
Feminist Bookstore News





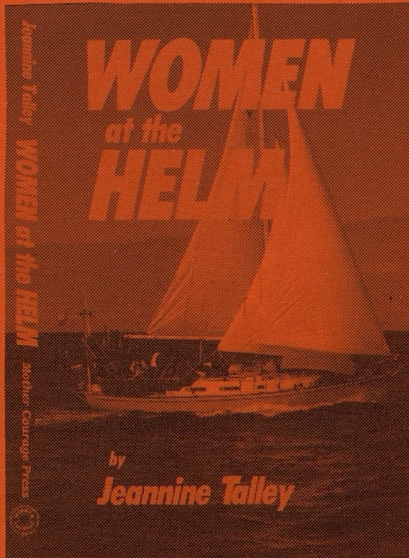
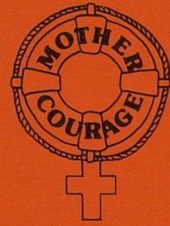
August 1990

Volume 13 Number 2
Femina serial am F32978

9/12/90

New from— **Mother Courage Press**

1533 Illinois Street, Racine, WI 53405, (414) 634-1047



Women at the Helm by Jeannine Talley

All her life Jeannine Talley had a dream of sailing around the world. She had her doctorate and was teaching folklore and mythology at UCLA when she bought her first boat. She started Seaworthy Women, a sailing school to teach women to sail in a supportive, non-threatening way.

When she met Joy Smith, they talked about sailing around the world from their very first conversation. Joy owned a 34-foot boat, and also had her own business chartering. The two became partners and they decided to make the voyage.

Women at the Helm tells how their dream became a reality and relates Jeannine and Joy's cruising experiences on their way around the world. They take turns being captain and share the magic and romance of the South Pacific.

Articulate, poetic and filled with adventure, *Women at the Helm* will inspire and delight adventurous women everywhere.

(A selection of the Dolphin Book Club)

(228 pages) photos, illustrations

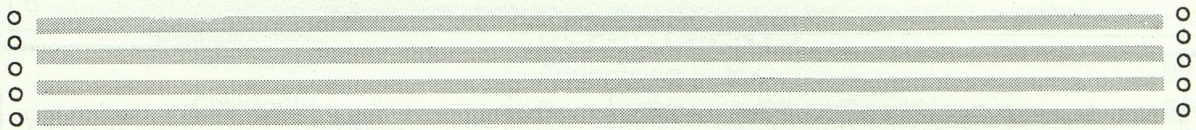
ISBN 0-941300-15-3 \$11.95 paperback;

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NOTES FROM THE COMPUTER TABLE



Whatta Summer! I actually have a distinct memory of a quiet moment back in May after the issue went in the mail and before we started packing up for ABA.... Then it was the Feminist Bookstores Day, ABA, (Las Vegas!), home for a week (!) before leaving for The IV International Feminist Bookfair (Barcelona!) and a week's vacation on a Mediterranean island(!). Then home (in the same city, in the same time zone, in the same language) for four weeks in a row to "do" the "July" issue. (Who are we trying to kid? I write this on August 1 and we're still days from going to the printer.) The moment we get this issue off to press (actually, it's *these issues* as you probably noticed opening the envelope) I'm on the plane to Vancouver for the (Gay and Lesbian) Literary Festival. What a life! My wildest fantasy, at the moment, is a few moments of peace and boredom!

These issues? How did *that* happen?

Midway through production we realized we were going to have space problems (again) and decided to split the issue and publish the Sidelines Catalog in a separate binding to make room for the articles from craftswomen and the new feature "Bookstore Faves & Raves & Bestselling Sidelines" We always print extra copies of the Sidelines Issue to send out to all the new, future, and potential feminist booksellers that we hear about during the year. Most new booksellers have a hard time finding the kinds of sidelines they want to stock in their stores and the FBN Sidelines Catalog is a deeply appreciated and well-used resource.

So we decided, as long as we're sending the catalog to new booksellers anyway, to include some of the articles that would be particularly useful to new booksellers — Jennie Boyd Bull's "Developing an Ecofeminism Section," Kasha Songer's "On Being a Feminist Employer," a bookstore profile, an article explaining the ins and outs of Pubnet, and two good doses of women-in-print history. Quite a compendium! And

suddenly we had the first-ever FBN Summer Supplement and Sidelines Catalog — Maybe this is a good idea? Maybe we should do this every summer until we have all the articles we need for the long-imagined how-to-start-a-feminist-bookstore book. Hmmm.

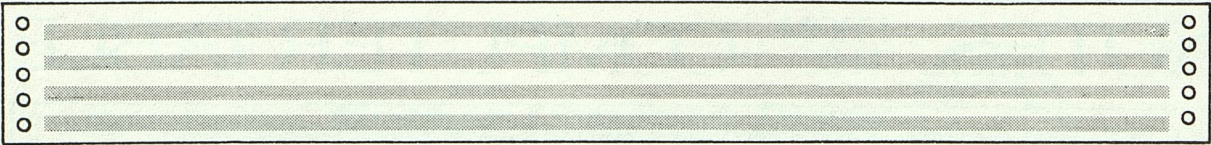
The Lammys were their own contradictory selves. (For an excellent analysis, see Ruthann Robson's excellent essay "Winning and Losing in Las Vegas: The Politics of Lesbian and Gay Literary Awards" in the July 22 issue of *Gay Community News*.)

Despite it all, I was honored to be given the Lambda Book Report Publisher's Service Award for FBN. FBN is a body of good work and I'm both proud of it and pleased to see the magazine recognized. But the spring's real-unequivocal-honest-to-dyke without-any-conflicts-or-doubts high was opening

FBN Deadlines

Fall Announcements
Sept./Oct. Issue
Call Now!

University Press Issue
November/December
October 10



The New, Improved! Dykes to Watch Out For and find Jezanna reading FBN. Now that's a *serious* compliment. A place in the cartoon strip! The dyke-hall-of-humor. Wow! Am I in awe or what!

ABA was fun this year and the IV International Feminist Bookfair in Barcelona was far more wonderful than even my wildest dream. Traveling for FBN always generates news and stories and these two events have outdone themselves in this respect.

This issue includes my brief report on Barcelona, and an article on the Italian women's bookstore's distribution scheme (translated for FBN at the Fair). Upcoming issues will include an interview with Spanish feminist bookseller Heide Braun about the second wave of feminist bookstores in Spain, and an interview with a Russian woman organizing the first lesbian and feminist publishing company in the U.S.S.R., articles about feminist publishing in South Asia, Attic Press' commitment to growth and stability (and generating both by selling \$55,000 in stock), and a Canadian bookseller's perspective on the Fair, and more.

ABA, of course, generated a slew of articles as well: reports on Feminist Bookstore Day, on the discussion in response to the Indian Spiritual Abuse position paper, on the ABA-sponsored Feminist Specialty Roundtable and on Vegas itself. I'm especially delighted to publish Audre Lorde's address to the Lambda Award banquet.

I've always wanted to *really* cover the Feminist Bookstore Day Meetings in FBN and I feel that I've finally done it. I hope you enjoy the coverage. Having done it, I'm eager to hear from you about what you do — and don't — find helpful and interesting.

Other issue highlights include the second installment of the interview with Judy Grahn on the early beginnings of the Women-In-Print movement and Nett Hart's interview with The Womyn's Braille Press in honor of their 10th anniversary, Margaret Phillips' article profiling bookselling in an isolated Northern (Canadian) community and a report on the NUJ boy-

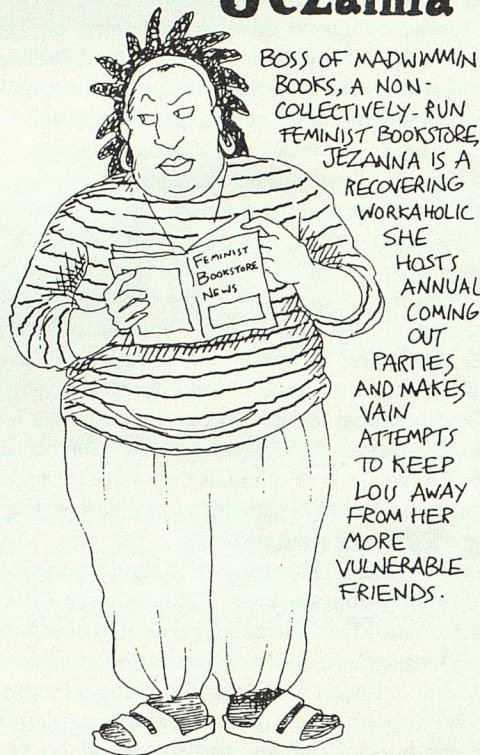
cott of Pergamon. You'll find them all in the Summer Supplement.

What an issue this is! I hope you've all scheduled some lazy days and have time to take FBN off to lunch or to the beach. Read quickly but enjoy it all!

The FBN Fall Announcements Issue will be coming soon! If you have any ideas or suggestions for articles for the University Press issue, give me a call. I've had numerous requests for an article on the ethics of fundraising for feminist businesses. Any takers?

Yours in spreading the words,
Carol Seajay

Jezanna



Even Jezanna reads FBN!

From Alison Bechdel's *New, Improved! Dykes to Watch Out For* (Firebrand)

FBN

Editor & Publisher

Carol Seajay

Columnists

Art Books	Tee Corinne
Canadian Content	Donna Murray
Gay Men's Literature	Ed Hermance
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

Feminist Book Fortnight, U.K.

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 booksellers 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.

Letters, articles, news items and announcements should be received the tenth of the month preceding publication. Signed articles and letters are the responsibility of the authors.

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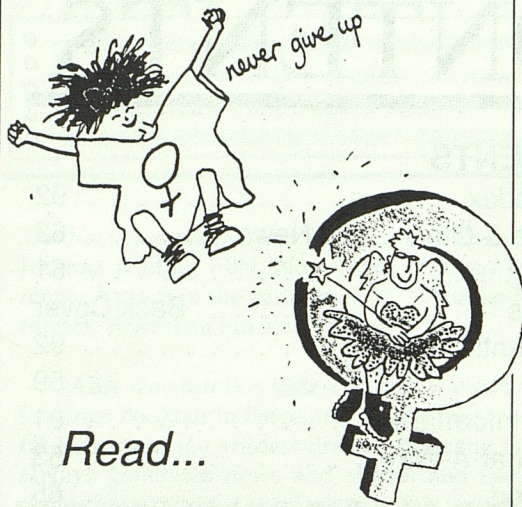
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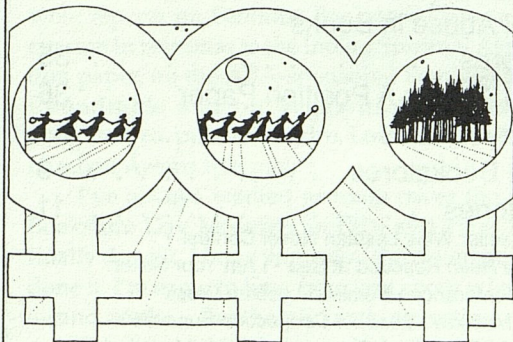
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Read...



The 1990



*Sidelines Catalog
and
Summer Supplement!*

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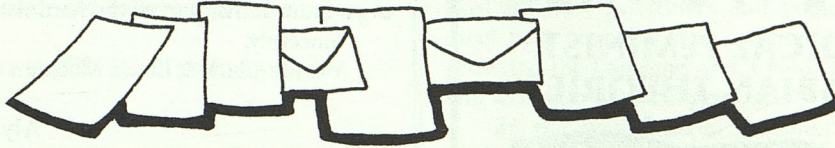
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LETTERS



Volcano Press
PO Box 270
Volcano, CA 95689

Dear Carol/FBN:

I was greatly amused and touched when reading your interview with Judy Grahn, and she referred to the \$500 grant that I gave to *Woman to Woman* while I was with Glide Memorial Church.

I had completely forgotten the episode, and thinking back on it, I recall that I desperately wanted to publish the book at Glide but didn't have the courage to come right out and say so. And when that formidable, beautiful group of women filled my little office and told me they wanted to buy a printing press, I provided the grant. What they didn't know was that Glide Publications had a very little budget, and this was an unprecedented, one-time event.

But what goes around comes around, and Volcano Press is now publishing a book for which I will be asking Judy's permission to use a couple of her poems. After all these years, we will be in touch again.

Warmly,
Ruth Gottstein
Publisher



Nancy Springer
c/o Baen Books
260 Fifth Ave., Suite 3S
New York, NY 10001

Dear Feminist Bookstore News:

In your March/April Letters section, a correspondent states that my novel *Apocalypse* is "rabidly anti-abortion." This statement gives a false impression of the book. *Apocalypse* is not primarily about abortion, nor is it a moral or political statement. Rather, it is a

work of imagination, not "rabidly" for or against anything. In the book I depict a young woman who has needed a backstreet abortion; she is not a very attractive person, but she is not blamed for this need or for being who she is. I depict the backstreet abortionist. She is not an attractive person either, but should she be? There are no heroes in *Apocalypse*. Its story takes place in a social context that has made everyone into caricature human beings. If I show myself to be "rabidly anti" anything in this book, it is the repressive fifties-style society in which it is set, not the characters themselves or what they do.

Your letter-writer professes herself to be "disappointed" in me. I am sorry, but I do not recall making her any promises. My job as a writer is to tell a story as I see it, not to preach politics or satisfy expectations. I am sure none of us who value freedom of expression — value freedom, period — would want it any other way.

Sincerely yours,
Nancy Springer

Ed. note: See Clere's (Opening Books/Huntsville AL) in the March/April FBN re: Susanna Sturgis' comments on Apocalypse in the Jan/Feb issue (page 71) and Susanna's response in the May/June issue (page 61).

109 1/2 12th Ave. E.
Seattle, WA 98102

Dear FBN,

We've been reading Feminist Bookstore News cover to cover for several years now and are most appreciative of your continued hard work and success. We are anxious to become one of the "new kids on the block" by opening a bookstore but we are stuck, at this point, on location. Although we enjoy Seattle, as you know there are already several fine bookstores here and we are willing to explore some other possibilities, particularly in the Southwest. We've even

LOVE & POLITICS

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Carol Anne Douglas

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—Charlotte Bunch, *author of Passionate Politics*

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and Quality Books.*

Love and Politics is published by
ism press, P.O. Box 12447-F,
San Francisco, CA 94112.

been tempted to place a classified ad: Have resources for bookstore — need community. No, seriously, we'd be most appreciative of any advice or suggestions you could provide us with, and we look forward to becoming a more active part of the feminist bookstore web.

Sincerely,
Wanda Clark & Linda McGann

Alyson Publications
40 Plympton St.
Boston, MA 02118

Dear FBN,

Years ago, we tried listing bookstores in our direct-mail catalog, but we found it too difficult to be sure who to list. And some stores were offended when they felt they should have been listed, but weren't.

Naiad seems to have found a good solution to all this, and we'd like to follow their lead. So we're making this offer: If your store carries at least 75% of our lesbian and/or gay male titles, we'd like to list you when we send mailing directly to potential customers. Just send us your store name, address, and phone, and indicate whether you qualify for catalogs directed at lesbians, gay men, or both.

This is the kind of idea that wouldn't have reached us without FBN. Thanks.

With best wishes,
Sasha Alyson

Red and Black Books
432 15th Ave. East
Seattle, WA 98112

Hello Carol, et al.:

Here's our renewal check. I've slid us up to the top of the sliding scale (stores doing \$350,000 or more annually), hopeful bookseller that I am.

We're currently getting ready for the summer rush, which should be considerable this year, since Seattle will host both an international AA and AI Anon conference, and the Goodwill Games; as well as serving as a tourist mecca for increasing numbers of lesbians and gay men. In addition to stocking the store for summer, we're heavily into researching computer systems. Also, we're shopping for writers and/or performers to produce in Seattle to raise money to buy the computer system. (Our computer committee is currently tossing around estimates ranging from \$10,000 to \$18,000 to get the system we need. I have total faith

in them, and am staying out of the way.) I'm hoping this will be the last year that I spend checking books in on those rolodex cards. I recently went through the *entire rolodex*, card by card, pulling books to cut out, return & put on sale, and believe me, I never want to do that again.

Thanks again to FBN for all your support.
Red

Open Door Bookstore
2410 Frankfort Ave.
Louisville, KY 40206

Dear FBN,

Due to a disease called too-much-to-do-and-too-little-time, I can't remember if I've let you know our date for opening.

We're enjoying every last detail of getting ready to open. It's a labor of love. It's a lot of fun too!

We plan to open our door, so to speak, on August 18 of this year.

Thanks,
Becky Cooper & Mary Ann Newton

Antigone Books
403 E. 5th St.
Tucson, AZ 85705

Dear FBN and Women Booksellers,

I'm writing to ask for feedback on a couple of issues concerning the magazine *On Our Backs*. First of all, how are women feeling about their new discount policy (25% now instead of 40%)?

Second, does anyone have any substantiated information about *On Our Backs* connections to a) child pornography (has there been any in it?) and b) male porno shops (is it sold to them?) I've heard rumors, but nothing concrete. I'd appreciate any info available, either in FBN or sent to our store directly.

Thanks,
Kate Randall



Womankind Books
5 Kivy St.
Huntington Station, NY 11746

Dear FBN,

Alice and I truly enjoyed the ABA. It is the Lesbian and feminist presses and the feminist bookstore

women that endow the ABA with a certain ambience and energy. We look forward to spending time with old friends and making new friends when we are there. I think that it would be valuable for the Lesbian/feminist publishers and bookstore women to meet next year. Perhaps a dinner on Friday night, provided the Lammies aren't held on that evening. I will look into the arrangements.

By the way, I loved the interview with Judy Grahn.

Warmly,
Lee Boojamra



Waterwomen Books
3022 Ashbrook Court
Oakland, CA 94601

Dear FBN,

I wanted to let you know that **A Lesbian Photo Album** is still available through Inland and Bookpeople. In the last year or so I've had the opportunity to send the book to lesbian groups in Argentina, Nicaragua, Mexico, India, Japan, and South Africa. In July I'll be showing my slide show, which includes the book, in Berlin — open to all Berliners East and West! Sending the book around the world is a deep pleasure I hadn't foreseen. Having it stocked in U.S. bookstores helps me do this.

As ever, thanks for your efforts,
Cathy Cade

Pandora Books for Open Minds
226 W. Lovell
Kalamazoo MI 49007

Dear FBN,

Getting ready to sell (books) at Michigan has been even more "interesting" than usual.

As we all know, there are a lot of issues between the women's music "industry", the music distributors, and the bookstores. I think it's important that booksellers not let things go by out of thinking that we can't change them. We can. We can't always get all of the results we want or need, but it's important for all of us to keep putting our positions out, and to communicate with other booksellers and to support each other.

I was pretty surprised to get a call from Goldenrod Women's Music Distributor and to be told that

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CELESTIALARTS
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Goldenrod will take care of distributing & selling Holly Near's autobiography at the Michigan Women's Music Festival and that it's OK if I want to sell a few books, but Goldenrod, by agreement with Redwood, would handle promotion and most of the sales. (At the Michigan Women's Music Festival there will be three booksellers. And Goldenrod will have Holly's brand new album "Singer in the Storm" along with her 15 album backlist.)

I seriously object to music people selling books in environments where there are, could be, or should be booksellers, and the women's music industry's disregard of how important women's bookstores are to their success.

So I started dealing with this situation.

Over the last few weeks I've talked several times with Terry Grant (Goldenrod), Redwood, and through the Crafts-exhibit coordinator to the music festival organizers. As of this writing, the music distributor is still selling the book but at least I've made some progress.

The simplest parts first:

The crafts-exhibit coordinator understood my objections immediately. Michigan has pretty strict rules about what craftswomen can and can't sell (products must be entirely made by the craftswomen from start to finish) and the applications must be specific about what an exhibitor is selling. But it turned out that Goldenrod had included "books" in addition to "songbooks," and the "How to organize a concert book." (A couple years ago when JoAnn Loulan did a workshop, Goldenrod profited from her book by permitting Motherwit Books to do an autographing session with JoAnn at MWMF in the larger Goldenrod booth. Which may have set a precedent. In hindsight it seems that we should have objected then.)

So that didn't solve the problem. And I (and the craft-exhibit coordinator) failed to see why I'm not to sell records because there's a music distributor there, but that the music distributor can sell books when there are three bookstores there selling books. So she took it to the festival organizers.

Sandy Ramsey called me from the festival office. She said that there is "a special and unique relationship between a musician and her distributor that they don't want to interfere with." She said that several times and I got the feeling that she was reading from something written up for the occasion. I guess that if any of the novelists start recording songs there will already be a "unique relationship between her and her book distributors so Goldenrod won't sell her records.... Ha!

I called bookstores on the west coast that I thought would be selling at Yosemite to see what the situation looked like there, since my music distributor was telling me that this was Redwood policy and was at Redwood's behest. Basically they said, "Who cares!?" (They don't anticipate selling enough copies, or losing enough sales to the distributors for it to matter much one way or the other.) But Holly is still close to a saint in the mid west, and it's a big issue here.

Talking directly with Redwood and with Goldenrod was more effective. But as always seems to be the

case when a bookstore is being squashed between the record companies and the distributors, they both believed that the other was mistaken, and had misunderstood them.

Redwood said that they were encouraging the distributors to stock the book and to put it in their catalogs and to sell it to music stores that wouldn't otherwise sell it. It isn't their intention for the music distributors to interfere with bookstores selling the book. Goldenrod's understanding of their mandate was pretty different. It's pretty frustrating listening to both of them claiming that the other one is mistaken.

Rather than give up selling the book, Goldenrod wanted to compromise. Goldenrod's suggestion was that, instead of Holly doing only the autographing in the Goldenrod booth, she'd do an autographing in Pandora's booth as well, and that I could help sell in her booth during the time that Holly is signing there and that we split the profit from the sale 50/50. (Goldenrod ordered 500 books at a wholesaler's discount, so they're getting better than 50% discount.) But that offer didn't extend to the other bookstores — just to the one that was actively protesting. (One of the other stores is probably closing at the end of the summer, and the other is coming from pretty far away and didn't feel like dealing with it.)



What we've worked out is that Holly, when she is on stage talking about the book, will announce that it is available at all three of the bookstore booths as well as at Goldenrod's booth. Holly will sign at Pandora's booth and at Goldenrod's and Alternative Corner will sell at Goldenrod's booth during their signing and take 50% of the profit on books sold during that time. And any of the bookstores that want to buy books from Goldenrod will do so at 43% discount (40% + Freight Pass Through) rather than at 40%, now that Goldenrod understands FPT.

An interesting thing that I think is a part of all of this is that Holly's new record is on Chameleon, not on Redwood. Redwood says that that's what Holly thinks is best for her career. But, because Chameleon is owned by Capital, the women's distributors get a less favorable discount than they would get if it was

S D i a n e B o g u s

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The Chant of the Women of Magdalena and the *Magdalena Poems* recount in a cinemagraphic lyric of rhymed sestets and dramatic monologue how a band of women: Spanish, English, African, Irish, Italian, Portuguese, Chinese, French, Creek, Pequot—from all walks of life—escape an English jail and make their way across the sea to an uninhabited mountain. There with gifts and abilities natural, practical and paranormal they become the "Women of Magdalena." This story of the sea, fresh, precise, engaging, juxtaposes good with evil, honor with dishonor, science against the supernatural, colonization against exploitation, power against will, male domination and women's response to it.

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Publication date August 31, 1990



Woman in the Moon (WIM) Publications
3601 Crowell Rd. Suite 100, Turlock, CA 95380
(209) 667-0966

on Redwood. So it looks to me like Redwood is throwing the book their way to make up for the loss of the discount on the record.

Meanwhile, Redwood doesn't understand why more feminist bookstores haven't called Morrow to sign up for the booksignings on Holly's 25 city book tour. Do bookstores usually call up and ask for signings? Is that how it works? How are we supposed to know that Holly is coming to our cities? (Kalamazoo wasn't on the list, so I don't know.)

Goldenrod was surprised that I was so upset. Redwood is surprised that more booksellers didn't call Morrow to arrange for signings. It's clear to me that neither of them has much idea of what bookselling is about or how it works and that both the music companies and the distributors need a lot more feedback from booksellers.

I think it's really important for booksellers to demand fair situations. Just because music distributors don't work with us doesn't mean that they shouldn't. Don't let things go by because you don't think you can change it. Go for it!

River Artz

○



Kate Millett's

Sita

The Classic Lesbian Romance

Kate Millett has always loved 'playing store.' She started out in coke bottles at five and stood treats for the neighborhood kids. For years she's sold her art posters to women for preposterous prices (five to fifty dollars) and her hand-pulled numbered editions of silkscreens for democratic ones (one hundred dollars). You can write to her about them at 295 Bowery, NYC, 10003

Now she has another bee in her bonnet.

When Farrar Stauss remaindered those beautiful hard cover copies of *Sita* with Kate's own drawing on the cover, she said, why not, they're mine — and bought them up herself. This year she got the rights back so that Ballantine couldn't publish any more of its ugly little paperback and now, as they used to say back home, she's cornered the market.

And she's selling these autographed hard cover first editions of *Sita* at a discount. For \$10.00 each (postage and handling included) to individuals *and to bookstores, she's offering them for \$125.00 for a box of twenty-five — that's \$5.00 each for a hardcover book whose front flap price was \$10.00 then and would be \$17.00 now.* She wants you to pay the UPS charge. If you're out of New York State, there is no sales tax.

This is a deal, she says, and she's gearing up for your order. Don't worry, she's got a lot of books. It's all part of her "little red hen does it herself" theory: women taking things into their own hands and writers taking charge of their lives. She's probably right — go for it.

\$125 per box of 25 copies.

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NEWS FROM THE BOOKSTORES

ABA News

Most of the booksellers at Feminist Bookstores Day reported that they were "Doing Well!" (Book Garden), "Thriving!" (A Room of One's Own), and "Flourishing!" (Sisterworks).

Things are going very well at Amazon after major staff changes there. Lioness (Sacramento) has several new staff members "who love books! What a difference!"

Book Woman (Austin) has expanded and nearly doubled their store-space. Page One (Pasadena) is planning a move.

Mother Kali's (Eugene) is doing "Very well. Better than ever! Sales are off the top of the chart *and* we did staff raises after the worst year ever...." The worst year ever was due to staff changes and moving. The better-than-ever is due to the new location and the new staff.

Pandora Books for Open Minds (Kalamazoo) reports that gross income has increased by 50% in the last year or so, stock has increased by 50%, and salaries are up. Pandora needs a larger space and will be moving in August. "I'm glad I stayed with it this long!" was River's report. Pandora is also now stocking books for gay men.

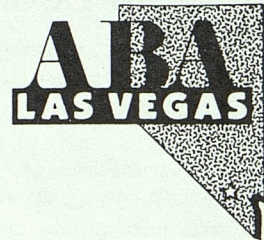
Women and Children First is moving in August (see "That-A-Way!"). The new store is *much* larger (2500 square feet), wheelchair accessible, and has a parking lot. The new neighborhood is multi-cultural, gay and lesbian, includes many, many children and is (happily) less gentrified than their previous location had become.

The Toronto Women's Bookstore was represented by all five members of the collective. TWB is a non-profit organization and reported the highest sales of any of the stores present.

Together As One (Colorado Springs) is celebrating two years.

Womankind has just completed five years as a mail order service following five years as a bookstore. They're celebrating success and avoiding boredom by going into publishing as well. They'll be publishing as *Rising Tide* and expect to have books out by Christmas.

Inklings (Houston) had major problems caused by five months of road and sewer construction in front of the store that made it difficult and often impossible to access their parking lot or even their street. "Even in the best times, customers had to wade through a sea of mud to get to us." Despite the havoc, sales were up 20% — "Our community was determined to get to us!" Inklings swears by its special orders. "Some days, when it was really bad, the only customers in the store were women who came in to pick up a special order. And then they'd drop \$30 or \$40 while they were there. And that was our sale for the day!" Fortunately the construction started the day *after* Christmas — and is done!



Grand Books is "a feminist bookstore in Jackson, Wyoming that survives and thrives by passing as a general bookstore and selling books to tourists." They told great tales of feminist bookselling among the tourists, of having a "coming-out party" for their gay and lesbian books, and of bookselling in general. For their first two years they had a separate room in the back for gay and lesbian fiction and non-fiction. They've recently integrated the gay men's fiction and non-fiction into their "general" stock and sales have soared. Lesbian customers have requested that the lesbian fiction stay in a protected space and there it stays! FBN hopes to have a profile on Grand Books in the Fall issue.

Full Circle brought their wonderful, hot-off-the-press, 45-page catalog *Healing: Resources on Intimate Violence*. It includes books on Child Sexual Assault, Prevention, Domestic Violence, Rape and Sexual

Harassment, Abuse by Professionals, Pornography, Prostitution, Ritual Abuse, Multiple Personalities, Shame, and Sexual and Abuse Addictions, and has special sections for teen-agers and children. All listings include publishers — making it an excellent resource for other feminist booksellers, librarians, researchers, and students as well as book-buyers. It's a major publication in that respect. Annotations are wonderfully opinionated and political. No soft-peddling here for the sake of a sale! New booksellers will find this to be an especially helpful (and educational!) resource. (Additional copies of the catalog are available for \$1.00 each from Full Circle, 2205 Silver SE, Albuquerque NM 87106.

Susan Krikorian and Tom (who wasn't at ABA and whose name I never got) just purchased Valley Woman Bookstore in Fresno. "We wanted to open a recovery-oriented bookstore but knew that we'd be competing with Valley Woman — which we definitely didn't want to do. Then Valley Woman came up for sale and there we were!"

More Bookstore News

Aradia (Flagstaff AZ) just celebrated eleven years and is "healthier than ever." They're selling text books now, as well as recovery titles. Holistic health is another section that's selling strongly.

The Thirtyfirst Street Bookstore (Baltimore) just celebrated their 16th anniversary as a bookstore and celebrated their third anniversary as a co-op with a big summer sale. "We've never had a birthday sale before. It was great!"

The Women's Bookshop in New Zealand celebrated its first birthday in April. The party was co-sponsored by Random Century-NZ.

A Room of One's Own celebrated its 15th birthday with a mega-concert featuring Edwina Lee Tyler and her ensemble A Piece of the World, and poet June Jordan. One of the highlights of the evening was a slide/tape show produced by women in the community illustrating the bookstore's history and role in the community. The event was a celebration, a thank-you

Secondhand Book Shops: An International Strategy

Secondhand bookshops are increasingly a strategy in several countries. Amsterdam boasts two very successful bookshops specializing in women's titles.

In Denmark Begveninderne (The Bookwomen) is a special-interest women's group with the aim of disseminating the knowledge of women's life, activity and history, particularly in relation to literature and art. Their main activity is running a second-hand bookshop with women's literature and arranging literary and cultural meetings and art exhibitions of old and contemporary women's art. Membership is based on participation in the daily work of running the bookshop (on a volunteer basis). Decisions concerning the bookstore and the exhibitions are made at the monthly joint meeting. They "borrow" their premises and telephone, and all proceeds from the sales of books go to buying more books and holding meetings and art exhibits. They participate in as many official and grass-roots movement's events as possible and are interested in making contact with other women's groups working in a similar way in Denmark, other Scandinavian countries, and the rest of the world! The

Bookwomen, Esplanaden 24, 1263 Copenhagen K, Denmark. Phone: 45 33 11 85 15.

The Saving Grace Book Exchange in Western Australia is the brainchild of a woman working in the Women's interest section of Technical and Further Education (TAFE), an awesome sounding program that offers work and career development for working class women, does basic computer training (for technology terror and computer cringe), remedial science and math skills, assertiveness and communication training, career counseling, and recruits women for trade/apprenticeship programs...work that made it clear that many women can't afford new books. So to get the books and the ideas to low-income women, she started a used book exchange that buys, sells and trades feminist books and magazines. Saving Grace is also interested in Australian studies, literature, peace and environmental titles, politics, his/herstory, education, psychology and women's studies. The store is currently open Saturday afternoons and one evening a week. For more information contact Janet Grace Pine, Saving Grace Book Exchange, 71 Beach St., Bicton WA 6157, Australia. ○

to the community, and a fund-raiser for A Room's building fund. "We'd like to buy a building, oh, maybe five years down the line. We have a lot to celebrate, but we also have to plan ahead," explained Sandi Torkildson. FBN's favorite quote: "Loving books and having vision is important but, as another feminist bookseller once told me (Sandi Torkildson), you also need to have a lot of obsessive compulsives of the staff..."

Sisterspirit (San Jose CA) is negotiating for a new space four times the size of their current space. "We have 1,400 titles now and will be able to get many more once we have the (new) space, the best part being that we will be able to display them. Display them, so they catch your eye and your imagination and drag you to the checkout counter, yeah!"

People Like Us (gay and lesbian bookstore in Chicago), maintains (at least) two donation boxes. One is for walkman-type cassette players and new and used cassette tapes for The Therapeutic Jukebox, which provides "healing sounds" to PWA's in area hospitals. The other is for used books for the Horizon Youth Group, an organization that provides access to books for lesbian and gay teen-agers.

From Brigit Books' March newsletter: "It's been eight months since Brigit Books (St. Petersburg) opened, and now there are 700 of you who receive this mailing. Many of you ask how the store is doing and your interest is appreciated. Brigit Books is doing fine and, as long as you keep buying your books here, it looks as if she will be around awhile. The article in the *St Petersburg Times* in January is still bringing in new customers. Remember that *any book can be ordered for you*, whether we carry it or not. There's no extra charge. Also, if you want a book mailed as a gift, just ask. Bring in your used books and we'll give you a fair price." Brigit Books also sponsored a women's crafts fair in April.

Marge at Wild Seeds writes: "Pat Piscitelli and Cyndi Evangelow visited recently — they're planning to open a women's bookstore in Lewisburg PA and we spent the day working together, unloading new books, going through the receiving process, talking about the how-to's and what-to-avoid-if-possibles. It was a lot of fun and we think their store will be a great place for Central Pennsylvania women to go!"

Herland Sister Resources in Oklahoma City writes: "Being a small and very poor (financially) bookstore, the Bestsellers listings help us to order books we know are proven sellers. Our only recommen-

Murder and Politics Mix in Provincetown Bookstore

PROVINCETOWN, MA: Now, Voyager, a new bookstore, opened April 14 in Provincetown, specializing in mysteries and books about lesbian and gay life, according to owners Nan Cinnater and Diane Johnson. They believe it is the only bookstore in existence with these two specialties. Now, Voyager is located at 357 Commercial Street.

Johnson, former manager of a Broadway rehearsal studio, explained how the store got its special character. "Nan and I both love mysteries because they're fun, escapist fiction. But we're both also longtime gay activists who read a lot of lesbian and gay literature. We think the store will appeal to a wide range of people who are interested in one topic or the other — or both."

Cinnater formerly worked in sales at the mystery bookstore "Foul Play" in New York City. "Mysteries aren't just Agatha Christie any more," Cinnater commented. "There are mysteries and thrillers for every taste — hard-boiled, soft-boiled, cozy, sophisticated."

Non-gay non-mystery readers will also find something of interest at Now, Voyager. The bookstore will carry an eclectic selection of general interest fiction and non-fiction. "Some will be best-sellers and some will be pretty off-beat," Cinnater said.

Cinnater and Johnson are life partners who lived together for ten years in New York City before moving to Provincetown in 1989. They named the bookstore after the film "Now, Voyager," starring Bette Davis. They point out, however, that the title of the film originated in a line of poetry by Walt Whitman. — P.R. O

dation is to increase the number of stores making such lists for FBN." You send them, we'll publish them!

Lunaria (Northampton MA) has "a huge stock of used, rare, and out-of-print lesbian and feminist books" and offers a 20% discount to booksellers. (Lunaria pays shipping.) They ask that you give their name to customers requesting out-of-print books or order it yourself for resale (20% discount). They also do free book searches. Ask for Rose or Madelaine. Lunaria, 90 King St., Northampton MA 01060. 413-586-7851. O

Short Stories

FEMINIST BOOKSELLER WINS SPINSTERS/AUNT LUTE LESBIAN NOVEL CONTEST

Word just reached FBN that Mary Morell has been named the winner of Spinsters Lesbian Novel contest for *Final Session* (or *Fatal Session*), a murder mystery written for fun and revenge. I'm told that it looks at sexual abuse by a (feminist?) therapist, is a page-turner full of tongue-in-cheek humor that will keep you reading all night, and even has good sex scenes. A feminist booksellers' book if ever there was one!

Joanna Russ was the judge for the contest which carries a \$2,000 prize. The book will be published in Spring 1991. Mary will be touring with the book immediately before and after ABA. Mary is the co-owner of Full Circle Books (Albuquerque) with Anne G. Frost. Congratulations, Mary! ○

WOMEN AT THE HELM PLUCKED FROM RAGING SEA

Jeannine Tally and Joy Smith, authors of the recently published *Women at the Helm* (Mother Courage Press/1990) were on the second leg of their sail around the world when unexpected cyclone-force winds and 35 foot waves over turned the 34 foot *Banshee* and broke the mast.

For 12 hours the storm continued to rage and pounded the remains of the mast against the *Banshee's* side. Finally, Jeannine and Joy were able to lash the mast to the side of the boat. By the following day they had initiated an emergency radio beacon so they could be located. Unbeknownst to them, the signal

lasted for only an hour before the batteries went out, and the search which included 36 aircraft and 50 observers, was nearly abandoned.

Three days later there were re-sighted and a complicated maneuver involving a Singaporean cargo vessel and a helicopter lifted them from the seas and flew them to Australia.

The Banshee, abandoned in mid-Pacific, was found a week later and towed back to Australia where the pair have been offered space in a marina for as long as it takes to rebuild *The Banshee*.

And then they're off again. ○

I AM YOUR SISTER: A CONFERENCE CELEBRATING AUDRE LORDE

Fundraising is in process for I Am Your Sister: Forging Global Connections Across Differences: A Conference Celebrating Audre Lorde and Her Work. The conference will be held October 5-8, 1990 in Boston and is being organized in consultation with Audre Lorde.

The event will include poetry and fiction, music, international food, dancing, women of all colors, class backgrounds, ages, ethnicities and sexualities, disabled women, indigenous women from this and other countries and white women committed to anti-racist work. The organizers are committed to having 50% of the participants being women who are Black, of color, or impoverished. There will be a youth track, including sections for adolescent children of lesbians and gay men, lesbian and gay youth, and youth activists as well as a track for pro-feminist men. The goal is "to bring us together to share what we have learned from Audre's work about using our difference as a source of strength and power to create ongoing strategies for change.

Workshops and cultural events are based on Audre's 13 books of poetry and prose. In "Eye to Eye"

self-defined communities will explore their own angers, vulnerability and power; "From a Land Where Other People Live" will have indigenous women from different continents teach us how to look at life from their standpoint. Fundraising will begin for an annual Audre Lorde Writing Sabbatical for a community-based Black lesbian.

The core committee for the conference are Jacqui Alexander, Angela Bowen, Jinny Chalmers, Becky Johnson, Mauri Mollan, Stephanie Poggi, Karen Schneiderman, and New Words collective members Kate Rushin and Laura Zimmerman. Fundraising is essential to the fulfillment of this conference and to bringing women, regardless of income, from the far reaches of the globe. Please make a check payable to I Am Your Sister, and mail it to PO Box 269 Astor Station, Boston MA 02123. For tax deductions, make payable to Boston Women's Health Book Collective with memo note: Sister Conference. ○

FEMINIST/LESBIAN PRESS ORGANIZING IN MOSCOW

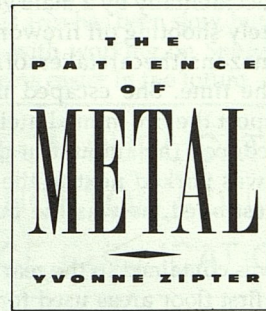
MOSCOW: The contemporary woman wanders through the labyrinth of complicated and contradictory daily life searching for her own way as the Greek hero Theseus. Where is the thread of Ariadna which can show her the road to light and liberation?

"Ariadna" does not exist yet. We are going to create the first women's press in the USSR.

The soviet woman is the object of constant discrimination in all the spheres of the social life. She is practically excluded from political and economic management. Her condition influenced by the historical traditions and aggravated by the negative consequences of the totalitarian system needs rapid radical changes.

The fast total expulsion of women from the process of creation is the cause of the actual crisis of the soviet culture.

The purpose of "Ariadna" is to contribute to the development of the feminist consciousness and of women's literary creation by publishing the most interesting works of modern women writers from the USSR and other countries, and to provide the reader with forgotten or unknown women authors of the past. We also want to promote lesbian culture which



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We will be very grateful for your books, magazines and other documents because of our information vacuum. [Books, etc., can be sent to N. Panina, Lange Leidsedwardsstraat 49-I, 1017 NG Amsterdam, tel. 020-381238, until the end of August, or to N. Panina, Malaya Naberezhnaya 13/7-17, 123362 Moscow, USSR.]

Watch for feature length interview with Anna Vetrova in the Sept. or Nov. issue of FBN. ○

LESBIAN CONNECTION SURVIVES SECOND FIRE

For the second time in its 16 year existence, fire has struck the offices of *Lesbian Connection* and the Lansing Lesbian Center. The fire, which occurred at approximately 11:30 pm on June 7th, was appar-

ently started accidentally by a male youth who was indiscriminately shooting off fireworks. One of the Ambitious Amazons (the caretakers of *LC*) was in the building at the time. She escaped uninjured and was able to report the fire immediately, a move that doubtlessly reduced the amount of damage. However, her car was parked next to the building and was totally destroyed, as was the building's back storage area.

The fire was contained to the rear portion of the building. The first floor areas used for layout, printing, collating and bundling were relatively unharmed by the blaze. The July/August issue of *LC* was in the collating stage of production. All 18,000 copies of the issue escaped the fire and were mailed on June 15th as scheduled. The second floor of the building suffered extensive damage including soot up the walls, melted light fixtures, broken windows and won't be usable until repairs are made. The press and the platemaker have already been cleaned and repaired. The "extra" computer, the good photocopy machine and the letter quality printer all have smoke damage and need to be cleaned and repaired. The *LC* banner, the sign carried on the March on Washington and the festival-kit box stored in the storage area were all destroyed. They were the only "archival" materials destroyed. Most of the things in the storage area — unused paper, fans, coolers, etc., are replaceable.

Fortunately, the major work of editing *Lesbian Connection* and mailing list maintenance is done at another location so *LC*'s main computer, laser printer, and mailing list were undamaged by the fire.

Estimates for repairing the building, which is also the home of the Lansing Lesbian Center, range from \$18,000 to \$29,000, not including electrical work and plumbing. The building was purchased in 1984 by Elsie Publishing Institute, the non-profit organization that publishes *LC*. It is "fully insured," but at this time it is unclear exactly how much of the loss will be covered. Lesbians who would like to make a tax-deductible donation to help with the rebuilding process or would like to get on the *Lesbian Connection* mailing list can write to Elsie Publishing Institute, PO Box 811, East Lansing MI 48826.

In 1981 *LC* barely survived a fire which completely gutted the building the group was renting at the time. Production of *LC* was halted for over six

months, and the experience nearly put an end to what is probably the largest lesbian forum/communications network in existence. ["I can't believe we had a fire again," said one of the Ambitious Amazons. "It's scary being reminded of just how fragile we all are, but this time we've had much less damage, and there's no way this will stop us."] The Amazons are at work on the next issue and expect to mail it immediately before or just after The Michigan Music Festival. ○

PRINTER'S FEAR AND LOATHING CENSORS ACT-UP BOOK

Arcata Graphics, a major trade book printer with plants across the United States, has refused to print the first book to document the activities of AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power (ACT UP), *AIDS Demo Graphics*, by Douglas Crimp and Adam Rolston. The publisher, Bay Press of Seattle, was informed by Arcata sales representative Joe Smith that the material in the book was "too sensitive."

AIDS Demo Graphics, the lead title for Bay Press' 1990 list, was to be featured at the American Bookseller's Convention in June. "There's no question that we will be hurt financially by not having the book at the ABA," admits managing editor Thatcher Bailey, "but the real shame is that ten years into a devastating and tragic epidemic fear and prejudice are still so pervasive."

The text and images in *AIDS Demo Graphics* trace the development of socially engaged art activities produced in response to the AIDS epidemic. Part history, part guidebook, part polemic, the book documents a decade of government inaction, corporate profiteering, media distortion, and public apathy. "The graphics are bold and often quite provocative," acknowledges Bailey, "but we're talking about people who must not only struggle for their lives but also for their basic rights."

Publishers Press in Utah has agreed to print the book. "We do not feel this is an offensive book," says sales representative Lyle Mumford. "We feel it is an important book." Bay Press can be reached at 115 West Denny Way, Seattle WA 98119. — P.R. ○

SPIRITED LESBIANS AVAILABLE INBRAILLE

By Marj Schneider
Womyn's Braille Press

We are excited to be able to offer the book *Spirited Lesbians* in Braille. Its author, Nett Hart, wanted it to be available in Braille as well as on tape, and to make that process easier for WBP, the original text of the book was done on a computer using AppleWorks disks. Raised Dot Computing has recently begun selling a program called ProDOS Bridge that converts AppleWorks textfiles into BEX files, which we can then translate into Braille. The beauty of ProDOS Bridge is that it converts all of the AppleWorks formatting commands into BEX formatting commands. Thus the work we had to do on the disks before they could be translated into Braille was somewhat minimal.

We would certainly like to be able to work with other authors to gain access to their books on computer disk. There are also new possibilities for trans-

ferring material done on IBM systems as well. Our progress in this area has been slow, but the experience we've gained with working on *Spirited Lesbians* will make the process easier in the future. ○

ALYSON PUBLICATIONS OF BOSTON ACQUIRES LACE PUBLICATIONS

Alyson Publications has just acquired Lace Publications, a press specializing in lesbian erotica and science fiction.

"We're excited about this new step," said publisher Sasha Alyson. "Lace has been a pioneer in overcoming the myth that lesbians aren't interested in sex."

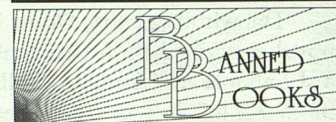
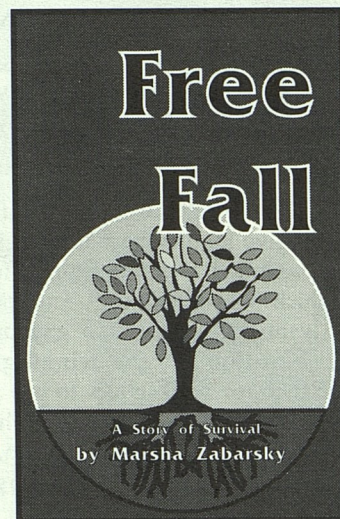
The announcement came soon after Alyson had inaugurated a new line of books for the children of lesbian and gay parents, beginning with the title *Heather Has Two Mommies*. "Alyson Publications seeks to serve every possible group within the gay and lesbian community," said Alyson. "And the purchase of Lace is a big step toward realizing our goal." — P.R. ○

Free Fall

by Marsha Zabarsky

The nightmare of child sexual abuse infiltrates the lives of 1 out of 4 women in America. A powerful, new movement of adult survivors of abuse is taking shape, pushing the limits of therapeutic, legislative, and legal compensation, and ultimately taking care of its own. *Free Fall* is a novel about three Boston lesbians who meet in a coming-out group, fall in and out of love with each other, and go on to pursue their respective healing journeys in outrageous and heartbreaking ways. With *Free Fall* the healing begins. Women's Studies, ISBN 0-934411-36-0, 176 pages, Paperback, \$8.95

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MINORITY PUBLISHERS EXCHANGE TO HOST NATIONAL CONFERENCE

The Minority Publishers Exchange is sponsoring their first national conference "Networking for Success" to provide a forum for independent African, Asian, Hispanic and Native American book publishers. The conference will be held October 19-21 in Madison Wisconsin.

The goal of the conference, according to Charles Taylor, the founder of the Minority Publishers Exchange, is to assist small publishers, authors and writers in getting their books published and distributed by providing a national forum to improve networking and work directly with national book distributors.

For more information on the conference call the Minority Publishers Exchange at 608-244-5633 or write MPE, PO Box 9869, Madison WI 53715. ○

WINNER BAY-AREA NOVEL CONTEST

San Francisco writer Jay B. Lewis has been awarded first place in the By-the-Bay-Area novel contest, sponsored by A Different Light Bookstore.

The contest was open to first novels by writers who live in, or whose book is set in, the Bay area. It represented a unique joint effort by the bookstore, which solicited entries and chose the winner, and Alyson Publications, a gay press that guaranteed publication for the winning entry. "This was a chance for booksellers to get an inside look at the selection process that a publisher goes through," noted publisher Sasha Alyson. "Everyone seems to have enjoyed doing it, and we got a real page-turner of a novel from it."

The winning entry, *Steam*, is a 550-page suspense novel, described by A Different Light manager Richard Labonte as "Andrew Holleran in bed with Stephen King." It will be issued in 1991 by Alyson Publications. — P.R. ○

OBITUARY: ANNE PRIDE

Anne Pride, editor of one of the first feminist presses of the 70s, died of cancer in Pittsburgh on April 24, 1990. She was 47.

Anne adopted the motto, "Power of the press belongs to those who own the press," and directed two women's publishing companies of her own — KNOW, Inc., founded in 1970 as an offshoot of the National Organization for Women, and Motherroot Publications, founded in 1977.

Motherroot is best known as the publisher of *Women & Honor: Some Notes On Lying*, a pamphlet edition of Adrienne Rich's classic essay on truthfulness and love among women. From 1977 to 1989, Motherroot Publications distributed at least 10 printings of the essay. The Cleis Press edition (May 1990) includes a brief preface written by Anne Pride in March 1990. It is her last published writing.

Ann also edited *Motherroot Journal*, a book review quarterly which emphasized books from feminist and other alternative presses.

In Pittsburgh, and among anti-rape activists nationally, Anne Pride is best known as the rape crisis center director whose actions prompted a state Supreme Court ruling protecting the confidentiality of rape victims.

In 1980, a judge ordered that Pittsburgh Action Against Rape, which Anne founded in 1974, hand over a rape victim's records to a defense attorney. Anne refused to hand over the documents, citing principles of confidentiality, and was held in contempt of court and faced jail. She appealed and won.

I met Anne in Pittsburgh in the early 70s. She directed my internship at KNOW, Inc. in 1976, and I joined Motherroot Publications in 1977. Anne's enthusiasm and confidence sparked a passion in me, and I have worked in progressive editing and publishing ever since. Cleis Press would not exist if it were not for her.

Anne is survived by two children, her mother, and her long-time lover Paulette Balogh. A memorial service was held for Anne in Pittsburgh on May 20.

— Felice Newman ○

IV Feria Internacional del Libro Feminista

Del 19 al 23 de junio de 1990. Barcelona



IV Fira Internacional del Llibre Feminista

Del 19 al 23 de juny de 1990. Barcelona

IV INTERNATIONAL FEMINIST BOOKFAIR Barcelona June 19 - 23, 1990

By Carol Seajay

Barcelona was the most incredible international feminist bookfair yet! The fair was clearly conceived and organized around specific goals. The atmosphere was relaxed and casual. There were no major political splits during or before the Fair. Unlike previous fairs, there was little focus on readings. It was not centered on Famous Writers — rather, the focus was on the work of publishing and distributing the writing, a format reminiscent of the best of the Women In Print Conferences in the U.S. It was a wonderful energy and a wonderful atmosphere for exchange of ideas, insights, politics, skills and passions. The entire experience was inspiring, renewing, and revitalizing.

It was wonderful to wander the aisles seeing books, pamphlets and posters from so many countries in so many languages — AIDS educational materials for/by women in Africa, non-sexist math and geography books for students in Zimbabwe, the “women’s line” of books from a Pakistani publisher, feminist comic books from Mexico, women’s books published in South America, as well as from all over western Europe and — even — the first issue of a lesbian and gay newspaper from the U.S.S.R. There were books that *looked* familiar (*Fruta Prohibidas?* Oh, right! *Oranges are not the Only Fruit!*) and books that didn’t look or sound familiar — but that were very familiar — *Nuestros cuerpos, nuestras vidas* in the Spanish edition, rather than the Spanish language edition published in the U.S. by the Our Bodies Ourselves Collective that we sell in the States.

But it was even more wonderful to meet the women and to learn what exciting things they /we are doing in so many different parts of the world and to celebrate our similarities and our differences. My



sense was that there were slightly fewer women attending the fair, which reflects the lower number of writers attending and a small increase in book-trade workers. More publishers were represented than at any of the previous fairs, though an increased number of publishers exhibited in combined stands and fewer corporate publishers exhibited in large booths. The increase in representation from developing countries was very exciting. For the first time there were feminist bookstores from Argentina and Bangladesh (in addition to booksellers from Chile and India) as well as women opening bookstores in The Philippines, Pakistan, India and Peru. (See "They Went That-A-Way!" for addresses). There was a strong sense of networking between women in over- and under-developed countries, as well as networking among the women in both sectors. The three women's bookstores in South Asia, for instance, discussed organizing a distribution company so they could access books from other parts of the world at 50% discount, rather than the 20% discount they currently receive from their distributors.



Panels

Many of the panels were very exciting. Some were too large and had too many speakers in an attempt to cover everything and everyone, though I wouldn't have wanted to be the one to decide who

should speak and who wouldn't! The trade workshops tended to be too general. The high cost of translation, unfortunately, tends to create large, general sessions rather than small, topic-specific workshops. But even the larger general sessions served the function of introducing us to each other, and (via the translation) getting ideas across language barriers. A few (such as the one on sexuality) were too abstract and intellectual. When panels included writers, the focus of their talks was on the conditions of writing in their circumstances. Eva Johnson's talk about living and writing as a lesbian and Aboriginal woman in Australia lingers in my mind. She may be performing one of her plays in Boston at the Audre Lorde conference.

Two of the best attended workshops were "Speaking in Tongues: Writing by Black women and Women of Color" that included women from Zimbabwe, Aotearoa/New Zealand, Australia, and Scotland, and The Lesbian Writing panel that included women from Mexico, Italy, Quebec, Aotearoa/New Zealand, the U.S., Germany, England, Australia and France. I came away from the Lesbian Writing panel wanting multi-cultural anthologies of lesbian lives and lesbian fiction and non-fiction about the ways we live and exist as lesbians in our different cultures and different economic situations. World wide lesbian diversity rarely makes print and we are an international community hungry for information about each other... The other really intense session focused on Feminism and Religious Fundamentalism in the Middle East and North Africa.

Other workshops included Computerizing, Translating, Literary Creation, Rediscovering Our Ancestors, Women's Studies and Educational Publishing, Norwegian Literature, Catalan Literature, Feminist literary and Cultural Criticism, Supporting Creative Development in Latin American, Literary Creation in Eastern Europe, and poetry readings in Catalan, Spanish and mixed language sessions. The workshop on co-publishing feminist books simultaneously around the English-speaking world concluded that co-publishing, except in special circumstances, is not really viable for most books.

A conference on Illiteracy and Violence (against women) ran concurrently with the Fair.

Language and Translation

Language came up again and again. A panelist in the Speaking in Tongues: Writing by Black Women



and Woman of Color session pointed out that all of the presenters spoke a common language and could speak directly to each other — a bizarrely useful legacy of British colonialism. Irihapeti Ramsden, a Maori writer and publisher from Aotearoa/New Zealand, spoke of the near-death of the Maori languages and of the “language nests” that have been created around the country where infants and young children spend several hours a day in the company of the elders who retain the language. She spoke of the support and encouragement the Maori people had received from the Welsh language activists, learning to say “No” to Anglicization and to insist on Maori names and place names. I hadn’t thought of Danish or Norwegian as endangered languages — nor fully understood that one of Franco’s goals was the eradication of Catalan.

Spanish, English, and French were the official languages of the fair and there was often translation into Catalan, the regional language in this part of Spain. Simultaneous translation was provided at all of the official sessions and panels — a feat that is

achieved through the work of a small army of women who take turns sitting in soundproof (and airless) booths in the back of the hall listening to the various speakers through earphones and translating the speakers’ words into a second language even as the speaker is speaking her next phrase; a skill that, having grown up in the mono-lingual midwest, fascinates me. The women in the audience are equipped with Sony-Walkman-sized receivers with earphones, and the translators’ words are broadcast to and picked up by these receivers. The listener has only to select the channel for the language she wishes to hear.

Informal sessions (such as the second bookstores meeting) were usually translated by women who volunteered on the spot. Translation, like much of “women’s work” is usually intended to be invisible. By the end of the Fair we were clear that the translators should be recognized and thanked for their invaluable work at the end of each session. In addition to the “formal” translation, there was a constant buzz of whispered

translations as bi-lingual women translated what they heard from the panelists (or the receivers) into additional languages for friends and colleagues.

One of the highlights of the translations, for me, occurred when a woman on the Eastern European panel rose to speak in Hungarian — which none of the translators understood. A woman from Barcelona offered to translate from Hungarian to Catalan — and then translators were able to translate the Catalan into other languages. And so the Hungarian woman's ideas were conveyed....



Bookselling

There was only one workshop on women's bookstores (subtitled: The Sale of Feminist Books in the 90's). Panelists included Heide Braun (Sal de Casa, Valencia); Renee Albrecht (Women's Bookstop, Canada); Donna Fernandes (Streelekha, India), Xantippe Bookshop (Holland); Jimena Pizarro (Libería Lila, Chile); Nancy Vezner (Odegard Books, Minneapolis); Liberia

del donne (Milano, Italy); Farida Akhter (Narigrantha Prabartana Feminist Bookstore, Bangladesh); Sandi Torkildson (A Room of One's Own, Wisconsin); Carol Seajay (Feminist Bookstore News) — and more booksellers were added at the last minute. There were so many booksellers on the panel that, even as quickly as we talked, there was only 20 minutes for discussion so we scheduled a follow-up meeting the next day.

The panel on publishing in the Third World was, unfortunately, back to back with the one workshop on bookselling, a scheduling conflict that shouldn't happen again, as many "third-world" booksellers are also publishers and need to attend both workshops — also because the booksellers from over-developed countries need to, and are eager to, learn how to support "third-world" publishing.

The Heart of the Conversation

As exciting as the panels were, many of the most exciting exchanges took place in small, informal conversations. A big part of the Fair for FBN is collecting "verbal press releases," catching up on the international news, finding "old" friends from previous Fairs and learning about new successes and projects all around the world and, of course, talking with booksellers. Because there aren't enough panels for all the women to talk about their work, the informal conversations really are the heart of the Fair.

In one of these conversations I "found" Acca, the Swedish women's press. They weren't lost, of course, but I'd heard that they'd stopped publishing books — but missed the more important news that they'd switched to publishing a monthly feminist newspaper, a format more fluid than book publishing and so had only changed form, not stopped publishing.

Kali For Women (India) is financially stable at 12 books a year. The Egyptian women's press did get off the ground but is focused on publishing pamphlets rather than books — as are many publishers in countries where literacy is not common among women. These publishers are less visible outside their countries than publishers that do books.

An American living in Amsterdam introduced us to a Russian woman who is starting the first lesbian and feminist publishing company in the U.S.S.R. (Look for an interview in the next issue). She also brought copies of the first edition of a Russian

gay/lesbian newspaper. (If you'd like a photocopy of it, send a large SASE with two stamps.)

Mary Dorsy (*A Noise from the Woodshed/Onlywomen*) stopped by FBN's booth and told hilarious stories about being the first lesbian to receive the Rooney Prize. It seems that an Irish-American family (owners of the Pittsburgh Steelers) decided to endow a literary prize in Ireland which, over the years, has been very well administered and become quite prestigious. In 15 years, three of the awards have gone to women ("Which is quite high for Ireland"), and twice the awards have gone to books that included gay (male) characters, though "Of course no one would assume that the writers were gay" but this is certainly the first time the award has gone to a book that includes (very out and very sexual) lesbian characters written by an "out" and proud lesbian.

Having been in Dacca in 1974, I was especially excited to meet the women who created the Bangladesh women's bookstore, to hear about how they conceptualized the store, how it fits in with other work that they do. They are also activists in the handloom movement in Bangladesh and their organization runs a handloomed sari shop next door to the bookstore. Women nervous about entering (or being seen entering) the feminist bookshop can enter through the sari shop. (I keep imagining women saying, "So tell my husband you saw me enter a sari shop! What is he going to care!") The thought and care that goes into creating women's bookshops in Bangladesh, Pakistan, and the Philippines is truly inspiring. The Bangladesh women sent us home with a video they'd made of their store. We'll have it converted to VHS by next issue and devise a way to circulate it.

Many women also spoke of the informal lesbian meetings as highlights of the Fair — in part because they were small group meetings that facilitated conversation and learning about each other's cultures in addition to sharing information and skills.

Evaluations

This is one of the few Fairs where book sales were deemed satisfactory. Posters around the city, (we saw them in the subway stations) and a burst of media attention at the Fair opening brought book buyers to the fair. Some came for the panels, but (by design or luck) had to walk through the exhibit hall to get to

them. The combined exhibit of the three Spanish bookstores did a land office business. Sales in other booths varied widely depending on location.

There was a strong sense that, despite panels running late and being moved to other rooms without notice, this was the best organized Fair yet.



The organizers, though criticized for not bringing more Asian and African women, were quite clear about their priorities and what was possible (as opposed to ideal) given the kind of money they could raise in a "first world/third world" country like Spain. Their priorities were to organize the Fair and to 1) bring women from Spanish speaking countries since this was the first International Feminist Book Fair in a Spanish speaking country; 2) to bring women from Mediterranean (including North African) countries; and 3) to bring women from Eastern European countries who might not have been allowed to attend any of the previous fairs. The organizers clarity of purpose informed the entire Fair.

There was high praise for the organizers' party-throwing skills as well as for their organizing: The Mediterranean Music evening was as wonderful for the location as the music — out-of-doors, at night, at the hundreds-of-years-old women's bathhouse on the beach. And I, for one, will never forget dancing in the heart of the Labyrinth Gardens with women from around the world the last night of the Fair.

The Philippines, Australia, Puerto Rico and Amsterdam are all under consideration for the next Fair. The women interested in having it in their countries will go home, talk about it with their communities, and see what kind of fundraising they think they can do. The decision will be made in the fall. ○

Progetto Mappa in Italy

Putting Women's Books On the Map

This article was originally published in Leggere donna, Bimestrale di informazione culturale, Ferrara, 1989. It was translated for inclusion in FBN by Maureen Lister and Traudel Sattler during the IV International Feminist Bookfair in Barcelona.

We started working in the idea of "The Guide To Italian Bookstores" after one of our friends pointed out how we might be able to solve one of the problems facing women who want to do autonomous women's politics.

*In these bookshops
the women's publications
are displayed clearly
and separately.*

Our problem is that we have very little control over the circulation of women's work, either in distributing what we produce ourselves or in obtaining the books we want as readers. Writers and publishers find it hard to get to the reading public. Women who are looking for certain books often don't know where to get them, especially if they live in small towns or in the south of Italy.

Our friend's idea was simple and effective. She suggested that the bookshop in the small town where she lived order women's books, magazines and leaflets that she was interested in reading. In exchange, she agreed to persuade her friends who were also

interested in the same material to start buying at the shop. So we began working on this project by asking friends in other towns to tell us about their favorite bookshops. Then we got in touch with the booksellers themselves and promised them a minimum level of sales on the feminist titles and new customers in exchange for stocking feminist publications.

We tried out "The Guide" with the distribution of a journal about philosophy published by the women's bookshop in Milan. The women with whom we had political contacts were informed that the publication was on sale in these stores and, afterwards, the feedback from the bookshops showed us that the project was actually working.

[Ed. Note: The women's bookstore, Libreria delle donne, in Milan, became a wholesale distributor in order to put this plan into effect and now wholesales feminist books, magazines and leaflets to general bookstores throughout Italy at the standard Italian wholesaler's discount (20%) and publishes and circulates a guide to Italian bookstores that stock feminist publications. "The Guide" currently includes 84 bookstores in 67 towns and cities. As wholesale distributors Libreria delle donne receive a 50% discount.]

We would like to ask all [Italian] women researchers, university teachers and everybody else interested in the circulation and visibility of women's ideas and knowledge to collaborate with this project. We suggest that women publishers who do their own distribution use the bookshops in "The Guide." Women publishers who work with distributors should also try to use these bookshops for sales. In this

See Progetto Mappa, page 46

ABA 1990

Las Vegas



LAS VEGAS: All year I had been wondering what Las Vegas had to do with the book industry. It's not a city one goes to for bookstores, that's for sure. It isn't the heart of a gutsy and innovative small press movement. And, unless steak and fries is your meal of choice, forget eating.

But the moment I hit "The Strip" it was perfectly clear: Thousands of booksellers and publishers had been beamed into a science fiction novella in the scene where the hyper-spacers go for R&R on a planet designed for every kind of gambling, drinking, drugging, sexing, and quick-fix entertainment known to a variety of species of "man"-kind. In the course of the convention I thought of at least a dozen scenes in sf novels that could have been inspired by Las Vegas.

In contrast to the ever-present clatter of slot machines and the high density noise that is the sound of Vegas, the convention floor seemed calm and nearly serene by comparison. All the booths were on one floor. Traffic, except in the furthest reaches, was good. The Gay/Lesbian/Feminist row had the best location yet. We were in the far-from-the doors half of the convention floor, but were only four rows in, and on the direct route to the Harper/Collins booth. Hanging in all these years to accumulate seniority points is beginning to pay off.

The energy at and around the convention was consistently good. Many of us were pleasantly surprised that the bookselling/book buying community showed up and did business. Like the Anaheim conventions, there was a sense that distractions, entertainment, and other pleasures generally associated with traveling were (much too) minimal, and there wasn't a lot to do except business and visit with

friends — an arrangement that makes for a pleasant and effective ABA.

Both the Friday Feminist Bookstores Day and the Thursday Feminist Publishers meetings were well attended. Thirty-eight women attended each session. The publishers meeting was reported to be an excellent meeting with a wide range of experience from "estab-

— ABA 1991 —

Now is the time for all good booksellers to come to the aid of their convention — and send suggestions for roundtables, panels, workshops and/or tutorials to the 1991 ABA-NY Convention Committee. Final decisions on programs will be made in early November. Please include a brief description of the topic and content you are suggesting, as well as a possible title for the session. Recommendations for knowledgeable participants are also welcome and should be accompanied by addresses and phone numbers.

This would also be an effective time to validate the importance of having a specialty bookseller lead the specialty roundtables and to convey your opinion about whether the roundtables should focus on the issues of specialty bookstores, on the needs of general bookstores with (feminist) sections, and/or if mixing the two interest groups works.

Suggestions should be sent in writing to David Riederman, Coordinator Of Educational Programs, c/o The American Booksellers Association, 137 West 25th St., NY NY 10001, by Friday October 19. ○

ABA Asks Feminist Booksellers to Join Membership Committee

ABA's Board of Directors responded quickly and effectively to Sandi Torkildson's letter (see below) suggesting that ABA establish a Specialty Bookstore Task Force to explore the ways that ABA could significantly improve its services to and effectiveness representing specialty bookstores. The letter arrived as the new ABA president Joyce Meskis (Tattered Cover/Denver) was setting up committees and organizing for her term in office. Rather than setting up a specialty bookstore task force (as they did for small bookstores two-three years ago), Sandi Torkildson and Mary Morell were invited to join the Membership Development Committee which will appoint a subcommittee to explore the needs of specialty bookstores and make recommendations for how ABA can more effectively serve specialty bookstores. Sandi accepted the position and Mary, due to pressures at the store at this time, declined, presumably leaving an opening for another feminist or specialty bookstore on this committee.

The next meeting of the committee will be August 8 in Vail, Colorado. If you have ideas for this committee or issues that you would like brought to the Membership Development Committee, contact Sandi at A Room of One's Own, 317 W. Johnson, Madison WI 53703. 608-257-7888.

American Booksellers Association
137 West 25th St.
New York, NY 10001

Dear Board Member:

I recently attended a UMBA meeting in Chicago where Bernie Rath was the guest speaker. His talk

focused on ten major changes he has seen in bookselling in the 80s and what he projects for the 90s. The fifth point he made was the growth of specialty bookstores. He believes that specialty bookstores will continue as a strong trend through the 90s.

I have observed this trend in Madison, Wisconsin, where our bookstore is located. In the last ten years bookstores have opened which specialize in mysteries, in travel, in new age subjects, and in fiction. During the same period, no new general trade bookstores have opened. Our bookstore is a feminist bookstore that has been here for 15 years.

The ABA has always been an important organization for all bookstores. However, I feel the needs of specialty bookstores have been overlooked up to now. The specialty bookstore roundtables at the convention are a welcome starting point.

I recommend that, as the next step, the Board of Directors establish a Task Force to examine the needs and interests of the wide variety of specialty bookstores and identify ways in which the ABA can better serve these stores. What the Association of Booksellers for Children has done is a great example of how specialty stores can organize to meet their needs within the ABA.

I hope this idea can be discussed at the next board meeting and the ABA Convention. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me. I am willing to serve on a Task Force and help in any other way to promote the interests of specialty bookstores within ABA.

Sincerely yours,
Sandra Torkildson
Manager, A Room of One's Own

○

lished" publishers to beginners that was useful and effective for the whole range of publishers attending.

The feminist bookstores meeting was high-energy, with all stores reporting that sales were good to thriving, and that this is a time of vitality and good health. As always, meeting before the ABA gave us a chance to get to know each other, to run into familiar faces and allies on the convention floor, make plans for dinners and meetings on various topics. Lee Boojamra (Womankind) moved us efficiently through a long and detailed agenda. We actually ended at 4:30.

Special thanks to Theresa Corrigan for organizing a block of rooms at the Mardi Gras Inn (Best Western) for feminist booksellers and publishers. The rooms were large and comfortable, equipped with refrigerators & various conveniences, the pool was a *very* effective meeting place in Vegas' record setting heatwave and, thanks to the group booking and a few errors along the way, we paid less than half the posted room rent. Finding a block of rooms in a convenient and affordable hotel in NYC may be a challenge, but it's a strategy we should repeat. — Carol Seajay ○

The Feminist Bookstores Day



By Carol Seajay

Thirty-eight booksellers representing 20 stores met on June 1 in the Mardi Gras conference room the Friday before the ABA convention began. Stores represented included: Amazon (Minneapolis), Book Woman (Austin), Common Language (Ann Arbor), A Different Drummer (Laguna Beach), Full Circle (Albuquerque), Grand Books (Jackson WY), The Great Catsby (Sante Fe), Inklings (Houston), Lioness (Sacramento), Mother Kali's (Eugene), Page One (Pasadena), Pandora Books for Open Minds (Kalamazoo), A Room of One's Own (Madison), Smedley's (Ithaca), Together As One (Colorado Springs), The Toronto Women's Bookstore (Toronto), Valley Women's Books & Crafts (Fresno), Wild Iris (Claremont), Womankind (Huntington Station NY), and Women & Children First (Chicago.)

Demographicly Speaking...

Twelve booksellers at the meeting were attending ABA for the first time. Half of us were over 40. Two booksellers came in after finishing ABA Booksellers School in the morning.

Barb Wieser (Amazon Bookstore), and Lee Boojamra and Alice Frier (SP??) (Womankind) also attended the Feminist Publishers meeting the day before as Bergamot Books and Rising Tide Books, respectively, which helps to strengthen the ties between the two groups. Hopefully, next year, we will have a combined session, dinner, or reception for feminist publishers and booksellers. We have a lot to talk about.

We also had editors among us — Irene Zahava (Smedley's) popped in after morning meetings with Crossing. Theresa Corrigan (Lioness) had recently

completed *And a Deer's Ear, Eagle's Song and Bear's Grace: Animals and Women* (Cleis Press).

Collectively, the sales of the 20+ stores gathered for the meeting exceeded five million dollars

Common Language (Ann Arbor), in business for exactly two weeks with new owners and a new name (previously Common Destinations), was the youngest store present. Amazon was the oldest store there, celebrating 20 years this fall. Page One is 16, as is Lioness — counting the first 6 years as the "Sacramento Women's Bookstore."

Collectively, the sales of the 20+ stores gathered for the meeting exceeded five million dollars.

The Agenda

The agenda was based on the pre-meeting survey. Lee Boojamra (Womankind) chaired the meeting and walked us through a record number of topics with amazing efficiency. We covered some of them in depth, touched on all of them *and* got out on time! The agenda included:

- Introductions
- Staff Relations and Hiring
- Health Insurance, Pensions, and Retirement
- Improving Customer Relations: How Does the Community View You?
- Store policies that work
- Burn-Out: Where and How to get Help

- Indian Spiritual Abuse — The Responsibilities of Booksellers
- Lunch
- FBN check-in, feedback, and writer requests
- Censorship in the Feminist Bookstore Community
- Advertising and Marketing: Attracting New Customers and Keeping The Old Ones.
- Newsletters and Mailings: Do They Pay Off?
- Recent Developments Between Lesbian and Feminist Publishers and Mainstream Presses
- Improving Relations Between Booksellers and Publishers
- Computers and Booksellers: Using Technology to run your store more efficiently

Needless to say, we didn't solve everything but, as always, it was great to have the chance to talk about these things with each other. It was great to meet all the new booksellers and first-time ABA-ers, to see old friends, and to run into each other for the next four days on the convention floor.

We're not friendly enough and it's a nation-wide problem.

My favorite part, as always, was the introduction session — we went around the room, introduced ourselves and our stores, said how long the store had been open, our annual sales, how the store was doing, and gave a bit of news about the store. (see "Bookstore News").

Some of the conversations are covered elsewhere in this issue (See "Bookstore News," "Indian Spiritual Abuse in Books and Bookselling," and "ABA/Las Vegas"). Kasha Songer (Book Garden) covers some of the things discussed in "Staff Relations" in her article "On Being a Feminist Employer" (in the FBN Summer Supplement). Comments and highlights from the other sessions follow.

Health Insurance & Pensions

Women and Children First (W&CF) was the only store present with a pension plan. None of us had any generic, earth-shaking, affordable solutions to the health care crisis in the U.S. Several booksellers spoke

of getting insurance through business organizations. One bookseller's health insurance was canceled by the ABA-sponsored program....)

Staff Relations:

"Our store isn't large enough for five managers. We tend to keep the fun stuff and dump the garbage on employees and then get surprised when they get bored and go away! How do you learn to let go?!" Responses: "Just *do* it!" "Having a growing business *forces* you to give up responsibility." "Give discrete tasks with boundaries and build on successes." "What's the worst that will happen if something is done badly? Will you be embarrassed? Will it kill the store?" "It's easier to give away responsibility if *you* are clear about what *you* want to do — and don't want to do."

Hiring: "Hire the person," per Paul Hawkins in *Growing a Business*. Hiring well avoids problems and is worth the time it takes. Hire people you can get along with. Be sure the people you hire understand your expectations. And be sure you do, too! Advertise — don't just rely on word of mouth. Be *specific* about what you want. Know what kind of commitment (time) you want a new employee to make. 2 years? 3? 5? In the interview, ask what kind of commitment the employee has in mind....

Hire a promising looking interviewee as a "temp" worker, even if you have to make up a project to do it. You'll know a lot more about whether or not you want to work with a woman after you've moved two sections of books and re-alphabetized the fiction section than you'll ever learn in an interview — and she'll know if she wants to work with you!

Have a probation or try-out period after which either of you can terminate with no hard feelings....

Hire people with commitment — (but don't be confused that an employee's commitment to a store could or should match an owner's. It's also hard to find new collective members for a collectively owned store. Whose commitment could possibly match that of the women who've been there for years? This is an ongoing problem... We all understood it, but didn't have ready solutions.) "Hire women who are committed to lesbians and/or to The Movement."

Requirements: A sense of humor!

The Work: Give responsibility and power. Make it a great job! Give sections to employees — to keep stocked, tidied, dusted, and to advise you on

ordering. — Or give away ordering for specific sections.

Involve staff in the decision making process. One bookseller said her staff said they'd rather increase their work load and get sizable raises than hire a fourth staff member. They're doing the work and making better wages, and everyone is pleased.

"Our staff meetings are always around food!"

One bookseller envied everyone who had staff to have problems with! She recommended getting student interns — They aren't staff but they'll do little things that make your work easier."

Training: Be exceedingly specific. Model and teach behavior, i.e., "Say 'Hello, My name is _____. We're glad you're here.'" (And be sure you do it yourself!) New staff are usually either good or they aren't. In the long run it's kinder to everyone — you, the employee, and your customers — to ask someone to leave than to keep her out of guilt.

Raises: Give them! Build them in. If an employee isn't worth a raise, you probably should ask her to leave. Give cash bonuses for great work.

Evaluations: Do them! Have guidelines and be specific. Do *written* evaluations. Be clear about what you like and what isn't up to snuff. "Needs growth" is a legitimate rating — as is "growing with all possible speed" which compliments achievement and is clear that more improvement is needed. Be clear what your expectations of job performance are. Be specific about what you would like the employee or co-worker to learn and achieve over the next evaluation period or the next year. Ask what she wants to learn over the next year and what responsibilities she'd like to take on. "Contract" to provide the training and conditions she needs to do that.

Collectives can do peer evaluations. (A Room of One's Own has guidelines for these.) "They really clear up problems. If four of your co-workers tell you the same thing about your work, you tend to pay attention!" If there's no one to evaluate you, evaluate yourself — and do it in writing! You deserve the information as much as your employees do!

Improving Customer Relations:

"We're not friendly enough and it's a nation-wide problem. We don't say hello, we don't offer to help. Too often our customers feel like they could die on the

WHAT DO . . .

Ann Christophersen Women & Children 1st

Tania Hazelwood Fan The Flames

Michelle Besant Room of One's Own

Cary Barnett People Like Us

Dorothy Holland Grand Books

Tiana Arruda Old Wives Tales

Neil Woodward Category 6 Bookstore

Madelaine Zadik Lunaria

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spot and nobody would notice. And we're uninterested (and sometimes rude) when other feminist booksellers come into the store and introduce themselves..." (See "Burn-Out" below).

"Make eye contact with customers when they walk in. Say hi and then let them wander. After a few minutes go up to the customer and ask 'Is there something I can help you find?' It's good customer service and you can see the \$\$Amount difference when you get out from behind the desk and offer assistance. You can't afford *not* to do this kind of bookselling."

"With every sale we ring up we ask, 'Did you find everything you're looking for?' 25% of the time they say, 'No, actually, there was something else I wanted.' But they wouldn't have asked! Even our regular customers don't always ask for help if they can't find something. And these are sales that walk right out the door if you don't ask!"

"Offer to special order if a customer asks for a book you don't have or are out of. You'll have a customer for life! But do keep the customer informed if the book is backordered, etc."

"Service makes the difference! Staff makes the difference. Staff has to make that contact!"

When customers ask for recommendations, ask what books they like or what was the last book she enjoyed. Recommending books that the *customer* will like is a skill that all staffers need to have. ("What would you recommend to a customer whose favorite book is _____?" is a good interview question.

**A diverse staff...attracts a diverse customer base.
Your customers will look as much alike as your staff.**

"It takes having minority staff for minority women to feel that it is 'their' store, too." Having a diverse staff (age-wise, racially and ethnically, straight/gay) attracts a diverse customer base. Your customers will look as much alike as your staff.

And at the same time, different groups define the

store as theirs. "The lesbians think it's their store, the pagans think it's *their* store, and the recovery crowd thinks it's *their* store. But customers (and staff) tend to forget that it belongs to a lot of women who have different priorities than they do...." Staff needs to be sensitive to the diversity of women who use the store, i.e., not being lesbian assumptive....

Obnoxious customers? "We'll tell them 'There's something you need to read' and point them to the sign that says 'We reserve the right to refuse service to anyone.'"

Bringing In New Customers: "Being on various boards of directors. I stay for a year or so, and then move on. My being there helps people get over being afraid of the store."

"We order for bookclubs and book reading groups and put that in our ads. No, we don't discount."

Customer Loyalty: Lioness does punch cards. "It creates tremendous customer loyalty. Punch cards have the customer's name, address, and driver's license number, so it's our mailing list and it means that we don't have to write license numbers on checks. We

You carry our books....

and we'll send you some customers.

At Alyson Publications, we're always looking for better ways to introduce more people to the pleasures of reading. Some of our books, like *Lesbian Lists*, are reaching people who wouldn't normally sit down to read a book. Maybe now they'll try a novel, or a coming-out story, or a book about women's history.

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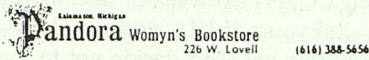
___ lesbians

___ both gay men and lesbians

Store name, address, zip, and phone:

ALYSON PUBLICATIONS, 40 Plympton St., Boston, MA 02118

keep the cards in file boxes behind the counter. Cards are 4x6 and have boxes around the edge for 200 punches. We punch one box for each dollar of sale. If the customer uses up all 200 punches within a year, she gets a \$20 credit. If it takes more than a year, she gets \$10. We keep them forever, so a woman can get the credit even if it takes her ten years. And everyone gets excited whenever anyone fills up a card! It's an instant party! On library orders, whoever brings in the order gets the punch card."



LUCKY THIRTEEN BOOK CLUB

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE # _____ CLUB # _____

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	★ 13
DATE													
PRICE													

Pandora (Kalamazoo) has a similar program called the Lucky Thirteen Book Club in which the customer gets a 13th book free. The price of the 13th book is the average price paid for the twelve books. Pandora also sends postcards to customers on their birthdays offering a 10% discount on the book of their choice.

Women and Children First recommends memberships. They charge \$20/year for individuals, \$35 for couples, and \$40 for organizations. Members get a 10% discount on books, records and tapes and regular mailings about events (and new books) at W&CF.

Programs also bring customers in. W&CF has good luck with discussions, book signings, readings, and performances. They have an event at least three Tuesday nights a month, and sometimes on other days as well. Events bring in new customers, generate free publicity, and keep their name before the public...

Selling used books makes books accessible to more women, generates customer loyalty, and increases traffic. (The woman who comes in to sell used books will probably buy a book — or several — before she leaves.) One store pays 25% cash and 30% credit for books in top shape (less for less-than-premium condition) and sells the books at 50%. That's 50% profit, with no freight — but they are non-returnable. Other stores pay 20-25% and sell as high as 60% of the cover price.

Store Policies That Work

Toys for kids. One store has a toy piano. "The kids make a lot of noise with it but we know *exactly* where they are!" Other recommendations include kid-sized tables and chairs, toys to ride on.

Shoplifting: Pre-teen and teen shoplifting is now a coming-of-age ritual. How to deal? "Stay on them. Follow them around." "You can tell the kids who come into the store to get information from the kids who come in to shoplift. Trust your intuition and act accordingly."

Special Orders: Do them! Charge the customer for shipping. Offering UPS air shipping if the customer wants the book quickly provides a service and generates good will. Some stores charge deposits ranging from 33% on titles they don't ordinarily stock to full price on books that have to be prepaid.

Ticket Sales: Toronto Women's Bookstore no longer sells for larger concerts due to the massive energy/staff drain, but they often choose to sell tickets for non-profit or benefit concerts with limited seating. Book Garden charges \$1.00 service charge per ticket. Women and Children First requires 3% of their total ticket sales and writes that into the contract. Full Circle will sell tickets only if they can sell records at the concert. They've had 100% success with Olivia and Redwood on this policy. They serve as a mail drop for the producers. Inking's pointed out that, as a new store, they *want* ticket sales for the publicity and the new customers that ticket sales bring. They bought a block of tickets (front & center!) for a k.d. lang concert to sell in the store and sales skyrocketed! They sold the tickets at cost plus the standard \$2 Ticketron service charge.

What do we want from publishers? Covers that don't curl!

Bounced Checks and Credit Cards: "Our total loss from bounced checks is still a lot less than what we would lose to credit card service charges for the same sales."

"American Express is the 'impulse' credit card."

Burnout

"Burn-out is a luxury we can't afford." But many of us are more and less burned out some (or much) of

the time. Nationally, feminist stores have something of a reputation for not being very friendly — a function of burnout that hurts us all. Long-term booksellers generally find a way to avoid or recover from burn-out — if they don't, their stores don't survive.

Burn-out is a luxury we can't afford

Ideas and suggestions: Take two days off in a row — *every* week. Go away for a few days. Take *weekends* off. Take chunks of time off — finance it if you need to by going on unemployment. (If the store won't survive without you, it can't survive, period. Solving the problems will help, but burning yourself out over them won't.)

Eat lunch outside the store. (But does it count if you take catalogs with you?) Take a walk/break every day — for half an hour or two hours, or however long *you* need. Write it into the schedule.

"I find that I take better care of the store than I do of me. And then I resent it!"

The POWER Players

*Parity: Organization for Women's
Equality and Rights*

by Bonnie Huval

Amid turmoil after the gutting of *Roe v Wade*, factions vie over the course of America's premier feminist group. At stake — the White House. Fiction with the feel of reality.

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Taking out burn-out on customers is *not* a solution!

Do not take work to bed — under any circumstances! If you find yourself talking about work in bed with your partner, get up and go somewhere else to talk about it. "We do everything with 'her', but we don't *sleep* with her!"

Learn to prioritize. The store can still thrive even if a *lot* doesn't get done. Learn to excuse yourself from not doing everything all at once. Learn to plan on doing things next week or next month. Or next year.

Ask yourself: If I were seriously ill — how important would this be? And decide not to make yourself sick doing things that you wouldn't do if you were sick....

Recommending books that the *customer* will like is a skill that all staffers need to have.

Censorship

I have no notes on this session. What I remember most clearly is how much grief the s/m and pornography wars in our communities have caused booksellers — without the productive aspect that redeems political disagreement and struggle.

Newsletters And Mailing Lists

Newsletters generate sales and are a lot of work. Mailing lists require care. One bookseller told a harrowing tale of loaning out their (paid) membership list to an organization that failed to live up to their plain-brown-wrapper promise and caused havoc for a mother who wasn't "out" to her husband...

Full Circle will do inserts into their mailings for half the cost of postage. If they get three inserts they're ahead of the game.

Improving Relations Between Booksellers And Publishers

Pay women's presses first and pay them on time! Draw attention to feminist press books: put them in the window, shelve them face out, create a "Feminist Press" section. Several stores have had good success with highlighting a different feminist press each month. The books are featured in the window, in a special display, and/or in the store newsletter. Some stores give a 10% discount on feminist-press-of-the-month titles. Some feminist presses will give an extra discount on titles ordered for these promotions. Doing these promotions creates a heightened awareness of

feminist presses and feminist press books among customers.

What do we want from publishers? Covers that don't curl! Bookmarks with a place to stamp our store names.

Computers & Technology

Alice Frier (Womankind) recommended Quicken 3.0 (\$39.95), a check writing program that cut her bill paying time by 80%. She's also looking into DAK's Easy Accounting package, which in addition to doing the functions she's currently doing with Quicken, does complete accounting, general ledger, accounts receivable/payable, billing, invoicing, payroll and some inventory control. (About \$100.) Dorothy Holland (Grand Books) spoke highly of Peachtree's accounting package. Lee Boojamra (Womankind) brought copies of a shareware (free) program for IBM compatible computers that generates forms. Send her a disk and return postage, and she'll send you a copy. (5 Kivy St., Huntington Station NY 11746.)

FBN Sign-up Sheets

There's some talk of initiating a feminist (bookstore) book award program. If you're interested in working on it, give me a call or drop me a note. If you're interested (or willing) to write an article for the "How to Open a Feminist Bookstore Book" or if you have ideas for articles that should be included that you want to read, rather than write or if you'd like to contributed ideas but don't have time to write an entire article... Give me a call or write....

FBN is always looking for articles — if you have an article you're dying to write (or could be coerced into writing....) give me a call. Or if there are articles you'd like to see in FBN.... I'm always looking for feminist bookstore profiles.... Thanks to the ideas and support of the gang at the meeting, FBN will initiate a series of profiles of feminist publishers in the next six months. "But no puff pieces!" If you're interested in writing a profile of one of the publishers, call up and sign up! And FBN is still looking for a new format for "Our Own Presses." If you have ideas, call or write! FBN, PO Box 882554, San Francisco CA 94188. 415-626-1556.

Advertising And Marketing

Unfortunately I missed most of this workshop. Birthday sales were reported to be crowd-pleasers. They

A Few Books on Marketing and General Attitudes for Small Businesses

Growing a Business, by Paul Hawken, Simon & Schuster, \$9.95. 0-671-671642. (BP, Gordon's)
Honest Business, by Michael Phillips & Salli Rasberry, Random, \$7, 0-394-748301. (Ingram)
Marketing Without Advertising, by Phillips & Rasberry, Nolo, \$14, 0-873-370198. (BP)

All three of these books approach business from a grass roots, people-first perspective, and they're written in a very accessible style, with no lingo and lots of examples of home-grown businesses.

— Pokey Anderson/Inklings ○

generate good will, a peak in the sales figures, and great publicity. TWB donates 10% of their sales on International Women's Day to various organizations. Getting involved with one's local community, the gay pride march, etc. were recommended. The Great Catsby advertises only in periodicals that do a story on the store, list their events and/or design the ad. *Lesbian Connection* is the place to advertise for stores doing mail order. "Get in the guidebooks — *Places of Interest*, *Gaia's*, etc." Also recommended: offer meeting space (creates traffic); write book reviews and articles for "free" publicity.

Thanks

Thanks to FBN for doing the preliminary organizing, to Theresa Corrigan for organizing the space, to Alice Frier and Lee Boojamra for organizing the agenda, to Lee for facilitating the meeting, to all of the women who led sessions, and to all the feminist bookstores who returned their preliminary questionnaires on time!!!!

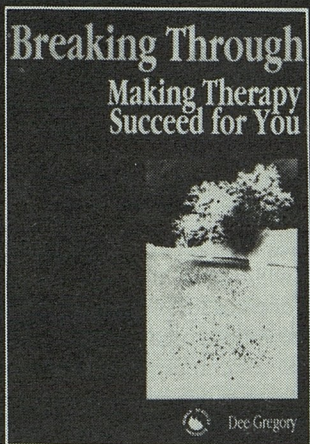
Barb Weiser (Amazon) has agreed to chair next year's Feminist Bookstore Meeting. Carol Levin (Judith's Room) is working on space. If you have suggestions for a place to meet in NYC, please give Carol Levin or Carol Seajay a call. We're also looking for a hotel that will rent a block of 40-50 rooms at a reasonable price.

Feminist Bookstores Day is always held the Friday before ABA. Next year's meeting will be on Friday, May 31. (ABA will run from June 1-4, 1991.)

See you there!

○

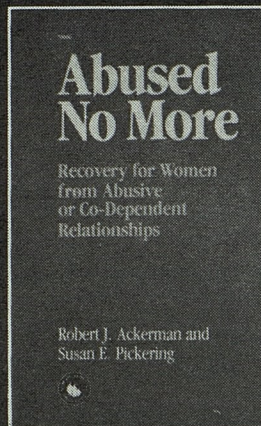
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FBN70

Indian Spiritual Abuse

In Books and Bookstores

By Carol Seajay

Shortly before the ABA Convention, FBN received a copy of the Indian Spiritual Abuse position paper from the National Women's Studies Association's (NWSA) Indigenous and Native American Women's Task Force. The position paper specifically addressed feminist bookstores and I was able to photocopy it and get it to the bookstores before the Feminist Bookstore Meeting at ABA.

The position paper and the NWSA statement accompanying it begin on the next page. Post-NWSA reports indicate that the position paper was sent to all exhibitors prior to the NWSA conference and that it was passed out intermittently during the conference to women entering the book exhibit area. NWSA says that there was a bulletin board and a discussion room with additional information, though there are no reports of actual discussion taking place. The issue, FBN was told, was "overshadowed by everything else" — "everything else" being the Women of Color Caucus walkout over the firing of the first woman of color hired in NWSA's 13+ year history.

But it was addressed and discussed by all the feminist booksellers at the Feminist Bookstores Day. I've summarized the discussion as best I could from my notes and recollections and hope I haven't misrepresented anyone's ideas or views. Reporting on a fast-moving discussion in which one is an active participant is — challenging. True to feminist bookstore tradition (each store is fully autonomous and makes its own decisions) the goal of the discussion

was to share information and understanding with other feminist booksellers, rather than to come to consensus or agree on any one plan of action. I look forward to hearing about the decisions made and actions taken after the booksellers returned home.

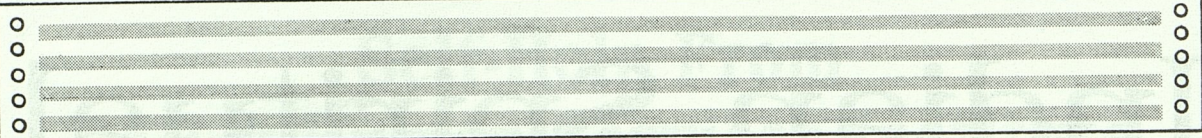
The purpose of this article is to share the discussion as fully as possible with feminist booksellers who were not at ABA. FBN will be delighted to publish additional versions, visions, ideas, insights, comments and feedback in the months to come.



Several booksellers commented that many of the books in question are sheer fiction — so they shelve them in fiction. Someone commented that "It's a pity these writers don't go in for writing science fiction — they'd be really good at that." Harper and Row may already be getting that feedback from booksellers — Lynn Andrews' next book is, in fact, being marketed as fiction.

The Toronto Women's Bookstore (TWB) was the only store present with a formal policy. Their policy was developed with input from a number of sources in the Native communities including the council of elders in their area, various reading lists and an article about "plastic shamans" published in *Akwesasne Notes*. They don't carry Lynn Andrews' books but recommend other titles to their customers. TWB is

See Books and Bookstores, page 38



The New, Improved! Dykes to Watch Out For and find Jezanna reading FBN. Now that's a *serious* compliment. A place in the cartoon strip! The dyke-hall-of-humor. Wow! Am I in awe or what!

ABA was fun this year and the IV International Feminist Bookfair in Barcelona was far more wonderful than even my wildest dream. Traveling for FBN always generates news and stories and these two events have outdone themselves in this respect.

This issue includes my brief report on Barcelona, and an article on the Italian women's bookstore's distribution scheme (translated for FBN at the Fair). Upcoming issues will include an interview with Spanish feminist bookseller Heide Braun about the second wave of feminist bookstores in Spain, and an interview with a Russian woman organizing the first lesbian and feminist publishing company in the U.S.S.R., articles about feminist publishing in South Asia, Attic Press' commitment to growth and stability (and generating both by selling \$55,000 in stock), and a Canadian bookseller's perspective on the Fair, and more.

ABA, of course, generated a slew of articles as well: reports on Feminist Bookstore Day, on the discussion in response to the Indian Spiritual Abuse position paper, on the ABA-sponsored Feminist Specialty Roundtable and on Vegas itself. I'm especially delighted to publish Audre Lorde's address to the Lambda Award banquet.

I've always wanted to *really* cover the Feminist Bookstore Day Meetings in FBN and I feel that I've finally done it. I hope you enjoy the coverage. Having done it, I'm eager to hear from you about what you do — and don't — find helpful and interesting.

Other issue highlights include the second installment of the interview with Judy Grahn on the early beginnings of the Women-In-Print movement and Nett Hart's interview with The Womyn's Braille Press in honor of their 10th anniversary, Margaret Phillips' article profiling bookselling in an isolated Northern (Canadian) community and a report on the NUJ boy-

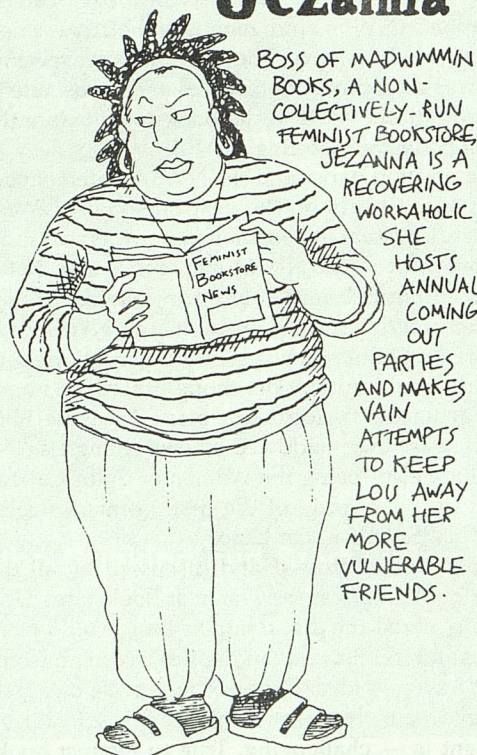
cott of Pergamon. You'll find them all in the Summer Supplement.

What an issue this is! I hope you've all scheduled some lazy days and have time to take FBN off to lunch or to the beach. Read quickly but enjoy it all!

The FBN Fall Announcements Issue will be coming soon! If you have any ideas or suggestions for articles for the University Press issue, give me a call. I've had numerous requests for an article on the ethics of fundraising for feminist businesses. Any takers?

Yours in spreading the words,
Carol Seajay

Jezanna



Even Jezanna reads FBN!

From Alison Bechdel's *New, Improved! Dykes to Watch Out For* (Firebrand)

meet the consumerist needs of new agers. The fact is, however, that these new agers do not understand Indian people or our struggles for survival and thus can have no genuine understanding of Indian spiritual practices.

The result of this new age craze is nothing less than spiritual and cultural genocide for the Indian people. The one thing that has maintained the survival of Indian people through 500 years of colonialism has been the spiritual bonds that keep us together. When the colonizers saw the strength of our spirituality, they tried to destroy Indian religions by making them illegal. They forced Indian children into white, missionary schools and cut their tongues if they spoke their Native languages. Sundances were made illegal and Indian participation in the Ghost Dance precipitated the Wounded Knee massacre. Our colonizers recognized that it was our spirituality that maintained our spirit of resistance and sense of community.

Today, many white writers, such as Lynn Andrews, are continuing the practice of destroying Indian spirituality. They trivialize Native American practices so that they lose their spiritual force. They have the white privilege and power to make themselves heard at the expense of Native Americans. Consumers like what many of these writers have to tell them and do not want to be concerned with the facts presented by Native Americans. Our voices are silenced as a result. Consequently, the younger generation of Indians who are trying to find their way back to the Old Ways become hopelessly lost in this morass of consumerist spirituality.

There has been a disturbing silence among white feminists on the issue of Indian spiritual abuse. Even those who do not engage in these practices, sell or promote these practices in their bookstores, record stores, or magazines. Even at the 1989 NWSA Conference, Lynn Andrews books were displayed in a prominent area.

If white feminists are going to act in any type of solidarity with their Indian sisters, they are going to have to take a stand. Feminist book and record stores must stop selling these products. All women who call themselves feminists should denounce exploitative practices wherever they see them. While some may claim that Indians are not respecting "freedom of speech" by demanding that whites stop promoting and selling books that are exploitative of Indian spirituality, the promotion of this material is destroying the freedom of speech for Native Americans by ensuring that our voices will

never be heard. Feminists must make a choice; will they respect Indian political and spiritual autonomy or will they promote materials that are fundamentally racist under the guise of "freedom of speech?"

Many Indian feminists have given up on trying to convince white feminists to stop this exploitation. It seems that profit always gets in the way of solidarity

NWSA Statement on the INAWTF Position Paper

The NWSA Indigenous and Native American Women's Task Force has made the larger organizations aware of extensive exploitation of Native culture and spirituality in recent books and seminars. As a result of the Task Force's leadership and in response to Recommendation 15 submitted by the Indigenous and Native American Women's Task Force and sponsored by the Women of Color Caucus (passed at the Delegate Assembly, 1989), the Coordinating Council, at its January meeting, supported a number of actions to be taken in response to this recommendation. In order to encourage further discussion and debate about these important issues, the Coordinating Council recommended the following actions: 1) the printing of the following position paper submitted by Andrea Smith of NWSA's Indigenous and Native American Task Force and Women of Color Caucus (The text of this position paper will be distributed at NWSA's 1990 Conference in Akron.); 2) The position paper printed below will be sent to all book exhibitors coming to the convention in Akron; 3) The position paper, in addition to being distributed at the conference, will also be posted prominently at the Book Exhibit in Akron; 4) A bulletin board will be available in the book exhibit where conference registrants can express in writing their reaction to the issue of Indian Spiritual Abuse and other similar issues that may arise; 5) A room connected to the book exhibit will be available for registrants who want to discuss this issue or other similar issues; 6) A statement detailing NWSA's recognition of the problem of Indian Spiritual Abuse and the actions detailed above will be printed in the Conference Program Book.

— Reprinted from NWSAction ○

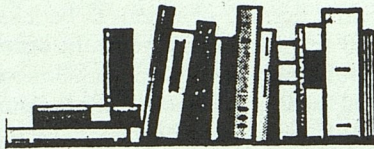
between white and Indian women. However, white feminists should know that as long as they take part in Indian spiritual abuse, either by being consumers of it or by refusing to take a stand on it, Indian women will consider white "feminists" to be nothing more than agents in the genocide of their people.

Our spirituality is not for sale.

Reprinted from the NWSA magazine, NWSAction (Spring 1990). Also mailed to all Book Exhibitors at NWSA 1990. ○

Books & Bookstores, continued from page 35.

quite specific about kinds of titles they *do* carry and the books they *don't* carry and have working (though not written up in a form that's publishable) guidelines to use in evaluating new titles. They brought information that the Aboriginal people in Australia have "banned" *The Crystal Woman*, the Lynn Andrews title that purports to portray aboriginal spirituality and heritage. TWB's position reflects their clarity that the issue is genocide.



Another bookseller gives decision-making regarding which titles to stock to a loose coalition of Native people in her community.

One point that was strongly made is that Indigenous cultures are not monolithic and that we can't treat Native spirituality as a monolithic issue. Some groups want to share specific information. Others don't. Some groups are against all sharing. Some women have specifically been asked to record and share specific information. Evelyn Eaton (*I Send A Voice*) was mentioned in this context with a statement that the bookseller believed her to be sincerely representing the wishes of the people she worked with. There is no simple answer to this complex issue.

A bookseller from a store that has undergone significant staff changes in the last few years described the rift in her community that was created when Lynn Andrews read in their store five years ago. "Native women still don't come into the store. It isn't a resource for Native women. It's been very painful."

We discussed a context of the problem — that white America, for the most part, is living in a spiritual vacuum and is hungry for something to fill that void, and that the lack of respect for other cultures is a manifestation of this condition.

We talked about the role of commercialization in trivialization, the way that it turns the sacred into the mundane. The commercialization of erotica was brought up as a somewhat parallel situation which reduces the power of erotic energy (as in Audre Lorde's essay "Uses of the Erotic: The Erotic as Power" in *Sister Outsider*/Crossing Press) and takes it away from us. The commercialization of spirituality actively diminishes its power.

Part of this discussion addressed the contradiction between being part of the consumer process and the values we hold that prompt us to feminist bookstores.

Some women were articulate about the ways that selling Lynn Andrews/plastic shamen-type books contributes directly to genocide. Native spirituality/spiritualities is the primary force that has kept people and tribes alive for 500 years, through all conditions caused by European invasions. To carelessly erode this spiritual base is to pull the survival out from under Native peoples. Native spirituality does not and *cannot* exist separate from community life. But "new-age" versions of "Indian spirituality" offer a spirituality divorced from community.

One of the effects of publishing white authors who claim (or don't claim) to represent Native experience and spirituality is that their versions of what "Indian" means become the popular definition of "Indian" experience which then functions as a tool to invalidate and invisibilize people's real lives, experiences and realities. White authors' books get published and sold in lieu of Native people's and Native people's versions are rejected for being "insufficiently romanticized," thus stifling and silencing the genuine voices of Native peoples. Native people's reality gets driven out of the media which favors a sanitized version that doesn't include uncomfortable realities. Selling these books contributes to this problem.

We talked about the ways that commercialized spirituality takes people away from the idea of community and helps people feel comfortable with the idea that they need only "solve" their own problems — and how this encourages isolation rather than activism — as if "personal problems" (such as rape or

incest) can be "solved" without addressing the conditions in a society that make incest common. This idea and practice is the opposite of Indian spirituality which is community-based and includes responsibility to community.

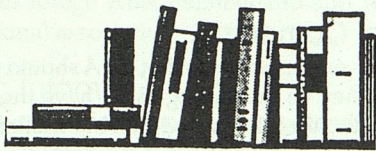
This part of the discussion led me to understand the inadequacy of my understanding of how white America has practiced and continues to practice genocide. I felt myself grasping, for flashes and moments, the "subtleties" of functional genocide in my own times. I left knowing I had to learn more.

Several booksellers spoke powerfully about the difference between censorship and buying decisions. "Censorship is refusing to let something be published or removing it from circulation. Buying decisions are quite different. We make buying decisions every day and buy the work we want to promote and don't buy things that are in conflict with our values. All of us have limited resources and it's our responsibility to use our resources in the most useful ways possible."

"We don't 'censor' racism or sexism — we simply don't stock it!"

"I have a range of what is acceptable. When something falls below that range, I act: I don't buy it or I return it or whatever. I seem to know where that line is for me and my bookstore reflects that."

We talked at length about the relative value of removing books from our shelves versus focusing on customer education. As one bookseller said, "Taking Lynn Andrews off the shelf doesn't do any good if my customers buy it at the bookstore down the street."



Educating our customers — or at least providing information that aids them in making informed decisions — seems essential, especially given ready availability of many of the worst titles. We discussed initiating discussions with customers when they bring questionable titles to the counter. It was pointed out that it is far more useful and more respectful to give women information that would inform their buying decisions before, rather than after, they have gone through a decision-making process.

— Last Minute Flash! —

Full Circle Books (Albuquerque) has removed Lynn Andrews books from their shelves following the discussions at the Feminist Bookstores Day. In conjunction with their decision they sponsored a Feminist Forum in the store on the issue. Forty-five people showed up for a very lively discussion which reached no conclusions and will be continued at a second Forum in early August.

By the end of the evening the group realized that the conversation had been dominated by white women, despite the presence of women of color including Native American women. "In other words," said Full Circle co-owner Mary Morell, "We (white women) didn't let them talk. Hopefully we've learned to keep our mouths shut and listen!" ○

That inspired discussion about how to raise the issue sooner — post information near spirituality, new-age (or fiction) sections — wherever the books reside in your store. Post the Indian Spiritual Abuse position paper where customers can read it *before* they select their books. One bookseller suggested inserting the position paper or other materials *into* questionable books. Another bookseller spoke of hearing Chrystos (*Not Vanishing*/Press Gang) read a new poem, "Shame On: There Are Many Forms of Genocide & This Is One," at the Out/Write conference that addressed both the Lynn Andrews books and the underlying issues. She was waiting for a copy of the poem to post in her store.

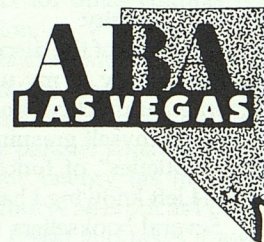
(The next day, on the convention floor, Press Gang Publishers was approached about doing a broadside of the poem and sending it to all the feminist bookstores. They were very excited by the suggestion, as was Chrystos, and the broadside is currently in the works. They'll send it out as soon as it's done.)

Another suggestion was to have consciousness raising workshops and discussions about these issues as a bookstore program.

Other suggestions included taking care to make visual and financial statements to your customers by making sure that quality books are displayed in larger numbers and more visibly than questionable titles; by giving prime space to small press books from Native-owned publishing companies; and by shelving eye-catching books with sleazy contents spine out.... ○

ABA Feminist Specialty Roundtable

ABA Requests Feedback — And Gets an Earful!



This year ABA called them Specialty TableTalks. *Publishers Weekly* called them Specialty Bookstore Roundtables. But regardless of what they were called, ABA finally asked a feminist bookseller to chair the Feminist Specialty (Bookstore) Tabletalk/Roundtable for the first time in the three-year history of the program. Actually, ABA had to ask two feminist booksellers to find one willing to do it. At least one feminist (specialty store) bookseller declined the invitation on the grounds that mixing general booksellers and specialty booksellers creates a workshop that is a waste of time for the specialty booksellers. Mary Morell (Full Circle Books/Albuquerque) eventually agreed to chair the session on the condition that the attendees be divided into specialty booksellers and general booksellers interested in stocking a feminist section.

Roundtables were offered for mystery, science fiction, cookbook, travel, technical, Afro-American, feminist and gay/lesbian bookstores. About 45 booksellers attended the feminist section: three tables of feminist bookstore workers, and three tables of general bookstore workers. Only about a third of the feminist booksellers present at the convention attended the meeting, with most feminist booksellers feeling that either the mixed forum wouldn't be an effective way to address their interests and/or that their needs had already been addressed at the Feminist Bookstores Day meetings on Friday. About a third of the feminist booksellers who attended the roundtable weren't able to attend the Friday meetings. At

least half of the feminist booksellers who did attend specified that their primary interest in attending this meeting was to dialog with ABA.

ABA Board Member Fern Jaffe was ABA's representative at the roundtable. She asked for time at the end of the session to discuss ways that ABA could better serve the needs of specialty bookstores. To no one's surprise, feminist booksellers had plenty of ideas and suggestions.

Jaffe's first question was asked of all the specialty store roundtables: "Are specialty bookstores significantly different from general bookstores?" — to which there was a loud and unanimous "Yes!" from both the feminist booksellers and the general booksellers.

General Comments

- The first suggestion was that ABA should continue, now that they've finally begun, to have the Feminist Specialty Roundtable chaired by a bookseller working in a feminist (specialty) bookstore.
- ABA needs to learn to recognize and appreciate the differences between specialty stores and general independent bookstores to represent and serve the needs of both specialty bookstores and small independent general stores. Much dismay was expressed that ABA needed to ask, even rhetorically, if specialty stores are significantly different from general stores.

Misrepresentation

- *Newswire* reports of new terms from publishers

rarely (never?) consider how these terms will affect specialty bookstores.

- ABA staff, officers and members of the board of directors, when endorsing new terms from publishers rarely (never?) consider how the new terms will affect specialty stores. They *frequently* endorse terms that are detrimental to our access to books and to the continued existence of specialty stores.

Small general independent booksellers echoed the complaint saying that ABA and/or its officers' endorsement of terms that are unfavorable to small bookstores (under \$500,000/year) also creates problems for them.

These endorsements reflect ABA's general lack of consciousness about the realities of specialty- and small-store bookselling *and* encourages publishers to ignore the needs of small and specialty bookstores. We really don't like hearing "But ABA approved the terms" in response to our complaints.

Membership

- ABA's minimum dues are too high for many small/ specialty booksellers.
- ABA's services are not directed to small or specialty booksellers and sometimes exclude (by design?) small stores. There seems to be a confusion at ABA about the difference between small bookstores and "hobby" stores (which seems to be a pejorative at ABA).
- Several booksellers commented that the regional booksellers associations were much more helpful and useful to new bookstores and small bookstores (whether specialty or general) and advised that new bookstores forego ABA membership and work with their regional associations instead.

Getting Information

- It has been difficult for new and potential booksellers to get information from ABA about ABA membership and the benefits membership would afford them. Even booksellers who were already convinced that they wanted an ABA membership had difficulty getting information about how to join.
- If Ingram can find out about new bookstores and tell us what they have to offer, ABA should be able to do the same. ABA should actively search out and contact new bookstores.
- Several booksellers commented that they got their news about ABA, the convention, and this workshop

"...sweet romance, social commentary and entertaining science fiction—the sort of easy-going read rarely found in gay fiction, and very welcome." Richard Labonte, A Different Light Bookstores

"Sweet, sexy and suspenseful, ...affirms a transcendental vision of being gay." Mark Thompson, *Gay Spirit: Myth & Meaning*

"...a book from the heart ...a very intriguing, captivating read." Dennis Conkin, Bay Area Reporter

Toby Johnson's Secret Matter

...A gay-positive, life-positive tale that will appeal not only to gay men and sci-fi fans

...The kind of book feminist and lesbian & gay booksellers went into business in the first place to make available

A NOTE TO BOOKSELLERS FROM TOBY JOHNSON

There's a debate in gay publishing: Should authors publish with mainstream presses to get validation, acknowledgement, and an upfront advance or with gay small presses to join in a cultural movement and to see their books stay in print longer but probably never receive mainstream validation?

Indeed, some customers—and booksellers—fall for the hype and assume that books are published by small presses only because they are not good enough for "real" Madison Avenue publishers. Lesbian & feminist writers and readers, on the other hand, have generally supported women's small presses and discovered a literature addressed especially to them.

I have been published previously by both a Madison Avenue house and a gay small press. As a gay writer and cultural activist and now as co-owner of **Liberty Books**, the lesbian & gay community bookstore in Austin, I've made a conscious decision to publish with **Lavender Press**, a new gay small press whose editorial policies and goals I understand and support.

I hope other lesbian & gay and feminist booksellers will respect this decision and give this book the kind of promotion and affirmation it merits.

Read it yourself. You'll like it.

From Lavender Press, P.O. Box 453, S. Norwalk, CT 06856 (203) 849 9776.
Distributed in the U.S. by Inland, Bookpeople & Golden-Lee.
ISBN 0-93874-13-9 208 pages trade paper retail price \$10.00

in particular by reading Feminist Bookstore News. They are not receiving this information from ABA.

- ABA should take more care to send information to FBN. FBN should be receiving most press releases that ABA sends out.
- ABA should send convention information to non-member stores as well as member stores.

Attitude

- Several booksellers commented that ABA (staff) had been downright rude when they called for information. Some attributed this to "New York Attitude," others to ABA's (apparent) unwillingness to even talk to small stores and/or stores in non-major metropolitan areas.
- Do ABA staffers who field questions from new stores need consciousness raising sessions and/or sensitivity training? "If a new small store or a specialty store isn't worth ABA's time and attention, then, hey, it's not worth my time and money to join," was a commonly expressed attitude.

A "Beginning Bookstore Package"

- It was recommended that ABA take the initiative and approach new bookstores with a comprehensive

"New Bookstore Package."

• The purpose of the "New Bookstore Package" would be to introduce new (and soon-to-be) booksellers to the services that ABA offers. It would include samples of supplies and a small starter-kit whenever possible. The cost of the "New Bookseller Kit" would be offset by the increased number of membership enrollments from new bookstores and their annual renewals.

Ideally it would include: *The ABA Book Buyers Handbook*; *A Manual on Bookselling*; 20-30 STOP forms (enough copies to get the bookseller "addicted" to them. Cost would be offset by re-orders on STOP forms.); sample copies of gift certificates; sample bags with price lists and complete ordering information; and samples of all other forms and supplies that ABA has to offer as well as descriptions of the ABA courses, etc.

The package should also include a list and description of services that ABA offers, the names and/or positions of various ABA staff, a list of ABA officers and board members, and a list of committees and how to contact them.

ABA should make it *easy* for potential members to see how membership would benefit them. Doing so would increase ABA's membership.

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 612/649-0271
 800/397-2613
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 COURAGE PRESS NALAD PRESS NEW VICTO-
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 SHAMLESS PRESS/SELF-HELP/ETHNOLOGIES/SPIRITUALITY
 PRESS VOLCANO PRESS
 poetry/short stories/biographies/mysteries/memoirs/drama
 /essays/pamphlets/self-help/ethnologies/spirituality
 /non-sexist children's books/science fiction

Booksellers present believed that if ABA would put *The Handbook* and STOP forms into the hands of new booksellers ABA would 1) be doing new and small and specialty booksellers an enormous service; 2) would increase the survival rate of new bookstores; 3) would expand the size and breadth of its membership; 4) would be amply compensated for the cost of the Beginning Bookseller Packages and *Handbooks* by membership renewals from stores that would not otherwise join ABA.

It was estimated that only 40-50% of the feminist bookstores are currently members of ABA and that an additional 40% would be inclined to join and maintain membership with these kinds of programs.

Introductory Membership Offer

- ABA could supplement the above package with an "Introductory Membership Offer" that would include all the benefits and services of membership and would cost no more than half the price of the current minimum membership. If ABA couldn't see its way clear to include *The Booksellers Handbook* in the Beginning Bookseller Package, it could be offered as part of the Introductory Membership Offer at reduced prices.

Materials

- The minimum order for STOP forms is too high and too expensive for small stores. Smaller quantities should be available at comparable rates.
- ABA's seasonal marketing campaigns (and posters in *American Bookseller*) rarely apply to specialty stores. One bookseller pointed out that, since the seasonal marketing program began, she'd been able to use exactly one poster.
- ABA could be considerably more conscious of the usefulness (or lack thereof) of its materials to their membership. The T-shirts about dogs and books being "man's" best friend are particularly directed to men ("Outside of a dog, a book is a man's best friend"). In this case, "man" is not a generic term that includes women, whether feminist booksellers or women customers. Cute, but no go. No thanks. Having membership money go to pay for "general" programs that specifically exclude women is not, to understate, well thought of.

ABA's Board Of Directors

- The ABA Board of Directors should include representation from specialty bookstores.

How Does ABA Work?

- A number of booksellers — including long time members — commented that they (still) don't know how ABA works. Obviously there is a committee sub-structure below the board. But what committees exist? What do they do? Who does one contact about specific topics? This information isn't readily available to the membership and needs to be.

Program And Other Suggestions

- ABA continue the Black and Read exhibit. It is a powerful addition to the convention.
- Minority scholarships to Booksellers school are strongly supported.
- ABA should include, in its convention guidelines for exhibitors, a statement that all exhibits, special offers, etc. be non-sexist and non-racist. The Columbia University Press offer that required purchase of 5 copies of a sexist book for participation in a drawing was cited as particularly offensive. While ABA cannot be held accountable for the actions of all the exhibitors, guidelines that are specifically anti-sexist and anti-racist would be helpful.
- Hold separate workshops/roundtables for specialty stores and the general bookstores interested in stocking a feminist section. Mixing the two groups dilutes the one program at ABA that is (or should be) specifically oriented to specialty bookstores ("The wave of the 90s") and the focus is (once again) shifted to general bookstores' needs. If ABA wants to set up a tutoring session where specialty stores advise general bookstores on stocking their specialty, ABA should go ahead and do that rather than expecting to get a plum of a workshop by mixing apples and oranges.
- A workshop that lumps all stores doing more than \$250,000 and less than \$1.5M into one "Mid-Sized Store" roundtable is not very useful. Stores that do \$300,000 and stores that do \$1M have very different issues. Three to five categories would be much more useful — and probably better attended.

It was also noted that the "small" and "mid-sized" store roundtables were recorded and tapes were available — but that the "large-store" roundtable was not taped and was not available to the rest of us....

- On the topic of roundtables.... Roundtable lunch boxes should include (more) vegetarian options. Just offering non-red meat isn't enough. Those lunch boxes went immediately, leaving the vegetarians high and dry....

- The Small Store Task Force should be reconvened. The recommendations of this task force should be published (in *American Bookseller*) with a report as to which recommendations have been implemented, which are in process, and what comes next.
- ABA could create a referral system to set up mentors or "Big Sister/Big Brother" programs for small and specialty bookstores with a similar, successful, experienced store.
- ABA could also take the initiative to refer appropriate (new) bookstores to the specialty store organizations and publications, i.e., *Feminist Bookstore News*, *The New Age Retailer* and the new age retailing association, etc. ABA could collect information on all the specialty bookstore organizations and publications and distribute it to all the member bookstores, possibly via an article in *The American Bookseller*.
- Small bookstores — including many but not all specialty stores — tend to be staffed by the owners and/or the staff is too small for the owner to leave to attend ABA committee meetings. If ABA wants to know about the needs of specialty and small stores, ABA staff and directors could go to the stores and ask what our needs are.
- One of the mainstream publishers has a program that requires all senior staff to work for 2-3 days a year in a bookstore. ABA staff and directors could spend an equal amount of time visiting specialty and small stores in the own states. This would address ABA's question about the differences between specialty and general independent bookselling...
- A newsletter *written by someone who knows what it is like* would be useful if there isn't room for this information in *American Bookseller*.

Ideas For *The American Bookseller*

- Reports from committees — especially special task forces — should be included in *The American Bookseller*, i.e., the report from the Small Store Task Force would be of interest to the entire membership.
- *The American Bookseller* could include articles on how small and specialty stores can get good deals (or acknowledge when we can't), on buying equipment and fixtures on a small-store/specialty store budget, on store design on small store/specialty store budgets, and on space saving ideas for small stores.

- *The American Bookseller* has virtually nothing in it about gay, lesbian, and feminist stores. Our issues and our stores should be in the ABA magazine. ABA and its publications should reflect its membership — which is to say we should also be visible in the magazine and other ABA publications.
- Regular columns for 8 to 10 different specialty store areas should be included in each issue of *The American Bookseller*. These columns could include bestsellers, announcements of new stores, and news and should be written by someone knowledgeable about each field. Visibility is essential. Two to four pages per issue should be devoted to these reports. The presentation could be parallel to the Regional Booksellers Association reports.

Booksellers School

- Booksellers school costs more than many small stores can afford.
- ABA might consider creating scholarships for small and specialty stores.
- A significant part of the cost of Booksellers School is the requirement that attendees stay in the (expensive-to-us) hotels where the schools are held. ABA should explore and implement alternative locations for the schools that don't require hotel stays. The theory may be that holding the schools in hotels saves ABA money because the meeting rooms are included without cost when a block of rooms are reserved. But this "saving" is at the expense of the attendees and prohibits many booksellers from attending. Our experience is that many convention-oriented hotels offer "free" rooms for the day for the price of a group lunch — which would be much cheaper. Networking — including staying with friends and co-workers in other towns — is one of the strengths of specialty and political bookselling. The current structure for housing ABA Booksellers School makes it impossible for specialty bookstores to use our networks to make getting the skills affordable. This is extremely counter-productive.
- Have a "specialty bookstore track" at Booksellers School, also a parallel track for small stores, as the Booksellers schools generally address the issues of general bookstores that do (or expect to do) a minimum of \$500,000/year. Specialty and small stores operate in a different paradigm than the average general bookstore and special skills are needed.. ○

Audre Lorde

What Is at Stake in Lesbian and Gay Publishing Today?

Audre Lorde was chosen to be the recipient for the Second Annual Bill Whitehead Award. The Award is given by the Publishing Triangle in honor of the late Bill Whitehead and honors a writer's general contribution to the development and furthering of gay and lesbian writing. The award includes a monetary prize and the winner is invited to be the Bill Whitehead Lecturer and address the Lambda Literary Award Banquet on the state of gay and lesbian publishing.

Lorde was in Germany for health treatments and was unable to attend the award ceremony. She sent her speech care of Jewelle Gomez who delivered it in Audre's absence.

Lorde took The Triangle to task for tokenism, accepted the recognition but refused the monetary award, charging The Publishing Triangle to use the money to promote the work of new Lesbian and Gay writers of color in the coming year, and to report on what has been done at next year's award ceremony.

FBN is very pleased to publish Lorde's speech at the 1990 Lambda Literary Award Banquet.

What is at stake in Lesbian and Gay Publishing today basically is what has always been at stake — our survival, our future: for each one of us, and collectively, the question — how do we define ourselves, and how do we put who we are behind what we say we believe.

We are Lesbians and Gay men helping to shape a future for ourselves and for those various communities of which we are a part and within which we must define the meaning of being Lesbian and Gay. For without community, whatever we do can be only a temporary armistice between an individual and his or her particular situation.

Lesbian and Gay Publishing does not exist in a vacuum, however, and we are not one great vat of homogenized milk. We are Lesbian and Gay in a world growing increasingly hysterical with denial and contradiction — a world where the increasing disparity between the haves and the have-nots threatens to detonate in each one of our dooryards. Of course, you say, we all recognize the importance of a

**One award will not
counter-balance a continuing
invisibility of Lesbian and Gay
writers of Color.**

world view — we know the ozone layer is disappearing, nuclear proliferation is poisoning our planet. But to an increasing percentage of people upon this earth watching their children starve to death in Lahore and the Sahel, lost to drugs in L.A. and N.Y., stomped to death in Leipzig and Berlin and Brooklyn because of the color of their skin, nuclear holocaust and ecological disaster is of little concern. What does Lesbian and Gay publishing have to offer them?

I am a Black Lesbian Feminist Warrior Poet Mother, stronger for all my identities, and I am indelible. Out of the insights and power of those identities have come the work which you honor here tonight.

The increase in racist, anti-Semitic, heterosexist attacks here in North America is being mirrored throughout Europe by the rise in neo-fascist activity

against Afro-europeans, Jews, homosexuals, and foreign workers.

If this group wishes to truly honor my work... then I charge you...to include and further expose the work of new Lesbian and Gay writers of Color.

There are Lesbian and Gay writers of Color in this country articulating in their work questions and positions which must be heard if we are to survive into the 21st century. How many of these Lesbian and Gay writers of Color are included in the Triangle Group, supported or encouraged by its individual members? There are Lesbian and Gay writers of Color across Europe chronicling what the current political changes on that contingent can mean for people of Color, that is, for the majority of people upon this earth. How many of these writers are known to you? How do you use your power when their manuscripts come across your desk, the modest announcements of their books appear in your mail?

What is at stake in Lesbian and Gay publishing in 1990, quite simply, is: how will you define yourselves in the twenty-first century in a world where seven-eighths of that world's population are people of Color? And how will you use the power that definition engenders?

I recognize the honor you do me with this award. But honors are most meaningful when they include peer decisions. How many Lesbians and Gay men of Color are included in your group? How many were polled for this award? Or even, how many writers of Color have you published, or encouraged, or helped to give voice in any way? At the National Lesbian and Gay March on Washington DC, the largest gathering of Lesbians and Gay men to date, the one book exhibit at the March ignored the works of gay people of Color. Lesbian and Gay writers of Color, our work and our concerns, are consistently invisible within the publishing and literary newsletters circulating in the Lesbian and Gay communities.

Kitchen Table: Women of Color Press was started, and is maintained, by Lesbians of Color. It is a first in the annals of Lesbian and Gay publishing, and now approaching our tenth year. Where are we represented at this gathering?

One award will not counter-balance a continuing invisibility of Lesbian and Gay writers of Color.

I believe the Bill Whitehead Memorial Award is being given to me in good faith. Therefore, I accept the recognition which comes with this award, but I will not accept any money from the Triangle. If this group wishes to truly honor my work, built upon the creative use of differences for all our survivals, then I charge you, as a group, in some way to include and further expose the work of new Lesbian and Gay writers of Color within the coming year, and to report on what has been done at next year's award ceremony.

That will be a truly bold and meaningful gesture, and one reflective of the growing vision and power of Lesbian and Gay Publishing in the 1990's. ○

Progetto Mappa, continued from page 24

way women's ideas will circulate freely and autonomously. Women's bookshops have always performed this function but there aren't many women's bookshops in Italy, especially in the south.

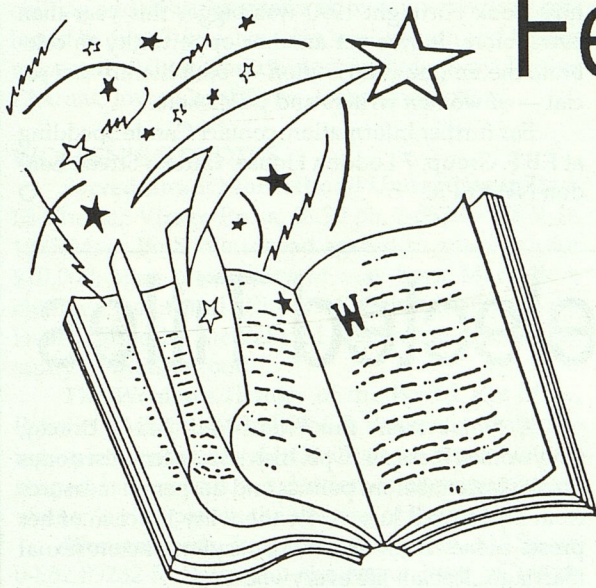
"The Guide" has shown that the relationship between the women's movement and the bookshops can work to their mutual advantage. This happened, for example, in Brescia, where the women's university "Simone de Beauvoir" was founded in 1987. The Rinascita bookstore offered ample space to women's works and increased their sales. This is not an isolated case. The bookshops preferred by women can also sustain all small publishers whose works are not reviewed by the mainstream press. In these bookshops the women's publications are displayed clearly and separately.

What we expect to gain politically from this work is that women's system of thought will circulate better among us, becoming freer and richer.

For further information write to Cristiana Fischer, Libreria delle donne, v. Dogana2, 1-20123 Milano, Italy. Tel: 02-874213. ○



Great Britain



Feminist Book Fortnight '90

nationwide Feminist Book Fortnight '90 events programme, can be ordered from the address below.

And leading the promotion, as always, were our "Selected Twenty" titles chosen by a distinguished panel of experienced booksellers. These highly experienced judges are asked to compile a list of twenty titles which reflect and celebrate the strengths and concerns of women writers, during the past twelve months. These books are not considered "the best" feminist books published; but rather a platform celebration of the many excellent books written and produced by women during the past year. These titles feature on all our display material and on the centre pages of the Feminist Book Fortnight '90 catalogue of title; relied upon widely by bookshop Buyers and Librarians everywhere as *the* guide to good books by women published during the past twelve months.

By Carole Spedding

LONDON: This major annual promotion of recently published good books by women took place in June. This important focus on women's writing, and publishing, is generally considered to be one of the UK's most popular book trade promotions with bookshops and public libraries everywhere mounting special displays and hosting author visits. Launched in this country following the overwhelming success of the First International Feminist Book Fair staged in London in 1984 the promotion this year immediately preceded the IV International Feminist Book Fair held in Barcelona, Spain from 17th - 23rd June.

Feminist Book Fortnight *always* attracts a great deal of attention, both from the media and the reading public. Several well-known and important women writers — including well known Canadian writers Joan Barfoot and Ely Danica — came to the UK specifically to take part in Feminist Book Fortnight. Running alongside the trade promotion was be as usual a nationwide programme of events including author readings, talks, signing sessions and writing workshops. Last year this involved 52 events in 32 towns throughout the country. These events are all organised locally and the official

These books are not considered "the best" feminist books published; but rather a platform celebration of the many excellent books written and produced by women during the past year.

The "Selected Twenty" judges for Feminist Book Fortnight 1990 are: Anna Barfield, experienced bookseller, buyer for the Women's Section at Compendium Bookshop; Tracey Kivland, bookseller with extensive retail experience, manager of Waterstones Bookshop for past four years; Lorraine Griffiths, journalist and writer of short stories and poetry, previous editor of

Blackboard Review Arts Journal and now Arts/Living editor at *The Voice* newspaper; Annie Rhodes, thirteen years experience in the book trade, in retailing both academic and general titles and book representation and distribution, now director of Bookspeed Distribution Company; and Cynthia Thomas, Senior Library Assistant with many years experience in local public libraries, with responsibility for ordering and collating approval material.

Described by *The Bookseller* as "one of the UK's

most successful book trade promotions involving hundreds of public libraries and local bookshops as well as schools and Further Education centres." Feminist Book Fortnight 1990 was bigger this year than ever before. It was yet another opportunity to celebrate the unique contribution — both literary *and* social — of women writers and publishers.

For further information, contact Carole Spedding at F.B.F. Group, 7 Loddon House, Church Street, London NW8 8PX. ○

The Twenty Selected Titles

FICTION

Family News, Joan Barfoot, The Women's Press, £5.95 pb, 0-7043-4222-7. This superb novel from the highly respected author of *Gaining Ground* tells of Susannah now aged 42, estranged from her family who all disapproved of her decision to raise a child illegitimately and single-handedly.

The Return to Beirut, Andrée Chedid, Serpent's Tail, £6.95 pb, 1-85242-149-5. Beirut 1975. Sybil, aged 12, meets her grandmother Kalya for the first time. "Beautifully written, constructed and translated..." (*City Limits*). By the author of *The Sixth Day* and *Sleep Unbound*.



Stars in the Daytime, Evelyn Conlon, The Women's Press, £4.95 pb, 0-7043-4217-0. The story of Rose, a young girl in rural Ireland in the 1950s, this novel explores the pains and delights attendant on growing up, and shows Rosie battling with traditions that would entrap her femaleness.

A Noise from the Woodshed, Mary Dorcey, Onlywomen Press, £4.95 pb. Irish lesbian feminist stories displaying exuberant politics and desperate measures from a poet well known for the witty lyricism of her prose. Scenes from an old age asylum, heterosexual marriage...lesbian life everywhere.

The Seven Cardinal Virtues, ed. by Alison Fell, Serpent's Tail, £7.00 pb, 1-85242-169-X. Following the *Seven Deadly Sins*, Kathy Acker, Leslie Dick, Zoe Fairbairns, Alison Fell, Sara Maitland, Agnes Owen and Michèle Roberts dissect chastity, meekness, fortitude, patience, charity, mercy and justice.

The Fading Shrine, Moy McCrory, Jonathan Cape, £11.95 cl, 0-224-02796-4. A dazzling and intriguing first novel from the young author of two successful volumes of short stories, *The Water's Edge* and *Bleeding Sinners*, described by *The Irish Times* as "bloody marvellous."

Her True-True Name, ed. by Pamela Mordecai and Betty Wilson, Heinemann Caribbean Writers Series, £4.95 pb, 0-435-98906-5. From memories of turn of the century Dominica to contemporary USA, Africa and Britain, women writers from Haiti to Cuba and Jamaica express the longing, pride and passion of the Caribbean identity.

To Do Something Beautiful, Rohini, Sheba Feminist Publishers, £4.95 pb, 0-907179-50-9. Set in swirling streets and slums of today's Bombay, at this book's heart are skilfully drawn relationships and the themes of work, violence, sexual harassment, love, hate and poverty.

Skin of the Soul: New Horror Stories by Women, ed. by Lisa Tuttle, The Women's Press, £4.95 pb, 0-7043-4220-0; £13.95 cl, 0-7043-5059-9. Seventeen chilling and disturbing tales from women writers collected by Lisa Tuttle, herself a well-known and highly respected writer. Contributors include Suzy McKee Charnas, Joyce Carol Oates, Josephine Saxton...

WOMEN'S STUDIES

Sacred Bond: Motherhood Under Siege, Phyllis Chesler, Virago Press, £6.99 pb, 1-85381-128-9. In 1985 Mary Beth Whitehead agreed to give birth for \$10,000; then after Baby M was born Mary Beth changed her mind. Phyllis Chesler confronts the issues raised by the Baby M case in this fascinating study of motherhood.

The Women's History of the World, Ros Miles, Paladin, £4.99 pb, 0-586-08886-5. Brilliant and absorbing, spiced with tales of individual women who have shaped history, this is a fundamental reappraisal of women's vital part in the shaping of the world.

Womanwords, Jane Mills, Longman, £12.95 pb, 0-582-89232-5. Revealed: the secret lives of words used for and about women. This fascinating, sometimes scandalising dictionary traces how the meanings of 300 key women-related words, from Amazon to womb, have changed over the years.

Lives of Courage: Women For a New South Africa, Diana Russell, Virago Press, £8.99 pb, 1-85381-157-2. **Lives of Courage** charts the little-known role of the women of South Africa who fight apartheid and its cruel apparatus, telling of the price that they and their families have paid for their activism.

ARTS (INCLUDING POETRY & DRAMA)

Because of India, Suniti Namjoshi, Onlywomen Press, £4.95 pb, 0-906500-33-8. Poems framed by prose essays spanning 25 years from a major lesbian feminist poet blending that which is uncompromisingly Indian in her with the best of the English satirical tradition.

BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY

Morphine and Dolly Mixtures, Carol-Ann Courtney, Honno, £4.50 pb, 1-870206-05-3; £8.95 cl, 1-870206-09-6. The compelling story of 11-year-old Caroline, left at the mercy of her grief-stricken, morphine addicted father following her mother's death during the 1950s in the slums of north London.

Generations of Memories, Jewish Women in London Group, The Women's Press, £6.95 pb, 0-7043-4205-7. Powerful testimonies from Jewish women brought up in London's East End or Glasgow's Gorbals — refugees or survivors of Nazism. This book offers invaluable perspectives about migration, anti-Semitism and persecution.

In the Beginning, Irina Ratushinskaya, Hodder & Stoughton, £12.95 cl, 0-340-41698-X. Irina Ratushinskaya describes her early years before being imprisoned for her poetry at only 28. She brings to life the environment in which the dissident mind develops and is nourished.



MIND & BODY

Being Fat is Not a Sin, Shelley Boverly, Pandora Press, £4.99 pb, 0-04-440363-1. This pithy and controversial book exposes the deep-seated prejudice against fat women, revealing that the damaging nature of discrimination is a greater threat to physical and mental health than any medical risk.

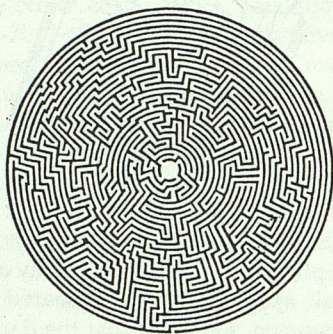
YOUNGER READERS

Out in the Open: A Guide for Young People Who Have Been Sexually Abused, Ouainé Bain and Maureen Sanders, Upstarts, £3.99 pb, 1-85381-184-X. The first British book written specifically for sexually abused teenagers. Includes teenagers' own stories and discusses honestly what happens once the truth is out: a book about healing and hope.

Firsts: The Livewire Book of British Women Achievers, Kate Murphy, Livewire Books for Teenagers, £3.50 pb, 0-7043-4917-5. This exhaustive collection details the achievements of more than 700 women covering some 375 activities...including the first women window cleaner, convicted murderer, racing car driver, meteorologist, composer. ○

Before Columbus Foundation American Book Awards

The Before Columbus Foundation was founded in 1976 as a non-profit educational and service organization dedicated to the promotion and dissemination of contemporary American multicultural literature. The goal of BCF is to provide recognition and a wider audience for the wealth of cultural and ethnic diversity that constitutes American writing.



The Before Columbus American Book Award honors excellence in American literature without restriction or bias with regard to race, sex, creed, cultural origin, size of press or ad budget, or even genre. There are no requirements, restrictions, limitations, or second places. There are no categories (i.e., "best novel," "best Black poet," or "best non-fiction work by an Asian-American woman published by a West Coast small press," etc.; nor are "mainstream white anglo male NY-based" authors excluded). The only criterion is outstanding contribution to American literature in the opinion of the judges.

All winners are accorded equal standing and winning authors are recognized for the body of their work as well as the particular title for which they receive the award. This year's awards were announced at ABA and will be presented at the Miami Bookfair.

Spider Woman's Granddaughters: Traditional Tales and Contemporary Writing by Native American Women, Paula Gunn Allen, Beacon Press.

Black Athena, Afroasiatic Roots of Classical Civilization: Volume 1, The Fabrication of Ancient Greece, 1785-1985, Martin Bernal, Rutgers University Press.

Invocation L.A.: Urban Multicultural Poetry, Michelle T. Clinton, Sesshu Foster and Naomi Quiñonez, eds., West End Press.

Miles: The Autobiography, Miles Davis with Quincy Troupe, Simon & Schuster.

Hearts of Sorrow: Vietnamese-American Lives, James M. Freeman, Stanford University Press.

Women on War (Essential Voices for the Nuclear Age), Daniela Gioseffi, ed., Touchstone Books.

Vivar A Hostos, José Emilio Gonzalez, Comité Pro Celebración Sesquicentenario del Natalicio de Eugenio Maria de Hostos.

Italian Days, Barbara Grizzuti Harrison, Weidenfeld & Nicolson.

Symbolic Immortality: The Tlingit Potlatch of the 19th Century, Sergei Kan, Smithsonian Institution Press.

The People that Led to My Plays, Adrienne Kennedy, Alfred A. Knopf.

The Forbidden Stitch: An Asian American Women's Anthology, Shirley Geok-lin Lim, Mayumi Tsutakawa and Margarita Donnelly, eds., Calyx Books.

Mulberry and Peach: Two Women of China, Hualing Nieh, Beacon Press.

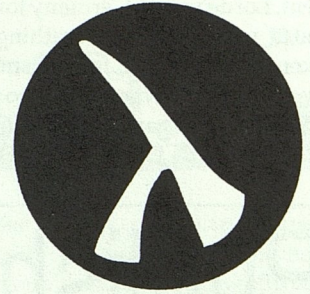
Every Goodbye Ain't Gone: Family Portraits and Personal Escapades, Itabari Njeri, Times Books.

The Light at the End of the Bog, John Norton, Black Star Series.

See Before Columbus Foundation, page 92

Las Vegas

The Lambda Literary Awards



Editor's Choice

Lifting Belly by Gertrude Stein, ed. by Rebecca Mark, Naiad Press.

Publisher's Service Award

Carol Seajay and the *Feminist Bookstore News*.

Gay and Lesbian Small Press Book Award

My Life As a Mole, Larry Mitchell, Calamus Books.

Lesbian Fiction

The Bar Stories, Nisa Donnelly, St. Martin's Press.

Gay Men's Fiction

Eighty-Sixed, David B. Feinberg, Viking Penguin.

Lesbian Non-Fiction

Really Reading Gertrude Stein, Judy Grahn, Crossing Press.

Gay Men's Non-Fiction

In Search of Gay America, Neil Miller, Atlantic Monthly.

Lesbian Debut

The Names of the Moons of Mars, Patricia Roth Schwartz, New Victoria Press.

Gay Men's Debut

The Irreversible Decline of Eddie Socket, John Weir, Harper & Row.

Gay and Lesbian Poetry

Poets for Life, ed. by Michael Klein, Crown.

Gay and Lesbian Humor

Gay Comics, ed. by Robert Triptow, NAL.

Gay Men's Anthologies

Hidden From History, ed. by M. Duberman, et al., NAL.

Lesbian Anthologies

Intricate Passions, ed. by Tee A. Corinne, Banned Books.

Out the Other Side, ed. by Christian McEwen & Sue O'Sullivan, Crossing Press.

Hidden From History, ed. by M. Duberman, M. Vicinus & G. Chauncey, NAL.

Lesbian Science Fiction/Fantasy

What Did Miss Darrington See?: An Anthology of Feminist Supernatural Fiction, ed. by Jessica Amanda Salmonson, Feminist Press.

Gay Men's Science Fiction/Fantasy

Somewhere in the Night, Jeffrey N. McMahan, Alyson Publications.

Lesbian Mystery

The Beverly Malibu, Katherine V. Forrest, Naiad Press.

Gay Men's Mystery

A Simple Suburban Murder, Mark Richard Zubro, St. Martin's Press.

Young Adult/Children's

Losing Uncle Tim, MaryKate Jordan, Albert Whitman & Co.

AIDS (a special category)

Reports from the Holocaust, Larry Kramer, St. Martin's Press.

Also presented at the Awards banquet:

The **Bill Whitehead Award** for lifetime achievement in the field of gay and lesbian literature was given to Audre Lorde for her eloquence and commitment. Lorde was in Germany for health treatments but sent a wonderful and scathing speech condemning tokenism as a salve for racism. The monetary prize given with this award will go to promoting the writing of lesbians and gay men of color.

The **Words Project for AIDS/Gregory Kolovakos**

Award for writing on "AIDS and the Individual" went to Sarah Schulman for **People in Trouble** (Dutton). **Taking Liberties: AIDS and Cultural Politics**, ed. by Erica Carter & Simon Watney (Serpent's Tail) received the **WPA/Kolovakos Award** for writing on "AIDS and Society."

The **Ferro-Grumley Awards**, honoring the late authors and lovers Robert Ferro and Michael Grumley, went to Dennis Cooper for **Closer to the Light** and Ruthann Robson for **Eye of a Hurricane**. ○

Publisher's Service Award

*I was very pleased to be given the Publisher's Service Award for Feminist Bookstore News. Last year the Publisher's Service Award was given to Sasha Alyson for his work on **You Can Do Something About AIDS**, a truly awesome contribution to the gay and publishing communities. I was — and am — honored to be the second recipient of this award. And so I'm indulging in publishing Deacon Maccubbin's remarks in presenting the award and my own acceptance speech.*

— Carol Seajay

Carol Seajay's first exposure to bookselling was in 1967 working at a university bookstore. "The work was totally sex-segregated. The boys did all the book work — stocking and shelving and ordering. The girls ran the cash register and stocked the office supplies." She also learned that the women were paid a dollar an hour less than their male counterparts, and were required to wear skirts to work. "By the time the Women's Liberation Movement came along, I was ready!" she recalls.

Seajay studied bookselling at A Woman's Place for two years before leaving in 1976 to found Old Wives Tales bookstore in San Francisco with Paula Wallace. "There was a hunger for the books we stocked," Seajay recalls. During the next seven years, Seajay realized her vision of creativity in a multi-cultural collective that reflected the diversity of San Francisco's lesbian community. "It was enormously satisfying work," she says.

In the fall of 1976, Seajay attended the first national Women in Print conference. "There were about 200 women there — 187 of us lesbian," she

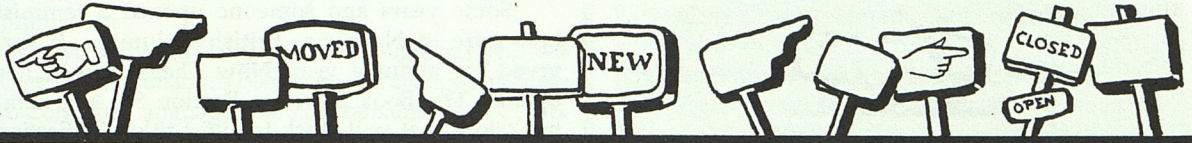
remembers. "We represented most of the women's presses, periodicals, publishers and bookstores that existed at that time... Someone came up with the idea of starting a newsletter to keep the information flowing and somehow I agreed to do it." Thus was the *Feminist Bookstore News* born. "Women from around the country sent information to FBN and I'd put it down on the page and send it out again. Subscriptions were on a sliding scale right from the start, with the larger stores supporting subscriptions for the newest and smallest stores."

Initially, FBN was a 6-page monthly stapled-in-the-corner newsletter, cranked out by hand on a mimeograph. Today, FBN is a 96-page trade journal with a dozen regular columnists announcing 250 books per issue and an international audience of feminist, alternative, gay and general booksellers, publishers, editors, reviewers, writers, publicists, and advertising agencies all across the US and Canada, and from Argentina to Japan. Every feminist and lesbian press in the country subscribes as do all of the gay presses that publish books for women and most of the mainstream publishers that successfully publish lesbian and feminist books. While keeping the focus on feminist bookselling, FBN has provided a forum for an entire segment of the publishing world.

"I started doing FBN because feminist booksellers needed to talk to each other — we needed an ongoing, challenging, stimulating, informative conversation and we needed concrete information. Gradually, over the years, we've opened that conversation up to other

*See **Publisher's Service Award**, page 64*

THEY WENT THAT-A-WAY



Compiled by Carol Seajay

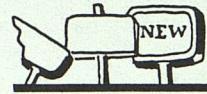
New Stores Around The World

Women in the Philippines are working on Wicca Filipinas, a women's bookstore scheduled to open in December. Like the bookstore in Bangladesh and the soon-to-be bookstore in Pakistan, they're part of a larger, mixed-gender political organization. It's a model that hasn't been tried (or if tried, hasn't succeeded) in the overdeveloped world, but one that provides context, support and structure for these first, ground-breaking women's bookstores in their countries. Streelekha, in India and Vacha, the women's lending library in Bombay (see below) are also connected with larger multi-faceted women's organizations. Write to Wicca Filipinas Bookstore, Heritage Art Center, 5 Latana St. Williams, New York — Quezon City, Philippines. Phone: 722-42-14.

ASR is a Pakistani organization that publishes books, pamphlets and posters, creates films and videos, does consulting — and will be opening a women's bookstore in Pakistan. They've published ten books in English and more in the local languages. Film and video are effective means for reaching non-readers. They currently have a lending library and would be appreciative of donations of books published in other countries. The bookstore will sell primarily Pakistani and Indian publications which are published at much lower prices than books from other countries and will circulate foreign books through the library. Send information and library donations to ASR Books, Flat 8 2nd Floor, Sheraz Plaza Main, Gulberg Market, Gulberg Lahore, Pakistan.

Vacha is a free women's lending library in Bombay that has been operating for the last three years. It's open 6 days a week and also offers video shows and a study circle that looks at patriarchy in a South Asian

context. They also offer several courses in women's studies for drop-out girls and housewives and have produced a tape of women's movement songs (in both English and local languages). They would appreciate donations of new and used books, damaged copies and/or remainders. Write or send books to Vacha Charitable Trust, Vacha Women's Library & Cultural Center, 5 Bhavana Apts., 185 S. V. Rd., Vileparle West, Bombay 400 056, India.



Kavya, the lending library for women, continues to ask for donations of books from abroad. "Kavya" means "poetry." Send books to Kavya c/o Streelekha Women's Bookplace, 2nd Floor Bludiamond Complex, M. G. Road, Bangalore 560 001, India.

The Women's Information and Documentation Center in Peru is starting a women's bookstore. They've been operating since 1985 and currently have a collection of 7,500 titles in their research collection. They're asking women to help by sending them catalogs and listings of what they produce (books, booklets, pamphlets, posters, postcards). They're also looking for items of less than US\$10 that they can sell on consignment. Send information of Contro De Documentacion e Informacion, Sobre La Mujer, Av. Arenales 2626, piso 3, Lima 14, Peru.

In France, La Pantoufle Charentaise stocks both French and English lesbian and gay books. The women there do a thriving mail order business as well as running a bookstore. Write to Nasim Kassam, La Pantoufle Charentaise, Juillé - 16230 Manole, Charentaise, France. Phone: 45 39 09 14.

Rosa Rummet (The Pink Room) is a small bookstore in Sweden. They're actively looking for sidelines

— postcards, posters & photobooks “with a gay motive” for both lesbians and gay men. Write to Cecilia, Bokhandeln Rosa Rummet, Box 20521, S-40311 Gothenburg, Sweden. Phone: 031-11 61 51. Thanks to Kasha from The Book Garden for passing this on!



New Stores In The U.S.

Paradigm Women's Bookstore is the new, small-but-growing women's bookstore in San Diego. The store is at 1302 Kettner Blvd., San Diego CA 92101. 619-232-5909. Send information and congratulations to owner Karen Merry.

The Open Door Bookstore opens its doors August 18th. Drop by if you're in Kentucky. 2410 Frankfort Ave., Louisville KY 40206. 502-452-1435. The women there are Becky Cooper and Mary Ann Newton. Open Door will focus on feminist and gay books.

Naomi Holock and Maria Gagliardo have opened Pages Bookstore, a small general bookstore in Stamford NY that includes a small but vibrant women's section. Naomi is the co-editor (with Joan Nestle) of *Women on Women: An Anthology of Lesbian Short Fiction*. Pages Bookstore, 67 Main Street, Stamford NY 12167.

The A Different Light has a new branch in West Hollywood at 8853 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood CA 90069. 213-854-6601.

Dave Ketchem and Ed Lambe opened Dangerous Ideas, a book and music store at 2416 Wilton Drive, Ft. Lauderdale FL 33322. It specializes in books and music for those interested in gay and lesbian/feminist ideas. Phone: 305-753-1063.

Good news at ABA was that Rob Schlegel planned to re-open, in July, Bright Pink Literature, the Las Vegas gay bookstore. As far as we know, Bright Pink is the only bookstore funded and founded by local gay bars.... Send information to PO Box 19360, Las Vegas NV 89132. The store is at 517 E. Naples, 89109. 702-737-7780.

More Stores Of Interest...

Ladd's Editions will be working to help fill the gap left behind by A Woman's Place/Portland's closing. They've been known for having a good selection of lesbian and feminist books for some time. Ladd's

Editions Bookstore, 1864 S.E. Hawthorne Blvd., Portland OR 97214. 503-236-4628.

Laughing Horse Books will also be working to fill that gap. They're in the opposite quadrant as Ladd's Editions. 1322 N.W. 23rd St., Portland OR 97210.

Some years ago someone opened a feminist bookstore in Nanaimo, British Columbia. It survived for about a year. Now Thera Howell has opened The Book Store on Bastion St., a general bookstore that will stock feminist titles. 76 Bastion St., Nanaimo BC V9R 3A1, Canada. 604-753-2023. Nanaimo, I'm told, is about as far north as you can go in BC and still run a bookstore....

In Ukiah, California, the bookstore is The Mendocino Book Company. 102 S. School St., 95402. 707-468-5940. It's a general independent store that includes feminist and lesbian titles in their stock.

The Book Passage, 51 Tamil Vista Blvd., Corte Madera CA 94925 also keeps a good feminist section.

The Fremont Place Book Company, 621 N. 35th, Seattle WA 98103, 206-547-5970, is a new general bookstore with women's studies, gay, and lesbian sections.

Somewhere in my mind I have the idea that Perlin & Treggert is a specialty store focusing on various recovery titles. Given the state of my mind after this much traveling, that might or might not be accurate. They do stock feminist, lesbian, gay, new-age and children's books, however. One Madison St., East Rutherford NJ 07073. 201-777-2277.

Dream Street is an alternative store focused on "tools for personal and planetary growth." 64 Hypolita St., St. Augustine FL 32084. 904-824-8536.

Astraea is a new general (I believe) bookstore in Washington DC. 1275 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, 20004. 202-393-3060.

The Healing Arts Medicine Show is a new bookstore in Harrisburg MO. Send information Attn: Phoenix. 12450 N. Route E, 65256.

Future Bookstores

Beth J. Blew is planning to open an alternative bookstore in the Lehigh Valley area of Pennsylvania. Send her information at R.D. Box 218A, Port Matilda PA 16870.

Connie Lane and Jeri Simpson are considering opening a bookstore in St. Louis, Missouri. Send them information at 9979 Pointe South Dr. Apt D, St. Louis MO 63128.

Changed Names!

I was tempted to call this section "Identity Crisis" but the bookstores that have changed their names know exactly who they are (now), but I have to admit I have considerably less confidence in the publishers.

Lyn Kelly and Kate Burkhardt bought one-year-old Common Destinations Bookstore and changed its name to Common Language. The store remains solid at 214 S. Fourth Ave., Ann Arbor MI 48104. 313-663-0036.

For Woman Only (previously Tomorrow's World) is a mail order book service specializing in women's health care books owned and run by Diann Bowoman and Marnee Kennedy. Same address: 4471 Signal Road, Columbiana OH 44408.

Storytellers is the new name for SanSu, the Ventura, California women's bookstore. The address stays the same: 379 E. Main, 93001.

Longman Trade changed its name this spring to Dearborn Trade. Dearborn will continue to offer Longman's odd mix of financial and accounting books, training courses, and brilliant third world literature — including a growing list of books by women that should be in every feminist bookstore in the country. Look for much better local/USA publicity and promotion of their third-world titles under the new, independent, senior-management-owned corporation. Their address and terms will remain the same. Dearborn Trade, 520 N. Dearborn St., Chicago IL 60610. 312-836-4400.

Harper Collins is the one I worry about. It was exciting to get to ABA and find that Feminist/Gay/Lesbian Row was not only in a good location, but that we were just down the aisle from the Harper & Row complex. Except that H & R was no longer H & R, but was now Harper Collins. The new name, of course, reflects Harper's "new" owner, Rupert Murdoch. That doesn't quite follow, does it? There's not a lot of explanation. But in that spirit, Theresa Corrigan (Li oness Books) asked what despicable thing Row had done that we were no longer to mention his name, a question that warranted a second book bag, but no answer. Equally sensical the "San Francisco Division" now has a name of its own: Harper San Francisco.

The most popular button on the aisle turned out to be from Murdock Publications (no relation to Rupert) which featured the international "No" symbol

Asian Libraries and Bookstores Asking For Book Donations

ASR Books, Flat 8 2nd Floor, Sheraz Plaza
Main, Gulberg Market, Gulberg Lahore,
Pakistan.

Vacha Women's Library & Cultural Center,
Vacha Charitable Trust, 5 Bhavana Apts., 185
S. V. Rd., Vileparle West, Bombay 400 056,
India.

Kavya c/o Streelekhya Women's Bookplace, 2nd
Floor Blumoon Complex, M. G. Road, Banga-
lore 560 001, India.

- "Used" books, and packages of books so marked are generally exempt from import duties.
- Please contact the library or bookstore you are sending books to before sending boxes of books that are primarily lesbian in content or that include graphic or textually explicit lesbian covers. Western-style homophobia is one of the many legacies of colonialism and has left many countries with customs officials who feel compelled to seize and keep any and all sexually explicit materials. Shipping the odd lesbian novel, lesbian inclusive anthologies, and less-than-blatantly explicit covers on lesbian titles in shipments with other books doesn't seem to be a problem. But shipping cartons of books that are exclusively lesbian can and has created difficult on-going customs problems for some recipients that are currently beyond the means of their resources to battle — as well as the loss of the books. ○



over the letters R*U*P*E*R*T. Rumors that ten out of ten staffers at the complex down the way were wearing the buttons (through tactfully out of sight) were only slightly exaggerated. All of this, of course, is now old news. Harper Collins, the giant that ate Harper & Row, has since swallowed Unwin Hyman (U.S., U.K., and presumably Unwin & Allen in Australia....) and fired a number of the U.S. employees with 60 days notice.... The details aren't available as we go to press. What this means for Pandora Press (which was happy to have been purchased by Unwin Hyman a couple of

years ago) is totally unknown. Corporate ownership is a hard way to go for a feminist imprint.

Eaten Alive

As we go to press the word reached FBN that Harper Collins (U.K.) had just acquired Unwin Hyman (world-wide). It's been hard to find anyone who is pleased by *this* move. *The Bookseller* (U.K.) headlined their article "Unwin Hyman Dismembered."

Unwin Hyman (U.S.) operations will be "melted" into Harper Collins (NY) by September 1. (That's corporate-speak for "everyone is losing their jobs.") Unwin-Hyman's Gender Studies, Latin American Studies, and Soviet Studies publishing programs and the books currently under contract will be shifted to U.K. publishers owned by Murdock. Pandora will be "handled" by Grafton in the U.K. It will be interesting to see how Harper Collins-U.S. moves to handle the distribution and promotion of Unwin Hyman's academic titles....

Rumor has it that Murdock bought Unwin-Hyman because their list includes the U.S. rights to the J.R.R. Tolkien books and that the academic lists will be sold off. Bilbo Baggins rolls in his grave!

Moved

Women & Children First moves on August 1 to a larger storefront three miles north of their current location. They had been looking for a larger space for some time but a 250% rent increase did nothing to discourage their search for a new location. The new space includes a parking lot (!) and is one of the most racially and ethnically diverse wards in the city. It's also one of the few wards in the city with a lesbian and gay ward organization and, also essential to Women and Children First, it's a neighborhood with lots of kids.... The new store is next door to WomanWild, a store specializing in unique woman-crafted gifts. 5233 N. Clark St., Chicago IL 60640. They were previously at 1967 Halstead, 60614. Their new phone number is 312-769-9299.



The Women's Press/Canada is at a new location just a few blocks down the street from their old offices.

The new location is wheelchair accessible. The new address is 517 College St. Suite 233, Toronto ONT M6G 4A2. 416-921-2425. They're also sporting a new logo that will be on the spine of all their new fall titles and reprints.

Pemmican, publishers of *April Raintree* and other Native Canadian titles has moved to 412 McGregor St., Winnipeg, Manitoba, R2W 4X5.

Lida Rose Press has moved to PO Box 141017, University Station, Minneapolis MN 55414.

The National Women's History Project has moved to 7738 Bell Road, Windsor CA 95492. Phone: 707-838-6000. FAX: 707-838-0478.

After 16 years in the same location, Eve's Garden, the first sexuality boutique created exclusively for women, has moved to larger quarters in the same building. The new location is on the 4th floor, Suite 420, 119 West 57th St., NY NY 10019. 212-757- 8651. The previous location was on the 14th floor. The new space will include a gallery featuring works of art for sale from women artists and photographers around the country.

Closed

A Woman's Place Bookstore in Portland Oregon filed for bankruptcy in June. The store was open for a total of 17 years and had been in serious financial trouble for 15 of them. A number of problems and situations contributed to the financial problems and the final decision to close, according to staff members FBN spoke with.

Although the store had broken even for the last two years, it was unable to climb out from under its debt load, partly due to very low stock levels. Poor record keeping made it difficult to know exactly what the debt was. Two years ago the on-going debt was down to \$10,000 (they thought) when they discovered they owed thousands in back taxes.

Four years ago, in one attempt to create a stronger base, the store moved to a new location, tripled its space and doubled the staff, a strategy that might have worked had gentrification not hit the area so hard. Rent on the new space tripled during those four years and the other gay store and restaurant in the neighborhood that had helped to create traffic were forced out of the neighborhood. Skyrocketing rents were fueled by Portland's decision to build a convention center eight blocks from the store.

Mysteries, continued from page 74

And more....

Peril Under the Palms by K.K. Beck, Ivy, \$3.95 pb, 8041-0594-4. Part of the Iris Cooper series set in the 1920's — this one has an Hawaiian location.

Portal of the Window by Shizuko Natsuki, Ballantine, \$3.95 pb, 345-36032-X. Japanese mystery writer. The following are being reissued: **Murder at Mt. Fuji**, \$2.95, -33761-1; **Third Lady**, \$2.95, -33765-4; **Obituary Arrives at Two O'clock**, \$3.50, -33237-8; and **Innocent Journey**, \$3.50, -35645-4.

The Mark Twain Murders by Edith Skom, Dell, \$3.50, 440-2061-1. An academic murder that focuses attention on the question of plagiarism.

Year of the Monkey by Carole Berry, Dell, \$3.50, 440-21672-3. Bonnie Indermill, an amateur detective, works in the financial world where fortunes and lives are lost.

Scavengers by Yvonne Montgomery, Bantam, \$3.50, 425-12214-X. Another big money mystery set in the world of stock brokers.

Under Contract by Liza Cody, Bantam, \$3.95, 553-28345-6. Anna Lee is into the rock scene in this latest of the series...

Crime in Question by Margaret Yorke, Penguin, \$3.95, 14-1012435-7, Sept. ○

Science Fiction, continued from page 63

August brings Storm Constantine's **Bewitchments of Love and Hate**, previously published in the U.K., and September Kathryn Ptacek's **Women of Darkness II**, a hardcover anthology of women's horror stories. Ptacek's own **Ghost Dance**, also horror but in paperback, is scheduled for November, as is **Human to Human**, by Rebecca Ore, a well-reviewed, relatively new writer whom I haven't yet read.

Louise Cooper's "Indigo" series is getting away from me. **Infanta**, number 3, is out, as is **Nocturne**, number 4, and number 5, **Troika**, is scheduled for December. A continuing good bet for fantasy readers until I hear otherwise.

**WOMEN'S PRESS/U.K.**

Oh, dear, more hard-to-attainables. **The Start of It All and Other Stories** is a collection by Carol Emshwiller, whose *Carmen Dog* is a feminist necessary. Also out is **The Silent City** by Elisabeth Vonarburg, of whom I first heard in Madison last March. In September look for **Machine Sex**, a collection by Candas Jane Dorsey, and **Moving Moosevan** by Jane Palmer. ○

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- Periodical
- Craftswoman
- Other _____

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- Owned and operated by men

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- Gay men's titles
- General interest
- Leftist/political
- New age/metaphysical
- Children
- Other _____
- Back issues available — \$5 each or \$25/year. Check enclosed.

Leather & Lace

Lace Publications, which was recently acquired by Alyson Publications, has gone back to press with the groundbreaking *Lesbian S/M Safety Manual*. Keep an eye out for more sure-fire bestsellers from Lace.

THE LESBIAN S/M SAFETY MANUAL, edited by Pat Califia, trade paper, \$7.95.

This first-of-its-kind manual has just been reprinted so check your stock and place an order right away. This handy guide is an essential item for the leather dyke who wants to be well informed about how to play safe and stay healthy. There is more information in this slim volume than you can shake a whip at. ISBN 0-917597-12-5

THE LESBIAN S/M SAFETY MANUAL



Edited by Pat Califia

ALSO FROM LACE

RAPTURE AND THE SECOND COMING, by Wendy Borgstrom, trade paper, \$7.95. This novel's graphic portrayal of one woman's search for sexual fulfillment has made it a hot summer seller in stores across the country. ISBN 1-55583-166-4

COMING IN AUGUST FROM ALYSON

GAYS IN UNIFORM: THE PENTAGON'S SECRET REPORTS, edited by Kate Dyer, trade paper, \$6.95. The two secret studies by a research arm of the Pentagon, which concluded that there was no justification for keeping gay people out of the military, are now available, in book form, to the public at large. ISBN 1-55583-181-8

To order: Place orders directly through the address below, by calling 1-800-825-9766, or FAX the order to us at 617-542-9189. New accounts should prepay two-thirds the amount of their first order. All Lace and Alyson titles are available from Inland and Bookpeople. Selected Alyson titles are available from Ingram and Golden-Lee. Lace Publications is a division of Alyson Publications.

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SHORT RAVES

Lovelines

I have sold many many **Lovelines: Affirmations**, self-published by Joyce Strum, both at Crazy Ladies and now at Brigit Books. It's spiral bound at the top with an affirmation on each brightly colored page and it will stand up on a desk, etc. It's available from Abundance Unlimited and you can order 5 copies prepaid for \$5.25 each, postage paid (\$8.95 retail or more if you can). Women often buy several as gifts.

— Patty Callaghan, Brigit Books ○

Anticlimax

Anticlimax, by Sheila Jeffreys (author of *The Spinster and Her Enemies*), is, as its subtitle says, "a feminist perspective on the sexual revolution," from Freud to the contemporary "sex radicals." It's clearly written, well-supported, and unabashedly partisan in its thesis, which is that through this century advocates of sexual "revolution" have "orchestrated woman's joyful embrace of her oppression through the creation of her sexual response." The permissible responses have expanded — from chastity to pleasure within marriage to (heterosexual) pleasure without marriage to (most recently) lesbian sexuality — but the underlying agenda has not.

A major contribution to feminist theory, and important no matter where you stand in the Great Debate — but especially if you, like me, feel yourself pulled in several directions depending on who's speaking. Thanks to the women of Bloodroot (Bridgeport, Conn.) for recommending it. The only problem is, **Anticlimax** is an import from Women's Press (U.K.) and the U.S. price in trade paper is about \$16. Now, if only an enterprising publisher on this side of the Atlantic . . .

— Susanna J. Sturgis ○

The Gila Queen's Guide to Markets

The Gila Queen's Guide to Markets, brainchild of horror editor/writer Kathryn Ptacek, is a resource

so essential one might wonder why there wasn't one already — except that it looks like a hell of a lot of work for little compensation. In the editor's words: "A monthly guide to markets for fiction (literary, mystery, ethnic, feminist, religious, historical, sf, horror, romance, humor, regional, adventure, etc.) and nonfiction, poetry, magazines, book publishers, small press, as well as many unusual markets."

Wow. Plus the sample before me includes general updates about markets, mergers, names and addresses, contests, workshops, products of interest to writers, and, unbelievably, more. Plus the promise for upcoming issues of "interviews with editors, publishers, bookstore owners, distributors; articles on publishing trends; . . . reviews of technical, how-to, and reference books for writers" and still more.

Plus it's typeset and very readable. Plus it costs all of \$7 for the rest of 1990; \$12 for 1991. This could turn out to combine the best of *Scavenger's Newsletter*, *Poets and Writers*, *Words to the Wise*, *Words in Our Pockets*, and sundry newsletters in a myriad of literary fields. Use it! Subscribe! All you feminist editors and publishers, let the Gila Queen know what you're looking for.

Send checks, information, and hearty thanks to Kathryn Ptacek, 28 Linwood Ave., Newton, NJ 07860.

— Susanna J. Sturgis ○

Laura's List

This is the fourth in a series from the New Words Newsletter featuring personal favorites by collective members.

Knowing that my turn would come, I've been drafting and revising my own mental list of "favorites" since we started this column in the newsletter a year ago. Now that it's here, I've realized that I love these books — which at first seemed to me as random and haphazard as my overall reading habits — because their insight and passion tell me what I need to

know about the world and make me feel more deeply connected to it. These are the books I'd gladly spend summer afternoons reading again and savoring, if only I could find the time.

Grace Paley's **The Little Disturbances of Man** and **Enormous Changes At the Last Minute** come first to mind, because reading these wonderful stories and hearing them read aloud convinced me, once and for all, that literature has more to do with daily life than with English degrees.

Tillie Olsen's **Tell Me A Riddle** and **I Stand Here Ironing** are also magnificent stories of "ordinary" people. Olsen's fiction is always resonant with the larger questions of class and historical circumstances. Her essays in **Silences** describe how these factors, along with race and sex, are inextricably linked to creativity. The essay "One Out of Twelve: Writers Who Are Women in Our Century," instigated my now-unbreakable habit of counting the number of female authors listed in every table of contents I see.



New Words

Alice Walker's **In Search of Our Mother's Gardens**, a collection of prose mostly written in the seventies and early eighties from the perspective of a Black woman writer, mother, daughter, activist, and visionary, is probably one of the most canonized and quoted books on our shelves. Rightly so. The title essay, the pieces on Zora Neale Hurston, "One Child of One's Own" — this work changed life and literature for many of us.

Nadine Gordimer's recently published **The Essential Gesture** is an unflinchingly honest account of the relationship between South African politics and literature as seen and lived by a white activist author. Accounts of her extensive travels in Africa comprise the second part of this volume. Usually lazy about writing down quotes, I filled pages of my journal with excerpts from these essays.

Denise Levertov's **The Poet in the World**, one of my favorite books during the seventies because it talked about what it meant to be a poet in America during the war in Vietnam, is still a source of inspiration for me and a "call to action." Her lyrical poems,

especially in the early **Sorrow Dance** and the recent **Breathing the Water**, also fuse politics, daily life, and moral vision.

Staying with books of poetry, I have to mention **Dream Work** by Mary Oliver — probably my most reread, underlined, and food-stained book of the last few years. Her total immersion in the natural world become meditations on the inner life without losing any of their clarity or familiar detail. Her poems are easy to read, easy to listen to, and, for me, a constant source of insight and compassion.

Elizabeth Bishop's **Geography III** is another all-time favorite. No matter how often I open to "The art of losing isn't hard to master," or, "In Worcester, Massachusetts/I went with Aunt Consuelo," I'm always surprised, and awed, by the wit, precision, and empathy in the lines that follow.

Lucille Clifton's **Good Woman** includes all of her four previously published books of poems and a beautiful memoir of her family, beginning with the generation of Caroline Donald born in Afrika in 1823.

The novel I find myself most frequently recommending to bookstore customers is Simone Schwartz-Bart's **The Bridge of Beyond**. "Life at Fond-Zombi was lived with doors and windows open night had eyes, and the wind long ears, and no one could ever have enough of other people," This beautifully written book speaks through the voice of Telumee whose trials and heritage prepare her to become a wise woman of her Guadeloupan village. Incredibly painful in parts, it's mostly a remarkable story of women who survive and carry on.

Keri Hulme's **The Bone People** is difficult to get into, but definitely worth the effort. Rooted in Maori culture and New Zealand landscape, it's the story of a woman-artist-builder-hero, the man she meets, and a child who doesn't speak. Its Big Themes of love, violence, redemption, nature, and language are woven skillfully into a narrative impossible to put down or forget.

Isabel Allende's **House of Spirits**, another one-of-a-kind novel, mixes Chilean politics, mythology, history, and spirituality on every page. Told from the perspective of three generations of the Trueba family, this epic story is one of literature's most memorable family chronicles, and one of the few to tell the tale through the female line. — Laura Zimmerman ○

BESTSELLERS

For Women Only

(previously Tomorrow's World)

Columbiana, OH

1989 Bestsellers

WOMEN'S HEALTHCARE

- 1 **Lesbian Sex**, JoAnn Loulan.
- 2 **Lesbian Health Matters**, The Santa Cruz Women's Health Center.
- 2 **How to Stay Out of the Gynecologist's Office**, The Federation of Feminist Women's Health Centers.
- 3 **Lesbian Couples**, Clunis & Green.
- 4 **For Yourself: The Fulfillment of Female Sexuality**, Lonnie Barbach.
- 4 **The Obsidian Mirror: An Adult Healing from Incest**, Louise M. Wisechild.
- 4 **Ourselves, Growing Older**, Doress, Seigal & Midlife & Older Women's Book Project.
- 5 **Making Peace with Food**, Susan Kano.
- 5 **The New Our Bodies, Ourselves**, The Boston Women's Health Book Collective.

LESBIAN FICTION & NON-FICTION

- 1 **In Her Day**, Rita Mae Brown.
- 2 **Patience & Sarah**, Isabel Miller.
- 3 **Choices**, Nancy Toder.
- 3 **The Honesty Tree**, Carolyn S. McCauley.
- 3 **The Lesbian in Front of the Classroom**, HerBooks.
- 3 **Making A Way: Lesbians Out Front**, JEB.
- 4 **Curious Wine**, Katherine Forrest.

Two Sisters

Menlo Park, CA

Summer 1990

BOOKS

- 1 **Circle of Stones**, Duerk.
- 2 **Courage to Heal Workbook**, Laura Davis.
- 3 **Angel Cards**, Findhorn.

- 4 **Tree That Survived the Winter**, Fahy.
- 5 **Lifestyles**, Calhoun.
- 6 **Menopause Naturally**, Greenwood.
- 7 **Internal Affairs**, Kay Hagan.
- 8 **Montana Feathers**, Penny Hayes.
- 9 **Women's Rituals**, Barbara Walker.
- 10 **Woman Awake**, Feldman.



IV International Feminist Bookfair

Clairelight

Santa Rosa, CA

May 1990

- 1 **Death Down Under**, Claire McNab, Naiad Press, \$8.95.
- 2 **The Bar Stories**, Nisa Donnelly, St. Martin's Press, \$9.95.
- 3 **The Bean Trees**, Barbara Kingsolver, Harper & Row, \$8.95.
- 4 **The Temple of My Familiar**, Alice Walker, Pocket Books, \$5.95.
- 5 **New, Improved! Dykes to Watch Out For**, Alison Bechdel, Firebrand Books, \$7.95.
- 6 **Montana Feathers**, Penny Hayes, Naiad Press, \$8.95.
- 7 **The Joy Luck Club**, Amy Tan, Ivy Books, \$5.95.
- 8 **Permanent Partners**, Betty Berzon, New American Library, \$9.95.
- 9 **50 Simple Things Kids Can Do to Save the Earth**, The Earth Works Group, Earthworks Press, \$6.95.
- 10 **After the Fire**, Jane Rule, Naiad Press, \$8.95.
- 11 **All Women are Healers**, Diane Stein, Crossing Press, \$12.95.
- 12 **The Courage to Heal**, Ellen Bass & Laura Davis, Harper & Row, \$11.95.
- 13 **Growing Up Again**, J. I. Clarke & C. Dawson,

- Harper & Row, \$11.95.
 14 **Lesbian Love Stories**, Irene Zahava, ed.,
 Crossing Press, \$9.95.
 15 **Medicine Cards**, J. Sams & D. Carson, Bear & Co.,
 \$26.95.
 16 **Pleasures**, Robbie Sommers, Naiad Press, \$8.95.
 17 **Sex & Love Addicts Anonymous**, Augustine
 Fellowship, \$12.50.
 18 **Summer People**, Marge Piercy, Fawcett Books,
 \$5.95.

*Note: Numbers 9 through 18 sold the same number of
 copies during May!*

Silver Moon Books

London, England

NON-FICTION

- The Demon Lover**, Robin Morgan.
Women, Art and Society, Whitney Chadwick.
The Whole Truth: The Myth of Alternative Health,
 Rosalind Coward.
**Altered Loves: Mothers and Daughters During
 Adolescence**, Terri Apter.
Cutting More Ties That Bind, Phyllis Krystal.
Women, Sex and Addiction, Charlotte Davis Kasl.
**Women Mean Business: The Everywoman
 Directory of Women's Co-operatives and
 Other Enterprises**.
**Recovering From Incest: Imagination and the
 Healing Process**, Evangeline Kane.
 Sylvia Plath, Linda Wagner-Martin.
**Wasting Girls' Time: The History and Politics of
 Home Economics**, Dena Attar.
**Really Reading Gertrude Stein: A Selected
 Anthology with Essays**, Judy Grahn.

FICTION

- Burn Marks**, Sara Paretsky.
Breathing Lessons, Anne Tyler.
The Man Who Wasn't There, Pat Barker.
A Book of Spells, Sara Maitland.
**Moments of Desire: Sex and Sensuality by
 Australian Feminist Writers**, eds. Susan
 Hawthorne & Jenney Pausacker.
Woman's Hour Book of Short Stories, selected and
 introduced by Pat McLoughlin.
The Cloning of Joanna May, Fay Weldon.
Gallowglass, Barbara Vine.

- The Bridesmaid**, Ruth Rendell.
The Joy Luck Club, Amy Tan.
Devices and Desires, P.D. James.
Jigsaw, Sybille Bedford.
Showing the Flag, Jane Gardam.
Shining Agnes, Sara Banerji.

Regulator Bookshop

Durham, North Carolina
 1990 Women's Bestsellers

FICTION

- 1 **Lesbian Bedtime Stories**, Terry Woodrow,
 Tough Dove Books, \$9.95.
- 2 **Bar Stories**, Nisa Donnelly, St. Martin's Press,
 \$9.95.
- 3 **Crimes Against Nature**, Minnie Bruce Pratt,
 Firebrand, \$8.95.
- 4 **When I am an Old Woman I Shall Wear Purple**,
 Sandra Martz, Papier Mache Press, \$10.00.
- 5 **Murder by the Books**, Pat Welch, Naiad Press,
 \$8.95.
- 6 **Berrigan**, Vicki McConnell, Naiad Press, \$8.95.
- 7 **Intricate Passions**, Tee Corinne, Banned Books,
 \$8.95.
- 8 **She Came in a Flash**, Mary Wings, Penguin,
 \$8.95.
- 9 **Lesbian Love Stories**, Irene Zahava, Crossing
 Press, \$9.95.
- 10 **After Delores**, Sarah Schulman, Penguin, \$7.95.

NON-FICTION

- 1 **Writing a Woman**, Carolyn Heilbrun, Ballantine,
 \$6.95.
- 2 **Living Out Loud**, Quindlen, Ivy Books, \$4.50.
- 3 **Permanent Partners**, Betty Berzon, NAL, \$9.95.
- 4 **Women's Traveller**, Damron, \$8.00.
- 5 **Women's Computer**, Deborah Brecher, NAL,
 \$10.95.
- 6 **In A Different Voice**, Carol Gilligan, Harvard
 University Press, \$6.95.
- 7 **Lesbian Sex** Joanne Loulan, Spinsters, \$10.95,
 0933216130.
- 8 **This Bridge Called My Back**, Cherríe Moraga &
 Gloria Anzaldúa, Kitchen Table, \$9.95.
- 9 **Lesbian Couples**, D. Clunis, Seal, \$10.95.
- 10 **Lesbian Passion**, Joanne Loulan, Spinsters,
 \$10.95.

BACK TO PRESS AND OTHER GOOD NEWS

The Institute for Lesbian Studies reports that *Lesbian Ethics* has gone back to press for a third printing of 5,000 copies for a total of 15,000 copies in print.

Kitchen Table: Women of Color Press sends word that *Home Girls: A Black Feminist Anthology* edited by Barbara Smith has gone back to press for the third time for a total of 21,000 copies in print. *This Bridge Called My Back: Writings by Radical Women of Color* is just back from its fifth printing (6,000 copies) for a total of 54,000 copies in print.



The Women's Press/Canada writes that *Harriet's Daughter*, an adolescent novel dealing with issues of immigration, exile, language and inter-generational conflicts faced by young adults in a multi-racial society went back to press just a year after publication for a total of 7,000 copies in print. *Never Too Thin, No Safe Place*, and *Boys Don't Knit* have also gone back to press.

Banned Books has recently sent *Intricate Passions*, *Dreams of the Woman Who Loved Sex*, *Who Wears the Tux?* and *Drawing Back the Curtains* back to press.

Crossing Press sent *Through Other Eyes* edited by Irene Zahava back to press for a third printing for a total of 13,500 copies in print.

Seal Press sends word that *The Black Women's Health Book: Speaking for Ourselves*, which was published in May 1990, went back to press for a second printing of 7,500 in July for a total of 18,500 in print. *Lesbian Couples* will go back to press for its fourth printing (5,000 copies) in

August for a total of 27,000 copies in print. *Girls, Visions and Everything* went back to press in July for its third printing (2,000 copies) for a total of 9,500 copies in print. *Mommy and Daddy Are Fighting* also went back to print in July (2,000 copies) for a total of 9,000 copies in print. *Mejor Sola Que Mal Acompañada* and *Called to Account* went back to press in June and May, respectively, for 2,000 copy print-runs bringing the in-print total for each book to 7,500 copies.

Rights

Seal Press has sold British rights to *Ladies Night* to Virago, German rights to S. Fisher Verlag, Canadian mass market rights to Seal Books (a Canadian division of McClelland-Bantam) and the film option to Pacific Motion Pictures.

Seal sold Barbara Wilson's *Sisters of the Road* to Quality Paperback Book Club. It's scheduled for Quality's December list. Watch for extra bookstore sales at that time.

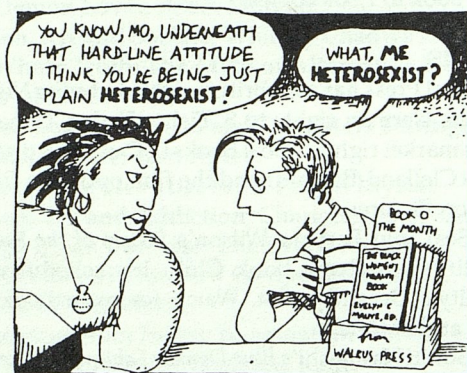
Suniti Namjoshi's *Blue Donkey Fables* and *The Conversations of Cow*, published in the U.K. by The Women's Press will be published in India (at last!) by Penguin/India. The Women's Press also reports that *A Wicked Old Woman* by Ravinder Randhawa will be translated into Catalan. All three titles are distributed in the U.S. by Inland.

Naiad Press has sold the three Claire McNab mysteries to Allen Unwin/Australia. *Lessons in Murder* is in print now, *Fatal Reunion* will be published in August, and *Death Down Under* will be out in December.

Awards

The Women's Press/Canada's *S.P. Likes A.D.*, an adolescent novel about 15-year-old Stephanie's quest to build her dinosaur sculpture and figure out her attraction to classmate Anne Delaney, won a Canadian Children's Book Centre's Choice Award. *Harriet's*

Daughter by Marlene Nourbese Philip also won this award in 1989 and was a runner-up for both the Canadian Library Association Award for Children's Literature and for the Max and Greta Able Award. In 1990 *Harriet's Choice* won the Ontario School Library Association Award for Canadian Learning Materials and was shortlisted for the City of Toronto Book Awards. Ms. Nourbese Philip has just been awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship. She is presently working on a novel set in Toronto and Tobago. Under the fellowship she will be working on a cycle of poems which explore the themes of place and displacement as they affect African peoples in the new world. For stickers or for copies of either or both books with award stickers attached, booksellers can write to Michele Paulse, The Women's Press, (new address) 517 College St. Suite 233, Toronto ONT M6G 4A2, Canada.



From *Dykes to Watch Out For*, Alison Bechdel

The Black Women's Health Book edited by Evelyn C. White (Seal Press) has been nominated for Library Journal's "Best Books of 1990." Winners will be announced in December. It also seems to have received MadWimmin Books' "Book o' the Month" award in Alison Bechdel's "Dyke's to Watch Out For." Congratulations, Walrus Press!

Breakwater press titles *January*, *February*, *June or July* and *The Beothuk of Newfoundland* have received the Canadian Children's Book Centre's Awards for 1990-1991. *January*, *February*... is an adolescent novel portraying a teen-ager's conflicts at finding herself pregnant and her eventual decision to get an abortion without parental consent. Highly recommended. Breakwater titles can be ordered directly from Breakwater, PO Box 2188, St. John's, Newfoundland, Canada, A1C 6E6.

Sisters in Crime swept the Macavity Awards (the Award for Excellence given by Mystery Readers International) — Carolyn G. Hart won Best Mystery Novel of 1989 for *A Little Class on Murder*; Jill Churchill won Best First Mystery Novel for *Grime and Punishment*; and Nancy Pickard won Best Mystery Short Story for "Afraid All the Time" published in *Sisters in Crime, Volume I*. —CS ○

Publisher's Service, continued from page 52. booksellers, to movement and mainstream publishers, to publicists and librarians and writers. FBN is about the communication that sustains a network of bookstores that distribute information about social change."

In recognition of the important role played by *Feminist Bookstore News* in furthering communication in our industry, in making the lives of bookstore operators a little easier, and in enhancing the viability of the gay, lesbian and feminist book market, the publisher of the *Lambda Book Report* is pleased to award Carol Seajay and the *Feminist Bookstore News* the 1989 Publisher's Service Award.

— Deacon Maccubbin

I want to thank Deacon and the staff of the *Lambda Book Report*.

FBN comes out of a long tradition of mutual support and shared vision among feminist bookstores, feminist publishers and feminist periodicals.

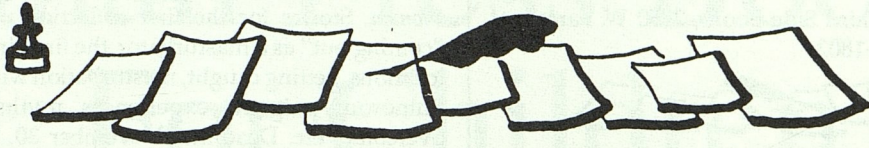
Our goal was to tell the truth about women's lives — lesbian lives, Black and Asian and Native women's lives, poor and working class women's lives, old women's lives — all our lives. And, to see that truth into print and then into the hands of the women whose lives would be radically changed by it.

I am very proud to be a part of this movement and would like to receive this award in honor of all the women who opened women's bookstores, who published pamphlets and newspapers and books and who did distribution in the late 60s and early 70s... with little practical hope of economic survival. So many of our successes today stand on their vision.

— Carol Seajay ○



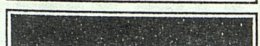
WRITING WANTED



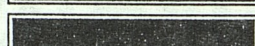
The Association to Preserve the Eatonville Community (PEC) announces the Second Annual Zora Neale Hurston Festival of the Arts January 24-27, 1991, Eatonville, Florida. PEC welcomes papers from all disciplines, especially African-American studies, anthropology/sociology, folklore, literature and women's studies. Papers should focus on events, ideas, and personalities which influenced Zora Neale Hurston and her work. Selected papers from the festival proceedings will be published. Send 250-word, one-page abstracts only. Hurston Papers 1991, PEC, PO Box 2586, Eatonville FL 32751. Decisions by September 30, 1990.



ZORA!



ZORA!



Irene Zahava is looking for contributions to *Word of Mouth: Short-Short Stories by Women - Volume II*. 500 words maximum. Up to 6 stories per author will be considered at one time. Previously published work will be considered if the author holds the copyright. Indicate when and where the work was published. Send SASE + SAS-postcard. All work that is accepted will be paid. Copyright remains with the author. Deadline: August 30, 1990. Irene Zahava, 307 W. State St., Ithaca NY 14850.

Seal Press is looking for fish-stories for an anthology of writing by women on fishing. "We want the anthology to reflect the full diversity of women's fishing experiences: from amateur angling to sophisticated fly fishing, from coral reef spear fishing to deep sea commercial trawling, from finessing steelhead in Washington's Skykomish River to battling the great marlin off the coast of New Zealand... and all the fish stories in between." Non-fiction essays of all types will be considered, including autobiography, history, humor, and even technical writing as long as it relates to women's experience. SASE. Deadline October 1, 1990. Send manuscripts and queries to Holly Morris, The Seal Press, 3131 Western Ave. Suite 410, Seattle WA 98121. 206-283-7844.

Manuscripts wanted for *Cancer as a Women's Issue*, an anthology by women for women. How do we survive? What are our issues? Why are we dying by the tens of thousands, with little notice, every year in the U.S.? How do we tap financial, medical, support, and other resources effectively, taking power rather than fearing it? Where do we go to get the information we need to make the best choices for ourselves? Essays, articles, personal stories with political and/or emotional components sought. Cancer survivors of all

kinds urged to speak out. Contributions due for consideration by October 1. Be sure to include SASE with sufficient postage if you want your manuscript returned; include post card if you want acknowledgment of receipt. Third Side Books, 2250 W. Farragut, Chicago, IL 60625-1802.



Crazy Quilt, "a patchwork of writing from women of all descriptions, a place for us to share our secret wisdom, our forbidden thoughts, our journal entries and dreams, our imaginings and our realities with each other" is a new quarterly magazine of women's writing. The first issue is scheduled for this fall. Organizer/founder Carol She Bear also founded SageWoman and was editor/publisher for the first three issues. For more information write to *Crazy Quilt*, PO Box 390575, Mountain View CA 94039. Single copies \$4.75. 30% discount to bookstores, 30 days net.

Trivia is accepting submissions (essays, reviews, translations & experimental prose) for #16/17, a special double-issue on "Breaking Forms" due to appear in Fall, 1990. *Trivia* is especially interested in culturally diverse perspectives and in writing on the boundary between fiction and theory. Deadline is August 15, 1990. Thanks to an NEA grant, *Trivia* will be paying contributors to this issue in \$\$ rather than copies only. For more information write *Trivia*, PO Box 606, N. Amherst MA 01059. 413-367-2254.

The Lesbian manuscript group of The Women's Press/Canada is seeking writing for a new collection of writing, *Tales of Seduction*. All lesbian writers in Canada are encouraged to send the group their seductive, sexy, and humorous fiction or non-fiction describing the best seduction you've ever had or wanted, the most bizarre approach you've ever made or whatever seductive tale you would like to share.

The Young Reader's Manuscript Group is accepting short stories for an anthology featuring the work of writers between the ages of 12-16.

The Women's Press is also collecting writing by women in prison for an anthology.

Send contributions or queries to The Women's Press at their new address: 517 College St. Suite 233, Toronto ONT M6G 4A2, Canada.

J. Carlin is seeking contributions for two anthologies: *My Lover in the Mirror: Stories Celebrating Women Making Love to Themselves* (working title) and *The Name I Call Myself: An Anthology of Writings by Self-Named Women*. Stories for the first collection may include "coming out" as a masturbator, the first time, unusual locations, getting caught, masturbation with a partner, humorous/poignant experiences, myths that were overcome, etc. Deadline: November 30. Stories and poems needed for the second collection that explore the empowering action of women choosing their own names. Discussions may include how the name was chosen, rituals surrounding "re-naming," its power and effects on your life and others', etc. Deadline: December 15. Multiple submissions accepted. SASE. J. Carlin. PO Box 883, Soquel CA 95073.

NWSA sponsors a number of writing prizes: The Pat Parker Poetry Award of \$250, founded by Women in the Moon Press, is given for an outstanding poem by a Black, lesbian, feminist poet. Applications must be postmarked by March 31, 1991.

The Illinois-NWSA Manuscript Award is presented annually for the best book-length manuscript in Women's Studies. The Award includes a \$1,000 prize and publication. Manuscripts may be on any subject in Women's Studies that expands understanding of women's lives or gender systems.



NWSA also sponsors several scholarships and fellowships to graduate students and scholars including two Pergamon-NWSA scholarships for graduate interdisciplinary work in women's studies, an award for graduate work in Jewish Women's Studies, the Naiad Press Award for Lesbian Studies and a fellowship for a visiting Chinese student or scholar from the People's Republic of China for research about women, national liberation movements or areas that might have special impact on the lives of women in China. For applications or further information, contact NWSA, University of Maryland, College Park MD 20742. 301-454-3757.

- CS O



Small Press Books For Children

Compiled by Kathleen T. (K.T.) Horning

What's a Virus, Anyway: The Kid's Book about AIDS, David Fassler and Kelly McQueen, Waterfront Books (98 Brookes Ave., Burlington VT 05401), \$8.95 pb, 0-914525-15-8; \$10.95 plasticomb spiral, 0-914525-14-X, 70 p. Ages 3-6. In spite of the workbook format, this volume provides clear, accurate information about AIDS and people with AIDS at a level preschoolers can understand. The text, accompanied by children's drawings, briefly explains viruses, HIV, how people contract AIDS, and what people with AIDS are like. The emphasis on the latter, with the message that people with AIDS are just like everyone else, makes this book particularly distinctive. Children are encouraged to draw pictures and express their own feeling on blank pages included throughout the book. It may serve as a springboard for day-care workers who wish to share information about AIDS with young children. Spanish edition to be available in summer 1990.

Mighty Mountain and the Three Strong Women, Irene Hedlund, translated by Judith Elkin, Volcano Press/Kazan, \$14.95, 0-912078-86-3, 32 p. Ages 4-8. Based on the same tale used by Claus Stamm (*Three Strong Women*), this delightful Japanese folktale tells the story of Mighty Mountain, a sumo wrestler who believes he is the strongest man in Japan. Confident of his strength, he sets off for the capital to enter the emperor's wrestling match. En route, he meets a rural family — three generations of women — who far

Kathleen T. (K.T.) Horning is the coordinator of the alternative press collection at the Cooperative Children's Book Center, University of Wisconsin-Madison, editor of Alternative Press Publishers of Children's Books (3rd ed.), and a children's librarian at Madison Public Library. She writes a Small Press Books for Children column for Booklist.

surpass him in strength and power. Grandma, who easily lifts cows and uproots trees that block her path, undertakes Mighty Mountain's training for the match. Skillfully composed full-color paintings perfectly depict the action and humor inherent in the story.



Family Pictures/Cuadros de Familia, Carmen Lomas Garza, Children's Book Press, \$12.95 lib. ed., 0-89239-050-6. Gr. 3-7, younger for reading aloud. The celebrated Mexican-American artist shares memories of her childhood in Kingsville, Texas, through 14 boldly colored, stylized paintings depicting the traditions of her family and community life. A fair in Mexico, the author's sixth birthday party, and a visit from a curandera (healer) represent a few of the scenes presented. Each painting is rich in cultural detail, and the accompanying commentary, printed in both Spanish and English, expands and personalizes the

artwork. These glimpses into Lomas Garza's life — from ages five to twelve — show the vitality of her loving extended family and conclude with a moving tribute to her mother, who encouraged her to become an artist by "[laying] out the bed for our dreams of the future."

Nightfeathers, Sundaira Morninghouse, illus. by Jody Kim, Open Hand, \$9.95 cl, 0-940880-27-X; \$4.95 pb, 0-940880-28-8, 32 p. Ages 2-5. From sunup to sundown and beyond into dream time, 20 short poems carry young listeners through a typical day in the life of an African-American child. Several of the poems spin off the first lines of familiar nursery rhymes, creatively changing subsequent lines to make them ethnically specific: "What are little boys made of?/chocolate and cream/caramel and toffee /espresso espresso/and deep rich coffee." The poems are accompanied by black and white pencil drawings by Kim, an artist who is particularly adept at capturing the closeness between parent and child.

Black Heroes of the Wild West, Ruth Pelz, illus. by Leandro Della Piana, Open Hand, \$9.95 cl, 0-940880-25-3; \$5.95 pb, 0-940880-26-1, 56 p. Gr. 3-5. Nine short biographical essays feature dramatic episodes in the lives of five men and four women who left their marks on the history of the Old West. The African-American heroes included range from Estevan, an early explorer, to Stagecoach Mary Fields, an adventurous pioneer notorious for her strong will and physical strength. A full-page black-and-white portrait opens each chapter in an attractively designed book that makes this hard-to-find information accessible to young readers.



Vamos Mujeres Colombia

Bellybuttons Are Navels, Mark Schoen, illus. by M.J. Quay, Prometheus, \$14.95, 0-87975-585-7, 40 p. Ages 3-7. While bathing together, a preschool-aged brother and sister identify and name the parts of their bodies,

from the tops of their heads to the tips of their toes. The text, intended to teach children the anatomically correct terms for all body parts, includes vocabulary such as *penis*, *scrotum*, *vulva*, *clitoris*, and *anus*, in addition to *eyes*, *ears*, *arms*, *legs*, etc. The full-color illustrations are as explicit as the text. An easy, accurate introduction to anatomy to share with children.

Mama, Daddy, Baby and Me, Lisa Gewing, illus. by Donna Larimer, Spirit Press (1499 Masonic Ave., San Francisco CA 94117), \$12.95, 0-944296-04-01, 32 p. Ages 18 mos.-3 yrs. A simple, rhyming, first-person text tells of a toddler's responses to the arrival of a new sibling. Detailed illustrations in full color and black and white complement the story's mood of homey security. The tone throughout is positive and reassuring; no mention is made of sibling rivalry, often the focus of books on this subject. Neither of the children's genders is specified, making this story especially workable for parents of children of either sex.

"T" is for "Terrific"/"T" es por "terrífico": **Mahji's ABC/El ABC de Mahji**, Mahji Hall, Open Hand (PO Box 22048, Seattle WA 98122), \$8.95 cl, 0-940880-21-0; \$3.95 pb, 0-940880-22-9. Ages 3-6. A bilingual (English-Spanish) alphabet book written and illustrated by a 12-year-old girl shows childlike energy and exuberance. Mahji Hall has carefully selected words that begin with the same letter in both Spanish and English and has included the Spanish sounds *ch* and *ll* as initial consonants. While the illustrations are clearly the work of a child, Mahji is a gifted young artist with a sophisticated sense of composition. A pronunciation guide to both the English and Spanish words is appended.

Tears for Ashan, D. Marie, illus. by Norman Childers, Creative Press Works (PO Box 280556, Memphis TN 38128), \$10.95, 0-9621681-0-6, 32 p. Gr. 3-6. A unique and valuable perspective on slavery is provided in an understated, illustrated story set in an unspecified region of Africa. As Kumasi approaches manhood, he looks up to and admires a young hunter named Ashan, whom he considers his best friend. When the "men without color" arrive carrying "long sticks that smoked and made a loud popping noise," Kumasi watches in horror as Ashan is taken captive and grieves when he realizes he will never see his friend again. The Afrocentric point of view offers a much-needed balance in children's literature on this topic.

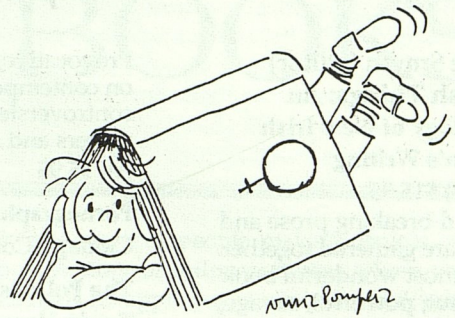
Social studies teachers will welcome this authentic, moving story, extended by softly colored pictures.

Nine-In-One Grr! Grr!, Blia Xiong, Children's Book Press (5925 Doyle St., Suite U, Emeryville CA 94608), \$12.95 lib. ed., 0-89239-048-4. Ages 3-8. At last! A story for children from the Hmong tradition. The title of this delightful folk-tale comes from a song Tiger makes up to help her remember the sky god's promise of the number of cubs she will give birth to each year. Bird, worried that tigers will soon overrun the earth, tricks Tiger into forgetting the lyrics — which is why there are so few tigers in the world today. Simply and eloquently told, this *pourquoi* tale from a minority Laotian culture is boldly illustrated in a style adapted from the multi-imaged embroidered story cloths of the Hmong people. Its rhythmic text and appealing, brightly colored pictures make it a good choice for preschool story hours.

Baby Rattlesnake, Te Ata, illus. by Veg Reisberg, adapted by Lynn Moroney, Children's Book Press, \$12.95, 0-89239-049-2, 32 p. Ages 2-5. From the repertoire of the renowned Chickasaw storyteller comes a cautionary tale about the folly of getting something before one is old enough to take care of it. Baby Rattlesnake wants a rattle on his tail like his older brother and sister have. Tired of his incessant crying, the adults give in to his wish, only to discover that Baby cannot control his delight in shaking his new toy at all the unsuspecting passerbys. But Baby learns his lesson one day when he goes too far — he shakes his rattle at the chief's daughter. The short sentences, onomatopoeia, and repetition will hold the attention of the youngest listeners as will the boldly colored, stylized gouache and cut-paper illustrations that depict the endearing Rattlesnake family.

Orlanda & the Contest of Thieves, Olga Cossi, illus. by Tom Sarmo, Bookmakers Guild, \$14.95, 0-917665-32-5, 24 p. Gr. 3-5, younger for reading aloud. An Italian folktale recounts the story of Orlanda, a street-wise eleven-year-old orphan, whose skills as a pickpocket are put to the test when she enters a contest to determine who is the best thief in Naples. The competition, devised by the Lord Mayor's wife to rid the city of crime, has high stakes: all losing contestants will be banished, while the winner is promised a position in city government. Four brief chapters, illustrated in full color, delightfully detail the amusing

attempts of Naples' most pompous purloiners, hopelessly pitted against the clever, plucky heroine who yearns for security and an honest life.



Afro-Bets First Book about Africa Veronica Freeman Ellis, illus. by George Ford, Just Us Books (301 Main St. Ste. 22-24, Orange NJ 07050) \$13.95 lib. ed., 0-940975-12-2; \$6.95 pb, 0-940975-03-3, 32 p. Gr. 2-5. A fictional classroom provides the setting for an excellent overview of the natural, social, and political history of Africa. Through dialogue and storytelling, a Ghanaian visitor imparts an amazing amount of information to a group of inquisitive African-American children. Skillfully designed pages combine full-color illustrations with captioned black-and-white and color photographs to expand information in the text. Highly accessible, this unparalleled introduction instills pride by capturing the richness and diversity of a vast continent.

Ashkii and his Grandfather, Margaret Kahn Garaway, illus. by Harry Warren, Treasure Chest Publications (1850 W. Grant Road, Ste. 101, PO Box 5250, Tucson AZ 85703-0250), \$5.95 pb, 0-918080-41-X, 33 p. Ages 5-8. Ashkii is certain that his grandfather is the best sheepherder on the Navajo Reservation. Now that Ashkii is six, he is old enough to accompany his grandfather to the summer sheep camp and to begin to learn some of the responsibilities of herding. Contrasting with Ashkii's developing self-confidence is the gnawing fear of another threshold he faces in the fall: beginning school. This authentic, unsentimental portrayal of an intergenerational relationship is illustrated with full-color pastel paintings by Navajo artist Warren. Though the drawings are somewhat stiff, they do convey a strong sense of place. Overall, a worthy contribution to the small body of literature portraying the lives of contemporary native American children. ○

**New
Writing**

Ailbhe Smyth (editor)
**Wildish Things: An
Anthology of New Irish
Women's Writing**

736 (pb) \$15.95
'Ground-breaking prose and
poetry are gathered together
in this most wonderful book
. . . A taut, powerful, savage,
gentle, sweet and lyrical
collection.' *Spare Rib*

Eilís Ní Dhuibhne
The Bray House

965 (pb) \$11.95
Engrossing futuristic fantasy
and political allegory, a
chilling novel set in post-
nuclear holocaust Ireland.

Mary Rose Callaghan
The Awkward Girl

957 (pb) \$11.95
Funny, uncertain and brave,
Sally Ann lives her life as
best she can. An engaging,
gently ironic novel.

Leland Bardwell
There We Have Been

817 \$7.95
'A novelist of real authority
- pared, allusive and
resonant.' *New Statesman
and Society*

Rita Kelly
**Fare Well - Beir
Beannacht Poems
in English and Irish**

663 (hb) \$15.95
Urgent, generous and
passionate, Rita Kelly is a
poet of compelling power
and honesty.

**LIP
Pamphlets**

Provocative, polemical pamphlets
on contemporary issues and
controversies by leading Irish women
writers and activists.
All \$5.95

Pornography: The New Terrorism
Clodagh Corcoran 841

The Politics of Seduction
Trudy Hayes 949

**The Right to Choose: Questions
of Feminist Morality**
Ruth Riddick 85X

Ancient Wars: Sex and Sexuality
Ethna Viney 833

**A Kind Of Scar: The Woman Poet
in a National Tradition**
Eavan Boland 795

**From Cathleen to Anorexia:
The Breakdown of Irelands**
Edna Longley 99X

**Ireland: Between the First
and the Third Worlds**
Carol Coulter 930

**Has The Red Flag Fallen? The
Fate of Socialism in the 1990s**
Helena Sheehan 779

**Feminist
Fairytale**

All \$6.95

Rapunzel's Revenge 183

Ms Muffet and Others 272

Mad and Bad Fairies 40X

Sweeping Beauties 71X

**Formidable
new feminist
talent from**

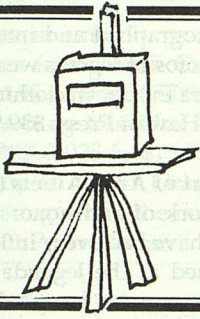
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ART BOOKS

By Tee Corinne

What a treat it was to attend ABA and talk with booksellers and publishers. In our word-conscious movements I sometimes think that no one cares about the visual arts, so those of you who said you like this column and find it useful were especially appreciated. Perhaps someday we'll have a visual equivalent of the Lammies.

One exciting piece of information I picked up at ABA was that Northeastern University Press will begin to distribute books for the National Museum of Women in the Arts starting with the gorgeous **Camille Claudel**. Check the next issue for more information.



Jan Phillips

Making Peace: One Woman's Journey Around the World, text and photography (color and b&w) by Jan Phillips, is a powerful, beautiful, heart wrenching view of how luminous and diverse the human habitants of this planet are. Phillips made heart connections with people around the issue of global peace. When talking with survivors of the atomic bomb: "over and over, they spoke the same words — 'We Must Never Let This Terrible Thing Happen Again.' It was that memory that kept me moving through the next eighteen months, through fifteen countries, through my many fearful and fragile moments. This

book is...a story of people making choices, making change. A story of ordinary heroes whose work for peace finds no applause, is rarely noticed, can never be measured." Her own activism also went through a transformative experience. "I came back to the West wondering not what to *do* about life, but how to *be* in it more fully." Friendship Press, P.O. Box 37844, Cincinnati, OH 45222-0844, \$18.95, 0-377-00200-3 pb, 40%, BP and Syracuse Cultural Workers.

A Different War: Vietnam in Art by feminist critic Lucy R. Lippart is a visually and verbally eloquent statement in support of socially relevant art. Lippart gathers work by emerging and well known artists, men and women, people of differing social and racial backgrounds. The text documents three decades of visual responses to and commentaries on the war and makes powerful connections between what happened in Vietnam and responses to what's happening in Central America today. Many of the images are reproduced in color. Real Comet Press, \$18.95 pb, 0-941104-43-5. BP/IN.

Two Black Folk Artists: Clementine Hunter, Nellie Mae Rowe is a small pamphlet with four color reproductions and b&w photos of each artist and biographical text about them. Hunter was born in 1886, started painting at the age of sixty and was still painting at the age of one hundred. She painted scenes of the buildings and life around her in Louisiana and the images/visions which moved her. Rowe was born in 1900 and lived in the rural area on the fringes of Atlanta until her death at the age of eighty-two. Her brightly colored drawings are visionary and fanciful: "birds, animals, events, situations, convictions that were important to her." One illustrated is "Black Poodle Groomed for Kissing" in which a red faced poodle puckers up its mouth in the midst of sheep, dogs, birds and other animals. A figure sits in a chair in the back-

ground. The colors are wild. Neither woman seems to have married. Art Museum, Miami University, Patterson Avenue, Oxford, OH 45056, cost to bookstores is \$5 each, \$3 each for ten or more, no ISBN.

Ecstatic Antibodies: Resisting the AIDS Mythology, ed. by Sunil Gupta & Tessa Boffin is an engaging book with essays on "The Rhetoric of AIDS," "Picturing Deviancy," "Angelic Rebels: Lesbians and Safer Sex" (with wonderful photographs by Tessa Boffin who is co-editing the new book on lesbian photography, due out this fall from Pandora, I believe), "Dangerous liaisons: Health, disease and representation," and much more. Lots of pictures, definitely provocative. Unwin Hyman, \$17.95 pb, 1-85489-014-X; \$39.95 cl, 1-85489-005-0.

I have trouble believing that anyone doesn't know about Alison Bechdel's three volumes **Dykes To Watch Out For**, **More Dykes To Watch Out For** and **New, Improved! Dykes To Watch Out For**, but, on the chance that someone has missed them, I want to rave about these hilarious cartoon books which gently and lovingly poke fun at the activist Women's Movement. Firebrand, **Dykes...** \$6.95 pb, 0-932379-17-6; \$14.95 cl, 0-932379-18-4; **More...** \$7.95 pb, 0932379-45-1; \$16.95 cl, 0-932379-46-X; **New...** \$7.95 pb, 0-932379-79-6; \$16.95 cl, 0-932379-80-X. Last year's **Dykes To Watch Out For Calendar** was a riot and I understand there will be a new one for 1991. Yeah Alison and Nancy!

Pacific Basket Makers: A Living Tradition includes wonderful color and b&w photos of baskets and basket makers from around the Pacific basin. It details the important function which basketry served in the differing cultures, and discusses current struggles to gain access to traditional materials and to support the training of young basketmakers. I was especially interested in the trapping baskets for eel, fish and shrimp (the latter incorporates a coke can). Dist. by the University of Hawaii Press, \$8.95 pb, no ISBN.

Tififai and Quilts of Polynesia by Joyce D. Hammond is an extensive study of applique piecwork fabrics (bedcovers and wall hangings) from four island groups. Contemporary and historical designs and usage are covered as well as the complex social functioning of the tififai as a symbol of honor. University of Hawaii Press, \$16.95 pb, 0-8248-0975-0.

Ni'ihau Shell Leis by Linda Paik Moriarty is a gem of a book about the history, making and function of shell leis (necklaces) in the Hawaiian Islands. It is

beautiful work, beautifully photographed and interestingly presented. Historical photos of regents wearing the shell leis over Victorian era European clothing are very striking. University of Hawaii Press, \$39.95 cl, 0-8248-0998-X.

The Woven and Graphic Art of Anni Albers (b. Germany, 1899) presents the work of and honors a woman whose writings and art have been very influential in her field. Albers studied at the legendary Bauhaus where she met and later married Joseph Albers. They fled the Nazis in 1933 and joined the faculty of Black Mountain College. In 1949 they moved to New York where she was the first weaver to have a one-person show at the Museum of Modern Art. Albers' work is abstract, often geometrical and always elegant. Smithsonian Institution Press, \$19.95 pb, 0-87474-977-8, \$39.95 cl, 0-87474-978-6.

Designs and Factions: Politics, Religion and Ceramics on the Hopi Third Mesa by Lydia L. Wyckoff is an exceptionally interesting study of the ways in which traditional or progressive religious beliefs affect the style and decoration of some Hopi pottery, how it is used and whether or not it will be sold or traded. Wyckoff discusses differing world views and how these effect even the placement of objects and furniture within houses. University of New Mexico Press, \$24.95 pb, 0-8263-1178-4.

Ocracoke Portrait, photographs and interviews by Ann Sebrell Ehringhaus, is a beautifully produced book of b&w photos of a small town on the barrier islands along the coast of North Carolina. Turning the pages is very much like walking through a small town, getting to know the faces, a woman cleaning shrimp, fences with shoes set out to dry, a horse turning its head, gulls flying. "You either like Ocracoke or you hate it, nothing in between. It's the people and the concern people out here have for others. You can't put it into words. It's very simple, yet it's very beautiful. Here it's hard not to enjoy the simple things of life." It's also hard not to enjoy this book. John F. Blair, 1406 Plaza Dr., Winston-Salem, N. C. 27103, \$13.95 pb, 0-89587-061-4; \$21.95 cl, 0-89587-060-6, 1-4 at 20%, 5+ at 40%.

Other titles of interest from Blair include: **Before Freedom, When I Just Can Remember**, ed. by Belinda Hurmence, is made up of narratives from the 1850's-1930's by former slaves from South Carolina. \$8.95 pb, 0-89587-069-X. **My Folks Don't Want Me To Talk About Slavery**, ed. by Belinda Hurmence, is a

companion volume to **Before Freedom** with narratives from North Carolina. \$4.95 pb, 0-89587-039-8; \$14.95 cl, 0-89587-038-X. **Classroom Success for the Learning Disabled** by Suzanne Stevens, \$8.95 pb, 0-89587-035-5; \$15.95 cl, 0-89587-036-3. **Step Carefully in Night Grass** for which Susan Ludvigson, writing under the name Susan Bartels, won the 1974 N.C. Poetry Council Award, \$5.95 cl, 0-910244-76-6.

Jan Phillips, *Making Peace*

Berthe Morisot by Anne Higonnet is a biography of one of the few women (1841-1895) prominent among the Impressionist painters in France. This volume documents Morisot's struggle to reconcile her career with the demands of family life. It includes some compelling images made of Morisot by her brother-in-law, Edouard Manet and by her sister, Edma, who was also a painter, and several self-portraits. Ed. Burlingame Books, an imprint of Harper & Row, \$25 cl, 0-06-016232-5.

Note: Impressionist Women by Edward Lucie-Smith is *not* about women artists but about images of women, most by male artists although paintings by

Mary Cassatt, Eva Gonzales and Berthe Morisot are included in a nicely integrated way. The Toulouse-Lautrec painting of two women waltzing together is reproduced with a non-judgmental text discussing the presence of lesbians in the Paris night spots. Harmony Books (Crown), \$36 cl, 0-517-57335-0.

What a pleasant surprise to get the new Daedalus catalog and find that a book which I had reviewed favorably last issue (but complained about the price) is now available for a reasonable amount. **Kathe Kollwitz, Works in Color**, ed. and intro by Tom Fecht contains many works not elsewhere reproduced, including some erotic images. Daedalus Books, 4601 Decatur St, Hyattsville, MD 20781 (1-800-333-5489) \$19.98 cl. (was \$49.95), 50% discount, ordering #00465.

The same catalog lists the three volume autobiographical set by Margaret Anderson, **My Thirty Years War, The Fiery Fountains** and **The Strange Necessity**. Anderson founded the pioneering literary magazine *The Little Review* in 1914. She co-edited it with her lover, Jane Heap, until the early 1920's when she left the magazine to Jane and became involved with Georgette Leblanc (vol. 2). After Georgette's death there was her life with Dorothy Caruso (vol. 3). Anderson was an early publisher of Gertrude Stein, T. S. Eliot, Frost, Pound and Djuna Barnes and the first to publish James Joyce in the U.S. for which the magazine was confiscated for obscenity. This is an incredible buy. I encourage bookstores to buy an additional set for your lending library. Daedalus, \$6.95 for the whole set (was \$27) pb, 50% discount, ordering #00648.

Other exceptional bargains from Daedalus are **Jane Freilicher: Paintings** \$14.95, #90523; **Francoise Gilot: An Artist's Journey** \$9.95, #90986; **Portraits, Inge Morath**, \$6.98, #00164; and a new book by the exceptionally fine British portrait photographer Jane Bown, **Men of Consequence**, \$5.95, #00539.

Edward D. Dudelman, the author of **Jessie Willcox Smith, A Bibliography**, wrote FBN that my reference to Smith as part of a vibrant and creative circle of lesbians was "erroneous and misleading." In his ten years of research he has found "not even a hint for such a claim." I certainly wasn't trying to besmirch Smith's name. My information comes from curators in the Philadelphia area who are in touch with other researchers. More information is obviously needed about this whole group of mutually supportive artists. ○

MYSTERIES

By Mary Lowry
New Words Bookstore

In the good news department is the upcoming reprint of the first of the feminist press mysteries, *Angel Dance* by M.F. Beal (Crossing, \$7.95 pb, 895944178). First published by Daughters in 1978, *Angel Dance* introduced the first feminist detective who was not a clone of the usually mentioned males. Kat Guerrero remains unique among women detectives and I still love the opening sentence: "The first time I saw Angel Stone in the flesh...she had her fist cocked with determined inefficient aim at the chin of a man I dimly recalled..." There are still few women's mysteries with such a blend of action, feminism and mystery.

I just got around to finishing the latest Sue Grafton, *G is for Gumshoe*, still in cloth, and was as disappointed as I was with her previous one. Grafton has stopped writing decent women characters in her novels for reasons I couldn't begin to fathom. Men can also be villainous or just plain bad, but there are enough good guys to balance out the picture. Just one example: her landlord has completely rebuilt, at great expense, that funky garage Kinsey used to live in. In fact he has created a yuppy haven *at no increase in rent*. The other constant character in her series, Rosie, the restauranteuse, brings a birthday treat for Kinsey but has eaten part of it. Landlord the good, Rosie the greedy! There are too many "crazy" women, unattractively greedy fat women and man-crazy women and, with the exception of Kinsey herself, no positive female portraits in the book. The back cover, a photo with a gun dangling from Grafton's hand aimed straight at her C is for Crotch, angered me. That's the kind of stuff we protest and picket. However, I still recommend the early stuff and hope someone gets her writing back on track.

Murder is Relative by Karen Saum, Naiad Press, \$8.95, 0-941483-70-3. Brigid Donovan, a recovering alcoholic, travels from Maine to Quebec to New York and back to solve a double murder. Family pasts hold the secret to the murder as Brigid struggles with the mixed and cryptic messages from the woman who hires her and the women and men who help her. Sprinkled liberally throughout is a document of the struggle Brigid is still undergoing to remain alcohol free.

Coming in the next few months are some of my favorites.

Pious Deception by Susan Dunlap (Dell, \$3.95, 440-20746-0, Oct.) is a new series with a new detective that I reviewed when it came out in cloth. Dunlap writes reliable puzzles, is fair to the reader and this is, I hope, the start of a series for her Medical Examiner detective.

The Right Jack by Margaret Maron, Bantam, \$2.25, 553-18519-5, Oct. Maron's police Lt. Sigrid Harald solves murder that starts at a cribbage tournament. I'm happy to see this one back in print.

Sisters in Crime 3 by Marilyn Wallace, Bantam, \$3.95, 425-12214- X. Haven't read it but the anthologies, although uneven at times, have been a lot of fun with some of the "big" names in women's mysteries contributing to the volumes.

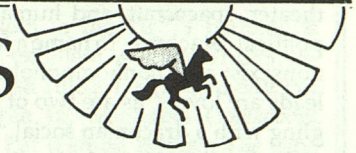
The Third Womansleuth Anthology ed. by Irene Zahava, Crossing, \$7.95, 895944138, Sept. There is a lot of experimentation in Zahava's Womansleuth anthologies and I enjoy seeing what new variations on the theme of death by design they can invent.

See *Mysteries*, page 91

SUSANNA STURGIS

ON

SCIENCE FICTION



Okay, so now I'm a book broker. This is the short pitch: Delia Sherman is now wholesaling a limited quantity of her first novel, **Through a Brazen Mirror** (\$3.95). If you're carrying more than a handful of f/sf titles, I recommend it strongly, despite the hassle of writing out a small, separate order. Delia's offering 60/40 for five (or more) copies and will pay shipping for prepaid orders. That's \$11.85 for five. Her address is 303 Franklin St., Newton, MA 02158.

The long pitch involves a little background. Ace published the book in January 1989, promoted it poorly (if at all), and by early this year it was already OP. Delia was able to buy up the remaining copies before the shredder got them. The book itself is a beautifully written fantasy inspired by an old English ballad, in which the young widow of a murdered knight takes on her husband's name and man's dress and rises high in the king's service. What's special about this handling of the role reversal theme is that it doesn't take place in a social vacuum, e.g., the king's attraction to the "man" does not survive her exposure as a woman; despite her exemplary performance as a he, she is not allowed to continue as chamberlain, and she chooses passing as a man on the uncertain roads to the constricted safety of a woman at court. Strongly recommended!

Elizabeth Scarborough recently won the prestigious Nebula award for her gritty, vivid, wonderful novel **The Healer's War**, about an Army nurse in Vietnam. "The Mountains of Mourning," by Lois McMaster Bujold, was best novella, and Connie Willis's "At the Rialto" was best novelette. The Nebulas are given by the Science Fiction Writers of America (SFWA).

Joseph Sherman's **The Shining Falcon** (Avon) won the Compton Crook/Stephen Tall award for best

first novel. Haven't read it yet but be on the lookout. Her **The Horse of Flame** is due from Avon in December.

Finally, on the subject of awards, though I'm sorry that **Memories and Visions** didn't win a Lambda Literary Award, **What Did Miss Darrington See?** (edited by Jessica Amanda Salmonson for The Feminist Press), which did, is an excellent collection. Stock them both, please?



ACE

The Stalking Horse, by Constance Ash, \$3.95. I recently read this one's predecessor, *The Horsegirl*, and was less than impressed, never mind that I was a horsegirl myself and remain a sucker for mystical horse-human bonds. There were also disturbing (because unacknowledged) overtones of sexual exploitation in the relationship between the girl protagonist and her much older, much more powerful mentor.

AVON

The Wall Around Eden, by Joan Slonczewski. Anything by Slonczewski is a good bet, based on her *Door Into Ocean* and *Still Forms on Foxfield*. December.

BAEN BOOKS

I met author Melissa Scott at a recent book signing and naturally started reading her novels immediately afterward. Why didn't I catch onto her before? Overload and Baen Books' packaging have a lot to do with it. The benefit is that now, for the first time in nearly a decade, I have half a dozen of a writer's novels to immerse myself in.

In **The Kindly Ones** (\$2.95) Scott demonstrates knowledge and facility with a variety of settings:

theater, spacecraft, and human beings caught up in political cataclysm, to name a few. Her worlds here are nonsexist and nonhomophobic — two of the female leads are lovers, as are two of the males — but struggling with a draconian social “code” in the process of disintegration. Outsiderhood — imposed from without and/or felt from within — is a major theme. Recommended.

Among her other titles are a trilogy featuring Silence Leigh, mage and space pilot: **Five Twelfths of Heaven**, **Silence in Solitude**, and **The Empress of Earth**. Her newest is **Mighty Good Road**. All are in mass market paperback.

Elizabeth Moon, author of the well-received “Deed of Paksenarrion” series and praised for her detailed, bottom-up depictions of medieval-type common lives, has two new books out. **Surrender None: The Legacy of Gird** (\$4.50) is a big novel dealing with the historical background of the Paksenarrion books. **Lunar Activity** (\$3.50) is a collection of sf/horror-oriented stories.



BAEN

Mad Roy's Light, by Paula King, \$3.50. Confrontation of humanity with other species is the theme here, from the perspective of a young woman adopted into an alien trade guild who finds her loyalties tested by the movement of humans into the guild's territory. September.

BANTAM/SPECTRA

Points of Departure, by Pat Murphy, \$3.95. Nineteen stories from a writer whose outtakes would make good reading, and Faren Miller of *Locus* calls this collection “brilliant, passionate, and dangerous as only the clearest visions can be.”

Alamut, by Judith Tarr, price n/a. Mass market reprint of her historical, fantastical, Middle Eastern romance. December.

CROSSING PRESS

Calabria Falling, by Pilar de Ovalle, \$7.95. My first “acquisition” for Crossing, a beautifully written, witty fantasy novel in which Alina, youngest of the 982 princesses of decadent Calabria, sets out adven-

turing with horse and hound and learns a few things about power, destiny, and other fantasy staples. Its main liability for feminist booksellers is its lack of lesbian content, which I regret — but I love it anyway. September.

The Women Who Walk Through Fire, ed. Sussanna J. Sturgis, \$9.95. My second anthology coalesced around women's heratism, variously and sometimes surprisingly understood. Contributors include Phyllis Ann Karr (with a Frostflower and Thorn story), Eleanor Arnason, Rachel Pollack, Merrill Mushroom, and Lucy Sussex, a superb Australian writer in (I think) her U.S. debut, a lesbian soon-to-be classic called “My Lady Tongue.” September.

DAW BOOKS

The Moonbane Mage, by Laurie J. Marks, \$3.95. This follows *Delan the Mislaid* in the “Children of Triad” series and features Laril, a rebellious Aeyrie (a winged people with only one gender) kidnapped by an Aeyrie sorcerer. The story is well told but follows the disturbing pattern of *Delan*: A naive young person is enslaved and horribly tortured by an older renegade (the word “separatist” is used here) and, when free, becomes a symbol of harmony among the several mutually suspicious peoples of the planet.

Just out is **Magic's Price** (\$4.50), by Mercedes Lackey, which concludes the “Last Herald-Mage” trilogy.

In September Jo Clayton's fans will welcome **Shadowpeer** (\$4.50), which follows **Shadowplay** (\$4.50) in “Shadith's Quest.” Shadith, as readers of the nine-volume “Diadem” saga will remember, was for centuries trapped in the magic tiara; now she's loose and having adventures of her own.

In October, Tanya Huff's latest, **The Fire's Stone** (\$3.95) features a thief, a prince, and a “wizardess” who struggle to recover a talisman that has long protected the city from a volcano.

The same month brings **The Madness Season** (\$4.95) by C. S. Friedman, whose huge *In Conquest Born* pitted two super races — one of warriors, one of telepaths (and guess which one had the female general?) — against each other. In this one it's aliens against conquered humans, and the man in the middle is a Terran with a secret. Forgive me for jumping to conclusions, but I'd rather reread Octavia Butler's “Xenogenesis” trilogy.

Flood Tide (\$4.50) arrives in November, the sixth in C. J. Cherryh's shared-world "Merovingen Nights" series.

Marion Zimmer Bradley's **Sword and Sorceress VII** appears in December, as does Kathleen M. O'Neal's **Treasure of Light** (\$4.95), which follows the promising if somewhat unwieldy *An Abyss of Light*. Will O'Neal manage to keep a personal focus in her cosmic battles, or will they degenerate into race against race, hero against hero, with the women on the sidelines waiting for the winner to be revealed?



DEL REY (BALLANTINE)

A trio of hardcovers due in the fall: C. J. Cherryh's **Chernevog** and Anne McCaffrey's **Pegasus in Flight** and **To Ride Pegasus** (a reissue).

WILLIAM MORROW

Thomas the Rhymer, by Ellen Kushner, \$18.95 cl. Kushner's *Swordspoint* was no fluke; her second novel is also elegant, eloquent, witty, and wise. As in the ballad on which the novel is based, Thomas is kidnapped into Elfland by the Elfqueen for the traditional seven years. This sequence is framed by his prior travels as a poor musician and his subsequent life as a man irrevocably changed by his experience. The before and after parts are effectively told by the farmfolk who befriend him and the woman whom he eventually marries; their "common" lives are fully drawn.

NAIAD PRESS

Priorities, by Lynda Lyons, \$8.95 pb. From page one romance takes priority over "future fiction;" one needs a perfect and/or "shapely" bod to qualify as a protagonist. And "Is she, or isn't she (an android)?" was not a new question when Philip K. Dick asked, "Do androids dream of electric sheep?" — the story on which *Blade Runner* was based. This is the first of "The Controllers," a projected series about the government agents who hunt down renegade robots.

NAL/DUTTON

Alien Sex, ed. Ellen Datlow, \$18.95 cl. Worth a look if you carry hardcover anthologies with both

men and women authors (a big "if," I realize). It includes work by some excellent women writers, including Connie Willis, Lisa Tuttle, Leigh Kennedy, Pat Cadigan, James Tiptree Jr., Michaela (*Walkabout Woman*) Roessner, and Pat (*Falling Woman; The City, Not Long After*) Murphy.

ONLYWOMEN

Locus magazine lists **Stealing Time** by Nicky Edwards and **Saccharin Cyanide**, a story collection by Anna Livia. I haven't seen them yet; you probably have.

POPULAR LIBRARY/QUESTAR

A Matter of Oaths, by Helen S. Wright, \$4.50. A favorable blurb from C.J. Cherryh, a "crusty, abrasive" and female starship captain, and something about interstellar conspiracy. Your guess is as good as mine.

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY PRESS

At Midnight on the 31st of May, by Josephine Young Case, \$9.95 pb. A tidbit gleaned from *Locus*, whose peripheral vision usually doesn't pick up this sort of thing: "a 1938 poem about a small New England town suddenly cut off from 20th-century America and surrounded by primeval wilderness. . . . Case employs a flowing blank verse with easy colloquialism, rising to high eloquence as the story dictates." Syracuse University Press is at 1600 Jamesville Ave., Syracuse, NY 13244.

TOR

White Jenna, by Jane Yolen, price n/a. A hot contender in the "how behind am I" sweepstakes; this is due in paperback and I'm just getting to its predecessor, *Sister Light, Sister Dark*, which is feminist/goddess/mythmaking at its finest. Highly recommended, both of them.

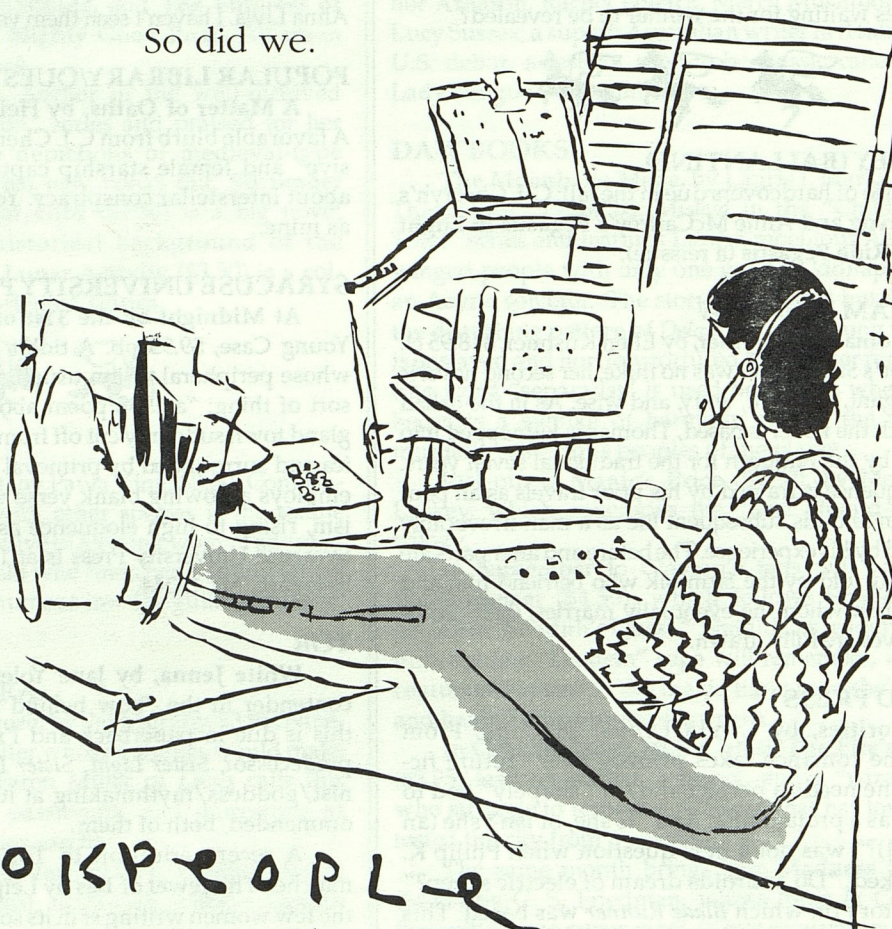
A recent addition to Tor's "doubles" series matches **The Jewel of Bas** by Leigh Brackett — one of the few women writing sf in its so-called "golden age" — with its new prequel, **Thieves' Carnival**, by Karen Haber (\$3.50). Just out is Patricia C. Wrede's "romantic and charming" rendition of **Snow White and Rose Red** (\$3.50), part of a fine series of retold traditional "fairy tales," and a hefty collection of Andre Norton stories, **Wizards' Worlds** (\$4.95).

See *Science Fiction*, page 91

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FROM THE UNIVERSITY PRESSES



By Kris Hoover

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA PRESS

If **Boomer** had been fiction, author Linda Niemann could have taken care of the loose ends — made her character more likable, and her messages (other than the very apparent one about the value of sobriety) more clear. But this is autobiography, and while this emotional journey can be tiresome in its melodrama and self-obsession, it is also often so engaging that it's hard to put down. Niemann lived a hard, daring life as a "boomer," one of the few women railroad workers following seasonal work around the Southwest. **Boomer** chronicles her struggles with relationships, sexual orientation, and the physical and emotional demands of her job. Niemann also has a naturalist's skill at description, be it desert valley or railroad yard. Reviews may generate some cloth sales. \$19.95 cl, 0-520-06844-0, 262pp.

Bananas, Beaches and Bases: Making Feminist Sense of International Politics by Cynthia Enloe, is, I think, the best university press book of the season, so I'm announcing it twice. See the March issue of FBN for a full description of this brilliant, activist-oriented explanation of global politics and economics. \$10.95 pb, -06985-4; \$35. cl, -06984-6, 280pp, 20 photos.

Also in paperback are: **Contested Lives: The Abortion Debate in an American Community** by anthropologist Faye Ginsburg is a sensitive portrayal of the politics of abortion in the small city of Fargo, North Dakota. Fargo is ideal for this study because it is large enough to have organized factions, and small enough that activists on both sides know each other in everyday ways as well as through adversarial politics. By showing the common roots of both positions as responses to 20th-century women's conditions, the author hopes to lay groundwork for dialogue. \$10.95

pb, -06493-3, 329pp. Zillah Eisenstein's **The Female Body and the Law** is very scholarly in tone, but a good choice for readers of Catherine MacKinnon and others interested in law and feminist theory. Eisenstein emphasizes how the law's focus on biological differences between women and men shapes and perpetuates sexist discrimination. \$9.95 pb, -06956-0, 245pp. **Strong Mothers, Weak Wives** by Miriam Johnson blends a wealth of recent research, common sense and clear writing in a discussion of family structure and gender inequality. Johnson argues that it is the subordinate role of "wife," not the more flexible and potentially powerful role of "mother," which supports patriarchal society. \$11.95 pb, -06162-4, 359pp.



Of Women, Outcastes, Peasants and Rebels is a collection of short fiction by five Bengali authors, one of them a woman. These moving stories, many of which focus on women's lives, were written between the 1890s and 1970s. As translator Kalpana Bardhan explains in her introduction, the stories illustrate the historical experience of class, gender and caste oppression as well as the breadth of the progressive literary tradition of this region of India. \$12.95 pb, -06714-2, \$40., 06713-4, 375pp.

Stores near universities may also be able to carry **The Enchantments of Love: Amorous and Exemplary Novels**, by the 17th century Spanish author Maria de Zayas. Alive with feminist wit and irony after 350 years, these parables are translated in a direct, readable style by H. Patsy Boyer. All the women in de Zayas' surprisingly contemporary stories are deceived and disappointed by the men, but in the end find happiness in marriage, or refuge in a convent,

through their own heroic efforts. The men, in contrast, are subjects of cautionary tales about the perils of selfishness, shortsightedness and unfaithfulness. \$40. cl, 06671-5, 312pp.

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS

Jane Austen: Women, Politics, and the Novel is so learned, lively and accessible that any feminist Austen fan can read and enjoy it. Author Claudia Johnson takes Austen's six novels book by book, staying close to the text and relating it to the class and gender politics of Austen's time. Austen herself emerges as an understandable woman — not a radical, but a woman acutely aware of the constraints and absurdities of her society and almost uniquely able to communicate them to her readers. \$12.95 pb, 0-226-40139-1, 186pp.



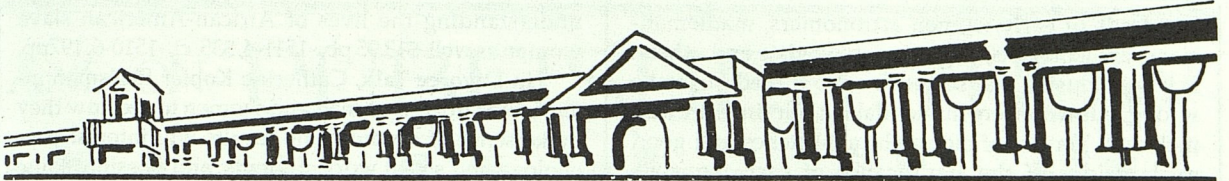
Bitter Choices, by Ellen Israel Rosen, records New England women factory workers' insights about their jobs and families and shows how management decisions about new technology and plant relocation are undermining women's hard-won economic gains. Rosen is pessimistic about solutions to women's increasing poverty, but her documentation of the many meanings of the "bitter choice" between lower-paid, less secure work and no work at all make this among the best studies of working-class women's conditions. \$12.95 pb, -72645-2, 222pp.

Uneasy Virtue: The Politics of Prostitution and the American Reform Tradition, by Barbara M. Harrison, traces the history of efforts to control prostitution over the last 150 years, demonstrating that measures supposedly intended to control sexuality have instead typically controlled women's lives. She also looks at specifically feminist approaches to prostitution, and explains the conflicts around class issues that have undermined feminist analyses of prostitution. \$14.95 pb, -34557-2, 276pp.

Other Chicago paperbacks are: **Black Women in America, Social Science Perspectives**, edited by Micheline Malson, et al., is a collection of articles from the women's studies journal *Signs*. Authors Bonnie Thornton Dill, Maxine Baca Zinn and others address the dual oppression of African-American women,

exploring employment, family, women's traditions in the church, and strategies of resistance and survival. \$15.95 pb, -50296-1, \$30. cl, -50295-3, 348pp. **Crafting Selves** by Dorinne Kondo highlights the importance of gender in a Tokyo neighborhood and small factory. Anthropology readers will find fresh and invigorating theory here. As a book for general readers, the writing is scholarly, but also vivid and laced with personal reflection. **Crafting Selves** is also a bittersweet tale of a perceptive Japanese-American woman's efforts to understand "another" culture, and a meditation on "selfhood" that bi-cultural women may particularly enjoy. \$18.95 pb, -45044-9, 368pp. **Family Fortunes: Men and Women of the English Middle Class, 1780-1850**, by Leonore Davidoff and Catherine Hall, is a careful study of two families, one rural and one urban. In a book that will appeal to Anglophiles as well as history readers, the authors show how newly privileged families established a structure of gender difference that continued to set a pattern for family life well into the current century. \$17.95 pb, -13733-3, 576pp. **Isak Dinesen and the Engendering of Narrative**, by Susan Hardy Aiken argues that Dinesen's writing anticipates many of the insights of French feminist literary critics, and also considers Dinesen's popular *Out of Africa* as a colonialist text written by a woman. \$19.95 pb, -01113-5, 352pp. **Law, Sex, and Christian Society in Medieval Europe** by James Brundage (male author) chronicles 1000 years of European attitudes, laws, and sexual behavior, demonstrating that current marriage laws and homophobic attitudes have their roots in the sexual morality of Christian Europe in the Middle Ages. Reviewed positively in last spring's issue of *Out/Look*. \$22.50 pb, -07784-5, 674pp. Stores carrying books about gay men should note **Hart Crane and the Homosexual Text**, a new study of the popular poet of the 1920s by Thomas Yingling, \$15.95 pb, -95635-0

Among the new cloth titles, only **Nature Religion in America** by Catherine Albanese is a likely choice. Viewing "nature" as a compelling religious focus throughout American history, the author explores spiritual responses to nature from Algonkian Indians to Thomas Jefferson, 19th-century Transcendentalists and contemporary goddess-oriented spirituality. Though not explicitly feminist, the author sympathetically explores many ideas and practices — witchcraft, Green politics, macrobiotic cooking and homeopathy,



for example — that interest feminist bookstore customers. \$24.95 cl, -01145-3, 240pp, 15 illus.

Also note: **Settlement Folk** by Mina Carson, on the social thought of reformers Jane Addams, Lillian Wald and others, whose reshaping of the Victorian "Social Gospel" continues to influence U.S. feminism and middle-class progressivism. \$29.95 cl, -09501-0, 296pp; and **Intimate Relations: Exploring Indian Sexuality** by Sudhir Kakar (male author). Kakar, a psychoanalyst, makes bold statements about the universality of male fears and female disappointments. I mention this title because non-Western approaches to psychology and gender are so rare in the U.S. that this book may interest feminist psychologists despite its generally uncritical Freudianism. \$18.95 cl, -42280-1, 172pp.

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY PRESS

Performing Feminisms: Feminist Critical Theory and Theater, edited by Sue-Ellen Case, encompasses lesbian, Chicana and Japanese subjects, performance art and cross-dressing in addition to the well-worn territory of psychoanalysis and deconstructionism. The authors assume readers are familiar with drama criticism jargon and French feminism, but also indicate that their romance with "post-modernism" is over. \$14.95 pb, 0-8018-3969-6, 327pp.



INDIANA UNIVERSITY PRESS

I have yet to see two of Indiana's most interesting-sounding spring titles, since they're summer releases, but take a chance on these. **Opening the Gates: A Century of Arab Feminist Writing**, Editors Margot Badran and Miriam Cooke have selected letters, speeches, fiction and poetry by women from Saudi Arabia to Morocco to illustrate the range of Arab feminisms. \$39.95 cl, 0-253-31121-7; \$17.50 pb, -20577-8. **Gelede: Art and Female Power Among the Yoruba** is an illustrated study of Gelede, a West African festi-

val and performance honoring the female powers of the cosmos. Authors Margaret and Henry Drewal consider the music, dance, and costume, along with oral histories of performers. \$20. pb, -20565-4.

Gender and Genius: Towards a Feminist Aesthetics, by Christine Battersby and published in the U.K. by Women's Press, urges feminists to reclaim women artists of the past while striving to create feminist art in the present. \$9.95 pb -20578-6; \$25.00 cl, -31126-8. **Feminist Novels of the Belle Epoque**, by Jennifer WaeltiWalters, recovers a generation of 19th Century French novelists who wrote about such contemporary themes as gender equality, equal work and the right to love as they chose. Written in a conversational tone, this book can be read by almost anyone, but it will appeal most to women who also read French. \$12.50, -20557-3, \$27.50 cl, -36300-4, 207pp. **Slave Women in Caribbean Society, 1650-1838** explores white myths about slave women and slave women's real history in the Caribbean. Author Barbara Bush, a teacher of Third World Studies in England, looks at labor, law, sexuality, childbirth, culture and community. She demonstrates the resourcefulness of slave women and their central role in the preservation of African people and culture in the Americas. \$12.50, -55057-x; \$29.95 cl, 55058-8, 190pp, 15 illus. Many stores will be familiar with Diane Russell's **Rape in Marriage**. The second edition updates cases of rape and torture outlined in the first — one husband, released from prison after three years is again awaiting trial for several rapes and other woman-hating crimes. Russell has also updated the state-by-state outline of marital rape laws and the extensive bibliography. \$15.95 pb, -20563-8, \$39.95 cl, -35055-7, 419pp. **New Readings on Women in Old English Literature**, edited by Helen Damico and Alexandra Olsen, introduces the English literature of 1000 years ago to feminist readers. The authors particularly want to reach readers currently more interested in recent literature. \$14.50 pb, -20547-6, 37.50 cl, 33413-6, 313pp.

Women of Science, Righting the Record, edited by G. Kass-Simon and Patricia Farnes, introduces

hundreds of early women astronomers, mathematicians, archeologists, engineers, biologists and others. It is so inclusive that scientists who turned out to be wrong, but who were influential in their time, are also included. Very brief biographical sketches and good explanations of the significance of each woman's work are accompanied by an extensive bibliography, name and subject indices. A great graduation gift. \$39.95 cl, -33264-8, 398pp, 54 illus.



RUTGERS UNIVERSITY PRESS

Not content to let sexists decry "anachronistic" feminist approaches, authors Barbara Bardes and Suzanne Gossett show in **Declarations of Independence** that women's desire for political autonomy animated a long list of 19th-century novels. A particular contribution of this book is analysis of women writers' responses to industrialization. \$13., 0-8135-1501-7, \$36. cl, -1500-9, 231pp. On 19th-century history, Rutgers offers **Women and Temperance**, a history of the movement from 1873-1900 by Ruth Bordin. The Women's Christian Temperance Union was the first mass women's organization in the U.S. In sheer numbers, it remains the largest voluntary organization in U.S. history. Bordin explains how WCTU women organized across class, race, ethnic and regional lines and encompassed Christian revivalists, and suffragists, failing only to recruit devout Catholic women. Founder Frances Willard, though from a privileged background was even a member of the radical union, the Knights of Labor. A weak point of the book is the author's discomfort with the importance of romantic friendships in the WCTU. Passages about Willard's attractiveness to women are a bit lurid in their homophobia. Nonetheless, this is a concise introduction to the WCTU and 19th-century women's coalition politics. \$15., -1543-2, 221pp. **Natural Rebels: A Social History of Enslaved Black Women in Barbados**, by Hilary Beckles (male author) complements Indiana's new book on African-Caribbean women. Beckles is particularly interested in the centrality of women in the plantation economy. He brings the challenging perspective of radical British social history circles, and develops some approaches he suggests can be applied to

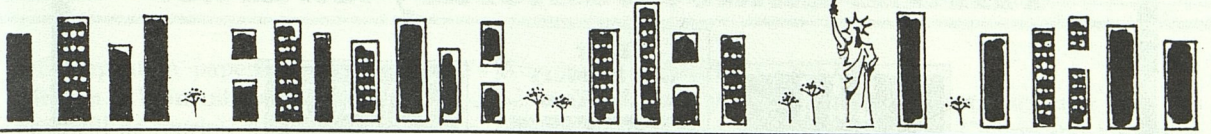
understanding the lives of African-American slave women as well. \$13.95 pb, -1511-4, \$35. cl, -1510-6, 197pp.

In **Divorce Talk**, Catherine Kohler Reissman interviewed dozens of men and women to see how they make sense of divorce. The results will interest psychology and social work students, and possibly some divorced people, too. Reissman incorporates economic inequality and violence against women in interpreting the interviews. The book is weaker on class, for though Reissman's sample is diverse, her prejudices sometimes show. For example, she is strangely puzzled that a highway crew chief would be unhappy that his wife works as a stripper, when jealousy isn't a factor for him. A more consistent failing is the invisibility of gay and lesbian perspectives. Only one gay man is interviewed, and lesbians, oddly enough, are in the index but not the text. I'm glad there's a new study of divorce to complement the self-help books, though **Divorce Talk** is less than ideal in its scope. \$13., -1503-3, \$37. cl, -1502-5, 276pp.

The Politics of Women's Biology, a critique of biology as applied to women, is unparalleled in its clarity and reads like a conversation with a wise friend. Biologist and "science critic" Ruth Hubbard explains how patriarchal, racist and capitalist biases infuse the practice of science, from the understanding of DNA to the medicalization of birth. With empowerment as well as education as a goal, she also suggests what women can do, as scientists, consumers and activists, to promote a more democratic science. \$12.95 pb, -1490-8, \$35. cl, -1489-4, 229pp.

Calling Home: Working-Class Women's Writings, An Anthology, edited by Janet Zandy, collects working-class women's stories, poems, essays and oral histories from all over. There's even a song, "Do It On His Time," dedicated to clerical workers (and inspiring to FBN editors who write their columns you-know-where). Many of the 50 authors, Sandra Cisneros, Audre Lorde, and Nelly Wong among them, are well known to feminist readers, though the selections here may be new to many. Other contributors are anonymous women who told their stories to WPA writers in the 1930s. Powerful in their dailiness, and full of memory, frustration, endurance and occasionally a softer emotion, these affecting selections deserve a wide audience. Stocking copies with fiction should help compensate for the somewhat textbook-like cover. \$12.95 pb, -1528-9; \$38. cl, -1527-0, 366pp. ○

AND ON PUBLISHER'S ROW



By Sandi Torkildson & Karen Axness

ADDISON WESLEY

Women's Health Alert by Sidney Wolfe, M.D. and the Public Citizen Health Research Group (\$7.95 pb, 0201550415, February 1991) exposes controversial medical issues facing all women. The high hysterectomy and C-section rates in the U.S., the link between birth control pills and breast cancer, the risks of postmenopausal hormone replacement therapy and the dangers of certain drugs such as Accutane and Parlodol to women are some of the health issues that can endanger a woman's life.

Nobody's Business by Alida Brill (\$16.95 cl, 0201067455, October) looks at the erosion of privacy rights in the last decade. The desperately sought and achieved privacy rights of women, gays and the aged have been severely limited and continuously attacked by the government whose protection they sought. A political scientist, feminist and civil liberties expert, Brill demystifies the law and exposes the injustice present in the most intimate realms of our lives — birth, love and death.

A new edition of **Paths to Power** by Natasha Josefowitz (\$6.95 pb, 0201550938, November) is due this Fall. This is a practical and encouraging guide that shows women how to get ahead in the male-dominated business world without compromising their values.

Building A New Dream by Janet Maurer M.D. and Patricia Strasberg, Ed.P. (\$9.95 pb, 0201550989, September) is a clear, reassuring guide to coping with chronic illness or disability in a family. — ST

AVON

The highlight of Avon's Fall list comes in November with the paperback release of **The Second Shift** by

Arlie Hochschild with Anne Machung (\$9.95 pb, 0-380-71157-5), a feminist social study of the effects of working eight hour days as well as having primary responsibility for child care and housework on women and their marriages. Also due are **Failure to Zigzag** by Jane Vanderburgh (\$8.95 pb, -71019-6, November), a well-received first novel, and reissues of two Muriel Spark novels, **Memento Mori** (\$7.95 pb, -70938-4, November) and **The Ballad of Peckham Rye** (\$7.95 pb, -70936-8, November). — KA



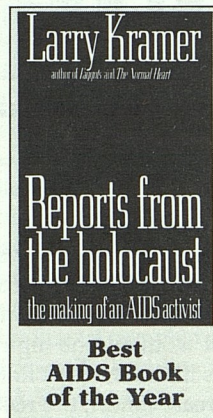
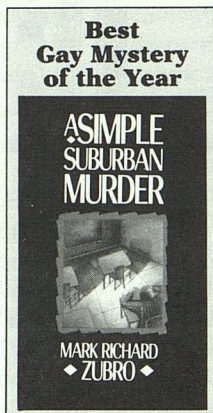
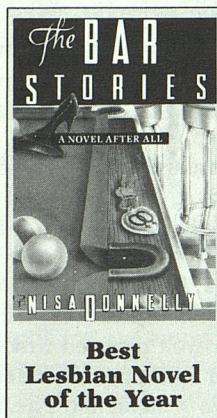
BALLANTINE AND FAWCETT COLUMBINE HARDCOVERS

Double Duty (\$25.00 cl, 0-345-36152-0, October, 512 p.) is Claudia Black's new book, which examines other traumatic conditions affecting adult children of the chemically dependent, seeking to provide help to those who are people of color, physically disabled, gay or lesbian, physically or sexually abused, or food addicted, among others. **The Early Arrival of Dreams** by Rosemary Mahoney (\$18.95 cl, 0-449-90552-7, October) is the account of her year in China as a teacher before the student uprisings of 1989. Kate Braverman's first volume of short stories, **Squandering the Blue** (\$18.95 cl, 0-449-90551-9, October), consists of twelve short stories about women in Los Angeles. — KA

BALLANTINE AND FAWCETT COLUMBINE PAPERBACKS

Susan B. Anthony by Kathleen Barry (\$12.95 pb, 0-345-36549-6, September) will finally be available in paperback. Pat Barker's latest novel, **The Man Who Wasn't There** (\$7.95 pb, 0-345-36954-8, September) is the story of a twelve-year-old boy's fantasy about his

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unknown father. **The Children of Segu** by Maryse Condé (\$9.95 pb, 0-345-36634-4, November) continues the historical saga at Western Africa begun in **Segu**. **Laugh! I Thought I'd Die (If I Didn't)** By Anne Wilson Schaef (\$7.95 pb, 0-345-36097-4, November) is the first of Ballantine's daily meditation guides, this one on healing through humor.

Women Together, Women Alone (\$8.95 pb, 0-449-90533-0, September), a study by Anita Shreve of the effects of consciousness raising on seven women, will appear in paperback. **The Girl Within** by Emily Hancock (\$8.95 pb, 0-449-90559-4, October) is a developmental study of women, using case studies, which theorizes that we must go back to reclaim the strong, confident and independent self of our pre-adolescence. — KA

BANTAM

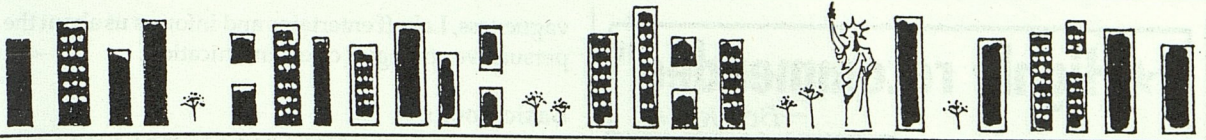
Rita Mae Brown's new novel **Wish You Were Here** (\$18.95 cl, 0-553-05881-9, December) is "co-written by" her cat, Sneaky Pie Brown. It is a mystery which should appeal to cat lovers, since the protagonist's cat is a major character.

Blueprints by Sara Vogan (\$8.95 pb, -34959-7, September; also \$19.95 cl, -07032-0) is a novel about a sister and brother struggling to overcome the damaging effects of emotional neglect and the alcoholism of their parents. **Reclaiming Our Lives** by Carol Poston and Karen Lison (\$9.95 pb, -34778-0, October) will finally be issued in paperback. Subtitled "Hope for Adult Survivors of Incest," this book presents a program for healing.

Wild Mind — Living the Writer's Life by Natalie Goldberg (\$8.95 pb, -34775-6, November) is a new volume of practical advice by the author of the very popular *Writing Down the Bones*. **Becoming the Butlers**, by Pamela Brandt (\$8.95 pb, -34971-6, November) is a comic first novel in Bantam's New Fiction series. — KA

BEACON PRESS

Plum Bun by Jessie Redmon Fauset (\$11.95 pb, 0-8070-0909-1, September) will be re-issued, making available an important novel of the Harlem Renaissance. Ding Ling's **I Myself Am a Woman** (\$12.95 pb, -6747-4, September), a collection of fiction and essays by the famous Chinese feminist and literary dissident,



will appear in paperback. Merlin Stone's *Ancient Mirrors of Womanhood* (\$12.95 pb, -6751-2, September) will be reprinted with a new preface. *Another Mother Tongue* by Judy Grahn (\$11.95 pb, -7911-1, November, 364 p.) will be revised and expanded. *Gyn/Ecology* (\$12.95 pb, -1413-3, December) will incorporate a "new intergalactic introduction." —KA

DOUBLEDAY

Banished Knowledge (\$19.95 cl, 0-385-26761-4, September), Alice Miller's latest work, provides a method to feel and to free the banished, injured child within, in order to liberate one's self.

The Well of Loneliness by Radclyffe Hall (\$8.95 pb, -41609-1, November) will return to print.

ECCO PRESS (dist. by Norton)

The winner of the 1989 Drue Heinz Literature Prize, Maya Sonenberg, has a collection of stories due this Fall. *Cartographies* (\$9.95 pb, 0880012595, November) has been called "prose of the highest order: tender, provocative, penetratingly intense, subtle, eloquent." —KA

FARRAR STRAUS GIROUX

My Son's Story by Nadine Gordimer (\$19.95 cl, 0-374-21751-3, October), the latest novel by this distinguished writer, concerns the connection between personal and political life in the lives of Black and white South Africans. Jamaica Kincaid's new novel, *Lucy* (\$16.95 cl, -19434-3, October) is about a teen-age girl from the West Indies who comes to the U.S. as an *au pair*.

Christa Wolf's *Selected Essays* (\$22.95 cl, -12302-0, January 1991) makes the critical writing of this author available in English for the first time. Thirty-seven essays written over the past thirty years reveal her thoughts on her own writing and others' work in relationship to society. Her novel *Accident* will appear in paperback (\$6.95 pb, -52254-5, January 1991). An East German writer hears about Chernobyl while her brother is undergoing an operation to remove a brain tumor. The events take place in the space of one day. —KA

HARPER COLLINS

If you had not noticed yet, Harper & Row has changed its name to Harper Collins and they now have a separate catalogue for Harper San Francisco books. Like Norton they don't have much in the way of new fiction, but San Francisco does have a strong recovery and spirituality section this Fall. Barbara Kingsolver (*The Bean Trees*) has a new novel due in September. *Animal Dreams* (\$19.95 cl, 006016350X) is the story of Codi and Hallie Noline and their cantankerous father Homer. Hallie goes off to fight for social justice in Nicaragua while Codi returns to Arizona to confront her past. What she finds is a town threatened by a silent environmental catastrophe. Kingsolver blends socially conscious themes with dreams and myths in this powerful story of love and courage.

My Country, My Right to Serve by Mary Ann Humphrey (\$19.95 cl, 0060164468, September) looks at the stories of lesbians and gay men in the armed forces. Humphrey, who was discharged for being a lesbian, has collected moving first-person accounts of the experiences of gay men and women in the military from WWII to the present. Included are the stories of Perry Watkins who openly proclaimed his homosexuality when he was inducted, only to be dismissed 15 years later, Eisenhower's gay aide Johnnie Phelps and the story of Miriam Ben-Shalom, the only avowedly lesbian soldier currently enlisted.



A new collection of essays by Nancy Mairs (*Plaintext*) tackles such issues as the nature of female discourse, civil disobedience, and living with a chronic debilitating disease. *Carnal Acts* (\$18.95 cl, 0060164948, September) resounds with the honesty and power of a unique strong voice.

Talking Power: The Politics of Language by Robin Lakoff (\$22.95 cl, 0465083587, October) is a lively, probing look at all kinds of talk. From unintelligible academic jargon to Bush's effective use of

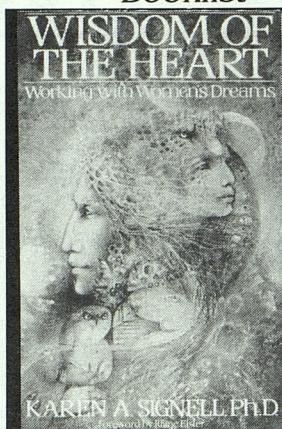
"★ Highly recommended"

—Booklist

WISDOM OF THE HEART Working with Women's Dreams

by
Karen Signell, Ph.D.
Jungian Analyst

Foreword by
Riane Eisler



cover art: © Susan Seddon Boulet

"Into a marketplace filled with self-help books that peddle little more than common sense comes this excellent introduction to dream analysis for women interested in using their dreams for personal growth . . . Even experts in dream symbolism will gain from Signell's provocative analyses of the dreams that . . . help confront aggression, transform anger, and explore sexuality . . . Highly recommended for general collections." —Booklist

"Outstanding . . . feminist . . . refreshingly readable."
—Kim Chernin

"Wise and practical . . ." —Linda Schierse Leonard

"Illuminating . . ." —Jean Shinoda Bolen

"It's all there - the feminine buried so deep, for so long, waiting to burst forth; the anger, passion, rage; the erotic, the spiritual, the life force."
—Elinor Gadon



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ISBN 0-553-34905-8
325 pages • Index • Bibliography
A BANTAM New Age Trade Paperback

vagueness, Lakoff entertains and informs us about the persuasive strategies of communication. —ST

Basic Books

A new edition of the **Drama of the Gifted Child** by Alice Miller (\$8.95 pb, 0465016936, September) will have a new introduction by the author.

The earlier book on divorce by Judith Wallerstein (*Second Chances*), **Surviving the Breakup** (\$12.95 pb, 0465083447, September) will be issued in a new edition.

And at last a new collection of cartoons by Lynda Barry. **Come Over, Come Over** (\$8.95 pb, 0060965045, October) pokes fun at all those painful situations of growing up in the sixties. —ST

Continuum

Daughters and Mothers: Healing the Relationship by mother and daughter Julie and Dorothy Firman (\$10.95 pb, 0826404928) is a wise and compassionate book that encourages daughters to make peace with the mothers of their childhood: to understand them, forgive them and accept them. —ST

Crossroad

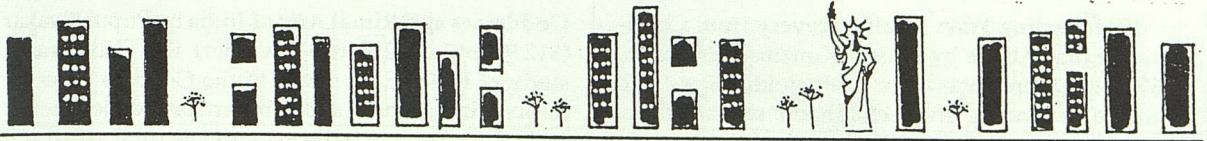
Woman Word by Miriam Therese Winter (\$16.95 cl, 0824510542, September) is a feminist lectionary and psalter based on the new testament. It includes readings, psalms and prayers for dozens of worship services and celebrations. Personal reflections, prayers and illustrations by Meinrad Craighead complete each celebration.

In Whose Image? God and Gender by Jann Aldridge Clanton (\$9.95, 0824510313, September) is an examination of inclusive language which shows how our concepts of God profoundly influence our self-concepts.

What Language Shall I Borrow? by Brian Wren (\$14.95 cl, 0824510550, September) is a theoretical presentation of the problem of God-talk (masculine vs. sexually inclusive) interspersed with hymn texts and creative worship ideas. —ST

Harper Perennial - Paperbacks

Harper is doing some great paperbacks this Fall. Starting off with Annie Dillard's **The Writing Life** (\$8.95 pb, 0060929884, September). This spare, brilliant book illuminates what the actual process of writing feels like. The book probes and exposes but also



offers bits of technical information about the writing life.

For bookstores who have a section on women with disabilities, you may want to look at Oliver Sacks' **Seeing Voices** (\$8.95 pb, 0060973471, September). This investigation into the language and culture of the deaf offers a deeply felt portrait of a minority struggling for recognition and respect. Sacks traces the history of the deaf, looks at ASL and takes the reader to the uprising of deaf students at Gallaudet University.

Fear of Falling: The Inner Life of the Middle Class by Barbara Ehrenreich (\$9.95 pb, 0060973331, September) is a look at America's largest social class. Ehrenreich exposes the prejudices that shape the middle-class and shatters many myths. She challenges its members to embrace their responsibility as the intellectual, social and political conscience of America.

Another book that does not focus on women only, but is of great importance to the crucial environmental issues of our time is **The Fate of the Forest** by Alexander Cockburn & Susanna Hecht (\$9.95 pb, 0060973226). This book addresses the destruction of the rain forest and the serious repercussions this will have on our environment, our atmosphere and our lives.

Another interesting environmental book is **67 Ways to Save the Animals** by Anna Sequoia with Animal Rights International (\$5.95 pb, 0060968481, November). This accessible and practical guide offers concrete suggestions on how to fight for humane treatment of animals. It includes sample letters and petitions, a list of national animal rights organizations and a suggested reading list.

Georgia O'Keeffe by Roxanna Robinson (\$12.95 pb, 0060920009, September) is a well-organized, very readable, yet romantic biography of O'Keeffe. Robinson traces the development of O'Keeffe's artistic vision, her relationship with Alfred Stieglitz and her ongoing struggle to balance the rigorous demands of love and work.

A new recovery book that offers a step-by-step formula for recovering from all kinds of addictions

including drugs, food, alcohol, work, shopping or sex behavior (no mention of book addiction). **Willpower's Not Enough** by Arnold Washton and Donna Boundy (\$8.95 pb, 0060919698, September) explains how patterns of dependence arise from elements of the addicts own personality, as well as from society. The book stresses that successful recovery means ultimately changing the way we live.



Terrifying Love by Lenore Walker (\$8.95 pb, 0060920068, October) is a study of women who murder their abusive partners in self-defense and the legal and psychological aftermath of this act. Using case histories, Walker describes what pushed these women to act and follows the women's destinies in court, in prison and in their families.

Priestesses by Norma Lorre Goodrich (\$10.95 pb, 0060973161, November) brings to light the powerful yet neglected priestesses from Asia Minor to Ireland. This definitive work on the women who ruled the ancient world draws on the works of Joseph Campbell, Robert Graves as well as Goodrich's own extensive research.

— ST

Harper San Francisco

Working Ourselves to Death by Diane Fassell (\$14.95 cl, 0062548697, September) examines the high cost of work addiction and the rewards of recovery. Fassell debunks the myths that work addicts get ahead, that workaholism is profitable for corporations and that work addiction is nothing more than stress and burnout. She helps guide the reader towards a more balanced life through simple and proven techniques.

Circle of Hope by Perry Tillerass (\$10.95 pb, 0062554123, September) is a guide for people coping with AIDS and chemical dependency at the same time. More than 24 people living with AIDS share their personal accounts of recovery from addiction and offer strength and hope for others.

The Healing Way: Adult Recovery from Childhood Sexual Abuse by Kristin Kunzman (\$8.95 pb, 0062553836, September) is a basic guide for people who are recovering from childhood sexual abuse. Kunzman explores the reasons that abuse happens in families, describes the baffling phenomenon of repressed memories and tells readers how to recognize their own abuse. She also focuses on the interrelatedness of childhood sexual abuse and alcoholism.

We Weep for Ourselves and Our Children by Joanne Ross Feldmeth and Midge Wallace Finley (\$8.95 pb, 0060623489, October) is a Christian guide for survivors of childhood sexual abuse. This practical guide helps survivors mourn the loss of childhood innocence and deal with the issues raised by dysfunctional families.

Harper SF has plenty of spirituality books coming. Even with the questions about Lynn Andrews I feel I should mention her new book since it is about the world of Catherine in medieval England. Young Catherine (Lynn A) encounters the Woman of Wyrdd who becomes her teacher in **The Woman of Wyrdd** (\$17.95 cl, 006250066X, September).

Sacred Path Cards by Jamie Sams (\$26.95 cl & cards, 0062507621, October), the author of *Medicine Cards* and a member of the Wolf Clan Teaching Lodge of the Seneca Nation, is a unique system of guidance that offers support and distills the essential wisdom of the sacred teachings of many tribal traditions.

The Enneagram by Helen Palmer (\$10.95 pb, 0062506838, September) is a guide to this ancient spiritual system of basic personality types. It shows how to recognize your own type and those of the people you're involved with and how to capitalize on your strengths and handle your weaknesses to achieve your full potential.



The lavishly illustrated **Lady of the Beasts** by Buffie Johnson (\$24.95 pb, 006250424X, November) will be out in time for the holiday season in paperback. This exploration of the roots and meaning of the Goddess and her animal archetypes includes over 300 illustrations (50 in color). Johnson's artist's eye adds an important visual dimension to our understanding of love of the Goddess. **The Earth Mother: Legends,**

Goddesses and Ritual Arts of India by Pupil Jayakar (\$12.95 pb, 0062504053, October) is an illustrated study of the ancient world of the Goddess revealed through India's rural and tribal art. Jayakar journeyed to the far corners of India to interview rural, tribal and other craftspeople to compile this comprehensive study of the world of the Earth Mother.

Marilyn Waring, a political economist and former member of the New Zealand Parliament, has written a powerful book on feminist economics. **If Women Counted** (\$12.95 pb, 0062509403, December) shows how Western governments and institutions render women powerless by refusing to value their unpaid work within the home. — ST

LITTLE BROWN AND COMPANY

In October two Ellen Gilchrist books will appear. **I Can Not Get You Close Enough** (\$17.95 cl, 0-316-31313-0) is a new collection of three interconnecting stories. **Light Can Be Both Wave and Particle** (\$8.95 pb, -31312-2), her previous collection, will be issued in paperback. — KA

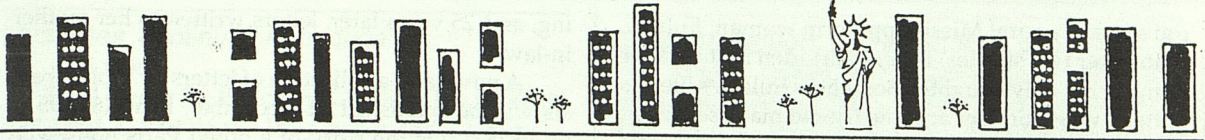
NEW DIRECTIONS (dist. by Norton)

Clarice Lispector's first novel **Near to the Wild Heart** (\$8.95 pb, 0811211401, September), first published in 1944 when she was 19 years old, will be reissued this Fall. This award-winning novel recalls the childhood and then the adult years of middle-class Joanna, her unhappy marriage and its dissolution. Lispector (1925-77) was one of Latin America's foremost women writers.

Three Short Novels by Kay Boyle (\$10.95 pb, 0811211495, January 1991) is another reissue of a modern classic. Kay Boyle is a keen observer of the human condition and the limits of moral awareness. "The Crazy Hunter" involves a power struggle between a business-like mother, a feckless father and an almost grown daughter. "The Bridegroom's Body" is a story of suppressed passion and the unquestioned male subjugation of women. "Decision" deals with the liberating power of moral choice — and almost certain death — in Franco's Spain. — ST

NORTON

Norton, who usually has a strong fiction list, has very little by women this Fall. **The Safety of Objects** by A.M. Homes (\$17.95 cl, 0393028844, August) is a



collection of short stories by the author of the novel *Jack*. Her stories have appeared in *Christopher Street*, *Story* and *New York Woman*. Reality and the surreal mix in these stories to give us a disturbing vision of the way we live.

Though they don't have much fiction to appear this Fall, Norton will be publishing the second volume of Janet Sternburg's edited collection of essays about what it means to be a woman who writes. **The Writer on Her Work: New Essays in New Territory** (\$19.95 cl, 0393028046, March 1991) includes essays by Bharati Mukherjee exploring her Indian girlhood, Jan Morris looking at how gender affects a writer's work, Ursula LeGuin transforming the myths that describe women who write. Margaret Atwood, Rita Dove, Luisa Valenzuela and Kaye Gibbons also examine their lives and work.

Frances Spalding's biography of the poet Stevie Smith is a serious study of this unorthodox, humorous writer. **Stevie Smith** (\$14.95 pb, 0393307182, February 1991) is a comprehensive look at the life and literary work of Smith.

Recreating Motherhood by Barbara Katz Rothman (\$10.95 pb, 0393307123, October) is a feminist discussion of the social, legal and medical issues of motherhood. Ursula LeGuin called it a "sound, wise guide both to the politics of motherhood and to private moral decision-making...an invaluable book."

Judge Lois Forer has written a book about the unequal protection of women, children, and the elderly in the court system. **Unequal Protection** (\$22.95 cl, 0393029492) looks at cases from her own courtroom and explains how the courts can redress the balance for those against whom the scales of justice appear weighted.

Winning the Chemo Battle by Joyce Mitchell (\$9.95 pb, 0393307131, January 1991), who herself has undergone chemotherapy for breast cancer, provides information and inspiration on coping with the treatment. Mitchell gives up-to-date information on chemotherapy drugs, their side effects and other helpful tips on coping with the illness.

A ground-breaking report on women in the scientific community looks at why there are still very few women in research science. **The Outer Circle** edited by Harriet Zuckerman et al. (\$24.95 cl, 0393027732, February 1991) tries to answer why women scientists fare less well than men, what is the role sexism plays in their career and do men and women have separate styles of scientific thinking among other questions.

From Norton Professional Books, **Stories That Heal** by Lee Wallas (\$22.95 cl, 0393701069, January 1991) explains the use of stories and storytelling as a vehicle for teaching and reparenting adult children of dysfunctional families. Wallas uses storytelling with hypnotic trances to replace hurtful past experiences with loving ones to help reparent clients. — *ST*



PENGUIN USA Dutton

Motherhood as Metamorphosis by Joyce Block (\$18.95 cl, 0525249001, September) is a popular study about the passage to motherhood for women today. Dr. Block draws on her interviews with dozens of new mothers to explore the transformation women experience with this new role. The external and internal changes in a new mother's life reshape her self-image, her relationships, her sexuality and her own identification with her mother.

Coming Out: An Act of Love by Rob Eichberg (\$18.95 cl, 0525249095, October), a co-founder of National Coming Out Day, looks at coming out as a difficult but empowering process that leads to a new freedom and personal fulfillment. Eichberg offers a step by step guide through the stages of coming out along with exercises using visualization, and letters from gays and lesbians to their loved ones. — *ST*

Viking

A Scrambling After Circumstance by Margaret-Love Denman (\$17.95 cl, 067083534X, September) is

the story of a rural Mississippi farm woman, Eula B., who (after two strokes) is left bedridden in the trailer home of her only daughter. Somehow Eula B.'s life has gotten away from her and she tries to make sense out of her life with her daughter Toy and her family while coming to terms with her own disappointments and losses. This novel presents a life that is both ordinary and remarkable.

Another book that presents a remarkable life is **Golden Lilies** by Kweil-li (\$17.95 cl, 0670834386, November), the memoirs of a Chinese woman who lived through the coming of the automobile to the political unrest that swept the country and the confusion and anguish of watching her children defy the old ways and create a new China. This intimate portrait of Chinese life at the turn of the century is comprised of letters first written to her new husband who is travel-

ing, and 25 years later, letters written to her mother-in-law.

A novel and a collection of letters by Violet Trefusis will be published in December. **Echo** (\$17.95 cl, 0670835412) is the story of a bored Paris housewife, Sauge, who travels to her aunt's castle in Scotland where she encounters her twin cousins Malcolm and his sister Jean. The androgyny of the twins and Sauge's relationship with them reflects Trefusis own friendship and love with Vita Sackville-West.

Violet to Vita ed. by Mitchell Leaska & John Phillips (\$19.95 cl, 0670835420, December) is a chronicle of the passionate love affair between Violet Trefusis and Vita Sackville-West. Vita's letters to Violet were destroyed by Violet's husband but Violet's letters were preserved. These letters are a moving testament to their love for each other and the painful price Violet paid for it. — ST

ST. MARTIN'S PRESS

Nothing Ever Happens to the Brave by Carl Rollyson (\$24.95 cl, 0-312-05125-5, Nov.) is the first full-scale biography of Martha Gellhorn, the war correspondent and novelist. **The House of Dolls** (\$14.95 cl, -04974-9, Nov.), Barbara Comyn's latest novel, concerns four eccentric ladies and a London boarding house.

Beyond Acceptance by Carolyn Welch Griffin, Marian J. Wirth, & Arthur G. Wirth (\$9.95 pb, -04993-5, September), a book for parents of lesbians and gay men; based on the experiences of parents, it details the process of understanding leading to acceptance. The authors are active members of P-FLAG and their book was very much in demand in hardback.

Tales from the Planet Sylvia by Nicole Hollander (\$10.95 pb, -05166-2, September) is a Sylvia treasury which also has material about the creation of the cartoon, excerpts from "Sylvia: The Musical," and some longer cartoon adventures. **Confessions of a Failed Southern Lady** (\$8.95 pb, -05063-1, October), Florence King's delightful memoir, returns to print. **The Sound of Wings** by Mary S. Lovell (\$12.95 pb, -05160-3, December), a biography of Amelia Earhart, will be issued in paperback. — KA

WILLIAM MORROW

Emily Toth's **Kate Chopin** (\$24.95 cl, 0-688-09707-3, November, 480 p.) is the first comprehensive biography of the author of *The Awakening*, revealing an independent, unconventional woman. — KA ○

MASS MARKETS



By Karen Axness

AUGUST

The Story of Annie D., Susan Taylor Chehak, Fawcett, \$4.95, 0-449-21885-6, Fic.

Buffalo Afternoon, Susan Fromberg Schaeffer, Ivy, \$5.95, 0-8041-0580-4, Fic.

Wild America, Jayne Loader, Ivy, \$4.95, 0-8041-0644-4, Fic. (short stories).

In the Palomar Arms, Hilma Wolitzer, Ivy, \$3.95, 0-8041-0511-1, Fic.

SEPTEMBER

Eva's Story, Eva Schloss, Berkley, \$4.50, 0-425-12272-7, Jewish women.

Just a Nurse, Janet Kraegel, R.N. & Mary Kachoyanos, R.N., Dell, \$4.95, 0-440-20763-0, Non-Fic.

Number the Stars, Lois Lowry, Dell, \$3.50, 0-440-40327-8, Young Adult Fic.

The Men's Room, Ann Oakley, Ivy, \$4.95, 0-8041-0647-9, Fic.

Disappearing Acts, Terry McMillan, Pocket (WSP), \$8.95, 0-671-70843-0, Fic., Afro-American. ○

Mysteries, continued from page 74

And more....

Peril Under the Palms by K.K. Beck, Ivy, \$3.95 pb, 8041-0594-4. Part of the Iris Cooper series set in the 1920's — this one has an Hawaiian location.

Portal of the Window by Shizuko Natsuki, Ballantine, \$3.95 pb, 345-36032-X. Japanese mystery writer. The following are being reissued: **Murder at Mt. Fuji**, \$2.95, -33761-1; **Third Lady**, \$2.95, -33765-4; **Obituary Arrives at Two O'clock**, \$3.50, -33237-8; and **Innocent Journey**, \$3.50, -35645-4.

The Mark Twain Murders by Edith Skom, Dell, \$3.50, 440-2061-1. An academic murder that focuses attention on the question of plagiarism.

Year of the Monkey by Carole Berry, Dell, \$3.50, 440-21672-3. Bonnie Indermill, an amateur detective, works in the financial world where fortunes and lives are lost.

Scavengers by Yvonne Montgomery, Bantam, \$3.50, 425-12214-X. Another big money mystery set in the world of stock brokers.

Under Contract by Liza Cody, Bantam, \$3.95, 553-28345-6. Anna Lee is into the rock scene in this latest of the series...

Crime in Question by Margaret Yorke, Penguin, \$3.95, 14-1012435-7, Sept. ○

Science Fiction, continued from page 63

August brings Storm Constantine's **Bewitchments of Love and Hate**, previously published in the U.K., and September Kathryn Ptacek's **Women of Darkness II**, a hardcover anthology of women's horror stories. Ptacek's own **Ghost Dance**, also horror but in paperback, is scheduled for November, as is **Human to Human**, by Rebecca Ore, a well-reviewed, relatively new writer whom I haven't yet read.

Louise Cooper's "Indigo" series is getting away from me. **Infanta**, number 3, is out, as is **Nocturne**, number 4, and number 5, **Troika**, is scheduled for December. A continuing good bet for fantasy readers until I hear otherwise.

**WOMEN'S PRESS/U.K.**

Oh, dear, more hard-to-attainables. **The Start of It All and Other Stories** is a collection by Carol Emshwiller, whose *Carmen Dog* is a feminist necessary. Also out is **The Silent City** by Elisabeth Vonarburg, of whom I first heard in Madison last March. In September look for **Machine Sex**, a collection by Candace Jane Dorsey, and **Moving Moosevan** by Jane Palmer. ○

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Hendrickson, Paul. *Seminary* (2 cc).

Kirkwood, James. *American Grotesque*.

Matthiessen, Peter, *Indian Country*.

Merriam-Webster, *2nd Int'l Dict. of English Language*.

Moorhouse, Geoffrey. *Calcutta, The City Revealed*.

Prokudin. *Photographs for the Tsar*.

Silverstein. *Joy of Gay Sex* (mult. cc - hb or pb).

Sisley. *Joy of Lesbian Sex* (mult. cc - hb or pb).

Von Gloeden. *Taormina*. Twelve Trees Press.

Barbara Seaman

David Brooks Productions

52 Riverside Dr., Suite 3A

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Seaman, Barbara. *Free and Female*. Fawcett pb.

Seaman, Barbara. *Doctor's Case Against the Pill*. Avon, 1969 edition.

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Before Columbus, continued from page 50.

Romans and Blacks, Lloyd A. Thompson, University of Oklahoma Press.

The Harlem Fox: J. Raymond Jones and Tammany, 1920-1970, John C. Walter, SUNY Press.

Hand into Stone, Elizabeth Woody, Contact II Publications.

Criticism Award

The Life of Langston Hughes: Volume I, 1902-1941, I, Too, Sing America and Volume II, 1941-1967, I Dream a World, Arnold Rampersad, Oxford University Press.

Educator Award

James O. Freedman

Editor/Publisher Award

John Crawford, *West End Press*

Lifetime Achievement Award

Sonia Sanchez

Allen Ginsberg ○

CLASSIFIED ADS & LITERARY PERSONALS

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Writers Conference Coordinator for National Women's Music Festival. Volunteer position involves working with featured speakers, volunteer workshop presenters, and festival day programming coordinator to develop, schedule, and produce feminist writing workshops. Familiarity with feminist literature, interest in ongoing development of feminist writing, and generally organized thinking skills needed. For more information, contact Midge Stocker, NWMF Writers Conference, 2250 W. Farragut, Chicago, IL 60625-1802.

Publishers Promotion Area Coordinator for National Women's Music Festival. Volunteer position involves informing feminist publishers about display space opportunity, arriving on-site at NWMF (Indiana University) early to check display package arrival, and setting up, monitoring, and breaking down displays. For more information, contact Midge Stocker, NWMF Publishers Promotion Area, 2250 W. Farragut, Chicago, IL 60625-1802.

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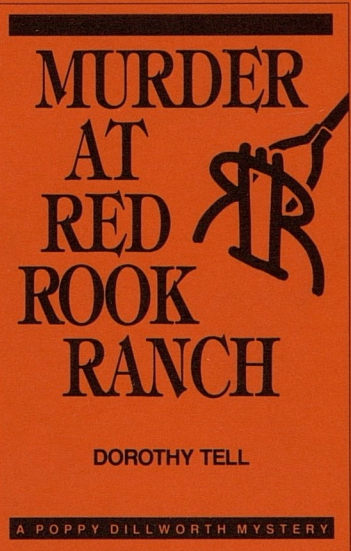
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