
Feminist Bookstore News





The Periodicals Issue

January/February 1990

Volume 12 Number 5

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NEW.SIGNIFICANT.BASIC.

Justice, Gender, and the Family

SUSAN MOLLER OKIN

In the first feminist critique of modern political theory, Susan Moller Okin shows how the failure to apply theories of justice to the family not only undermines our most cherished democratic values but has led to a major crisis over gender-related issues. **"Brilliantly argued and highly persuasive...a splendid book."**—MICHAEL WALZER, Institute for Advanced Study \$19.95

Lives of Courage

Women for a New South Africa

DIANA E.H. RUSSELL

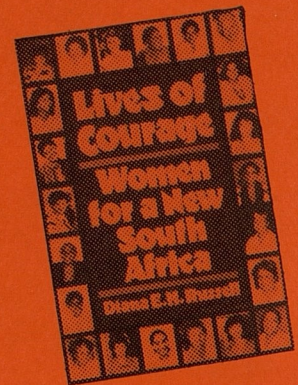
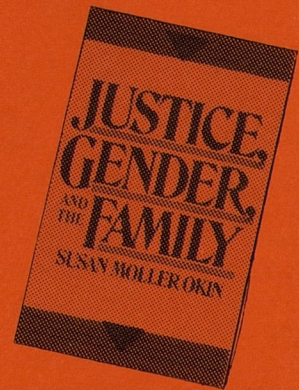
The struggle against South Africa's racist regime becomes vividly personal in the voices of 24 activist women ranging from world-renowned leaders like Winnie Mandela and Helen Joseph to a 13-year-old child who has endured police harassment all her life. **"It is a blessing just to live on the same earth as these women."**—ALICE WALKER \$22.95

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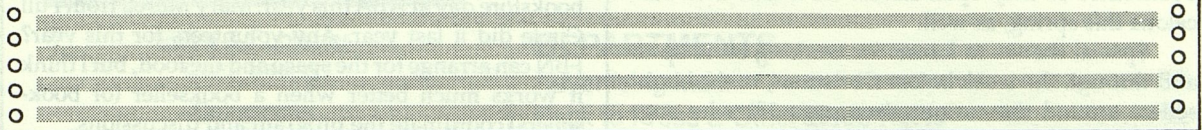
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NOTES FROM THE COMPUTER TABLE



In the beginning of the women's movement there were the magazines and newspapers. They covered all the current news of the women's movement and the best of the analytical articles were reprinted as pamphlets that traveled the country and later were collected into books. Even before we had printing presses and publishing houses and bookstores, we were a movement of feminist newspapers and journals. Our vitality — our sense of ourselves as a movement that's strong and kicking — is most vividly reflected in our periodicals. The issues and debates that take a year or two or three to make it into books show up first in our periodicals. Many of our finest books grew out of ideas that first saw print in feminist journals and newspapers. Our periodicals are our conversations. They give us a chance to develop ideas before committing them irrevocably to books that may never be revised and updated. It's in the magazines that we argue with the books we publish and develop the critiques and ideas that will make it into the next set of books. Where would we be without them?

As we head into the 1990s, we have a wonderful range of feminist periodicals: newsmagazines, literary magazines, academic journals, issue-oriented newsletters. Presentation styles range from punk to ultra-professional, editorial content runs in all conceivable directions, style ranges from newsreporting to academic to irreverent. There's no limit to what we'll discuss in print, (though sometimes it takes a considerable amount of printer-shopping to get it *into* print) and it still feels like we've only just begun to talk....

Thinking that sometimes we can see our own issues most clearly in someone else's mirror, I asked magazine publishers to write about their experiences with issues that booksellers face. I asked Elana Dykewomon (*Sinister Wisdom*) to write about keeping

the vision clear through changing editorships, *Sojourner* staffers to write about planning for economic viability and stability, and *Off Our Backs* to write about the importance of bookstore distribution to periodical survival. *Sojourner's* article on economic planning had to be rescheduled for a later issue, due to a bad mix of auto-accident, flu, and their earlier-than-usual December printing schedule. Look for it in an upcoming issue. Elsewhere in this issue Donna Murray surveys the Canadian magazine scene, Tee Corinne looks at feminist art magazines, and Susanna Sturgis comments on the dearth of feminist fantasy and science fiction periodicals.

The core of the issue, of course, is Laura Zimmerman's excellent article on the ins and outs of stocking

FBN Deadlines

Spring Announcements
March Issue

February 11

The ABA & International
Feminist Bookfair
Issue

April 10

and selling newspapers and journals and her annotated list of feminist periodicals. FBN will be reprinting this article for years and passing it out to new booksellers as they open stores. We'll take it to Barcelona this spring, as well.

Special thanks to Laura for working on it up to and through the week before Christmas, to the booksellers around the country (see page 19) who suggested additions to the list, and to Inland for their ever-expanding list of periodicals and for making it *easy* to stock a whole range of periodicals. With this kind of support perhaps more feminist periodicals will achieve financial stability in the nineties.

The earthquake slowed us down in a way we hadn't anticipated as we went to press last issue. It wasn't until we were ready to take the issue to our printer (Krishna Copy) that we learned that the building that houses their printing facility was so severely damaged by the earthquake that they hadn't yet been allowed in to remove any of their equipment. They were up and printing, though, using the printing presses in another location "after hours." They definitely wanted the job but explained that it would take "a little longer," because of using the shared press and — because their only collating machine was still trapped in the damaged building — they would have to collate the entire job by hand. Krishna, a South Asian owned and operated print and copy shop, has been printing FBN for most of the last ten years (except for the copies printed by the Women's Press Project.) They've been very helpful to us and supportive of our work over the years, and, though we may have met with an occasional raised eyebrow, they've never given us flack for our content. We decided it was time to return some of that support and wait it out with them. Meeting payroll was an issue for small businesses throughout the quake area and we decided that FBN readers would also be willing to live with the delay. Thanks to all of you for your support and your patience while we made our way through the post-quake upheaval.

Next issue will see the return of the On Publisher's Row and Mysteries columns and our new "Bookstore News" column. "News of the other bookstores" is the response we get most often on the "plus" side of our evaluations, so we decided to make it a formal section of its own. Please send news, printable "gos-

sip", photos — whatever is new and exciting that's happening in your store.

We're looking for a coordinator for the feminist bookstore day at ABA this year. Mary Morell from Full Circle did it last year. Any volunteers for this year? FBN can arrange for the space and the food, but I think it works much better when a bookseller (or booksellers) coordinate the program and discussions.

Not having learned to time travel yet, FBN is going to bypass NWSA and The 4th International Interdisciplinary Congress on Women (NYC, June 3-7) this year to attend ABA and The International Feminist Bookfair in Barcelona. If you (or anyone you know) would be willing to rent us a portion of your table and display some copies of FBN and subscription information at either event, please give us a call.

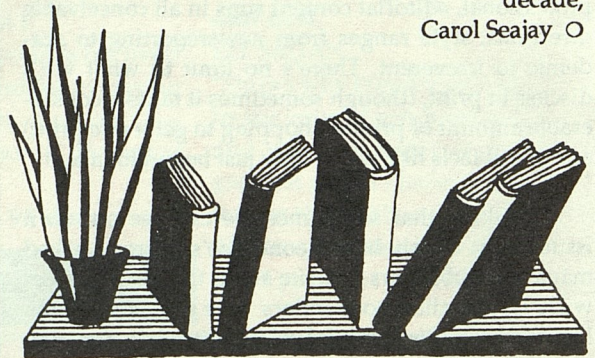
FBN is celebrating the turn of the decade by moving all of our databases from DataStar on our workhorse (but out-dated) CPM system to an amazing — but easy to run — relational database called Paradox. Our heartfelt thanks to CompuMentor and their volunteers Jeff Angus and Vic Pracki for all their help in making this transition, and to Borland International for donating a copy of Paradox to FBN. We may even be printing out the labels for this issue using Paradox.

The turning of the decade has me thinking back on the Women-In-Print movement I knew as the decades turned into the seventies and the eighties. As we turn to the nineties, it's clear that we've realized things we couldn't have imagined at the beginning of the seventies nor even at the beginning of the eighties. May all of our '90s be full of successes wilder and more wonderful than any we've yet dreamed.

Yours in spreading the words into the new

decade,

Carol Seajay ○



FBN

Editor & Publisher

Carol Seajay

Columnists

Art Books	Tee Corinne
Canadian Content	Donna Murray
Gay Men's Literature	Jane Troxell
International Books	Joni Seager
Mainstream Publishers	Sandi Torkildson
Mysteries	Mary Lowry
Poetry	Betsy Nuse
Science Fiction	Susanna Sturgis
University Presses	Kris Hoover
Young Adult Books	Christine Jenkins

Cover Art

Siné Anahita

Proofreading

Pat Kelso

Advertising

Brenda Cummings

Feminist Bookstore News
456 14th Street Suite 6
PO Box 882554
San Francisco CA 94188
415-626-1556

FEMINIST BOOKSTORE NEWS is the communications vehicle for the informal network of feminist bookstores. FBN reaches 350 feminist and feminist-inclined bookstores in the U.S. and Canada as well as feminist book-sellers in England, Europe, Australia, New Zealand, India and Japan. Librarians, women's studies teachers, book reviewers, publishers and feminist bibliophiles comprise the remainder of the subscribers.

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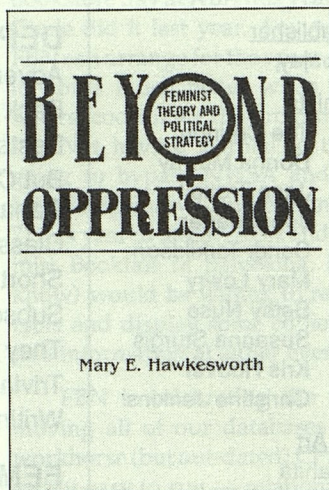
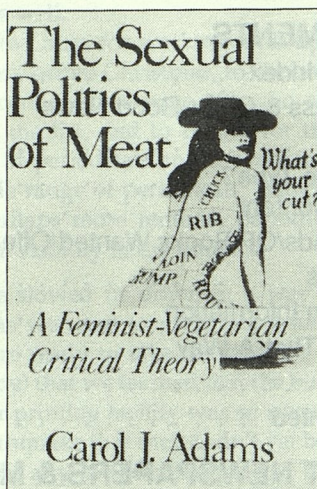
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“Consciousness-raising and conscience challenging” *



Winner of the 1989 Continuum
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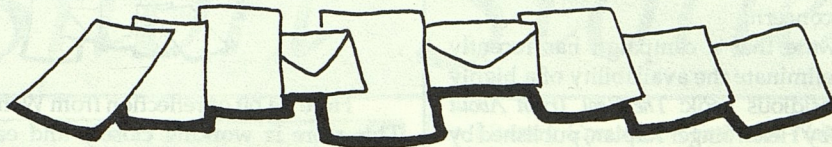
“Hawkesworth accomplishes what every theorist and activist advocates but few rarely undertake. . . Beautifully written, persuasively argued, and thoroughly researched.”—Jean F. O’Barr, Editor, *Signs*

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LETTERS



Seriti sa Sechaba
4th Fl., Royal St. Mary's Bldg.
Corner Pritchard & Joubert Sts.
Johannesburg 2001
South Africa

Dear Carol,

Just a note to tell you and all our friends that we are okay and that "touch wood" we are still alive and kicking.

The interview in the newsletter was very good. We were very happy with it especially that it generated great interest judging from the enquiries and subsequent orders from overseas.

As you have read from the media there has been some very interesting developments here. The release of the political detainees, the allowing of protest meetings and marches fill us with hope for the future. I attended the historic rally where the trialists addressed the crowds. It was such an experience, with the crowds roaring in response and excitement. Indeed, the process has begun.

We wish you all a happy Christmas and a fruitful and exciting 1990.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs. Dinah P. Lefakane
Managing Director

Women's Bookstop
333 Main St. West
Hamilton, ONT
Canada

Dear FBN,

Here is our membership renewal. Also an update: We hosted a Women's Art Exhibit in November and featured local women's creative genius. The event was planned as a fund raiser and a silent auction was organized during the official opening of the exhibit

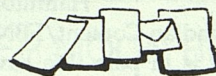
here at the shop. As a result \$75 have been sent to the organizer for the IV International Feminist Bookfair. Not loads of money maybe but over there it translates into thousands.

As of this letter (23 November 1989) Christmas sales are still not obvious and I'm trying hard to smile and relax as I look at all this gorgeous stock.

To Canadian readers I'd like to say I've quit the Canadian Booksellers Association. I've also returned paid-in-advance Booktokens which never took off and I've been told there is no refund for these, also they didn't return the product so I'm out big bucks thanks to the group who fight for fairness in the booktrade.

I was going to suggest a Feminist or Women's Booktrade association but I'm so disappointed in the direction that the CBA has taken that I'm soured for the time being. As an add on I would like to note that I do not consider myself to be confrontational as a rule but I do need all the cards on the table and if the game looks rigged, I tend to point that out.

Renee Albrecht



PO Box 39
West Tisbury, MA 02575

Dear Carol, Brenda, and friends,

Just reviewed *Desert Years* for the *Martha's Vineyard Times*. Tee hee.

Glad to hear you didn't get too badly rattled. I agree with your decision to stand by your printer even if it meant coming out late. Sorta like buying a best-seller at a feminist store even if Clown Books has it for \$2 less. Is access to all the other books worth two bucks? You bet!

Love,
Susanna J. Sturgis

ACT UP NY
 Women's Action Committee
 496A Hudson St. Ste. G4
 New York, NY 10014

To whom it may concern:

Please be aware that a campaign has recently been initiated to eliminate the availability of a highly dangerous and insidious book: *The Real Truth About Women And AIDS* by Helen Singer Kaplan, published by Simon & Schuster. The book suggests, among an abundance of fallacies, that women should avoid "high risk men," that a "decent" man will avoid homosexual contact, that lesbians are immune to HIV regardless of their sexual practices, and that there is no such thing as sex that is safe. That is, one must have sex exclusively with men who have been "tested and cleared."

Don't stock the book. Tell Simon & Schuster why. Don't contribute to the opportunistic profiteering around an issue already fraught with fear and anxiety or to the callous and inexcusably misguided peddling of incorrect information.

Sincerely,

Monica Pearl

For the ACT UP NY Women's Action Committee



This letter was been sent to Canadian Content after the brutal murder of 14 women in Montreal on December 6, 1989:

Women's Bookstop
 333 Main St. West
 Hamilton, ONT Canada

Dear Donna/Canadian Content/FBN,

This country is in pain. We have all been torn open by the gun of a madman. Our communities are on guard. I for one will no longer engage in crazy male/female philosophy where one side tries to disprove the feminist view on inequality or women hating. Analyses are history. Now we must stop the ridiculous hatred. Hatred's voice must be smothered.

We are on guard to men who might be baiting us into discussions only to fight with us. And we know we have had men in this store who claimed to be sympathetic to Women's Liberation while later we discovered through their wives or partners that the men were actually involved in pornography or using pornography. We no longer trust the faces of men.

Shivers down our backs are common now. Laughter has still not returned to our spirits. We find ourselves searching for an answer or light.



Here's a bit of reflection from Women's Bookstop. This store is working closely and eagerly with the women setting up the Women's Studies program which is to begin in September, 1990 at McMaster University. Naturally we see this as a great opportunity for growth and feel very enthusiastic toward the women who have plowed through the usual patriarchal BS which is now allowing the Women's Studies to begin.

Women's Bookstop has definitely grown these past five years. Every year we have counted more sales and significantly more browsing individuals.

Although business has continued to look good we are moving into 1990 with some preparation for hard times. All the financial talk is about harder times for all and less money to spend. There may also finally be more consideration given to the waste in our consumer lifestyles. For whatever reason we are going to order very carefully and sparingly as we head into the new year. Women's Bookstop is lucky because the location is owned by the owner and her partner-in-life so we feel we will be able to weather some lean times as long as bank loans can be avoided.

Candace and my step daughter and myself are still hopeful that we will find ourselves in Barcelona this June. I really would like to make a correction here. The money this shop sent to Barcelona was not near \$2500 as was reported in December FBN. To date this shop has sent \$100 Cdn and the amount stated in the article is some misinterpretation by the women in Spain or their financial institute. Wish I could have said that I was behind such a large donation. We have been wishing them luck from the start though.

Our biggest seller is still **Courage to Heal** along with other titles in the recovery books. I'd like to comment on the book **Sister** from Cleis as a great collection of very readable stories reflecting the wide spectrum of sisters on this continent.

Cheers to you in the New Year,

Renee Albrecht

○

Short Stories

4TH INTERNATIONAL FEMINIST BOOKFAIR WORKSHOPS

BARCELONA: The 4th International Feminist Bookfair (June 19-23, 1990) announces the following workshop schedule:

Workshops during the professional days will include:

- Women in International Publishing: The economics of publishing in the Third World.
- Women with Successful Experience in Publishing: Representatives from Virago, the Women's Press, Orlanda Verlag) will talk to us on their experiences.
- The Single Act 1992: Problems with multilingualism, the possibilities of co-publishingd.
- Computers and Self-Publishing: Attic Press, Mother Courage and a woman who will explain the advantages and possibilities of self-publishing.
- Children's and Young Adult Books: Vehicles of values transmittance, consumerism, and other elements affecting text and illustrations.

Workshops for booksellers, translators and librarians will also be held during the professional days.

Panels scheduled during the thematic days:

- Women and Religious Integrisms (especially in the Mediterranean).
- Thrillers and Women's Influence on the Genre.
- Science Fiction: A new utopia?
- Women's Culture Critique: A new women's culture?
- Lesbian Writing in the 90s.
- Gynocritics.

The following workshops will be held in the evenings when the fair is closed so that everyone who wants can attend:

- Literary Creation in Feminist Writers.
- Popular Culture and Mass Media.
- Women and Psychology: What are we transmitting to others?
- Politics, Peace and Ecology: A feminist strategy for the 90s.

We are trying to bring to Barcelona all the women who have written to us from Latin America, the Mediterranean countries, and from Eastern Europe. But this creates a budget much larger than we can finance. We are looking for help from other organizations. Perhaps some organizations or individuals would find it easier to pay for an airline ticket for a Brazilian woman writer or publisher (for example) than to just send money to a fair in Spain. I can send the names of 50 women who are asking to come. If we don't want this fair to become a First World fair, we must all do as much as possible to bring women from around the world.

We will have a more detailed schedule as well as concrete offers for the cheap prices for the air ticket and hotel accommodation packages by the end of January.

-María José Aubet ○

SILVER MOON BOOKS: A PUBLISHING COMPANY

Silver Moon bookstore owners Jane Cholmeley and Sue Butterworth have decided to go into publishing as well. Silver Moon Books will debut in the first half of 1990 with British editions of *An Emergence of Green* by Katherine V. Forrest and *Lessons in Murder* by Claire McNab. The new publishing company will initially specialize in repackaging U.S.-published lesbian novels for the British market. You can reach Silver Moon Books at: 68 Charing Cross Road, London WC2, United Kingdom. ○

**YOU CAN DO SOMETHING
ABOUT AIDS
2ND EDITION**

After five printings totaling over 1 million copies *You Can Do Something About AIDS* will be re-released in a new edition on Valentines Day with a mid-January ship-date.

The new edition will carry a \$1.00 jacket price. While donations made it possible for the first million copies to be printed and distributed free of charge, the \$1.00 jacket price will provide enough income to keep the book in print for as long as necessary without relying on future contributions.

The new edition will include a special Introduction by James A. Michener and three new chapters:

- "The Pet Pals Program" by Dallas teenager Ryan James, about the program he helped develop to care for the pets of people with AIDS;
- "What a Caring City Can Do About AIDS" by Boston Mayor Raymond L. Flynn;
- "The Leadership Is You" by Ben Strohecker, who took a one year sabbatical from his position as chief executive officer of a candy company to raise funds nationwide for the care of people with AIDS through events called Aid and Comfort.

Paper for the second edition of *You Can Do Something About AIDS* has been donated by the Canadian Pacific Forest Products Company. Offset Paperback Manufacturers will print the book at no charge, and distribution will be handled — also for free — by the Ingram Book Company. Ingram will ship the book post-free.

You Can Do Something About AIDS is a selection of the Book-of-the-Month Club.

The American Printing House for the Blind, through arrangement with the Library of Congress and the Stop AIDS Project, is preparing a Braille edition of *You Can Do Something About AIDS*. Individual Braille books, once completed, can be purchased by APH at cost (to cover embossing and binding). Presumably they will also be available to Braille readers through the Library of Congress' lending program for blind readers.

The first edition of the book, published in June 1988, was organized by a crew of publishing pro-

fessionals and volunteers spearheaded by Sasha Alyson. It was subsidized entirely by donations from the publishing and bookselling communities — an event *The Washington Post* called "an extraordinary publishing enterprise." Paper, printing, distribution, design, and help with publicity were contributed by various individuals and companies. The essays making up the book were contributed by celebrities and AIDS activists. The first edition — cited by *USA Today* as "one of this summer's most-read books" — went through five printings for a total of over one million copies, distributed at no charge through bookstores across the country. ○

**SEAL/SMALL PRESSES
SWEEP
CAREY-THOMAS AWARDS**

All four of this year's Carey-Thomas awards went to "small" independent presses this year.

The Carey-Thomas award, established in 1942 by the late Frederic G. Melcher, president of R.R. Bowker and editor of *Publishers Weekly*, is given annually "for a distinguished project of book publishing" carried forward during the preceding year. The purpose of the award is to "honor creative book publishing at its best — not editorial judgment alone, but the exceptional display of initiative, imagination, co-operation with author, appropriate manufacture, and successful promotion and marketing."

In presenting this year's awards PW's editor-in-chief John F. Baker commented, "As larger publishers have become more generalized, more focused on big budget bestsellers, we find more of the chance-taking, the really creative approaches that Carey-Thomas was designed to award, coming from smaller publishers. We're delighted to have a small press sweep."

Thunders Mouth Press received the principal award for its contributions in the publishing of alternative fiction and non-fiction including reprinting neglected works by Black writers such as John Williams and Chester Himes. The press also focuses on the Beats and has forthcoming works on Black theatre, the rebuff of Supreme Court nominee Judge Bork, and film director Martin Scorsese.

Seal Press received an honor citation for being part of the "very flourishing small press and writers movement in the Pacific Northwest," for their full range of feminist writing: fiction, sociology, women's studies, works on domestic violence, translations and their series of international women's crime fiction.

The other honor citation went to Curbstone Press for their range of books from "the anguished countries of Central America."

This year's special citation went to Eridanos Press for "the remarkable quality of its list and the beautiful production, done in Italy in association with the celebrated Italian house of Bompiani." This new press makes available new and first translations of works by celebrated European and Japanese writers heretofore unavailable to American readers.

— *Publishers Weekly* ○

PRESS GANG UNIONIZES, FLOURISHES

VANCOUVER: Press Gang Printers and Publishers are beginning 1990 on a bright note. On November 24, 1989, Press Gang Printers hosted a happy and festive open house to celebrate having unionized (with Communications Workers of America) a few months prior. It was an historic event for the feminist, worker-controlled collective which has long aimed to be a union printshop. Because Press Gang Printers is now certified "union," organizations that exclusively use union labour are able to bring their printing jobs to their local political press. Early in 1989, this printshop was facing serious financial problems. By year-end, however, they are happy to report that their financial picture is the best that it's been in many years.

Press Gang Printers' sister collective, Press Gang Publishers, has likewise moved successfully forward during 1989. December 21, 1989, marked the incorporation of Press Gang Publishers Feminist Co-operative. Although the printing and publishing collectives have operated more or less separately since 1982, they continued to be one company — until now. Due to their growth, they have now officially separated the two businesses. Having shared a 15 year herstory,

they will continue to support each other in any ways that they can, and their offices will remain side by side at the same address. Nonetheless, a page has turned and 1990 represents the beginning of a new, exciting chapter for Press Gang Publishers Feminist Co-operative and Press Gang Printers.

— Barbara Kuhne & Della McCreary ○

FTC SUIT MOVING ALONG

The Federal Trade Commission continues to pursue its case charging Harper & Row, The Hearst Book Group, Random House, Macmillan, Putnam, and Simon & Schuster with unfair price discrimination and unfair advertising and promotion allocations under the Robinson-Patman act. Various documents have been subpoenaed by the FTC and are scheduled to be received by January 8. Witnesses for the case will be drawn from eight metropolitan areas: Atlanta; Boston; Columbia, MD; Denver-Colorado Springs; Minneapolis-St. Paul; Portland, OR; the greater San Francisco Bay Area (including Marin and Santa Cruz; and Seattle. Booksellers in these areas can expect to be contacted by the FTC between January and March for consideration as witnesses. The case will be limited to the years 1986-1988.

— *Newswire* ○

OUT/WRITE '90 WRITERS CONFERENCE

Out/Write '90, the first-ever national lesbian and gay writers conference, will feature poets Judy Grahn and Allen Ginsberg as keynote speakers at the March 3-4 event in San Francisco. The poets' reflections on the literary landscape of the lesbian and gay community will lead off two days of workshops, panels and other discussions relevant to lesbian and gay writers and their work. The conference will focus on the past, present and future of gay and lesbian writing.

Confirmed speakers include Marilyn Hacker, Dorothy Allison, Frederique Delacoste, Barbara Wilson, Mary Wings, SDiane Bogus, Evelyn C. White, Nanci Stern, Ann Allen Shockley, Joan Nestle, Gloria

BANNED BOOKS

Drawing Back the Curtains: A Collection of Erotica

by Dori Anne Steele. A collection of erotic poetry and prose. The collection encompasses many interrelated aspects of passion, sensuality, romance, sexuality, the dark side of love, and spirituality. It contains sensual poems, erotic vignettes, and explicit sexual fantasies. The book includes different facets of love and sex between women. **March**, ISBN 0-934411-28-X, 104 pages, 5¹/₂ x 8¹/₂, Paperback, \$7.95.

Syphilis As AIDS

by Robert Ben Mitchell. **Nonfiction.** The product of a two-year literature research project into the connection between these two diseases. After reviewing hundreds of medical and scientific articles and books at the Calder Medical Library (University of Miami), the author presents compelling questions about a possible connection between the age-old disease syphilis and the horrors of today's AIDS epidemic. There are important questions here that desperately need answers from our government and the medical community. The transcript of a speech on this subject by Dr. Stephen Caiazza and a foreword by Harris L. Coulter, Ph.D. are included. Bibliography and index. **March**, ISBN 0-934411-35-2, 144 pages, 5¹/₂ x 8¹/₂, Paperback, \$8.95.

Two Women Revisited: The Poetry of Jeannette Foster and Valerie Taylor

Back in 1976, a small volume of poetry from Jeannette Foster and Valerie Foster made its appearance. Rather than allow these precious images from two of the lesbian community's best known authors disappear, this revised and expanded volume is being published. Not only is the original poetry here, we've added more work from each author and put it together with photographs of both women. **April**, ISBN 0-934411-29-8, 120 pages, 5¹/₂ x 8¹/₂, Paperback, \$7.95.

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Anzaldúa, Barbara Grier, Sasha Alyson, Nancy Bereano, Tee Corinne, Honor Moore, Joan Larkin, Carol Seajay, Minnie Bruce Pratt, Kitty Tsui, Cherrie Moraga, Amber Hollibaugh, Judith Barrington, Sally Gearhart, Ruthanne Robson and more. Writers, editors, publishers, booksellers, critics, literary agents and readers from across the nation will be participating in and attending what promises to be the largest gathering of lesbian and gay writers in history.

Panels and workshops will address such diverse topics as the novel, poetry, non-fiction, genre fiction, cross-over books, the economics of publishing, erotic writing, dealing with writer's block, writing in the closet, the impact of racism, writers as activists, the state of lesbian and gay publishing, chronic illness and disability, censorship, self-censorship and personal revelation, homo/biographies, contracts and agents, the role of the small presses, underground publishing, the future of pornography, writing as a spiritual practice, writing for the straight media, giving a reading, and more.

The conference is sponsored by Out/Look Magazine and will be held at the Cathedral Hill Hotel, 1101 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco CA. Advance registration is \$25 per person for both days through February 1. Registration thereafter will be \$40 for both days or \$20 for either day. For more information or to register, write to Out/Write '90, c/o Out/Look, 2940 16th St. #319, SF CA 94103. Checks should be made payable to Out/Look. ○

FAWCETT SOCIETY BOOK PRIZE

The Fawcett Prize for 1989 has been awarded to Stevie Davis for her novel *Boy Blue* published by Women's Press.

The judges, Michele Roberts, Lorna Sage and Mary Stott felt that despite its historic context, *Boy Blue* illuminates the discrepancy in almost every woman's life between her private, emotional and creative sphere and the aggressive male-dominated world outside.

Boy Blue is a haunting and exceptional novel rooted in the experience of women in a warrior culture; it explores the spiritual cost to both sexes of the warrior ethos and the price of man's alienation from the feminine. — from *The Radical Bookseller* (U.K.) ○

Celebration '90



By Della McCreary

What do many writers, musicians, other performers, and athletes from diverse countries such as the United States, Australia, Norway, India, Germany, England, New Zealand, and Japan have in common? They will be performing at Celebration '90 (Gay Games III and Cultural Festival) in Vancouver, Canada (Canada's West Coast Hot Spot) August 3-11, 1990. Expanded from the 1986 Gay Games II (to twice the size), a full program of literary and other cultural events will take place alongside the athletics. For five full days, panel discussions, author readings, and writer's workshops will be happening from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Workshops will be held on such topics as gay and lesbian history, censorship, racism, publishing, AIDS, poetry, pornography, erotica, humour, storytelling, and playwriting; Gloria Anzaldúa will lead an all-day workshop on writing; Joan Nestle will speak on a lesbian porn and erotica panel; James Broughten will read from his work; Beth Brant will be among others launching new books...a very full program of events is scheduled.

A gala opening hosted by local authors Jane Rule and David Watmough will kick off the Literary Festival on August 5. "There will be something for everyone," says Jana Williams, co-director of the Literary Festival. "There will be women-only events and some that are men-only, but there will also be several events that are open to men and women. We hope we can make the most of this opportunity of being together to really learn from our different communities, exchange ideas and have a lot of fun as well. My dream is for everyone to bring a story with them. There is so much diversity, controversy, and common ground among us — I'm very excited about being a part of it."

Another co-director of the Literary Festival, Rick Marchand, says that the international nature of the festival is a highlight for him. "It will give us a real feeling of how we as lesbians and gays are forging ahead in writing about our lives despite varying degrees of homophobia and prejudice that we deal with in our different countries. In Canada, there are virtually no publishers of gay men's writing, so I hope there will be some increased awareness of the richness of our community and of the market potential we represent."

Celebration '90 will be the largest festival of gay and lesbian arts and athletics ever held. Up to 50,000 people are expected to attend and we hope you will be among them. Celebration '90 is centred on the principle of inclusion; so tell your friends and, if you want a fun holiday in a beautiful city where you can be "out and proud," this is the place in August 1990.

You can contribute to Celebration '90 by spreading the word and becoming a member of the Metropolitan Vancouver Arts and Athletic Association (MVAAA). Membership costs \$10 and puts you on the mailing list to receive a bi-monthly newsletter and all promotional information on events, performances, registration, billeting/accommodation, etc.

Over the course of the five days of literary events, a book fair will run concurrently from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. Publishers (or anyone) interested in having their book(s) displayed can write for more information. You can keep updated on the Celebration '90 Literary Festival by faithfully reading *Feminist Bookstore News* between now and August, sending \$10 (U.S. or Canadian checks are fine) to join MVAAA, or for more detailed information you can contact Jana Williams or Rick Marchand at Metropolitan Vancouver Arts and Athletic Association, 1170 Bute St., Vancouver B.C., Canada V6E 1Z6 (604-684-3303). ○

LESBIAN LISTS

A look at lesbian
culture, history
and personalities
by
DELL RICHARDS

"Lesbian Holy Days" is just one of the hundreds of lists of clever and enlightening lesbian trivia compiled by syndicated columnist Dell Richards. Fun facts like uppity women who were called lesbians (but probably weren't) are sure to amuse and make *Lesbian Lists* great entertainment and an ideal gift.

ISBN 1-55583-163-X, \$8.95, trade paperback.

8 Holy Days For Lesbians

1. Halloween, October 31st

A time of looking backward to one's ancestors, and peering into the future through divination.

2. Winter Solstice, December 21st

It is a time to celebrate the birth of the sun as the days lengthen and light waxes.

3. Candlemas, February 2nd

In this festival the participants burn a straw effigy to bury winter and waken the sleeping giant.

4. Spring Equinox, March 21st

Bonfires often mark this night that celebrated the full return of spring and the earth's budding vegetation.

5. May Eve, May 1st

A celebration of fertility and abundance that is still seen in the maypole dance.

6. Midsummer's Eve, June 21st

The longest day, it is a turning point in the earth's annual life.

7. Lammas, August 1st

A celebration of the goodness of the earth as seen in the grain harvest of bread and wine.

8. Samhain, September 21st

An ancient rite of praising the goddess for a bountiful and abundant life.

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And Now...

A Word From Your Local Librarian

By Susan Searing
Women's Studies Librarian
University of Wisconsin System

Librarians and booksellers — natural enemies, right? A bookstore's survival depends on selling books, preferably *lots* of books. A library, on the other hand, buys a single copy of a book or magazine and shares it with just about anyone, over and over, free of charge. To state it bluntly, we give away your product. Are we wild-eyed anti-capitalists, bringing the light of literacy to the people? Or are we reactionary fuddy-duddies, undercutting the women's community and harming struggling alternative businesses?

Neither exaggerated pose describes us properly, just as very few of us resemble the worn-out stereotype of the be-spectacled, bun-topped, introvert obsessed with silence and order. In truth, many of us celebrate membership in a "women's profession" (82% female at last count) that inevitably boasts a thriving feminist contingent and a goodly number of lesbians among the "old maids." Visit the annual conference of the American Library Association, and you'll be dazzled by the array of women's groups — from the academically-oriented Women's Studies Section to the effervescent Feminist Task Force, a caucus that sponsors lively political programs, anti-racism training, and the traditional "Women's Night Out" at a local women's bar.

But you don't have to be in Chicago in June for the next ALA convention to get to know us better. Chances are that feminist librarians are active in your own community — staffing the reference desk at the public library, cataloging the "HQ's" at the local col-

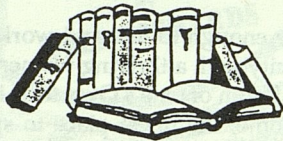
lege, or reading non-sexist tales to the first-graders during story hour. They may be among your best customers! But do they know you, and do you know them?

I'm lucky enough to live and work in Madison, Wisconsin, a city with a thriving women's bookstore. Sometimes A Room of One's Own feels like my home away from home, the finest place to spend a rainy Saturday morning and the best lunch-hour escape on



a hectic workday. But the store is as central to my professional projects as to my off-hours reading. I often advise students and independent researchers to pay a visit to A Room of One's Own — to browse the

shelves, confer with the knowledgeable staff, and get a well-rounded sense of some issue they're exploring. It's hard to accomplish that in a library: books aren't displayed invitingly, and the most relevant and sought-after titles are usually out. Besides, libraries use antiquated classification systems that pre-date the emergence of modern feminism. Writings on women of color, for example, are interfiled throughout the stacks with books on history, literature, sociology, psychology, and so forth. By contrast, *A Room of One's Own* conveniently shelves them together. Librarians insist that there is one "right" spot for any title, while practical booksellers might place a biography of Georgia O'Keeffe in both the "Art" section and the "Women's Lives" section. A well-designed bookstore is a browser's dream, facilitating all sorts of discoveries and serendipitous insights.



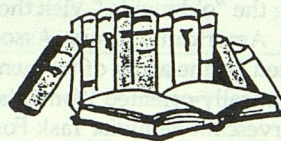
More importantly, the women's bookstore is frequently the *only* local source for certain items — lesbian romances, self-help workbooks, daily meditation guides, radical political pamphlets, and alternative periodicals. Sure, libraries *ought* to acquire all those small press publications, but the reality of institutional budgeting often dictates otherwise. Public libraries buy what citizen-taxpayers clamor to read; school and college libraries collect books to support the curriculum.

Still, progressive librarians need to be aware of the larger universe of women's publishing, and that's how *A Room of One's Own* really benefits me professionally. At this moment, for instance, I'm compiling two annotated bibliographies: one on women, race, and ethnicity for a multi-campus curriculum transformation project; and the other on women and addiction for a statewide library conference. After I've scoured the catalogs and bibliographies in the University of Wisconsin's libraries, I'll proceed to *A Room of One's Own*. There I can count on finding the most important book on my subject, which has mysteriously vanished from the library stacks. And almost without fail, I'll happen upon other brand new, wonderful books that the dozens of reference tools, review journals, and catalogs I routinely scan never

even mentioned. Of all the stages of my research, the trip to the women's bookstore is the most enjoyable.

I also rely on my bookselling buddies for inside information. They're especially skilled at differentiating between what's genuinely out-of-print and what's just temporarily unobtainable. Sometimes they even pass along the gossip behind a title's unavailability — a battle over rights, a slow transition to paperback, a glitch in distribution. Working within an incredible bureaucracy (Big Ten universities rival the federal government in this regard), I'm not permitted to place normal library book orders through a local bookstore. But I *have* wrangled a rush requisition upon occasion and had the book in hand (and a satisfied smile on my face) a half-hour later.

Help with research and collection building is appreciated, but often the bookstore answers a more pressing need. Recently a woman telephoned me, wanting to find books on "emotional battering." Since this isn't a standard library subject heading, I began to probe a bit to determine her exact interests. (In library jargon, this process is known as "reference interviewing." Booksellers engage in it too, of course.) I was preparing to suggest some periodical indexes and bibliographies when I asked, "What sources have you consulted already?" That's when she blurted out, on the verge of tears, "I saw a therapist this morning, and she says *I'm* emotionally battered by my husband. My friends have been telling me this for a long time, and I guess I never listened, and I don't know what it means, and I don't know what to *do!*" Clearly, a scholarly study was hardly what she needed at that moment. I suggested the first book that came to mind (*Getting Free* by Ginny NiCarthy) and strongly urged a trip to the women's bookstore.



Public library staff encounter the personal-issue-disguised-as-research-question even more often: "I'm writing a term paper on lesbians..." "I have a friend who drinks a little too much..." or "I'm sort of curious about child support laws..." After giving what help she can, a perceptive librarian will suggest other resources outside the library, including local organizations, municipal agencies, and specialized bookstores.

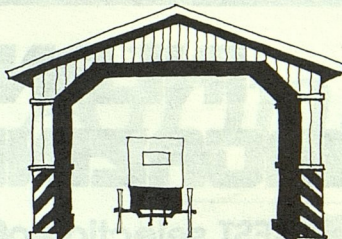
She understands that these are often more comfortable and safer places to explore personal concerns than a busy and impersonal library.

Naturally, the referral business works both ways. When a student poses esoteric research questions at A Room of One's Own, the woman behind the counter might recommend a visit to the library. If the bookseller supplies the name of a friendly, feminist librarian, so much the better. Remember that the bigger the library, the more baffling and intimidating it may appear to first-time users. Even some senior faculty avoid the library, instead sending their student assistants to ferret out books and articles. I wonder — do these same underpaid assistants appear at *your* counters with garbled titles, misspelled authors, and only the vaguest sense of what they're in search of?

But I digress. Besides the examples I've already given, there are other creative ways in which librarians and booksellers can cooperate. For instance, at the University of Wisconsin we publish a newsletter, *Feminist Collections: A Quarterly of Women's Studies Resources*. In its pages we've profiled A Room of One's Own and featured bibliographic surveys by the owners. These articles alert scholars to an important off-campus resource. When the downtown public library sponsored a book discussion series on women's autobiographies, they asked A Room of One's Own to stock the monthly readings.

How do booksellers and librarians connect? If you're fortunate, the librarians among your customers have already introduced themselves, and you've been picking their brains all along about their clientele's reading habits, upcoming programs and displays, and the like. If not, *you* can take the initiative. Drop by the front desk, or even knock on the director's door, to inquire who on the library staff is interested in women's issues. Introduce yourself, and be clear that you simply seek to get acquainted and trade information. Publishers and distributors beseege us, and we've learned to be quite rude to salespeople who interrupt a busy schedule of meetings, desk duty, and paperwork. An invitation to a woman-to-woman chat over coffee or lunch, on the other hand, would be welcome.

Bear in mind that librarians are conditioned to be of service, and that public libraries in particular target small businesses as a core audience. Ask what resources the library has to help you research your market or draw up a financial plan. Librarians could



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also assist you in choosing the best and newest titles to stock. They often subscribe to several book review journals, for in-house use if not for public consumption. Maybe they'll let you read their copies of *Publishers Weekly* or *Booklist*. In return you can introduce them to *FBN*. Are you trying to beef up your offering of non-sexist books for children? A librarian from an elementary school or the public library children's department can recommend some perennial favorites.

Is your store too small to hold author readings and receptions? Try booking a community room at the public library. Offer to collaborate on displays during Women's History Week. If you issue a new book alert, be sure the local libraries are on your mailing list. If you receive duplicate catalogs from women's presses, pass the extras along to your new librarian friends — and ask them to do the same.

Surely this short survey doesn't exhaust the possibilities for librarian-bookseller networking at the local level. If you have further ideas or real-life experiences (either positive or negative), please drop me a note at 112A Memorial Library, 728 State St., Madison, WI 53706. I'll take your suggestions to heart and pass them along to my colleagues in the library world. ○

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Moving it Along

Thoughts on Being Part of the Travels of *Sinister Wisdom*



By Elana Dykewomon

Sinister Wisdom (a Journal for the Lesbian Imagination in the Arts and Politics) is now fourteen years into its process; we will be working on #40 (on friendship) when you get this issue of *Feminist Bookstore News*. I am its seventh editor and publisher; along the way there have been eleven other guest editors and dozens of dykes participating in the editorial and material processes of the journal. It has found home in North Carolina, Nebraska, Massachusetts, Maine, Vermont and California. As it moves, it has created its own home, an intricate shell to which new chambers are continually added.

While *Sinister Wisdom* shares (some) visions and purposes with journals like *Common Lives/Lesbian Lives*, *Lesbian Ethics*, *Conditions*, *Heresies*, *Calyx*, *Women of Power*, among many, it's this motion that makes it unique. The dykes who have taken it up and passed it on have been strong personalities who hold definite — and different — personal philosophies. Catherine Nicholson, Harriet (Des Moines) Ellenberger, Adrienne Rich, Michelle Cliff, Melanie Kaye/Kantrowitz and I form an unlikely group of activists. It's doubtful that, had we set out to make a magazine as one collective, we would have lasted beyond the first year. Personal style, definition of audience, understandings of the sources and uses of cultural work, kinds of material we're drawn to, analyses of primary contradictions — all those

issues and more would have kept us from publishing. Yet all of us have a deep love and respect for publishing lesbian and womyn's words. We share a sense of the urgent necessity to provide space for the work of womyn's minds. We each love womyn; we have loved the vehicle that supports womyn's expression; and we have engaged in active, revolutionary love as we have trusted each other with the magazine.

That trust isn't a linear progression. I find I turn in arcs, forward and back, to entrust the magazine to the others before me — and the ones coming after. I am in a constant form of conversation with them, although the daily demands of *Sinister Wisdom* often obscure the depth of that conversation. And the conversation includes lesbians who've been a

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part of the magazine in different ways through many years; those who currently engage in **Sinister Wisdom** dialogues, like Sarah Hoagland, Chrystos, Irena Klepfisz, and particularly Gloria Anzaldúa (who worked with Melanie and continues to offer ideas, enthusiasm, support, criticism and friendship); as well as all the past and present contributors and subscribers.

Of course **Sinister Wisdom** now is hardly just me; I’m its organizer (above my desk I have a post-it note to myself: I feel like a shepherd of pages). Between 10-14 lesbians participate in the editorial process every issue and we select the work to be included together. My intimates and compañeras constantly offer criticism, advice, assistance, support. Dykes from all over the Bay Area proofread

and help with production. Sometimes fifteen dykes will show up to make sure we get it mailed out.

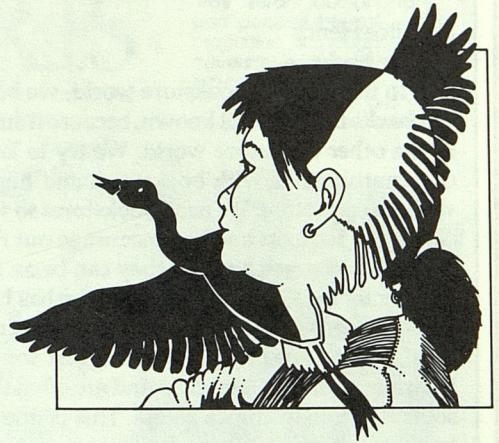
When I was a kid in the early ‘70s women’s movement, we agreed that we should build organizations (systems of education, justice, housing, culture, business) in which no one would hold the same position of responsibility for more than five years. We imagined structures infused with purpose, trust and love so rock-bottom that they absorbed individual power in ways that neither distorted the individual nor the institution, but which encouraged excellence and thoughtfulness on all levels.

Much of the pain of working in the lesbian and womyn’s movements in the past twenty years has been our inability to make those kinds of far-reaching political/social organizations. We don’t have lesbian housing communities in which we have redefined both family and consumerism. We don’t have a dyke justice department through which our disagreements get mediated with care and consistency, and through which we apply our own understanding of ethical relationships. Our energy is often absorbed in resistance, and fighting about our different analyses of just who it is we should be resisting.

But we do have these lesbian journals. And they are full of revolutionary hope. We create lesbian space and engage in the active, loving trust it takes to pass it on. It occurs to me that one of the most revolutionary aspects of **Sinister Wisdom** is how we have worked with time. That is, we keep creating an actual place, an entity with material and emotional substance, from our work together, though we have worked separately, at different times, all over the united states. It’s a redefinition of the time of creation, our redefinition of the time in which “working together” happens. If we could believe in each other’s capability and commitment, envision all our acts as part of one spiral, an infinite loop of lesbians who need and inspire each other, we might increase our power in the world a hundred-fold.

Sinister Wisdom is a dyke who travels; who teases our minds open; a lesbian who delights in touching flesh and lives. Who knows where she’ll turn up next? ○

Stocking & Selling Periodicals



By Laura Zimmerman
New Words Bookstore

In theory, we stock every feminist and lesbian periodical available to us, as well as a limited number of "progressive" and grassroots publications that, while not exclusively feminist, offer relevant articles or information. In reality — given limited display space, personal biases, and knowledge of what sells — we can't carry everything that might fall in these categories. Most of the progressive (not specifically feminist) magazines we carry are Boston-based, and all prominently feature women writers and editors. With a few exceptions, we carry regionally-based periodicals from Massachusetts and nearby states only. Several academic journals we'd like to carry are available only by full year subscription; some professional journals for women are too narrowly focused in content and jargon.

Despite these exceptions, the journal case displays an impressive and sometimes overwhelming variety of periodicals. We rely on this section of the store to keep us and our customers informed of what's happening in the women's movement locally, nationally, and internationally. It's hard to imagine the number of women-hours (usually unpaid) spent writing, producing, and distributing the periodicals we've sold in the past fifteen years, or the number of books and projects that began in their pages.

Periodicals are displayed in the case near the cash register in front of the store opposite the main entrance; you can't enter or leave without glimpsing them. This prominent display space increases sales and also gives periodicals the important place they deserve as the source of feminist and progressive writing not elsewhere in print and often not available except by subscription. Last count brought us just over 100 titles, ranging from a glossy magazine like **Radiance: The Magazine for Large Women** to a 4-page newsletter from the Boston Asian Lesbians and

Journals comprise 6% of sales this year — a higher percentage than either mass market or hardcover books.

Gays. Offering a broad and diverse selection of periodicals meets the needs of the diverse communities of women we serve and the eclectic taste of our customers. It draws new customers who hear us referred to as "that bookstore with everything about women," and brings customers back to look for their favorite quarterly or to check out whatever just arrived. On a Saturday or Sunday morning, "regulars" often come to the store specifically to buy the new **Sojourner** or **Gay Community News**.

The journal case itself measures five feet tall, nine feet wide and two feet deep. Five tiered vertical

An Appreciation

By Alice Henry
off our backs

In the feminist bookstore world, we hope off our backs is fairly well known, because it sure isn't in the other bookstore world. We try to keep up cooperative links with bookstores and hope that we help each other. We need bookstores so women can know we exist and we encourage our readers to visit bookstores because they can be an important center for feminist activity. There has been an explosion of women's books and in women's studies. In fact these may be the biggest sources of information about feminism and are often the first source a woman comes across. This is fine — but books can't cover what's happening today; they are about yesterday's news just because of publishing schedules. Women need to know what feminists are doing right now, and what problems women are facing right now. That's why it's important to have the whole range of feminist publications in a feminist bookshop. They give women a feel for the fact that there are a million points of view as well as for the fact that feminism does exist outside the classroom.

This was supposed to be a plea to feminist bookshops to stock feminist publications, but mostly it's an appreciation, because feminist bookstores are where we go to scan publications. We're delighted to find hundreds of publications — local news and views, every special interest topic, etc., etc., etc. So keep up the good work, because our local women's bookshop is the best place to find everything women need to know — not just the news in those mainstream publications. ○

shelves display the magazines face out. Each shelf holds approximately fifteen titles. The undivided rows of periodicals may conceal the fact that there's actually an organizing principle on these shelves: periodicals are grouped in categories like literary journals and reviews, academic journals, global feminism, political journals and newspapers, and others. Our best sellers are displayed face-up in stacks on a horizontal shelf below the five vertical shelves and the most popular newspapers are on the side closest to the front desk.

Ordering and Receiving

We're very attached to the green loose-leaf notebook that records journal orders. It's one of the few survivors of the pre-computer era. Each periodical is listed on a separate sheet with name, address, phone number, return policy (covers only, mastheads, or whole issue), and distributor or contact person on top with a grid below with room for information about each order: date received, issue number and/or title, quantity received, wholesale price, retail price, number sold, number returned, amount paid, date paid, check number. The most crucial part of this system is to enter information at the point of unpacking new periodicals; if receiving is kept accurate and up-to-date, the rest of the recordkeeping works well. These sheets are alphabetized by title and the notebook is kept at the front desk.

Because the sales records are kept on individual sheets, it's easy to see the selling pattern of each one over the course of the months and years. I go through the green journal book once every seven to eight weeks to make consignment payments (see below) and also to spot standing orders that may need to be increased or decreased or shipments that seem unbelievably overdue (like a quarterly we haven't gotten in nine months) or to reorder a special issue that's selling exceptionally well.

Back Issues

We keep in stock a full shelf of back issues of *Women of Power*, *Heresies* and *Radical America*; these theme issues are popular with our customers and as good as book recommendations when someone is looking for material on a specific subject. Because the content of journals like *Sage*, *Ikon*, *Signs*, *Trivia*, *Conditions*, and others is timeless and not easily found elsewhere, we try to keep a few back issues available. We also carry a single issue of a journal when it's devoted to a feminist theme, like *Daedalus* #12: "Women and Society,"; *Black Scholars*: "Black Women Writers in the Diaspora,"; and *Cultural Survival* #8: "Women in a Changing World."

Payments and Returns

With one or two exceptions, our periodicals can be returned for credit, usually by mastheads or cover only. Most journal payments are at 60/40 discount with a few exceptions for consignment and local

newsletters. We do occasionally sell local grassroots newsletters at a lesser discount.

Keeping track of payments and returns, especially for periodicals sold on consignment, must be everyone's least favorite part of sales. We've devised this far-from-perfect system: when we receive 75 copies of a new issue, like the December **off our backs**, we set them out immediately and remove all but two or three of the remaining copies of the November issue, which we keep on the shelf and return the following month if they haven't sold. On a good day, whoever does this shelving also tears off the November mastheads, puts them in an envelope, and clips them to the **oob** page in the green journal notebook. Having the mastheads right there expedites the consignment process; I can move quickly through the green notebook, counting returns and making consignment payments. Typically, though, since none of us have time in the middle of the day to tear off mastheads, we stash the back issues in the bottom section of the journal case which means crawling through the overstock to find the returns that disappear as mysteriously as socks in the dryer...

Consignment payment schedules, formal or informal, exist with each individual publication. Usually these are determined by the quantities sold. Since we sell about 350 copies of every **Sojourner**, we pay them monthly. However, **American Voice**, which sells fewer than a dozen annually, gets paid about twice a year. Most other consignments fall between these two extremes and are paid on a regular basis every two or three months. Going through the journal notebook every seven to eight weeks keeps us up-to-date on these payments and, once the system is in motion, eliminates the hassle of writing checks, finding returns, and so on several times a month.

Journal hassles also have been reduced for us by Inland's ever-increasing stock of periodicals; we now order 29 titles from them. This simplifies record-keeping, since these journals are invoiced accounts payable along with book payment. And since we're in weekly contact with Inland, it's easy to keep track of due dates, special order journals, get questions answered, etc. (Knowing the pressure on editors and office staff it's hard to complain about the problem of directly reaching them, but this is one of the ongoing aggravations of stocking and selling periodicals.) Inland is not only committed to getting feminist book-

IRIS

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About Women
Women's Studies
University of Virginia

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Institutions:
\$30/2 years (4 issues)

Booksellers:
IRIS is available on a consignment basis, by writing to us directly, and through the following distributors:
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Bookpeople
Ubiquity



"Part literary journal and part general interest magazine, it thoughtfully covers everything from reports on woman in third world countries to arts reviews, fiction and poetry."
—Ms.

IRIS: A Journal About Women 123 Minor Hall
University of Virginia
Charlottesville, VA 22903
804/924-4500

stores what they need when they need it, they also distribute material we couldn't get on our own, like **Women's Studies Quarterly**, and **Trouble and Strife**, a feminist mag from Britain. (Now, if we could only get that other great British journal **Spare Rib** back on our shelves — any clues from other bookstores?).

Other accounts payable are handled the same as books with a net payable of 30, 60, or 90 days. Occasionally the system breaks down: invoices and notes from **Fem** are written in Spanish and, to our embarrassment, no one in the current collective can read them (thankfully, Gilda's working on this). We'd love to carry more international journals, but language, shipping, and currency problems are too daunting. Right now, we offer journals only from Canada, Mexico, Britain, and one from India that's distributed from Philadelphia.

Bestsellers

These are our best-selling journals in 1989:
Sojourner, monthly, averages 350 a month;
Gay Community News, weekly, 170 a month;

Off Our Backs, 50 monthly;
Woman's Review of Books, 40 monthly;
On Our Backs, 70 bimonthly;
Women of Power, 80 quarterly;
Outlook, 60 quarterly;
Bad Attitude, 80 tri-annually;
HotWire, 70 copies 3 times yearly;
For Crying Outloud, 50 quarterly newsletter;
Sinister Wisdom, 40 quarterly;
Common Lives, Lesbian Lives, 40 quarterly; and
Lilith, 40 quarterly.

A Few Favorites

Though we'd definitely include among our personal favorites many of the bestsellers (we're especially attached to and involved with local periodicals like **Soj**, **GCN**, **Women's Review**, and **Women of Power**) we want to spread the word about a few of our other much-loved, less well-known periodicals.

Women and the Environments, a one-of-a-kind journal out of Toronto that focuses on women in relation to the built and natural environment.

Heresies, the "radical journal of women's culture and art" that just celebrated its 12th year with an anniversary issue sure to become a classic along with its special issues on racism, the goddess, film, food, architecture, and music.

Bestsellers from the Southwest

By Full Circle Books
Belles Lettres
Calyx
Conditions
Gallerie: Women's Art
Hot Wire
IKON
Lesbian Contradiction
Lesbian Ethics
off our backs
On the Issues
Sage
Signs
Sinister Wisdom
Sojourner
Woman of Power
Women's Review of Books

Fireweed, a quarterly of Canadian women's writing, poetry, and commentary. Special issues focus on women of color, lesbians, class, and Asian women. Sistervision Press reprinted the 1983 **Women of Color** issue in book form as **The Subject Is Ism**.

Black/Out, the magazine of the National Coalition for Black Lesbians and Gays, includes news, essays, poetry, fiction, and reviews by new and established writers. Summer '89 issue features a tribute to Joe Beam including work by Audre Lorde, Angela Bower, and Becky Birtha.

Third World Resources, a quarterly newsletter packed with critical reviews, comprehensive lists, and other educational resources from and about the Third World.

Literary reviews like **Lambda Rising**, covering lesbian and gay writing, **Belles Lettres**, often featuring themes on ethnicity and class, and **Hurricane Alice** from Minneapolis comprise, with **Women's Review of Books**, a substantial subsection dear to our booksellers' hearts.

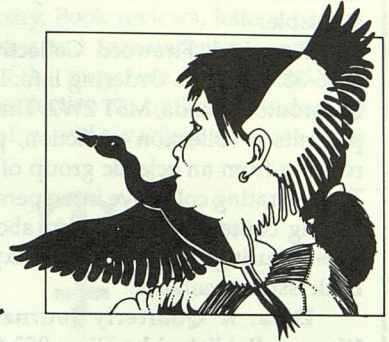
Journals comprise 6% of sales this year (a higher percentage than either mass market or hardcover books). We sell, roughly, 35 journals daily. The high sales volume of popular journals "subsidizes" the ones that are less in demand but equally crucial to keep in stock.

I never order a magazine sight unseen. Booksellers should feel free to write for sample copies of magazines they are seriously considering stocking. New stores with limited space or capital might begin with periodicals of proven appeal (**Sojourner**, **Women of Power**, and **HotWire**) and journals dealing with specific subject matter — health, spirituality, lesbian culture — matched to book section sales. Gradually customers' journal-buying might become as habit-forming, and healthy, as book-buying.

It's helped us to keep a careful eye on sales to minimize under- or over-ordering. Though this is initially time-consuming, it eventually becomes quick and automatic. One of the biggest appeals of the journal section, from a sellers' view, is the fact that it is manageable: unlike books, journals exist in a finite number. They don't require a computer to keep track of them. After a few hours of fussing with the shelf display and plowing through the notebook, I've actually known the uncommon bookstore joy of completing a task.

Canadian Content

Periodicals From Canada



By Donna Murray

I'm writing this just a few days after two striking events have taken place in Canada: in chronological order, on December 1st, the election of Audrey McLaughlin as federal leader of the New Democrat Party, the first woman to lead one of the top three political parties in Canada; and on December 6th, in Montreal, the massacre of 14 women, by a gunman who separated the victims by gender and murdered the women. Both events, seemingly at the opposite ends of the scale of hope for the future, have roused the consciousness of Canadians, but for me the Montreal massacre has far out-shadowed the forward step of McLaughlin's success. It feels like we are still in the maze of "one step forward, [many] steps back," and it is my hope that from the devastating murders of fourteen women — killed *because* they were women — comes finally, for those persistent non-believers and skeptics, the realization that the presence of violence against women is very pervasive, very real, and very much a part of our day-to-day existence.

A Canadian Core List

As for the regular substance of Canadian Content, I offer a selection of periodicals from among a variety of available feminist publications. In researching this article, I simply collected one of each magazine from my local feminist bookstore and sat down to browse. Surfacing many hours later I was impressed with the content, the variety, the lay-out and design and even the cost! Ranging in price from \$2.00 to \$7.00 for monthlies, quarterlies and bi-monthlies, the selection gave enough reading material to

keep me busy for a few winter nights, and food for thought for a long time to come. Keeping close to deadline for *FBN* (squeezing in under the wire) my survey may be limited in that I did not contact other feminist stores for their own selections, and I fear that I will have missed more feminist periodicals out there in the Canadian market. Future articles could look to those and in the meantime I list for your interest and ordering information thirteen Canadian periodicals.



First, honourable mention is essential to **Broadside**, Canada's oldest feminist newspaper, which folded this year because of a failure to obtain renewal of their publishing grant. **Broadside** kept many of us informed in the early years when it was the *only* feminist paper in Canada, and provided inspiration to many of us in outlying regions to "get it in writing." Without them, we may not have had the wherewithal to move into the following areas of publication.

Room of One's Own: Growing Room Collective, \$7/issue, ISSN 0316-1609, 150pp. Ordering info: PO Box 46160, Station G, Vancouver, BC, V6R 4G5. This quarterly journal features Canadian women writers, on a regular basis, often devoting a single issue to a specific individual (i.e., Anne Cameron, Marion Engle, Audrey Thomas, Carol Shields, etc.) from a variety of angles — interviews, critiques, writings by the featured author. Contributions encompass the range of writing from theatre, poetry and prose, to

discussions on feminist literary criticism. Back issues available.

Fireweed: Fireweed Collective, \$4/issue, ISSN 0706-3857, 140pp. Ordering info: PO Box 279, Station B, Toronto, Canada, M5T 2W2. This feminist quarterly presents a collection of fiction, poetry, essays, and reviews from an eclectic group of Canadian women. The operating collective intersperses open issues containing content as mentioned above with special issues featuring Asian Women or Experimental Writing. Back issues available.

Diva: A Quarterly Journal of South Asian Women: Published by Diva, 253 College Street, Unit 194, Toronto, Canada, M5T 1R5; ISSN 0842-4330, 60pp. C \$5/issue (15 rupees in South Asia). Dist. by CPPA* in Canada, Inland in US and Europe. Diva presents a variety of articles, research, columns, poetry and illustrations from Canada, Pakistan, India and Denmark. In the "On Children" issue of June-August 1989, were contributions from women and children covering domestic violence, children at work, racism, prostitution and kids & drugs. The representation of South Asian women provides a strong voice describing the problems women face from these contributors' personal perspectives.



Healthsharing: A Canadian Women's Health Quarterly: Women Healthsharing, Inc. \$3/issue, ISSN 0226-1510, 34pp. Ordering info: Healthsharing, 14 Skey Lane, Toronto, Canada, M6J 3S4. Covering pertinent issues related to women and health, this quarterly magazine includes in-depth reporting on abortion legislation, medical insurance coverage for lesbian/gay couples, bereavement and women and the medical industry. Departments include collective notes, letters, updates (this month — Dalkon shield, midwives, infertility, and pharmaceutical issues), and a back cover page of resources and events. Jennifer Cooper, executive director of the Winnipeg Women's Health Centre is quoted in the Fall 89 issue stating "Healthsharing provides a perspective on Canadian Women's health not available in any other Journal."

Common Ground: The News and Views of PEI Women: Woman's Network \$2/issue, ISSN 0715-478X, 30pp. Ordering info: PO Box 233, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada, C1A 7K4. This bi-monthly magazine covers a broad range of topics concerning all women, with particular attention paid to issues relating directly to the women of that island province. Interviews, poetry, and articles on affordable housing, menopause, a teen-helpline and topics relevant to native Innu of the eastern provinces, make up the content of **Common Ground**. Department sub-headings include families, education, environment, health and women's groups. The magazine "strives to present positive and varied images of women and to support the network of islanders promoting women's equality."

LesbiaNews: Victoria's Monthly Lesbian Feminist Newsletter: Published by Debby Gregory \$2/issue 12pp. Ordering info: PO Box 5339, Station B, Victoria BC, V8R 6S4. From the island at the opposite end of Canada from PEI comes this recent publication. A collection of letters, stories, poems, news items, and cartoons aims, as Gregory's first editorial states, to "provide [the Victoria community] with a public sense of ourselves, as well as to function as a safe forum for communication and exploration." Specific to the Victoria community, this newsletter provides thoughtful and thought-provoking copy for its readers.

Resources For Feminist Research/ Documentation sur la Recherche Feministe: Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE), 252 Bloor Street West, Toronto, Canada, M5S 1V6, \$6.50/issue, ISSN 0707-8412, 100pp. This scholarly journal is useful as a reference tool for keeping informed of current feminist research. Providing articles in both official languages, **RFR/DRF** covers everything from women and AIDS to anthologies of 17th Century British women's verse. It also has an historical and international scope in its presentation of scholarly works.

The Womanist: My copy of their latest issue had already been recycled by the time I sat down to write this column, but this new publication distributed nationally from the country's capitol offers in-depth news reviews and discussion articles on issues of interest to feminists. Their last issue covered regional discussions of abortion — a hot topic which at this writing is the subject of impending federal legislation,

north of the 49th parallel — and a synopsis of the many September "Take Back The Night Events" with a nation-wide perspective. It is reflective and represents the more radical wing of the National Action Committee on the Status of Women in Canada. It makes interesting reading and although subscriptions are sought **The Womanist** is currently distributed free at many outlets. Ordering info: PO Box 76, Station B, Ottawa, Canada K1P 6C3.

Kinesis: News for Women That's Not in the Dailies: The Vancouver Status of Women, \$2.25/issue ISSN 0317-9095, 28pp. Ordering info: 301 - 1720 Grant Street, Vancouver BC Canada V5L 2Y6. As they say, "Kinesis means movement," and Vancouver's monthly (published 10 times a year) feminist newspaper offers lots to get us going. This month's contributions cover women's court challenges to the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, discrimination under the BC tenancy law, news from across Canada (as they say "not in the dailies"), domestic workers, feminism in the classroom, systemic racism, censorship, coverage of the In Visible Colours Festival (production and distribution of films throughout the world from Third World women, First Nations women and women of colour), arts reviews, and everything else one would want to find if a daily were written for women.

Canadian Woman Studies/les cahiers de la femme: York University, \$6/issue, no min. ISSN 0713-3235, 150pp. Ordering info: 212 Founders College, York University, 4700 Keele Street, Downsview, Ontario M3J 1P3. Dist. CPPA.* For nine years this feminist quarterly has put out articles aiming to "make current writing and research available to the largest possible community possible" in French and English. Often focusing on a main issue and extrapolating to the relevant issues affecting women, CWS/CF has given a voice to many women from across Canada and around the world. For example, the Spring 1989 issue (Vol. 10, No. 1) concentrates on refugee women including grassroots organizing, dislocation/resettlement, non-government organizations, government initiatives, and personal experiences with an extensive bibliography rounding out this scholarly work. Back issues are available upon inquiry.

Diversity: The Lesbian Rag: \$1/issue, 24pp. Ordering info: PO Box 66106, Station F, Vancouver, BC Canada, V5N 5L4. Published six times a year **Diver-**

sity, a "rag by, for and about lesbians" aims to celebrate lesbian diversity. Book reviews, letters, poetry, short stories, cartoons and announcements make up the major portion of this magazine. In its second year of publication, the collective has built up a readership and authorship of a wide variety of west-coast Canadian women.



Tiger Lily: Magazine by Women of Colour: Pub: Earthtone Women's Magazine (Ontario) Inc. PO Box 756, Stratford, Ontario, Canada N5A 4A0, \$2.95/issue, ISSN 0-832-9199-05, 40pp. Appearing quarterly, Tiger Lily in its Issue #5, is devoted entirely to Latin American women. Contained within are articles on women insurgents in Peru, Nicaraguan women before and after the revolution, and the women's movement in the Philippines. A selection of articles on related issues rounded out this stimulating magazine.

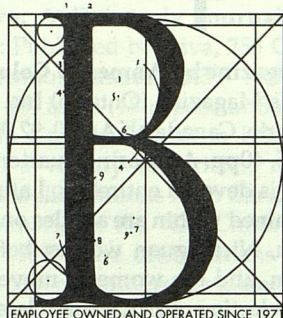
(f.)Lip: A Newsletter of Feminist Innovative Writing: \$4/issue, 22pp. Available from PO Box 1058, Station A, Vancouver, BC V6C 2P1. The desire of the editors at (f.)Lip is to "provide publication space for innovative (experimental & visionary, language & content) work [in English Canada], and to exchange ideas and information." Each issue features the work of four writers and contains announcements of pertinent workshops, conferences, publications and readings.

That about covers what's sitting on my desk but more periodicals exist. Further inquiries could be directed to me at (note new address) 1883 Neil Street, Victoria, BC V8R 3C6. I'll try to check them out. ○

*CPPA: For a more complete listing (212 publications to choose from) of Canadian magazines of a general nature, although not guaranteed to include local feminist and lesbian publications, a catalogue is available from the 88/89 Canadian Periodical Publishers' Association, 2 Stewart Street, Toronto, Ontario, M5V 1H6, for \$2. At least some of the above mentioned periodicals are obtained directly through the CPPA, and others through Inland. Terms may vary from publication to publication and will be available upon direct inquiry. ○

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An Annotated List of Feminist Periodicals...



Compiled by Laura Zimmerman

Two indispensable resources for information about feminist periodicals are **Words to the Wise** (Firebrand, \$3.95) and **Directory of Women's Media** (Women's Institute for Freedom of the Press, 3306 Ross Place NW, Washington DC 20008, \$15). These books pull together most of the information we need as booksellers (addresses, phone numbers, annotations, etc.) and also sell well to customers. **Words to the Wise**, which annotates feminist and lesbian publishers and presses as well as periodicals, provided much of the info in the following list; the **Directory** includes listings of media organizations, music, film, and radio resources, bookstores, and more.

Amalgam

Newsletter for the Massachusetts Asian lesbian and gay community. \$3.

**Thanks to the following booksellers for reviewing and adding to this list:*

- ¹ Dana Fox, Amazon Bookstore, Minneapolis, MN;
- ² Delores Liston, Charis Books, Atlanta, GA;
- ³ Mary Morell & Anne Frost, Full Circle Books, Albuquerque, NM;
- ⁴ Pam Sheldrick & Vivian Scheinmann, Pandora Book Peddlers, Englewood, NJ;
- ⁵ Rachel Pepper, Women & Children First, Chicago, IL;
- ⁶ Mother Kali's, Eugene, OR.

American Voice

A feminist literary journal featuring culturally diverse writers. \$4. Heyburn Building, Suite 1215, Broadway at Fourth Ave., Louisville KY 40202.

Bad Attitude

A magazine of lesbian erotica. \$4. PO Box 110, Cambridge MA 02139.

Bay Windows

A weekly lesbian and gay paper focussed on the Boston and NE community. 1523 Washington St., Boston MA 02118.

Belles Lettres

A bimonthly literary review often focussed on themes like Jewish women, Asian American writers, mothers. \$3.75. PO Box 987, Arlington VA 22216. IN.

Black/Out

A magazine by, for, and about Black Lesbians and Gay men including poetry, fiction, news coverage... \$6 National Coalition for Black Lesbians and Gays, c/o PO Box 19248, Washington DC 20036. BP/IN.

Bridges

A new journal for Jewish feminists and their friends to be published twice a year. PO Box 18437, Seattle WA 98118. IN.

Broomstick

A magazine by, for, and about women over 40 including essays, poetry, reviews... \$3.50. 3543 18th St., San Francisco CA 94110.

Calyx

A feminist journal of art and literature that has produced classic theme issues like Women and Aging. \$8. PO Box B, Corvallis OR 97330. BP/IN.

Camera Obscura

Johns Hopkins University, Journals Division, 701 West 40 St. Suite 275, Baltimore MD 21218.

Canadian Woman Studies/Les cahiers de la femme

Bilingual feminist journal "making current writing and research available to the largest community possible." C\$6. 212 Founders College, York University, 4700 Keele St. Downsview ONT M3J 1P3, Canada.

From the South

By Delores D. Liston
Charis Books & More, Atlanta GA

Amethyst

Amethyst is a local art magazine for lesbians and gay men, containing poetry, short fiction, photography and visual arts information. It is produced by the Southeastern Arts, Media and Education Project. Quarterly, \$4.50. PO Box 54719, Atlanta GA 30308.

RFD

RFD is a country journal for gay men that encourages alternative lifestyles, a sense of community and "radical faerie consciousness." RFD, c/o Short Mountain Collective, Rt. 1 Box 84 A, Liberty TN 37095.

Southern Voice

Southern Voice is a local gay/lesbian newspaper that keeps Atlanta informed about local activities and events as well as the Atlanta political scene. Biweekly, free local distribution. PO Box 18215, Atlanta GA 30316. ○

Challenging Media Images of Women

A newsletter of the Boston organization of the same name. \$1.60. PO Box 59, Cambridge MA 02238.

Changing Men

A tri-annual magazine by men writing about gender issues. \$4.50. 306 N. Brooks, Madison WI 53715. IN.

Common Lives/Lesbian Lives

A lesbian quarterly of prose, poetry, humor, graphics and photos. \$4. PO Box 1553, Iowa City IA 52244. BP/IN.

Connexions

A quarterly of thematic issues with material translated or reprinted from the international feminist press. \$4. 4228 Telegraph Ave., Oakland CA 94609

Conditions

A feminist magazine with an emphasis on writing by lesbians. The current issue (#16) features many of the best articles from the last 12 years (Broumas, Klepfisz, Anzaldúa, Harjo, Pat Parker). \$8.95. PO Box 56, Van Brunt Station, Brooklyn NY 11215. IN.

The Creative Women

A tri-annual publication of fiction, poetry, and reviews... on themes about creative women. Governors State University, University Park IL 60466.

Daughters of Sara¹

Christian Feminist, 6 issues/yr, \$3/\$1.75, 5 copy min. 3801 N. Keeler, Chicago IL 60641.

Differences

A Journal of Feminist Cultural Studies. \$13.00. Indiana University Press, Journals Division, 10th and Morton St., Bloomington IN 47405.

Disability Rag⁶

50% bimonthly. Box 145, Louisville KY 40201.

Diva

A quarterly journal of South Asian women featuring articles, poetry, art... \$5. 585 Middlefield Road #27-28, Scrob ONT M1V 4Y5, Canada. IN.

Dykes, Disabilities, and Stuff

A quarterly newsletter of letters, essays, poetry, information. \$3. PO Box 6194, Boston MA 02114.

Eidos

A newsjournal of erotic entertainment for women, men, and couples. \$10. Brush Hill Press, PO Box 96, Boston MA 02137.

Fantasy⁵

A fantasy/science-fiction quarterly edited by Marion Zimmer Bradley sells very well here (lots of male writers, though). Fantasy also arranges signings for MZB. 40%. PO Box 11095, Oakland CA 94611-9991.

FEM

A monthly feminist magazine from Mexico. \$5. Av. Universidad No. 1885, 40. piso, col. Oxtopulco Universidad, Mexico 04310, D.F.

Feminist Issues

Social and political analysis with emphasis on an international exchange of ideas. \$7.50. Rutgers University, New Brunswick NJ 08903.

Feminist Review⁵

A women's studies journal from Britain publishing contemporary feminist analysis. \$9.95, 3x/year, British. IN.

Feminist Studies

A journal of scholarly, political, and creative writing. \$9.95. Women's Studies Program, University of Maryland, College Park MD 20742.

Fighting Women News

A quarterly magazine of martial arts, self-defense, combative sports, herstory, publishing since 1975. \$2.50. Box 1459, Grand Central Station, New York NY 10163.

Fireweed

A quarterly journal of Canadian women's writing, poetry, and commentary with theme issues on color, class... \$4. PO Box 279, Station B, Toronto ONT M5T 2W2, Canada.

For Crying Out Loud

A newsletter of writing and resources for women

Snake Power

*A Journal of
Contemporary
Female Shamanism*

A new quarterly magazine published by Vicki Noble. Thematic issues align with Descent and Death in the Winter (*Hallowmas*), Rebirth and Initiation in the Spring (*Candlemas*), Sexuality and Fertility in the Summer (*Beltane*) and Harvest and Creativity in the Fall (*Lammas*).

Premiere issue contains articles on reknown archeologist Marija Gimbutas, astrologer Demetra George and Buddhist teacher Tsultrim Allione.

For information contact:

Snake Power
5856 College Avenue, #138
Oakland, CA 94618
(415) 658-7033

survivors of child sexual abuse. \$2. The Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge MA 02139.

Frontiers

A women's studies journal of scholarly, personal, and creative writing with thematic issues including "Lesbian History," "Women's Oral History — 2nd Issue," and the recent issue on "Women and Words." Hillside Ct., 104 Women's Studies Program, University of Colorado, Boulder CO 80309.

Fuse⁵

An arts magazine published 8 times a year in Toronto, strong feminist content, gay/lesbian issues, native rights, etc. 183 Bathurst St., Toronto ONT M5T 2R7, Canada.

Gallerie: Women's Art

A quarterly journal of new and established women artists' lives, philosophies and art. \$5.50. Box 2901 Panorama Drive, North Vancouver BC V7G 2A4, Canada.

Gay Community News

A national weekly newspaper for lesbians and gay men featuring articles, events, reviews, news, resources... \$1.62 Berkeley St., Boston MA 02116.

Genesis²

A progressive Jewish magazine with strong feminist content. \$3.30 Old Whitfield Road, Accord NY 12404.

geneWATCH

A bulletin and newsletter of the Council of

Responsible Genetics. \$2. 186A South St., Boston MA 02111.

Goddess Rising¹

A Dianic Wicce Quarterly Newspaper, \$1.25/.75 no min. 4006 1st Ave. NE, Seattle WA 98105.

Gossip⁶

Journal of Lesbian Feminist Ethics. Back issues still available. Onlywomen Press, 38 Mount Pleasant, London WC1X 0AP, U.K. BP/IN.

Hag Rag

A separatist newspaper, 6x/year, \$1.50/60%. Box 93243, Milwaukee WI 53203.

Healthsharing⁵

Canadian women's health quarterly, "nothing similar in the U.S." 14 Skey Lane, Toronto ONT M6J 3S4, Canada.

Helicon Nine

A journal of women's arts and letters published 2 to 3 times yearly. PO Box 22412, Kansas City MO 64113.

Heresies

A "radical journal of women, culture, and art" with special issues on film, food, architecture, music, racism, and others. PO Box 1306, Canal St. Station, New York NY 10013. BP/IN.

Hikané⁶

Disabled wimmin's newsletter for lesbians and our wimmin friends. They want prepayment — basically we sell at cost \$3.75/\$4. PO Box C-9, Hillsdale, NY 12529.

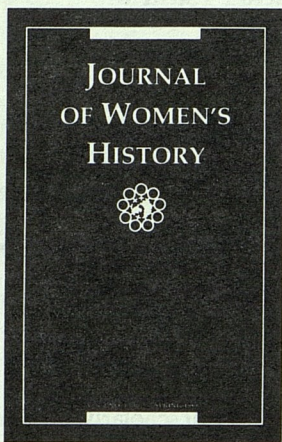
Hot Wire

A national journal of women's music and culture including articles, interviews, how-tos, event coverage — and a stereo recording! \$5. 1417 W. Thome, Chicago IL 60660.

Hurricane Alice

A quarterly feminist review including cultural and literary reviews, interviews, and theory. \$1.95. 207 Lind Hall, 207 Church St. SE, Minneapolis MN 55455.

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The overriding purpose of the journal is to serve the needs and interests of a wide variety of historians of women around the world.

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A cultural, political magazine of essays, articles, photographs, paintings, and poems, publishing since 1981. \$6. PO Box 1355, Stuyvesant Station, New York NY 10009. BP/IN.

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A journal of thematic issues featuring articles, reviews, poetry... B-5 Garrett Hall, University of Virginia, Charlottesville VA 22903. BP/IN.

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Quarterly with indepth coverage and resources on the global women's movement. English & Spanish editions available. \$5.00. Via San Saba 5, 00153 Rome, Italy. Also: Casilla 2067, Correo Central, Santiago, Chile. IN.

Journal of Women's History

Indiana University Press, Journals Division, 10th and Morton Sts., Bloomington IN 47405.

Jump Cut

A journal of film analysis, criticism, and review. \$4. PO Box 865, Berkeley CA 94701.

Kinesis

"All the news that's not in the dailies." Monthly feminist newspaper. 301-1720 Grant St., Vancouver BC V5L 2Y6, Canada.

Lambda Rising Book Report

A bimonthly review of lesbian and gay literature. \$2. Lambda Rising, 1625 Connecticut Ave. NW, Washington DC 20009-1013.

Lavender Express⁴

New Jersey's lesbian journal. PO Box 1040, Woodbridge NJ 07095.

Lesbian Connection

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lesbians, distributed for free with a suggested donation. Elsie Publishing Institute, PO Box 811, East Lansing MI 48823.

Lesbian Contradiction

A quarterly newsjournal of "irreverent feminism" featuring commentary, humor, analysis, cartoons... \$1.50. 584 Castro St. Suite 263, San Francisco CA 94114.

Lesbian Ethics

A journal of lesbian feminist ethics and philosophy. \$5. PO Box 4723, Albuquerque NM 82196.

The Lesbian Unraveller

New newsletter. PO Box 1521, Santa Cruz CA 95061.

Lilith

A Jewish feminist quarterly magazine featuring articles, reviews, essays, resources... \$3.50. 250 W. 57th St., New York NY 10107. IN.

Maize¹

A lesbian country magazine. \$3/40%. Box 8742, Minneapolis MN 55408.

Manushi

A journal from India on women and society. \$3. Manushi Distributors of America, 5008 Erringer Place, Philadelphia PA 19144.

Matrix

Back in print after several months of silence. Their December, post-earthquake issue is on Jewish women. 108 Locust St. #13, Santa Cruz CA 95060.

Melpomene Journal

Quarterly journal for women's health research. \$3.50. 2125 E. Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis MN 55413.

The Midwife Advocate

A newsletter of the Massachusetts Friends of Midwives. \$1.50. Mass. Friends of Midwives, PO Box 237, Newtonville MA 02160.

Mothering

A quarterly magazine on mothering. \$4.95. PO Box 1690, Santa Fe NM 87504. IN.

The Network

New Jersey's Lesbian/Gay Monthly. PO Box 10372, New Brunswick NJ 08906.

New Directions for Women

A national feminist newsjournal with extensive news coverage, reports, and essays. \$2. 108 West Palisade Ave., Englewood NJ 07631. IN.

Northern Woman Journal

Monthly newspaper from the northern shore of Lake Superior. Box 144, Thunder Bay ONT P7C 4V5, Canada

Of A Like Mind^{1,5}

Quarterly women's spirituality newspaper, \$3/40%, 5 copy min. Box 6021, Madison WI 53716.

Off Our Backs

A monthly national feminist newsjournal featuring news and issues of national and international

women, feminist and lesbian conferences... \$2. 2423 18th St. NW, Washington DC 20009. IN.

On Our Backs

A magazine of "sexual entertainment for the adventurous lesbian." \$5. 526 Castro St., San Francisco CA 94114.

On the Issues

Focused on women's health and related feminist issues. 97-77 Queens Blvd., Forest Hills NY 11374. BP/IN.

Other Countries

This journal was created to offer Black gay men "the kind of critical creative dialog which exists in the feminist community." \$6.95. PO Box 3142. Church St. Sta., New York NY 10009-3142. IN.

Our World, Too⁵

New gay/lesbian travel mag, monthly. 1104 N. Nova Rd. Suite 251, Daytona Beach FL 32117. IN.

Outlines⁵

Monthly, national newsmagazine published in Chicago. *Excellent*. 1300 W. Belmont #3E, Chicago IL 66657.

Out/Look

Quarterly for/by both lesbians and gay men with a strong feminist analysis. \$5.95. 2940 16th St. Suite 319, San Francisco CA 94103. IN, Ingram.

Outrageous Women

Another publication for lesbians on the s/m edge. PO Box 23, Somerville MA 02143.

Outweek⁵

Weekly gay/lesbian mag from NYC. We sell five copies a week. Good political coverage, reviews of women's music, "hip" publication. (Gay/lesbian pretty balanced.) \$1.50/\$1. 77 Lexington Ave., New York NY 10010.

Radiance

A quarterly national magazine for large women featuring articles, reviews, poetry... \$3, 40% for 3+. No longer dist. by Ingram. PO Box 31703, Oakland CA 94604.

Radical America

A progressive magazine published five times a year with strong feminist content and relevance. \$4.95. Alternative Education Project, 1 Summer St., Somerville MA 02143. IN.

Radical Teacher

Quarterly on themes such as sexuality, curriculum, teaching science, etc., with strong feminist content (local). PO Box 102, Cambridge MA 02142. IN.

RFD⁶

A country journal for gay men everywhere. \$4.75. PO Box 68, Liberty TN 37095.

Rock Against Sexism

A Boston-area newsletter.

Room of One's Own

Canadian literary journal. Box 46160 Station G., Vancouver BC V6R 4G5, Canada.

Sage

A scholarly journal on Black women written for a broad audience, featuring essays, reviews, interviews, theory, and research. \$8. PO Box 42741, Atlanta GA 30311.

Sage Woman^{1,6}

A quarterly journal of women's spirituality featuring articles, poetry, reviews, resources... \$4.95, 40% for 6. PO Box 5130, Santa Cruz CA 95063. BP.

Science for the People

A bimonthly magazine of science from a politically radical perspective, about to celebrate its 20th year (local). \$3. Science Resource Center, 897 Main St., Cambridge MA 02139. IN.

Signs

A feminist journal of new scholarship about women supplemented by reviews, essays, and conference reports. \$7.25. PO Box 37005, Chicago IL 60637.

Sing Heavenly Muse!

A journal encouraging women's explorations in poetry, fiction, and visual art. \$7. PO Box 13299, Minneapolis MN 55414.

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HYPATIA, a journal founded by members of the Society for Women in Philosophy as a forum for dialogue within the women's movement, is dedicated to the publication of scholarly research in feminist philosophy and the only journal in the country for scholarly research at the intersection of philosophy and women's studies.

Triannual. Subscriptions: \$20 individuals (one year), \$38 individuals (two years), \$40 institutions (outside US, add \$10 surface postage per year). Send orders to Indiana University Press, Journals Division, 10th & Morton Streets, Bloomington, Indiana 47405.

Sinister Wisdom

A journal publishing writing with a radical lesbian perspective, in all genres, for 12 years. \$5. PO Box 3252, Berkeley CA 94703. BP/IN.

Skipping Stones⁶

A multi-ethnic children's forum. 80574 Hazelton Rd., Cottage Grove OR 97424.

Snake Power

A new journal of contemporary female shamanism. \$6.50. 5856 College Ave. Box 138, Oakland CA 94618. BP/IN.

Sojourner

A monthly feminist national newsjournal featur-

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ing news, articles, information, essays, reviews, poetry, fiction... \$2. 1050 Commonwealth Ave. Suite 305, Boston MA 02215. IN.

Southern Exposure

A quarterly journal of politics and culture in the South. Back issues do well, especially the issue on gay culture in the South. \$5. PO Box 531, Durham NC 27702. IN.

Spare Rib

Has anyone found a way of getting this in the U.S.? 27 Clerkenwell Close, London EC1, England.

Third World Resources

A quarterly review of resources from and about the Third World featuring reviews, comprehensive lists, and other resources. \$2.50. Investigative Resource Center, 464 19th St., Oakland CA 94612.

Tiger Lily

Good, glossy quarterly for/by women of colour. PO Box 756, Stratford ONT N5A 4A0, Canada.

Tradeswoman

A quarterly magazine that is the only national

publication about women in nontraditional blue-collar jobs. \$2.50. PO Box 40664, San Francisco CA 94140.

Tribe

New gay men's literary journal. Premier issue will come out this winter. \$6.00. IN.

Trivia

A journal of radical feminist visionary writing including theory, scholarship, reviews, translations... \$5. PO Box 606, Amherst MA 01059. BP/IN.

Trouble and Strife

A radical feminist magazine from Britain. \$5. IN.

Utne Reader⁴

The *Reader's Digest* of the liberal world! Lens Publishing Co., Fawkes Building, 1624 Harmon Pl., Minneapolis MN 55403. IN.

Visibilities^{1,2,4,5}

Lesbian bimonthly from NY. The editors want to create an anti-racist, anti-sexist, non-discriminatory and non-violent periodical. Bimonthly, \$2.50/\$1.40, 40% for 10+. PO Box 1258, Peter Stuyvesant Station, New York NY 10009-1258.

WIN News

A quarterly journal and resource for news about women and women's groups in developing countries. \$8. 187 Grant St., Lexington MA 02173.

WomaNews

A New York City feminist newspaper including events, reviews, features, interviews... \$1. Women's Focus, Inc., PO Box 220, New York NY 10014.

Woman of Power

A journal of feminist spirituality and politics featuring photo essays, articles, poetry, resource lists... \$7. PO Box 827, Cambridge MA 02238. BP/IN.

Woman's Art Journal

Semi-annual publication of photos, artwork, reviews, articles... \$6.50. 7008 Sherwood Dr., Knoxville TN 37919.

Women and Environments

A quarterly journal that focuses on women in relations to the built and natural environment. \$4. Centre for Urban and Community Studies, 455 Spadina Ave., Toronto ONT Canada.

Women and Performance

NYU Dept. of Performance Studies, 51 W. 4th St., New York NY 10012. BP.

Women and Revolution

PO Box 1377 GPO, New York NY 10116.

Women Artists News

A feminist perspective on the NYC and national women's art world. PO Box 3304, Grand Central Station, New York NY 10163. IN.

WomenWise

A quarterly publication of the New Hampshire Federation of Feminist Health Centers. \$2. 38 South Main St., Concord NH 03301.

Women's Press^{1,6}

Our local paper! Women's paper with news, stories, reviews, etc. Bimonthly, 25¢/75¢. PO Box 562, Eugene OR 97401.

Women's Review of Books

A national feminist journal publishing reviews of current writings by and about women, and poetry. \$2. Wellesley College, Stone Center for Research on Women, Wellesley MA 02181. IN.

Women's Studies Quarterly

Feminist Press, 311 E. 94th St., New York NY 10128. IN.

Womyn's Braille Press Newsletter

Available in Braille, print, and on cassette. Not for sale in bookstores, but stores should keep the address handy to pass on to vision-impaired customers. PO Box 8475, Minneapolis MN 55408.

Yellow Silk

A magazine of erotica for women that includes a range of work by both women and men. 107 Larkspur St., San Rafael CA 94901. BP/IN.

Zeta

A progressive monthly magazine of "critical thinking on political, cultural, social, and economic life in the U.S." \$3. 150 West Canton St., Boston MA 02118. IN.

Zone

A feminist journal for women and men featuring stories, poems, artwork, memoirs... \$5.50. PO Box 803, Brookline Village MA 02147. IN.

SPECIAL ISSUES:

These are journals with special issues on women we usually keep in stock:

The Black Scholar

"The Black Woman in the Diaspora" (Vol. 17, No. 2) includes articles by Audre Lorde, Gloria T. Hull, Octavia Butler, and others. PO Box 7106, San Francisco CA 94120.

Cultural Survival

"Woman in a Changing World" (Vol. 8, No. 2). \$3. 11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge MA 02138.

Daedalus

"Learning About Women: Gender, Politics, and Power" (Fall 1987) includes articles by Jill Conway, Evelyn Fox Keller, Joan W. Scott. \$6. PO Box 515, Canton MA 02021.

Imagine

Volume 2 #1, "Edition Feminista", \$4.50. International Chicago Poetry, 89 Massachusetts Ave. Suite 22, Boston MA 02415.

DISTRIBUTORS:

BP = Bookpeople: 40% discount. Standing order minimum is 3 copies per title. 2929 Fifth St., Berkeley CA 94710. 1-800-999-4650.

IN = Inland. 40% discount. Standing order minimum is 2 copies per title; 5 copies for monthlies. PO Box 261, East Haven CT 06512. 1-800-243-0138. In Canada call collect: 203-468-0589. ○



By The Sisterspirit Collective
San Jose, California

A seed was planted in the fertile minds of four women in 1984 and together they created Sisterspirit. Back then it was mail order books in someone's garage and summer coffeehouses in the basement of a place called Jonah's Wail on the San Jose State University campus.

That seed was the desire to "provide a central multicultural information center" and "to promote women's culture in the South Bay Area." Now we are a tree with many branches.

Sisterspirit is made up of 25 dedicated women who volunteer their time and considerable energy to staff our bookstore and run our weekly coffeehouses. There are as many reasons as there are women for why we have volunteered. In fact, make up a reason for yourself and it will be one of ours.



This diverse group of women has, with warmth and humor, learned to work together as a team, and part of that team is our audiences who are wonderfully supportive of our goals. We are constantly seeking ways to reach into the women's community, to let them know we're here.

Not only are we totally volunteer but we are also non-profit. Our mission is to promote women's culture and to provide a safe place for women of all cultures to gather together. That ideal was part of Mary and Marilyn and Amy and Karen's dream. Sisterspirit's charter makes it clear that we are here to serve the women's community in the South Bay Area.

We try to provide a safe and comfortable chem-free space in which women can enjoy the company of other women, live entertainment and good books. It is our intention that all women be made welcome in our small space. That is why we have a sliding scale, keep our ticket prices as low as possible, and never turn anyone away.

We have three coffeehouses a month and periodically a "Big Event." Not only do we present many of the women in the forefront of women's music, but we also try to showcase the multi-talented women in our own community. You can also find their music in our bookstore.

Musicians, poets, lecturers, writers, playwrights, comedienne and reader's theater groups have graced our "stage." We have wonderful dances, slide shows, fairs, formal and informal social events.

In the bookstore we cover much of the same, but from the literary point of view. We feature literature, poetry and writing by, for and about women, emphasizing lesbian fiction, science fiction, gay and lesbian issues, biographies of women's lives and works by women of color. Other issues such as self help, health and spirituality have a prominent place in our bookstore, as well. If it's important to women or about women, then we have it.

Our day to day existence hangs in the balance and depends solely on the power of the women who volunteer and their determination to make a difference. Some volunteer for a few months, some stay longer and have over a period of time become the heart of Sisterspirit. And we have a lot of heart.

Sharing a space with The DeFrank Community Center has benefited both organizations during the last three years and this association could go on for several more, but the dream of Sisterspirit is to have a

See Sisterspirit, page 51

But Can She Type?

What These Women Need is a Nap

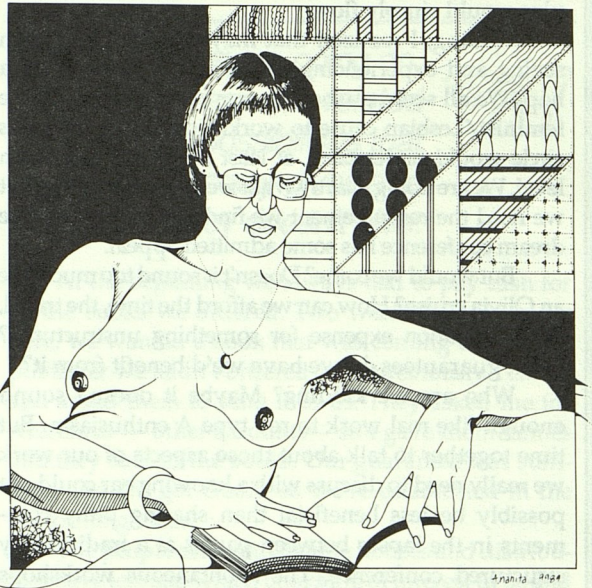
By Nett Hart

I've recently toured a bit through feminist bookstores doing some readings. I've met some wonderful women along the way, committed to making available not only the written and taped resources of our growing movement/culture, but also the spaces and information sharing upon which it grows. I've met women who work alone doing all the buying and selling, the organizing and community resourcing in order to create this kind of place in their communities. I've met Lesbian couples who began stores as joint dreams and whose entire resources have been flowing into the creation of a community center and bookstore. I've met women who work full time at paying jobs then turn their full time plus hours into a feminist store, women who not only do all the labors of a bookstore, but also produce concerts and events to feed cash poor stores. I've met and talked at length with women who believe ardently in what they are doing.

At the end of the 3rd International Feminist Bookfair, the excitement of being together was so present, it seemed we must meet again soon. Here, at last, we were with women who shared our passions, our politics and our problems. We could talk about what really stirred the hear. So it was generally believed a consensus that it was time to convene another Women in Print Conference.

And here ended consensus, if there had in fact been one. A convening committee based in Minneapolis and launched by me of Word Weavers and Marj Schneider of Womyn's Braille Press, began to hold open meetings advertised in many formats and locations. Our intent was to call together a diverse committee to organize an inclusive conference. Our momentum was lost by the failure of that committee

to emerge and by the differing opinions on the responses to the preliminary questionnaire sent to *FBN* subscribers. Here there was no consensus at all as to what a Women in Print Conference would encompass, who would be included, what was the point. The only agreement was that there should be one and someone else should organize it.



Night with book

Workshops, yes, of course, it should be built around workshops. But whom each respondent felt it necessary to engage varied incredibly. Without going into detail, it seemed we would have 300 workshops of 4 participants each. And yes, in 1989, accessibility was a big *question* instead of an *assumption* — for me the most deflating aspect of convening a planning committee.

So it was that on my travels — the excitement of not only talking passionately about our shared work and vision but also acting the part of cultural troubadour, sharing information from one place to the next — I began again to feel the need for a Women in Print gathering.

It came to me in a dream. I'm not one who values dream information more or less than any other ways of taking in the world, so please don't make too much of the fact that my revelation came in a dream, but it did, full blown. I saw the Women in Print Conference blooming in a setting of great ease, of cozy spaces and relaxation, and plenty of unstructured time in which to talk with the women we would, in a different setting, attend workshops to hear. There was room in the dream for all the women who wanted to come. The publishers who didn't want to talk to writers wouldn't have to. The ones who did, could. The bookstore managers who didn't want to meet with bookstore employees could exercise that option. All of our schedules would simply flow.

Waking, I realized that maybe what I had been seeing and experiencing was a collective need for a nap. We all seem pushed by our commitments to the feminist/Lesbian cause to workloads few outside this circle would understand, at least at this compensation level. We are doing exactly what we want to be doing but we need the resourcement we find in one another. The dream conference has some admitted appeal.

But would we come? Doesn't it sound too much like an Olivia cruise? How can we afford the time, the travel, the registration expense for something unstructured? What guarantees do we have we'd benefit from it?

Who are we kidding? Maybe it doesn't sound enough like real work to rev type A enthusiasm. But time together to talk about those aspects of our work we really need to discuss with a knowing ear could not possibly be less beneficial than sharing pithy comments in the lapses between panels at a traditionally structured conference. The spontaneous workshops are always the highlight of a conference. Why not give lots of room for that spontaneous combustion of ideas?

Would this anarchy encourage cliques? I can't imagine anything more cliquey than the notion I heard over and over in the questionnaire that certain segments of our community were not welcome at the conference. My only concern would be that Women in Print be exactly that. We'll find the ones we need to engage.

WRITING WANTED



Because of the popularity of *Herotica*, its first collection of erotica, Down There Press is soliciting short stories for a second volume of woman-authored erotica. Womanuscripts with straight, bi- and/or lesbian characters exploring all aspects of the sexual imagination are desired. Deadline is April 30, 1990. Down There Press, PO Box 2086, Burlingame CA 94011.

The Brethren Mennonite Council for Lesbian and Gay Concerns is looking for stories from Mennonite and Brethren lesbians and bisexual women for publication in an anthology. Send prose, poetry, or b/w drawings or write for more information: BMCLGC, Box 65724, Washington DC 20035.

Dorothy Abbott is compiling "A Southern Literary Source Book." Send suggestions and information for inclusion to her at 2001 Beach Drive SE, St. Petersburg FL 33705.

A literary anthology for, by and about Black lesbians is seeking poetry (any form or length) and short fiction (maximum 25 pages). Send submissions and queries with self-addressed, *stamped* envelope to: Terri Jewell, 211 W. Saginaw #2, Lansing MI 48933. Deadline: April 1990.

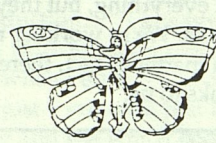
Susanna J. Sturgis is looking for women's recovery stories — fiction, personal essays, probably a few poems, possibly journal entries and interviews — that integrate feminism and recovery, whether that means working the twelve steps or taking another path. What she doesn't want is "professionals" telling the rest of us how to do it. Deadline: March 1, 1990. Send ideas, queries, and manuscripts to her at PO Box 39, West Tisbury MA 02575. Please include SASE. ○

Continued from previous column

Is this a movement gone soft? I don't think so. I think this is a movement returned to its antecedents, a movement born around kitchen tables and softball diamonds, on the street and on its feet.

So, the "questionnaire" this time around is unstructured, as wide open as a blank page, but I would like to hear from you. What do you think? ○

SAGA



Libería de la Mujer

By Carol Seajay

An interview with Susana Sommer, one of the co-founders of Saga, the women's bookstore in Argentina, in May 1989 in San Francisco.

"Two years ago Nene Reynoso and I began to think about opening a women's bookstore in Buenos Aires. There wasn't a women's bookstore and we thought it was the time to do it.

In Latin America there's only one other women's bookstore, Lila*, in Chile, in Santiago. They opened three or four years before we did. We have various kinds of informal connections with them. For example, if someone is coming to Buenos Aires from Santiago, they'll send a message and ask if we can send them two copies of such-and-such a book, and so we'll send them, and they send us other things....

For a year before we opened we looked for information and made connections. We wrote to many women's groups in Latin America, to the women's bookstores in Spain, and we read catalogs.

In the beginning we were just looking for books written in Spanish. Then we thought we could include some books in other languages so we added some books in English and some in Portuguese. Last year les Editions des Femmes/Paris attended the book fair that always takes place in April and they offered us their books, so now we have some books in French as well. But we sell many more books in Spanish than in

Saga: Librería de la mujer, Hipolito Yrigoyen 2296, esq. Pichincha Loc 2, Buenos Aires 1089, Argentina.

**Lila: librería de mujeres, Jimena Pizarro G, Providencia 1652-L.3, Santiago, Chile. 460683*

all foreign languages combined because most of the people read Spanish. There are also some distributors that have novels in English. We have, for example, *Rubyfruit Jungle*, but I'm the only one who has read it. I never sold it, but I read it and I just like it very much.

We opened the bookstore March 28, 1988. And in this year we have come a long way.

*All these things are going on.
I think they are also related
to the possibilities that
democracy gives and
non-democracy doesn't give.*



At the beginning we always had to pay cash for all the books we ordered. Two weeks before I came here, we wanted a book that was coming out from a publisher we hadn't ordered from previously. I called and asked them to send it to us. They asked me for references — other accounts— so I gave them names and they sent us the books. Our guarantee was sufficient and we got credit, so we're established in the bookselling trade.

The people at the publishing houses and distributors have learned which books are of interest to us and which are not. Many understood quite quickly, but others looked at us and said, "Ah, you mean cooking, fashion, how to get slim" and so on, and we had to explain, "No, that's not our idea of a women's bookstore." But now, when most of them say, "Look, we have this new book, maybe you would like to see it?" it's a suggestion that's useful. So it's easier for us than at the beginning when we had to check everything.

We still have to check everything, but they've learned what is interesting to us. We're working mostly with men in this area. As a matter of fact, there is only one woman who sells books to us.



Our guarantee was sufficient and we got credit, so we're established in the bookselling trade.

We've had so much support and solidarity from the women of Buenos Aires! So many women, whenever they have to get a present for a friend, just come to the store and buy a book from us. That is solidarity! It's important to us. And people are always telling one another about the bookstore, so new people are always coming. All the women who are feminists and the women who work with women are always telling people about the bookstore and sending people to us. "You should go to the women's bookstore," they say. "Surely you will get it there." People from the United States are coming, saying, "So-and-so was here and she told me about the bookstore."

Women who work in the communications media have also been very supportive. They talked about the bookstore on their radio shows, or did interviews with us, or published interviews with photographs in their paper... So many people learned about the store through their efforts! And there are lots of people who have never come to the bookstore but whenever my partner or I go to someplace and they say, "What do you do?" "Well I work in the women's bookstore..." "Ah! You are from the women's bookstore!" They already know about the bookstore. It's very interesting.

For example, there's a woman who does a column in the Sunday literary section of *La Nacion*, which is the most important newspaper in Argentina. She's not a feminist, but she's very nice and she did a very nice interview. She has lots of fans. So, on the Monday after she wrote about us, people were coming in all day long, both women and men, saying, "I'm here because I read about your bookstore yesterday." Most of them didn't buy anything, but they thought that if she told them about the store, they should go and see it. And they did!

There's also a woman who has a page in the Argentine Automobile Club magazine. One day she came in and said she had heard about the bookstore and that she would be interested in putting something about the bookstore in her column, and so she did. That magazine goes to the whole of the land — 600,000 magazines! It's very interesting to have something in such a magazine about a women's bookstore.... In another recent column she had written about how 10 or 20 years ago, two Swedish women came to Argentina to race in a big automobile race. You cannot imagine Argentine auto races with women drivers! But they came and there were women drivers who won races. She wrote about that and now she's put us in her column, too!

But then again, people come and say, "Well, tell me, what's a women's bookstore?" or "Why are the women segregated?" or men come to the door and say, "Well, tell me, can men also enter here?" I imagine that the same thing happens here? However, the men who aren't afraid that it says "Women's Bookstore" on the outside and come in are very nice. They are a special kind of men... For example, we have a long time customer who buys books for his wife, for some friends and so on. Once I was doing a lecture at Biblioteca de la Mujer, a municipal public library created in 1987, and a woman came and said, "You're the woman from the bookstore? I know you because my husband is always buying books there. I haven't been there yet, but I'm going to come!"

On the other hand, we see that women come to the bookstore and say, "Oh, fantastic, a women's bookstore, what a wonderful idea! A place where one can get things that are interesting for women..."

One of the things that we noticed about the bookstore was that lots of people came that we didn't know. We've both worked for a long time in many women's groups and so on. But now we are seeing people that we never saw in our corner before. I think that's important.

I think people are impressed. I think people are coming in and asking this or that because there are many things that people never thought about that could be a problem to be a woman. Many times women come and tell you all about their life and their problems.

At the beginning something happened every day. I would come home after my day at the bookstore and my husband and my sons would say, "Tell us what happened today!" It was an ongoing story with many chapters!

There are many things going on that are all related to a growing consciousness of the progress of women.... At the beginning it was, "Are you going to the special event for women?" And everybody was going. It was the only thing that was happening. But now there are more things and you cannot go to everything. There is a feminist magazine*... We have people writing essays, and there are many disciplines that women are thinking about: anthropology, history, there's a group of feminist women philosophers.... There is a post-graduate course in women's studies from the University of Buenos Aires.... All these things are going on. I think they are also related to the possibilities that democracy gives and non-democracy doesn't give. We've been through both and there is a growing consciousness about this. Of course Argentina is a machismo society with a strong Judeo-Christian tradition. Everything contributes to the submission of women. But I think things are changing slowly.

For example, two young girls, who are studying to be teachers, came in and said they were sent by their teacher, who happens to be a man, because he said that this year he wanted to talk about the influence of women and so on, so they should work on issues that affect women. One of the girls chose sexism and he sent the girls to the bookstore.

We think that our bookstore is a sort of traditional bookstore, a bookstore like we would like other bookstores to be....

We try to read most of the books. Since Nene and I are interested in different themes, we cover most of the books we have, so when people come we can say, "Well, now, if you're interested in such-and-such, this book is better and that one isn't as good. If you never

* *Feminaria*. Send correspondence to: Lea Fletcher, Casilla de Correo 402, 1000 Buenos Aires, R. Argentina. Subscriptions are US\$20. USA, Canada, and Europeans should send subscriptions to Andres Avellaneda, Dept. of Romance Languages & Literature, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL 33611.

thought about women's issues this book would be a better introduction...." I always tell people, "Look, if you go to a store to buy a blouse, you try 20. I don't know why when you buy a book you have to make a decision in just 5 minutes! Just look at the books, and think it over and see which book you are more interested in at the moment." So we are being what a bookstore should be.

Women who work in the communications media talked about the bookstore on their radio shows, or did interviews with us, or published interviews with photographs in their papers...



On the other hand, we really serve as an information resource for everyone. The most unbelievable information connections can happen. Women come, for example, from inner Argentina, and say, "I would like to see somebody who's working on such and such..." And we know who's working on it. We can say, "Why don't you call so-and-so?" The other day a woman came in who works for the government. She was going to do an exhibit about the vote and the feminine vote, and did we have some information...? So whenever people want something, they think that maybe we know or that we can make the connection.

One of the women that came to our bookstore sent us the *Ladyslipper* catalog of women's music. We know a feminist musician in Buenos Aires. Such things happen and for her it was awful impressive because it had everything that is done with music and women.

So you need that kind of information to come to you.

Yes. It's interesting because we can pass it over to someone who can use it. Such things happen. And although the post doesn't work wonderfully, these things seem to arrive. We had never seen this catalog before and didn't know that it existed, and this person thought it would be interesting and she sent it to us

and we found the person who could use it. And of course these things they have no economic use whatsoever but I think it's important for us to do that sort of work.

The other day two women from the United States who are studying literature bought some books, and then they said, "By the way, I need a hairdresser. Do you know where can I go?" You never know where to go or how much to pay when you are in a strange place. So we just put out whatever information we have.. When people are making causes, expositions, and so on, we put all the information out.

I have been in general bookstores and in women's bookstores here. General bookstores here usually have a place for women's studies. Even if they don't have a special section they have the books somewhere. It's not easy to detect them, but they are there. I'm getting totally crazy because wherever I go I want to buy everything!

The quantity of things that are being published here is very different from Argentina. I was talking with the women at New Words, and they say they are carrying around 8,000 titles. That's an enormous production! This is a very big land with 240 million people. Imagine: Argentina has 30 million people. Half are women. Of the half that are women not everybody reads. So the market is very small, and production is also small. For me it's amazing — 8,000 books all for women!



*The store takes care of
itself financially.
That's very important.*

How many titles do you have in your store?

Maybe a thousand, not 8,000. But when New Words started, they had about the same number of titles as we do now...

What are the problems you face...?

For one thing, many books published in Spanish are published in Spain. So they have to be imported. It's not so easy to get them. That's why we took time to see which books we wanted. The women's bookstore in Spain has the same types of books we carry —

they have every book that you can't find in any other bookstores! They sent us a list of books, and we made a list from their stock. These sorts of things happened when we began and it helped us a lot.

Problems? The store is very small, so we have no place for talks and so on. That's bad because we would like to do it. We'll see how it goes, but we're thinking that you can do one thing at a time and you cannot cope with everything. And better to learn your business first. Our biggest problem is that the bookstore is too small. But that just shows our progress!

Do you order books direct from Spain or do you get books from distributors?

We get books through distributors. Importing books is another work load! Also, from an economic point of view, it's financially viable if you import lots of books because then, overall, it costs less for the shipping and everything. So we cannot manage importing books.

Do the distributors carry the books that you want?

No. We have to request them specially.

Did you have trouble finding titles to begin with?

No. Many of the books we sell are published in Spain. And there are books published in Argentina. Whenever we look through any catalog we find one or two titles. We have to look through all the catalogs because there isn't a women's press. But the problem is we haven't enough money to buy all the books at once so we have to select.

How is the store working out financially?

We are not in a major shopping area. We're in a place that's a bit out of the way. Rent is a little less there. We don't have a phone. I don't know if we could get a phone there. A phone is very expensive. So we both make the phone calls from our homes.

The money to start came from both of us, so it's not funded by anyone else. But we cannot pay salary. But we think it's good that we haven't had to put money in since we began. The store takes care of itself financially. It's paying for itself. That's very important.

How did you get the idea to start the bookstore?

It was Nene's idea. One day we were talking and she said she was thinking about opening a bookstore

with two other women. I always dreamt of having a bookstore because I always loved to read. We weren't really friends, we knew each other from participating in several activities but we weren't friends yet. So she told me about her idea...

I said, "Oh, that's a wonderful idea. If you should need another, call me!" Time passed and then one day she called me and asked if I was still interested. So we began to talk about opening the store and we worked together and we made this partnership. It's worked through this whole year, and now we are friends. But we weren't initially, and maybe it was good that we weren't, so that nothing invaded this new relationship, you know? So it happened like that. Both of us really love books and like to read. And we are both women that are interested in women's subjects so it was just the only thing we *could* do! (Laughing!)

And it was no problem that nobody in Argentina had ever done a woman's bookstore before.

No. There was a women's bookstore some years ago. I had heard about it and when I decided to go, it didn't exist anymore.

I am a biologist. I was teaching before we started the store. I'm working on the new reproductive technologies.... That's how I am in contact with (New Words collective member) Rita Arditti. I am interested in that subject and also that's what I'm doing on my own, but I cannot do biology and the bookstore. It is too much! So... Well, it was a decision that I was willing to make.

You said that you stocked Rubyfruit Jungle. Are there any other books for lesbians? Do you sell lesbian books? Is that a subject there?

Realistically, no. It came from the people that import paperbacks; they bring everything, whatever it is. I knew of the book and the author, so I bought it. It came with the other books, it didn't come special. There is a group for lesbians, it's small, and a newsletter or very small magazine. There isn't much. You see, I don't think it's the time yet. I don't think it's very easy to appear publicly in Argentina as a lesbian. I think it's very hard.

What types of books sell at Saga? What subjects are most popular?

One of our bestsellers is a book about money

called, *The Hidden Sex of Money* by Clara Coria (*El sexo oculto del dinero*, GEL, Buenos Aires, Argentina, 1986). It was written by a woman psychologist, a feminist. It's about women and money. It includes some things about her experience about women and money. Now she's going to publish a second book that includes the men and women and looks at, for example, those that have businesses to see how women and men react in different situations, and their different relationships. Because the relationship of money between men and women, money's different, you know? And so she's making a second book.

***Our biggest problem is that
the bookstore is too small.
But that just shows our
progress!***



Another book that we're selling a lot is *Around the Feminine Subjectivity* (*Estudios sobre la subjetividad femenina*, GEL, Buenos Aires, 1987). It was written and edited by Mabel Burin, with a group of women psychologists working on women and mental health, and it has a feminist approach to the theme that's quite different. And so this is a book that we sell a lot. And we recommend it a lot.

Now there is a series from Argentina that includes a book by a woman who is an essayist and a painter, about the feminine and masculine roles. There are also books on the anthropology of women....

Then we have also lots of novels and there are many novels that are really from a woman's point of view. We often recommend these. For example, we have *Canon de alcéba* by Tununa Mercado that's erotic short stories with some political writings (Ada Korn editora, Buenos Aires, 1988). That's quite unusual to have such a book from a woman's point of view. It's a very good book and it's on the best-seller list everywhere.

There's another book that I haven't seen here. I don't know if it's been translated. It's by a Japanese woman who is living in Germany. She told this story of a Japanese woman who got a scholarship and came to study in the United States. She actually told, for example, how the Japanese view this United States

from Japan and how the United States view them inside the United States. She tells what her experience is at the university and when she meets Japanese people that are here and what happens. This girl had been in Hiroshima as a small girl and her mother has died. So there are lots of ideas in this book because it has the war and the nuclear war and discrimination, not only sexual discrimination, but racial discrimination as well. But it's not a didactic book at all. It's a wonderful novel.

The distributor offered it to us and I began to read it and I found it to be fantastic. And I said to Nene, "Why don't you read this, I think it's wonderful." So the book sold a lot. This book came from one of our biggest distributors. One day we met because of another thing and he said, "What happened to that Japanese novel you are selling all the time?" I said, "It's a nice book — you should read it!" So we promoted the book that way. And it was fantastic.



There are descriptions of some things in books that only a woman could have told in that way.

Then there is another Mexican book that's called *Arrancame la vida* by Angeles Mastretta (Alfaguara, Mexico, 1986). It's fantastic because it tells the story of a young woman. She's fifteen years and she gets to know a man who is a Mexican General. So imagine the situation: She gets to marry him and when they were to the place where you get married the judge says to her in Spanish you have to put your name "*fulana de tal*," that's from so-and-so (his surname). You maintain your own name but you're property: you're owned by somebody else. And she puts it as she is told. Then, when he writes his name she says, "You should put, 'from me.'" That's the ideology pervading the whole book. Well, finally, she's very young and he's big and with lots of experience and he becomes a governor in Mexico. It's a view of power from the other side. It's very interesting. I liked it also very much because she also has humor. For example, she takes up when she is pregnant the first time and

she confronts the whole real situation instead of that mythical, mystical situation — that wonderful state of being pregnant — and she doesn't feel well, and she feels herself ugly... It's fantastically written from the woman's point of view.

I like it very much when books have humor. And many women's books have, in one sense or another, this view of women.

There are descriptions of some things in books and in films that only a woman could have told in that way. A woman writer that sells her books — she's a very well known writer in Argentina, Angélica Gorodischer. She was at the Montreal Fair. The other day she was at the bookstore and she said, "You know, I am not impressed by what men write. I think what men write, it's already known. I think it's much more rigid." And on the other hand, a man who is a publisher of poetry, said just the same thing. He said that when he looks at what the men poets are writing and when he looks at what the women poets are writing, he thinks that the new things come from women. From men, it's all more or less the same, always.

Another book we sell a lot is called *Collective Diary*. It was written by four women. One of them is my partner. When they were together, they were going to study, oh, I don't recall what texts, but they saw that whenever they began to study texts they always came to the personal situation. So they began to work on the personal situations and finally they decided to publish this collective diary. It's collective because you never know who it is bringing up a subject in the book. Every subject from buying clothes to your first menstrual period, menstruation, sexuality, whatever... I always think it's a good book because it's written by Argentine women, it's published in Argentina, and so people don't feel strange about it because it has to do with the everyday life of everyone. It's also very moving. And it moves the reader's thinking around. It makes one question if things are really what they always thought or if they should think something different.

And there's the book by Clara Coria that's called *El sexo oculto del dinero*, that's *The Healing Sex of Money*, that I mentioned earlier. That's a best

seller and it's a very good book. It's in its fourth edition already.

*And now we are in a new
adventure of starting a
women's publishing
company, Croquiñol
ediciones*



Another thing that's happening is that we have is non-sexist children's books. There are some Argentine women writers, feminists, that are writing these books. They have another perspective and another feeling about this. I think it's very important. Luckily the books come from a publishing house that is quite economical so we can sell them easily.

There is one called *Mrs. Small Iron*. Mrs. Small Iron is just what a woman "should" be. But her daughter — no!

The daughter wants to do things that girls "shouldn't" do. And she goes through things; it's very funny.

I think that literature is very important. There are phases in the lives of people when that person would want to read only precise and solid things, and there are phases when you want to read a good book. But you want to read a good book that doesn't go against your own beliefs.

And now we are in a new adventure of starting a women's publishing company. We are looking at the idea of a women's press because there are women in Argentina who are writing, who are thinking. We think there are women who could publish with a women's publishing company. There is a group working in mental health who have a book written already. There is a feeling already that women's things would be interesting to do. It will be called Croquiñol ediciones. Isabel Miranda, Ana Sampaesi, Nene and I are working on this venture. We'll have more news about it soon. ○

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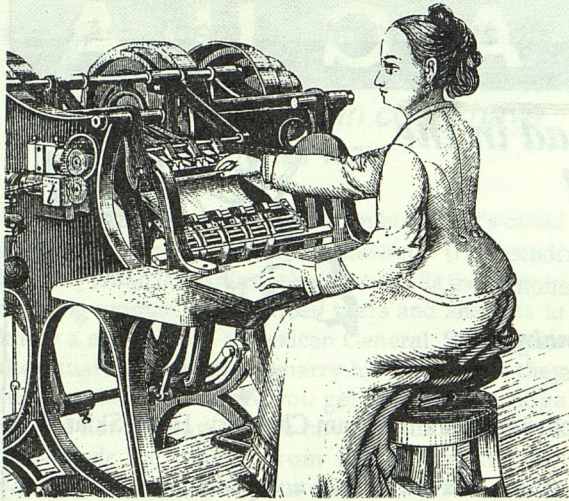
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Emily Faithful & The Victoria Press

Publisher and Printer to the Queen

Emily Faithful founded the Victoria Press in March 1860, employing 16 female compositors and a few men to do the heavy lifting work. She encountered violent opposition from men's printing unions, who claimed that a mixed workshop would encourage immorality. Nonetheless, the press quickly became a commercial success and provided exemplary working conditions.



In 1863 she started *The Victoria Magazine*, and later the *West London Express*. Queen Victoria was so impressed by the quality of work that she appointed Emily "Publisher and Printer-in-Ordinary to the Queen." Later in life Emily teamed up with Emma Paterson to form the Women's Printing Society. Nor was this the only society she founded — she was a prolific campaigner and pioneer in the promotion of employment for women, and her services were recognized with a Civil List pension of £50 in 1889.

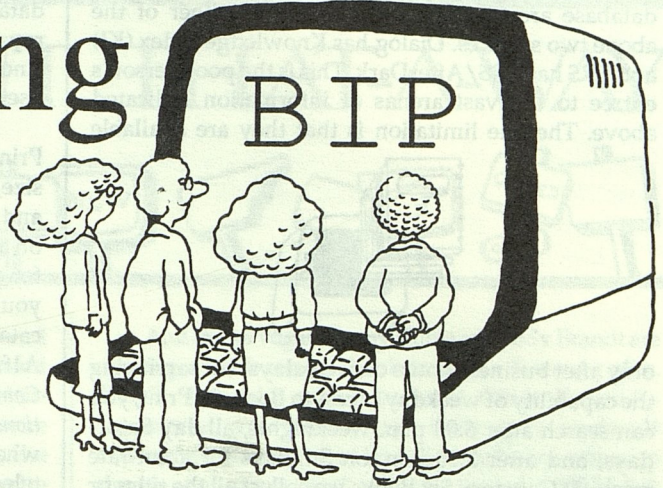
On lecture tours to the United States Emily was well received by the leaders of the women's emancipation movement, and reported on their activities in *The Lady's Pictorial*, whose staff she had joined. Her lectures in England included dramatic readings and her own verse, and she wrote a novel, *Change Upon Change — A Love Story* (1868), the message of which is a plea for the education of women and the creation of career opportunities that would give them economic and political independence.

Somewhat more unusually, Emily was cited in the Coddington divorce case in 1864 for alienating the wife's affections, but such was the strength of her character and so great was the esteem in which she was held that she suffered no lasting damage to her reputation. Read more about it in *The Pink Plaque Guide to London* (Michael Elliman, Frederick Roll. GMP, 1986). In 1854-6 Emily lived with the Coddingtons at 82 Eccleston Square, SW1. The Victoria Press was located in Harp Alley, between Farringdon and St. Bride Streets, EC4, and Emily lived at 9 Coram Street, WC1, about 1861.

More about this estimable heroine of publishing can be found in William Freedman's article in *The Library*, June 1974. (Is there no full-length biography?) Thanks to David Doughan of Fawcett Library for bringing Emily Faithful to our attention.

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Accessing Books In Print



By Neil Woodward
Category Six Books

There are basically two ways to get into Books in Print if you have a computer: via CD-ROM or via an on-line search. This article will give you a brief description of each possibility along with the approximate cost and the hardware you'll need.

Mega-Bucks

To run a CD-ROM (which stands for 'compact disk, read-only memory') you will require a CD player that is compatible with your computer. You load the CD into the player and access the disk from your terminal. You can choose from several combinations of information that Bowker offers on CD: the basic listing of books that are in print, or that along with books which are out-of-print, or the above with Ulrich's serials and annuals database. The annual subscription rate for Books in Print alone is \$995.00 for disks that are updated quarterly. This provides access to over 770,000 titles which you can browse through by Sears or Library of Congress subject heading, by title, by author, or by other search criteria as well. There is an additional shipping fee of \$15.00 per year. Check the current Bowker catalog for more information. If you need constant, up-to-date access to Books in Print all the time in your shop, this option is worth looking at. It is very fast, and you can print, edit and save citations from the database.

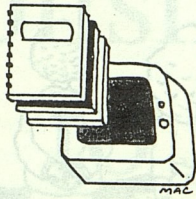
Renting Time

There are four ways to connect with the Books in Print database on-line. The current Bowker catalog mentions two of these ways; that is, by signing on with one of the encyclopedic data bases such a Dialog or BRS (Bibliographic Retrieval Services) which any former librarians out there will instantly recognize. These services are widely used in college and university libraries for doing bibliographic searches for citations in every conceivable academic field that has an indexed literature. Books in Print is also available here. This service is more current than CD-ROM in that it is updated monthly. It also indexes far more than the CD-ROM database, including over 1,000,000 titles with complete records for each indicating those that are in print, as well as those out-of-print or out-of-stock for the last 8 years. This information is retrievable by various search criteria or combinations of criteria. The cost is \$65.00 per hour of search time for Dialog and \$40.00 per hour for BRS. There are also fees involved for subscriptions to these services, and there are telecommunications charges as well that you do not incur with CD-ROM. For these databases you need a computer, a modem, and a communications software package. We use Procomm, a very good 'shareware' program that we acquired through PC-SIG in California.

Ultra-Budget

The two other (unmentioned in the Bowker catalog) ways to connect to the one and only Books in Print

database are through a subsidiary of either of the above two services. Dialog has Knowledge Index (KI) and BRS has BRS/AfterDark. This is the poor person's entree to the vast arenas of information indicated above. The one limitation is that they are available



only after business hours on weekdays. For sacrificing the capability of weekday access to Books in Print, you can search after 6:00 p.m. weeknights, all day Saturdays, and after 2:00 p.m. on Sundays for a cut-rate price. At Category Six Books we collect all the titles or subjects we want to check on the computer and then wait for a time in the evening or weekend to look into it via Knowledge Index. At this point we don't have to have instant access to Books in Print on-line all day long. It works for us to batch it. The cost for KI is \$35.00 per year, but with a start up credit of 2 hours of free searching and, thereafter, \$24.00 per hour including all communications costs, it's a good deal. BRS/AfterDark costs \$144.00 per year plus access fees ranging from \$6 to \$24 per hour depending on which

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Toll-free phone numbers for further information: Dialog and Knowledge Index, 800-334-2564 or 800-227-1927; BRS and BRS/AfterDark, 800-345-4277; Bowker, 800-521-8110.

Postscriptum: Compuserve has just added access to BIP recently. However, it is very expensive and very slow searching. The charges are in addition to Compuserve's normal on-line charges and the telecommunications charges, so be careful. Compuserve's number is 800-848-8990. ○

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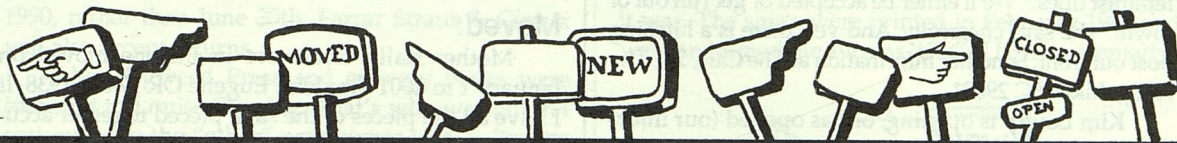
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- Other _____

THEY WENT THAT-A-WAY



Oops! Shades of Lavender is alive and well and open in a new location, not closed, as we speculated in the last issue. Their new address is 1502 Hendricks Ave., Jacksonville FL 32207. Their new phone number is 904-346-3182. We couldn't find them, the post-office claimed to have tried and failed (despite a forwarding order on file) but the grapevine worked. Someone who knew they weren't closed read in *FBN* that they seemed to have disappeared, called Shades, and they called us... Our apologies all around to everyone who was inconvenienced by the misinformation.

But speaking of "missing" organizations, we've had mail returned from Metis' PO Box 25187. If anyone has a current address or knows that this one is good again, will you drop us a line?

New Stores:

Honolulu has a feminist bookstore now! Laughing Goddess Wymyn's Bookstore is open and stocking books, records, tapes, cards, periodicals and more. Opened by Karen Gates (*Aunt Edna's Reading List*), 1020 Keeaumoku St. #303A (at Young St., above Cafe Seoul), Honolulu HI 96814. 808-523-0906.

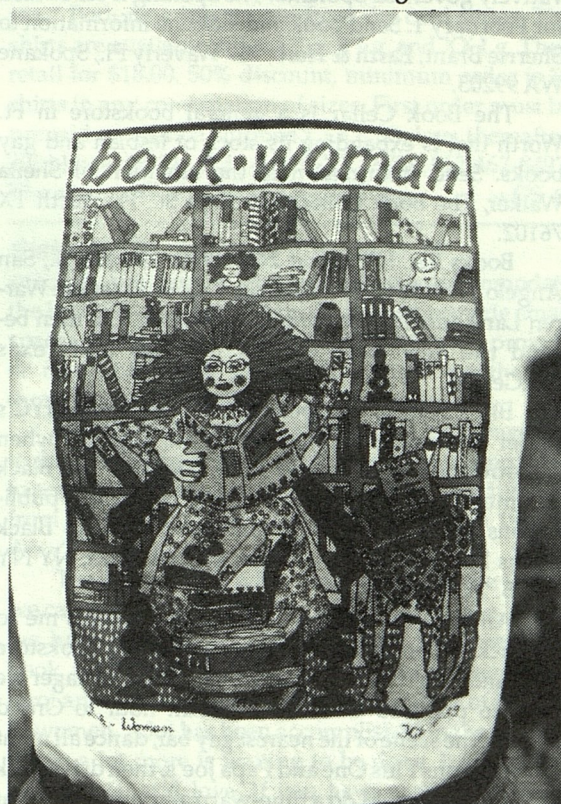
Out of the Dark has recently opened in what I'm told is a far-flung Washington suburb, specializing in lesbian and gay books. Send information to Out of the Dark at 530 Randolph Rd, Newport News VA 23601. 804-596-6220.

Carolyn Peck will be opening a women's bookstore in the Oklahoma City area this spring. Send her information at 9609 Berkley Court, Oklahoma City OK 73162.

Heather Thorp and Susan Bennett are opening a feminist, gay & lesbian store in Cleveland this spring. Send them information and catalogs at 3964 Monticello Blvd., Cleveland Heights OH 44121.

And in Las Vegas! Penny Kubla and Judy Brandt are opening a book-service/bookstore on a five-year plan. They'll start with selling books at Olivia Record/ - Tupperware-type parties while being open weekends and evenings in order to build a clientele before setting up shop in a storefront. Send them information at 533 Holick Ave., Henderson NV 89015 and look for them at ABA!

Karen Ray is opening a bookstore/cafe/deli in Aiken, South Carolina. She's moving to the town of



See page 51 for ordering information!

17,000 to live in "horse country." She's leasing an existing cafe with a lunch clientele and will put in a bookstore side to supplement the cafe and add another dimension to the town's cultural life. Her plan is to stock both general and feminist titles. "We'll either be accepted or get run out of town!" she says cheerfully. And yes, there is a hitching post out front. Send her information at The Cafe, 231 The Alley, Aiken SC 29801.

Kim Lowry is opening, or has opened (our information is a bit on the sketchy side) The Bookery at 121 E. Congress, Tucson AZ 85701.

Phoenix Rising is scheduled to open in the West Palm Beach area in the fall of 1990. Send book and sideline information to Robyn and Lisa at Phoenix Rising, 628 N. "C" Street, Lake Worth FL 33460. Thanks to Susan at Amazon Earthworks for making this connection.

Earth & Herb will bring alternative books and sundries to the large alternative population of conservatively governed Spokane. The opening is scheduled for February 1. Send book and sideline information to Sherrie Brant, Earth & Herb, 717 Waverly Pl., Spokane WA 99205.

The Book Cellar is a general bookstore in Ft. Worth that is expanding its stock of lesbian and gay books. Send information to the attention of Sheila Walker, The Book Cellar, 400 Main St., Ft. Worth TX 76102.

Books Etc. is open at 2410 West Avenue N., San Angelo TX 76901. 915-942-1544. This replaces the Warren Lane address we announced earlier. The men behind the new store are Jay Moseley and Texas FitzGerald.

Black Books Plus opened in September on NYC's upper west side, helping to fill the gap left when Apostrophe's closed. They stock books for the Black community, including a good range of feminist publications. Send information (and customers) to Black Books Plus at 702 Amsterdam Ave. (at 94th), NY NY 10025. 212-749-9632.

And last on the list, only because it takes me so far back, is Sons and Daughters, a new gay bookstore in Grand Rapids, Michigan. When I was a teenager we used to pile into cars and drive an hour to Grand Rapids, the scene of the nearest gay bar, dance all night at Three Sons Plus One and Papa Joe's, then drive back again. Wish I could do a time-warp and pile out of that car in front of a gay bookstore.... Send catalogs and

information and congratulations to Dennis Komac, Sons & Daughters, PO Box 6148, Grand Rapids MI 49516. Life gets better and better, even in Gerry Ford's home town!

Moved:

Mother Kali's Bookstore in Eugene moved on January 1 to 2001 Franklin, Eugene OR 97403-1938. If I have all the pieces of the saga pieced together accurately (and I probably don't — this has been going on for a year or more) their old building was sold to the Salvation Army. It looked like they were going to have to move when the building was sold, then there was a reprieve, then the Salvation Army decided to tear the building down.... The Eugene community turned out in full force to help with the move — they started at 10 AM Saturday and had everything in the new location by 2:30 that afternoon. Putting things back together again took a little longer, but the store was up and open on Monday morning. The new location is in a small six-unit shopping center. It's larger than the old store, has one large, wide, open room, provides a larger, more comfortable library space, has air-conditioning and is closer to the university. Anne writes that she's beginning to believe all those people who told her this *could* be a real opportunity may be right after all — but that she still doesn't want too many more opportunities like this!



TDD

New Words now has a TDD (Telecommunications Device for the Deaf) phone. Pass the word. The number is 617-876-3340.

Books Get Around, Too.

Bookpeople's new, improved (call-from-any-state) 800 number is 1-800-999-4650.

New Women's Press/New Zealand wants to be sure that booksellers know that their fall titles (See FBN Fall Announcements issue, pg. 61) are available in the U.S. and Canada from Inland.

Coffee House Press titles (*My Own Alphabet* by Bobbie Louise Hawkins, FBN Fall Announcements

issue) are now distributed by Consortium. Consortium's new address is 287 E. 6th St., Suite 365, St. Paul MN 55101.

Update! Harper and Row will accept Beacon Press returns on H&R invoiced orders until March 31, 1990, rather than June 30th. Farrar Straus & Giroux will also accept returns.

Aha! Ragweed Press and gynergy books were both sold to Louise Fleming. That's why we couldn't sort out who the "other" new owner was — 'tis one and the same person. Both presses will stay on Prince Edward Island. PO Box 2023, Charlottetown PEI, Canada C1A 7N7. 902-566-5750.

The Women's Press-Canada once again has sales reps. Kellington & Moreau is a new team that will represent The Women's Press to the trade and library markets in Canada. Rona Moreau was previously the Finance and Distribution Co-ordinator for the Women's Press. Ronda Kellington represented Women's Press books previously as a sales representative for Cariat Ltd.

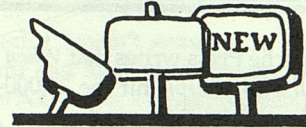
The novel that Nancy Braus (Everyone's Books in Brattleboro VT) was talking about at ABA was *Tempting Fate* by Laurie Alberts, which tells the story of a young woman drawn to extremes who travels to Alaska and immerses herself in the male-dominated, dangerous world of commercial salmon fishing. The novel deals with issues of alcoholism, dependency and recovery from family abuse. Add it to your recovery fiction section. \$6.95 pb, Washington Square Press/Pocket Books.

T-Shirts

Tired of the same old t-shirts? For only \$12 (+\$2 for shipping) you can get the popular new 7.1 Earthquake t-shirt designed by Alison Bechdel. Proceeds from the shirts will benefit Matrix, the Santa Cruz women's newspaper, and the Santa Cruz AIDS Project. The shirts portray a mix of SC-type folks and read "Reclaiming Our Common Ground/7.1 Santa Cruz County October 17, 1989." Lavender, of course. Make checks payable to Matrix and send to 108 Locust St. #13, Santa Cruz CA 95060. For more information call 408-429-1238.

Book Woman's (Austin) wonderful t-shirt has turned into a multi-store best seller. The shirt features a woman reading from a stack of books sitting in front of a row of book cases and is printed in six colors. It

was inspired by a watercolor by Kiki Obersternfeld de Suarez, a German artist now living in Mexico. Book Woman has been stocking Kiki's cards and etchings for some time and received the painting as a gift. They had always wanted a store t-shirt and suddenly there it was. The shirts were printed in February 1989 and were an immediate success. Kiki's U.S. representative



Dennis La Bonte took the shirts to the Northern California Booksellers Association and North West/Pacific Booksellers regional trade shows and found a ready and eager market in both feminist and general bookstores. With 7,000 copies of the shirt in print, La Bonte is experimenting with two new designs "The Embrace" and "My Head Is Full of Children." Both new images are from the card series. The shirts are available in S, M, Lg, X Lg, and XX Lg. They retail for \$18.00. 50% discount, minimum order is 12 shirts in any combination of sizes. First order must be prepaid or will be shipped COD. 30 days thereafter. 2304 Hancock Dr. #7A, Austin TX 78756. 512-467-8497. The shirts will also be at ABA in June. — CS ○

Sisterspirit, continued from page 36

space of our own — a big space that can accommodate the bookstore and coffeehouses and yet provide small spaces where women with similar interests, projects or needs can meet, discuss, and grow together for themselves and for their community.

Recently the women of Sisterspirit had a meeting to discuss their goals and objectives. It was interesting to see that our twenty year plan wasn't much different from the original purpose statement made in 1984 in Amy's living room.

Three years ago, when we moved into the Center we came with two boxes of books and little else. Today we have eight six-foot book shelves and over 1500 book titles. We have music, calendars, magazines, tarot and greeting cards among other items of interest to women. A lot has been accomplished in the last five years; a lot more is waiting to be done. It takes time and money and love. If you have any of those and want to share, remember your sisters in spirit. ○

BACK TO PRESS AND OTHER GOOD NEWS

Papier Maché Press writes that *When I Am an Old Woman I Shall Wear Purple* hit the 25,000-copies-sold mark and is now in its sixth printing.

New Victoria Publishers reports that *Stoner McTavish* and *Something Shady* have gone back to press for third print runs and *Gray Magic* has gone back for a second printing, its 7,000 copy first printing having sold out in less than two years.

Banned Books reports that *Dreams of the Woman Who Loved Sex* has gone back to press for another reprint for a total of 14,000 copies in print, *Intricate Passions* went back for another printing of 3,000, and *The Assistance of Vice* has gone back for a second printing of 2,000.



Alyson Publications sends word that *Crush* by Jane Fatcher has gone back to press for another 5,000 copies for a total of 10,500 copies in print, *Between Friends* by Gillian E. Hanscombe went back for a 5,000 copy printing for a total of 19,000 copies in print, and *Macho Sluts* by Pat Califia went back for a second printing of 8,300 for a total of 16,500 in print.

Down There Press announces reprints of four titles and a new revised, expanded edition of *Good Vibrations*. *Herotica*, edited by Susie Bright returns to press for a second printing of 5,000 copies bringing its in-press total to 13,000. *A Kid's First Book About Sex* by Joani Blank is now in its fourth printing, for an in-print total of 12,000. *The Playbook for Women About Sex* and *The Playbook for Men About Sex*, also by Joani Blank, are back to press for third printings, with 10,000 copies of each now in print. *Good Vibrations: The Complete Guide to Vibrators* will appear in its third edition since its first appearance as a hand-lettered volume in 1977, bringing the in-print total of all editions to 20,000 copies.

Shitkickers & Other Texas Stories, published by Clothespin Fever Press, sold out at the ALA convention in Dallas and is back to press for a 2,000 copy print run. The original print run was a limited edition with a hand silk-screened blue and red cover. The new edition will include a preface by the author, Carolyn Weathers, a different story order, and a glossy, more commercial (and more salable) cover. The lead story will be "Cheers, Everybody!" a fictional story based on facts about gays and lesbians in San Antonio during the 1960's. Because the changes are substantial, a new ISBN number has been assigned: 0-9616572-6-X. Retail price: \$7.95 pb. Dist. IN & BP.

Starhawk's *The Spiral Dance*, published by Harper & Row/San Francisco has been re-released in an updated Tenth Anniversary edition. Over 100,000 copies of the first edition have been sold since its 1979 publication.

One might wonder why, after all these years, when *Time* does a retrospective issue on the women's movement, they feel compelled to feature books about men.... Or one can simply make the assumption that the only way *Time* can cope with women is in relationship to men. (*Time* missed the Gay and Lesbian National March on Washington entirely.) But there it is. This time they featured John Stoltenberg's *Refusing To Be A Man* which went back to press for a third printing of 5,000 as a result of the publicity. Many feminist bookstores — including Bloodroot and Southern Sisters — are stocking it.

AWARDS

Tsitsi Dangarembga has been awarded the overall winner's prize for the African section of the 1989 Commonwealth Writers' Prize for her book *Nervous Conditions*. *Nervous Conditions* is published in the U.S. by Seal Press and in the U.K. by The Women's Press.

See Back to Press, page 87

SHORT RAVES

Joni's Faves

This is the third column from the New Words Newsletter series featuring personal favorites by collective members.

Since I read almost as much non-fiction as I do fiction, I'm going to break with tradition and include both in my review here.

Let me start with fiction. I have a very clear all-time favorite novel, bar none: Canadian author Margaret Laurence's **The Stone Angel**. Written through the eyes of a 90-year-old woman, Hagar Shipley, it's a gripping story of struggle, prejudice, aging, pride and human frailty. It's wonderfully written, but takes a lot of emotional energy to read; as a friend said, you really need a support group to get through this book — but it's absolutely worth it.

Speaking of human frailty, **The Street** is another fave. By Ann Petry, a Black writer who is enjoying a resurgence in popularity, this novel is relentless, scary, and with an ending that will chill your soul, but what a story!

Margaret Atwood's **The Edible Woman**, which has been unavailable in the U.S. for many years, is about to be re-released: it's a treasure, a complex story about a woman renegotiating her identity with the world — an early Atwood, but I think among her best.

On Strike Against God, by Joanna Russ, is a funny, touching, complicated coming-out story, and my favorite of that genre.

Housekeeping by Marilyn Robinson is turning up on many favorites lists. The story of Ruthie and Lucille and their crazy life in Fingerbone is unforgettable — funny and sad at the same time.

One of the most poignant novels I've read in a long time is Elizabeth Jolley's **Miss Peabody's Inheritance**. The story of a long-distance friendship between two women who have only met through their letters and imaginations, this is moving and well-written and a wonderful story.

Although I haven't reread it in years, I have a strong regard and fond memories for Doris Lessing's **The Golden Notebook**. I remember being glued to this book, although it took me about three weeks to finish, reading it in snatches in laundromats, restaurants, and buses. It was one of those "formative" novels that we all have in our memories and political histories.



Non-fiction is more complicated to generalize about. But many of my favorites are broad social histories, not specialist books. For **Her Own Good**, by Barbara Ehrenreich and Deidre English, for example, is an outstanding feminist social history of medicine and medical attitudes towards women; it's very readable and very funny. Similarly, Ruth Schwartz Cowan's book on the social history of housework, **More Work for Mother**, is a fascinating critique of the "technology revolution" in the household; a great book for people who enjoy social histories of ordinary things.

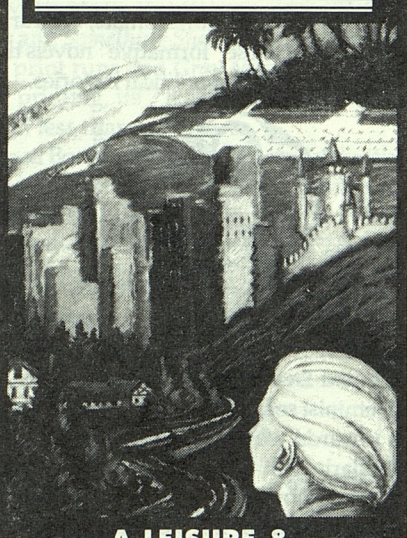
Cynthia Enloe's **Does Khaki Become You: The Militarization of Women's Lives** (just reissued with a new introduction) is an unforgettable and probing analysis of the abuse and use of women by the world's militaries.

Rachel Carson's **Silent Spring**, first published in 1962 and now reissued, is a classic. This was the book that framed the modern environmental movement, exposed the dangers of DDT and got people talking about the hazards of pesticides. Although Carson was derided in the press and labeled "hysterical" by industry representatives, she did prevail, and this is a book and an author I hold in some awe.

Two recent small books, actually extended essays, are really outstanding: Jamaica Kincaid's **A Small Place**,

Mapping the Future of Lesbian Travel.

the **W**omen's
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and Susan Sontag's *AIDS and Its Metaphors*. Sontag extends her earlier essay on the social construction of illness (*Illness as Metaphor*) in this compassionate and clear-headed analysis of AIDS. Kincaid's essay offers an unblinking look at life in the tourist economy of a small Caribbean island (Antigua); it's full of irony and wit and sharp political insight.

And finally, for an international context for our currently renewed reproductive rights struggle, I highly recommend Betsy Hartmann's book, *Reproductive Rights and Wrongs: The Global Politics of Population Control and Choice*.

— *Joni Seager, New Words* ○

Heartscape

My current (and also most recent) favorite is *Heartscape* by Sue Gambill, Naiad Press, 1989, \$8.95 paperback. Leslie flees her personal life in Provincetown and a sense of alienation from American society, to go to the comfort of old friends in Portugal. She's lived there before and found Portugal a place where people live with open hearts. Since her last visit Leslie has come out and she isn't sure how well being out as a Lesbian and living in Portugal will mesh. Through *Heartscape* we explore her identities as a Lesbian and as a U.S. citizen. Gambill raises some provocative questions about both identities. And yes, there is a love interest, though that is a secondary theme.

— *Terre Poppe, Red & Black Books Newsletter* ○

Temple of My Familiar

I was disappointed by the mainstream reviews of *Temple of My Familiar*, and astonished to learn how many feminist readers accepted them at face value. Alice Walker's latest book was criticized for its subject matter, including reincarnation and lesbianism (gasp!), and for its overtly political discourse (gasp!), and, more fairly, for uneven development.

Temple of My Familiar is less cohesive and less artful than most of Walker's work, but its scope more than justifies its experimental form and host of outspoken characters. At worst, *Temple* reads like the working notes and cosmology for *The Color Purple*, but that is a universe most of us are happy to explore further. I admire the ambition of *Temple*, and found it irresistible and inspirational reading.

— *from Southern Sisters News* ○

For Grade-Schoolers

Goble, **The Girl Who Loved Wild Horses**: This is the story of a Native American girl of the plains who goes to live with the mustangs. The understated language and vivid, stylized drawings give this one the power of a myth.

Kimmel, **Charlie Drives the Stage**: Only after cigar-chomping Charlie (who's first seen poring over books at the library) outwits and outmaneuvers every hazard known to stagecoach drivers, and finally outruns a steam engine, is it revealed that Charlie is short for Charlene. What a romp!

Farber, **How Does It Feel to be Old?**: Illustrated by Tina Schart Hyman. Warning: this book makes grown-ups cry. Grandmother answers her granddaughter's question with a poem that lovingly reflects on her life and approaching death. Hyman's sensitive pen-and-ink drawings are stunning.

McKissack, **Mirandy and Brother Wind**: The exuberant tale of how young Mirandy enlists Brother Wind's help in winning the Junior Cakewalk; this vividly evokes rural African American life at the turn of the century, and introduces a charming, headstrong heroine.

Cole, **Prince Cinders**: The author-illustrator of *Princess Smartypants* and *The Trouble with Mom* reverses genders on the Cinderella story. Prince Cinders is "small, scruffy, spotty, and skinny" and much exploited by his big, hairy brothers — who look like Neapolitan lifeguards, and read *Macho Magazine* — until a slightly inept fairy comes to his aid. Big fun!

Junior High and Older

Auch, **Glass Slippers Give You Blisters**: Kelly auditions for the title role in her school's production of *Cinderella*, but winds up on the stage crew instead. Her Grandmom, an artist, is supportive of her granddaughter's interest in theater, but Kelly's mom disapproves. All three characters, plus Kelly's best friends, are likable and believable. Best of all, Kelly sounds exactly like a sixth-grader: "I'm not going off the deep end, Mom. This is just a project for school, that's all."

Sterling, **Freedom Train: The Story of Harriet Tubman**: Sterling is an eminent historian, and her account of Tubman's life is detailed, accurate, and

exciting. The narrative includes the songs used as signals by the Underground Railroad, letters dictated and speeches made by Tubman, and her own descriptions of her work as nurse, spy, and organizer. This is a story everyone should know.

— from *Southern Sisters News* ○



Graphic courtesy of A Room of One's Own

Multi-Cultural Books for Children

The children's book section of Red and Black is growing. We have been adding many gorgeous, fun and meaningful books to our collection. Another addition is the recent creation of a Multi-Cultural Children's Books bibliography. This bibliography is free to our customers. It contains listings, by culture, of the picture books, beginning readers and teen readers that we carry. Ask for it at the front counter. Some of our new selections in picture books include: Dale DeArmond's **The Seal Oil Lamp** (\$13.95), an adaptation of an Eskimo folktale. It is a gentle tale of a blind boy who is left to die and is rescued by the mouse people.

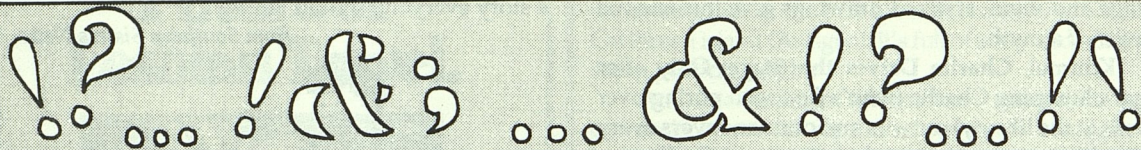
Kanahena by Susan Roth (\$9.95) is an old time Cherokee story of Terrapin the trickster who outwits the bad wolf. It is illustrated with beautiful collages containing cornmeal, leaves and other natural materials.

Arnold Adoff's **Flamboyan** (\$14.95) tells the story of a young girl living in the Caribbean who dreams of flying. A book full of bright, colorful illustrations.

The Three Astronauts by Umberto Eco and Eugenio Carmi (\$12.95) carries an important message of the need for understanding in and out of this world. Through watercolors and collage the story is told of an American, a Russian and a Chinese traveling to Mars and the discoveries they make.

— from *Red & Black Books Newsletter* ○

T R I V I A



The 1990s may go down in history as The Cruise Years. There are the Olivia Records cruises to the Bahamas, the Robin Tyler Productions cruise to Mexico and, for those who can't stand the idea of all play and no work, there's the Books at Sea cruise featuring ABA past president Richard Hale and *Bookman's Weekly* publisher Jacob Chernofsky that sails the Panama Canal....

Word is out that the FBI continued to investigate librarians after telling librarians that they had discontinued the illegal investigations.... What I want to know is why anyone believes the FBI when they say that they are no longer doing what they had denied doing in the first place.

On a cheerier note... The huge "circus tent" pavilions giving space to earthquaked-out Santa Cruz merchants were up and Bookshop Santa Cruz was moved in all in good time for the Christmas trade. Koré Archer, *FBN* subscriber on-the-spot writes: "The return of Bookshop Santa Cruz, made possible by uncounted donations and hours of volunteer labor, means that new (and older) lesbian and feminist titles will again be available in this town. In November, while the bones of the first pavilions were going up, Bookshop owner Neil Coonerty held a 23rd birthday party for the store at his home, asking patrons to bring 'five good books.' That appeal turned into a block party attended by 2,000 people who brought between five and ten thousand books. When Bookshop Santa Cruz opened its doors, staff and volunteers were still scrambling to shelve books, but the inside of the huge tent was an exact replica of the old interior with the entire bookstore intact, every rack was arranged according to the old floorplan with familiar labels on every shelf.... It wasn't just some salvaged shelves in a tent, it was the entire bookstore!" Chanticleer Books for Children and Logos Books have both moved to

new locations. Meanwhile the ABA continues to solicit donations for the Emergency Restocking Program for the four bookstores destroyed by the earthquake. Booksellers can contribute to the fund by authorizing Baker & Taylor or Ingram to debit their accounts for the amount you wish to contribute. Contributions can be spread over several months. The wholesalers will then provide credit to the stores and will supply books to the stores at their cost.



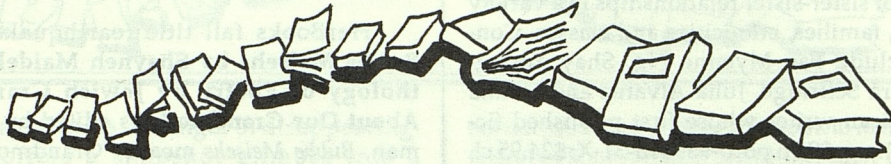
PW is beginning to look like a feminist journal, quoting Sandi Tokildson from *A Room of One's Own*, "Judith" Levin (presumably they meant Carol Levin) from *Judith's Room*, Beth Dingham from *New Victoria Press* and more, not to mention the article on lesbian and gay publishing and Seal Press getting a Carey-Thomas Award.... If this is the look of *PW* in the '90s, I like it.

Naiad is exuberant. October was their biggest billing month to date, nearly twice the size of its largest billing month from the past. Yep, it's the *Beverly Malibu* hardback sales.... *Naiad* will do 24 titles again this year.

Great twisted titles from the Holi-Daze: *Paper Bag* by Rita Brown, *The Mahjong Club* and *Satanic Purses*. Of course the customers got the books they wanted — or the next most reasonable title in print.

A 1990's resolution: Each corporate publisher that has benefited from publishing in markets pioneered by the small presses could contribute \$50,000 a year to a "Research and Development" fund for small presses.... It could come from the money saved by leaning on the innovative small presses for publishing direction, inspiration and new markets.... Think it will fly? - CS ○

FROM OUR OWN PRESSES



Compiled by Carol Seajay

During the month following the earthquake we unearthed several books that had been buried in the wrong piles in the immediate post-earthquake cleanup. In the process we missed reviewing books from Clothespin Fever, New Victoria and Cleis. So here they are:

Clothespin Fever Press has two new titles, **Crazy** and **Guide to Women Book Publishers in the United States**. **Crazy** is a short, intense novel by Carolyn Weathers. Joan Nestle says it exactly: "A fierce, brilliant narrative about a lesbian writer who understands too much." She does an excellent job of depicting the process of losing control ("goes nuts off-schedule") and rebuilding a self. I couldn't put it down 'til I finished it. My only complaints were that it was too short and too quickly read. It deals tangentially with alcoholism, so, if you have a recovery fiction section, you might want to shelve it there, as well. \$8.95 pb, 0-9616572-3-5. Dist. BP, IN, Bookslinger.

Clothespin Fever has also just published **Guide to Women Book Publishers in the United States for 1988/89** by Jenny Wren, which lists names, addresses,

Bookpeople (BP) and Inland (IN) distribute small press books to bookstores. "BP" or "IN" at the end of an annotation means that the books are available from that distributor. Both distributors stock a wide range of titles and publishers of interest to feminist bookstores. If you are a new store or don't already work with both distributors, drop everything and call for catalogs.

Inland Book Company, PO Box 261, 254 Bradley St., East Haven CT 06512. Order number: 1-800-243-0138. In Canada and Connecticut call collect: 203-468-0589.

Bookpeople, 2929 Fifth St., Berkeley, CA 94710. Phone: 800-999-4650. ○

focus areas and date founded for *all* known women-owned publishers in the United States in 1988. It's designed to aid acquisitions librarians and women's studies scholars and students in research, as well as increasing the visibility of women publishers. It's an eclectic collection of publishers — radical feminist collectives mixed with publishers that "just happen" to be owned by women but that have no specific political agenda. Because it's published in library resource format (each entry is numbered and the index lists only the numbers, rather than the titles of publications), it takes some commitment to dig out the range of information available in the publication. Use it when *Words to the Wise* can't answer your (or your customers') questions. Price not sent. 0-9616572-9-4. **Guide to Women Book Publishers** is available from Clothespin Fever and Bookslinger only. Clothespin Fever, 5529 N. Figueroa, Los Angeles CA 90042. Standard bookstore discounts.



Diana Souza, *Heather Has Two Mommies*

Somehow I missed Cleis' **The One You Call Sister**, an anthology of fiction edited by Paula Martinac (*Voyages Out*, Seal Press) offering contemporary tales of sister-sister relationships in a variety of situations, families, ethnicities and classes. Contributors include Fae Myenne Ng, Shay Youngblood, Barbara Selfridge, Julia Alvarez and Donna Weir, a Jamaican writer whose first published fiction appears here. \$9.95 pb, 0-939416-31-X; \$24.95 cl, -30-1. Cleis Press, PO Box 8933, Pittsburgh PA 15221. BP, IN.

Dark Horse, a novel by Frances Lucas, offers a lesbian romance in the course of a political campaign. My guess is that the society-girl turned campaign volunteer wins the candidate, but will the candidate win the election? \$8.95 pb, 0-934678-21-9. New Victoria's spring titles will be **Captive in Time**, the fourth Stoner McTavish mystery by Sara Dreher and **Mari** by Jeriann Hilderly, "a story of an Argentinian political activist and her American lover. Mari is determined to assert her outrage against the policies of Argentina's repressive government, while Judith anxiously awaits her calls and letters, worrying whether Mari, too, will

be among the 'disappeared.'" \$8.95 pb, -23-5. Look for them in April or May. New Victoria Publishers, Box 27, Norwich VT 05055. BP, IN.

HerBooks fall title (earthquake or not!) is **Bubbe Meisehs** by Shayneh Maidelehs: **An Anthology of Poetry by Jewish Granddaughters About Our Grandmothers** edited by Lesléa Newman. *Bubbe Meisehs* means "Grandmother Stories" and is the Yiddish equivalent of "old wives tales." *Shayneh Maideleh* means beautiful girl and is an expression usually exclaimed by a Jewish grandmother pinching her granddaughter's cheeks. Contributors include Lyn Lifshin, Judith Steinbergh, Carol Ascher and Enid Shomer. The poems describe Jewish women full of humor and bitterness, courage and dignity, *tsouris* and *naches*, and, most of all, a stubborn insistence upon survival in a world that was, and is, more often than not, an extremely difficult and hostile place to live. Few books explore the special bond between grandmothers and granddaughters, but **Bubbe Meisehs** is especially important because the poems describe a generation of Jewish women whose lan-

*From the early standard-bearer, to the current award-winner. . .
Lesbian poetry is in a class by itself!*

MOVEMENT IN BLACK
Poetry by Pat Parker



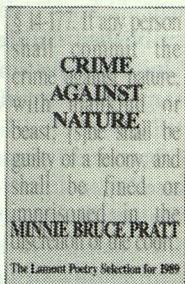
Pat Parker died in June 1989 at the age of forty-five. Here, in time to honor her January 20th birth date and to enrich our reading lives is her signature volume, *Movement In Black*—back in print once again.

Long before coalition became a political watchword, Pat Parker's life and work embodied its principles. A Black lesbian poet, feminist medical administrator, lover of women, mother of two daughters, softball devotee, and general progressive troublemaker, Pat Parker's particular brand of straightforward language and sophisticated thinking made her unique.

In solo readings and group performances, with musical accompaniment and in hushed tones, *Movement In Black* continues to give us the vibrancy and strength of Pat Parker's voice.

\$ 8.95 paper
ISBN 0-932379-74-5
5½ x 8½ 160 pages
January

CRIME AGAINST NATURE
Poetry by Minnie Bruce Pratt



Designated as the prestigious 1989 Lamont Poetry Selection by the Academy of American Poets, Minnie Bruce Pratt's *Crime Against Nature* is a stunning achievement.

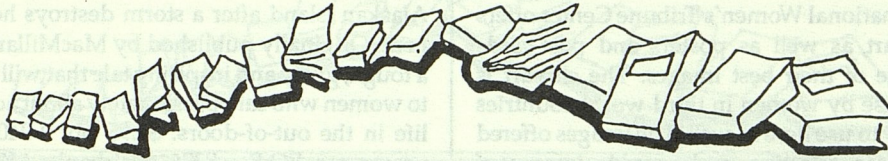
This beautifully crafted sequence of poems takes its title from language in the statute under which the author would have been prosecuted as a lesbian if she had sought legal custody of her children. These are poems of despair, self-doubt, sexual bliss, sexual shame, exhilaration, rage, hope, victory.

In *Crime Against Nature*, Minnie Bruce Pratt breathes new life into the words *lesbian*, *poet*, *mother*. Without contradiction or self-denial, she holds herself, her loves, and her children in a world of passion, of power being realized, of wholeness.

\$ 8.95 paper
ISBN 0-932379-72-9
5½ x 8½ 128 pages
January

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AVAILABLE TO THE TRADE FROM BOOKPEOPLE, INLAND, AND THE DISTRIBUTORS
Firebrand Books, 141 The Commons, Ithaca, New York 14850, (607) 272-0000



guage and way of life is in danger of disappearing. Each poem offers a snapshot glimpse into a woman's life, a life that can never be forgotten because someone, a granddaughter, took the time to document it in a poem. \$8.00 pb. HerBooks, PO Box 7467, Santa Cruz CA 94061. IN, BP.

Patterns of Violence in the Lives of Girls and Women: A Reading Guide published by the Women's Research Centre in Vancouver offers reviews of some of the best and truest feminist texts on a range of issues of violence against women — rape, pornography, incest, et al. Particular attention is given to the overall patterns of violence in women's lives — the links among issues, their similarities and differences, and their cumulative effect in creating a climate of everyday terror. 100 pgs, Can\$ 7.50 pb. 40% for 5+ copies. The Women's Research Centre edited and wrote the new Press Gang title *Recollecting Our Lives*. They have several other related titles as well. Women's Research Centre, #101-2245 West Broadway, Vancouver BC V6K 2E4.

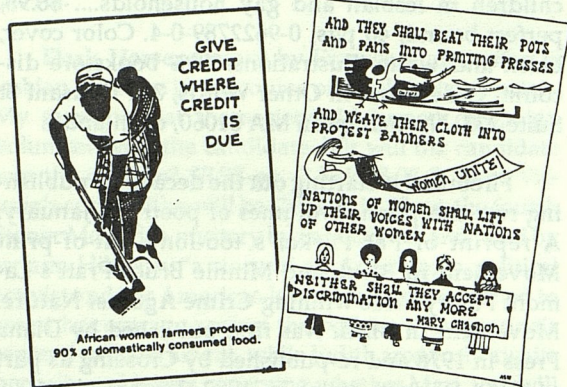
Heather Has Two Mommies, written by Lesléa Newman and illustrated by Diana Souza is just as wonderful as we had hoped. It describes Heather's life with her two mothers, her first day at day-care, and her sudden realization that other children have daddies and that she doesn't. With the help of the day-care teacher, the children find out that they all come from "different" kinds of families — one is adopted, one comes from a single-parent family, one has two daddies, one lives part-time with his mother and step-father and part-time with his daddy. Heather — and all the children — learn that the most important thing about a family is that all the people in it love each other. While Heather is a planned, artificially inseminated baby, the book will be useful to any young child living in a lesbian or gay household. Children growing up with hetero-

sexual parents will need this book to learn about their friends whose families are unlike their own. *My next* fantasy is that this is the first in a series of books for children in lesbian and gay households.... \$6.95, perfect bound, 40 pgs, 0-9622789-0-4. Color cover, black and white illustrations. 40% bookstore discount. Order from In Other Words, 351 Pleasant St Suite 233, Northampton MA 01060, or Inland.

Firebrand is starting out the decade by publishing two exceptional volumes of poetry in January: A reprint of Pat Parker's too-long out-of-print **Movement in Black** and Minnie Bruce Pratt's Lamont Poetry Prize winning **Crime Against Nature**. **Movement in Black** was first published by Diana Press in 1978 and re-published by Crossing as part of their feminist series in 1983. Firebrand's 1990 edition will bring it to a new generation of feminist readers — and return it to the many of us who grieved Pat's recent death. As Judy Grahn says, "Parker is stubborn, persistent, ambitious, uncompromising, endowed with a powerful sense of justice — and injustice. All the stuff she needs to shake poetry out of a kaleidoscope of overlapping oppressions...about women, about lesbianism, about Blacks and whites living under a racist and sexist regime." I wish I could tell you that times have changed enough that these poems are no longer essential, no longer inform our daily lives, help us to understand the oppression around it....but they are as current and powerful now as they were when they were first published. \$8.95 pb, 0-932379-74-5.

Crime Against Nature takes its title from the language in the statute under which Minnie Bruce would have been prosecuted as a lesbian if she had sought legal custody of her children. It's a powerful, passionate collection of work and will probably be one of the strongest poetry sellers in 1990. \$8.95 pb, -72-9. Firebrand Books, 141 The Commons, Ithaca NY 14850. Order from IN or BP.

The International Women's Tribune Center offers feminist clip-art as well as posters and post-cards featuring some of their best images. The clip-art is designed for use by women in third world countries but is a real joy to use here as well. The images offered are simple, clear, effective, and provide images of women from a wide range of cultures. **Women and Graphics: A Beginners Kit** (\$2.00) provides instruction in freehand lettering and simple line drawing as well as offering a bit of clip art. **Women and More**



Graphics (\$2.00) focuses on adapting available pictures. **Feminist Logos** (\$3.50) includes a dozen more pages, **Rural Women in Action** (\$3.50) has 18 pages and includes all of the images from the *Beginners Kit* and from *Women and More Graphics*. **Women: The Password Is Action** (\$6.00) is a perfect bound book of 150 pages offering lessons in French, English and Spanish for using and adapting the images and over 100 pages of clip art. All of the images are excellent. If you don't want to invest in them all, start with **Women: The Password Is Action**. IWTC also offers posters and cards featuring some of their best images. Posters are \$5, postcards \$4/\$1.00. My only regret is that standard clip-art form is used and we never get to learn who created the images we are invited to reproduce or where they originated. Bookstore terms available for bulk orders. IWTC, 777 United Nations Plaza, NY NY 10017. Copies of all publications free to people in third world countries.

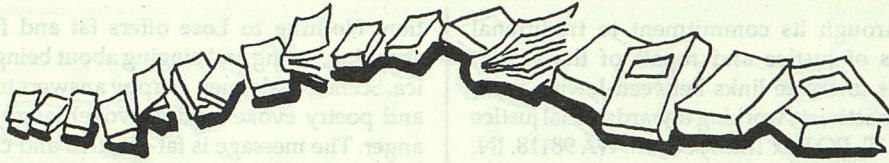
Alaska's feminist publisher Vanessapress has republished **O Rugged Land of Gold**, a semi-fictionalized autobiography by Martha Martin about a pregnant woman left to winter alone on a remote

Alaskan island after a storm destroys her husband's boat. Originally published by MacMillan in 1952, it's a tough, gutsy and inspiring tale that will be of interest to women who care passionately about adventure and life in the out-of-doors. \$9.95 pb, 0-940055-007. Vanessapress, PO Box 82761, Fairbanks AK 99708. IN.

Middle Sister collects the poetry of *Conditions* editor Melinda Goodman and includes work that has previously been published in *Sinister Wisdom*, *CL/LL*, and *Gay and Lesbian Poetry in Our Time*. Sweet words on the back from Joan Larking, Audre Lorde, and Carl Morse. \$7.95 pb, MSG Press. Distributed by Inland.

Once I Was a Child And There Was Much Pain: A Glimpse into the Soul of an Incest Survivor by Nancy E. is a slim volume offering a powerful look backwards at childhood. Through her exquisite drawings and short quotations Nancy E. relives the secret of her childhood in order to remember and heal. \$6.95 pb, 0-6903628-7-8. Frog in the Well, PO Box 170052, San Francisco CA 94117. Distributed by Pacific Publishers' Cooperative (same address), BP and IN.

Seal Press' Spring list has three books from three uncommonly fine writers: In March Seal will release a paperback edition of Rebecca Brown's **The Haunted House**, an exceptionally well written novel that was published several years ago by Viking but somehow (lack of appropriate marketing perhaps?) never made it into paperback. **The Haunted House** portrays a somewhat surreal childhood attended (or neglected) by a handsome, alcoholic military pilot father and a movie-star-identified co-alcoholic mother that resolves into the kind of adulthood all such children crave — until the earth starts shifting and the ghosts of childhood come to haunt. I love the matter-of-factness of the lesbianism. Love that Viking published it. Hate that it proves the rule of mainstream-published lesbian books dying on the vine. Love that it is finally going to be available/saleable in a reasonably priced paperback from a publisher that will get the book to the audience it missed in hardcover. Three of Brown's novels have since been published to acclaim in England, *The Evolution of Darkness*, *The Children's Crusade*, and *The Terrible Girls*; but none of them have been published here. \$8.95 pb, 0- 9311188-88-1. March.



In April Seal will publish **Past Due: a Story of Disability, Pregnancy and Birth** by Anne Finger. This is Anne Finger's riveting account of her pregnancy and childbirth experience — and her moving story of learning to live with a disability. Anne Finger is an activist in the disability rights and women's rights movements and the kind of writer that *always* leaves me wanting to read more of her work. I can almost recite some of her stories.... If you don't already stock her collection of stories *Basic Skills* (University of Missouri, 1988), this might be the time to add them to your collection. \$10.95 pb, -87-3. April.

The long-awaited **Black Women's Health Book: Speaking for Ourselves** edited by Evelyn C. White (*Chain Chain Change: For Black Women Dealing With Physical and Emotional Abuse*) will be released in May. Forty contributors including Angela Davis, Beverly Smith, Barbara Smith, Jewelle Gomez, Pat Parker, Alice Walker, and Zora Neale Hurston give testimony to the strength and courage of Black women everywhere via accounts that range from personal struggle and recovery to political analysis of the racism that cripples the medical establishment. This anthology is the first book to address the topic of Black women's health written by and for Black women. \$13.95 pb, 350 pgs, -86-5. Seal Press, 3131 Western Ave. Suite 410, Seattle WA 98121-1028. BP, IN, Consortium.

Naiad starts the new year with adventure and horror: In **Wilderness Trek** by Dorothy Tell two women, lovers, lead six very dissimilar women on a two-week trek into the Ozark mountains. Each of the women has her own reasons, conscious or otherwise, for beginning the journey.... \$8.95 pb, 0-941483-60-6. In **Virago** by Karen Marie Christa Minns, a tale set in a small college campus in upstate New York, two young lovers have only each other...until an ancient vampire comes to call. "An eerie, erotic tale." \$8.95 pb, -56-8.

In February Naiad will republish Lillian Faderman and Brigette Eriksson's **Lesbians in Germany: 1890's - 1920's**. I have a passion for lesbian history and

love the documentation in this book (previously published as *Lesbian-Feminism in Turn-of-the-Century Germany*) that proves that there was a strong, active, passionate lesbian movement parallel to the suffragette movement that was squelched only by the madness of World War I. A cautionary tale, perhaps, but history that none of us should be denied — or miss. \$8.95 pb, -62-2. In February Naiad will also re-release Vicki P. McConnell's "militant-seventies" mystery **Berrigan**, \$8.95 pb, -55-X.

Naiad's new February title will be **Murder by the Book: A Helen Black Mystery** by Pat Welch. A whodunnit about death in a bank vault, a wealthy lesbian, and an increasingly prickly relationship.... \$8.95 pb, -59-2.

Naiad has recently published a catalog of all their backlist books. It's a great resource and may be available to bookstores for distribution to customers. Naiad Press, PO Box 10543, Tallahassee FL 32302. IN, BP, etc.

The Women's Press-Canada's spring titles will include a new edition of **Bobbie Lee: Indian Rebel** by Lee Maracle, an autobiography in which Maracle makes us aware of what life as a Native woman can be like and **Come Sit By Me** by Margaret Merrifield, a picture book story for children ages five to eight, which is about Karen and her school friend Nicholas who has AIDS, as well as the **Everywoman's Almanac 1991** by Women for Economic Justice which will look at how women's groups are organizing. More details as we get them. The Women's Press 229 College St. #204, Toronto ONT, M5T 1R4.

MAGAZINES:

✓ **Bridges: A Journal for Jewish Feminists and Our Friends** is the exciting, new should-be-in-print-by-the-time-you-read-this magazine. Formerly a newsletter, it has an impressive and exciting editorial board that includes Adrienne Rich and Elly Bulkin. **Bridges** will publish work which pertains to Jewish

feminism. Through its commitment to traditional Jewish values of justice and repair of the world, **Bridges** hopes to create links between Jewish feminists and other activists working towards social justice and peace. \$7.50. PO Box 18437, Seattle WA 98118. IN.

✓ **Snake Power: A Journal of Contemporary Female Shamanism** was scheduled to come out on Hollomas — but, no thanks to the male-owned printing world, it was a bit late. Several printers, after agreeing or contracting to print it, reneged on their agreements. (Moral of the story: we need to own our own presses if we want to be sure we can get our work into print. Unfortunately, this is just as true now as it was in 1976 at the first national Women-In-Print conference.) Organized and published by Vicki Noble, **Snake Power** is a gorgeous, well designed, slick-but-feminist magazine with four-color cover and interior. The first issue includes work by Marija Gimbutas, Vicki Noble, Demetra George, Sandy Boucher.... Its cover will attract a lot of attention (and will likely inspire a new rage in slick, color covers), it will hold interest when it's picked up and it will sell well to the *Women of Power* and old *WomanSpirit* crowds. Don't miss it. Order direct from Snake Power, 5856 College Ave. Box 138, Oakland CA 94518 or look for it at distributors. \$6.50.

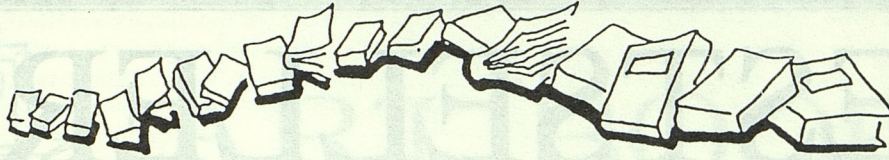
Frontier's latest issue is a special issue titled "Women and Words." Articles include "The Business of Feminism: Issues in London Feminist Publishing" by Elizabeth Young, "A Press of Our Own: Kitchen Table: Women of Color Press" by Barbara Smith, "An Unpaid-for Education: A Feminist Labor Organizer in Boston Publishing" by Anita McClellan, "The Lapsed Archivist Attends a Housecleaning" by Susanna J. Sturgis and "Reading Houses, Writing Lives" by Nancy Mairs — and much more. This is Volume X Number 3. \$8/copy. Bookstore terms not sent. Frontiers, Women's Studies, Box 246, University of Colorado, Boulder CO 80309.

VIDEOS

Aha! At last! **Nothing to Lose: Fat Lip Reader's Theatre** is exactly what I always expected the women's movement to do with video: record the best of our many productions on tape for wider distribu-

tion. **Nothing to Lose** offers fat and feisty women speaking, acting and singing about being fat in America. Scenes, dialogues, snappy answers to street taunts and poetry evoke (and provoke) laughter, tears and anger. The message is fat-positive and challenges the diet-obsessed, fat-hating culture we live in. The cast includes fifteen women from a variety of cultures and ethnicities. I've watched performances by this group over the years. This production includes an even larger and more diverse cast than I've seen before. My one disappointment was that while lesbianism was an assumption in the earlier productions I've seen, when- ever sexuality was described in this video, the experience was explicitly heterosexual. I wondered if Fat Lip assumed that the lesbian *presence* spoke for itself (and it does), if the "particularly-lesbian" sexuality segments all got edited out by accident, or if this was a conscious decision to make it possible to reach certain audiences. In *addition* to having an excellent and too-often ignored politic, it's well performed and very well produced. Rather than shooting a live performance, all the pieces were filmed in a studio with attention to the details that move something from being a live performance to good visual art: color, contrast, costuming and staging. Hooray! Wolfe Video. 30 minutes, \$30, 30% discount to bookstores, no minimum. Wolfe Video also distributes *Two in Twenty, Lifetime Commitment: A Portrait of Karen Thompson* (by Kiki Zeldes & Susan Bruce, 33 min, \$25), *March on Washington: Part of the USA* (by G.I.V., 30 min, \$25), *World of Light: A Portrait of May Sarton* (Ishtar Films, 30 min, \$60), *One Fine Day, Take the Power, We Bring a Quilt, Sonia Johnson: Going Farther Out of Our Minds, Olivia Records 15th Anniversary Concert Highlights, Gay Games II Highlights and Gay Games II Women's Physique*. Wolfe Video, PO Box 64, New Almaden CA 95042. 408-268-6782.

I chased around numerous conferences and conventions trying to see **The International Sweethearts of Rhythm**. By the time I finally managed to be in the same time and place as a screening of it, I was sure that it couldn't possibly live up to its reputation. How wonderful to be so totally wrong. If you haven't seen it, get ready! It's a documentary film about the swinging, multi-racial all-woman jazz band of the 1940s. A 16 piece band with a strong brass section, heavy percussion and a deep rhythmic sense, the Sweethearts were not just a novelty, but featured many of the best



female musicians of the day. Included in the recollections of band members are the difficulties of being a woman musician and getting work, and the perils of traveling in the deep south as a racially mixed group. 16mm color. A splendid piece of work and one that holds up under repeated viewings.

Tiny & Ruby: Hell Divin' Women profiles The Sweetheart's jazz trumpeter Tiny Davis and her partner of over 40 years, drummer-pianist Ruby Lucas and weaves together rare jazz recordings, live performances, vintage photographs, narrative poetry by Cheryl Clark and "home movie footage" of Tiny and Ruby today.

Both from Jezebel Productions. \$29.95 each. Jezebel also has **Before Stonewall: The Making of a Gay and Lesbian Community** (also \$29.95). 40% discount to bookstores on orders of 5+ videos. Shipment will include a (fantastic) free color poster of the legendary lesbian jazz trumpeter Tiny Davis. Be the first on your block to get one and be the envy of all your friends! Jezebel Productions, 330 West 42nd St. Suite 2410, NY NY 10036. 212-594-5659.

Another very good video is **Not All Parents Are Straight**, a film by Kevin White, co-produced by Annamarie Faro, that examines the dynamics of the parent-child relationship within several households where children are being raised by openly gay and lesbian parents. It addresses the universal problems of how prejudice held against adults can affect their children while serving as testimony to the similarities between all families. Excellent for both kids and adults. Shelve next to *There's Something I've Been Meaning to Tell You*. 60 min, color, \$49.95. 40% bookstore discount. 30% for consignment. Filmmakers Collaborative, 363 Brannan St., San Francisco Ca 94107.

MORE SIDELINES

I've been hearing for some time from Sandi Torkildson (A Room of One's Own) about Jane

Evershed's wonderful collection of cards and finally got to see them and they're as wonderful as Sandi described them: full color paintings of women, often in tropical landscapes doing fantastical things. One of my favorites is "Women Wiping Up the World," from The Scarred Sacred Earth Series, that shows women with scrub buckets and cleaning tools cleaning the pollution from the sands, shores, trees, waters and skies of their island home. "I swear by my pink walls, ain't nobody gonna put *me* in no institution!" from the You and I — We Are the Majority Series portrays a light-skinned old woman on her porch surrounded by cats and wild foliage. "The Witches Are Back" from the Power of Women Series shows seven women of different ethnicities dancing in the night sky over an erupting volcano. African Mirage takes my heart for the woman with the book on her lap, but you won't be able to keep "Sometimes she could be found day-dreaming in the corner of her room where she could not be touched" in stock, either. Or "If you believe in women, hold my hand" or "Once They Had Become One With Mother Earth" or "Any Woman Who Has Preserved Her Independence will Ardently Love Her Own Freedom in Nature." Jane writes: "When I first arrived in America in 1984, I was overwhelmed with freedom of speech after being so stifled under the South African government. I began to paint feverishly as if the great weight of oppression were being lifted from my right hand. These paintings were the ugly truth about South Africa. People did not respond to them. This inspired my 'Dream for South Africa' series. Now the response was enchantment with what South Africa could ideally become. This idealism and vision of hope became a key for me to turn in the doors of not only politics but woman's issues, the state of Mother Earth today and the power of collectives...."

Write for color brochure. Available in postcards at \$3.80/dozen and in cards at \$7.50/dozen. Jane Evershed Card Collection, PO Box 8874, Minneapolis MN 55408. ○

BESTSELLERS

Naiad Press

Videos

January-September 1989

- 1 Desert Hearts
- 2 Before Stonewall
- 3 Lesbionage
- 4 Long Awaited Pleasure
- 5 Lesbian Tongues
- 6 Waking Up
- 7 Reflections
- 8 Images
- 9 For Love and For Life
- 10 Erotic In Nature
- 11 Two in Twenty #1
- 12 Two in Twenty (all 3)

Clairelight

Santa Rosa, CA

November 1989

- 1 **The Beverly Malibu: A Kate Delafield Mystery**, Katherine Forrest, Naiad Press, \$16.95.
- 2 **After The Fire**, Jane Rule, Naiad Press, \$8.95.
- 3 **Lesbian Love Stories**, Irene Zahava, ed., Crossing Press, \$9.95.
- 4 **Thirteen Steps: An Empowerment Process for Women**, Bonita Swan, Spinsters/Aunt Lute, \$8.95.
- 5 **Pleasures**, Robbi Sommers, Naiad Press, \$8.95.
- 6 **Beyond Codependency**, Melody Beattie, Harper & Row, \$9.95.
- 7 **Bingo**, Rita Mae Brown, Bantam Books, \$4.95.
- 8 **Codependent No More**, Melody Beattie, Harper & Row, \$9.95.
- 9 **Coz**, Mary Pjerrou, Spinsters/Aunt Lute, \$9.95.
- 10 **Each Day a New Beginning**, Hazelden/Harper & Row, \$7.95.
- 11 **Intricate Passions**, Tee Corinne, ed., Edward-William Publishing Co., \$8.95.
- 12 **Places of Interest to Women**, Marianne Ferrari,

ed., Ferrari Publications, \$8.00.

- 13 **Shaman**, Susan Boulet, Pomegranate Books, \$19.95.
- 14 **Sue Slate, Private Eye**, Lee Lynch, Naiad Press, \$8.95.
- 15 **Accepting Ourselves**, Sheppard Kominars, Harper & Row, \$8.95.

Judith's Room

New York, NY

October, 1989

- 1 **Singing Softly/Cantando Bajito**, Carmen de Monteflores.*
- 2 **Serious Pleasure**, Sheba Collective.
- 3 **Intricate Passions**, Tee Corinne.
- 4 **After The Fire**, Jane Rule.
- 5 **Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Cafe**, Fannie Flagg.
- 6 **The Beverly Malibu**, Katherine V. Forrest.
- 7 **Lesbian Love Advisor**, Celeste West.
- 8 **Lesbian Love Stories**, Irene Zahava, ed.
- 9 **Restricted Country**, Joan Nestle.
- 10 **Bingo**, Rita Mae Brown.

*Author appearance



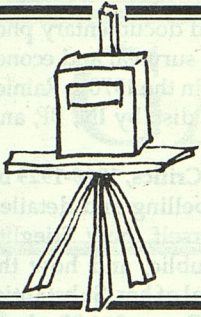
A Room of One's Own

Madison, WI

November 1989

- 1 **Cat's Eye**, Margaret Atwood, Bantam, \$5.95.
- 2 **Bingo**, Rita Mae Brown, Bantam, \$4.95.
- 3 **Breathing Lessons**, Anne Tyler, \$5.50.
- 4 **Intricate Passions**, Tee Corinne, \$8.95.
- 5 **Writing a Woman's Life**, Carolyn Heilbrun, Ballantine, \$6.95.

See Bestsellers, page 87



ART BOOKS

By Tee A. Corinne

Currently there is a rich array of magazines for and about women artists available:

Woman's Art Journal focuses on reclaiming and re-evaluating artists of the past and honoring older living artists. Amazingly, it manages to be both scholarly and lively. Woman's Art, Inc., 7008 Sherwood Drive, Knoxville, TN 37919, 2 issues/year, \$6.50/issue, bookstores pay \$4 + shipping/issue, payment due before next issue will be shipped, returns accepted in good condition only.

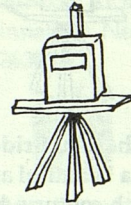
Women Artists News is upbeat, contemporary, and carries articles about what's happening in NYC, in different parts of the country and at the yearly Women's Caucus for Art conference. Midmarch Associates, \$3/issue, published quarterly, IN.

The Creative Woman (b&w, glossy paper), has been publishing for 12 years, featuring quality graphics, poetry, essays and short stories. The Spring/Summer '89 issue focuses on photography by 15 contemporary women artists. Governors State University, University Park IL 60466, 3 issues/year, back issues \$3, \$4 starting in 1990, 40%, order direct.

Helicon Nine, The Journal of Women's Arts and Letters has an upscale style, color printing, and a record inside each issue. The current issue, on The Avant-Garde, features interviews with Karole Armitage, Yoko Ono and Yvonne Rainer. Helicon Nine, POB 22412, Kansas City, MO 64113, \$10, three issues/year.

Gallerie: Women's Art is the only art magazine to consistently feature lesbian work. The editor says that it is becoming harder to find artists willing to be "out" in print now that **Gallerie** is receiving more mainstream attention. It's a quarterly with the June issue being a special, perfect-bound "annual." Dist. by BP and Ubiquity in the U.S. and CPPA in Canada.

Calyx: A Journal of Art and Literature by Women is classy and lovely, gives visual artists good space and dignified treatment. The current (fall/winter) issue includes images from Betty LaDuke's "African Goddesses" and new works by Portland and Seattle artists. 2 issues/year, \$8/issue, dist. by Small Changes, BP, IN, Armadillo, Homing Pigeon, Ingram and Airlift (England).

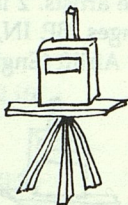


The most exciting new book to come across my desk lately is **Northwest Originals, Oregon Women and their Art**. Betty LaDuke and Judith Barrington are among the 47 artists, writers, musicians, and dancers featured in photos and essays. It's an impressive job from the same women's publishing company that brings out **InUNISON** magazine, a glossy monthly about women in Oregon. \$19.95 pb, 0-9624305-0-1, dist. by IN, Farwest and Pacific Pipeline.

Another book that I've just seen, although it was published in '88, is **A Women's Picture Book, 25 Women Artists of Aotearoa (New Zealand)**, ed. by Marian Evans, Bridie Lonie and Tilly Lloyd, a gutsy, grassroots project that's full of ideas, pictures, and interesting conversations. At least 5 women speak from a lesbian point of view. It's like having a feminist artists' support group in book form: *very substantial*. Contact John Seymour, The Government Printing Office, Publishing Division, Box 12411, Wellington, N.Z., \$39.95 (N.Z.) pb, 0-477-01395-3.

American Women Artists, the 20th Century, is an exhibition catalog of the work of 48 women, each with a page of text and b & w illustration. The essays are concise and factual. Most of the artists have achieved some prominence and were born before 1940. The Knoxville Museum of Art, 1010 Laurel Ave., Knoxville, TN 37916, \$12 pb, saddle stitched, no ISBN, 40% discount.

Women, Art, and Power and Other Essays by Linda Nochlin has just come out in paper and includes the often quoted "Why Have There Been No Great Women Artists?" as well as "Eroticism and Female Imagery in Nineteenth-Century Art," "Florine Stetheimer: Rococo Subversive," "Some Women Realists" and more. It should sell well. Harper & Row, Icon Editions, \$10.95 pb, 0-06-430183-4.



To Love & To Cherish, Brides Remembered by Linda Otto Lipsett is a beautiful and engaging look at marriage in nineteenth century America through the writings and photographs of individuals. As with other books from this publisher, it ties in the specific with the larger social issues of the day and has a broad class and cultural representation. The quality and design of the book are exceptional. The Quilt Digest Press, 955 14th St., San Francisco, CA 94114, \$19.95 pb, 0-913327-18-2; \$29.95 cl, 0-913327-19-0, 1-5 at 20% (pre-pay), 6+ at 40%, dist by Ingram, Baker & Taylor, etc.

Quilt Digest Press also publishes the remarkable **Hearts and Hands** and **The Quilt Digest** (1-5) each of which is infused with a feminist sensibility. Their catalog lists other books as well, which I have not yet seen.

The Subversive Stitch, Embroidery and the Making of the Feminine by Rozsika Parker makes an impressively researched case for evaluating women's lives and their position in society through the history of embroidery. Parker is the co-author of **Old Mistresses: Women, Art and Ideology** and **Framing Feminism**. Routledge, \$15.95 pb, 0-415-90206-1.

Carrying the Farm on Her Back, a Portrait of Women in a Yugoslav Village by Eva Skold Wester-

ling combines exceptionally lucid documentary photos with a descriptive text about survival and economics in a small mountain village in the 1970's. Rainier Books, \$14.95 pb, 0-9621934-8-8, dist. by IN, BP, and Moving Books.

O'Keeffe, Stieglitz and the Critics, 1916-1929 by Barbara Buhler Lynes is a compelling and detailed look at how O'Keeffe saw herself, how Stieglitz chose to present her to the public, and how the critics constructed their portrayal of her. Substantial and satisfying. UMI Research Press, \$14.95 pb, 0-8357-1962-6.

Sonia Delaunay, Artist of the Lost Generation, by Axel Madsen is a much needed biography of the abstract artist (1885-1978) whose colorful designs appeared on fabrics, costumes, playing cards, rugs, dishware and elsewhere, exuberantly defining the twenties in Paris. She continued working over the years, overshadowed in history by her artist husband. McGraw-Hill, \$24.95 cl, 0-07-039457-1.

Art in the Public Interest, edited and with an introduction by Arlene Raven, has essays on "The Guerrilla Theater of Greenpeace," the AIDS Quilt, feminist performance artist Suzanne Lacy, "The La Lucha Murals: Making a Political Art Park" and much more, chosen and thoughtfully introduced by lesbian feminist Raven whose work is always provocative. UMI Research Press, 39.95 cl, 0-8357-1970-7.

Georgia O'Keeffe, A Life by Roxana Robinson is massive (639 pp) and lively, full of interesting stories and a very nice selection of photographs. Edward Burlingame Books/Harper Row, \$25.00 cl, 0-06-015965-0.

Not new but certainly worth having is **Breaking the Rules, A Photo Media Cookbook** by Bea Nettles. It's not a cookbook, but a "how to" book of non-traditional photo printing processes, special effects film, pin hole cameras, and lovely images showing how different techniques can be used. This is an especially useful book for artists with any interest in photography or printmaking. Inky Press Productions, dist. by Prairie Book Arts Center, Box 725, Urbana, IL 61801, \$9.95 pb, 0-930810-02-3.

Prairie Book Arts Center distributes other books by Nettles as well as slide sets of her work. Nettles' magical images have been widely exhibited and published. One is the cover of *Mothers & Daughters, That Special Quality* by Olsen and Jussim, Aperture. ○

GAY MEN'S LIT

for Feminist Bookstores

By Ed Hermance with Skip Strickler
Giovanni's Room, Philadelphia

In case you haven't noticed, lots of gay men's books are available for a women's bookstore that finds itself with gay men coming through its doors because nobody else in town is offering them much of anything. So you want to have something good for them to read, classic and contemporary fiction, literature and light entertainment, with enough non-fiction to keep 'em healthy and wise. And, as you may have noticed, women are interested in gay men's books too.

FICTION

The current star of the crossover market is, of course, Armistead Maupin's **Sure of You** (Harper & Row, 0-06-149497-7, \$18.95), the sixth and final volume in the *Tales of the City* series. We're selling at least 20% of our copies to women — and everybody's buying the earlier volumes too, at \$18.95 each. You may not have noticed that Harper & Row is putting out a boxed set of the six volumes at \$125.00), with proceeds going to AIDS research. If **Sure of You** at \$18.95 is too steep, try *Tales of the City* and *More Tales of the City* in paperback, if you haven't already. You'll soon have people asking for the rest.

The recent release of Ethan Mordden's **Everybody Loves You** (St. Martin's, \$8.95, 0-312-03334-6) is reason for you to stock the two earlier volumes of his trilogy too: **I've a Feeling We're Not in Kansas Anymore** (NAL, \$7.95, 0-452-25929-0) and **Buddies** (St. Martin's, \$7.95, 0-312-01005-2). Have your customers start with **I've a Feeling**, and you'll sell all of them well. They're hilarious and wise, about a group of gay friends in New York.

Additional good new paperback novels — all bestsellers in our store — are: George Whitmore's **growing-up-gay-in-Nebraska** (Simon & Schuster, \$6.95, 0-671-67234-7); Stephen Spender's auto-

biographical and wonderful **The Temple** (Harper & Row, \$8.95, 0-06-097242-4); Alan Hollinghurst's portrait of British gay life in the 20th century in **The Swimming Pool Library** (Vintage, \$8.95, 0-679-72256-4); Larry Wolff's gay/straight San Francisco in **The Boys and Their Baby** (St. Martin's, \$8.95, 0-312-02878-4) — the horrible movie of similar name is not related to this book; Christopher Davis' sad and funny **Valley of the Shadow** (St. Martin's, \$7.95, 0-312-02666-8) about two lovers with AIDS, C.F. Borgman's story of a gay life from childhood to middle age, from the boondocks of Cincinnati to New York, **River Road** (NAL, \$8.95, 0-452-26304-2).



And five mysteries: Joseph Hansen's **Obedience** (Mysterious, \$4.95, 0-445-40844-8) and **Early Graves** (Mysterious, \$3.95, 0-445-40735-2), both featuring Dave Brandstetter, Southern California gay insurance investigator, surely the most famous gay detective in history — if you haven't carried Hansen's books before, these are good ones to start with; Mark Zubro's **A Simple Suburban Murder** (St. Martin's, \$7.95, 0-312-02640-4), a well-made, engaging whodunit set in any number of social milieux in Chicago; Russell A. Brown's **Sherlock Holmes and the Mysterious Friend of Oscar Wilde** (St. Martin's, \$7.95, 0-312-02280-8), a very satisfying pastiche of Arthur Conen Doyle; and Samuel M. Steward's **The Caravaggio Shawl** (Alyson, \$8.95, 1-55583-152-4), featuring Alice B. and Gertrude.

Forthcoming paperback fiction: David Leavitt's **Equal Affections** (Harper & Row, \$8.95, 0-06-97287-4) features a gay son and lesbian daughter struggling with the death of a powerful, difficult matriarch; David Feinberg's **Eighty-Sixed** (Penguin, \$7.95, 0-14-011252-9), a serious, hard-nosed, yet comic chronicle

of gay male society before and during its great health and emotional crisis.

POETRY

Paul Monette's **Love Alone: Eighteen Elegies for Rog** (St. Martin's, \$7.95, 0-312-02602-1), surely the most important book of new poems we've had in years; **Gay and Lesbian Poetry in Our Time**, the massive anthology, is due in paperback in December 1989 (St. Martin's, \$14.95, 0-312-03836-4).



SELF-HELP

We're very happy to have the revised **Now That You Know: What Every Parent Should Know about Homosexuality**, by Betty Fairchild and Nancy Hayward (Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, \$8.95, 0-15-667601-x). It was hard doing without it between editions, even with Don Clark's **The New Loving Someone Gay** (Celestial Arts, \$7.95, 0-89087-505-7) and **Are You Still My Mother?**, by Gloria Guss Back (Warner, \$7.95, 0-446-38195-0). It will be wonderful to have in January Betty Berzon's **Permanent Partners: Building Gay and Lesbian Relationships That Last** (NAL, \$9.95, 0-452-26308-5) in paperback, to join **The Male Couple**, by David McWhirter and Andrew Mattison (Prentice-Hall, \$8.95, 0-13-547563-5) and Eric Marcus' **The Male Couple's Guide to Living Together** (Harper & Row, \$10.95, 0-06-096143-0). Everybody has her favorite basic AIDS book. If you can bear to consider our choice, please look at the newly revised **The Essential AIDS Fact Book**, by Paul Douglas and Laura Pinsky (Simon & Schuster, \$3.95, 0-671-67852-1). Coming in February is the paperback of **Victims No Longer: Men Recovering From Incest and Other Childhood Sexual Abuse** by Mike Lew (Harper & Row, \$14.95, 0-06-097300-5), a rare and good book on the subject.

NON-FICTION

Harvard has just reprinted G.K. Dover's **Greek Homosexuality** (\$12.95, 0-674-36270-5), the most thorough examination of this perennially favorite topic. It includes a chapter about lesbianism in ancient Greece. Andrew Holleran's **Ground Zero** (NAL, \$7.95, 0-452-26236-4) is the collection of essays that people will read next century when they want to know

how gay men felt in the age of AIDS. Mickey C. Fleming's **About Courage** (Holloway House, \$2.95, 0-87067-352-1, dist. by All America Distributors, 8431 Melrose Pl., Los Angeles CA 90069, 213-651-2650, 40% prepay for less than 50 copies) is a simple but affecting account of growing up poor, Black and gay. It's one of a very few books about Black gay men. The paperback of **Taking a Chance on God: Liberating Theology for Gays, Lesbians, and Their Lover, Families, and Friends** by John J. McNeill (Beacon, \$9.95, 0-8070-7903-0) is out and should be carried by any store interested in homosexuality and religion. Larry Kramer's **Reports from the Holocaust: The Making of an AIDS Activist** (St. Martin's, \$9.95, 0-312-03921-2) is a pointed autobiography by the author of the play *The Normal Heart* and a founder of ACT-UP. Columbia will announce the paperback of **Gays/ Justice**, by R. Mohr (\$13, 0-231-06735-6) for February or March, but the scuttlebutt has it that it will be available in December 1989. It's the best overview of constitutional questions touching lesbians and gay men.

ART

I was going to recommend the photo book **Bruce Weber**, but after a couple of weeks in print, it's OSI, and apparently won't be reprinted; so, if you can carry any gay men's art books the new one to carry is Ken Haak's **Sleeping Beauties** (St. Martin's, \$29.95, 0-312-01090-7). It continues the contemporary expansion of the possibilities of the male nude, the subject that has gotten Robert Mapplethorpe such sensational attention.

HUMOR

I hope Leigh Rutledge's **Gay Fireside Companion** (Alyson, \$7.95, 1-5583-164-8) is out by the time you get this (it was due in October, but we haven't seen it in December now) to follow the great success of his two earlier compilations, *Unnatural Quotations* and *The Gay Book of Lists*, both also from Alyson. Howard Cruse's **Wendel on the Rebound** (St. Martin's \$9.95, 0-312-03002-9) is a new collection of the best-loved gay men's comic strips. Matt Groening's cartoon book, **Akbar & Jeff's Guide to Life** (Pantheon, \$6.95, 0-679-72680-2) is quite cute.

That's it folks! Feedback is very welcome. I'll be particularly interested to know if you would like to know more about hardcovers. ○

Selling Poetry in Feminist Bookstores

By Betsy Nuse

My favourite in this issue's pile of new books is **Green the Witch-Hazel Wood** by Emily Hiestand (Graywolf, 1-55597-120-2, US\$ 9.00 pb, dist. Baker & Taylor, Ingram, BP and IN). Hiestand's voice is new to me; her writing is meticulous and understated. The poems are not sensuous; sometimes they seem even a bit too contemplative or intellectual. But, for the tradition of well-schooled poets, this is a fine first book, and I hope we will hear more from this author whose luscious rainforest painting fills the book's attractive cover.

If you have customers with serious interest in Russian literature, draw their attention to **Shadow of a Soul**, collected poems of Bella Dizhur, translated by Sarah W. Bliumis (Moyer Bell, 0-918825-63-6, US\$ 12.95 pb, dist. Baker and Taylor, Ingram). Not only is this bilingual collection the first appearance of Dizhur's work in English, but the publisher describes it as the first complete collection of her poems in any language. Though she was a successful writer of books for children, Dizhur was denounced for her poetry and lived for many years as a rufusnik, until she was permitted to emigrate to New York City in 1987 at the age of 84. I thought the English poems rather high-toned and inanimate, but the Russian, which I can't read, may well be better.

If you stock mixed (female/male) anthologies, I urge you to enrich your Native section with **Seventh Generation**, a new collection of contemporary Native writing edited by Heather Hodgson (Theytus Books, 0-919441-30-0, C\$ 11.95 pb. Terms: 40%, no minimum, returns in 60 days, P.O. Box 218, Penticton, B.C., Canada V2A 6K3). I was delighted to find finally in print some poems by Jeannette C. Armstrong, a marvelous Okanagan poet whom I hear read whenever I can, but also discovered — as one often does through an anthology — wonderful moon poems by Annharte, from Manitoba.

My request for a review copy of Helen Dunmore's **The Sea Skater** (Bloodaxe, 1-85224-006-7, US\$ 10.95 pb, in the U.S. from Dufour) brought two newer titles from the same publisher as well. Dunmore's book is my favourite: woman-centred, intelligently-written. But any apiarists among your clientele will swoon at the bee-related metaphors in **The Honeycomb** by Pauline Stainer (Bloodaxe, 1-85224-073-3, US\$ 12.95 pb).



From ManRoot come two intriguing titles. The newest is **Clitoris Lost: A Woman's Version of the Creation Myth, a take-off on John Milton's ordering of a heaven, earth, and hell** by Lynn Lonidier (ManRoot, no ISBN, US\$ 11.95 pb, dist. BP, Small Press and Bookslinger). Definitely for the daring, this large-format book, printed on a pastel rainbow of paper stock, simmers dreams, word play, Pre-Columbian artifacts and in-jokes in a strong stock of stream of consciousness, ancient Cretan goddess religion, lesbianism and San Francisco Bay ocean water that took me on a trip I did not entirely understand, but occasionally laughed at and enjoyed. The older title, but one new to me, was **Her Magnificent Body: New and Selected Poems** (ManRoot, no ISBN, US\$ 8.50 pb) by Janine Canan (whose recent anthology for Crossing, *She Rises Like the Sun*, was mentioned several columns

out here flying
lesbian poetry by Jan Hardy

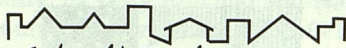
"...a fine affirmation of lesbian identity and sexuality."

—carol anne douglas,
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ago). I especially enjoyed Canan's prose poems and the emotional, descriptive writing in this substantial collection.

More traditional but pleasant is *One Road Down From the Wilderness*, a first book of poems by 80-year-old music teacher Julia Bates (Fithian Press, PO Box 1525, Santa Barbara CA 93102, 0-931832-30-6, US\$ 7.50 pb, dist. BP, or direct 1-4 copies at 20%, 5+ at 40%). As well as a marvelous array of female characters from her own family, these poems describe other women — even things — with a female eye: the mother of Jesus, the maker of a Shaker chair, even a Kashmiri box as a womb.

Another fine book of "traditional" contemporary poems is *The Word for Sand* by Heather Spears (Wolsak and Wynn, 0-919897-10-X, C\$ 8.00 pb. Terms: 40%, no minimum, returns OK, 43 Eglinton Avenue East, Suite 802, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M4P 1A2). Spears' writing nicely balances compassion and distance. I suspect from some of the poems and the simple yet artful drawings which illustrate the book that the author works for pay as an artist. I was most moved by part three of the book about babies — including drawings of them — and part six, centred around the captive dolphin in Canada's landlocked super-plaza, the West Edmonton Mall.

Another review copy I requested was *When I Kept Silence* by Naomi Clark (Cleveland State University Poetry Center, 0-914946-69-2, US\$ 6.00 pb. Terms: 40%, no minimum, returns with permission, CSU Poetry Centre, Dept. of English, Rhodes Tower, Room 1815, Cleveland, Ohio 44115). This is a plain but wonderful collection about "long loves, human and animal" which begins with recollections of childhood on a farm in Texas. Crows appear in many of the poems, the truest use of this emblem by a non-Native writer that I have encountered. The same publisher also sent *Returning the Question* by Trish Reeves (0-914946-66-8, US\$ 6.00 pb). It's not really a feminist book, but it includes some haunting poems on marital disillusionment and madness.

Mary Crow was the editor and translator of Latin American Review Press' *Women Who Have Sprouted Wings: Poems of Contemporary Latin American Women Poets*. The poems of her own book, *Borders* (BOA Editions, 0-918526-71-X, US\$ 8.00 pb, dist. BP, IN, Bookslinger or Small Press) describe her travels in Latin America, sensitively contrasting descriptions of unusual places with anguish over political repression.

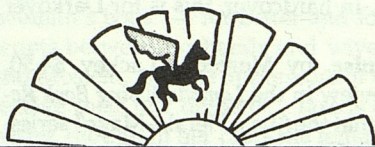
Corners by Grace and Bea Nettles (Inky Press, 0-930810-03-1, US\$ 14.95 pb, dist. University of Illinois) is a book, to me, more interesting for its concept and format than actual content. It is a collaboration between mother and daughter: mother Grace wrote the poems, and daughter Bea used her photographs and photo collages to design "an emblem book," which Grace describes as "a modern variation of a tradition that has long been recognized as literary, but which is actually a tradition of two arts working side by side." Draw the attention of any writing teachers or writing groups among your clientele to this appealing idea.

Barbara Carey's second book, *The Year in Pictures* (Quarry, 0-919627-53-6, C\$ 10.95 pb, dist. in Canada by University of Toronto, in U.S. by Bookslinger) is situated in the city, with its impersonality, distractions and poverty. By honestly acknowledging feelings of relationship, Barbara's poems dissolve in a profoundly female way — even if momentarily — urban angst so that we can "remember the divisions/are thin, there are/other lives below." Her open compassion in the heart of the city is not announced with fanfare, but makes her versions of this familiar poetic genre uniquely interesting. ○

SUSANNA STURGIS

ON

SCIENCE FICTION



Since this issue of *FBN* focuses on periodicals, I wish I could commend to you a women's or feminist-oriented *f/sf* magazine. Unfortunately, I can't, for all the *f/sf* "fanzine" scene is flourishing and various. The "matriarchal fanzine" *Windhaven* disintegrated years ago in a splatter of controversy about the transsexuality of founding editor Jessica Amanda Salmonson, and *Aurora's* publication schedule has stretched from sporadic to nonexistent.

Your *f/sf*/horror writing staff and customers should however know about *Scavenger's Newsletter*, a wonderful monthly digest/newsletter of who's looking for what kind of writing and much commentary by writers, editors, and publishers. The editor is Janet Fox, and you can reach her at 519 Ellinwood, Osage City, KS 66523. A sub is \$10/year, a real deal.

Another resource is the Small Press Writers and Artists Organization, which publishes a bimonthly newsletter. When I joined SPWAO, I received a friendly and personal welcoming letter from the "First Contact" committee. That was a first. You can reach the newsletter at 1705 Seigle Ave., Charlotte, NC 28205. First year sub is \$17.50, thereafter \$15/year.

For the librarians and reference folks among you, the 1989 edition of *Science Fiction and Fantasy Book Review Annual* is available from Meckler, 11 Ferry Lane West, Westport, CT 06880. It reviews about 500 English-language titles published during the preceding year and costs \$65.

You'll notice a slight change in the following publisher listings: Titles about which I know virtually nothing and those of marginal interest to feminist bookstores are combined in paragraph form.

When you think about it, please drop me a line to let me know what you're looking for in *f/sf*. Would you like to see more horror titles, or more YA? Anything else?

And finally, thanks to Kate Fearnley of West and Wilde in Edinburgh, who answered my query of two issues back; my long-sought copy of Rachel Pollack's *Unquenchable Fire* crossed the water without incident. The use of a credit card made the currency switch painless.



ACE

Weirdness reigns in Sheri S. Tepper's *Marianne, the Matchbox, and the Malachite Mouse* (\$3.50), in this newest of the acclaimed *Marianne* series; this also reflects Tepper's fascination with board games come to life. *The Luck of the Wheels* (\$3.50) by Megan Lindholm picks up the adventures of the Gypsy trader Ki and her companion Vandien, begun years ago in *Harpy's Flight*, *The Limbeth Gate*, and a third whose title I forget.

Hurray for Hollywood by Esther M. Friesner and *Dancing Vac* by S.N. (Shariann) Lewitt are both due in February, and look for Sara Stamey's *Double Blind* in May.

AVON

The Shining Falcon, by Josepha Sherman, \$3.95. A well-reviewed fantasy adventure-romance with Slavic roots, a female protagonist named Maria, and forests full of wild and quirky magics.

BAEN BOOKS

Apocalypse, by Nancy Springer, \$3.95. The archetypal Four Horsemen are here translated into women (*Hunger* is the anorexic wife of the local undertaker) in a depressed, mined-out Pennsylvania town. The result is involving, often macabre, but

ultimately unsatisfying — I think because Springer keeps backing off from the rich and deep political implications of her story. Definitely worth carrying, however.

Shaman, by Sandra Miesel, \$3.50. Based on the author's 1980 novel *Dreamrider*, this is a well above-average story of an apparently ordinary young woman in a relentlessly conformist alternate-U.S. who is pulled into a parallel future to be trained in shamanic skills by a wise elder woman and her apprentice, a humanoid otter. I believed it, liked it, and wasn't tempted to put it down.



Also from Baen, Mary Brown's well-reviewed **The Unlikely Ones** is now out in paper. In May, Melissa Scott's **Mighty Good Road** is accompanied by the rerelease of several of her previous titles. June brings **The Fall of Atlantis**, published some years ago in two volumes as **Web of Light** and **Web of Darkness**; I found them tedious, but other Bradley fans may disagree.

Elizabeth Moon's name is appearing frequently these days. Her **Sassinak** (\$4.95), a collaboration with dragonlady Anne McCaffrey, is due in March. In it, a girl kidnapped at 12 eventually escapes and becomes a pirate-chasing Fleet captain. Doesn't sound earth-shattering, but neither co-author should be ignored.

Moon's collection **Lunar Activity** (\$4.50) is due in April and **Surrender None: The Legacy of Gird** in June, along with several of her earlier works, including **Sheepfarmer's Daughter**.

DAW BOOKS

Sword-Maker, by Jennifer Roberson, \$4.95. Though I enjoyed its predecessors, *Sword-Dancer* and *Sword-Singer*, I gave this one short shrift because the advance publicity indicated a focus on the male half of its protagonist duo. But a f/sf-loving crony tells me it's the best in the series. Give it a try.

The Heirs of Hammerfell, by Marion Zimmer Bradley, \$18.95 cl. In the first Darkover novel in five years, set in the Hundred Kingdoms period, male twins are separated in infancy and raised one in the sophisticated city, the other in his rustic homeland.

The story charts their rival attempts to reclaim their birthplace and carry on the feud that caused its fall. MZB exerts firmer than customary control over her material here, and the result is likable enough but devoid of passion. In hardcover, this is for Darkover fanatics only.

Magic's Promise, by Mercedes Lackey, \$4.50. Jackie Cooper's review in the *Lambda Rising Book Report* tipped me off that the "Last Herald-Mage" series, of which this is book two, has a definite gay male angle. Book one is **Magic's Pawn** (\$3.95).

Shadowplay, by Jo Clayton, \$4.50. The protagonist of this one is Shadith, long the captive of the Diadem in Clayton's multi-volume Diadem saga. Here she is prisoner again, of a nasty producer of galactic level snuff films who wants her to play a demigod in his next production. April.

The Moonbane Mage, by Laurie J. Marks, \$3.95. Follows **Delan the Mislaid** (\$3.95) in "The Children of Triad," in which several races struggle to share a world in some kind of harmony. April.

Also from DAW, Jackie Hyman's **Shadowlight** (\$3.50) features a female protagonist in a tale of psionic skills, magic, and ancient evil. In February, **Sunrunner's Fire** (\$4.95) continues Melanie Rawn's "Dragon Prince" epic, and **FreeMaster** (\$3.95), a first novel by Kris Jensen, pits Terran emissary Sarah Anders against greedy mercenaries in a battle for the mineral-rich planet of Ardel.



DEL REY (BALLANTINE)

The Changling Sea, by Patricia A. McKillip, \$3.95. New fantasy about a young woman and her hatred of the sea; McKillip writes magical prose and is always worth a look.

DELACORTE

High Wizardry, by Diane Duane, \$14.95 cl. Third YA fantasy about junior wizards Nita and Kit and, especially, Nita's younger sister Dairine, who finds her own magic manual on a portable computer. Alla' that's all right, but I wish Duane would get on with the wonderful series she started in **Door into Fire** and **Door into Shadow**. April.

DOUBLEDAY/FOUNDATION

Alamut, by Judith Tarr, \$8.95 pb. An epic-length fantasy romance-adventure set in the time of Saladin and the Christian crusaders which, according to *Locus*'s Faren Miller, "is what used to be called a 'woman's book' — for better and for worse. Conflict erupts between husbands and wives, both Christian and Moslem, and the oppressors of women generally receive their just desserts." Tarr is also a very good writer, though in her plots the female characters tend to take second place to the men.

HUNTER HOUSE

On the Road to Bagdad, by Guneli Gun, \$19.95 cl. A young Turkish girl, left behind when her parents go on pilgrimage, sets off to find them in a journey that crosses time as well as space. She visits the age of the *Thousand and One Nights*, among others, and in the present meets up with Shahrazad, author of those tales. Carolyn Cushman's comments in *Locus* are tantalizing: "...a somewhat revisionist, feminist viewpoint...in which women often play a more powerful role than shown in later versions. Occasionally bawdy, with sex scenes couched in the quaint language of Victorian porn, the novel even has Huru marry another woman at one point." Probably too much of a risk in hardcover, but I thought I'd let you know. Hunter House is at P.O. Box 847, Claremont, CA 91711.

MORROW

Brain Rose, by Nancy Kress, \$17.95 cl. A "trendy sf thriller" from a very good writer, incorporating "fears of AIDS, anti-homosexual movements, ecological balance, gestalt theory, and past lives."

MORROW JUNIOR

Seal Child, by Sylvia Peck, \$12.95 cl. A juvenile that focuses on the friendship between Molly and Meara, the seal child of the title. Carolyn Cushman says it conveys "a sense of magical mystery and childhood passion seldom found in genre fantasy," and that it is moving as well as predictable and not very deep.

NAIAD

Virago by Karen Marie Christa Minns, which *Locus* lists as horror, is scheduled for February, and **Priorities** by Linda Lyons for April.

NAL/ROC

New American Library in April launches its new f/sf imprint, Roc, which seems to incorporate the f/sf titles previously published under the Signet imprint. Of particular interest are the paperback reprint of Mary Gentle's **Ancient Light**, due in June, and in October the reprint of Ursula K. Le Guin's collection **Buffalo Gals and Other Animal Presences** and a new novel by one of my favorite authors, R.M. (Rebecca) Meluch, **Chicago Red**.

**SPINSTERS/AUNT LUTE**

Coz, by Mary Pjerrou, \$9.95 tp. Just arrived and looks great; a "metaphysical thriller" that would be at home in any collection of women's f/sf. More next issue, I hope.

TOR

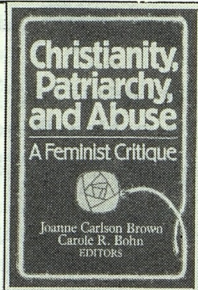
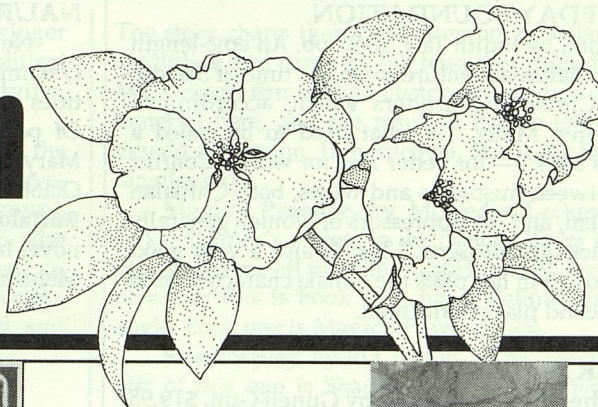
Crusader's Torch, by Chelsea Quinn Yarbro, \$4.95. After about 100 pages, I set aside this epic tale of Atta Olivia Clemens, a vampire and Roman lady trying to get out of Tyre on the brink of the Third Crusade. The writing is fine, the characters and settings vivid, but with books and manuscripts piling up all around my house I just can't do *long* unless it's utterly compelling — and this wasn't, not enough. A **Candle for D'Artagnan** (\$22.95, cl) concludes Olivia's saga and is set in the time of Louis XIII, also (surprise) the time of the Three Musketeers.

Inferno, by Louise Cooper, \$3.95. The second book of Indigo, the saga of a princess who released evils into the world then was given the chance to undo her deed, continues the promise of *Nemesis*, though some tension is lost as the protagonist ventures farther in time from the world she destroyed. The evocations of fire and fanaticism here are memorable indeed.

People of the Sky, by Clare Bell, \$18.95 cl. Wish I knew how they decide what's cloth and what's paper. This sounds good: A female star-pilot of Hopi ancestry becomes involved with a lost colony of Pueblo Indians on a distant planet. Carolyn Cushman calls it fascinating and erotic.

See Science Fiction, page 87

Christian Feminism



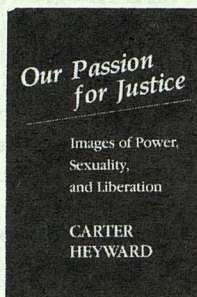
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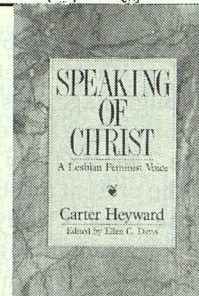
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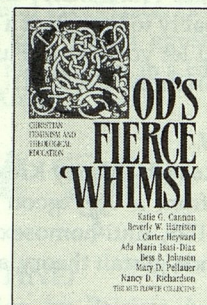
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FROM THE SMALL PRESSES

Compiled by Carol Seajay

I wrote to Coteau Books (Regina, Saskatchewan) for a copy of **Women of Influence** and they responded with a whole raft of good, solid midwestern tales of women's lives from the Canadian prairies. **Maria Breaks Her Silence** by Nancy Mattson offers a poetic biography of a life as-it-might-have-been. Maria was an historical figure, a real woman, who left no letters, no diaries, no photographs, nor even her maiden name. This cycle of poems recreates her life as she moved from Finland to Michigan to New Finland, Saskatchewan and explores the rituals of daily life — and the demands of life on a woman who must make her own life, must take risks against a husband's violence, must raise and nurture her children... \$8.00 pb, 0-919926-93-2.

The fourteen stories in **Woman of Influence** by Bonnie Burnard capture those moments where the real needs of women, children and men clash with the constraints of contemporary society. "Rather than focus on women's acts and emotions, Burnard portrays a 1980s society that encompasses both sexes and many age groups and is framed — and reformed — by feminist ideals." Burnard also edited *The Old Dance: Love Stories of One Sort or Another*. 8.95 pb -81-9.

Some of Eve's Daughters by Connie Gault offers compelling stories that break through everyday defenses to show us women's hopes, fears, and warmth — and that there are no "ordinary" lives. \$8.95 pb, -62-2.

Other Coteau titles include **Foreigners** by Barbara Sapergia, a novel about a Romanian immigrant family in the badlands of southern Saskatchewan (\$4.95 pb, -35-5); **The Queen of the Headaches**, a collection of short stories about the passion and strength of ordinary people (\$4.95 pb, -48-7); **The**

Wednesday Flower Man, a collection of short stories by Dianne Warren set in the northern bush, small-town cafes, rural and urban landscapes that uncover the lives of women of all ages and conditions who are struggling to deal with changing times (\$8.95 pb, -68-1); and **Best Kept Secrets** stories by Pat Krause (\$8.95 -84-3).

Coteau Books, 1945 Scarth St. Suite 209, Regina, Saskatchewan S4P 2H2, Canada. Distributed in the U.S. by Bookslinger (502 N. Prior Ave., St. Paul MN 44104).



Carolina Wren published two books of particular interest to feminist bookstores in 1989. **Love, or a Reasonable Facsimile** by Gloree Rogers was the winner of the Carolina Wren-Obsidian II minority book contest for North Carolina. In this autobiographical novel, Gloree Rogers writes about a young Black woman growing up with multiple handicaps. Pediatric surgery plus the new drug penicillin saved her life, but she suffered child abuse at home, sexual abuse in the neighborhood, and taunting and ridicule at school. As a young adult, working as a live-in maid she was tricked into signing away her newborn infant. These are only some of the obstacles this determined young woman overcame as she struggled to live a life of her own. \$7.00 pb, 0-932112-27-7.

Brother's Keeper, Sister's Child by Margaret Stephens deals with the difficult subject of our human failure to respond to another's need. Mae, an independent-minded violinist, finds that teenage despair is something she can't escape — not when the teen struggling is her seventeen-year-old nephew. \$7.00 pb, -26-9.

Bookstores with an interest in literacy programs may also be interested in **Watering the Roots in Democracy: A Manual on How to Combine Literature and Writing in the Public Library** by Judy Hogan (\$10.00 pb, -28-5).

Carolina Wren Press was one of only thirty-six small and university presses selected to participate in the new "American Writing from the U.S. 1989" exhibit at the Frankfurt International Bookfair. Two of the books selected were Jaki Shelton Green's *Dead on Arrival and New Poems* and Rebecca Ransom's *Elmatha's Apology*. Carolina Wren is a non-profit small press committed to publishing work by women and minority writers. They also publish Lollipop Power Books. Carolina Wren Press/Lollipop Power, PO Box 277, Carrboro NC 27510. IN.



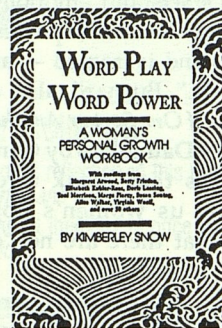
Talon Books has a long history of publishing interesting work by women. Talon was the first publisher to bring Jane Rule's *Desert of the Heart* back into print in the mid-seventies and then published a collection of her short stories *Themes for Diverse Instruments*. Later Talon published a series of books by Mary Meigs including *Lily Briscoe: A Self-Portrait*, *The Box Closet*, and *The Medusa Head* about a tempestuous ménage-à-trois among three women writers.

Talon's recent publications include **Shinny's Girls** a collection of "social-realism" stories by Mary Burns about mothers and daughters that examine the myths of mother-daughter relationships (\$9.95 pb, 0-88922-272-X) and **Mother of the Grass**, the second volume of Jovette Marchessault's autobiographical trilogy. The first volume, *Like a Child of the Earth* (published by Talon in 1988, \$11.95 pb, -261-4) won the Prix France-Québec when it was first published in 1976. In the first volume, the largely self-taught artist and author, who left school at 14 to work in a factory, reflects on her years of wandering before encountering the worlds of painting and writing. The second volume *Mother of the Grass* (\$11.-95 pb, 0-88922-267-3) describes her early life torn from a childhood paradise on the banks of the St. Lawrence and plunged into the child-battering hell of working class Montréal, the despairing din of the factories where she worked as a

teenager and her extraordinary journey through the artists' cafes, gay bars, bookstores and streets of Montréal in the 1950s and 1960s. It is a brutal portrait of a world dedicated to violence against women and children and a remarkable visionary account of the growth of a major Quebec feminist artist's creative self. Yvonne Klein, the translator of the trilogy won the Canada Council Prize for Best Translation in 1985 for her translation of Marchessault's *Lesbian Tryptch*.

Talon Books, 201-1019 E. Cordova, Vancouver BC V6A 1M8. Order from University of Toronto Press, (5201 Dufferin St, Downsview Ont M3H 5T8, Canada, or 340 Nagel Dr, Cheektowaga NY 14225.)

Who says consciousness-raising is dead? **Word Play, Word Power: A Woman's Personal Growth Workbook** offers a series of consciousness-raising exercises effective for both writers and other women looking for deeper understandings of themselves in relation to a rapidly changing world. The writing exercises are preceded by quotations from 75 women writers including Margaret Atwood, Betty Friedan, Doris Lessing, Toni Morrison, Marge Piercy, Alice Walker, Virginia Woolf, Fay Weldon ("Litany of a Good Wife") and Emma Goldman ("It's not my fault if men can't keep up with me.") Topics range from menstruation to mother-daughter fights to coming-out ("Write a story about coming out whether or not you are gay") to grief. A useful book for writers and a great gift for a wide range of women. \$9.95 pb, 0-943233-04-6. Conari Press, 713 Euclid Ave., Berkeley CA 94708. IN.



Women's Asia by Yayori Matsui was already a bestseller in Japan (selling 60,000 copies in the first three months) when it was picked up by Zed Press for British and U.S. distribution. Written by Japan's first



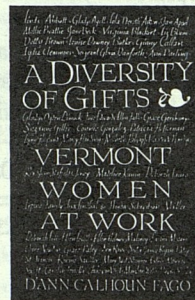
woman journalist, it confronts the responsibility of Japan's affluent society for the impoverishment of Asian women's lives. Drawing on her travels through 18 Asian countries, it describes the daily challenges faced by women from a huge range of cultures and classes. She witnesses the abuses of child prostitution and the expanding sex industry, the rape and dowry deaths of Indian brides, Cory Aquino and the women who were instrumental in overthrowing Marcos, the impact of Japanese-style management on women, the isolation of migrant women and the vitality of Burmese women's matriarchal tradition. \$12.50 pb, 0-86232-827-6.

In **We Were Making History: Women and the Telangana Uprising**, the Stree Shakti Sanghatana, a women's collective in Hyderabad tells about women's participation in the legendary Telangana struggle (1948-51) against the feudal overlords in the princely state of Hyderabad. These interviews with women who were actively involved provide what has been missing from every history of the uprising: an account of the women's significant participation in the struggle. Each woman tells how she left behind a life of the household to learn a life of activism, hiding from the police and informers, fighting, facing death of comrades, reading, writing, and discussing politics. The excitement of working in a resistance movement is clear from their accounts, but there was also disappointment: the bitterness of being told to go back to the kitchen once the struggle had ended. This previously untold story raises issues still relevant today: the misrepresentation and exclusion of women from history and women's exploitation by leftist movements. First published in India by Kali for Women. \$15.95 pb, -679-6. Zed's **Motherpower and Infant Feeding** is published in the U.S. by Rutgers University Press. Zed Press, 57 Caledonian Road, London N1 9BU. Distributed in the U.S. by Humanities Press International, IN and BP.

A number of presses are adding to the growing wealth of Latin American women's writing avail-

able in the U.S. The New Directions has the U.S. edition of **Soulstorm**, a collection of stories by Brazilian writer Clarice Lispector, \$10.95 pb. Curbstone Press' bilingual collection of Gioconda Belli's poetry **From Eve's Rib** offers a woman's perspective of Nicaraguan life before, during and after the Sandinista triumph in 1979. ("For Gioconda Belli, the poetic word is a genesis of Hispanic American feminism. Her poems, in their equation of sexual and political liberation, are a discovery of the mystery, the beauty and the transcendent power of the female body.") \$9.95 pb, 0-915306-85-9, IN & BP. White Pine Press' offers **Landscapes of a New Land** edited by Marjorie Agosin, an anthology of short stories by Latin American women writers. \$10.00 pb, 0-934834-96-2, IN & BP.

Displaced Persons edited by Kirsten Holst Peterson and Anna Rutherford looks at literature written



A Diversity of Gifts: Vermont Women at Work

By D'Ann Calhoun Fago

"Lively profiles of 46 Vermont women at work – in agriculture and trades, the professions, the arts, business, human services, and government – provide a generous, non-sexist affirmation of women in all their variety."

— *Booklist*

"...an interesting melange that will appeal to those involved in women's studies, young adults seeking career guidance, and local social historians... A morale-boosting book."

— *Library Journal*

240 pages, 6" x 9," 0-88150-144-1 paper \$15.95

The Countryman Press
PO Box 175
Woodstock VT 05091
(802) 457-1049

by displaced persons. In articles, interviews, short stories and poetry, refugee and migrant writers discuss the issues of language, cultural transmission, racism, and their thoughts and feelings. Published in Australia by Dangaroo Press, it offers a different view on the experiences of refugees and migrants and a wider definition of who is thought of as a refugee or migrant than we usually see in our own literature. I'd love to see a parallel anthology that includes the experiences of lesbians and gay men as displaced people in the U.S. About half of the articles are by women. \$16.95 pb, 10871049-30-X.



Dangaroo has two new titles of interest since we found their *A Double Colonization: Colonial and Post-Colonial Women's Writings* at the Second International Feminist Bookfair. *Modern Secrets* by Malaysian poet Shirley Geok-lin Lim about which *Calyx* said "Her poems urge us to affirmation.... Their journeys are, in the end, interior travels that extend our experience of being, but even more so of being female." Lim was the first Asian woman to win the Commonwealth Poetry Prize. \$10.95 pb, -00-8. *Metamorphoses* by Australian poet Diane Fahey draws on Greek myths to tell the story of contemporary woman journeying from patriarchy to reclaiming her own space and authenticity. The poems place the reader at the center of a battlefield where humans and gods, women and men, act out their conflicts. "Thoroughly feminist." \$10.95 pb, -05-9.

Dangaroo Press, GPO Box 1209, Sydney NSW 2001, Australia. Distributed in the U.S. by IN.

For the growing interest in Italian women's lives, *New Italian Woman: A Collection of Short Fiction* edited by Martha King offers 24 stories or novel excerpts by 17 Italian women writers, giving a hint of the range of work published by Italian women writers in the last fifty years. \$14.95 pb, 0-934977-16-X. Itatica Press, 595 Main St. 605, New York NY 10044. *Voices of the Daughters* by Connie Maglione and Carmen Anthony Fiore uses letters, speeches and interviews with over 100 Italian-American women to convey the experiences of the daughters of Italian immigrants. Very dense with personal stories. \$14.95 cl, 0-939219-05-0. Townhouse Publishing, 301 N. Harrison St., Bldg. B Suite 115, Princeton NJ 08540. Distributed by Illinois Literary Publishers Association (PO Box 816, Oak Park IL 60303. 800-242-4572).

When the peaceful wooded recreational area in Southern Germany was taken over to be made into a base for the installation of Pershing missiles, the community was deeply shocked. Young peace activists questioned why those who suffered through WW II remained silent. Responding to the plea of a young peace activist, twenty-five women came together to discuss their experiences during the War. Some were young children, some were brides whose husbands were drafted into the army. Some were resistance fighters, some were members of the Hitler Youth Or-



Menninger

Women and Anger

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Based on her best-selling book *The Dance of Anger*, clinical psychologist Harriet Goldhor Lerner, PhD, discusses how women can transform ineffective expressions of anger into a clearer definition of the self and a more solid connectedness with others. Both professional and general audiences will benefit from her insights. Dr. Lerner's other books include *The Dance of Intimacy* and *Women in Therapy*.

To order, please write or call: Menninger Video Productions, Dept. A20, The Menninger Clinic, Box 829, Topeka, KS 66601-0829; 800 345 6036.



ganization. Through their eyes we see how powerful the impact of Nazi propaganda was. In breaking their silence, the women regained something of their lives that had been buried for years. They also gained the self confidence to speak out against the missile installations. They tell their stories in **Surviving the Fire** edited by Lilo Klug. \$9.95 pb, 0-940880-24-5; \$17.95 cl, -23-7. Open Hand Publishing, PO Box 22048, Seattle WA 98122. IN/BP.

Keeping the Peace: Practicing Cooperation and Conflict Resolution with Preschoolers by Susanne Wichert is a practical handbook for parents and teachers striving to create harmonious groups, bolster children's self-esteem and foster cooperative and creative interactions among the 2 to 6-year-old set. \$12.95 pb, 0-86271-157-7. New Society Publisher, PO Box 582, Santa Cruz CA 95061. IN/BP.

A Diversity of Gifts: Vermont Women at Work edited by D'Ann Calhoun Fago offers 47 vignettes (with photos) of contemporary Vermont women representing a variety of occupations from farmer to plumber to governor. The profiles convey each woman's struggle for personal independence and validate the concept that women can — and will — do everything. \$14.95 pb, 0-88150-144-1. Countryman Press, PO Box 175, Woodstock VT 05091.

I Think Divorce Stinks by Marcia Lipman Lebowitz gives kids a chance to talk back against all the it's-going-to-be-alright pep talks and claim their own feelings by saying "I think divorce stinks" without confusing their dislike for the situation with any illusions that they can change their parents' feelings. \$4.95 pb, 0-935769-05-6. From the Children's Divorce Center, 88 Bradley Road, Woodbridge CT 06525.

Expensive, but worth it to the right organizations: **Grants for Women and Girls** by The Foundation Center lists 2,300 grants of \$5,000 or more given by 300+

foundations to various programs ranging including reproductive rights, women's studies, education, health and medical care, publications, recreation and more. The price is \$45.00 for the 120 page paperback, with no mentioned bookstore discount. Pass the word to women who work in non-profit organizations that might qualify. The Foundation Center, 70 Fifth Ave., NY NY 10003.



Tears in the Lion's Heart by Margaret O'Connor is a self-published novel set on an island where the norm is same-sex couples and "hets" live in an underworld of sleazy bars, discrimination and harassment... This book makes me wish that we had a national center that could assist first-time publishers with issues of readable text and typesetting so that one didn't have to fight through the type to try to find the story. Stores that do their best to stock every lesbian inclusive title will want to stock it. \$7.95 pb, 0-9622479-0-X. Po Kuan Press, PO Box 7235, Phoenix AZ 85011.

The Lesbian and Gay Almanac and Events of 1990 is an idea whose time has come. It will probably take a couple of years to get it fully functioning, but the investment in time and energy will certainly be worthwhile. This year's edition is divided into three parts: 1) A Special Gay Games Supplement; 2) The Gay/Lesbian Year in Review; 3) Events of 1990. \$9.95 pb, 160 pp, 0-945043-02-3. Envoy Enterprises, 740 N. Rush St. #609, Chicago IL 60611. IN.

Ex-Gays? There Are None by Rev. Sylvia Pennington (*But Lord, They're Gay and Good News for Modern Gays*) is Pennington's third book for fundamentalist Christian gays and lesbians (or those so-reared). This one documents the experiences of gays and lesbians who have been through various

fundamentalist-based "cures" for homosexuality. Her theory (and ministry) is that one can be both gay and fundamentalist Christian... I certainly support the former, but have a hard time with the latter. Still, I'd stock all three books for the sake of the comfort they offer gays whose lives have been strongly influenced by anti-gay fundamentalists on the theory that we all have to start at our own beginnings. These may be the only gay-positive books fundamentalist parents will read. Pennington's involvement with the gay community began in the 1960s working to "heal" homosexuals of "their" homosexuality. She "hope(s) that the lives and ministries depicted in this book will enable (the reader) to see that more damage than help is done to gay people as they try not to be gay." \$15.00 pb, 400 pp., 0-9616853-2-8. 40% bookstore discount, no min. Lambda Christian Fellowship, PO Box 1967, Hawthorne CA 90250.

Speaking of Christ: A Lesbian Feminist Voice by Carter Heyward looks at a number of issues current among the Christian feminist set in this collection of essays and sermons. \$6.95 pb, 0-8298-0829-9.

Christianity, Patriarchy, and Abuse: A Feminist Critique edited by Joanne Carlson Brown and Carole R. Bohn is a feistier volume that asks if patriarchy and the Christian faith are so inextricably linked that the very theology that should be challenging violence, suffering and sacrifice instead glorifies and makes sacraments of them. In looking at the ways that traditional Christian theology encourages and supports violence against women and the sexual abuse of children, this book calls for an exorcism of the patriarchal assumptions that make Christianity and the violent abuse of women and children synonymous. I particularly appreciated the concept of "theological pornography." \$11.95 pb, -0808-6. Both books from The Pilgrim Press, 475 Riverside Dr., NY NY 10115.

Crossroad/Continuum also has a new series of books that will be of interest to the Christian Feminist set: **Sex, Race and God** by Susan Thistlethwaite is an attempt by a white Christian feminist to encounter the differences between Black and white women in response to an essay by Audre Lorde. \$19.95 cl, 0-8245-0969-2. **The Power to Speak: Feminism, Language,**

God by Rebecca Chopp offers "a third space of feminist theology which neither corrects nor separates from established orders to explore the marginality of women's experience." \$17.95 cl, -0940-4. **Sisterhood as Power** by Mary Ann Donovan, S.C. looks at the historically remote and more recent causes for women's exodus from traditional religious life and at the "passion" that is resulting in the development of new forms of religious life. \$16.95 cl, -0961-7. **Godding** by Virginia Mollenkott "deals with the complex issues of religious triumphalism, racism, sexism, militarism and heterosexism" in this feminist interpretation of the Scriptures. \$8.95 pb, -0948-X.



MAGAZINES:

Outweek is New York's new (6 month old) lesbian and gay weekly news magazine. Glossy, full-color covers wrap up 90+ pages of news, opinions, politics, features, reviews, AIDS updates and more. Recent issues have featured gay, Black South African Simon Nkoli, lesbian folksinger Phranc, and "the brave new world of gay cops." Looks to be about 60/40, rather than 50/50 but hopefully that will improve. Strong editorial, good cartoons (including Alison Bechdel), good coverage of ACT-UP demonstrations, the only review I've seen of the AIDS videos *Vida*, *Are You With Me?* and *Seriously Fresh* produced by and for Latina women, African-American women and African-American male youth... I'd subscribe for the Lesbian Herstory Archives column alone. Worth stocking if you are anywhere near NYC or have traveling customers... \$1.50/\$1.00. Order from Outweek, 77 Lexington Ave. Suite 200, NY NY 10010. 212-685-6398. ○

FROM THE UNIVERSITY PRESSES

By Kris Hoover

UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA PRESS

Women for All Seasons, by Catherine Foster, is a lively and thought-provoking history of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. Foster traces WILPF's goals and strategies from its founding by Jane Addams and others in 1915 to the recent UN conference in Nairobi. She unravels WILPF's complex and often stormy relationship with feminism and contributes an important historical perspective for women currently interested in global feminism. \$12 pb, 0-8203-1147-2, \$25 cl, -1092-1, 230 pp, 37 photos.

This is My Century, new and collected poems by Margaret Walker, with an autobiographical introduction. Best known for her wonderful Civil War novel *Jubilee*, Walker was also the winner of the Yale Younger Poets Award in 1942. These 100 sonnets and ballads, mainly on Black civil rights and humanist themes span fifty years and were selected by Walker herself. \$12.50. -1135-9, 209pp.

Women Writers in the 17th Century, Katherina Wilson and Frank Warnke, eds., joins Wilson's earlier University of Georgia anthologies on medieval and renaissance women writers. Like the earlier volumes, this one is a thick, well-organized volume likely to be popular with students. \$19.95 pb, -1112-x, 568pp.

Simone Weil: An Intellectual Biography, by Gabriella Fiori, does a very good job of explaining the French philosopher and writer's complex ideas, though the author is too much in awe of her subject. Weil (1909 - 1943) was not a feminist, and not much interested in questions of gender and power, but her ideas about economic justice, the ills of Western society, and her concept of mysticism will interest

many contemporary feminist readers. \$35 cl, -1102-1, 380pp, 10 illus.

He Included Me, the autobiography of eighty-year-old Sarah Rice, is a forthright and often wryly funny oral history of this "progressive-minded" and assertive Black woman's childhood in Alabama, her years with each of her three husbands and as a teacher and a maid, her enduring family ties and her current work to increase women's role in black Baptist churches. The title refers to a hymn that inspired Rice and her mother. \$19.95, -1141-3, 181pp, 12 photos.



Also note: **Fire and Grace**, by Arthur Zipser and Pearl Zipser, is the life of Rose Pastor Stokes (1879 - 1933), feminist and socialist activist and co-founder of the American Communist Party. \$35 cl, -1133-2, 368pp, 17 illus. And, for general bookstores, **An Ear to the Ground: An Anthology of Contemporary American Poets**, Marie Harris and Kathleen Aguero, eds., a multi-cultural anthology of 100 female and male poets, including lesbian, gay and working-class authors. \$14.95 pb, -1123-5, 334pp.

PETER BEDRICK BOOKS

British Women Writers, Dale Spender and Janet Todd, eds. This anthology of 62 British novelists, poets, playwrights and authors of diaries and letters is made for students and general readers. Authors range from a medieval nun to established contemporary writers Margaret Drabble and Angela Carter. Biographical introductions, though very short, reflect the insights and lack of homophobia readers would expect from the two well-known radical feminist editors. \$19.95 pb, 0-8722-6216-2, \$39.95 cl, -6326-6, 928pp.



The Secret Eye

The Journal of Ella Gertrude Clanton Thomas, 1848–1889

Edited by Virginia Ingraham Burr

Introduction by Nell Irvin Painter

"This dramatic and moving personal story offers an important perspective on the death of the Old South and the birth of the New."—Elizabeth Fox-Genovese

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Black and White Women of the Old South

by Elizabeth Fox-Genovese

Julia Cherry Spruill Prize, Cowinner, Southern Association of Women Historians

"We have to thank a daughter of the Deep North for digging up and presenting more neglected testimony of plantation mistresses and their servants than has ever before been assembled."—C. Vann Woodward, *New York Review of Books*

563 pp., \$34.95 cloth, \$12.95 paper

Gender and American Culture

The Enclosed Garden

Women and Community in the Evangelical South, 1830–1900

by Jean E. Friedman

"[This] ingenious and ambitious book searches the mind, church, and community of the South in an effort to explain why the southern women's reform movement lagged behind that of the North."—*American Historical Review*

196 pp., \$10.95 paper

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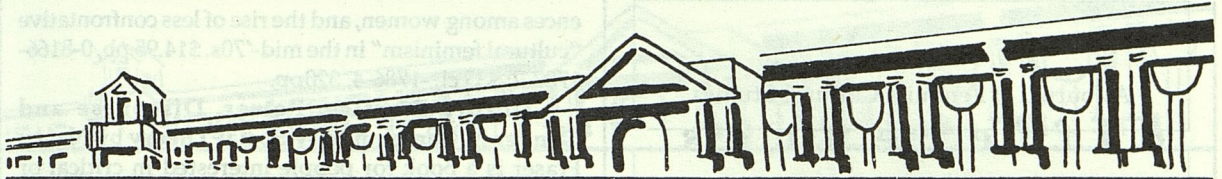
OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS

The first four paperback editions in the Schomburg Library of Nineteenth-Century Black Women Writers are: **The Collected Works of Phillis Wheatley**, \$9.95, 0-19-505241-2, 384pp; **Behind the Scenes, or Thirty Years a Slave, and Four Years in the White House** (as a servant of the Lincolns), Elizabeth Keckley, \$9.95, -506084-9, 432pp; **The Journals of Charlotte Forten Grimke**, \$10.95, -506086-5, 672pp; and **Six Women's Slave Narratives**, William Andrews, ed, \$9.95, -506083-0, 384pp.

I counted nearly 30 other new women's studies titles in Oxford's fall catalog. Here are some of the most generally-marketable: **No Separate Refuge: Culture, Class, and Gender on an Anglo-Hispanic Frontier in the American Southwest, 1880-1940**, Sarah Deutsch, an award-winning history that illuminates the central role of women in Hispanic village life and challenges a wide variety of stereotypes. \$14.95 pb, -506073-3, 368pp.; **Searching the Heart: Women, Men and Romantic Love in Nineteenth-Century America**, Karen Lystra, a gracefully-written study of middle-class heterosexual couples' love letters and diaries, \$24.95 cl, 0-19-505817-8, 336pp; **The Sea Around Us**, special edition, by Rachel Carson, including an introduction by Ann Zwinger and a biological update by marine ecologist Jeffrey Levinton, \$18.95 cl, -506186-1, 272pp; **Eighteenth-Century Women Poets, An Oxford Anthology**, Roger Lonsdale, ed. with over 100 English poets, \$35 cl, -811769-8, 592pp; **Language and Gender, Making the Difference**, by Cate Poynton, on how girls and boys learn to be different kinds of people as they learn to use language in different ways. \$9.95 pb, -437160-3; **Understanding the Gender Gap: An Economic History of American Women**, Claudia Goldin, \$29.95 cl, -505077-0, 336pp, illus.; and **Gender, Culture and Power: Challenging New Zealand's Gendered Culture**, Bev James and Kay Saville-Smith, \$12.95, -558201-2, 120pp.

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY PRESS and COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY PRESS

Feminist Mothers by Tuula Gordon, is a wide-ranging compilation of the experience and ideas of 50 feminist mothers of diverse background and income and living in lesbian, communal and several other kinds of household and family. \$29, 0-8147-3030-2, 200pp.



In the "publishing event" department, note: **The Works of Mary Wollstonecraft**, in 7 volumes, edited by Marilyn Butler and Janet Todd, -9225-1, \$495 cl. for the set.

Columbia University's most general paperbacks are: **Still Harping on Daughters: Women and Drama in the Age of Shakespeare**, by Lisa Jardine, a witty and iconoclastic feminist study of the depiction of women on stage, \$13.50 pb, 0-231-07063-2; \$30 cl, -07062-4, 216pp; and **Gender and the Politics of History** by Joan Scott, nine controversial, autobiographical essays about feminism and historical interpretation, \$14.50, -06655-8, 242pp. Also note: **The Paradise of Women: Writings by Englishwomen of the Renaissance**, Betty Travitsky, ed., \$16 pb, -06885-9, 320pp; **Philosophy and Revolution: From Hegel to Sartre and From Marx to Mao**, by feminist and socialist theorist Raya Dunayevskaya, \$15 pb, -07061-6, 400pp; **The Public Years of Sarah and Angelina Grimke**, Larry Ceplair (male author), \$37.50 cl, -06800-x, 400pp; **The Sign of Angellica: Women, Writing and Fiction**, by Janet Todd, \$42.50, -07134-5, 336pp; **Black Sun: Depression and Melancholia**, by popular French feminist and psychoanalyst Julia Kristeva, \$29 cl, -06706-2, 298pp, and maybe **Radical Mathematics**, Marilyn Frankenstein, intended for adults who were shut out of learning math by sexism, racism and classism, \$19 pb, 1-85343-091-9, 384pp, illus.

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY PRESS

Of Memory and Desire by Gladys Swan is a collection of smooth, spare and memorable short stories, most centering on a middle-aged person's learning to cope with disillusionment. Swan portrays yearning without being maudlin, and sketches individuals who are perplexed and sometimes defeated by life, but never pathetic. Swan's politic is humanist and her focus psychological; if you have an audience for small press fiction in hardcover, try this. \$16.95, 0-8071-1480-4, 166pp.

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS

Fictions of Sappho, 1546 - 1937, Joan DeJean, traces the changing myth of Sappho as muse, chaste paragon, courtesan and lesbian, through nearly 400 years of French and other European writing. Readers used to academic writing will like DeJean's flowing style and catch the jokes, but others may find the many references to Sappho's and others' writing slow going. \$16.95 pb, 0-226-14136-5, 383pp.

Sisters and Workers in the Middle Ages, Judith Bennett, et al., eds. This collection of essays from the journal *Signs* includes articles on women in crafts and guilds, the founding of women's religious orders, a medieval woman university student, and women's practice of medicine. \$15 pb, -04248-0, \$30 cl, -04247-2, 344pp.



Also note: **Rights and Goods**, Virginia Held, is a general, readable book about practical, everyday ethics by a philosopher and feminist. Held takes into account racism, classism, sexism and imperialism, the inability to fully escape social privilege, and the need to rescue the environment. \$14.95 pb, -32588-1, 327pp.; **Virginia Woolf and the Fictions of Psychoanalysis**, by Elizabeth Abel, which pairs Woolf's fiction with the work of Sigmund Freud and Melanie Klein written at the same time and read by Woolf. \$27.50 cl, -00079-6, 200pp; and **Pluralism and Progressives: Hull House and the New Immigrants, 1890 - 1919**, Rivka Shpak Lissak, addresses a central issue of current feminism. Lissak shows that though Jane Addams and other feminists and progressives underestimated the importance and durability of ethnic identity, their democratic ideals and organizations paved the way for a pluralism they hadn't envisioned. \$39 cl, -48502-1, 266pp.

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY PRESS

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d i f f e r e n c e s is a journal of cultural studies that focuses on how concepts and categories of difference—notably but not exclusively gender—operate within culture. Situated at the point of intersection of cultural studies and feminism, the two most exciting fields of critical inquiry to have opened up in recent years, **d i f f e r e n c e s** is affiliated with the Pembroke Center for Teaching and Research on Women at Brown University. It is published three times a year and is edited by Naomi Schor of Duke University and Elizabeth Weed of the Pembroke Center. At least one issue a year will have a special thematic focus.

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cusses the persistence of men's social clubs, trade unions and political organizations in the context of men's conflicts with other groups of men and with women. She shows how many men's organizations have fostered cross-class brotherhood and a sense of identity with capitalism, anti-feminism and white supremacy. Try it if you have a strong history or social theory section. \$27.50 cl, 0-691-09447-0, 256pp.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA PRESS

Daring to be Bad: Radical Feminism in America, 1967 - 1975, Alice Echols, traces radical women's breaking away from the male anti-war and civil rights movements to form groups like Redstockings and Radical Women. She follows the development of radical feminist ideas, the struggle with racism and differ-

ences among women, and the rise of less confrontative "cultural feminism" in the mid-'70s. \$14.95 pb, 0-8166-1787-2; \$35 cl, -1786-4, 320pp.

Unruly Practice: Power, Discourse and Gender in Contemporary Social Theory by Nancy Fraser is a book for people interested in critical or literary theory or socialist feminism. Fraser discusses such familiar theorists as Foucault and Derrida, but has some fresh and feminist things to say. She also writes well, which is nearly unheard of in the field of critical theory. \$14.95 pb, 1778-3; 1777-5, \$35 cl, 201pp.



Men's Work, Women's Work, by Harriet Bradley, looks at mining, fishing, pottery, medicine, teaching and other British industries to show that women have done a wide variety of jobs in different times and places, but that sex-segregation of work has been nearly constant. Bradley defines circumstances in which women have been able to break into safer, better-paying jobs, with an eye toward taking advantages of current changes in the economy. \$15.95 pb, -1815-1, 263pp.

UNIVERSITY PRESS OF VIRGINIA

Feminist Reading/Feminist Readings. Authors Sara Mills et al. take the creative approach of demonstrating six varieties of feminist literary criticism. Using a few familiar novels (*The Color Purple*, *Wuthering Heights*), the authors try out "French feminism," "Marxist feminism," etc., and allow readers to compare and critique the results. \$12.95 pb, 0-8139-1243-1; \$35 cl, -1242-3, 304pp.

Also note: **Marianne Moore: Vision into Verse**, Patricia Willis, combines a short biography with 77 photographs, clippings and other artifacts, to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Modernist poet's birth. \$18.50 pb, 0-939084-21-x, 103pp; and **Women in the Age of the American Revolution**, Ronald Hoffman and Peter Albert, eds., a collection of essays, mostly by women scholars, on women's rights issues and Black and white women's lives around 1776. \$15.95 pb, -0-8139-1240-7, 515pp.

UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS PRESS

The Female Frontier: A Comparative View of Women in the Prairie and Plains. Author Glenda



Riley finds deep commonalities of experience among native-born and immigrant, Black and white women settlers on the frontier. While describing women's daily lives and aspirations, Riley contrasts women's shared experience of domestic work with the diversity of men's public roles. \$12.95, 0-7006-0424-3, 299pp, 33 photos. Kansas has a 3-copy minimum, mixed titles, for 40%.

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA PRESS

Ecological Revolutions. Carolyn Merchant, author of the popular ecofeminist book, *The Death of Nature*, writes about the transformation of the New England landscape, first by European colonists, then by industrialists. She explains the development of mainstream U.S. ideas about the environment while showing readers how human action changed a landscape that will be familiar to many readers. \$13.95 pb, 0-8078-4254-0; \$34.95 cl, -1858-5, 400 pp, 16 illus, Dec.

Arms and the Woman: War, Gender and Literary Representation, Helen Cooper et al., eds. June Jordan, Jane Marcus and 16 other authors define the literary and cultural roles of peaceful woman and violent man, using literature to look at the importance of gender in maintaining militarism. \$12.95 pb, -4256-7; \$32.50 cl, -1860-7, 340pp, Dec.

Women's Writing in Exile, Mary Jane Broe and Angela Ingram, eds. Essays by Shari Benstock, Gayatri Spivak and other familiar feminist literary critics on the varieties of "exile" endured by women writers, from being an ethnic minority or an immigrant to being dismissed from literary respectability. Of particular interest to students and teachers of literature. \$12.95 pb, -4251-6; \$34.95 cl, -1849-6, 442pp.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

Moral Vision and Professional Decisions: The Changing Values of Women and Men Lawyers, by Rand Jack and Dana Crowley Jack, examines the influence of women lawyers' perspectives and values

on the legal system. \$22.95 cl, 0-521-37161-9, 224pp, trade discount.

Remember that Cambridge also has a good list of paperback children's books, especially folklore, science and ancient history.

Language-watchers will be interested to know that Cambridge and Oxford have just revised the Bible (the Revised English Bible, that is) for the sake of inclusive language.

UNIVERSITY PRESS OF MISSISSIPPI

Contemporary Women's Fiction by Paulina Palmer is a radical feminist analysis of women's fiction from the 1960s to the present. Palmer's thoughts about the role of feminist publishing in the current feminist movement are a rare find in print and will particularly interest booksellers. \$27.50 cl, 0-8780-5396-4, 192pp.



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA PRESS

Though postmodernist criticism is less hip these days, stores with literary criticism sections can sell **Thinking Fragments: Psychoanalysis, Feminism and Postmodernism in the Contemporary West,** a survey and commentary by well-known critic Jane Flax. \$25 cl, 0-520-06586-7, 300pp.

Nel Noddings, author of *Caring*, is another writer with a following. Her new book, **Women and Evil**, develops a concept of evil based on women's experience. Readers interested in theology and psychology will particularly appreciate Noddings' discussion of evil as a patriarchal construct. \$25 cl, -06570-0, 284pp.

The Social Importance of Self-Esteem, Andrew Mecca, et al., eds. Seven chapters relate the concept of self-esteem to such social concerns as child abuse, crime, teen pregnancy, failure in school and chemical dependency. Each essay finds some strong relationships between low self-esteem and

other kinds of trouble, but also makes some conclusions that contradict popular ideas. Recommended for therapists, social workers and general readers of feminist psychology. \$9.95 pb, -06709-6; \$40 cl, -06708-8, 346pp.



Hard Core. In this well-written social history of porno films, feminist Linda Williams argues the films are more about "sexual secrets," including women's pleasure, than they are about power. Some readers will be frustrated by this narrow focus on content, though many will appreciate Williams' analysis of the similarities between pornography to the content of more "acceptable" films, fashion and other forms of popular culture. \$18.95 cl, -06653-7, 342pp.

California paperbacks include: **On Account of Sex**, Cynthia Harrison, a thorough history of feminist legislative initiatives during the feminist doldrums of 1945 - 1968. \$10.95 pb, -06663-4, 359pp; **Theodosian Empresses**, Kenneth Holum (male author), a case study of upper-class women trying to wield power in a patriarchy, this is the story of three Byzantine empresses' attainment of influence through skillful manipulation of Christian symbolism and shrewd political connections. \$12.95, -06801-7, 258pp, 19 illus.; and, for general bookstores, **Lives on the Line: The Testimony of Contemporary Latin American Authors**, edited by Doris Meyers, is a collection of autobiographical and political writings by 10 female writers, including Elena Poniatowska and Isabel Allende, along with 20 male writers. \$10.95 pb, -06794-0, 359 pp.

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY PRESS

Rutgers offers three important new books on Black women's writing:

Wild Women in the Whirlwind: Afro-American Culture and the Contemporary Literary Renaissance, Joanne Braxton and Andree Nicola McLaughlin, eds., is a comprehensive collection of essays by Angela Davis, Barbara Smith, Nellie McKay and 17 others, covering the diversity of Black women's literary traditions in poetry, fiction, drama, political essays, etc. Authors also look at the contribution of

nonwritten forms of expression, such as music and storytelling, to Black women's literature. Introduction by Audre Lorde. \$13.95, 0-8135-1442-8, \$38 cl, -1441-x, 400 pp.

Shadowed Dreams: Women's Poetry of the Harlem Renaissance, Maureen Honey, ed., includes 148 poems, some reprinted here for the first time. Nellie McKay's introduction discusses the wide range of subjects — Harlem life, Black pride, feminism, romance, nature — chosen by Harlem writers, and explains their use of traditional verse to convey innovative meanings. \$12.95 pb, 1420-7, \$35 cl, 210pp.

Changing Our Own Words: Essays on Criticism, Theory and Writing by Black Women, edited by Cheryl Wall, addresses literary critics' questions — Should there be theories particular to Black women's writing? What can Black women learn from other kinds of literary theory? \$12.95, -1463-0; \$36 cl, -1462-2, 240pp.

Witnesses for Change: Quaker Women Over Three Centuries, Elisabeth Potts Brown and Susan Mosher Stuard, eds., combines essays on Quaker women's spirituality and public activism for social change with documents written by Quaker women of the past. \$12 pb, -1448-7, \$32 cl, -1447-9, 190 pp.



Also note: **Scarlett's Women: Gone With the Wind and its Female Fans**. Author Helen Taylor tells what she learned about the racism, political conservatism and peculiar feminism of GWTW by talking with its fans and studying its changing acceptance over 50 years. An entertaining, feminist understanding of popular culture. \$12.95 pb, -1496-7; \$35 cl, -1480-0, 258pp; **Women in the Third World: Gender Issues in Rural And Urban Areas**, Lynne Brydon and Sylvia Chant, eds., surveys development policy, urbanization, changing household economy and dynamics, reproductive rights, and urban planning. \$12 pb, -1471-1; \$38 cl, -1470-3, 336pp; and **Fantastic Women: Sex, Gender and Transvestitism**, Annie Woodhouse, a British feminist study of male cross-dressing that includes excellent interviews with transvestites and their wives. \$14pb, -1444-4; \$32 cl, 1443-6, 157pp. ○

Back to Press, continued from page 52**RIGHTS**

Seal Press will publish *A Week Like Any Other* by Natalya Baranskaya, one of the Feminist Book Fortnight (U.K.) Twenty Selected Titles for 1989, in March of 1990.

Pandora Press (England) purchased the rights to New Victoria's *Stoner McTavish* and *Something Shady* last year. Argument purchased the German rights to both books this year.

Cleis Press has sold the book club rights to *AIDS: The Women* to Quality Paperback Book Club (Book-of-the-Month Club, Inc.) QPB expects a first printing of 4,000 copies to ship in early 1990.

Naiad Press announces that the British rights to Katherine V. Forrest's *The Beverly Malibu* have been sold to Pandora, the Dutch rights to Uitgeverij Furie, and the German rights to Argument Verlag. Daphne Verlag will publish the German language edition of *Fatal Reunion* by Claire McNab. Daphne Verlag has just released the German edition of Jane Rule's *Desert of the Heart*. ○

Bestsellers, continued from page 64

- 6 *Bar Stories*, Nisa Donnelly, \$9.95.
- 7 *Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Cafe*, Fanny Flagg, \$5.95.
- 8 *After The Fire*, Jane Rule, Naiad, \$8.95.
- 9 *Hallowed Murder*, Ellen Hart, Seal, \$8.95.
- 10 *Lesbian Bedtime Stories*, Terry Woodrow, \$9.95.
- 11 *Handmaid's Tale*, Margaret Atwood, Fawcett, \$4.95.
- 12 *Courage to Heal*, Ellen Bass, Harper & Row, \$16.95.
- 13 *Pilgrimage, Vol. 4*, D. Richardson, \$16.95.
- 14 *Mama Day*, Gloria Naylor, Random House, \$8.95.
- 15 *The Beverly Malibu*, Katherine Forrest, Naiad, \$16.95. ○

Science Fiction, continued from page 73

The Color of Neanderthal Eyes, by James Tiptree, Jr., \$3.50. First publication of a novella (novelette?) by the late and wonderful Alice Sheldon. Bound in a "double" with Michael Bishop's *And Strange at Ecbatan the Trees*.

The Woman Who Loved Reindeer, by Meredith Ann Pierce, \$3.95. Universally reviewed with superlatives, this novel is set under a double moon in a land with prehistoric feel and features a woman

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who loves a shapechanger, half mortal man and half goldenstag.

URSUS IMPRINTS

Patterns, by Pat Cadigan, \$19.95. Fourteen stories — several award-winners and one previously unpublished — from one of the very best. Says Faren Miller of *Locus*, her "stories are thunderbolts. They illuminate, energize, and set your hair on end." You probably won't buy this in small-press hardcover, but the trade or mass-market paperback will be along one of these months. Ursus Imprints can be reached at 5539 Jackson, Kansas City, MO 64130.

WOMEN'S PRESS/U.K.

Jane Saint and the Backlash, by Josephine Saxton, £4.95. Carry this if you can get it, for it, like its predecessor, *The Travails of Jane Saint*, deals creatively, surrealistically, and consciously with feminist concerns. ○

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Dykewoman, Elana. *They Will Know Me By My Teeth.* Megaera Press, 1976.

Diner, Helen. *Mothers and Amazons.* Doubleday, 1973. HB or paper.

Hoh, Judith & Doolittle, Bev. *Visions: The Art of Bev Doolittle.* Greenwich Workshop.

Nancy K. Bereano/Firebrand Books

141 The Commons

Ithaca, NY 14850

Griffin, Susan. *Like the Eye of an Iris.*

Opening Books

403 Pratt Ave. NE

Huntsville, AL 35801

Harris, Bertha. *Joy of Lesbian Sex.* Simon & Schuster, 1978 or Putman Berkeley, 1985.

Swallow, Jean, ed. *Out From Under: Sober Dykes and Our Friends.*

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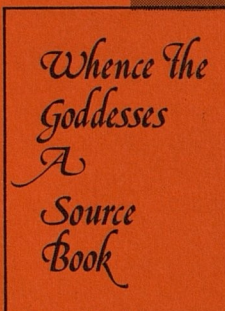
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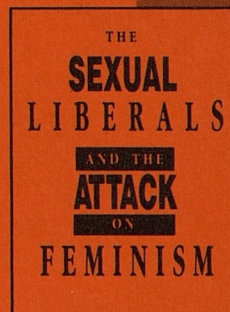


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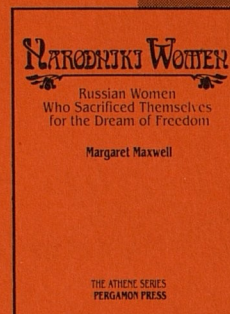


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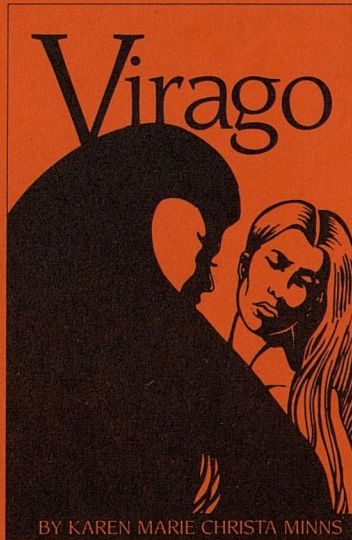


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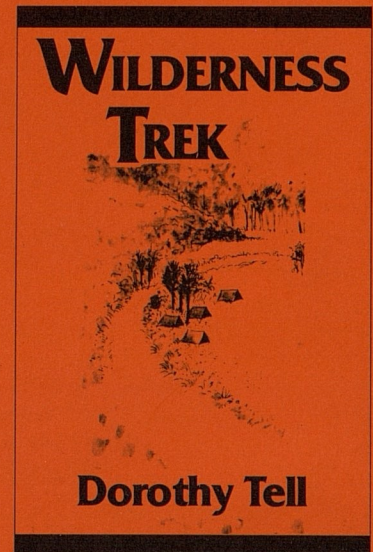
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