutton has given us all a funny, personal, loving collection of down-to-earth wisdom chicken soup for the soul — from which lesbian women (and all other sensible beings) will profit. So: buy, share, read — and laugh, cry, love, recognize, and celebrate the humanity in these pages." Sutton's kind of a Dear Abby just for gay ladies, and her artwork's included to boot. \$14.95 pb, 1-56023-918-2.

Violence and Social Injustice Against Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual People edited by Lacey M. Sloan, Ph.D., and Nora S. Gustavsson, Ph.D., helps readers see the "quiet" everyday acts of violence against sexual minorities. Looking past the stereotypical picture of violence as a physical and anonymous act, this reader identifies the subtle social reinforcement that gay and lesbian hatred receives and instructs readers how to wage their own "nonviolent war of fairness and mutual respect" against the policies and practices

that render GLBT people battered citizens in their own communities. \$29.95 cl, 0-7890-0650-2. The Haworth Press Inc., 10 Alice St., Binghampton NY 13904; 800-HAWORTH, fax 800-895-0582.

The Gay and Lesbian Self-Esteem Book by Kimeron Hardin, Ph.D., explores the origins of gay and lesbian self-esteem, the formation of which often involves fighting against the notion of conversion therapy from parents and other adult influences. The book postulates that, by addressing the problems that gays and lesbians faced as children, gays and lesbians can improve their self-esteem. Includes discussion of how one's career and lifestyle choices can be affected by feelings of inadequacy and offers strategies for healing. Throughout are exercises to foster change, strength, and growth. \$12.95 pb, 1-57226-131-4. New Harbinger Publications, 5674 Shattuck Ave., Oakland CA 94609; 510-652-0215, fax 510-652-5472. Available from PGW.



I guess there can never be too many Ellen books. Birch Lane has just published Ellen: The Real Story of Ellen DeGeneres by Kathleen Tracy. Tracy's book describes how Ellen, who attempted throughout her career to keep her private life private, eventually made the decision to come out, throwing her into the spotlight and putting her career at risk. Includes: "Ellen's colorful family history, which includes a swashbuckling pirate ancestry," "how her conservative father turned his back on Ellen when he learned she was gay," "the personal tragedy that became her greatest inspiration," "her secret life in the gay bar scene during her stand-up days and the women Ellen has loved," "her bitter fights with television executives," and "her life today." Also includes 16 black and white photos that span Ellen's life from childhood to antics with Anne. \$21.95 cl, 1-55972-496-X. Birch Lane Press, a member of the Carol Group, 120 Enterprise Ave., Secaucus NJ 07094; 201-866-0490, fax 201-866-8159. Available from all major wholesalers.

Between Mother and Daughter: A Teenager and Her Mom Share the Secrets of a Strong Relationship by Judy Ford and Amanda Ford is a book about mother-daughter relationships in the teen years written by and intended for both mother and daughter. Judy Ford is a family therapist; Amanda is a 19-year-old sophomore in college. \$14.95 pb, 1-57324-164-4,

Jean Shinoda Bolen, M.D., (Goddesses in Everywoman) has written The Millionth Circle, How to Change Ourselves and the World: The Meaning and Maintenance of Women's Circles to encourage women to forms groups of any kind (groups of mothers, students, women in cyberspace, readers, businesswomen, whatever) as a force for sociological change. The book is written in poetic verse which, according to the copy, "engages the reader's imagination and provides the essential elements involved in creating and maintaining women's circles." \$14.95 cl. 1-57324-176-8, September.

Conari Press, 2550 Ninth St. Ste. 101, Berkeley CA 94710. Distributed by PGW.

The Courage to Be a Stepmom: Finding Your Place Without Losing Yourself by Sue Patton Thoele is a guide to stepmothering that offers advice and skills to women who want to be good stepmothers, but still need to take care of themselves. Thoele is a psychotherapist and has been a stepmom for 25 years. \$14.95 pb, 1-885171-28-5. Wildcat Canyon Press, 2716 Ninth St., Berkeley CA 94710; 510-848-3600, fax 510-848-1326. Distributed by PGW.

From Travelers' Tales come two books on traveling mothers. Gutsy Mamas: Travel Tips and Wisdom for Mothers on the Road by Marybeth Bond is a pocket guide inspiring moms to pack their bags, grab their kids, and explore, from weekend trips to overseas odysseys. (\$7.95 pb, 1-885211-20-1.) A Mother's World: Journeys of the Heart edited by Marybeth Bond and Pamela Michael shows that, far from being incompatible, motherhood and traveling can go hand in hand. Writers explore how being a mother is one of the best assets a traveler can have. Includes writing from Louise Erdrich, Kathleen Dean Moore, and others. (\$14.95 pb, 0-885211-26-0.) Travelers' Tales Sales and Marketing, c/o O'Reilly & Associates, 101 Morris St., Sebastopol CA 94472; 800-998-9938. Available from most major wholesalers.

1-800-DeadBeat: How to Collect Your Child \$upport by Simone Spence is an aggressive approach



to getting child support from "errant selfish absent parents" that owe their kids money. This is a guide for people who aren't fooling around. It tells how to foreclose on the home of someone who owes support, how to order a sheriff seizure of property to be sold at action, place liens on bank accounts, and more. It also shows how to find those hidden assets, and even has a section on how to get money out of someone who doesn't have a job. A very smart guide from an expert in this area; Spence heads the Spence Foundation, a nonprofit organization for the enforcement of child support. \$19.95 pb, 0-9670647-0-8. Kentia Hall Press, PO Box 5 Cedar Grove NJ 07009; 877-4DEADBEAT. Also available from B&T.

Amazons: The Forgotten Tribe by Martha Mattson is a straight woman's journey into the gay and lesbian world. From the copy: "Learn about the mysterious relationships between the sexes - heterosexuals and homosexuals. What is it like to discover you're married to a gay man? How many sexes are there - six? Or more? Learn about Genderblends.... The book tells the real causes of homosexuality (not your relationship with your father) and the pain of being without a family." I'm sure that Mattson is well intended, but her zoo-animal approach bugs me, and the fact that this straight chick is reporting the "real causes of homosexuality" is either absurdly funny or downright offensive, depending on how seriously I choose to take her. Finally, I didn't much care for the Xena-like drawing on the front of the book; it led me to believe that I would literally be reading about Amazons, not gay and lesbian folks in modern-day America. However, if you happen to have customers needing a book that explores gayness from an (albeit presumptuous) securely straight (but sympathetic) standpoint, this might be just the ticket. \$16.95 pb, 0-965-89474-6. Amazon Press, PO Box 26383, San Diego CA 92196. Available from B&T, Ingram, and Unique.

Now available in a 30th anniversary edition, completely revised and reissued: The Birth Control

Handbook from the Montreal Health Press. When the handbook was first published in 1968, it was illegal to disseminate information about contraception. Since then, the handbook has provided basic information on anatomy, sexuality, reproduction, and existing methods of contraception. The new edition includes updated information on the female condom, Depo Provera, and new brands of pills as well as Internet resources. \$5 per copy. Orders over 50 copies receive bulk discounts of over 50%. Check the Web site for more details. Montreal Health Press Inc., PO Box 1000, Station Place du Park, Montreal QU H2W 2N1, Canada; 514-282-1171, fax 514-282-0262, email <mhpmontreal@msn.com>, Web site <www.worldsfinest.com/mhp>.



#### By Donna Niles

**Celebrating the Crone: Rituals and Stories** by Ruth Gardner. With a forward by Patricia Monaghan, this is another title to add to both your ritual and aging sections. There are guidelines for conducting a croning ceremony and many other ways to celebrate the lives of the wise ones in our midst. \$12.95 pb, 1-56718-292-5, September.

Earth Time, Moon Time: Rediscovering the Sacred Lunar Year by Annette Hinshaw. Attempting to reconnect readers to the way our ancestors lived with the earth, this lovely book uses Celtic and Germanic pagan calendars. Through journal exercises and an exploration of how astrology is based on the moon rather than the sun, this book starts to connect this natural wisdom with the technological world in which we live. \$12.95 pb, 1-56718-396-4, September.

The Celtic Dragon Tarot by D.J. Conway and Lisa Hunt. A new book-and-deck set that is sure to appeal to the Dragon lovers, sci-fi fans, and Tarot enthusiasts in your clientele. Lovely drawings. \$29.95, 1-56718-182-1, October.

Charting Your Career: The Horoscope Reveals Your Life Purpose by Stephanie Jean Clement, Ph.D. Based on the author's 25 years as a counselor and astrologer, this book is designed to help readers identify how their skills and life experience fit into the vocational picture. \$12.95 pb, 1-56718-144-9,

November. The Goddess Companion: Daily Meditations on the Feminine Spirit by Patricia Monaghan. For each day of the year, Monaghan gives readers a different invocation, Goddess prayer, chant, or song. Taken from dozens of sources, the prayers are followed by Patricia's insight. Organized as a daily meditation book, it is also indexed by culture, Goddess, and subject, to help readers find specific prayers for specific purposes. \$17.95 pb, 1-56718-463-4, November.

Tarot Journeys: Adventures in Self-Transformation by Yasmine Galenorn. Including meditations that flow like fables, this journey through the Major Arcana teaches about the spiritual nature of the energy behind each archetype. The book comes with an audio CD with selected meditations from the book. \$19.95 pb, 1-56718-264-X, November.

Llewellen Publications, PO Box 64383, St. Paul MN 55164; 800-843-6666, fax 612-291-1908. Available from BP, Koen, B&T, and Ingram.



The Cherokee Sacred Calendar: A Handbook of the Ancient Native American Tradition by Raven Hail. A tribal elder of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma has written about the Cherokee way of astrology. Here she provides insights into the 20 signs and those born under their influence. \$12.95 pb, 0-89281-804-2, October.

Chi Kung for Women by Dominique Ferraro. Chi Kung is an ancient, low-impact, time-efficient series of exercises that relieves stress, restores physical health, and rebalances the mind. Step-by-step instruction and photos address techniques specific to women's health, including female sexuality, osteoporosis, stress, and pregnancy. \$19.95 pb, 0-89281-838-7.

Cat Magic: Mews, Myths, and Mystery by Patricia Telesco. I love this woman. She is the prolific author of over 30 books on spirit, healing, magic, divination, dreams, and lots of other areas. Her style is readable, her research is deep, and her books are entertaining and reliable resources. Here, she delves into a fascinating tour of the different roles cats have played in the human experience, with an emphasis on the spiritual teachings and practices of our ancestors. \$20 cl, 0-89281-774-7, October.

The Complete Book of Energy Medicines by Helen Dziemidko, M.D. Wondering about choosing between Bach Flower therapy and acupuncture for what ails you? Here is a comprehensive look at all known energy medicines with clear, accessible explanations of over 50 complimentary medicines. \$18 pb, 0-89281-845-X, October.

Sisters of the Extreme: Women Writing on the Drug Experience edited by Michael Horowitz and Cynthia Palmer. From Charlotte Bronte to Carrie Fisher, from Maya Angelou to Louisa May Alcott, this anthology of writings by some of the most influential women writers in print will surely provoke thought and vanquish stereotypes about women who have used drugs. Not pictures of passive, addicted, exploited, degraded, and promiscuous women, this books conducts a brave exploration of women who have sought to expand their levels of consciousness and hoped to serve their vision of the world. \$19.95 pb, 0-89281-757-7, February.

The Great Goddess: Reverence of the Divine Feminine from the Paleolithic to the Present by Jean Markdale. This author of *Women of the Celts*, is a poet, philosopher, scholar, and storyteller. This 265-page presentation of the goddess in cultures around the world, a show of evidence of "her extraordinary permanence and worship, even at the heart of the religions that tried to destroy her." Yippie! \$16.95 pb, 0-89281-715-1, January.

New in paper: **Sirens: Symbols of Seduction** by Meri Lao. With gorgeous color plates of some well-known renditions of the mermaid in myth, this book contains 160 color and black and white illustrations depicting sirens as perceived in patriarchal cultures. The legend of the lure of their song is examined here, as Lao traces sirens' evolution from fierce, winged creatures who carried the dead from the battlefield. \$25, 0-89281-846-8, September.

Inner Traditions, PO Box 388, Rochester VT 05767; 802-767-3174. Available from B&T, New Leaf, BP, or direct (for a 40% discount, 5-title minimum).



By Mev Miller Amazon Books/Minneapolis

Here's one of those publishers that may not neatly fit in the category of university or academic presses but offer some important resources: Educational Equity Concepts, Inc., 114 East 32nd St., New York NY 10016; 212-725-1803, fax 212-725-0947, email <information@edequity.org>, Web site <www.edequity.org>. Bridging the Gap: A National Directory of Services for Women and Girls with Disabilities, Second Edition, compiled by Ellen Rubin, edited by Merle Froschl, and developed by the national Clearinghouse on Women and Girls with Disabilities, includes information on 200 agencies and organizations that provide a wide variety of services and programs. Includes a state-by-state index, information about which populations are served (e.g. youth, lesbians), and what sorts of resources they provide (referral, research, training, direct services, etc.). Recommended. \$24.95 spiral bound, 0-931629-16-0. Unfortunately, you can only buy the guide direct from Educational Equity and the discount may not be great, but they do offer some bulk discounts. -Mev

Unfortunately, I'm not a reliable critic for poetry and when university presses publish poetry, I'm not quite sure what to say about it. So, here's a list of some of the newest poetry from university presses:

After I Was Dead by Laura Mullen, winner of the Contemporary Poetry Series Competition. \$15.95 pb, 0-8203-2096-X, University of Georgia.

From the University of Iowa: Try by Cole Swenson, winner of a 1998 Iowa Poetry Prize (\$10.95 pb, 0-87745-659-3) and The Oval Hour by Kathleen Pierce, winner of a 1998 Iowa Poetry Prize (\$10.95 pb, 0-87745-664-X).

Epistles from the Planet Photosynthesis by Mary Adams. \$10.95 pb, 0-8130-1672-X; \$19.95 cl, -1670-3, University Press of Florida.

New Time by Leslie Scalapino. \$11.95 pb, 0-8195-6356-0, Wesleyan University Press/University Press of New England.

Sofía by Joan Logghe, a bilingual edition translated into Spanish by Claire Joysmith and Arturo Salinas. \$12 pb, 1-888809-11-6, La Alameda Press, distributed by University of New Mexico Press. -Mev

Ohio Blue Tips by Jeanne E. Clark, winner of the 1997 Akron Poetry Prize, is a lovely collection set in Ohio's middle farmland and peopled with the odd, damaged characters that only the Midwestern landscape can produce (it's my birthplace; I get to say things like that). Since being absolutely blown away by University of Akron's Her Slender Dress by Susan Yuzna, I've been keeping an eye on their list. Ohio Blue Tips certainly lives up to the standard set by Yuzna. From the book: "Doors swell shut this time of year./Mold grows around their frames/Like the five-o'clock shadow on a husband's face./I left him just that way .... " \$12.95 pb, 1-884836-44-5, University -TMR of Akron Press.



### **Columbia University Press**

Finally, there's a well-researched study indicating that the concerns of gay men and lesbians have made a political difference over the past 25 years. Gay

Ratings: One and two asterisks are more suited for general stores while three and four would do better in stores with a more academic audience. If a title is unrated, it means that I haven't seen the book in order to make an evaluation.

Politics, Urban Politics: Identity and Economics in the Urban Setting by Robert W. Bailey situates gay and lesbian concerns in the context of broader social movements while also exploring how identity politics supplement economic considerations in the urban decision-making process. \$22.50 pb, 0-231-09663-0; \$49.50 cl, -09662-3.\*\*

#### **Cornell University Press**

Cornell has reissued **The Morning Breaks: The Trial of Angela Davis** by Bettina Aptheker. Aptheker provides a new introduction that revisits crucial events of the late 60s and early 70s, putting Davis' case into the context of that time while reflecting on the significance those events still hold. This is a compelling firsthand account of Davis' ordeal, written by an activist while she was intimately involved in the struggle for her release. Recommended. \$16.95 pb, 0-8014-8597-5.\*

Now available in paperback: **Damned Women: Sinners and Witches in Puritan New England** by Elizabeth Reis. \$16.95, 0-8014-8611-4.\*\*

Enigmas: Essays on Sarah Kofman edited by

#### HEARTBREAK HOTEL BY GABRIELLE BURTON



"Bold and bawdy in its humor, penetrating in its insight, this novel deserves to be a feminist classic."—*Ms.* 

"Gabrielle Burton's fantastic novel gives us a glimpse of a future that is as far away as last week's phone call from your mother.... You'll gasp in recognition—and laugh and laugh."—Gloria Steinem

"One of the great underrecognized novels of the late twentieth century."—Linda Gardiner, Women's Review of Books

DALKEY ARCHIVE PRESS
www.dalkeyarchive.com

Penelope Deutscher and Kelly Oliver is the first critical collection on the work of Sarah Kofman, a contemporary French philosopher who died in 1994. Her work made important contributions to philosphy, psychoanalytic theory, feminism, and literary theory. The selected essays explore and diagnose Kofman's personal struggles as they are reflected in her writing. \$18.95 pb, 0-8014-8141-4.\*\*\*

#### **Duke University Press**

Where is Ana Mendieta?: Identity, Perfomativity, and Exile by Jane Blocker provides an in-depth critical analysis of the work of Ana Mendieta, a Cuban-born artist who lived in exile in the U.S. She was one of the most provocative and complex personalities of the 70s art world. Her work included performance art, installation works, and earth works from feminist, multiculturalist, and postmodernist vantage points. \$17.95 pb, 0-8223-2324-9; \$24.95 cl, -2304-4.

#### Harvard University Press

In 1989, a woman was convicted of delivering a controlled substance to a minor. The minor in question was this disadvantaged Black woman's unborn child. Stephen Kandall, neonatologist and pediatrician, testified on the woman's behalf in her trial, and writes about her experience in **Substance** and **Shadow: Women and Addiction in the United States.** In his analysis, he examines the annals of medicine and history to learn how drug-dependent women have been treated for the past century and a half. \$16.95 pb, 0-674-85361-X.

In Has Feminism Changed Science?, Londa Schiebinger puts forth a history of women in science and demonstrates how gender has shaped scientific knowledge. While debunking myths of how women do science (women are not intrinsically more holistic, integrative, cooperative), she also provides a subtle analysis of gender in the physical sciences, medicine, archaeology, evolutionary biology, primatology, and developmental biology. \$27.95 cl, 0-674-38133-0.

#### **NYU Press**

**Imagination in Theory** focuses on author Michèle Barret's long-standing interest in cultural questions and shows how it informs her analysis of



current developments in social and feminist theory. Taking culture, theory and writing as its themes, the book "translates" across the barriers between the humanities and social sciences, raising a number of important — and controversial — issues. \$17.95 pb, 0-8147-1344-0; \$55 cl, -1343-2.\*\*\*

Gender Camouflage: Women and the U.S. Military edited by Francine D'Amico and Laurie Weinstein explores women's many and varied relationships with the military institution, not only as insiders (soldiers and wives), but also as outsiders (defense industry workers, USO volunteers, prostitutes, peace workers). Additionally, analytical chapters are paired with short first-person narratives by women who have been there — female civilian instructors, an African American Air Force Nurse Corps veteran, and others. \$19.95 pb, 0-8147-1907-4; \$55 cl, -1906-6.\*

#### Northeastern University Press

In the 1930s, journalist and novelist Josephine Herbst (1892–1969) was widely regarded as one of the most important women writers in America. **The Starched Blue Sky of Spain and Other Memoirs** by Herbst provides reminiscences and portraits of her intellectual, artistic, and political life in the early 20th century and her Bohemian life and travels. \$16.95 pb, 1-55553-399-X.\*

Reprint available: **The Diary of Alice James** edited by Leon Edel. \$16.95 pb, 1-55553-397-3.\* —*Mev* 

Battered Women in the Courtroom: The Power of Judicial Responses by James Ptacek examines the actions of judges responding to women seeking legal redress. In the aftermath of recently established laws giving women legal rights to seek protection from abusive men, studies have concentrated on the role of police in enforcing laws. Ptacek here recognizes judges' ability to grant restraining orders against abusers or to send abusers to prision. He considers how judges view battered women and the crime of battering, the types of violence that women report to the courts, how judges exercise authority in restraining order meetings, and the effect of the courts on women's efforts to escape violence. \$20 pb, 1-55553-390-6.

Now available in a new edition celebrating the 75th anniversary of Grace Metalious' birth: **Peyton Place**, with an introduction from Ardis Cameron. \$13.95 pb, 1-55553-400-7. —*TMR* 



#### **Ohio University Press**

Your Madness, Not Mine: Stories of Cameroon by Makuchi with an introduction by Eloise Brière contains short stories which represent the yearnings and vision of an Anglophone woman who writes both as a Cameroonian and as a woman whose life has been shaped by the minority status her people occupy within the nation-state. Though the stories deal with post-colonial issues, they are more about Cameroonian women, their day-to-day experiences of survival and empowerment as they deal with gender oppression. \$16.95 pb, 0-89680-206-X.\*

#### **Oxford University Press**

Now available in paperback: Nineteenth-Century Women Poets: An Oxford Anthology edited by Isobel Armstrong and Joseph Bristow. \$19.95, 0-19-818483-2.

To Keep the Waters Troubled: The Life of Ida B. Wells by Linda O. McMurry is the biography of the outspoken civil rights worker Ida B. Wells, a contemporary of Booker T. Washington and W.E.B. Du Bois. Wells' crusade against lynching in the 1890s made her famous nationwide, and some even considered her Washington and Du Bois' rival for race leadership. Her alliances were sometimes caught between race and gender; Wells was an advocate for women's rights, but parted ways with feminists who would "subordinate racial justice to their cause." A

fascinating and important biography. \$30 cl, 0-19-508812-3.

Feminisms, an Oxford reader edited by Sandra Kemp and Judith Squires is a large (600 pages) and comprehensive collection of pieces drawn from academic feminist studies. Divided into sections on Academies, Epistomologies, Subjectivities, Sexualities, Visualities, and Technologies, the reader boasts accolades from such feminist academician hard-hitters as Gayatri Spivak, Elaine Showalter, and Rosi Braidotti. \$19.95 pb, 0-19-289270-3.

In Sex and Social Justice, Martha C. Nussbaum, who has worked with an international development agency connected with the United Nations for a number of years, articulates a conception of feminism that links to global development. Her feminism is deeply invested in the needs of women who live in hunger and illiteracy or under unequal legal systems, and puts forth a universal account of human capacity and need while also emphasizing local differences. \$35 cl, 0-19-511032-3. -TMR

#### Penn State Press

Gender Politics in the Western Balkans: Women and Society in Yugoslavia and the Yugoslav Successor States edited by Sabrina P. Ramet provides a social and political history of South Slav women in the 20th century. Covers Slovenia, Serbia, Croatia, Kosovo, and Bosnia. \$18.95 pb, 0-271-01802-X.-TMR

#### Princeton University

Apparently I'm not the only one who has won. dered how we can have such a "complete" picture of Sappho since most of her work exists in fragments. Victorian Sappho by Yopie Prins traces the emergence of this idealized feminine figure through reconstruction of the Sapphic fragments in late-19th-century England. She argues that the Victorian period is a critical turning point in the history of Sappho's reception; the work we now call "Sappho's" is in many ways an artifact of Victorian poetics. \$18.95 pb, 0-691-05919-5; \$55 cl, -05918-7.\*\*\*\*

Of related interest: Edith Wharton: The Uncol. lected Critical Writings edited by Frederick Wegener. \$18.95 pb, 0-691-00269-X.



#### Rowman and Littlefield

Beyond Zero Tolerance: Discrimination in Military Culture edited by Mary Fainsod Katzenstein and Judith Reppy is an examination of the military's repeated sex scandals and racial tensions despite its exemplary set of rules on race relations and gender discrimination. The contributors delve into the reasons underlying this paradox, exposing how the norms of institutional life encourage harassment and discrimination. Overall, the collection recommends

### **NEW from Renditions Paperbacks** Hong Kong Stories: Old Themes New Voices

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-136 pp. 1996 US\$14.95



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changes in the military culture that will support the diverse demographic pool that comprises the current-day U.S. military. \$23.95 pb, 0-8476-9315-5. Australian journalist Louise Williams shatters

the myth of the submissive Asian woman in Wives, Mistresses, and Matriarchs. Williams heard stories from both famous and unknown women, such as Benazir Bhutto, Corazon Aquino, Aung San Suu Kyi, a former Viet Cong commando, a Jakarta factory girl, a Korean publisher, and a "second wife" in a Chinese mistress village that serves Hong Kong's wealthy men. Her analysis explores how a culture can place women at the top of industrial conglomerates while simultaneously condoning women's sale into servitude. \$17.95 pb, 0-8476-9139-X.

Mother Time: Women, Aging, and Ethics edited by Margaret Urban Walker presents discussions on the ethical dimension of women's experiences of aging. The contibutors examine the assumptions, experiences, and public policies affecting women's well-being and dignity in later life. \$26.95 cl, 0-8476-9260-4.

Comfort Woman: A Filipina's Story of Prostitution and Slavery Under the Japanese Military by Maria Rosa Henson (1928–1996) is the autobiography of one of the many women taken by Japanese soldiers occupying the Philippines in World War II and forced into prostitution as "comfort women." Henson writes of her childhood as the illegitimate daughter of a wealthy landowner, her work for Huk guerrillas, her wartime ordeal, and her marriage to a rebel leader who then left her to raise her children alone. Her willingness to go public with her life story, after keeping her identity as a comfort woman secret for 50 years, was a final act of strength in an incredible life. \$17.95 pb, 0-8476-9149-7. -TMR

### **Rutgers University Press**

Women & Politics in Latin America by Nikki Craske provides a comprehensive view of women's political participation in Latin America. Focusing on the last half of the 20th century, it examines five different arenas of action and debate: political institutions, workplaces, social movements, revolutions, and feminisms. \$20 pb, 0-8135-2639-0.\*\*\*-Mev

Margorie Agosin is at it again. The extremely prolific writer/editor has another anthology out, this time from Rutgers: Map of Hope: Women Writing on Human Rights — An International Literary Anthology is a collection of women's writing of resistance and human rights. Includes 77 literary works from such writers as Barbara Kingsolver, Anne Frank, Rosario Castellanos, Marguerite Duras, Adrienne Rich, Mitsuye Yamada, Hisaye Yamamoto, and others. An important collection of work from some of the world's foremost women writers. \$18 pb, 0-8135-2626-4. -TMR



#### Sage Publications

All titles are short discount, with an agency plan available.

Revisioning Gender edited by Myra Marx Ferree, Judith Lorder, and Beth Hess is a comprehensive handbook which summarizes the state of gender studies not only by examining the crucial research of the past decade, but by encouraging thought about how the questions central to studying gender have changed. \$35.95 pb, 0-7619-0617-7.\*\*\*

Treating Lesbians and Bisexual Women: Challenges and Strategies for Health Professionals by Elisbeth Paige Gruskin provides an integrated, critical study of lesbian and bisexual women's health issues — analyzing current voids, contemporary problems, and future directions for health care. Written from the public health perspective, it includes such topics as homophobia, violence, legal issues, parenting concerns, and several other topics. \$26.95 pb, 0-7619-0045-4.\*\*\*

Of related interest: Battered Women, Children,





#### **ROGER J. R. LEVESQUE**

How can international human rights law be used to help protect children at risk for sexual abuse? Should the definition of sexual abuse be allowed to differ among cultures? Should a country intervene in the internal workings of another with whom they disagree about approaches to the issue?

This book begins the process of addressing these and other issues. Roger Levesque places particular emphasis on the ways in which abu-

sive activities in different countries and societies are linked with one another and the way diverse societal views of children place them at risk. Throughout, Levesque brings together several intersecting debates in social science and law, as he pragmatically considers human rights law as a 574 pages cloth \$39.95 tool for combatting child sexual maltreatment.

#### at bookstores INDIANA UNIVERSITY PRESS Orders: 1-800-842-6796 www.indiana.edu/~iupress

and Welfare Reform: The Ties That Bind edited by Ruth A. Brandwein (\$24.95 pb, 0-7619-1149-9\*\*\*), Gender in the Workplace: A Case Study Approach by Jacqueline DeLaat (\$19.95 pb, 0-7619-1479-X\*\*\*), and Poverty and Children's Adjustment by Suniva Luthar (\$24.95 pb, 0-7619-0519-7\*\*\*).

#### State University of New York (SUNY)

I love the creative insight in this next title and wonder why it took so long for someone to write in depth about it. Mother's Taxi: Sport and Women's Labor by Shona M. Thompson provides a detailed study on how women - moms in particular facilitate and service the sport played by others, particularly their immediate family members. In many ways, this largely ignored area has facilitated and contributed to sports participation and served sport as an institution. \$24.95 pb, 0-7914-4060-5.\*\*\*

The Sounds of Feminist Theory by Ruth Salvaggio creates a theoretical project-called "Hearing the O" — based on Olga Broumas' yearning for a moving, rounding language. This theory questions paradigms of female voice and varied feminist claims

to language. A range of contemporary feminist critical writers are discussed: Gloria Anzaldúa, Judith Butler, Rachel DuPlessis, Donna Haraway, Luce Irigaray, Trinh Minh-ha, and others. \$19.95 pb,

Also of interest: Ethical Dilemmas in Feminist Research: The Politics of Location, Interpretation, and Publication by Gesa E. Kirsch (\$15.95 pb. 0-7914-4210-1\*\*\*), Language and Liberation: Feminism, Philosophy, and Language edited by Christina Hendricks and Kelly Oliver (\$23.95 pb, 0-7914-4052-4\*\*\*), Embroidering Lives: Women's Work and Skill in the Lucknow Embroidery Industry by Clare Wilkinson-Weber (\$22.95 pb. 0-7914-4088-5\*\*\*), and Che Bella Figural: The Power of Performance in an Italian Ladies' Club in Chicago by Gloria Nardini (\$19.95 pb, 0-7914-4091-5\*\*\*).

#### **Teachers College Press**

Gay Parents/Straight Schools by Virginia Casper and Steven Schulltz addresses the specific educational needs and realities of gay- and lesbian-parented families. Based on research from parents, teachers, and children, the book covers homophobia at school and home, communication between lesbian and gay parents and the school, gender roles and role modeling, curriculum planning that invites gay and lesbian parents into the school environment, and making connections between children's family experiences and school experiences. \$19.95 pb, 0-8077-3824-7. -TMR



#### Temple University Press

We know that crack cocaine has seriously affected women's lives. Fast Lives: Women Who Use Crack Cocaine by Claire E. Sterk offers an in-depth look at the complex lives, struggles, and dilemmas of women who use crack cocaine. Sterk details how these women arrived at their use, how they survive the continued threat of HIV/AIDS and violence, how they develop and maintain intimate relationships, how they combine the social roles of mother and drug user, and how they maintain aspirations and expectations for the future. Underscoring the effects of poverty, sexism, and racism in their lives, Sterk calls for social policies that are realistic and appropriate for women. \$19.95 pb, 1-56639-672-7.\*\*

Now available in paperback: Midwifery & Childbirth in America by Judith Pence Rooks is a definitive account of the many disciplines that intersect at the issue of childbirth, combined with informative history of midwifery in the U.S. \$34.95, 1-56639-711-1.\*\*\*

### University of Arizona Press

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New Latina Narrative: The Feminine Space of Postmodern Ethnicity by Ellen McCracken is an in-depth study of a group that has had a tremendous recent effect on American literature: Latinas writing in the U.S. The book explores how Mexican American, Puerto Rican, Cuban American, and Dominican American women have redefined concepts of multiculturalism and diversity in American society. Includes discussions of the work of Julia Alvarez. Denise Chávez, Sandra Cisneros, and more. \$19.95 pb, 0-8165-1941-2.

Speaking Chicana: Voice, Power, and Identity edited by D. Letticia Galindo and Maria Dolores Gonzales examines language issues among Chicanas. This collection includes both empirical essays and personal narratives, making this an interdisciplinary study of linguistics that incorporates art, law, women's studies, and literature. \$19.95 pb, 0-8065-1815-7. -TMR

#### University of California Press

There were, of course, grandmothers among the Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo-women who resisted the Argentinean military government and demanded the return of their "disappeared" children. Searching for Life: The Grandmothers of the Plaza de Mayo and the Disappeared Children of Argentina by Rita Arditti (co-founder of New Words bookstore 25 years ago) provides moving accounts of grandmothers searching for their grandchildren who were either disappeared along with their parents or born in captivity. The oppressive regime gave these children new identities and then gave them over to military families for adoption. This important book recounts the important work of the Grandmothers and makes clear the implications for children who are not protected by international amnesty arrangements. \$17.95 pb, 0-520-21570-2.\*

Of interest: What Difference Does a Husband Make: Women and Marital Status in Nazi and Postwar Germany by Elizabeth Heineman. \$45 cl, 0-520-21425-0.\*\*\*\*

### University of Chicago Press

Now available in paperback: The Battered Child, Fifth Edition revised and expanded by Mary Edna Helfer, Ruth Kempe, and Richard Krugman. \$29, 0-226-32623-3. -Mev

Speaking of Abortion: Television and Authority in the Lives of Women by Andrea L. Press and Elizabeth R. Cole is an exploration of the role of the media in the abortion debate. Press and Cole talked to pro-life and pro-choice women and discovered that while pro-lifers generally held the same beliefs across class, pro-choicers' beliefs were often divided along class lines. An interesting study of the ways in which "ordinary women" frame this volatile issue. \$25 cl, 0-226-68031-2. -TMR

#### University of Georgia Press

Survival Rates, stories by Mary Clyde, was a winner of the Flannery O'Connor award for short fiction. The location is primarily the desert Southwest, the characters are pioneers of Mormon heritage, and the settings are harsh, indifferent, and patient. \$24.95 cl, 0-8203-2049-8.



#### University of Iowa

For those with strong poetry sections and or education sections, I highly recommend Learning by Heart; Contemporary American Poetry About Schools edited by Maggie Anderson and David Hassler. It brings together a diverse collection of poems about the experience of school (both from students' and teachers' points of view). They capture the best and the worst of the educational process not only in the classroom but also in the library, the hallways, on playing fields, and at dances. Too bad it's so expensive. \$29.95 cl, 0-87745-662-3.\*

### University of Kentucky Press

Though the basic boundaries for women performers and their characters have stretched, they

have not fundamentally changed. This is one of the many themes in From Mae to Madonna: Women Entertainers in Twentieth-Century America by June Sochen. She explores the careers of women such as Mae West, Mary Tyler Moore, Lupe Velez, Pam Grier, and many others, examining their roles in TV and movies, as career women, and as conveyors of social views and opinions of women. Sochen argues that women performers fall into three basic roles: Mary, the innocent young maiden (e.g. Mary Pickford); Eve, the sexual temptress (e.g. Mae West); and Lilith, the independent woman (e.g. Katherine Hepburn). \$25 cl, 0-8131-2112-4.\*\*

Of related interest: Take It from the Big Mouth: The Life of Martha Raye by Jean Maddern Pitrone. \$25 cl, 0-8131-2110-8.\*

Also of interest: Albanian Escape: The True Story of U.S. Army Nurses Behind Enemy Lines by Agnes Jensen Manderich as told to Evelyn Monahan and Rosemary Neidel. \$25 cl, 0-8131-2109-4.\*



#### University of Minnesota Press

Feminism and Documentary edited by Diane Waldman and Janet Walker contains a number of essays written by prominent scholars and filmmakers that demonstrate the challenges feminist perspectives pose for documentary theory, history, and practice. They also examine the relationship between gender and sexuality, race and ethnicity, class and nation. \$19.95 pb, 0-8166-3007-0; \$49.95 cl, -3006-2.\*\*\*

Minnesota offers two new volumes of interest for those with strong international studies sections. Fields of Protest: Women's Movements in India by Raka Ray offers insight into the long and rich history in which women live, work, and struggle to survive — through fighting for safe contraception, literacy, water, and electricity and resisting forms of sexual harassment. This book explores the political and social circumstances under which women organize for their rights and self-worth. (\$19.95 pb, 0-8166-3132-8; \$49.95 cl, -3131-X.\*\*) Similarly, Spaces of Their Own: Women's Public Sphere in Transnational China edited by Mayfair Mei-Hui Yang explores how the public and political lives of Chinese women continue to be constrained by states and economies. (\$19.95 pb, 0-8166-3146-8; \$49.95 cl, -3145-X.\*\*\*)

Faking It: U.S. Hegemony in a "Post-Phallic" Eta -Meu by Cynthia Weber analyzes U.S. role in foreign rela. tions with Cuba and other Caribbean countries since 1959. From the blub: "In tracing...U.S. interventions in the Caribbean — its invasion of the Dominican Repub. lic under Johnson, of Grenada under Reagan, and of Panama under Bush, as well as its intervention in Haiti under Clinton — Weber contends that United States policy in the Caribbean consists of a series of strategic displacements of castration anxiety. Since 1959, then Weber argues that the U.S. has been 'faking it' - 'it' being a straight, masculine, hegemonic identity and the phallic power that comes with such an identity." Weber also locates "queerness" in popular conceptions of the U.S. Both searing and hilarious. \$14.95 pb, 0-8166-3270-7. -TMR

#### University of Mississippi

Jane Campion: Interviews edited by Virginia Wright Wexman collects interviews with the acclaimed New Zealand director whose dossier includes The Piano, An Angel at My Table, and Portrait of a Lady. \$18 pb, 1-57806-083-4. -TMR

#### University of Nebraska

The Land of Many Colors and Nanna-Ya by Maryse Condé are stories which explore the difficulties of reconstructing historical narratives and recovering the experiences of people of color in the Caribbean. Condé won international acclaim for her novel Children of Segu. \$12 pb, 0-8032-6395-3.\*

#### University of New Mexico Press

Leslie Marmon Silko: A Collection of Critical Essays edited by Louise Barnett and James Thorson offers 13 essays in this first collection devoted entirely to Silko's work. They present new perspectives on her fiction and provide a deeper understanding of her work. Silko's important short fiction, her nonfiction essays, and her novel Almanac of the Dead are examined through a range of critical approaches including the postmodern. \$45 cl, 0-8263-2033-3.\*\*\*

Also of interest: We Have Come to Stay: American Women and Political Parties, 1880-1960 edited by Melanie Gustafson, Kristie Miller, and Elisabeth Israels Perry. \$17.95 pb, 0-8263-1970-X; \$35 cl, -1969-6.



### University of North Carolina

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Landscapes of the New West: Gender and Geography in Contemporary Women's Writing by Krista Comer surveys the works of Joan Didion, Maxine Hong Kingston, Leslie Marmon Silko, Barbara Kingsolver, Louise Erdrich, and Sandra Cisneros among others to show how these and other contemporary women writers have mapped new geographical imaginations upon the cultural and social spaces of today's American West. Comer argues that publishers, media, and literary scholars have ignored these writers and their views of race and gender and have perpetuated masculinist visions of the American West. \$18.95 pb, 0-8078-4813-1; \$45 cl, -2485-2.

Those interested in strong, powerful autobiographies will want to have the two new reissues of the autobiographies of Mary E. Mebane. Mary: An Autobiography recalls the joys and pain of her country childhood, her alienation from her family and community, and ends with her hard-won graduation from college. (\$16.50 pb, 0-8078-4821-2.\*) Mary, Wayfarer: An Autobiography continues with Mebane's struggle to create meaning in her life, her pride as a participant and observer in the Black freedom struggle, and finally her joy in discovering writing. (\$17.95 pb, 0-8078-4822-0.\*)

Women have contributed greatly in the history of the U.S. but are often ignored or just plain misunderstood. Such is the case of nuns who did more than pray for lost souls or swat misbehaved school children on the knuckles. Spirited Lives: How Nuns Shaped Catholic Culture and American Life, 1836-1920 by Carol Coburn and Martha Smith seeks to dispel false stereotypes and media misrepresentation to portray the many pioneering and powerful roles nuns executed as they established and provided education, health care, and social services for many immigrant and native populations. \$19.95 pb, 0-8078-4774-7.\*\*\* Making History by Margaret Supplee Smith and Emily Herring Wilson. \$29.95 cl, 0-8078-2463-1.\*\* (A surprisingly good price for the size of the book!)

#### University of Wisconsin

Nancy Abrams has written about her experience as a lesbian co-parent fighting (and losing) her right to see her daughter in **The Other Mother: A Lesbian's Fight for Her Daughter**. Abrams and her partner separated when their daughter was six. When Abrams lost custody, she was told that legally, she was no more than "a biological stranger" to the child she helped bring into the world and raise. Her memoir explores the social, legal, and political implications of gay and lesbian parenting and asks the question, "What makes a mother?" \$19.95 pb, 0-299-16494-2, September.

**Taboo** by Boyer Rickel is the first book in the University of Wisconsin's Living Out: Gay and Lesbian Biographies series. **Taboo** is a collection of sixteen vignettes of "a life in progress" from poet Rickel's childhood in the 50s to the present day. \$14.95 cl, 0-299-16260-5. —*TMR* 

#### University Press of New England

Available in a new edition: Roxana Robinson's enormous (600+ pages) and thorough biography, **Georgia O'Keeffe: A Life**. "This is without question the best book ever written on O'Keeffe." —*New Yorker*. \$19.95 pb, 0-87451-906-3. —*TMR* 

### University Press of Virginia

New edition available: **The Charlotte Perkins Gilman Reader** edited by Ann J. Lane collects 18 of Gilman's short fiction pieces, including "The Yellow Wallpaper" and a section from *Herland*, Gilman's feminist Utopia. \$14.50 pb, 0-8139-1876-6. —*TMR* 

### Yale University Press

Of interest: **Freudian Analysts/Feminist Issues** by Judith Hughes. \$35 cl, 0-300-07524-3.\*\*\*\* O

Of regional interest: North Carolina Women:

# TOOLS FOR CHANGE AND UNDERSTANDING



Dancing the Dream Jamie Sams 0-06-251514-4 • \$13 • pb

"A magnificent blueprint for transformation." —LARRY DOSSEY, author of *Healing Words*  The Invitation Oriah Mountain Dreamer 0-06-251584-5 • \$16 • hc

"The Invitation will appeal to the many readers seeking quality books that invoke everyday spiritual magic and soul. I highly endorse it!" —PATRICE WYNNE, Gaia Bookstore, Berkeley, CA



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At the Root of This Longing Carol Flinders 0-06-251315-X • \$13 • pb

"In the spirit of Women Who Run With the Wolves and Reviving Ophelia, this book has the potential to change lives." —Publishers Weekly
# AND ON PUBLISHER'S ROV

Compiled by Teri Mae Rutledge

## Algonquin

Stacey D'Erasmo, while senior editor at the Voice Literary Supplement, spent seven years assigning and writing book reviews. With the publication of Tea, D'Erasmo moves from critic to novelist. Tea begins in 1968 as eight-year-old Isabel sets out tea for her unpredictable, moody mother. But her mother's tea goes untouched that day. Then her mother kills herself. As Isabel floats through life in the wake of her mother's death, she continuously falls in and out of love. First with Ann, a born-again, at eight. Then at 16 with Lottie, who "never apologizes and never explains." At 17 with theatrical feminist Rebecca. And again at 22 with avant-garde filmmaker Thea. Tea "speaks to those who discovered they were gay and had to find a way to tell the rest of the world. And it speaks to anyone who has struggled to carve out a place for themselves against a tragic family history." \$21.95 cl, 1-56512-243-7. -Jessie Mabry

Lioness Books/Sacramento

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Diane Fossey, Jane Goodall, and Biruté Galdikas were dubbed by Louis Leakey a "trio of angels" three women he encouraged to study great apes in the wild. For Louis Leakey's Third Angel, Linda Spalding traveled to Borneo to research and write about orangutan researcher Biruté Galdikas. She found that during the past 20 years, as poachers and timber barons slaughtered orangutans by the hundreds, Galdickas' identity changed from scientist to *Ibu,* the mother of orphan orangutans. She blurs the line between ape and human, tourist and scientist.

Spalding ultimately "confronts the sad failure of a woman desperate to mother a species to survival and discovers the dangers and temptations of ecotourism and the arrogance of the human inclination to alter the things we set out to save." \$22.95 cl, 1-56512-226-7. -TMR

## Avon

The Athletic Woman's Sourcebook: How to Stay Healthy and Competitive in Any Sport by Janis Graham. Information is offered here on a broad range of topics including: sports medicine, mental strategies to achieve goals, the needs of the older female athlete, injury-reducing strategies, cross-training references, info on sports clothing, and much more. \$12.50 pb, 0-380-79667-8, August.

Tale of a Sky-Blue Dress by Thylia Moss. Here is a memoir that reads like poetry, the story of the only child of a maid and a factory worker who move to Ohio from the segregated South in the 50s. Raised in a loving home, Thylia flourishes until the age of five when disaster strikes in the form of a girl in a sky-blue dress. \$13.50 pb, 0-380-79362-8.

The Premature Menopause Book: When the Change of Life Comes Too Early by Kathy Petras. This book is not only for the growing number of young women experiencing menopuase naturally, but also for those plunged into it prematurely by hysterectomies, cancer treatments, or autoimmune disorders. \$14 pb, 0-380-80541-3.

Passing by Patricia Jones is a novel set in contemporary Baltimore. Lila Gates, who comes from a "high color" family that has always prided itself on its refusal to blend into white society, is confronted with family secrets and moral conflict when her future mother-in-law's values clash with her own. The book is an intimate portrait of two Black women who have

## Daughters of Light

Quaker Women Preaching and Prophesying in the Colonies and Abroad, 1700-1775



Rebecca Larson 0-679-43762-2, \$35

Crisscrossing the Atlantic, alone or in pairs to preach in the British Isles, the West Indies, and throughout the American colonies, the Quaker women ministers of the 18th century worked outside the expectations and

strictures of their time. With authority and clarity, Rebecca Larson uncovers and traces the remarkable lives of these unconstrained women, making clear the surprising influence the women ministers wielded both in the Quaker community and as public figures in the wider world.

## **Care and** Equality

Inventing a New **Family Politics** 

Mona Harrington 0-375-40015-X, \$24

"Mona Harrington's superb book examines just why the promise of gender equality remains an illusion until society gets serious about the



issue of who provides care - for children, for the aged, for the disabled. Harrington persuasively demonstrates that until we get serious about care as a political, moral and public policy issue, the private unpaid caregivers - overwhelmingly female - will have less than the promised legal equality in the workplace and elsewhere

Knopf >

taken different roads to surviving racism. \$12.50 pb,

Traditional Chinese Medicine: A Woman's Guide to Healing from Breast Cancer by Dr. Nan Lu with Ellen Schaplowsky. Another approach to breast cancer that includes information on early warning signs, ancient energy movement for self-healing, healing foods, and herbs to increase your vital energy. \$14 pb, 0-380-80902-8, September.

Now available in paperback: The Body Is Water by Julie Schumacher (\$12.50, 0-380-80704-1), Shimmer by Sarah Schulman (\$12.50, 0-380-79765-8, August), Siberian Dream by Irina Pantaeva (\$12.50, 0-380-79371-1, September), Cereus Blooms at Night by Shani Mootoo (\$12.50, 0-380-73199-1, September), and On the Occasion of My Last Afternoon by Kave Gibbons (\$12.50, 0-380-73214-9).

Also available in paperback: Bittersweet by Nevada Barr, an old lesbian novel brought back to life since its hardcover debut in 1984. Patience and Sarah-like in its sweetness, you'll sell lots of them! \$13.50, 0-380-79950-2, September. -Donna Niles

Now available in paperback: Leslie Pietrzyk's debut novel, Pears on a Willow Tree, chronicles four generations of Polish American women. "A rich, intricate, heartfelt novel that ... gives us a sweating, crying, shouting, laughing group of women struggling to preserve and pass on that most precious of old family recipes: love." -The Washington Post. \$12.50, 0-380-79910-3, Bard.

Also available in paperback: Embracing Victory: How Women Can Compete Joyously, Compassionately, and Successfully in the Workplace and on the Playing Field by Maria Burton Nelson received the following accolade from the extremely reputable Pat Holt, formerly of the San Francisco Chronicle: "This is a book that makes competition fun rather than exhausting, uplifting to the soul rather than oppressive. If you want to win but are ashamed to admit it, this is the -TMR book for you." \$12.50, 0-380-72720-X.

## Ballantine

4 Steps to Financial Security for Lesbian and Gay Couples: Expert Advice for Reducing Your Tax Burden, Increasing Your Wealth, and Protecting Each Other by Harold Lustig instructs gay and lesbian couples in achieving long-term financial security in spite of unfavorable laws and Volume 22 Number 2

discriminatory penalties. Includes information on: estate planning, tax advantages, reducing your tax load through charitable contributions, shifting assets, domestic partner agreements, avoiding the "gay penalty" on long-term health care and retirement plans, funding a college education, reentering the job market when you are HIV-positive, buying disability insurance, and facts about joint ownership. \$14 pb, 0-449-00249-7. -TMR

#### **BDD-Anchor and Main Street Books**

Desert Queen: The Extraordinary Life of Gertrude Bell: Adventurer, Adviser to Kings, Ally of Lawrence of Arabia by Janet Wallach. Well, the subtitle says it all. \$15.95 pb, 0-385-49575-7.

The Girl in the Flammable Skirt by Aimee Bender is a collection of stories "in which the moral is never quite what we expect." \$11.95 pb, 0-385-49216-2.

Breakup: The End of a Love Story by Catherine Texier chronicles, as the title implies, the final months of an 18-year romance. "Every emotion, including rage, disgust, self-pity, hatred, sympathy, and jealousy, is mined." \$11.95 pb, 0-385-49523-4.

#### -Sylvia Crannell

A Miracle Every Day: Triumph and Transformation in the Lives of Single Mothers by Marita Golden goes against the grain of common analyses of single-parent households to focus on the unique strengths of single-parent families. Golden looks at single mothers, at the adaptive skills their children have, and at the support systems that single mothers create to make their families work. A very necessary look at a topic that is so often treated shallowly and negatively. \$9.95 pb, 0-385-48315-5. -TMR

## **BDD-Bantam**

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Rita Mae Brown's Loose Lips is the latest Runnymede novel. It follows the humorous and poignant exploits of Juts and Wheezie, continuing right about where Six of One and Bingo left off. (\$24.95 cl, 0-553-09972-8.) By the way, Six of One and Bingo are being released for the first time as trade paperbacks in

honor of the occasion. Both are \$11.95, 0-553-38037-0 and 0-553-38040-0, respectively.

Neurotica is Sue Margolis' "hilarious tale of life and love in the 90s." It's the story of a tabloid reporter who, when assigned to cover a new feminist manifesto that prescribes no-strings-attached affairs for women, decides to investigate personally. \$16.95 cl, 0-553-10984-7. —Sylvia Crannell

## **BDD-Dell**

Historical romance fans will want A Woman of Passion by Virginia Henley. The heroine is a "beautiful, ambitious commoner who rises to the position of lady-in-waiting to Queen Elizabeth I and loves four very different husbands along the way." \$21.95 cl, 0-385-31820-0.

Dell claims Renee Swindle will elbow out Terry McMillan and Connie Briscoe as the hottest African American woman writer and is putting money behind her "brash, sassy, and remarkably wise debut novel," Please Please Please. \$23.95 cl, 0-385-31863-4.

Now out in paper is Allegra Goodman's Kaaterskill Falls. \$12.95, 0-385-32390-5.

-Sylvia Crannell

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#### **BDD-Doubleday**

She wrote Slaves of New York, American Dad, A Cannibal in Manhattan, and The Male Cross-Dresser Support Group. Now Tama Janowitz gives us A Certain Age. A "wickedly funny and glisteningly dark novel," the story focuses on our obsession with conspicuous consumption and what some women will do to get a man. \$23.95 cl, 0-385-49610-9.

I don't know if your customers will buy it, but The One to One Manager: An Executive's Guide to Customer Relationship Management by Don Peppers and Martha Rogers is valuable reading for independent bookstore owners scrambling for every edge against the big guys. It focuses on how to

develop long-lasting and more profitable relationships with customers. \$19.95 cl, 0-385-49408-4.

Only in London is by Hanan al-Shaykh, who also wrote I Sweep the Sun off Rooftops, among others. Once again, she chronicles the modern Arab experience, especially "people caught between...the ways of East and West." \$21.95 cl, 0-385-49171-9.

Stephanie Stokes Oliver, the founding editor of Heart and Soul, "shows African American women how to soothe the soul, satisfy the mind, and revive the body 365 days of the year" in Daily Cornbread: 365 Secrets for a Healthy Mind, Body, and Soul. \$21.95 cl, 0-385-48769-X.

The Celtic Way of Prayer: The Recovery of the Religious Imagination by Esther de Waal "shows how this tradition of worship draws on both the pre-Christian past and ... the Gospels." \$10.95 pb, -Sylvia Crannell 0-385-49374-6.

#### Beacon

In A Dialogue on Love, Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick (Epistemology of the Closet) writes about her relationship with her therapist. She explores this strange yet



common bond with her characteristic depth and detail to reveal a point of intimacy and even love. \$24

Mobilizing Resentment: Conservative Resur. gence from the John Birch Society to the Promise Keepers by Jean Hardisty is a map of the political bat. tles being fought in America and a portrait of who precisely, makes up the Right. From a woman who has been keeping tabs on the Right for decades, Hardisty gives us the human element in right-wing movements, claiming that without a deep understanding of the Right's past and humanity, it is impossible to constructively engage it. \$24 cl, 0-8070-4316-8.

In The Family of Adoption, Joyce Maguire Pavao writes of the developmental stages and challenges for adopted people and shows parents, teachers, and therapists how to support people in these various stages. \$12.50 pb, 0-8070-2801-0.

Now available in paperback: The Book of Blessings: New Jewish Prayers for Daily Life, the Sabbath, and the New Moon Festival by Marcia Falk is a poetic re-creation of Jewish prayer that is, though steeped in dialogue with rabbinical tradition, for people seeking a more contemporary, egalitarian approach to traditional liturgy. The cloth edition was a FB-Net catalog favorite. \$25, 0-8070-1017-0, August.

Discovering Kwan Yin, Buddhist Goddess of Compassion: A Woman's Book of Ruminations, Meditations, Prayers, and Chants by Sandy Boucher explores the influence of Kwan Yin - who is, according to the copy, the most celebrated goddess in all of Asia — on women in the U.S. Boucher, the author of several books on Buddhist thought, first encountered Kwan Yin in the form of a statue in a museum in Kansas City. She was struck by the statue's balance of strength, beauty, and tenderness, and felt compelled to research her. Boucher shows us the goddess' many representations through stories both old and new. \$20 -TMR pb, 0-8070-1340-4.

#### Chronicle Books

If your customers were enchanted with Why Cats Paint (\$16.95 pb, 0-8981-5612-2, Ten Speed Press), you'll want to get the latest book by the same authors, Dancing with Cats by Burton Silver, and Heather Busch. \$16.95 pb, 0-8118-2415-2.

Those of you with strong women's art (and/or crafts) sections should check out the colorful Oaxacan crafts) section of the section of the operation of the operation of the section o Ceramics. The women with photographs by Vicki by Lois Wasserspring with photographs by Vicki 

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Beyond the Narrow Gate: The Journey of Four Chinese Women from the Middle Kingdom to Middle America by Leslie Chang. Forced to flee their homeland in 1948 when the communists took over China, these four remarkable women meet in Taiwan at the elite First Girls' School, the "narrow gate" where a lucky few could become eligible for U.S. visas. This epic memoir follows these brave women as they face the hardships and struggles encountered when East goes West. \$24.95 cl, 0-525-94257-2.

Buxton Spice by Oonya Kempadoo. This Caribbean w iter debuts with a novel set in 1970s Guyana, centering on the inner life of Lula, a young girl coming of age in a racially mixed family in a time of political repression. The vividly drawn characters include a trio of prostitutes known as Bullet, Sugar Baby, and Rumshop Cockroach, Lula's Aunt Ruth, the obeah voodoo lady, and many others, \$21.95 cl, 0-525-94506-7.

Broke Heart Blues by Joyce Carol Oates. The newest from the prolific Oates, "a penetrating look at the burden of celebrity and the making of American myths." \$24.95 cl, 0-525-94451-6.

The True History of Paradise by Margaret Cezair-Thompson. The first novel from this Jamaican-born writer is set in 1981 Jamaica, where there is a state of emergency. Violence in the streets and police checkpoints everywhere are the background for the

vivid story of Jean, whose sister Lana has just taken her own life. As Jean makes her way across the island toward the plane waiting to take her to America, she remembers not only Lana, but many forebearers of Scottish, Creole, Chinese, African, and Indian descent. \$24.95 cl, 0-525-94490-7, August. -Donna Niles

## Farrar, Straus, & Giroux

Rivonia's Children by Glenn Frankel. South Africa was in political and social turmoil in the 60s when a few white Jewish activists risked their lives to combat apartheid. A police raid on their headquarters in Rivonia in 1963 shattered lives and dreams of revolution. Rivonia's Children vividly portrays the impact of political activism on the lives of three families. \$25 cl, 0-374-25099-5, August. -Harriet Clare

## Free Press

Dangerous Liaisons: Blacks, Gays, and the Struggle for Equality edited by Eric Brandt presents writing from historians, political analysts, activists, artists, writers, and philosophers about the relationship between African Americans and homosexuals. Addresses such issues as attitudes toward gay marriage versus interracial marriage, the growth of gay and lesbian rights organizations, homophobia in the Black church, and the conflict among minorities in the arts. Includes writing from Jewelle Gomez, Audre Lorde, Barbara Smith, and others. \$22.95 cl, 1-56584-455-6. -TMR

## Grove/Atlantic, distributed by PGW

Yxta Maya Murray, author of Locas (\$12 pb, 0-8021-3564-1), is praised by the Chicago Tribune as

being a writer "with an insider's eye, eloquently capturing the struggles of being poor and Mexican- American in Los Angeles." In her new novel, What It Takes to Get to Las Vegas (\$23 cl, 0-8021-1642-6), Rita Zapata hangs around boxing hopefuls in East L.A., trying to find a way to a better life. She meets Billy, a fighter from Mexico, who is on his way to the top. Their passion leads the pair to Vegas and is both the best and worst thing to happen to Rita. This is an extremely smart writer; this is a book to stock, to handsell, to read vourself.

Daughter of the Air: The Brief Soaring Life of Cornelia Fort by Rob Simbeck is the biography

of a female pilot who flew in the 40s. Simbeck intersperses Fort's diaries, letters, and historical documents liberally in his portrait of Fort's short life. She was one of few people to witness the bombing of Pearl Harbor from the air, and she loved her flying life (which included being a member of the first trained

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Marie Riccoboni The Story of Ernestine

Joan Hinde Stewart and Philip Stewart, trans.

1998 · 5 ½ x 8 ½ xxxiv & 80 pp. Paper ISBN 0-87352-786-0 \$7.95

Set in prerevolutionary France, The Story of Ernestine tells of the love between an innocent young woman and an aristocrat.

Ernestine, German-born and orphaned, is an apprentice painter putting the finishing touches on a portrait when the marquis de Clémengis, elegant and handsome, enters the studio. Recognizing him as the subject of the portrait, she gestures for him to be seated and goes on working, looking back and forth between him and his likeness. The worldweary aristocrat is smitten.

In graceful, understated prose, Marie Riccoboni shows how her heroine learns to negotiate questions of honor and appearances and to find a precarious balance between economic security and the potentially compromising nature of male generosity. The story raises questions about sexual enlightenment and social prejudice and reexamines the links of money, reputation, and marriageability that preoccupied eighteenth-century writers.

### Also available:

Histoire d'Ernestine: The Original French Text Joan Hinde Stewart and Philip Stewart, eds.

1998 · 5 1/2 × 8 1/2 xxxiii & 81 pp. Paper ISBN 0-87352-785-2 \$7.95

Modern Language Association 10 Astor Place, New York, NY 10003-6981 Phone 212 614-6382 • Fax 212 358-9140 おきいきいもいもいちいもいもいたいものもいも

July/August 1999

women's flight squadron, the WAFS), even though it was marked by sexism. From a letter to her mother, which also became her epitaph: "I loved my blue jeans and the great dignity of life on the ranches. loved fox-hunting even with its snobbishness, I loved the deeply pervading tiredness after six hours of timber hopping. I dearly loved the airports, little and big. I loved the sky and the planes and yet, best of all, I loved flying.... I was happiest in the sky — at  $d_{awn}$ when the quietness of the air was like a caress, when the noon sun beat down, and at dusk when the sky was drenched with the fading light. Think of me there and remember me, I hope as I shall you, with love" \$22, 0-87113-688-0, August. -TMR

## Harcourt Brace

Impossible Saints by Michèle Roberts is a novel about a fictional saint, Saint Josephine. Roberts uses the story of her life to explore the conflicts between female sexuality and religion, the roots of female roles in the church, and the troubled love between fathers and daughters. As we learn more and more about Josephine, her sainthood becomes more dubious. Was she a miracle worker or a coward? Was she a seductress or a role model? Woven into the story are the stories of actual saints, "mad one-armed girls, beauties locked in towers, mothers who encourage their daughters' fatal anorexia, ingenues who seduce and dismember their fathers." A book that probes that troublesome junction between women and high religion. \$13 pb, 0-15-600659-6.

In Elizabeth Graver's debut novel, Unravelling, a 19th-century woman attempts to understand the tangled path that has led her from her mother's home to the small isolated cabin where she finds herself at 38. She eventually creates a life for herself and triumphs over conformity. \$13 pb, 0-15-600610-3, August.

Wendy Wasserstein (the Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright who wrote The Heidi Chronicles) has written a new play, An American Daughter, about a privileged daughter of a Republican senator who lives in Georgetown with her husband. She becomes the president's choice for surgeon general, but the media finds out that she once failed to respond for jury duty. The media treats this as a moral lapse, investigating her family and friends and shattering her privacy and career. Wasserstein's humor and Volume 22 Number 2

dialogue make this a searing, deliciously funny political drama. \$10 pb, 0-15-600645-6, August.

Now available in paperback: The Flower in the Skull by Kathleen Alcalá explores "the complexities of heritage, identity, and assimilation" through the story of Concha, driven from her homeland in a raid of Mexico's Sonoran Desert, and her daughter Rosa. By the author of Sprits of the Ordinary and Mrs. Vargas and the Dead Naturalist (Calyx Books). \$12, --TMR 0-15-600634-0.

## HarperCollins

A Long Way from Home by Connie Briscoe (Big Girls Don't Cry, Sisters & Lovers) is a historical novel of three generations of women slaves working the plantation of President James Madison and his wife, Dolley. The protagonists are gifted, talented women trying to keep their family intact. \$25 cl, 0-06-017278-9, August. Also available on audio: \$18, 2 cassettes, 3 hours, 0-694-52149-3, August.

Paper Daughter: A Memoir by M. Elaine Mar is the author's memoir of her navigation between her home life as an immigrant and traditional Chinese daughter and her public life as an American. She grew up working with her parents in a Chinese restaurant in Denver, and eventually got into Harvard. Her story is a personal journey and an unflinching look at the realities of the American dream. \$23 cl, 0-06-018293-8, August.

Escaping into the Open: The Art of Writing True is Elizabeth Berg's (Talk Before Sleep) very personal journey from working mother to successful writer, with inspiring stories from her own career and from those of other writers. This warm and encouraging book gives writers tips on getting started, unleashing creativity, and accepting rejection (and success) from the publishing world. \$23 cl, 0-06-019179-1.

Well. I'm so glad that the whole Jewel-as-writer thing isn't over yet. Harper has cleverly made her Life Stories available not only in the more traditional book form but also on cassette and CD, appealing to visually and aurally oriented consumers. OK, so what's here: an apparently "enthralling" (Harper's word) medley of journal entries, poems, essays, and stories. And the words of Jewel probe her beliefs, her thoughts, her ideas, and important turning points in her life. Sounds pretty darn enthralling, doesn't it? But we should all keep in mind that her A Night Without Armor sold over 300,000 copies, so this is one to stock, even if you can't help but make the fake retching noise every time you look at it. \$23.95 cl, 0-06-019200-3; \$12 cassette, 70 minutes, 0-694-52079-9; \$15 CD, 70 minutes, 0-694-52151-5.

Now available on audio: Little Altars Everywhere performed by the author, Rebecca Wells. \$18, 2 cassettes, 3 hours, 0-694-52153-1, November.

Harper is releasing another one of those ya-ya books — a book about straight women bonding and finding strength from one another's friendships. The promo compares Patricia Gaffney's novel about four friends who've dubbed themselves The Saving Graces to Beaches, The Group, and Loose Change. \$24 cl, -TMR 0-06-019192-9.



#### HarperSanFrancisco

Writing as a Way of Healing by Louise DeSalvo invites readers to use writing as a way to heal and transform. She shows how writing about traumatic events in a particular way - linking a detailed description of events with feelings about the trauma - effectively heals writers. Includes anecdotes and testimonials from Dorothy Allison, Isabel Allende, May Sarton, and Alice Walker. \$22 cl, 0-06-251519-5. -TMR

## Henry Holt

Julia Slavin's first book of short stories reveals her as a sharp, original writer. The Woman Who Cut Off Her Leg at the Maidstone Club and Other Stories pits ordinary characters (suburban married

## Fannie Who?



By the time Fannie Hurst died, her name had appeared in The New York Times more than 200 times: in reviews of her 26 books; in reports of her controversial statements ranging from women's rights to Communism; in stories about her prescient speeches,

her disputes, her awards, her social life, and her unusual marriage (she and her husband lived apart). A close friend of Eleanor and Franklin Roosevelt and Zora Neale Hurston, Fannie Hurst was one of the most dynamic writers of the century, and a precursor to Betty Friedan and the modern feminist movement.

## **Fannie**

The Amazing Rise to Fame of Author Fannie Hurst by Brooke Kroeger

> **Times Books / Random House** 0-8129-2497-5, \$27.50

folk) against the fantastic and surreal. In one story, a housewife swallows the teenage boy that cuts her lawn. In another, an upper-middle-class woman cuts off her leg at a private club. In another, a man sees a live lobster being shipped at the airport and feels an absolute need to save it from certain death. Hip and disturbing, this is one that'll appeal to folks looking for literature that's a little bit bizarre, a little bit uncomfortable. \$22 cl, 0-8050-6085-5.

Sweet Invisible Body: Reflections on a Life with Diabetes by Lisa Roney explores the impact of diabetes on her life. The disease directly affects the choices she makes every day, from food and exercise to career and family. She also examines the "hidden" consequences of living with diabetes: how it erodes self-esteem, induces feelings of vulnerability, influences sexual choices, and leads to a heightened sense of mortality. A deeply personal analysis of a disease that is prevalent, deadly, and invisible. \$23.95 cl 0-8050-5625-4, August. -TMR

## Little, Brown

I Gave You All I Had, a novel by Zoé Valdés, translated from the Spanish by Nadia Benabid, is a winner of the Planeta Prize, Spain's most prestigious literary award. Born to an actress and a Chinese enthusiast of New World riches, Cuquita Martinez left home at ten to live with her grandmother. At 16 she meets Juan, the love of her life, in Havanna. Juan disappears for eight years, returning at the eve of the Revolution. The two are together briefly before his dealings force him into exile in the U.S. Cuquita bears his child and waits for his return. As Cuban politics settle, Cuquita and her friends fight to survive and be happy. As the copy says, "they improvise, they cheat, they scavenge, they make love, they remember, and above all, they talk." (\$24.95 cl, 1-55970-477-2, Arcade.) Also by Valdés: Yocandra in the Paradise of Nada: A Novel of Cuba, translated by Sabina Cienfuegos, is the funny, erotic, and moving story of a woman born in the year of Castro's revolution who must eke out her own survival in wasteland that Cuba became. \$12.95 pb, 1-55970-476-4, Arcade.

River, Cross My Heart, Breena Clarke's first novel, centers around the absence in a family and community when five-year-old Clara Bynum drowns in the Potomac River. The Bynums moved to Georgetown (circa 1925) from rural North Carolina to find a better life for themselves. Clarke shows us the effect of Clara's death on her parents, on the relatives and friends the family has found in Georgetown, and most of all on Johnnie Mae, Clara's ten-year-old sister, who must contend with the powerful emotions her sister's death evokes while trying to decide what sort of woman she will become. A lyrical story that chronicles a significant time in the history of African Americans. \$23 cl, 0-316-14423-1. Reading Group Guide available, 0-316-14437-1.

### McGraw-Hill

McGraw-Hill is releasing two how-to manuals on winter sports that are, according to Library Journal, "designed to teach outdoor skills to women in the Volume 22 Number 2

way they learn...extremely well done and appealway they real appeal-ing." Skiing: A Woman's Guide by Maggie Loring, a certified ski instructor since the age of 19, shows women how to find the right instructor, skill drills, how to stay comfortable and safe on the slopes, how

to bring family on your trips, and how to stay fit. (\$14.95 pb, 0-07-038867-9, August.) Winter Sports: A Woman's Guide by Iseult Devlin covers cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, snowboarding, ice skating, and back-country ski adventures. (\$14.95 pb, 0-07-158188-X, August.)

## William Morrow

Women Who Mean Business: Success Stories of Women over Forty by A. Mikaelian profiles 75 women from all over the country, from all sorts of businesses. They are the women who began their careers in the 70s, who were among

the first women to "break through the glass ceiling." Includes profiles on Lisa McAdams, vice president of WorldCom; Rose Marie Bravo, chief executive of Burberrys Worldwide; Patricia Gallup of PC Connection; and Rebecca Matthias of Mothers Work. Mikaelian emphasizes the new opportunities available to women in the corporate world in this positive, encouraging, pro-business book. \$22 cl, 0-688-15677-0.

The National Women's Health Resource Center Book of Women's Health: Your Comprehensive Guide to Health and Well-Being edited by Anthony R. Scialli, M.D., with the National Women's Health Resource Center is a complete medical reference book written by women. This 600+ page book is divided into four parts: Health Maintenance, Special Health Concerns, Pregnancy and Childbirth, and Medical Disorders and Diseases of Women. \$35 cl, 0-688-12434-8, August.

Carol Adrienne (coauthor of The Celestine Prophecy) has written what the catalog calls a "new age What Color is Your Parachute?" with The Purpose of Your Life Workbook: Proven Exercises to Help You Find Your Way in the World. It asks questions such as, Why am I here on Earth? What am I supposed to be doing with my life? How can I find my mission and fulfill it? It includes exercises on aligning with your soul's purpose, how to follow synchronicities and

intuition, the magnetic force field of your purpose, and transforming obstacles. Naturally, I can't take this too seriously, but maybe all your Celestine Prophecy-loving customers will. \$13.95 pb, 0-688-16714-4, August, Eagle Brook.

Award-winning journalist Rita Baron-Faust

teamed up with the physicians of the New York University Medical Center Women's Health Service and the Department of Obsetrics and Gynecology to write Being Female: What Every Woman Should Know About Gynecological Health, a book that "demystifies the female reproductive system" and addresses women's concerns, emphasizing preventative care. \$15 pb, 0-688-16976-7, Quill.

Amanda Davis, a hot, original young writer, has just released her debut collection of stories, Circling the Drain. She's written 15 stories about the difficult lives of

young women, who "despite their vastly different circumstances, seem to negotiate an eerily similar and unavoidable dangerous emotional terrain." At turns surreal and biting, each story shows its heroine dealing with loss, disillusionment, and anger. This is a book to hand to all your more literate customers who are looking to discover new and exciting writing. The office copy is going home with me tonight. \$23 cl, 0-688-16780-2.

Ellen aficionados: Love, Ellen is Betty DeGeneres' memoir of her relationship with her lesbian daughter. Includes the story of Betty's difficult path to acceptance of her daughter's gayness and the subsequent deepening of their friendship, the difficult stories of other gay folk and parents of gay folk that Betty has heard in her HRC life, letters from Ellen, and (for those of us who just look at the pictures) some blackand-white baby/childhood photos of Ellen (with the very cheesy captions that only a mother could write). Could be a fine book for gay / lesbian customers to give to their parents. ("See, Ellen's mom took it OK ....") \$24 cl, 0-688-16274-6.

Newly updated: The Life and Humor of Rosie O'Donnell by Gloria Goodman covers Rosie's life from her youth on Long Island to her talk show days. (It seems that there's no mention of her personal life - or at least not that issue - in this book that,



according to Booklist, "covers all the biographical bases." Oh, well.) \$12 pb, 0-688-16979-1, August, Quill.

#### Norton

Working with Available Light: A Family's World After Violence by Jamie Kalven describes the effects of a violent rape on a woman's psyche and the texture of her family. Written by Patricia Evans' husband, Working with Available Light documents the five years following her assault, as Evans "remaps the world in light of the terrible knowledge inflicted on her and regains her place in it." Kalven doesn't presume to understand his wife's grief, but deepens his questions. A poignant, important book that shows one family's



slow and necessary incorporation of an act of violence into its structure. \$24.95 cl, 0-393-04690-7. -TMR

#### Penguin/Viking

Strange Sisters: the Art of Lesbian Pulp Fiction 1949–1969 by Jaye Zimet includes 200 color illustra. tions. Looks fabulous, especially for those of us who aren't collectors but would love a reference to this strange zigzag in lesbian herstory. \$19.95 pb 0-14-028405-8, August.

Couples: Scenes from the Inside by Sally Cline.] see one or two lesbian couples and a gay male pair on the cover of this book, which investigates the institution of couplehood. A radical look at the sociology, history, and mythology of traditional partnering, \$26.95 cl, 0-87951-946-0, Overlook.

A Celibate Season by Carol Shields. A new novel from the Pulitzer Prize-winning writer. "Faced witha job-related ten-month separation, Jocelyn and Charles choose to maintain contact through letters. An economic decision paves the way for two very different and very entertaining sides of the same story." \$12.95 pb, 0-14-027511-8.

Icy Sparks by Gwyn Hyman Rubio. Ten-year-old Icy Sparks, an orphan who lives with her grandparents, is growing up in1950s rural Kentucky. Battling a little-known affliction we now know as Tourette's Syndrome, Icy finds solace in her friendship with an obese woman who is also an outcast in the community. \$12.95 pb, 0-14-028014-6.

Freedom's Child by Carrie Allen McCray. A memoir of Carrie and her mother Mary Rice Hayes Allen, the Black daughter of a white confederate general. This woman, born eleven years after the end of the Civil War, was publicly recognized by her father and fought all her life to heal the wounds of racismin her community, her country, and especially in herselt. \$12.95 pb, 0-14-028252-1.

Threads Through Time: Writings on History and Autobiography by Sheila Rowbotham. Gathering nearly a quarter-century's writing on class, gender, and race, this anthology is a look at how self-image was addressed in the early years of the women's movement. Rowbotham's most recent title is A Century of Women. \$13.95 pb, 0-14-027554-1.

The Bust Guide to the New Girl Order by Debbie Stoller and Marcelle Karp. Oh, joy! A compendium of writings from the journal of 90s girl culture, Bust. This

promises to be more than a tribute to the original girl ine that still thrives today; it also contains new essays

zine that still thrives totaly, iteration and art. \$14.95 pb, 0-14- 027774-9, August. Now in paper: **My Year of Meats** by Ruth L. Ozeki (\$12.95, 0-14-028046-4), **Speaking with Strangers: A** (\$12.95, 0-14-028046-4), **Speaking with Strangers: A** (\$12.95, 0-14-028046-4), **Glorie** by Caryn James (\$12.95, 0-14-028360-9), **Glorie** by Caryn James (\$12.95, 0-14-028754-1, August), **The Woman Who Gave Birth to Her Mother: Tales of Transformation in Women's Lives** by Kim Chernin (\$13.95, 0-14-028466-4, August), and **Radclyffe Hall: A Woman Called John** by Sally Cline

(\$16.95, 0-87951-708-5, Overlook). Available again in paper: Facts of

Life by Maureen Howard. An extraordinary biography of a brilliant novelist. \$12.95, 0-14-005500-2. —Donna Niles

Viking is comparing Amy Blackmarr's (*Going to Ground*) **House of Steps** to Kathleen Norris' *The Cloister Walk* and Annie Dillard's *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek*, saying that it is an ode to "the remarkable and incorruptible process of living from day to ordinary day." In this collection of essays, Blackmarr weaves scenes from her past into the present, where she lives in a tree-high house on a Kansas bluff. From the fab-

ric of her everyday life, she is able to pluck extraordinary gems of wonder and meaning. \$22.95 cl, 0-670-88237-2.

In Alice Springs by Nikki Gemmell, protagonist Philippa "Snip" Freeman has trouble putting down roots. She is a wanderer, tough and completely in control — until her grandmother, just before dying, sends her an envelope. It contains a check for \$30,000 and an instruction: "Hunt him down." So Snip buys a utility vehicle and heads into the outback to find her father. As she searches, she remembers her parents' breakup and the fact that she has never since been able to trust men. A novel about the hardship of love and the power of forgiveness. \$22.95 cl, 0-670-88347-6, August.

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Dervla Murphy, a travel writer with an extensive list of books in her 30+ trekking, biking, wandering years, writes of South Africa in **South from the Limpopo**. During the elections of 1994, she traveled 6,000 miles throughout the country. She stayed in impoverished Black villages, in the lavish homes of rich whites, and in the simple homes of poor whites. She realized that casting South Africa in terms of "Black versus white" is an oversimplification. Her thoughts, colored by the great love she has for the people of the country, put the problems of South Africa in new light. \$26.95 cl, 0-87951-948-7, Overlook.

**Paradise, Piece by Piece** by Molly Peacock is the acclaimed poet's memoir/ self-portrait. In creating this work, Peacock has given readers an incredible lyrical account of how a woman comes into her own. In delineating her own growth, she reveals the most intimate and crucial matters of a woman's selfdefinition. From the childhood she had to give up too soon to the complicated web of relationships that we all use to define ourselves, this memoir is a poetic, thoughtful work on Molly Peacock and on the inner landscape of women. \$14 pb, 1-57322-730-7, Riverhead.

I'm Not Mad, I Just Hate You: A New Understanding of Mother-Daughter Conflict by Roni Cohen-Sandler, Ph.D., and Michelle Silver (a clinical psychologist and the editor of *Girls' Life*, respectively) shows mothers how to transform the difficult teenage years (when a daughter's socially unacceptable anger erupts at her mother) into positive ones, to empower girls, and even to preserve the ability to stay engaged with their daughters' lives. Another contribution to the growing genre of books on raising healthy girls. \$22.95 cl, 0-670-88343-3.

Now available in mass market: Mothers and Daughters edited by Jill Morgan collects short stories by famous women authors (with the help of their daughters). \$5.99, 0-451-19786-0, NAL. —TMR

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#### Plume

Other People's Dirt: A Housecleaner's Curious Adventures by Louise Rafkin. Louise has entertained feminists with many books and articles over the years. You may recognize her as the editor of Different Mothers and Different Daughters, two lesbian anthologies. Here, she takes us on the insightful, sometimes hilarious roller-coaster ride of her time spent as housecleaner. \$11.95 pb, 0-452-28081-8.

SOS for PMS: Whole Food Solutions for Premenstrual Syndrome by Lissa De Angelis and Molly Siple. Featuring more than 100 recipes and a complete nutritional plan, this 320-page volume offers an uncomplicated way for women to approach PMS symptoms from their refrigerator, instead of the doctor's office or pharmacy. \$15.95 pb, 0-452-27965-8.

Beat Your Risk Factors: A Woman's Guide to Reducing Her Risk for Cancer, Heart Disease, Stroke, Diabetes, and Osteoporosis by Charlotte Libov. A chapter for each disease spells out risk factors and how to decrease them. \$14.95 pb, 0-452-27832-5.

Now in paper: My Heart Laid Bare by Joyce Carol Oates (\$13.95, 0-452-28006-0) and Journals of Ayn Rand edited by David Harriman (\$18.95 0-452-27887-2, August).

—Donna Niles

Now available in paperback: Cavedweller by Dorothy Allison, which, as the Baltimore Sun said, "introduces a new cast of indomitable women...Powerful...Sassy...Knowing.... An extraordinary book" (\$13.95, 0-452-27969-0.) Also, Carole Maso's novel Defiance, in which "Dark-side aestheticism washes over you in waves, mixing wild pleasure and brutal fury." -Spin. (\$12.95, 0-452-27829-5.) -TMR

#### **Random House**

Elizabeth Berg (Talk Before Sleep) has written a new novel. In Until the Real Thing Comes Along, Patty Hansen is impossibly in love with the wrong man. The way that she solves this and other problems is far from traditional, but, as the copy says, "close to the dictums of the heart." \$23 cl. 0-679-45722-4. -TMR

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Random House Audiobooks Now available on audio: Patricia Gaffney's The Saving Graces. \$24 abridged, 4 cassettes, 5 hours, 0-375-40714-6.

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Thirty years after The Female Eunuch galvanized the women's movement, Germaine Greer has written a sequel. And it's time to get angry again, ladies. In The Whole Woman, Greer assesses the state of womanhood and describes how feminism has gone by the wayside in the quest for liberation. Though women have made progress, we still suffer from discrimination and exploitation, from the care of our bodies to the care of our households, from workplace to marketplace. From the book: "Even as feminism is trying to transform atti-

tudes, marketing is obliterating its traces. In commercial after commercial, the performer of mindless routine tasks is an inanely smiling woman, unless some inanely smiling man pops up to demonstrate a new and better way of using even more of the product by dint of making her look a complete fool." An impassioned critique against the complacency and denial that have replaced feminist determination, and of the society that cannot support the momentum for change. \$25 cl, 0-375-40747-2.

In The Pig Farmer's Daughter and Other Tales of American Justice: Episodes of Racism and Sexism in the Courts from 1865 to the Present, Mary Frances Berry takes us through centuries of civil and criminal court cases as well as American case law to show how attitudes toward race, class, gender, and sexuality have affected and continue to affect judicial decision making. Includes some amazing case studies (and the ones chosen from the 1980s and 90s aren't really any less shocking than the ones from the 1860s) and Berry's extremely sharp, smart analysis. \$24 cl,

Mona Harrington tackles an important consequence of demographic changes that have occurred in recent decades: The care of the elderly, historically dependent upon the unpaid labor of women, is in turmoil as those unpaid women necessarily become paid women and join the workforce. In Care and Equality:

MURPHY South from the LIMPOPO

DERI

Inventing a New Family Politics, she says that currently, caregiving is, by default, no one's responsibility. She argues that this part of our "general welfare" (as guaranteed by the Constitution) should be the joint responsibility of the family, the private employer, and the government. This radically rede-

fines and recasts "care" to a place outside private family structures, an economic responsibility of the country as a whole. A smart and necessary analysis. \$24 cl, 0-375-40015-X, August.

Bliss Broyard has written her first book, a collection of short stories, My Father, Dancing, portraits of fathers and daughters. The fathers in these stories are smooth and charismatic, sophisticated and intelligent. They are also users and cheats. And "the lessons they unwittingly teach their daughters about love and marriage, sex and power, and finding a way in the world are at the heart of this beautiful debut

collection." \$22 cl, 0-375-40060-5, August. -TMR

#### **RH-Shambhala**

Voices of Light: Spiritual and Visionary Poems by Women Around the World, from Ancient Sumeria to Now edited by Aliki Barnstone collects the poetry of women from 36 languages and cultures, from the first known poet, Enhueduanna, a moon priestess and the daughter of the King of Sumeria who chiseled her poetry onto cuneiform tablets four thousand years ago, to the poets of the present day. These poets celebrate very different experiences, cultures, and classes. Includes poetry from all the hard hitters: Hatshepsut, Sappho, Hildegard, H.D., Wislawa Szymborska, Anne Sexton, and others. \$25 -TMRcl, 1-57062-283-3, August.

#### **RH-Three Rivers**

The Visualization Sourcebook: Using Imagination, Intuition, and Mindfulness to Heal Ourselves, Our Communities, and Our Planet by Margo Adair helps readers design visualizations and meditations "for every issue people face in contemporary life." It's a book that will help people become more effective in their everyday lives as well as increase their sense of values and their sense of connection to the earth. \$15 pb, 0-609-80364-6, August.

Now available in a reprinted version: After Silence: Rape and My Journey Back by Nancy Venable Raine is a courageous individual account of the aftermath of rape with searing insights about rape and society. \$14 pb, 0-609-80419-7, August. —*TMR* 

## **RH-Times**

Fannie: The Amazing Rise to Fame of Author Fannie Hurst by Brooke Kroeger chronicles a woman who was, in the first half of this century, the most commercially successful and critically derided women's fiction writer. She wrote 26 books, spoke on women's rights and Communism, won many awards, lived in a nontraditional marriage (she and her husband lived, to the horror of the press, apart for a time), made lucrative film deals, and was close friends with Eleanor and Franklin Roosevelt and Zora Neale Hurston. She was famous in her time, nearly forgotten now, and Kroeger uses her story to cast light on "the backslide in the progress of American women from the Depression to the mid-1960s." \$27.50 cl, 0-8129-2497-5, August. -TMR

### **RH-Vintage**

The Murder of Helen Jewett by historian Patricia Cline Cohen is a recreation of one of the most sensational events of the 19th century, an event whose media portrayals have some significant similarities to some of the most infamous trials of our time. Helen Jewett, a prostitute in Manhattan, was murdered outside the brothel in which she lived. The accused murderer was her lover, Richard Robinson, who insisted that he was innocent throughout his trial. Cohen's research is a mix of detection and social history, and

the resulting story is as gripping as fiction. \$14 pb, 0-679-74075-9.

Anne Carson's Autobiography of Red: A Novel in Verse, praised by Michael Ondaatje and Alice Munro, reimagines an ancient Greek epic as a modern coming-of-age story. Geryon is a young boy and also a red-winged monster. He leaves his tumultuous home life and becomes an artist and the lover of Herakles, a young man who drops Geryon at the height of his infatuation. When the two meet later,



Geryon remembers the pain of desire and ultimately releases his creativity and imagination to its fullest extent. According to the catalog, this work is "a profoundly moving portrait of an artist coming to terms with the fantastic accident of who he is." \$12 pb, 0-375-70129-X, August.

Vintage Classics is releasing a new edition of Willa Cather's **Song of the Lark**, a powerful portrait of an aritst's self-creation. \$12 pb, 0-375-70645-3, August. -TMR

#### Routledge

Testing Women, Testing the Fetus: The Social Impact of Amniocentesis in America by Rayna Rapp. A leading feminist anthropologist explores the nature of prenatal diagnosis and its social impact and cultural meaning through the narratives of people who have experienced it. \$30 cl, 0-415-91644-5, August.

White Weddings: Romancing Heterosexuality in Popular Culture by Chrys Ingraham. A professor of sociology (and a woman with a good sense of humor), Ingraham has talked about doing this book

for years. She looks at how weddings are part of a belief system that relies on romantic and sacred notions of heterosexuality to maintain the illusion of normalcy. A serious study of weddings in popular culture, the book is also chock-full of interesting factoids reinforcing the author's point; for example, only three covers of *Bride* magazine have featured a woman of color since 1959. This should do well with any audience looking to understand (and chuckle over) popular culture. \$17.99 pb, 0-415-91840-5; \$70 cl, -91839-1, August.

The Impossibility of Motherhood: Feminism, Individualism and the Problem of Mothering by Patrice DiQuinzio. Part of the Thinking Gender series, this title looks at how thinkers like Beauvior, Kristeva, Chodorow, and Rich struggle to analyze mothering from a poststructuralist philosophy. You know if this is for your store! \$19.99 pb, 0-415-91023-4; \$70 cl, -91022-6, August.

One Nation Under God? Religion and American Culture edited by Marjorie Garber and Rebecca Walkowitz, with a foreword by Cornel West. A

consideration of how religion manifests itself in America today. Looks at subjects such as the nature of public religious expressions, the Holocaust Memorial, the cloistered closet, cults of death, and more. \$19.99 pb, 0-415-92224-0; \$75 cl, -92223-2, August. —Mary Ellen Kavanaugh

My Sisters' Words/Syracuse NY

## St. Martin's Press

Susan Fox Rogers, who edited *Sportsdykes*, *Another Wilderness*, and others, has a new lesbian-themed anthology, **Women on the Verge**. Among the included authors are Lucy Jane Bledsoe and Karla Jay. (\$13.95 pb, 0-312-20971-1, August.) August also brings the paperback release of **Service of Clouds** by Delia Falconer, whose writing was described by one reviewer as a combination of Gabriel Garcia Marquez and Jeanette Winterson, heavy in metaphor and gorgeous writing. (\$13, 0-312-20969-X, August.)

Girls on the Verge: Debutante Dips, Gang Drive-Bys and Other Initiations by Vendela Vida is an exploration of life for some adolescent girls today. These are cautionary tales for our women's studies sections. \$19.95 cl, 0-312-20044-7, August.

For biographies, there's Katharine Hepburn by Anne Edwards (*Streisand: A Biography*) (\$16.95 pb, 0-312-20656-9, August), and for Virginia Woolf devotees, Marriage of Heaven and Hell: Manic Depression and the Life of Virginia Woolf by Peter Dally (\$24.95 cl, 0-312-20559-7).

I couldn't resist telling you about this title, especially with the current pop-culture interest in all things 70s: **The Mary Tyler Moore Show** by Sylvia Stoddard is filled with stories and trivia about one of the first sitcoms about a "liberated woman." \$5.99 pb, 0-312-95945-1.

For those who carry divination tools, there's a new version of **Medicine Cards: The Discovery of Power Through the Ways of Animals** by Jamie Sams and Angela C. Werneke on the way. \$29.95 cl, 0-312-20491-4. Important news for mystery buffs is the paperback release of the latest Jane Lawless mystery, **Wicked Games** by Ellen Hart (\$5.99, 0-312-96707-1, August). At Feminist Bookstore Days this year, we discussed feminist stores recommending gay men's titles to each other. If this is something your store is considering, you can't go wrong with Grant Michaels' humorous Stan Kraychik mystery series. The latest, newly released in paper, is **Dead as a Doornail**. (\$12.95, 0-312-20644-5.) —*Suzanne Corson* 

Facing the Extreme by Ruth Anne Kocour with Michael Hodgson chronicles the author's survival of a two-week storm (including blinding snows, a wind chill of minus 150 degrees, and deadly hidden crevasses) that killed eleven other climbers on Alaska's Mt. McKinley. She shows readers the spirit that drives mountaineers as she tells her story of reaching McKinley's peak. \$6.99 pb, 0-312-96985-6.



#### Simon & Schuster

Nikki Giovanni said of Asha Bandele's memoir The Prisoner's Wife: "This book needs to be read by anyone who has ever hummed a tune on the day the rent was due; by anyone who tapped her foot on the day the kids needed money for the school trip; by anyone who is sitting drinking coffee because she's hungry and there isn't enough to go around. By anyone who has paid a price for love." Bandele, a Brooklyn performance poet, writes beautifully about her courtship and marriage to a man serving 20 years to life for murder. The book begins, "This is a love story like every other love story I had always known, like no love story I could ever have imagined. It's everything I always thought beautiful bright colors, candle-scented rooms, orange silk, and lavender amethyst. It's everything I always thought grotesque, disfigured. It's long twisting wounds, open and unhealed, nerves pricked raw, exposed."

An incredible, intense, stunningly written memoir. \$23 cl, 0-684-85073-7.

The renowned minister and author Iyanla

Vanzant (One Day My Soul Just Opened Up, In the Meantime, et al.) has a new one: Yesterday I Cried: Celebrating the Lessons of Living and Loving. Here Vanzant talks of her own very difficult life to demonstrate how hard times can be relanguaged and revisioned to become lessons that teach readers to grow, heal, and learn to love. \$22 cl, 0-684-86424-X.

In With the Phoenix Rising: Lessons from Ten Resilient Women Who Overcame the

**Trauma of Childhood Sexual Abuse** by Frances K. Grossman with Alexandra B. Cook, Selin S. Kepkep, and Karestan C. Koenen, the authors study ten women who have survived childhood trauma to lead happy and successful lives. Through interviews, the women share the factors that contributed to their resiliency. The authors use the women's insights to provide suggestions for those working with abuse survivors and for survivors themselves. \$39.95 cl, 0-7879-4784-9, Jossey-Bass.

Lana Witt (Slow Dancing on Dinosaur Bones) has written a new novel, **The Heart of a Thirsty Woman**. Josie Tolliver is 27 and tired of life in Pick, Kentucky. She decides that she wants to move out West, and takes her unwitting husband Clarence, a TV repairman, along with her. She searches for her missing sister and for Castaneda's Don Juan, eventually arriving at the realization that she alone can determine the path her life should take. \$23 cl, 0-684-84152-5, Scribner.

There's a new SARK book. This one's all about naps. In typical, colorful, handwritten SARK fashion, **Change Your Life Without Getting out of Bed: The Ultimate Nap Book** affirms people in their desire to kick back and take care of themselves. \$9.95 cl, 0-684-85930-0.

BettyClare Moffatt (Soulwork, A Soulworker's Companion) is back with An Authentic Woman: Soulwork for the Wisdom Years, in which she offers comfort, advice, and inspiration on the difficulties and rewards of a fully lived life. She goes beyond showing women how to age *well*, to demonstrate how they can do so wisely and joyously. \$12 pb, 0-684-84444-3.

Rebecca Chace, the author of *Cautauqua Summer*, a memoir of her time as a trapeze artist performing



with the Flying Karamazov Brothers, has written her first novel, **Capture** the **Flag.** Set in 1970s New York and New York City, the story centers around Annie as she struggles with her ambiguous sexuality, the dissolution of her family, and the problem of being a child of the Beat generation. \$23 cl, 0-684-85758-8, August.

S&S is comparing Susan Perabo, author of the new short story collection **Who I Was Supposed to Be**, to Pam Houston. She explores with "wry empathy"

characters and their unusual everyday struggles. Another new voice that is young, quirky, telling stories that are full of unusual twists. \$20 cl, 0-684-86233-6, August.

#### Sounds True

Now available on audio: Natalie Goldberg reads her famous **Writing Down the Bones.** For this collector's edition, Goldberg also brings listeners up to date on her latest thinking about writing and the writer's life. \$29.95 unabridged, 6 cassettes, 1-56455-668-9.

-TMR O

## Mysteries, continued from page 25.

stripper-turned-amateur-sleuth in the genre since Gypsy Rose Lee in **The Miracle Strip**, named by the *Philadelphia Inquirer* one of the best mysteries of 1998. (\$5.99 pb, 0-312-97095-1, October.) Bartholomew's follow-up is **Drag Strip**, set in Panama City, Florida. (\$23.95 cl, 0-312-20295-4, October.)

Last, here's a true crime case that looks interesting: **The Murder of Helen Jewett** by Patricia Cline Cohen. In New York City in 1836, prostitute Helen Jewett was murdered in her sleep, apparently by her lover, respectable young Richard Robinson, who steadfastly maintained his innocence. The trial became a media sensation, prompting critics to compare the book to some contemporary cases. Critics said, "Impressive, thoughtful and thought-provoking.... Meticulous and arresting." \$14 tp, 0-679-74075-9, Vintage. 0

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## Feminist Bookstore News CLASSIFIED ADS & LITERARY PERSONALS

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## SNAKE EYES

## The 7th Helen Black Mystery

#### by Pat Welch

Helen remembered the day she closed her office for the last time, carting the final fragments of her career out of the building and into oblivion. She could remember how Alison hugged her later that night, held her close and even cried for her, mourning Helen's loss.

What Helen couldn't remember was actually feeling anything. Not anger, not remorse, not fear - nothing . . . .

With their relationship on shaky ground, Helen and Alison leave for a weekend at a popular casino. They're hoping the rhythm of the slot machines will help the shellshocked private eye forget the wounds that have made her question everything. But a cold-blooded killer is betting that Helen can be lured back into the game.

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by Frankie J. Jones

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## FRANKIE J. JONES



## ONE OF OUR OWN

#### by Diane Salvatore

"I really don't think I can help you, Carly." As soon as the words were out of her mouth, Lela felt her heart start to pound. The scream of the train whistle began in her head and her body registered the shimmy of the tracks as the train drew nearer. "Stay with me!" the voice cried out. The rumbling and whistling were so loud, the air seemed magnetized . . . "You promised! Come back!" Carly Matson has a secret. So does Lela Johns.

Attractive and aloof, Lela Johns wants nothing more than to finish her brief tenure as an English teacher at Franklin High while she completes her dissertation. Then one of her students, the pretty, shy Carly Matson comes to her for help. Carly's plight triggers memories for Lela - memories so terrible they have kept Lela a prisoner of her own fear and guilt for over a decade:

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