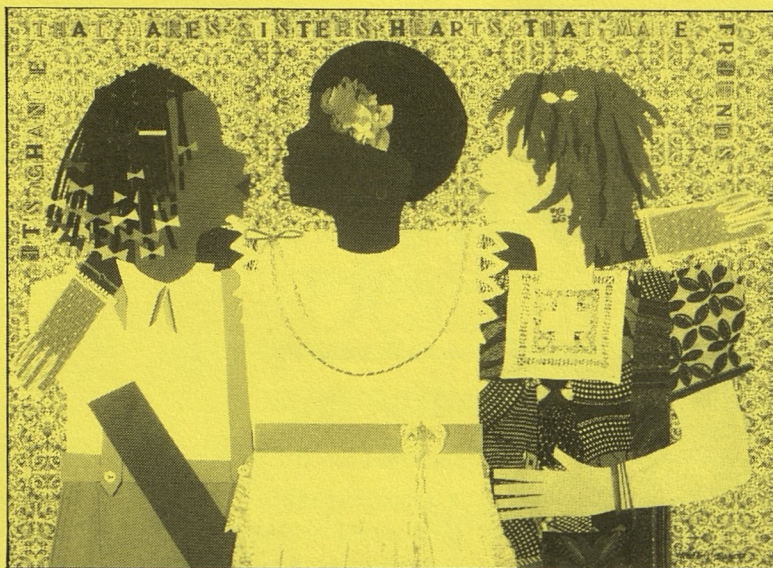

Feminist Bookstore News





Spring Announcements Issue

April 1991

Femina serial am F32978
Am Jca Volume 13 Number 6

5/15/91

A Celebration of Life, Love, Sex, Sensuality, Pleasure and Beauty.

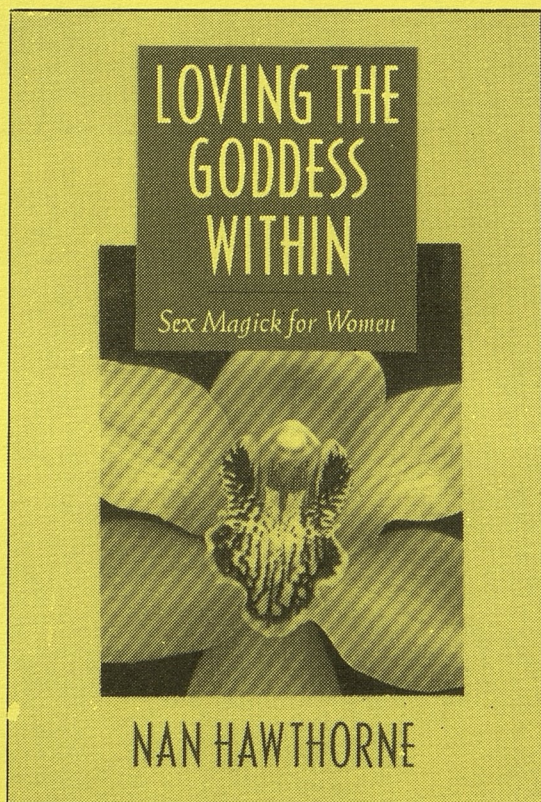
"LOVING THE GODDESS WITHIN: SEX MAGICK FOR WOMEN offers a much needed celebration of sacred sexuality and love, including the often neglected subject of self-love. With her unique blend of practical down to Earth suggestions and deep love of the Goddess and Her ways, Nan Hawthorne has written a book that should be part of every spiritual woman's collection. *LOVING THE GODDESS WITHIN* is one of the very best books I have read on creating your sense of self-esteem and taking pleasure in your Earthly form. Highly recommended!"

Lunaea Weatherstone, *SageWoman Magazine*

"A beautifully written tribute to the re-emerging Goddess, and to the women who embody Her. Affirmative of all that has been denied: the life-force inherent in our physical bodies, the erotic, the passionate, and the power and beauty that is woman and the Goddess brought forth through the sacred arts of dance and drama, sex and celebration, myth and imagination. Magically accurate, ritually delightful."

Anodea Judith, *Wheels of Life: A User's Guide to the Chakra System*

\$13.95 ISBN: 1-878980-01-7



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press**

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AVAILABLE MAY 1991

SHE CHANGES

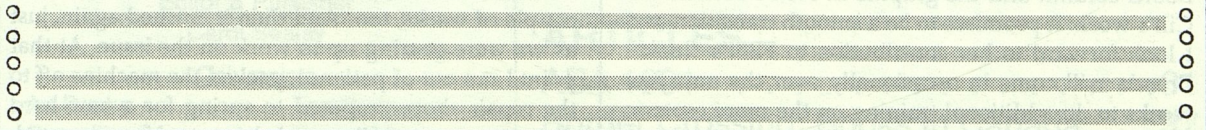
A Goddess Myth for Modern Women

A stunning tale of transformation and power. Moving from behind the cloistered walls of a convent to a birthing center in the hills of Appalachia, *SHE CHANGES* tells the story of how one woman finds the Goddess and thereby finds herself.

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Available through Bookpeople, Inland, Moving Books and New Leaf.

NOTES FROM THE COMPUTER TABLE



Spring, at last!

This issue is thick with Spring announcements, especially from the feminist presses and the other small presses.... 49 feminist publishers have 126 books announced in this issue. That has to be an all time record — and that's only the books and announcements that arrived in time to make it into this issue!



This issue sees the debut of a column I've wanted for years — a regular column on Canadian books. Penny Goldsmith (Lazara Press) phoned up one afternoon in February saying that she was interested in doing the column and got us the first column in time for this issue. She'll focus on books from presses that aren't already being covered in FBN. U.S. published books are readily distributed and sold in Canada but Canadian books — except of course for feminist and other movement presses — are too rarely distributed, promoted, or sold in the U.S. Canadian booksellers will be familiar with many of the books covered in this column but most of it will be very useful for those of us below the border. Please tell us what you think of the column and call Penny if you have suggestions for books to include in the column: 604-253-3715 or write to her c/o Lazara Press, Box 2269 VMPO, Vancouver BC V6B 3W2.

I'm also very pleased to have an article on bookstore memberships. It's an article that I've wanted for a long time. Now, I can't exactly say that I'm pleased to have Nett Hart's column... But I certainly do appreciate her bravery and her stance in the world — which is to share experience with other women about the things that really happen to us — and about her experience of fighting back. I hope it provides some

validation for other women who've survived similar situations. I'm particularly aware, as we go to press, that the several women I know who have been violently assaulted made different decisions in different situations and took different actions and it's equally clear to me that each woman made the best decision for herself in her situation.

This issue also covers the early ABA Convention news. ABA should be interesting this year — among other things, there's a proposed change in structure that would make the executive director the president and turn the president into a chairman[sic]. If you figure it out clue me in.

Please join me in welcoming Cill (Priscilla) Jane-way to FBN's staff. We're very pleased to have her. Cill is taking over Brenda's Production Manager and Advertising Manager jobs. Brenda has been working with Cill for three weeks now, teaching her the ins and outs of FBN's various systems, throwing computer

FBN Deadlines

ABA Special Issue
May/June
Yesterday!

Summer Sidelines Issue
June 14

programs at her (Ventura, Paradox, WordStar...) and, of course, production. She's taken to it all like a duck to water. Look to the banner on the new Canadian Books column and the graphic in Nett's column for Cill's work. It promises to be a smooth transition and I look forward to her contribution to FBN's "look." Brenda will come in occasionally over the next few weeks to do additional training on the more esoteric aspects of the job. We're sad to see her go. She's been a vital part of FBN for the last two years and we will certainly miss her!



The good news on the international front is that the dates for the V International Feminist Book Fair have been set. The Fair will be held in Amsterdam from June 24 to June 28. Write to the Fair organizers at: V International Feminist Book Fair, Entrepotdok 66, 1018 AD Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Tel: (20) 638 1506. Fax: (20) 638 0786. More news as we receive it!

We have a new, updated theory on our crashed

hard disk. The first two approaches, you may recall, were to reformat the hard disk, which we did, and, when that failed, we (with the help of some tech-friends) did a low-level reformat. That worked for a couple of weeks, too. And then it crashed again, just as we were gearing up to work on the issue. At that point I ran out of patience, packed the machine off to the repair shop, prepared to spring for a new hard disk, a new controller card, labor.... Now, granted, everyone has their own theory on these things, but I rather liked the technician's theory analysis — the (\$12.00) cable between the motherboard and the hard disk was bad..... So far, so good!

Thanks to everyone who responded to my question in last issue's column about size. The consensus so far is that 125 pages is too long. ("Not that I don't have time to *read* it all — it's more that I don't have time to follow through on my margin notes... And "that's a problem.") The other concrete suggestion was to focus book columns on excellence, rather than trying to cover everything in a particular field. Please tell us if you agree or disagree.

Yours in spreading the words,
Carol Seajay

○

AUNT LUTE BOOKS announces

Daughter of the Mountain, Un Cuento, a novel by Edna Escamill

Maggie, a young Chicana/Indian woman living in the Southwest, is both witness to and victim of the transformation from rural community to urban barrio and of the shame that follows. Her grandmother, a Yaqui native, teaches Maggie knowledge of the land and her own form of spirituality as tools for survival. Her stories, or cuentos, of the old days reach back into the nineteenth century, illuminating a way of life that has disappeared.

ISBN: 0-933216-82-3

192 pp. \$8.95 pub date: June 1991

Fiction/Women's Studies/Ethnic Studies



Send My Roots Rain, a novel by Ibis Gomez-Vega

At the invitation of the village priest, an urban woman artist arrives in a small Southwestern town near the Mexican boarder. She has come to paint murals in his church, unaware that it has burned down in a catastrophic fire. In the course of overseeing the rebuilding of the church, and falling in love with another woman, she unravels the town's guilt and fears and is finally able to face her own.

Plagued by terrifying nightmares, she

discovers their source with the help of Miriam, the desert healer. A wonderful, fast-paced novel by a new talent.

ISBN: 0-933216-80-7 224 pp. \$9.95 pub date: June 1991 Fiction/Women's Studies/Ethnic Studies

FBN

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Carol Seajay

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Shake It To The One You Love The Best

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Calling Rain

by Karen Marie Christa Minns

From the author of the haunting *Virago* . . .

Primatologist Darrian Stone has made the find of the century. She has located the legendary Big Foot — the Sasquatch. To protect the trust these shy, gentle creatures have in her, she guards the research project with uncompromising ferocity.

Nikki, compelled by her vision of a woman she has seen only in film and photograph, is determined to endure any hardship to be part of the Great Apes Project, to be with Darrian.

As Nikki struggles to earn a place among the Great Apes, she uncovers an erotic passion in Darrian Stone that fully matches the legend of the woman.

The pressures increase — from a ruthlessly intrusive press, politicians, even the scientific community, until Nikki is called upon to make an ultimate act of love and allegiance . . .

Calling Rain is a stunning tale of passion — and of loyalty to the best in ourselves and the preservation of our world. ISBN 0-941483-87-8 \$9.95

Black Iris

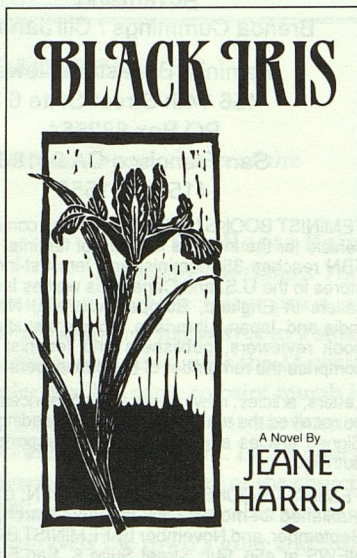
by Jeane Harris

To all appearances, university professor Caroline Jordan leads a fulfilled life. No one suspects her deepest, darkest secret — the monster who is Gerald Louis Steckman.

Steckman, imprisoned for the brutal rape of Caroline, has been released and is back in Denver, wreaking homicidal horror as he stalks Caroline once again.

But the gay community of Denver, especially its women, have banded together to find *him*. Caroline is determined that she will never again be a passive victim. She intends to find Gerald Louis Steckman, trap him . . . and kill him.

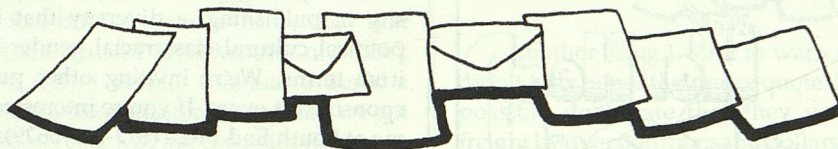
ISBN 0-941483-68-1 \$8.95



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LETTERS



A Different World Bookstore
414 E. Grand Ave.
Beloit WI 53511

Dear FBN,

Just a note to let you know that we are still hanging in. I have been here for two years now and The Community is getting over the shock of a Feminist Bookstore. Lots of people are still "afraid" to come into the store, but for the most part it is accepted.

I put together a catalog and we are doing mail order. If anyone wants a free catalog, call or write: A Different World, 414 East Grand Ave, Beloit WI 53511. Phone: 608-365-1000, FAX 608-365-1451.

Thanks,
Judee Post-Woodman



The Great Catsby
551 W. Cordova, Ste. D/E
Santa Fe NM 87501

Dear FBN,

I'd like to make Feminist Bookstore News aware of a truly extraordinary supplier who has been invaluable in getting us started and keeping us going for our difficult first year. Womontyme Distribution Center out of Long Beach CA has been one of the staunchest supporters of The Great Catsby Bookstore/Gay and Lesbian Community Center. Womontyme carries videos, novelties (magnets, rubber stamps), greeting cards and books on special interest subjects like sexual assault, domestic violence, incest, recovery and self help for women and children. They have been an invaluable resource for information on these subjects, and Jan has been especially helpful regarding discounts, terms, and low minimums, areas which are

really important when you are just starting out in a new business. They are a fine company to work with, and I feel they should be given the utmost support by the feminist community.

Sincerely,
Sharon Mason

Editor's Note: Womontyme Distribution can be reached at P.O. Box 50145, Long Beach CA 90815. Phone: 800-247-8903, FAX: 213-425-4258.



Paradigm Distribution
3343 Adams Avenue
San Diego CA 92116

Open letter from Paradigm Women's Bookstore:

We would like to let everyone know, especially publishers, that we would like to know of authors visiting or living in our area. They don't have to be new authors. Please contact us at 3343 Adams Avenue, San Diego, CA 92116, 619-563-1981. We're new at this so tell us also any details you think we might be interested in regarding author visits/signings.

Thanks,
Karen Merry

South End Press
Institute for Social & Cultural Change
116 St. Botolph St.
Boston MA 02115

Dear FBN,

The theme of this year's ABA "Bookstore USA: Celebrating Our Freedom to Read" walks a fine line between a timely recognition of the importance of literacy in sustaining a democratic society, and a shallow, knee-jerk patriotism — so dangerous in the

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aftermath of war. Certainly, our freedom to read is, as the convention literature asserts, both precious and precarious.

The structure of the publishing industry has a lot to do with that. Ordinary people don't have much say in what's a good book. That decision is left to press barons such as Rupert Murdoch and Si Newhouse, and multimedia giants like Paramount Communications and Time-Warner. In fact, only 200 publishers account for 90% of book sales in this country. You'll have to search long and hard to find more than a trace of progressive thinking in the mainstream of the industry.



In a real sense, South End and Monthly Review — along with our colleagues at other political and feminist/lesbian/gay presses — maintain a critical edge in the industry. We challenge the status quo each time we release a book.

Renee Pendergrass of Monthly Review Press and I are working to put together a political presence at the ABA this year and we're inviting publishers to be a part of it. First, we'd like to invite you to a

reception on Sunday, June 2 at 5:30 pm (Location to be announced.)

Featured will be author bell hooks, who will deliver a keynote address about the importance of diversity in publishing, a diversity that is measured in political, cultural, class, racial, gender-based, and spiritual terms. We're inviting other publishers to co-sponsor this event. If you're interested, please phone me at South End Press (617-266-0629).

We'd also like to explore the possibilities of creating a regular presence at future ABA conventions. For example, we could have a reception like this every year, and rotate responsibility for organizing it among different publishers. Or we could organize a "political" aisle, much like the "feminist/gay/lesbian" aisle, but not in conflict with it. Please contact either one of us if you would like to be included in future planning and discussions, or stop by the South End Press booth, #368.

Sincerely,
Karin Aguilar-San Juan

Tough Dove Books
PO Box 1999
Redway CA 95560

Dear Friends,

For those curious, here's how *Lesbian Bedtime Stories 2* got such a late release last Fall. It was a publishing nightmare.

We thought we'd try BookCrafters because of their lower prices, their women representatives, their willingness and success (they said) in getting us recycled paper, and because we were lured by their extremely aggressive and diligent promotion efforts... But don't we all know better about corporate come-ons by now? We should!

The Tough Doves have dealt with enough printers to know to expect problems, but we've also come to expect speed and honorability in rectifying those problems. However, as soon as we signed the contract and sent in half our money, BookCrafters *caused* problems. Do you want to hear it?

When the estimators, camera room and credit department *all* made repeated errors and delays, I learned that the women executives, who at first acted so confident, had no power to remedy things; they were "very nice" and apologized profusely for

weeks. Because the blues had come back not only poor quality but unacceptable (on both *LBS2* and the simultaneous third printing of *LBS1* we'd also given them) we told them to send us samples of the finished covers before binding. It was the bindery that ignored us, so then we had 12,000 copies of a book with a cover we didn't design. (We had ordered a 20% and 100% same color duotone, but what we got was only the 20% screen, leaving the main figures — the ones that should have been screened at 100% — very shadowy. We refer to it as the "Lesbians in the Mist" cover). Although the covers didn't look that bad (just odd), we thought lesbians have enough trouble with invisibility, so we opted for a remake. That's when the stalling began. The *men* got on the phone (I had to keep calling *them*). Obviously we had a Fall selling season we were missing (and you were, too). We said *just fix it!* After over a week they said OK they would, it would take two weeks, so we released 500 copies of the "Lesbians in the Mist" version. After many phone calls (only catching the president between his hunting trips, no kidding) it took another *five weeks* of me hanging upside down before they finally sent out the trimmed down books

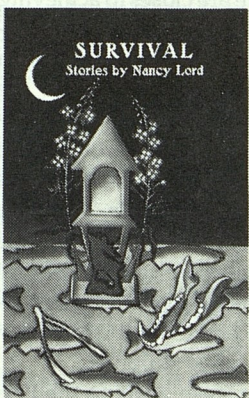
(that never got their duotone) *only after we had wired them full payment.*



Another thing I want to warn about is that they didn't fully honor their price quote. I think it was quite possibly deliberate that they underestimated the freight by over one thousand dollars. When we signed the bid it looked like they passed on their bulk freight discounts to their customers (like McNaughton and Gunn has done) but last minute, when they jacked up the prices, it negated almost all the "savings" on the entire job. But that had only been their "estimate," they said. (And it wasn't due to increased freight charges, either.)

It's nothing personal I have against BookCrafters. In my opinion they are just truly professional sleazeballs. They seem like the types to hire women only because they can pay them much less. At the time of this writing they still owe us money. I *don't* recommend BookCrafters (like I do McNaughton and Gunn). I thought it important to share this with you.

Women's Fiction from Coffee House Press



Survival

BY NANCY LORD

Alaskan landscapes are metaphors for physical and emotional survival in these stories which present a woman's perspective on the wilderness vision that Alaskan life conjures. "Nancy Lord's lucid prose style captures the loneliness and grandeur, the squalor and paths of life in our northernmost state."

—Maxine Kumin

April 1991

0-918273-84-6

RECENT RELEASES

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BY CONSTANCE URDANG 0-918273-81-1

Two novellas about women and family life.

The Samaritan Treasure

BY MARIANNE LUBAN 0-918273-79-X

Richly told, baroque stories on Jewish themes.

Through the Arc of the Rain Forest

BY KAREN TEI YAMASHITA 0-918273-82-X

A futuristic look at environmental devastation in Brazil. "A blend of magic realism and Brazilian soap opera." —*Feminist Bookstore News*

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W H E R E G O O D B O O K S A R E B R E W I N G

Also, although I'm not now planning a *Lesbian Bedtime Stories 3*, I'm available for large and small free-lance editing jobs and ghost writing. Some of us do like to be Lesbians in the Mist.

Bookpeople has stopped carrying *It's Time* (the eco-feminist fantasy novel about earth-saving) though Inland still has it. We're remaindering the last 500 copies. Direct from us we'll let them go to bookstores and women's studies teachers at \$1 per copy plus shipping on 10+. Young women really love this book and we want to get it into their hands any way we can.

Have a happy, cautious, safe and productive year. Thanks for your continued support and kind words. It's been a pleasure publishing and serving you. Really!

Terry Woodrow

Ed Note: Last fall BookCrafters also refused to print Jan Hardy's Wanting Women: An Anthology of Erotic Lesbian Poetry (Sidewalk Revolution Press). The refusal came after receiving the camera-ready copy and despite the fact that they had previously been aware of the lesbian and erotic nature of the book. The late-in-the-game refusal also created serious delays in the production of Wanting Women. BookCrafters' grounds for refusing to print the book was that it did not meet (their) community standards, an argument that didn't make much sense given that they had previously printed Lesbian Love Advisor and Susie Sexpert's Lesbian Sex World. See "Short Stories," FBN 13#4.



National Union of Journalists
60 Cricket Road
Oxford OX4 3DQ England

Dear FBN,

Re: Pergamon Press and the NUJ Dispute

Pergamon Press is currently planning the publication of an international encyclopedia of women's studies. We, the 23 journalists sacked by Robert Maxwell's Pergamon Press for a one-day strike in May 1989 and who have been campaigning solidly since then for reinstatement and union recognition, have consistently argued for a boycott of all of Maxwell's publications in order to help our cause.

However, we are obviously concerned about the long-term effect that this may have on important

future projects such as this encyclopedia. The contributors so far commissioned for it have expressed their worries to us, as they regard it as an especially important publication. Accordingly, while continuing to press for a total boycott of all the rest of Maxwell's publications, we have developed with the contributors a special strategy for this encyclopedia which we hope will both help our campaign and help keep the project alive until the dispute is settled.

Rather than ask for the total boycott to be extended to this encyclopedia, however, we are calling on all contributors merely to refuse to *submit* their manuscripts until the dispute has been settled.

The UK contributors contacted so far have reacted very positively to this strategy, and the strikers hope that this collective action will spread internationally to all contributors. We believe that this tactic will not only increase the pressure on Mr. Maxwell to settle the dispute, but will also ensure that this important project survives until it can be produced under better conditions. We are also asking women's studies departments to write to Mr. Maxwell telling him that they will not order or buy this encyclopedia until the dispute is settled; we hope that this combination of pressure from the encyclopedia's contributors and its future market will have a powerful impact on Mr. Maxwell.

Far from being a lost cause, we believe that our campaign for reinstatement and recognition has gained momentum and that we are closer to achieving a just settlement now than we have ever been throughout this long dispute. Support from within the British Labour Party, the trade union movement and the wider labor movement nationally and internationally has combined to put pressure on Mr. Maxwell, and he has recently agreed to a proposal for an independent inquiry into the background of the dispute. While we are confident that such an inquiry will vindicate the stance we have taken, we will continue to rely on pressure — including from the boycott campaign — to ensure such a vindication leads to a just resolution of the dispute. Please keep up your support!

For further information please write to the Pergamon Press NUJ Chapel, 60 Cricket Road, Oxford OX4 3DQ, UK (tel. 011 44 865 60762 or 011 44 865 723450, FAX 011 44 865 726753 (mark attn. a/c 266)).

Yours in sisterhood,

Dr. Belinda Stratton, for the 23 sacked journalists.○

Short Stories

SECTION 28 STRIKES AGAIN

Section 28, the British law that forbids the "promotion" of homosexuality, has struck again, according to the International Lesbian Information Service (ILIS). In September, the national Dutch lesbian and gay rights group (the COC) devoted a special issue of their monthly magazine *SEK* to lesbian sexuality. A Dutch lesbian sent a copy, together with other materials, to a friend in Scotland. British Customs agents removed the magazine and sent a letter with the rest of the material saying that they had removed *SEK* because it was "immoral." The letter also stated that spreading such "immoral" literature was illegal, and people caught doing it could be subject to a fine or prison sentence. The Dutch woman contacted the CAAdH, an anti-discrimination group for lesbians and gays, which contacted the British group Stonewall. Stonewall has put the situation before a lawyer and would like to hear about similar cases. Contact Stonewall, 2 Greyplace, Westminster, London SW1P 1SB, Britain; or CAAdH, Postbus 3534, 1001 AH Amsterdam, the Netherlands. ○

MATRIX BACK IN THE SALINAS PUBLIC LIBRARY

Last fall the director of the Steinbeck Library in Salinas California ordered that *Matrix*, the Santa Cruz women's news magazine, cease distributing at the library. The Matrix crew suspected that the sudden restriction had something significant to do with the fact that the words "Lesbian Sex" had graced the headlines of the lead article of the November issue.

An untold number of phone calls, letters, and meetings later — not to mention a series of sympathetic articles in the local daily newspaper — *Matrix* is back in the Salinas library backed by an adamant statement from the city attorney that the city does not allow discrimination on the grounds of sex or sexual preference.

Possibly as a result of the uproar in Salinas, the Pacific Grove Library also welcomed the newspaper back, Hartnell College again agreed to allow distribution of the paper and the Salinas Bookstore telephoned *Matrix* and asked that the newspaper begin using the bookstore as a distribution point. ○

ILIS CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN US

The International Lesbian Information Service, founded in 1979, will hold its international conference June 19-23 at the Lake Front Camp in Pennsylvania. The \$200 conference fee includes all conference papers, vegetarian meals and accommodations. The East Coast Lesbians' Festival (ECLF) is hosting the event. Participants must register by April 15. Inside the US, send payment, payable to Particular Productions, to ECLF, 132 Montague Street, Box 274, Brooklyn, NY 11201; phone 718-643-3284. Outside the US, send a banker's check or international money order, payable to ILIS, to ILIS, c/o COC, Rozenstraat 8, 1016 NX Amsterdam, the Netherlands; phone +31 20 234596 or 231192. Lesbian translators interested in doing work exchange should contact the ECLF. The conference especially needs translators for Spanish or German into English and vice versa. Groups interested in supporting ILIS should send the information about their work, make a donation or take out a subscription to the quarterly *ILIS Newsletter*; \$60 for groups and \$15 for individuals. Donations may be sent by international money order, payable to ILIS, or by giro, account number 4270860, to the Postbank, Amsterdam. ○

Are You Girls travel- ing by Marilyn Murphy ALONE?

Adventures in Lesbianic logic

A selected collection of Marilyn Murphy's famous column, *Lesbianic Logic* which appeared in the *Lesbian News* for nearly a decade since 1982!

Marilyn Murphy will be signing copies at ABA booth 1153

Publication date: May 1991
ISBN: 1-878533-02-9
(perfect bound, 200 p., \$10.95)
Available to the trade
from Bookpeople, Inland,
and Bookslinger

Clothespin Fever Press
5529 N. Figueroa,
Los Angeles, CA 90042

The Best in Lesbian literature

ABA SHORTLISTS TEN FOR ABBY AWARD

Ten titles have been shortlisted for ABA's new ABBY Awards. The awards are designed to honor the books that booksellers have most enjoyed hand-selling during the past year.

Interestingly enough, one of the books was published by a feminist press (Papier-Mache) and at least seven of the books are titles that sell strongly in feminist bookstores — and presumably in general bookstores as well. I'm very intrigued that, while some general booksellers claim to be selling fewer "feminist" books or say "feminist" books aren't selling as strongly as they used to, the *publishers* of the books — both feminist publishers and mainstream publishers such as HarperCollins and Harper San Francisco — consistently report higher and higher sales figures for their classic feminist titles. Perhaps this is simply an indication that books that *used* to be defined as "feminist" have been successfully mainstreamed on the shelves of general bookstores?

The ABBY nominees include: *When I Am an Old Woman I Shall Wear Purple* by Sandra K. Martz (Papier Mache Press); *Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Cafe* by Fannie Flagg (cloth, Random House; paper, McGraw-Hill); *Road from Coorain* by Jill K. Conway (written with an explicitly feminist intent) (cloth, Knopf; paper, Vintage); *Animal Dreams* and *The Bean Tree* both by Barbara Kingsolver (both published by HarperCollins); *The Education of Little Tree* by Forrest Carter (University of New Mexico Press); *Cold Sassy Tree* by Olive A. Burns (cloth, Ticknor & Fields; paper, Dell); *The Shell Seekers* by Rosamunde Pilcher (cloth, St. Martin's; paper, Dell); *Remains of the Day* by Kazuo Ishiguro (cloth, Knopf; paper Vintage); and *The Civil War: An Illustrated History* by Geoffrey Ward with Ric and Ken Burns (Knopf). Seven books by women, only two by people of color.

ABA members will vote for one of the nominated books on a ballot in the *ABA Newswire* in March. The author of the winning book will receive a \$5000 cash award. Four honor books will also be chosen. The awards will be presented at ABA. — CS O

1991 ALA GAY/LESBIAN BOOK AWARDS

Finalists for the 1991 Gay/Lesbian Book Award have been announced by the Gay and Lesbian Task Force of the American Library Association. The award will be presented at the ALA conference in Atlanta in July, 1991.

The finalists for this year's Fiction Award are:
Crime Against Nature, Minnie Bruce Pratt, Firebrand.
A Home at the End of the World, Michael Cunningham, Farrar, Straus & Giroux.
Landscapes: Memory, Matthew Stadler, Charles Scribner's Sons.
Music I Never Dreamed Of, John Gilgun, Amethyst Press.
Out of Time, Paula Martinac, Seal Press.
A Place I've Never Been, David Leavitt, Viking.



Nonfiction finalists are:

Coming Out Under Fire: The History of Gay Men and Women in World War Two, Allan Bérubé, Free Press.
Encyclopedia of Homosexuality, ed. Wayne Dynes, Garland.
Gay and Lesbian Library Service, Cal Gough & Ellen Greenblatt, McFarland & Co.
My Country, My Right to Serve: Experiences of Gay Men and Women in the Military, World War II to the Present, Mary Ann Humphrey, Harper-Collins.
Passions of the Cut Sleeve: The Male Homosexual Tradition in China, Bret Hinsch, University of California Press.
The Safe Sea of Women: Lesbian Fiction 1969-1989, Bonnie Zimmerman, Beacon Press.
The Trouble with Harry Hay: Founder of the Modern Gay Movement, Stuart Timmons, Alyson Publications.
Understanding Sexual Identity: A Book for Gay Teens and Their Friends, Janice E. Rench, Lerner

Publications.

The ALA Gay/Lesbian Book Award is given annually for books of exceptional merit relating to the gay/lesbian experience.

*Winners were announced just as we went to press. The award in the fiction category goes to **Crime Against Nature**. The award for nonfiction will go to **Encyclopedia of Homosexuality**.* ○

CANADA ANNOUNCES LITERARY AWARD WINNERS

Nino Ricci, the only man nominated in the fiction category for the 1990 Governor General's Literary Awards, bested Sky Lee, Alice Munro, Leslie Hall Pinder and Diane Schoemperlen to win that country's most prestigious literary award. Ricci wrote *Lives of the Saints*. According to the Canada Council, women were nominated and won in the following categories:

Poetry: Winner — Margaret Avison for *No Time*, Lancelot Press, 0-88999-428-5; also nominated — Dionne Brand for *No Language is Neutral*, Coach House Press, 0-88910-395-X, distributed in the US by Inland.

Drama: Winner — Ann-Marie MacDonald for *Goodnight Desdemona (Good Morning Juliet)*, Coach House Press, 0-88910-412-3, distributed in the US by Inland; also nominated — Audrey Butler for *Black Friday?* from *Radical Perversions: Two Dyke Plays*, Women's Press/Canada, 0-88961-156-4, distributed by University of Toronto Press and Inland.

Translation: Winner — Jane Brierley for *Yellow-Wolf And Other Tales of the Saint Lawrence*, Véhicule Press, 1-55065-002-5, distributed by University of Toronto Press and Bookslinger; also nominated — Patricia Claxton for *Letters to Bernadette*, Lester & Orpen Dennys, 0-88619-265-X pb, -247-1 cl, distributed by University of Toronto Press; Sheila Fischman for Benito, Lester & Orpen Dennys, 0-88619-259-5, distributed by University of Toronto Press; Susan Usher for *Community Care and Participatory Research*, Nu-Age Editions, 0-921833-24-5. — AM ○

WOMEN IN THIRD WORLD PUBLISHING PANEL FOR IPA

Urvashi Butalia (Kali for Women) is circulating a proposal for a panel on Women in Third World Publishing for inclusion in the International Publishers' Association (IPA) Congress to be held in New Delhi in 1992. The proposal is being circulated internationally to women in publishing so that a wide group may contribute suggestions for specific issues for the session or thoughts about the importance or suitability of such a panel. Kali for Women and Women In Publishing (U.K.)'s International Committee plan to collect the written responses and jointly forward them to the IPA Secretariat for consideration by the organizers of the IPA Congress. Apparently this is the first time such a panel has been organized for the IPA.



"It is becoming increasingly clear today that publishing, traditionally seen as a 'gentleman's profession' can no longer be called so. More and more women are visible in the profession — both in terms of personnel and as the subject matter of books. Today, women's publishing (including women's studies) is seen to be among the foremost growth areas in publishing....

"Similarly, and particularly in Third World countries, a decade ago there were hardly any women in publishing. Today, more and more women are entering the profession: as editors, designers, production persons, marketing experts and so on. And yet.... there are still very few women in positions at the top....

"What has happened to bring about this proliferation of women's books in our countries? What are the external conditions — i.e., the creation of University courses, the introduction of women's studies in curricula, the availability of funds — that have given rise to this? Is it possible to say that the more visible presence of women in publishing has had some impact on the kinds of books that are being produced? Given that this publishing is born of a widespread political movement

all over the world, it has both a special reach across barriers of cultures and nations, and special problems in that it is often not taken seriously enough. And yet, here for the first time is a real challenge to accepted notions of knowledge....questioning the very making of canons (and) why certain works get canonized and others don't.... Why are certain literatures seen as light-weight and others not?Equally, it deserves to be taken seriously because women's publishing has managed, by drawing on an international women's movement, to span international barriers and boundaries and reach out to readers across the world."

"In India, women's books have created a space for the individual reader in a market that has traditionally been mainly a library market. Has such publishing taken different routes in different parts of the world?

Re: Women who work in the publishing profession. "Does the fact that there are many more women in publishing mean that, as a career option, publishing is no longer such an attractive proposition for men? Is it this that has opened up a space for women?In India, where many (publishing houses) are family owned businesses, there seems to be less and less room at the top for men. Has this led them to move elsewhere....? Can we therefore say that the profession is gradually being 'feminized'?....Why has publishing, in spite of becoming a 'women heavy' profession at the middle levels, still remained 'men heavy' at the top?

"In our countries it is important to consider the specific context of publishing. Have women played similar or different roles in private and public sector publishing. In India, the National Council of Educational Research and Training, the apex government body for producing school textbooks has, for some time now, had a small cell within it whose brief is to monitor textbooks for gender biases. This cell is run almost entirely by women. How effective has it been in its work? What role do women play in education ministries in different Third World countries? In effect we are asking whether the entry of women into the field of cultural production in the third world has made any difference at all."

Please send comments to Women In Publishing International c/o Anita D. McClellan, 50 Stearns St., Cambridge MA 02138. Anita will acknowledge each response and send it on to WiP/U.K. for forwarding to the IPA. For a complete copy of the current proposal, send a SASE to Anita at the above address. ○

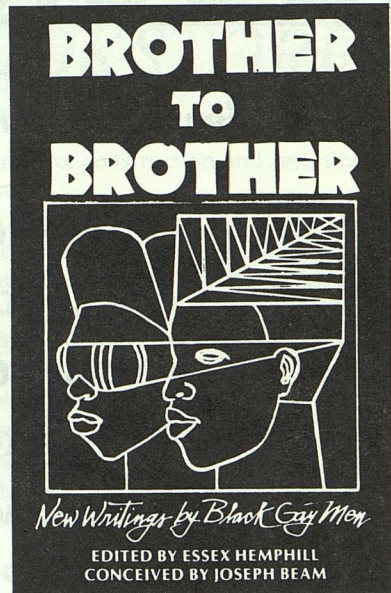
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SNAP!

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*From "Black Macho Revisited — Reflections of a SNAP! Queen" by Marlon Riggs, in *Brother to Brother*.

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NEWS FROM THE BOOKSTORES

Collected by Carol Seajay

A number of bookstores have called or written about the Knopf/Vintage boycott. See the accompanying sidebar for a copy of one store's letters to Sonny Mehta, Alberto Vitali, and Si Newhouse.

Vivian Scheinmann at Pandora Book Peddlers (NJ) is drafting a form letter/flier that booksellers can turn in at the Random House booth at ABA as a way to bring the boycott to ABA. She'll bring it to the Feminist Bookstore Day meeting.

Good news travels fast: A number of booksellers are reporting unexpectedly high growth or profit rates in the first quarter of 1991. Thirty-first Street reported a really good holiday season. Sales were 15% over projections and have grown by 233% since the new cooperative took over the store three years ago. They've been studying the stock to inventory balance and noted that sales were up 23% over last year, with only a 16% increase in stock. Way to go!

A Room of One's Own achieved their now-standard 7% growth this winter, but showed an unexpected \$12,000 increase in profit — due in part to the savings from free-freight programs and in part to learning to keep the inventory on specific titles as low as possible without losing sales. Another bookstore reported a slight decrease in sales (\$5,000 over the year) achieved while reducing inventory by 25% and increasing their turn to 4.5 while clearing out a backlog of overdue bills.

Pokey Anderson at Inklings writes, "Sales are up 30% so far in 1991. I don't expect it to hold up but I'll take it for now!" This leap in sales may be due, in part, to the fact that last year, starting the day after Christmas, the street in front of the store was torn up for months for road work. Inklings' other very exciting news is that the city had decided to build its elevated rail system nearby but not on the street that runs in front of the store — which would have caused many

more months of construction and resulting interruptions in sales.

Amazon Bookstore is also reporting soaring sales since Ruby's Cafe, a woman-owned breakfast and lunch place, opened on their block. "It's a big lesbian hang-out — It's *the* new place to go in town. On weekends their trade brings in *lots* of people. Sunday sales have doubled. When the neighborhood restaurant vacated we considered opening a cafe ourselves but it was more than we could take on. The women at Ruby's had another cafe that they closed a couple years ago, so they really know what they're doing and the community is really happy to have them back."



Amazon installed Wordstock's computerized inventory program this winter. They're very happy with it and think that part of the rise in sales may be due to getting books into the store more quickly. They did have one problem with the new system, though. The first week they had it up and running the woman working on the front desk ran outside to put money in her parking meter. She came back in, stamped the snow off her shoes, and a small bit of snow landed in the surge protector creating a short that blew out the whole motherboard. Wordstock is a hardware/software deal and they guarantee their hardware. They had a new motherboard and a technician to install it the next day and had the system up and running again immediately. Whew!

The Alaska Women's Bookstore has been developing an inventory management program on a Macusing FilemakerPro with the help of a local woman who's an expert with the program. They've had the computer for about a year and would like to hear from other booksellers doing inventory control on Macs.

The Reader's Feast
529 Farmington Avenue
Hartford CT 06105

Sonny Mehta
Random House
201 E. 50th St.
New York, NY 10022

Dear Mr. Mehta,

I am the book buyer and co-manager for Reader's Feast, a feminist-progressive bookstore in Hartford, Connecticut. I am writing to tell you that we are canceling our Vintage and Knopf spring orders to protest your decision to publish Bret Easton Ellis' novel, **American Psycho**. We are joining other bookstores in this nationwide boycott called by the Los Angeles chapter of NOW. We are appalled that you would choose to publish a work that eroticizes brutality against women, children and animals, and we applaud Simon and Schuster's decision to drop this book. Violence against women is encouraged and condoned by writing as graphically sadistic as this. You have published many fine feminist and progressive titles, so it is particularly distressing that you would publish such a misogynist work.

I am sorry that our sales reps, Don Brock and Bob Brown, will be impacted by our decision and want to make it clear that we are protesting your editorial policy, not our reps. We will continue this boycott until this title is dropped from your list or until the end of 1991. We will continue to carry selected feminist titles from these lists.

It is important that you understand that this is an act of censure, not censorship. We do not have the power to censor (prohibit circulation of) this book; we do have the right and conviction to refuse to circulate it ourselves and to censure you for publishing it. We hope that you will reconsider carrying this title.

Sincerely,

Tollie Miller, Co-Manager

cc: Alberto Vitali
Si Newshouse
Joelyn McClurg - Hartford Courant
Carol Seajay, FBN

The word from New Words Collective is that they're all coming to Feminist Bookstores Day and are leaving the part-timers in charge. New Words recently closed for two days of "renovations" — new shelving, a complete paint job, and a new carpet. "Wonderful volunteers helped us to pack up the books on Sunday night. Monday morning the movers came with a truck and took all the books away. Monday the entire store was painted. Tuesday the new rug was laid and the new shelving was installed. Wednesday the books came back. Volunteers helped to reshelve them and the books were unpacked by 10 pm. The point of it all was to incorporate new bookshelves to allow wheelchairs to move about the store. The results are a brighter, more spacious-looking store. It looks great. The customers love it. We are all exhilarated and very pleased with our new look."

Herland Sister Resources in Oklahoma City sent an outline of their new three-year plan. Highlights call for renovating their building (painting inside and outside, improving handicap accessibility, a complete kitchen and new roof); expanding the stock in the bookstore and expanding hours of operation for the bookstore/resource center, cataloging the library and adding periodicals and books; holding two retreats each year, three additional women's music concerts each year, six coffeehouses with music or poetry each year, and conducting monthly discussion groups; publishing 12 issues of the newsletter annually with a focus for each issue, increasing circulation, starting to use recycled paper; *and* raising \$24,300 for 1991 operating expenses, and raising \$35,000 to pay off the building mortgage by January 1, 1993. These sound like a tall order — except that it's typical of what the bookstore/resource center in Oklahoma does every year.

Even as I'm sitting in my quiet office writing this column, the women of Southern Wild Sisters (Gulfport MS) and friends are setting up for their Third Annual Gulf Coast Women's Festival. It features musicians (including a band called "Curious Wine"), authors, a Passover Seder, thirty-some workshops, campfires, dancing and crafts, and generally brings women's music and culture to the deep South. I am continually amazed at their energy!

Everybody's giving awards these days. I'm thinking we need a LAMMY Award (or a set of them) for bookstore newsletters. (We are talking serious contributions to feminist, gay and lesbian literature here!) Dreams and Swords (Indianapolis) has shifted from doing a

— Break In at Sisterspirit —

In the early hours of the morning on Monday, January 14, had there been anyone around they would have heard the tinkling sound of breaking glass, seen the sneaking figures as they crawled into the darkened bookstore, trampling the newly acquired shirts stacked neatly on the shelves.

Out of curiosity they may have stepped up to the glass to observe as the perpetrators pushed aside the shelves, leaving muddy footprints on several of the shirts and a faint trail across the room to the wall behind the record rack. There they took down the environmental bag on the wall and filled it with all the bookstore's music.

The cash boxes were stolen along with the next day's starter money. The calculators. A video tape. But more than that, they stole a piece of each of us. Not just the women who work for Sisterspirit, but from you. You were robbed. Violated by this random act just as we were.

When I walked into the bookstore and saw the empty music rack that I had just filled with \$500 worth of new music I was shocked, then pissed. When something like this happens you never feel quite safe again.

Sisterspirit is meant to be a safe warm comfy place for all of us to come and gather and get to know each other and have a good time and spend our money and it's been a little bit spoiled. I look up when someone walks in. I am suspicious. This makes me sad.

So, anyway, we lost about \$1500 worth of merchandise and a little peace of mind, but we are already talking about how we can protect ourselves from the outside world. I have to laugh when I think of these people with a sack full of women's music. I mean, really, what the hell are they going to do with it?

Go figure.

So come in and spend your money. We need it more than ever 'cause I bought more music!!!! And do us a favor; if you're passing by or in the neighborhood swing by your old SIS and check it out. If you see anything suspicious, call the police. And if you're at the flea market keep your eyes open.

...Speaking of good books, you've talked and we've listened. So check out the shelf between Fiction and Mystery for Erotica (Whoa! Say what?) Okay, it might be empty right now, but we're going to fill it up as soon as we can, so stay tuned in (that's *tuned in*).
— Clarice, *Sisterspirit Newsletter* ○

yearly catalog to a quarterly newsletter. "Yes, we think it is a good idea, but can we really pull it off? Sure! And it will get better as we get more familiar with the procedure."

Now Voyager, a mystery and gay-and-lesbian bookstore in Provincetown MA, writes that they took the plunge into mailorder in December and broke even (made enough to pay for the printing, postage, etc.) within three months — which more than satisfied them for the first time out. They're in a wonderful position for mail order, having many gay and lesbian visitors to their vacation paradise from all over the country — many of whom still cannot get gay and/or feminist books in their home towns. Interestingly enough, the vast majority of their mail orders were from women, although their store customers and mailing list show about 40% men and 60% women.

Now Voyager hasn't been open a year yet, but when their landlords offered to knock out a back

wall and add 50% more selling space, they jumped at the offer and closed the store for five weeks of vacation-and-renovation. The new space is large enough to host readings and they're planning a series of readings in March and April to celebrate their first anniversary.

If bookselling, mail order, and publishing a regular newsletter isn't enough, go into book publishing as well! Silver Moon Books has launched their third book, a British edition of *Curious Wine*. Their first two titles are selling well and they received a wonderful amount of support throughout the British book community for the new company.

Kelly Smith and Amy Blake, the not-yet feminist-booksellers in Ferndale (Detroit) write, "We are still working on opening our store. FBN has been a great source of inspiration. We have signs on our TV and refrigerator: 'If they can open a Women's Bookstore in Bangladesh, we can open one in Ferndale!'" ○

Spring Titles

What Can She Know?

Feminist Theory and the Construction of Knowledge

By LORRAINE CODE. "A far-reaching contribution to feminist epistemology that ranks with the very best work in the field."—Hilary Kornblith, University of Vermont. \$42.50 cloth, \$14.95 paper. June

Bonds of Community

The Lives of Farm Women in Nineteenth-Century New York

By NANCY GREY OSTERUD. "With great sensitivity, [Osterud] explores the relationships between public and private, men and women, agency and domination, parents and children, kinship and community."—Daniel Horowitz, Smith College. 20 b&w illus. \$42.50 cloth, \$14.95 paper. May

Refiguring Woman

Perspectives on Gender and the Italian Renaissance

Edited by MARILYN MIGIEL and JULIANA SCHIESARI. *Refiguring Woman* brings together eleven new essays that investigate the relationship between gender and the Renaissance canon. 35 b&w illus. \$36.95 cloth, \$12.95 paper. May

Women in Modern Drama

Freud, Feminism, and European Theater at the Turn of the Century

By GAIL FINNEY. *New in Paper!* "[An] innovative, informed feminist rereading of nine significant turn-of-the-century dramatic presentations of women."—*Choice*. 6 b&w illus. \$8.95. March

Whose Science?

Whose Knowledge?

Thinking from Women's Lives

By SANDRA HARDING. "This book expands and refines Harding's earlier arguments concerning gender, and breaks new ground in its consideration of race and science. It is must reading."

—Anne Fausto-Sterling, author of *Myths of Gender*. \$34.50 cloth, \$12.95 paper. May

Autobiographical Voices

Race, Gender, Self-Portraiture

By FRANÇOISE LIONNET. *New in Paper!* Lionnet here examines the rhetoric of self-portraiture in works by authors who are bilingual or multilingual or of mixed races or cultures. \$9.95. February

Configurations of Masculinity

A Feminist Perspective on Modern Political Theory

By CHRISTINE DI STEFANO. Di Stefano provides innovative readings of Hobbes, Marx, and J. S. Mill. \$29.95 cloth, \$10.95 paper. June

Woman and Modernity

The (Life)styles of Lou Andreas-Salomé

By BIDDY MARTIN. Martin examines how emerging constructions of sexual difference and modernity are inflected in Salomé's work. 3 b&w illus. \$33.95 cloth, \$10.95 paper. June

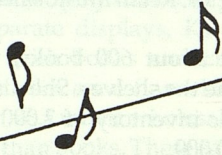
Katherine Mansfield and the Origins of Modernist Fiction

By SYDNEY JANET KAPLAN. Kaplan traces the relationship between Mansfield's contribution to modernist fiction and her struggles as a woman writer during the era of modernist experimentation. \$29.95 cloth, \$12.95 paper. April

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PARADIGM



WOMEN'S BOOKSTORE

By Ann Morse

Paradigm Women's Bookstore in San Diego had been open about a week when the 51-year-old woman walked in the door. Owner Karen Merry greeted her and, after chatting, discovered that the woman had divorced recently and was just coming out.

"Is it too late?" the woman asked tremulously.

Karen responded, "No, it's never too late. You've come to the right place!" And then she reached out and gave the woman a big hug. The woman burst into tears of relief.

"That's why we exist," says Karen, who opened Paradigm this February. "We all were starving here. It's a community starving for lesbian culture and a place to have it."

Moments like this sustain Karen as she struggles through the seven-day weeks and back-breaking work that have brought San Diego its first women's bookstore in 10 years. Paradigm, Karen hopes, will take up where The Women's Store and Charmed Circle Feminist Books, both fatalities of the late '70s and early '80s, left off. "I have this tremendous need for lesbian culture to survive and thrive," Karen says. "Our culture was slipping away. A lot of the young dykes here didn't even know who Alix Dobkin was."

The Alix Dobkin barometer is an apt one for a woman who got her start in business as a music distributor. A long-time women's music groupie, Karen bought Paradigm Distribution from Betsy York in the summer of 1983 — and stepped into a historically contentious position. Despite the problems plaguing the industry, she gradually carved out a territory that now includes the Southwest and Rocky Mountain states and hung on though hard times to acquire new customers, including Mary Morrell and Annie Fox of Full Circle books in Albuquerque, NM.

For years Karen ran the distribution business out of two rooms in the house she shares with her lover, Judy, and their nine-year-old son Ian. When the operation engulfed a third room she built a two-story garage to hold the operation. Then — out of the blue, Karen says — the neighbors complained that she was running a business in a residential area. The zoning department closed her office and Karen lost \$30,000 in borrowed money.



*Water us . . .
we'll grow!*

But she didn't let that stop her. In January 1990, after raising funds by refinancing her house and obtaining a home equity line of credit, which she poured back into the business, she moved the operation into a 900-square-foot, \$500-a-month office in downtown San Diego. Although she devoted most of her time to the distribution business, it was here that she got her start in the retail business by selling a few tapes to walk-in customers.

The birth of the book side of Paradigm, according to Karen, goes something like this. Around the same time Karen moved her office/warehouse downtown, Mary and Annie made a trip to Phoenix to sell books at a conference. There, some women from San Diego approached Full Circle's table and said they wished there was a women's bookstore in their city.

Mary and Annie said, "You have a bookstore there."

"Oh, we do? Who?"

"Paradigm!"

The two then rushed home and called Karen. "You've got to start a bookstore," they said.

"I said alright...but you can't ever leave me."

With long-distance help, Karen selected her first books in April 1990.

Traffic was slow — a fact Karen attributes in part to the store's out-of-the-way location in a crime-ridden, marginal warehouse district. "We didn't move there to be a women's bookstore, but to be a wholesaler. It was totally out of the way for women to go." Despite ever increasing security, Paradigm suffered six break-ins during the next year. Karen installed a buzzer on the front door, no one worked alone, everyone left before 4:30 p.m. and one employee came to work with her Rottweiler. "It wasn't real conducive to women customers," she says. When a staff member witnessed a woman being mugged across the street (she chased the guy and retrieved the purse), Karen decided it was time to move. "I said fuck this...We have to get out of here before someone's hurt!"



Karen Merry at Paradigm

A few days later, after Karen had appealed to her newsletter readers for help finding a new location, she spotted "For Lease" signs in the window of a shop about a mile from her house. It was an area she had scouted out before, but rejected because of high rents. Luckily, she decided to take another look and discovered that it had become more of a renter's market than it was a year ago. Within four days she had signed a lease for a 1,470-square-foot space (not including a patio!) for \$1,200 a month.

Paradigm got off to a rollicking start February 9 this year with a bookstore appearance by — who else — Alix Dobkin. The store did about \$2,000 business that weekend, far surpassing downtown's \$20- or \$50-a-day totals. Book sales have since leveled off to a couple hundred a day "without trying," Karen says, while putting in such hard work that she's had to pay regular visits to a chiropractor. Retail music sales have tripled.

Karen estimates that about 600 books, worth about \$3,000 wholesale, line the shelves. She displays her entire wholesale music inventory of 2,000 titles, worth about \$50,000 to \$60,000.

Karen raves about Paradigm's new location in the heart of Normal Heights (!!), an area with a large, and supportive, lesbian community. "About half of my mailing list lives here," she says. Nearby are restaurants, a health food store, a shoe repair shop, pharmacy, New Age gift shop, photo store and post office. In addition, about 10 other bookstores operate in a three to four block area, earning the district the name "Normal Heights Book Row."

It all adds up to many more customers — lesbians as well as straight people and people with kids — than visited her downtown store. "Traffic picked up much more. There's a lot of people who walk the street. They come specifically up here. They park their cars and they walk up and down the street going to all the bookstores because it's bookstore row." Other booksellers immediately included Paradigm on a bookstore row bookmark and brochure, which they all distribute to customers. "We fit in as one more specialty bookstore," Karen says. "They understand that when a new business comes in and it's a reputable business it's going to bring more business for all of them." When neighborhood booksellers ask her to describe the store, she tells them "we sell predominantly lesbian and feminist books and other books of interest to women. We will special order for anyone and we have lots of alternative music."

On Full Circle's advice, Karen got started by ordering from Bookpeople and Naiad. She recently expanded her distributor-base to include Inland and Gordon's.

Lesbian fiction moves especially well, and Paradigm also "does a pretty good business" with books on spirituality.

Other sections in the store include feminist books, health, recovery, women of color, humor, coming out, poetry, journals and children's books. There's also a "sex shelf" — "I know there's a lot of controversy and things, but I just decided that I would carry what I want to carry and make things available to people and they can be their own censor," Karen says.

Music plays a crucial part in the store. In addition to separate displays, Karen frequently intersperses tapes with books and creates bargain bins. Retail music sales are a financial plus for the store because Karen, as a music wholesaler, makes a bigger profit off tapes than books. These sales are especially important now as the wholesale business has been hit hard by recession. Although Karen distributes to about 200 outlets, they're "dropping like flies." Years ago she expanded her music stock to include New Age, international, children's, folk and Native American music, all of which she distributes anywhere she can. Women's music, however, she sells only in her prescribed territory. Despite all of this, Karen sees the music and book sides of the store working in tandem, drawing in customers and keeping the store afloat. "I don't think there's anyway I could survive one without the other," she says.

In addition to the books and tapes, and in the true spirit of a women's store, fliers are everywhere. "I'm very nostalgic for the '70s. The store kind of represents what I think it should look like — a homey, comfy, safe place."

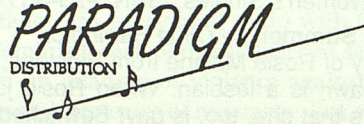
Karen spends seven days a week holding the business together — and she's very upfront about the fact that it's *her* business. "I have to be very clear that I will be as sensitive as I can to the community needs for this bookstore to live and to be there for them but that it's really my business and that I reserve the right to make decisions that are in my best interest as a business person."

She earns a lot of customer support for her stance. "It's almost like a lot of them have learned through the '70s and '80s that things that are collective don't necessarily survive and although that would be ideal, nobody seems to be wanting to take it away from me as a business."

Karen's also very quick to thank all those people who have lent a hand; from the crew of women who arrived with pick-up trucks and helped move the store to a terrific landlord who carpeted the entire store and office, built walls and installed a skylight.

She's especially grateful to Mary and Annie — whom she calls about five times a day — for their advice on everything from distributors and shelving to thank-you parties for volunteers.

"With the music business I didn't have a mentor. Mary and Annie have definitely been mentors," she says. So far, Karen's found much more ongoing support between feminist booksellers than she ever did between music distributors.



She also sings the praises of Karen Mateer and Nancy Alexander at Page One, Adelle Wallace at Sisterhood, Kasha Songer at Bookgarden, East Coast music distributor Terry Grant and all the booksellers who share ideas in the pages of FBN.

Day-to-day assistance comes from the Paradigm staff, which consists of Peggy Smith, the full-time bookkeeper; Theda Hennessey, who runs the warehouse; Theda's daughter, Keri; and about 8 volunteers who help keep the store open from 11 to 4 on weekends and 8 to 6 weekdays.

Supporters also have helped filled store's the financial fissures. To help pay for the move, Karen started a limited membership-drive. For a \$10 donation, customers receive a free button, tape or poster; a \$25 donation entitles them to 10% off all purchases for six months; \$45 equals 10% off for a year and \$100 or more earns 10% off for the life of Paradigm. She raised some \$1,900 in three weeks this way.

These days Karen invests time working hard to develop a deeper understanding of the mathematics of running a bookstore. She's slowly building a calendar of events, always looking for booksellers with good ideas to share — and holding fast to Mary's prediction:

When a woman visiting Full Circle complained that Paradigm's stock was too small, Karen says that Mary offered these words of wisdom — "Water them, they'll grow."

If you're ever in San Diego, stop by Paradigm at 3343 Adams Ave., San Diego, CA 92116; or phone 619-563-1981. Karen would like to hear from authors interested in appearing at the store. ○



SPRING / SUMMER 1991 ANNOUNCEMENTS



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

Back in 1976, a small volume of poetry from Jeannette Foster and Valerie Taylor made its appearance. Rather than allow these precious images from two of the lesbian community's best known authors disappear, this revised and expanded volume is being published. Not only is the original poetry here, we've added more work from each author and put it together with photographs of both women. Postponed from 1990.

March, Women's Studies, ISBN 0-934411-29-8, 144 pages, Paperback, \$7.95

Sudden Summer, by Gilda Harrington

The story of Rosie Malone from Bigstone, "a small town three miles from nowhere," who learns that her best friend Dawn is a lesbian. When Rosie joins Dawn (and 4000 others) at the women's music festival, she discovers that she, too, is gay! Bewitched by Calypso, a strangely sensuous singer, she begins to wonder if she can ever make it home again. And with whom.

April, Women's Studies, ISBN 0-934411-39-5, 144 pages, Paperback, \$8.95

Blood Lavender, by Antoinette Azolakov

Psychotherapist-detective T.D. Renfro probes motives and relationships — including those of her own lover — for clues to the mind of a murderer. Set in the forests of East Texas, *Blood Lavender* explores the fears, conflicts, and frustrations of lesbian and gay relationships and the very real dangers of hunting a killer. At the same time, the book is a joyful celebration of the warmth and caring, the passion, and the laughter that make its characters endearing and real. The first T.D. Renfro book, *The Contactees Die Young* was nominated for a Lammy Award. May, Women's Studies, ISBN 0-934411-40-9, 160 pages, Paperback, \$8.95

We Oughta Be In Pictures, by Julia Willis

Coming soon to a bookstore near you! It's Colossal! It's stupendous! So real you can't believe your eyes! For the first time — lesbians — on the BIG SCREEN - like you've never seen them before! Women together in a world of their own - they eat, they sleep, they fall in love - just the way other people do — only much funnier! Yes, these two comic-erotic screenplays will astound you with their frank portrayal of nights in P-Town and alien amazons - and the best part of all: the straight people get all the tiny walk-ons for a change! *We Oughta Be In Pictures!* — and now we are! Also appearing in the same volume: A two-reel preface that looks at why lesbians haven't been in pictures and how we might rectify this abysmal situation in the future! A funny new book from the author of *Who Wears the Tux?*

June, Women's Studies, ISBN 0-934411-42-5, 200 pages, Paperback, \$9.95

Riding Desire, edited by Tee Corinne

New collection of erotic lesbian short fiction. Twenty-five women contribute to this anthology. Some of those included are: Maureen Brady, Julie Blackwomon, Beth Brant, Emma Joy Crone, Amanda Hyman, Midgett, Mary Morell, Ruth Mountaingrove, Christina Springer, Chea Villanueva, zana, Carolyn Gage, Mona Oikawa, and Tee Corinne. This edition is similar in format to *Intricate Passions*, Corinne's last anthology which won a Lambda Literary Award for Lesbian Anthology.

June, Women's Studies, ISBN 0-934411-44-1, 160 pages, Paperback, \$8.95

Wisewomen & Boggy-boos: A Dictionary of Lesbian Fairy Lore,

by Jessica Amanda Salmonson and Jules Remedios Faye

As the title implies, the book is a dictionary of lesbian fairy lore, presented in dictionary form. From Abula to Zoe, this enchanting book includes definitions, stories, and poetry about the many figures appearing in lesbian lore. July, Women's Studies, ISBN 0-934411-43-3, 120 pages, Paperback, \$8.95

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The War Against Women Continues at Home

Resisting Violence

By Nett Hart

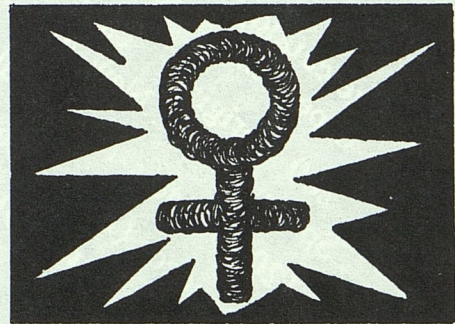
You may wonder what this has to do with feminist bookmaking and selling. You might not want to read this, but it comes from the same urge that inspires all our women-in-print work.

I have a small storefront studio from which I do publishing and graphic design. Last Monday when the aggravated assault/attempted robbery/attempted rape took place there were three of us there: me, my blood sister, and a former lover. The gunman herded us with the gun barrel to a narrow aisle, had us crouch, and insisted we keep our heads down, a demand with which we were not able to comply as we had to be warned repeatedly. We had no money among us and told him so. When he attempted to remove my friend's pants, I pushed him down with a full body block and was knocked out by a blow to the head with the gun handle. I came to consciousness with the barrel to the gun between my legs. When he attempted to rape my friend with the gun to my forehead, we all three stood up at one time even though we couldn't see one another's faces or give a signal. He fled.

This story could have had a different ending. There were several minutes any or all of us might not have survived. Our resistance was no guarantee. But we each moved in that instance because whether he killed us or not he was not going to violate our sense of self.

My friends tell me I'm lucky. It doesn't feel that way to me. My friend is told that she resisted because she was never sexually assaulted as a child and so has boundaries. My sister's friends tell her she was in the wrong place at the wrong time but she reminds them it is perfectly right for her to visit her sister at work — that the *gunman* was in the wrong place with the wrong attitude. Can we get real here?

Resistance has everything to do with feminism. Through feminism each of us had learned self-respect as women, an analysis of violence against women, and stories and strategies of resistance. But even more than that we learned the absolute unacceptability of the violence he was attempting. There was no question that we would resist, whatever the "risks." We knew that about one another and we were able to act even though our actions may have seemed to put the others at more risk. This is, of course, illusion. Violence and the threat of violence were already factors. We would not be any safer resisting or complying, but we would be more victimized if fear ruled our response.



Cill Janeway

This is not a victory we are celebrating. The war on women goes on. It is not a calculation of whether he would have left either way. I nurse a head injury. We each will carry this terror in memory. There is a spiritual quality to having said "no" to a violence that would have killed us emotionally had we not resisted. At some point this was more powerful than his weapons — a gun and a willingness to harm.

Our workplaces are not safe because our world is not safe. But what we are teaching ourselves and one another about resistance to violence against women diminishes the power of violence whether or not we come through this resistance unharmed. ○



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Taking Care of Business: Memberships

By Ann Morse

Call them what you will — membership programs, discount cards or affiliations — booksellers FBN spoke with all agree that they are wonderful ways to increase and reward customer loyalty, and improve cash flow.

"It's a way people can support you but they get something in return," says Ruth Mahaney of San Francisco's Modern Times, which offers a 10% discount to members. "You hardly miss the 10% as it goes through the year."

Booksellers also say that while the unique stock at feminist bookstores draws customers, membership discounts give them an incentive to buy their bestsellers there as well. "It really does encourage people to buy here," says Sandi Torkildson of A Room of One's Own in Madison, WI. "It makes people feel they are a part of the store." In addition, memberships can help combat competition from discounters and other special outlets, such as university bookstores that routinely give a 10% discount to all faculty members.

While memberships traditionally have been associated with lefty bookstores (perhaps as an outgrowth of co-ops, Torkildson speculates), they have become increasingly popular with feminist booksellers. And within the past year, even chains such as Waldenbooks have caught on and started offering what they call "preferred customer cards."

Programs and benefits are as varied as stores. Stores running membership programs usually collect fees upfront and give customers discounts in return. This way, customers pay for part of their purchases before receiving the books, giving the store working capital. Most stores structure their memberships so that they generate as much or more from the sales of memberships as they give away in the form of discounts. For instance, if a customer receives a 10%

discount for a year in return for a \$10 membership fee, then both the customer and the store will break even when the customer buys books totalling \$100 (about 10 trade paperbacks). The store will start losing money on members who buy more than \$100 in books a year.

MODERN TIMES BOOKSTORE MEMBERSHIP CARD

Regular member

Sustaining member

Name The Loud Sisters

Address Avacado St, San Francisco, CA 94114


This card entitles member(s) to 10% discount for one year at

MODERN TIMES BOOKSTORE

968 Valencia Street
San Francisco, CA 94110
(415) 282-9246

The key, then, to having a financially successful program (a great plus during this recession) is keeping track of the average sale to members. A Room of One's Own records discount purchases on a separate cash-register key. "You can end up losing money if you don't keep track of it," Torkildson says. A Room of One's Own recently examined the difference between discounts given and membership fees received and decided that the gap was too great — they raised the membership fee a dollar. Some booksellers, however, don't pay as much attention to those figures, trusting that although they may lose money to big-purchase customers, the store will make up for it with the membership fees from more conservative spenders and good customer relations. As Ann Christophersen, of Women and Children First in Chicago, says, "The incalculable part of it is you don't know how many people are buying here because of it or if they're buying more because of it." Her sense, though, is that her store's program works well.

Some bookstores do not collect fees at all. Instead, they reward customers who buy a certain amount of stock by giving them a bonus book or credit. At Lioness Books in Sacramento, CA, for example, customers who buy \$200 in books within a year receive a \$20 bonus. Pandora Books for Open Minds in Kalamazoo, MI gives customers their 13th book for free. These stores, which keep track of the system on cards, believe that the customer loyalty generated (and hence increased sales) more than pay for the bonuses.



Pandora Womyn's Bookstore
226 W. Lovell (616) 384-5656

LUCKY THIRTEEN BOOK CLUB

NAME Suzie Thunderdyke

ADDRESS Sunshine Ave, Lovelltown

PHONE # no phone CLUB # _____

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

Affiliation programs, such as the one at Bold Print in Winnipeg, are yet another kind of perk. At Bold Print, fees entitle customers to special-events mailings and access to the store's lending library, but not book discounts.

An added benefit for many stores that maintain membership programs is an updated list of customer's names and addresses, which they use for everything from a check-cashing system to a networking file, which might be used for looking up the name of the town's lesbian attorney, for example.

Stores also use these rosters as mailing lists. Using these lists, they may send out sales-generating notices of events or new books. Selling or sharing these mailing lists is a controversial topic — some booksellers refuse to show their lists to anyone outside the store; a few said they would consider it, but would want to offer their customers a waiver option; still others, like Modern Times, will trade or sell their list to selected groups to solicit new memberships or raise funds. A few stores will insert fliers into their own mailings for a fee that goes toward postage.

Some Spanish and German bookstores offer a program that FBN has yet to see emulated in U.S. bookstores: Customers choose a monthly fee — say

\$10, \$20 or \$50 a month — which they authorize their bank to transfer to the store's account each month, whether they buy books or not. This guarantees the store a regular income. In return, the customers receive a small discount on books. According to the women of Sal de Casa in Valencia, some of their customers participate for political reasons, others because they find it's relatively painless to have \$10 a month transferred from their account to the store, and they love all of a sudden to have \$100 in credit at the store, especially during December.

Stores considering membership programs might do well to keep Torkildson's comment in mind: "If you decide to do it, it's almost impossible to stop. You can raise the price, but not stop." Customers come to expect these programs and don't want to let them go. In addition, phasing them out can be an administrative nightmare.

Here's a look at some programs across the country:

— Memberships —

Modern Times

It was about 10 years ago and Modern Times was financially floundering.

"Our cash flow was dreadful," Ruth Mahaney says. The store had tried a catalog, but when that failed, they turned to a membership drive — a program which now brings them some \$10,000 a year upfront.

For \$15 a year, members receive 10% off everything in the store, a monthly calendar of events and a periodic survey of new and recommended books. The store also offers joint memberships (two cards, same address) for \$20 and sustaining memberships for \$30. More than 700 people now carry memberships to Modern Times. When a membership runs out, the store sends a photocopied reminder letter. When members renew, workers send handwritten notes — an extremely time-consuming practice that delights members and sparks heated debates between staff members.

Modern Times used to hold a membership day on which members could buy books at a 25% discount. The store scheduled the sale in January or February, when sales were low and they needed the money to pay Christmas bills. The discount day also had the

added attraction of reducing Christmas stock. They stopped holding the sale for two reasons: They found they were losing regular price sales because members had started expecting the sale and were holding off buying books until then; and also because increased sales of text books for university courses was significant, improving cash flow during these months.

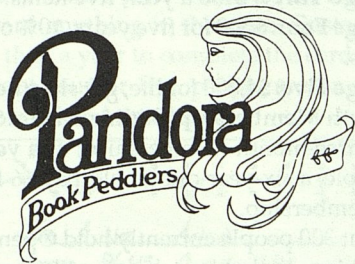
Pandora Book Peddlers

The women at Pandora Book Peddlers assure their customers that there's no catch to their book club program — but some buyers remain wary. To many, the offer seems too good to be true.

For \$14.95 a year, members of Pandora's YOUR (Your Opportunity for Unequaled Reading) Feminist Book Club are entitled to 20% off most books in the store and all books listed on Pandora's bimonthly book list.

"It's been very successful," Vivian Scheinmann says.

Scheinmann and Pamela Sheldrick started the book club in 1985, their second year of business, to get cash in hand and to encourage institutions and organizations to buy from their store rather than from publishers.



The program has worked thanks to a number of factors.

Because Pandora conducts so much of its business at a 20% discount, Scheinmann and Sheldrick take great pains to ensure that they do a large volume of business. They seek sales with organizations, institutions, people running workshops, and reading clubs. In addition, they do a lot of selling at conferences. There, customers they might see only once or twice a year will buy a membership to secure the 20% discount. In fact, most of Pandora's 500 to 700 book club members never set foot in the store.

In fact, many of the books also never enter the store. When dealing with mail-order customers,

Scheinmann drop-ships the books. "Twenty percent off is a lot but there's no shelf life," Scheinmann says.

The club also couldn't work if every title qualified for the discount, Scheinmann says. Although almost all lesbian and feminist titles appear on the discount list, Pandora doesn't give customers 20% off the more expensive and sometimes short-discounted university press books.

Scheinmann cautions that before booksellers take on a similar program they must possess very precise knowledge about the availability of particular books; an especially important factor these days when both booksellers and distributors are cutting back on the number of books in stock. If Pandora agrees to fill a large order but suddenly can't get the book from the usual source, then the store may have to take the costly step of going to a more expensive distributor or publisher.

Because Pandora has been so successful at delivering large quantities of discounted books on time, some customers confuse their business with a warehouse operation. To head off misunderstandings, the women insist that customers give them enough lead time to get the books they want and that buyers tell them precisely when they need the books. Scheinmann and Sheldrick also insist that mail-order customers pre-pay for their books. "If we wait, it ends up being, in effect, a 25% discount."

Women and Children First

The membership program at Women and Children First is still going strong after almost six years. The store started "Friends of the Bookstore" for three reasons: to provide an influx of capital following a move, to promote customer loyalty and to provide a deal for customers who spend more than \$200 at the store, Ann Christophersen says.

Memberships are \$20 a year for individuals, \$35 for couples and \$40 for organizations. In return, members receive 10% off books and music, and a bimonthly newsletter. To encourage women's book groups to buy at the store, the owners are considering starting another level of memberships — perhaps \$10 for a 10% discount on book group books. More than 250 people are "Friends" of W&CF.

The store keeps the membership list on computer and alerts customers whose memberships are about to expire. That list, plus a list of people who have paid \$3 to receive the bi-monthly newsletter, comprise the

store's mailing list. Though the store does not have a waiver on membership applications, W&CF does make the list available to select organizations. They never share the list for commercial purposes, and they always require that information be sent out in envelopes. The last requirement was added after an organization using the store's mailing list sent out fliers for a JoAnn Loulan talk without putting them in envelopes — a situation that was "awkward" for some customers.

A Room Of One's Own

Don't get fancy. That's Sandi Torkildson's advice for booksellers contemplating membership programs or discount cards.

"Keep it simple. (Don't get) complicated about it."

A Room of One's Own started a program in 1975, right after the store opened, to raise cash and encourage and reward repeat buyers. Because of state rules governing the use of the word membership, the store calls this a discount card program. Customers receive a 10% discount on books — no sidelines, no sale or bargain books — in return for a yearly \$10 fee. Though the store sometimes loses money when students buy university textbooks, ARO³ gains often gains those same students as loyal customers.



While a few customers have refused to join the program because they want to support the store by paying full price for books, about 550 people have taken up the offer.

Although the store tracks discount purchases on a separate register key, Torkildson says she tries to keep bookkeeping at a minimum. The store doesn't, for instance, send out renewal notices. Torkildson also refuses to share the store's mailing list with anyone. She believes that any store that does share its lists has a responsibility to first ask members to sign a waiver.

Opening Books

Opening Books in Huntsville, AL has a very different membership program from other stores, but then it's a very different kind of book place.

Although it looks like a bookstore, Opening Books is really a not-for-profit library and gift shop —

a move that owner Clere hopes will save trees while enriching the community. Members may check out books, tapes, magazines, videos and music, or buy the same items and others at the gift shop.

The membership program "works out terrific," Clere says. The fees help keep Opening Books financially afloat and prompt members to keep returning books.

Opening Books offers five stages of membership as well as a youth membership, all of which may be bought or exchanged for work or books. All members must start with a stage one membership — it's a chance for the store to check out customers' reliability, and for customers to see if Opening Books meets their needs.

Members at stages one and two may check out all "white card" items; that's about 90% of the stock. Only stage three, four and five members may also borrow "green card" items, which include such things as autographed or rare books. Overdue fines are a dime a day. The stages breakdown as follows:

* **Stage One:** \$25 for three months. Members may check out three items at a time.

* **Stage Two:** \$90 a year; four items.

* **Stage Three:** \$150 a year; five items.

* **Stage Four:** \$500 for five years; 10% off gift shop purchases.

* **Stage Five:** \$4,000 for life; gift shop items at cost.

* **Youth Membership:** Sliding scale, according to age, for three-month memberships; or a year for \$25. For example, a six-year-old would pay \$6 for a three-month membership.

About 300 people currently hold Opening Books' memberships. And although no one has purchased a life-time membership, several people have obtained them through work and book exchanges.

— Discount Cards —

Pandora Books for Open Minds

River Artz at Pandora Books for Open Minds had been looking for some way to reward repeat book buyers. What she came up with is the now six-year-old Lucky Thirteen Book Club. Buy 12 books at the store and receive a 13th book free. The store determines the value of the 13th book by averaging the price of the previous 12. The store keeps track of between 400 and

500 members by listing them on cards, which they keep in the shop.

The store used to offer a very popular birthday discount which entitled customers to one item at a percentage discount equal to their age. For example, 39% off for a woman turning 39. The store discontinued that perk five years ago — "I'm not crazy about giving discounts below wholesale," Artz says, adding, however, that she'd like to reinstate some version of that program.

Though Artz has little trouble figuring out the price of the 13th book, a few staffers have found the system too tricky and time consuming. Thus, she is thinking of converting to a simpler punch-card set up. She'd also like to shift the card-carrying responsibility from the store to the customer.

Lioness Books

Lioness Books started a card system about nine years ago, when it moved into its current location. Some of those original cards may still be found in the store today.

To earn credit, customers must fill up a card with 200 dots. Each dot equals \$1 spent in the store. Customers who fill a card within a year receive a \$20 credit toward anything in the store. Customers who take more than a year to complete the card get \$10 in credit. About four or five people are on their 11th cards, says worker Anne Askin.

NAME	ANNE ASKIN
ADDRESS	8649 GLENBOW WAY
CITY/ST/ZIP	SACTID CA 95826
PHONE	383-2211
DRIVER'S LIC #	
DATE	5-17-89 PUNCH CARD # 1

Lioness also uses the cards, on which customers record their drivers' license numbers and address, as a check-cashing system. If the store already has a woman's driver's license on file, she doesn't need to haul it out and the store doesn't have to write the number on her check each time.

The store does not, however, use the cards to do mailings. They dropped that idea several years ago when the number of cards made mailings too unwieldy and expensive to consider.

— Affiliations —

Bold Print

Bold Print started an "Affiliation" program in December 1990 to help pay for mailing special events notices, and to increase sales.



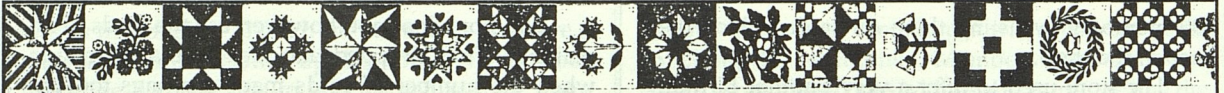
"We need to do more outreach," Joan Turner says. "It really pays off."

Tough economic times and the specter of the 7% GST tax on books helped convince the 4 1/2-year-old store to start the program. For \$15 a year, affiliates receive notice of special events, a free six-month membership in the store's lending library and entry to one members-only special event. Turner also hopes the \$15 fee will inspire affiliates to update their addresses when they move.

The program got off to a slowish start, Turner says, speculating that its inauguration might have been lost amid the December rush. In addition, she and the staff felt awkward about promoting the program while simultaneously promoting *Living the Changes*, an anthology Turner edited. With that over, Turner says "Now it feels like we can highlight the Affiliation. I think in the long run it will be worthwhile."

So far, about a dozen people have signed on; Bold Print aims for 100 affiliates.

Staff members thought it more appropriate to call the program "affiliation" than "membership" because Bold Print is a business, not a non-profit. Besides, Turner says, "It really says what it is intended to do." ○



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Mary H. Blewett

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ABA 1991

The ABA Convention in New York is shaping up to be the biggest, most intense publishing/bookselling bash ever. Holding the convention in NYC means that many more staff members from NYC-based publishers will be able to attend the convention and ABA has initiated a one-day ticket to facilitate this kind of drop-in attendance. ABA's highest concentration of member bookstores is in New England, so the convention should set records for bookseller-attendance as well.

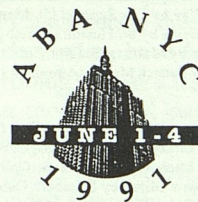
Gay/Lesbian/Feminist Row is 17 booths strong this year. The Row will be in the 1100-block on the third level. Publishers on the row include Alyson, Amethyst, Aunt Lute, Cleis, Clothespin Fever, Eighth Mountain, FBN, The Feminist Press, Firebrand, Lambda Book Report, Ms. Magazine, Naiad, New Victoria, Papier-Mache, Press Gang, Sister Vision, Spinsters, The Women's Press/Canada.

Booth rentals have reached an all-time high at this convention. Preferred locations are \$1850. \$1500 is the lowest price available for non-fringe locations — though there are \$1150 booths available along the far walls. Booths in the small press section are a reasonable \$425, but they've been sold out for some time. There's been serious protest about the price of booths. At least one major mainstream publisher has declined to participate on the grounds that fees of this size can be spent much more effectively in other venues to promote the same books.

Rearranging Power And Naming It In The Male Vernacular

This year's ABA Membership Meeting should be interesting and, unlike some years, important to attend. Proposed changes in the organization's bylaws will be approved or rejected by the members in attendance. The proposed changes, as I read them, would, in effect, make the executive director of ABA the President of the organization. The membership would

then elect a Chairman [sic] (and Vice-Chairman [sic], Secretary, and Treasurer) of the Board of Directors. A number of powers and responsibilities previously assigned by the bylaws to the elected president of the organization are also shifted to the newly created executive director/president and some of the checks and limitations set up in the old bylaws for these powers have been deleted. The President and the Chairman [sic], under the proposed changes, would "share equally" the role of spokesman [?] for the Association.



I haven't seen much press on the proposed changes, just a note in Newswire that "a number of bylaws changes regarding Association structure and the relationships between chief staff and chief volunteer leadership roles, to be presented at the annual meeting in NYC for approval by the regular membership" were approved by the Board. Hopefully, ABA will clarify the nature and extent of these changes to the membership well before ABA. If you don't get copies of the proposed changes before you go to ABA, ask for them at the convention. It should be very interesting.

I, for one, fail to imagine that the booksellers that make up ABA want the organization to be headed by anyone but a bookseller. It may make sense for the National Tire Manufacturers Association, but it doesn't do for booksellers. I certainly want a bookseller to be the main spokesperson for my booksellers association. And I'm not even a bookseller. Not to mention the shift in title for the elected official from a gender-free title to the classic of sexist titles. Granted, there's a subsection that will (officially, no less) allow



Third Annual LAMBDA LITERARY AWARDS



sponsored by Lambda Book Report

— Finalists —

Gay Men's Small Press Book Award:

Daddy's Roommate by Michael Willhoite (Alyson Publications)
 Gays in Uniform by Kate Dyer (Alyson Publications)
 Hard Plays/Stiff Parts by Robert Chesley (Alamo Square Press)
 Some Dance to Remember by Jack Fritscher (Knights Press)
 The Trouble with Harry Hay by Stuart Timmons (Alyson Publications)

Lesbian Small Press Book Award:

Black Women's Health Book by Evelyn C. White (Seal Press)
 Different Mothers edited by Louise Rafkin (Cleis Press)
 Dykes-Loving-Dykes by Bev Jo, Linda Strega, and Ruston (Battleaxe)
 Making Face/Making Soul by Gloria Anzaldua (Aunt Lute Foundation)
 Staying Power by Susan Johnson (Naiad Press)

Lesbian Debut Award:

Her by Cherry Muhanji (Aunt Lute Foundation)
 Simple Songs by Vickie Sears (Firebrand Books)
 Take Me to the Underground by Renee Hansen (Crossing Press)
 Virago by Karen Marie Christa Minns (Naiad Press)
 Voyages Out 2 by Julie Blackwomn & Nona Caspers (Seal Press)

Gay Men's Debut Award:

Body and Its Dangers by Allen Barnett (St. Martin's Press)
 Dancing on Tisha B'av by Lev Raphael (St. Martin's Press)
 Horse and Other Stories by Bo Huston (Amethyst Press)
 Landscape: Memory by Matthew Stadler (Scribners)
 This Every Night by Patrick Moore (Amethyst Press)

AIDS:

AIDS Demo Graphics by Douglas Crimp (Bay Press)
 Inventing AIDS by Cindy Patton (Routledge Press)
 Surviving AIDS by Michael Callen (HarperCollins)
 The Way We Live Now edited by Elizabeth Osbourn
 (Theater Communications Group)
 Women, AIDS & Activism by ACT UP/New York Women and AIDS
 Book Group (South End Press)

Gay Men's Poetry:

Body in Flames by Francisco Alarcon (Chronicle Books)
 Buried Body by Mark Ameen (Amethyst Press)
 Decade Dance by Michael Lassell (Alyson Publications)
 Healing Notebooks by Kenny Fries (Open Books)
 Special Deliveries by James Broughton (Broken Moon Press)

Lesbian Poetry:

Chant of the Women of Magdalena by SDiane Bogus
 (Woman in the Moon Publications)
 Crime Against Nature by Minnie Bruce Pratt (Firebrand Books)
 A Few Words in the Mother Tongue by Irena Klepfisz (Eighth Mountain)
 Going Back to the River by Marilyn Hacker (Random House)
 The Patience of Metal by Yvonne Zipter (Hutchinson House)

Gay Men's Science Fiction/Fantasy:

Alternate Casts by Marsh Cassidy (Banned Books)
 Enchantments of Flesh & Spirit by Storm Constantine (TOR)
 The Gift by Scott Edelman (Space and Time)
 Magic's Price by Mercedes Lackey (DAW)
 Secret Matter by Toby Johnson (Lavender Press)

Lesbian Science Fiction/Fantasy:

Doc and Fluff by Pat Califia (Alyson Publications)
 Gossamer Axe by Gael Baudino (ROC)
 Mighty Good Road by Melissa Scott (Baen Books)
 Priorities by Lynda Lyons (Naiad Press)
 Virago by Karen Marie Christa Minns (Naiad Press)

Gay Men's Mystery:

Black Marble Pool by Stan Leventhal (Amethyst Press)
 Body to Dye For by Grant Michaels (St. Martin's Press)
 Boy Who Was Buried This Morning by Joseph Hansen (Viking)
 Howtown by Michael Nava (HarperCollins)
 Why Isn't Becky Twitchell Dead? by Mark Richard Zubro (St. Martin's)

Lesbian Mystery

A Captive in Time by Sarah Dreher (New Victoria Publishers)
 Death Down Under by Claire McNab (Naiad Press)
 Gaudi Afternoon by Barbara Wilson (Seal Press)
 Ninth Life by Lauren Wright Douglas (Naiad Press)
 Slick by Camarin Grae (Naiad Press)

Lesbian and Gay Humor:

Meatmen Vol. 8 edited by Winston Leyland (Leyland Publications)
 More Lesbian Etiquette by Gail Sausser (Crossing Press)
 New, Improved Dykes to Watch Out For by Alison Bechdel (Firebrand)
 Stonewall Riots by Andrea Natalie (Andrea Natalie)
 Susie Sexpert's Lesbian Sex World by Susie Bright (Cleis Press)

Lesbian Nonfiction:

Ceremonies of the Heart by Becky Butler (Seal Press)
 Exile in the Promised Land by Marcia Freedman (Firebrand)
 Loony-Bin Trip by Kate Millett (Simon & Schuster)
 The Safe Sea of Women by Bonnie Zimmerman (Beacon Press)
 Susie Sexpert's Lesbian Sex World by Susie Bright (Cleis Press)

Gay Men's Nonfiction:

Behind the Mask by Dave Pallone (Viking)
 Coming Out Under Fire by Alan Berube (Free Press)
 My Country, My Right to Serve by Mary Ann Humphrey
 (HarperCollins)
 So Little Time by Mike Hippler (Celestial Arts)
 The Trouble with Harry Hay by Stuart Timmons (Alyson Publications)

Gay Men's Anthologies:

Gay Men of Alcoholics Anonymous by Robert Kus (WinterStar Press)
 Keys to Caring edited by Robert Kus (Alyson Publications)
 Men & Intimacy edited by Franklin Abbott (Crossing Press)
 Men on Men 3 edited by George Stambolian (Plume)
 Triple Fiction by Cassidy, Smith, & Stone (Los Hombres)

Lesbian Anthologies:

Lesbian Bedtime Stories 2 edited by Terry Woodrow (Tough Dove)
 Lesbian Philosophies and Cultures edited by Jeffner Allen (SUNY Press)
 Lesbian Texts and Contexts edited by Karla Jay and Joanne Glasgow
 (New York University Press)
 Speaking for Ourselves edited by Irene Zahava (Crossing Press)
 Women on Women edited by Joan Nestle and Naomi Holoch (Plume)

Gay Men's Fiction:

Afterlife by Paul Monette (Crown Publishers)
 Body and Its Dangers by Allen Barnett (St. Martin's Press)
 Home at the End of the World by Michael Cunningham (FSG)
 Music I Never Dreamed Of by John Gilgun (Amethyst Press)
 A Place I've Never Been by David Leavitt (Viking)

Lesbian Fiction:

Don Juan in the Village by Jane DeLynn (Pantheon)
 Incidents Involving Mirth by Anna Livia (Eighth Mountain Press)
 My Jewish Face and Other Stories by Melanie Kaye/Kantrowitz
 (Spinsters Book Co.)
 Out of Time by Paula Martinac (Seal Press)
 People In Trouble by Sarah Schulman (Dutton)

For more information about the Lambda Literary Awards, call (202)462-7924.

a woman (or man) who is successfully elected to the position of Chairman (but not the Vice-Chairman) to change the title to "Chairperson," "Chairwoman," or "Chair" for their term but only after she/he becomes chairman. — What is this — male until proven female? Is this 1991 or 1971 or 1951? Surely booksellers have too much regard for the power of language to create images and destroy (or create) barriers to let this go by. It should be an entertaining meeting as well as an important one. Plan to be there. Sunday, 4:15-5:30.

Feminist Bookstores & Publishers Days

To continue on a cheerier note, I'm expecting a record number of booksellers for the Feminist Bookstores Day (Friday, May 31). This year's meeting for women-owned, feminist-oriented booksellers will spend the morning doing a serious work shop in bookstore finances. In the afternoon we'll cover our usual wide ranging agenda. If you're a "hard-core" feminist bookstore and you haven't yet received information about the Feminist Bookstore Day meetings, call the FBN office for information. If you've received your questionnaire but haven't sent it in yet, send it to Barb Wieser at Amazon Bookstore ASAP!

In conjunction with the Feminist Bookstores Day, FBN booked a block of rooms in an apartment-hotel in NYC for feminist booksellers and feminist publishers. As we go to press there are still a few rooms available.

Feminist publishers will be meeting, as usual, on the Thursday before ABA. Lee Boojamra from Rising Tides and Beth Dingman from New Victoria are this year's organizers. They've also organized a Saturday evening dinner for lesbian/feminist publishers and feminist booksellers to meet, eat, and share information. (See Sidebar.) Contact either of them for more information.

More Events

The Lambda Literary Awards Banquet will be held Friday night (May 31). Nominations for the Third Annual Lambda Literary Awards have been announced (see opposite page). The LAMMYs are intended to recognize excellence in gay and lesbian writing and publishing. The Second Annual Ferro-Grumley Awards for Lesbian and Gay Fiction, the Third Annual Bill Whitehead Lifetime Achievement Award sponsored by the Publishing Triangle, and the

1991 Gregory Kolovakos Award for AIDS Writing will also be presented at the banquet. This year's banquet will be held at the Grand Hyatt Hotel (Park Ave. at Grand Central). Kate Clinton will emcee. Tickets will be \$75. There is money set available for financial assistance. For more information, tickets, or financial aid, contact the *Lambda Book Report*, 1625 Connecticut Ave. NW, Washington DC 20009 or phone 202-462-7924.

Banquet for Lesbian/Feminist Publishers & Booksellers

Womankind Books/Rising Tide Press and New Victoria Publishers are organizing an event to bring lesbian/feminist publishers and feminist bookstore women together over an evening of — what else? — food! The dinner/meeting is scheduled for Saturday, June 1 and will be held in conjunction with ABA in NYC.

It is a unique opportunity for lesbian/feminist publishers and booksellers to meet each other, dialogue, share information, have fun and celebrate another year of doing the work that we love.

The dinner meeting will include a 10 course Chinese banquet at the Hwa Yuan Szechuan Inn, in New York's historic Chinatown. The owner has graciously provided the party with a private banquet room. Publishers or booksellers interested in speaking at the dinner, about any topic relevant to both booksellers and publishers, should contact Alice Frier or Lee Boojamra at 516-427-1289.

The cost for the event is \$29.95 per person. (A bargain by NY standards.) Fish dishes will be included in the banquet for vegetarians. Tickets must be purchased by April 30, 1991. (Restaurant space is limited to approximately 80 women, so get your reservation in *now* — don't expect tickets to be available in NYC. Congratulations and thanks to Lee & Alice for finding a place in NYC where 80 women can get together for dinner for less than \$50 or \$60 or \$70! It's a classic example of feminist booksellers/publishers achieving the impossible with limited funds and turning it into something wonderful and exciting. I'm hungry already — for both the food and the conversations!) Make checks payable to Womankind Books, 5 Kivy St., Huntington Station NY 11746. 516-427-1289. — CS ○

Multi-Cultural Exhibit at ABA

Last year's "Black & Read: Books by African-American Authors and Illustrators" exhibit was so enthusiastically received that the project will be repeated this year and will be expanded to include Asian-American, Hispanic-American, and Native American authors and illustrators as well. Exhibitors are invited to submit books for the exhibit but are unfortunately limited to three books per publisher, a policy that prohibits the display of many excellent books from the publishers that have the strongest commitment to publishing writers of color but provides equal visibility to publishers with only a token publishing program. Books may be on any subject but must be written or illustrated by an African-, Asian-, Hispanic- or Native-American and publishers should include a brief two- or three-sentence description of each book and their booth number for the exhibit bibliography. Send submissions to the ABA, 137 West 25th St., NY NY 10001, Attention: Andrew Roth. For more information call 212-463-8450 ext 209. Closing date is May 10. ○

The Publishers Triangle is organizing a post-banquet bash after the LAMMYs. It will probably be held at the Limelight (6th Ave. and 20th St.) from 11:30 pm until ??????. Confirm the location when you get to NYC.

SATURDAY

ABA opens on Saturday, as always, with a session for first-time convention goers to help first-timers the best use of their time and energy at the ABA Convention. Saturday, 10:30-11:30.

Mary Morrell (Full Circle Books) will be moderating a panel on Specialty Bookstores: How to Capture a Unique Market Niche. Saturday, 10:30-noon.

The Small Store and Mid-size Store Roundtables will be held from Noon-2:00 on Saturday. The ABA defines Small Stores as grossing under \$250,000 with fewer than five employees and Mid-Sized Stores as grossing between \$250,000 and \$1,500,000 with 5+ employees. Attend whichever one you want. (Large Stores — \$1,500,000+ — are meeting on Friday from 1-6 pm at the New York Hilton.)

The now-traditional networking session for Feminist Women in Bookselling (open to all) will meet Saturday afternoon from 4:00 to 5:30.

The Publishing Triangle's panel, "The Range of Lesbian & Gay Reading (In and Out of the Lesbian & Gay Section)" will be Saturday from 5:30-7:00.

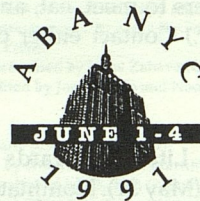
Feminist booksellers and lesbian/feminist publishers are invited to a dinner/gathering Saturday night. See sidebar for details.

SUNDAY

Gloria Steinem, with Stephen King and Ferrol Sams (*When the World Was Young*) are the speakers for the Sunday AM Book & Author Breakfast. Natalie Goldberg is speaking at the New Age Publishing and Retailing Alliance Breakfast at the same time.

The Specialty Bookstore Roundtables will be held from Noon-2:00 on Sunday and Monday. Feminist Booksellers, African-American Booksellers, Mystery Booksellers, Recovery Booksellers and Cookbook Booksellers will meet on Monday. The Tuesday's Roundtables will address Gay/Lesbian, New Age, Science Fiction, Technical, Travel and Bookstore/Cafe specialties. These are ticketed events. (Tickets are free. Order your ticket when you register.) Only booksellers may attend. Box lunches are available at \$15 ea. — or bring your own lunch.

This year's Roundtable for Feminist Bookstores will be facilitated by longtime feminist bookseller Sandi Torkildson (A Room of One's Own, Madison). The Gay/Lesbian section will be facilitated by Norman Laurila and Roz Parr (A Different Light/NYC); Glenderlyn Johnson (Black Books Plus, NYC) will do the African-American section; and FBN's travel agent, Ann Dwyer, will lead the Travel Bookstores section.



Once again, the program conveys a mixed message about the purpose and function of the roundtables. Although the title indicates that these sessions are for specialty bookstores, the description following the title says that the Specialty Bookstore Roundtables are "informal problem-solving and

See ABA, page 54

Share It With the Kids You Love the Best!

By Kathleen T. Horning

More and more high-quality children's books are being published by small presses. Frequently these books offer perspectives or provide information not usually found in children's books from mainstream publishers. Bilingual books, Third World folktales, and stories about children with disabilities are only a few examples of the kinds of materials routinely available from small presses. This is the best group of books I've ever had to review. Small press children's books keep getting better and better!

Raves

Shake It to the One That You Love the Best: Play Songs and Lullabies from Black Musical Traditions, collected and adapted by Cheryl Warren Mattox and illustrated by Brenda Joysmith and Varnette P. Honeywood, is the "find" of the year! It is very girl-centered and produced entirely by African-American women. Music and lyrics from 16 play songs and 10 lullabies familiar to generations of African-American children are included in this outstanding collection. Each song is accompanied by source notes and historical information, and, in the case of the play songs, descriptions of the games or activities associated with the song. In addition, 11 full-color reproductions of paintings featuring African-American children and families by two

This irregular column is written by Kathleen T. Horning, 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 (3d ed.), and children's librarian at Madison Public Library.

well-known gallery artists are interspersed throughout the collection, and each page is bordered with strips of kenta cloth, also reproduced in full color. A beautiful, important collection that should be shared with children everywhere. The book is available both singly and with a cassette tape on which the songs are sung by a children's chorus, Linda Tillery, Taj Mahal and Brenda Vaughn. All ages. \$5.95 pb, 0-9623381-0-9; \$16.95 book and cassette set, -2-5.



"Hearts Make Friends," Varnette P. Honeywood
Shake It to the One That You Love the Best

Published by Warren-Mattox Productions, 3817 San Pablo Dam Rd. #336, El Sobrante CA 94803. Bookstores order from JTG 102C 18th Ave. S, Nashville, TN 37212. Hopefully it will reach Bookpeople and Inland soon.

The first volume in Just Us Books' Feeling Good series — **Bright Eyes, Brown Skin**, written by Cheryl Willis Hudson and Bernette G. Ford and illustrated by George Ford — is designed to heighten the self-esteem of African-American children by providing positive images in text and illustration. George Ford's strong,

full-color paintings show four children engaged in typical activities in a day care or preschool setting, while perfectly paced, rhyming phrases describe the children: "Bright eyes, brown skin. A heart-shaped face, a dimpled chin." The text brilliantly combines understatement and directness, giving the story a celebratory tone rather than a didactic one. The clear, appealing illustrations, rhythmic words and child-centered focus should make this a favorite in preschool story hours. Ages 18 months-4. \$12.95 lib. ed., 0-940975-10-6. Just Us Books, 301 Main St., Ste. 22-24, Orange, NJ 07050.



"Bumpin," Brenda Joysmith
Shake It To the One That You Love the Best

Fiction

White Owl and Blue Mouse, written by Jean Joubert, translated by Denise Levertov and illustrated by Michel Gay, is a gentle humorous story for transitional readers, illustrated on each page with charming pen-and-ink line drawings washed with watercolors. When a clever mouse outwits a predatory owl, she is at first delighted but later saddened when she sees the results of her trick: The owl has been captured and caged by humans and sold to a circus sideshow. At the owl's request, the mouse explores the countryside by

day, returning to the owl's cage each night to describe all that she has seen, and a friendship based on trust gradually develops between them. Grades 2-3. \$13.95, 0-944072-13-5. Zoland Books, PO Box 2766, Cambridge, MA 02238.

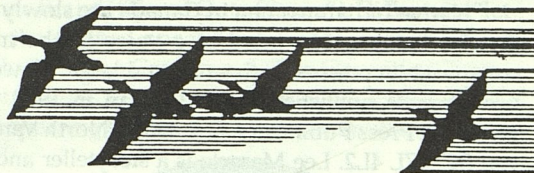
The Girl with a Watering Can, by Ewa Zdrzyńska and illustrated by Arnold Skolnick, is an unusual, imaginative story set in the National Gallery of Art and featuring characters from the collection's paintings. When Renoir's *Girl with a Watering Can* sits down one night to remove a stone from her shoe, she finds that the color has drained from the scenery around her and that she is free to move around the museum. Starting out in search of a playmate, she approaches Renoir's *Girl with a Hoop*, is snubbed by her, but nonetheless manages to take the girl's hoop to play with by herself. As she chases the rolling hoop in and out of several other paintings throughout the museum, her playful antics disrupt the quiet order of various masterpieces. On her return trip to her own frame, she stops at each painting to set things straight. By following her entertaining adventures, children are encouraged to observe details in each of the full-color reproductions of famous paintings. Ages 5-8. \$15.95, 0-915829-64-9. Chameleon Books. Bookstores order from Talman, 211 W. 20th St., New York, NY 10011.

Nonfiction

From their experiences as storytellers throughout the United States, Richard Young and Judy Dockrey Young have gathered together the popular scary stories most often requested and told by their audiences of children in **Favorite Scary Stories of American Children**. Each story is retold with children's emotional development in mind, and individual titles are marked with a visual key to indicate one of three appropriate age levels for listeners (ages 5-6, 7-8, 9-10). Although the authors have gathered the stories directly from children, well-researched endnotes provide further information about sources and variants. The cultural diversity of American children is reflected in the range of sources represented, which include stories from Jewish, Chinook, Cambodian, Pueblo, Hmong, Japanese and white southern traditions, among others. \$8.95 pb, 0-87483-119-9. August House, PO Box 3223, Little Rock, AR 72203. See *Kids Books*, page 86

Books in Canada:

BORDER CROSSING



By Penny Goldsmith

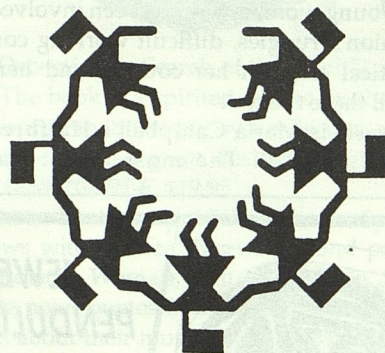
Feminist politics attempt to jump borders both literally and culturally but writing has a place that is grounded deeply in its own country. The purpose of this column is to give you information about feminist titles by Canadian authors that your customers might be interested in. The books talked about here are published by presses in Canada that don't define themselves as overtly feminist but who have a commitment to publishing literature by women.

I spent some time preparing to write this first column by going through the last year and a half of FBN again to get a sense of Canadian books that FBN readers already know about and where the holes are. Presses like Press Gang, Women's Press, Second Story, gynergy, Sister Vision and some of the smaller Literary Press Group presses are covered regularly in columns already in the magazine, and so I'm not going to cover them again. I'm looking for the authors who are out there with publishers who possibly don't even know about FBN.

Although I will have an eye on new and upcoming titles, I'm interested in backlists as well. Feminist publishing has created a list of "classics" which don't go out of style in the same way as they do in the mainstream publishing world. We make books that aren't commodities and so their shelf life is not limited by the current selling season.

Penny Goldsmith has been involved in the Canadian publishing world for almost twenty years. She has worked for various small publishers in both Ontario and, now, in British Columbia, which has been her home for the past fifteen years. She is the owner of Lazara Press, a literary publishing house in Vancouver, British Columbia which has been operating since 1982.

I'd like help with this — distribution is always the hardest part of publishing. If you know of any titles which would fit into the column, drop me a line c/o Lazara Press, Box 2269, VMPO, Vancouver, British Columbia Canada V6B3W2 and I will be happy to talk about them in future columns.



First a magazine called **Aquelarre: Latin American Women's Magazine** which publishes out of Vancouver, British Columbia in Spanish and English. The magazine has six issues out with the following subjects: Vol 1: Introductory Issue, includes an interview with Isabel Allende; Vol 2: Human Rights/Women's Rights, includes articles on domestic workers in Bolivia, and Latin American women and the left; Vol 3: Immigrant Women, talk about the psychological effects of immigration and includes testimonies and short stories. Volume 4 is about Women and Art; Volume 5 deals with literacy, and Volume 6 (just released) is a general issue. The magazine is attractive, printed in four colours, and full of thoughtful and provocative information and stories. 30% discount to bookstores, no min.; returns when next issue comes out. Aquelarre, PO Box 65535, Stn. F, Vancouver, BC Canada V5N 5K6.

Native Indian women in Canada are slowly (too slowly) being given more of a voice in the mainstream white presses, both small and large. However, Lee Maracle published *I Am Woman* in 1988 with Write-On Press Publishers, Box 86606, North Vancouver, BC V7L 4L2. Lee Maracle is a storyteller and her stories are moving and powerful. The book is autobiographical and includes chapters titled "I Want to Write," "Law, Politics and Tradition," "Heartless Teachers," and "Women's Movement," among others. The book has gone into several printings, and is still available for \$10.95, 0-921576-00-5.

Write-On Press has also published a book of poetry by Maria Luisa Vilacorta in Spanish and English, entitled *The Grandmother Poems — Poemas de la Abuela*. The author was born in 1912 in El Salvador and worked in a sack factory in San Salvador as a young woman. She has been involved all her life in union struggles, difficult working conditions and political crisis in her country and her poetry reflects all these themes.

A classic is Maria Campbell's *Halfbreed*, first published in 1973. The most recent Canadian

edition is published by Goodread Biographies, Formac Publishing Co. Ltd., 333-1657 Barrington St., Halifax, NS B3J 2A1, 0-88780-116-1, \$5.95. Campbell describes the book: "I want to tell you what it is like to be a half-breed woman in Canada, about the joys and sorrows, the oppressing poverty, the frustrations and dreams. I am not bitter. I have passed that stage. I only want to say: This is what it was like, this is what it is still like."

A book of interest to readers who have been talking about appropriation of culture is *The Book of Jessica* (Coach House Press, 0-88910-380-1, \$14.95, available from Inland). The book is written by Linda Griffiths, an actor, and Métis author Maria Campbell, and is the story of a play, *Jessica* and how it was made. The play is Campbell's life story; *The Book of Jessica* is the story of the collaboration and conflict between the two women as they struggle to understand each other and each other's cultures. The first part of the book is a conversation which indicates the often extremely tense relationship between the two, and the second part is the play itself.

There's a writing school in Penticton, British Columbia for First Nations writers called En'owkin International School of Writing. *Gatherings: The En'owkin Journal of First North American People* is a journal coming out of the school, and its first issue was released in August, 1990. It includes well-known writers such as Jeannette Armstrong, Annharte and Lee Maracle as well as stories and poems from the students at the school. Two items that will be of particular interest to FBN readers are the opening article, entitled "Ask Me Again" by Kerrie Charnley, which deals with the vision in the writings and voices of First Nations women, and Armstrong's closing "Oratory: the Disempowerment of First North America Native Peoples and Empowerment through their writing."

I ran across a book recently which was first published in 1968. It's called *The Curve of Time* by M. Wylie Blanchet and is the story of woman who was left a widow with five small children in 1927 in a small town on Vancouver Island. She gave them school lessons in winter and coastal cruises in summer. The book is a warm and eminently readable collection of stories about their travels. 40% for 6+ books. Order from Whitecap Books, 1086 W. 3rd Street, North Vancouver, BC V7P 3J6; 604-980-9852 (phone), 980-8197 (FAX).

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Some favourite and well-known Canadian fiction writers have had books published in the past year. Audrey Thomas, who has many collections of short stories and novels to her name, has a new book of short stories called **The Wild Blue Yonder** (\$19.95 US, Viking/Penguin 0-670-82964-1). The thirteen stories in the collection are good examples of Thomas' skill in describing the subtleties and ironies of emotional life.

Bronwen Wallace was a poet and short story teller who had been published in anthologies and periodicals across the country before her death in 1989. Margaret Atwood describes her book of short stories, **People You'd Trust Your Life To**: "These are real stories about people so real you'll think they live next door. All the textures of life are here — the grime, the dailyness, the intricacies, the pain, and then, like small but devastating miracles, moments of intense joy that will take your breath away." 0-7710-8791-8, \$14.95. McClelland & Stewart, 330 Esna Park Drive, Markham, ONT L3R 1H5; 416-940-8855 (phone), 940-8864 (FAX).

Goodnight Desdemona (Good Morning Juliet) by Ann-Marie MacDonald is the winner of this year's Governor-General's award for drama and is one of the funniest take-offs on Shakespeare that I've ever seen (or read). The plot: Constance Ledbelly, a scattered academic, is working feverishly through her doctoral thesis, "aided" by a particularly obnoxious but not unfamiliar male thesis advisor. She contends that the only characters deep enough to embody Aristotelian attributes in the Shakespearian tragedies of Romeo and Juliet and Othello are Juliet and Desdemona. Constance dives into the original plays with a vengeance — the play includes a very funny lesbian scene between Constance and Juliet (Coach House Press, \$9.95, 0-88910-412-3 available from Inland).



There's a new collection of essays about writing and gender just published by Coach House Press. It's called **Language in Her Eye**, and is edited by Libby Scheier, Sarah Sheard and Eleanor Wachtel. It includes articles by Margaret Atwood ("If You Can't Say Something Nice, Don't Say Anything at All"),

Dionne Brand ("Bread Out of Stone"), Di Brandt ("letting the silence speak"), Lee Maracle ("Native Myths"), Anne Cameron, ("The Operative Principle is Trust"), Marlene Nourbese Philip ("The Disappearing Debate: Racism and Censorship"), Jane



Rule ("Deception in Search of the Truth") and many others. The book is a spirited debate on the relationship of feminism to writing by a collection of authors, all of whom have a great deal of experience in the subject. 0-88910-397-6, \$19.95.

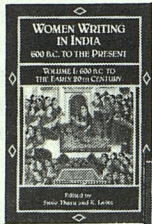
Polestar Books has published a book of photos and interviews with women songwriters and performers, called **Born a Woman**, edited by Ellen Schwartz. Schwartz notes quotes from the musicians about how they feel about their music, what it's like to be at their concerts, four or five songs and a discography. Included in the book are Ferron, Sylvia Tyson, Rita McNeil, Connie Kaldor, Lucie Blue Trembley, Heather Bishop and Marie Lynn Hammond. 0-919591-25-6, \$12.95. Polestar Press, #3-373 Baker Street, Nelson, BC V7L 4H6; 604-354-4482 (phone), 226-7670 (FAX).

I'd like to thank Renee Richards from Chief's Mask, the Native Indian bookstore in Vancouver, for her ideas about what to include in this and future columns, and the Vancouver Women's Bookstore for lending me the issue of FBN that I was missing and for having such an extensive collection of Canadian women writers on their shelves.

Booksellers (and others) with suggestions for books that should be covered in this column, for a column-head graphic, or for a better title, please call Penny at 604-253-3715 or write to her c/o Lazara Press, Box 2269 VMPO, Vancouver BC V6B 3W2. ○

"To reach a common understanding, all women must speak; what they say has to be available to all; and all have to listen." – Marilyn French, *Ms Magazine*

International Fiction from Feminist Press



Women Writing in India: Volume I. Edited by Susie Tharu and K. Lalita (\$29.95 pb, ISBN 1-55861-027-8). "A collection that redefines Indian literature, reaffirms the role of women as artists, and, simply, offers a lot of great reading. A publishing event, embracing 2,500 years of literature by women from all over India." – *Booklist*. "The literary quality is notable, the work never inaccessible." – *Publishers Weekly*



Truth Tales: Contemporary Stories by Women Writers of India. Edited by Kali for Women, Meena Alexander (\$12.95 pb, ISBN 1-55861-012-X). This "Best Trade Paperback of 1990" (*Publishers Weekly*) presents 7 of India's current women writers, most translated for the first time. "A brilliant, touching, richly varied collection." – *Ms*. "Affecting portraits of women's lives in India today." – *Kirkus Reviews*.



Sultana's Dream, and Selections from "The Secluded Ones." Rokeya Sakhawat Hossain, edited by Roushan Jahan, Hanna Papanek (\$6.95 pb, ISBN 0-935312-83-8). Utopian fantasy of "reverse purdah" in which women take over public sphere, published in English 10 years before *Herland*, with stories of life in purdah.



Bamboo Shoots After the Rain: Contemporary Stories by Women Writers of Taiwan. Edited by Ann C. Carver, Sung-Sheng Yvonne Change (\$14.95 pb, ISBN 1-55861-018-9). 14 stories, written since 1949, are "as much a reflection of the changing status of women in Chinese society as of the range of their literary accomplishments. Always interesting." – *Kirkus Reviews*. "Its vibrant, tumultuous energy and its evocation of the contending lifestyles of a society in transition speak for themselves." – *Publishers Weekly*.

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CANADIAN CONTENT

By Donna Murray

As mentioned in the January/February issue of FBN, this Canadian Content features a checkup from points across the country on the Goods and Services Tax (GST) implemented on January 1st. In particular this all-encompassing tax, for the first time in Canada, includes reading — to the dismay of all book lovers. The picture below offers a variety of reactions depending on the particular situation of each bookseller. This is one of the interesting features of the GST — it affects everyone, but it is consistently inconsistent. Some of the comments may contradict others within this article, but that's the nature of this tax. It is comprehensive, far reaching and confusing.

Janice McAltine of Mrs. Dalloway's in Kingston Ontario reports that the GST hasn't slowed sales but importing books was cumbersome at the outset. Using UPS as a broker for imported books presented about a week's delay in shipments arriving from the US plus an approximate \$20.00 surcharge per shipment. Many of these distributors have since registered with, and collect taxes directly for, the Canadian government. Janice notes that although Mrs. Dalloway's has not been affected so far, she has read that smaller distributors and presses in the States may feel that this added layer of bureaucracy could become just one step too many to bother continuing exports.

Janice spoke about an alternative offered by the federal government to businesses grossing less than \$200,000 per year. This would be in lieu of calculating and submitting GST using a time-consuming process of tracking GST paid and collected, and filling out remittance and rebate forms. A flat rate of 3% of gross sales would be levied.

Janice and partner Donna Vittorio decided to cost it out and realized that this option would in effect cost

about double that of going to the trouble of maintaining the paper flow. As such, they decided that although a lot more paperwork is entailed, the 3% option is too expensive. Says Janice, "It's a close line in the book business. If you erode the profit margin, you'll be in trouble."

In spite of what has been seen by many to be a confusing introduction to the tax, Janice was well versed in GST details. She familiarized herself by going over the information sent to the store from the federal government and from a fact-sheet sent along by their accountant. "We feel comfortable with it. It's a lot more work but we have it under control."



Janice reports that the reaction of customers has been "disgusted and philosophical." She recalled that when interviewed by a local reporter regarding the current recession her partner Donna offered that customers of a women's bookstore had never had a lot of money and that the money they would continue to spend would continue come from already limited budgets.

A synopsis of Mrs. Dalloway's winter sales presented a strong picture. Janice said that better weather (always a Canadian consideration) had kept more people out of the malls and thus into their store. "People have held back a little but we just had our best December. We feel like we're healthy."

A phone call to a relatively new outlet for feminist literature in Vancouver put me in touch with Cynthia

Brooke of the Book Mantle Bookstore. Cynthia established this general used bookstore with Bonnie Murray about a year and a half ago. The store is new to the east side of Vancouver and deals primarily in used books with a focus on feminism and philosophy, and on lesbian fiction and non-fiction. The two women are "new to the business," but my short conversation with Cynthia (interspersed with healthy interruptions for Saturday morning sales) indicated a knowledge of current issues.



I asked Cynthia what her concerns about the GST were and she replied that GST is definitely affecting them, "because it is affecting everybody."

Cynthia said she understood there had been some difficulty for shipments arriving from the States to Canadian booksellers. I decided to call Barbara Grier of the Naiad Press to check out this concern and was assured that the only difficulty Naiad has had with the GST has been getting the GST registration number and stamping it on the parcels intended for export to Canada. It is this registration number that allows the parcels to move relatively quickly along to their destinations. Barbara also indicated that some of the 'enormous' US suppliers have made an agreement with the Canadian government to collect the GST and remit directly on their behalf, but that this is not the case for all publishers and distributors.

The Book Mantle currently is not charging GST, qualifying under a clause that allows small businesses with less than \$30,000 in gross annual sales to be exempt. Through a national association of used bookstores, they are organizing to have all used books exempted from the GST.

Cynthia was busy with customers — as we spoke I could hear an espresso machine in the background over the voices of browsers and shoppers. Although we didn't have time to talk further, the two women are busily looking into distribution, videos and public funding in the future. They also wish to make and develop contacts in the field. They are located at 1002 Commercial Drive, Vancouver BC, V5L3W9 — phone (604) 253-1099.

Peggy Harris at the Ottawa Women's Bookstore said she could not say exactly that the GST has affected sales or customer activity. "Ottawa is kind of a different place — there is money here," she said, indicating that sales have been good. The store's customers include people with a variety of incomes along with government agencies and libraries, who have continued to purchase books. The store's move to a street-level location — just down the street to 272 Elgin — on December 30th has also changed the level of business and they are busy.

Peggy kept expecting a slow-down but was assured, "Don't worry, people will buy books." And to her surprise that is what has happened. Shoppers have reduced their expenditures in other areas — videos, films — and gone towards "longer term enjoyment — reading."

Peggy is trying to make things easier for customers to offset the effect of the GST for those who have felt the impact of the extra 7% on bookstore items. "We immediately put calendars and jewelry on sale," she said, to offer a break on goods that already have a provincial tax on them. As well she states, "I am really watching what I am ordering and in what price range taking into account what the 7% will do." Hard covers will be fewer on the shelves unless it is something "exceptional."

The implementation of the GST coincided with the Ottawa Women's Bookstore's move to their new location and at this time they combined the packing up with an inventory and moving everything to the new premises. It seems to have gone smoothly with much help from lover and friends with trucks. The store also decided to computerize concurrently and the GST and PST is programmed for calculation.



Peggy offered some hopeful news out of Ottawa: It sounds as if chances are pretty good that the government will be looking at several areas of taxation included in the GST and that books will be considered for exemption. For those who have lobbied long and hard and for booksellers and buyers this can only be received with jubilation. As Peggy notes, and I repeat with my cynical perspective, the

government does like to make these promises when in the last two years of a term in office — I'll believe it when I see it!

Odette Des Ormeaux and I spoke about her concerns about the GST and how it has affected sales at the Montreal women's bookstore l'Essentielle. Her observation was that those hardest hit by the new tax have been students coming in to the store to pick up their texts for required reading for university courses. "We offer a student discount of 10% but the GST of 7% takes up most of this discount. And the GST must be charged on the *full price* of the book, not the discounted price." She notes that if there were to be any exemption from books being taxed, students should get the first consideration.

Odette reports that sales in general for l'Essentielle have moved from a slow October through a medium November, and while December was good it took customers a long time to get around to their holiday shopping. There was a flurry of activity before the implementation of the GST where people were in a rush to shop GST-free. January sales were good with February sales slower. "It's not so much the GST," says Odette, "The economic situation in Quebec includes a high unemployment rate of 12%." Those with limited income are only further restricted by the GST.

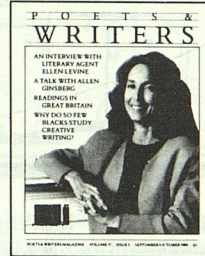
As far as the implementation of the new tax went for l'Essentielle, international shipments have been held up at the border while customs verify contents, prepare invoices for GST and then send the parcel along. "I get a lesbian magazine from Paris. There was a 10-day delay while customs opened it, put in a GST bill, closed it and sent it to me. I got the January issue on February 1st!" It is worth a mention here that GST invoices for books shipped from US points are calculated in US dollars!

All in all, Odette says the GST is "a pain." "It's much more paperwork, and also we have to charge it on books, and on shipping." It also means opening more columns for bookkeeping, another one of the numerous time-consuming details required by all merchants.

Apart from the busy-ness of operating l'Essentielle, Audette is "up to her ears" in the production of a subject catalogue for distribution to all those interested in women's books in French and

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"*Poets & Writers Magazine* moves very well. We sell 95% of our copies, and the service can't be beat."

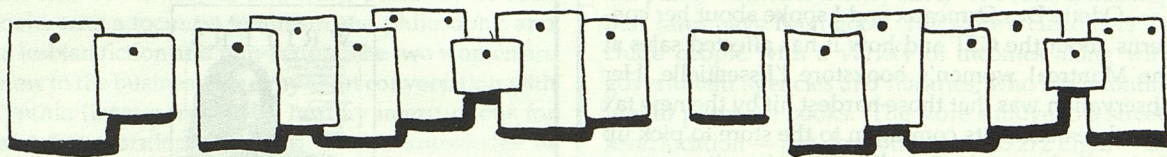
—Judith's Room, NYC

English. Primarily issued as a mail order catalogue the publication entitled *l'Essentielle's Fall 1990 Catalogue* offers 5,000 titles on 120 pages with quarterly updates for (get this) \$2.00 postage and handling. It is available by contacting l'Essentielle, 420 rue Rachel est, Montréal Quebec, H2J 2G7. I can't wait to get my copy.

That's the news collected for this issue. Starting with the next issue of FBN, Canadian Content will return to a series of "guest" authors from across Canada. If I haven't contacted you, as a Canadian feminist bookseller, and you have a burning urge to contribute, by all means contact me: I'll be glad to receive your comments, ideas and articles. It is helpful to send them directly to me at 1883 Neil Street, Victoria, BC, V8R 3C6 or call me at 604-598-9634.

—DJM ○

ANNOUNCEMENTS



The National Women's Mailing List wants to trade the use of their mailing list for the distribution of their registration forms at feminist bookstores. In exchange for using their mailing list, they'd like you to give out the NWML registration form at the point of sale and help build the National Women's Mailing List into a powerful communication resource. Feminist publications also can use the mailing list in exchange for reprinting the registration form. Contact: Susan Horwitz, National Women's Mailing List, Star Route 1, Box 55, Estancia NM 87016, 505-384-2571.

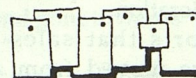
Seal Press has purchased a TDD, making it possible for all Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals as well as other TDD users to call Seal Press directly for information, catalog requests, ordering books and any other questions. The number is 206-283-7844 (V/TDD).



Ron Whiteaker, owner of Beyond the Closet Bookstore in Seattle, and John Hall, a sales rep for St. Martin's Press, are organizing a Gay & Lesbian Booksellers Network to exchange information and work on projects of interest to the industry. Their idea is to get booksellers to work together to help strengthen the trade, encourage new gay and lesbian booksellers, communicate needs to publishers, and promote gay and lesbian literature. They see this as a non-political professional organization. Membership is open to all who define themselves as booksellers, including but not limited to bookstore owners and employees, publishers and publisher representatives, agents, authors and journalists.

Call Ron at 206-382-0664 with ideas and comments about the future of GLBN or write to GLBN, 1202 East Pike St. #737, Seattle WA 98122. This an-

nouncement was also accompanied by a list of questions/suggestions for input. The questions include: What would you like GLBN to accomplish? What should the focus be?



What are some of the problems particular to gay and lesbian bookselling that are not addressed by organizations such as the ABA?

Would you be interested in participating in national advertising campaigns for certain books? How would these be initiated, and by whom? How do we get more book reviews, author interviews, and co-op advertising in local, national, and international publications, both gay and nongay?

How can we communicate effectively with publishers, both gay and nongay? What do we need to inform them about our bookselling, and what information do we need from them? How can they best help us financially, and what are their limitations?

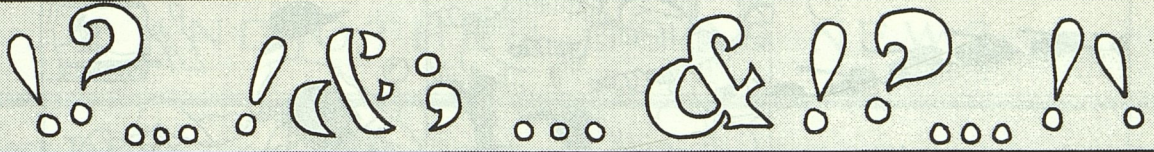
What can we do to help authors, and how can we solicit their support? How can we encourage author tours, autographings and readings? What is the best way to communicate with authors, agents and publicity departments?

Can bookstores help each other? Is the exchange of database information, such as new titles, bestseller lists, sideline items and local publishing sources a feasible idea? Would this affect the competitive edge? Are booksellers willing to assist compiling all this information? Would a Gay and Lesbian Booksellers Handbook be a useful, affordable, dependable tool or "A Nightmare On Pulp Street?"

Phone calls, postage, and printing will be GLBN's major initial expense. Would you be willing to pay

See Announcements, page 115

TRIVIA

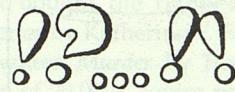


By Carol Seajay

I had a good time at Out/Write this year. But, as I prepared my talk for the panel on early gay/lesbian publishing, I was rather struck by the fact that most of the publishers, whose history I had been asked to tell, would have been specifically excluded from the conference by Out/Write's prohibition against lesbian-only panels and forums — and that all of those publishers would have refused to participate because of that prohibition. Realizing that lesbian publishing history was welcome at this conference — but that the women and organizations that made it were not — was very... (let me understate just a bit)...unpleasant. It troubles me that lesbian writers and publishers who continue to practice this tradition are systematically excluded from panels and that no woman-only forums are allowed — yet the conference is subtitled "National Lesbian & Gay Writers Conference." This problem *could* be resolved by re-titling the conference "For gay men and lesbians-who-work-with-gay-men," but I'd far rather see a change in format that allows for full lesbian participation. Granted, this is a writers conference, not a publishers conference, but most lesbian writing *is* published by lesbian publishers — both in the present day and historically. To exclude any of these publishers is to do a disservice to the lesbian writers who attend the conference looking for publishers. It also rewrites lesbian history in a (gay) male image — which is a disservice to both lesbians and gay men.

At Out/Write I also heard a good deal of complaint that a lesbian-hating novel (or, more specifically, a novel featuring a rather self-hating lesbian character) was selected as a finalist in the Lambda Literary Award's Lesbian Fiction category. When I asked for a clue I was told that it was "a generational thing" (i.e., self-hatred is the "in" thing with the younger generation?) I don't see it my-

self, nor do I see it as grounds for an award. There's an overabundance of self-hatred among people who have AIDS, too, but I can't imagine that a book featuring such self-hatred would be nominated in the AIDS category...

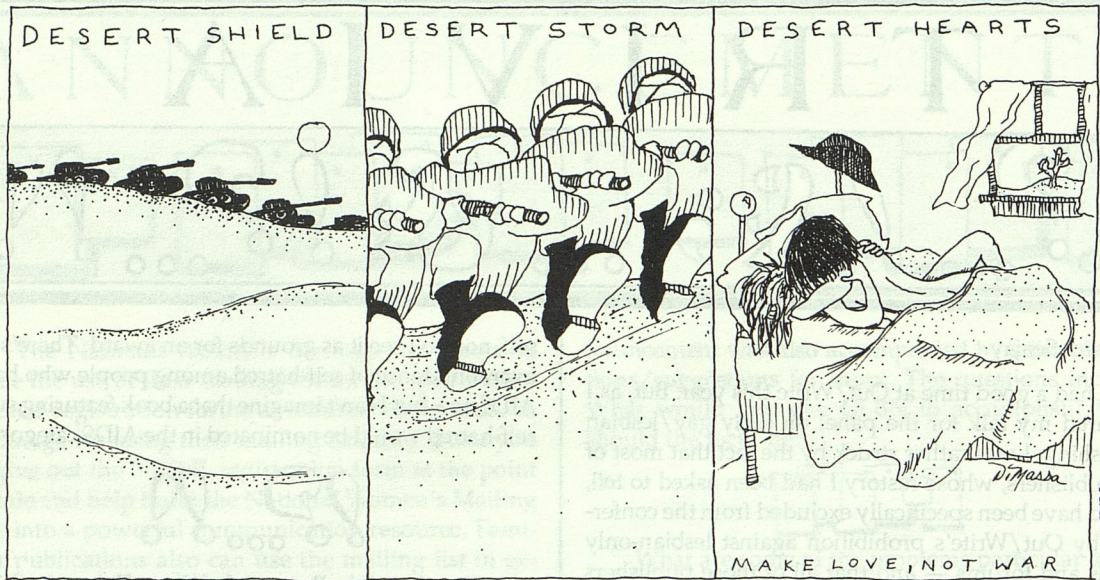


Sisterhood is Powerful: When Deborah Glick, New York's first openly lesbian legislator, took her oath of office she swore, not on a Bible, but on a copy of Robin Morgan's *Sisterhood is Powerful*. Is anyone working on a 25th Anniversary edition of this book?

Teaching Bookselling: ABA is recruiting book-selling instructors for future Booksellers schools. For details contact David Reidermann at ABA: 800-637-0037 ext. 217. The next training program for instructors will be May 29-30 in NYC.

Media: The March *Visibilities* features a great interview with Evgenia Debryanskaya, the lesbian co-editor of *Tema*, the Moscow lesbian and gay newspaper... A Dan Rather special news report on Sharon Russell, the nursing student who was kicked out of nursing school for being "overweight", featured footage from the Wolfe Video production, *Fat Lip Reader's Theater*. FBN is still circulating copies of the video about the Bangladesh feminist bookstore. As Margaret Phillips from The Northern Women's Bookstore (Thunder Bay, Ontario) says, "It's wonderful!" Give us a call, or drop me a line, and we'll send you the next available copy. It only runs for 10 minutes, but it's a real inspiration!

"Desert" has a code meaning older and more lasting than "Desert Shield/Storm." There's an affair in San Diego on "Dinah Shore Weekend" called "A Desert Music Affair" and you can bet that the audience is coming out for the likes of Cris Williamson and Teresa Trull. No military bands need apply!



Muckraking: Were you as surprised as I by the headline in *American Bookseller* "The Movement Moves On: Trends in Feminist Books"? in which we learned that "the shift in feminist literature *reflects* (italics added) the rising popularity of self-healing and recovery books, especially those on incest and child abuse." (Gee, and here I thought that feminists were the ones that *started* those trends...) And somehow I didn't think that the feminist passion for self-healing, (anti-)racism, spirituality, and multi-culturalism was news, either. Core sales areas? You bet! Strong sales? Yep! Interesting? Exciting? I agree all the way. But not a new trend. But then, given that this is the first coverage of feminist bookselling in *AB* since they were so excited about *Murder in the Collective*, maybe it is news. Should I be nicer? Are we supposed to be grateful now?

And More Media: Did you see the (*Village Voice Literary Supplement*) that focused on independent bookstores? (February, 1991.) It included an interesting article on access to capital, the gay (men's) "bookstore chains" (A Different Light and Lambda Rising) and the impact they have on gay, gay & lesbian, and feminist bookselling. Red & Black got a great write-up in the same issue.

Cooperation and Support: Modern Times, one of my all time favorite bookstores, celebrates 20 years this year. Someone asked me (apropos the above article) for examples of non-feminist bookstores that

modeled cooperation with other bookstores and "Modern Times" was the first store that came to mind. They've had twenty years to practice their politic of supporting other movement bookstores and they've practiced it to a fine art. Maybe cooperation among bookstores is a good subject for an article....?

And Lack Thereof: Woman in the Moon (WIM) Publications reports a mega-headache as a result of printing a book with The Conservatory of American Letters. For a copy of WIM's five-page letter (subtitled, "A Cautionary Tale") write to WIM at Box 137 2215-R Market St., San Francisco CA 94114 or call 408-253-3329.

True Trivia: I bet you *really* want to know that Olivia Records has 2,000 members and mails their catalog (featuring books and crafts as well as music) to over 250,000 women... Olivia just celebrated their 18th.

Did you note Bookpeople's summary of Lynn Andrews' latest? "Another from the shaman of Beverly Hills." That's Kate Randall (Antigone Books, Tucson) with the sharp eyesight.

Anti-Recession: Lambda Rising's Baltimore store has expanded into the entire ground floor of the Gay and Lesbian Community Center, thereby quadrupling its size.

Alyson Publications ("The nation's largest lesbian and gay publisher") looked at sales since the beginning of the recession and found that their sales were up 19% over the same period last year. ○

BACK TO PRESS

AND OTHER GOOD NEWS

Back To Press

Charlotte Perkins Gilman's *The Yellow Wallpaper* has reached the 200,000 copies-sold mark, according to its publisher The Feminist Press.

Jeffner Allen's *Lesbian Philosophy: Explorations* (Institute of Lesbian Studies) is to have a fifth printing of 1,500 copies for a total of 7,500 copies in print.

Banned Books went back to press for a second time with a printing of 2,000 copies of Julia Willis' *Who Wears the Tux?* for a total of 5,000, and for a fifth time with a printing of 2,500 copies of Tee Corinne's *Intricate Passions* for a total of 10,000.

Black Heroes of the Wild West (Open Hand) has gone back to press for a second printing.

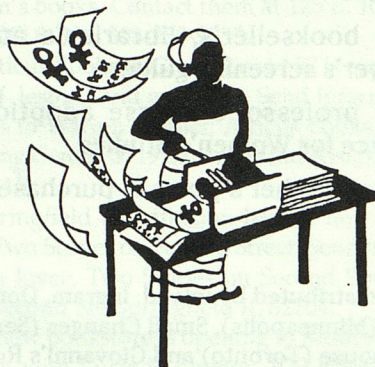
Rights

The news from Seal Press is that Argument Verlag has bought the German-language rights to three titles by Barbara Wilson: *The Dog Collar Murders* (due out this year), *Gaudi Afternoon* and *Ambitious Women* (due out in 1992). Seal also sold British rights to *Past Due: A Story of Disability, Pregnancy and Birth* by Anne Finger to Women's Press in England. The book is slated for publication in Fall 1991. Pluto Press published the British edition of *Getting Free* by Ginny NiCarthy and Sheba Publishers, also in England, bought the British rights to Sarah Schulman's *Girls, Visions & Everything*. Publication is set for Fall 1991. Penguin/New Zealand, the original publishers of *Glory Days* by Rosie Scott (Seal, 1989), has sold the film rights to Patric Juillet and will be shooting it in Auckland, New Zealand soon. Seal also reports that *The Black Women's Health Book* was its best selling title in 1990. Many stores now are highlighting the book for Black History Month.

Amanita Enterprises writes that *Work for a Million*, *Beyond Hope* and the new *Uneasy Lies*, all by Eve Zaremba, have been bought by Eichborn Verlag in Frankfurt, Germany. As of June 1, 1991, the three titles,

published by Amanita, will be handled in the United States and Canada by Second Story Press.

Naiad Press has sold the rights to *I Left My Heart*, Jaye Maiman's just-released mystery, to Daphne Verlag in Germany. Daphne Verlag now holds the rights to nine Naiad titles. Tokyo Sogen Sha, the Japanese publisher that just bought the rights to all four Kate Delafield mysteries by Katherine V. Forrest (including the yet-to-be written *Murder By Tradition*), plans an initial press run of 20,000+ copies per title. Rights to *Murder By Tradition* also have been purchased by Pandora in England. Naiad has sold Pat Welch's *Murder By The Book* to Frauenoffensive in Germany. *Cop Out*, Claire McNab's fourth Carol Ashton mystery, has been sold to Allen Unwin in Australia and Silvermoon in London. Sales are pending in Germany and Holland.



Sarah Lucia Hoagland at The Institute of Lesbian Studies tells us that Orlanda Frauenverlag in Berlin, is translating and publishing her book *Lesbian Ethics*. The press will distribute the book in Germany, Austria and Switzerland. *Lesbian Ethics* is now on its third printing of 5,000 and will soon be available in Braille.

Awards

Don't: A Woman's Word by Elly Danica earned the Canadian Wholesalers Award, a \$1,000 prize, for



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The Women's Review of Books

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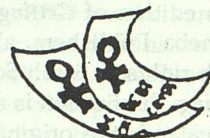


being voted best mass market book of the year. Some 25,000 copies of the book have been sold in Canada. *Don't*, originally published by the Canadian press Ragweed, is published in Canada by Bantam/Seal and in the United States by Cleis.

The Newfoundland Department of Education has accepted Pemmican Publication's *Honour the Sun*, by Ruby Slipperjack, into the Grade Eleven Curriculum under Canadian Literature, Heritage Studies. Teachers now use the novel as a core course in English Studies for graduation purposes. Contact Pemmican at 412 McGregor St., Winnipeg, MB Canada R2W 4X5.

The Coretta Scott King awards for outstanding books by African-American authors and illustrators have gone to Mildred D. Taylor for *The Road to Memphis* (Dial) and to Leo and Diane Dillon for *Aida*, as told by Leontyne Price (Harcourt Brace Jovanovich). Taylor also wrote *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry*, *Song of the Trees*, *The Friendship, Gold Cadillac* and *Let the Circle Be Broken*.

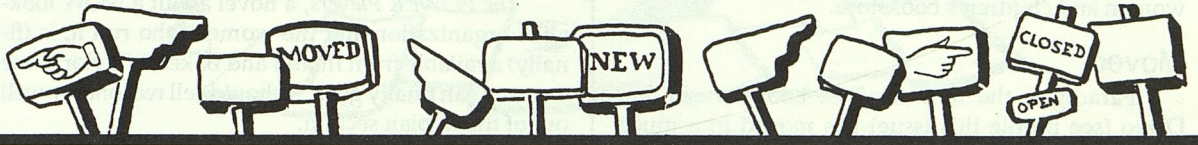
Canadian novelist, short-story writer and dramatist Audrey Thomas won the Canada-Australia Literary Prize, an honor which includes a \$3,000 cash award and a four-week tour of Australia. Author of *The Wild Blue Yonder*, *Ten Green Bottles*, *Mrs. Blood*, *Blown Figures*, *Munchmeyer* and *Prospero on the Island*, *Songs My Mother Taught Me*, *Latakia*, *Intertidal Life*, *Ladies and Escorts*, *Real Mothers* and *Goodbye Harold*, *Good Luck*, Thomas was cited for her "style, wit and humanity." Previous Canadian winners include Alice Munro, Mavis Gallant and Sharon Pollock; Australian winners included Elizabeth Jolley.



The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation has awarded the Arte Publico Press of the University of Houston a \$50,000 grant for editorial development. The grant was part of the foundation's new program for non-profit literary publishers.

The *American Journal of Nursing* gave Hazelden's *The Caregivers' Journey: When You Love Someone With AIDS*, by Mel Pohl, Deniston Kay and Doug Toft, the 1991 Book of the Year award in the Community Health category. -AM O

THEY WENT THAT-A-WAY



New Stores

New Zealand has a new feminist bookstore. Sue Ash and R. Diggins recently opened a spiritual women's bookshop. You can reach them at 23 Kiln St., Silverstream, Upper Hutt, NZ.

We're delighted to report that Lansing MI will again have a women's bookstore. Kip Kozlowski plans to open the store. Send catalogs, information and lots of energy to her at 2058 La Mer, Haslett MI 48840.

Good things do happen on April 15. That's the day Tamara Bartlett will open Abaton Books, a new feminist bookstore in Colorado Springs CO. The store will feature feminist writers and carry a mix of spiritual and recovery books. Send congratulations to the store at 2525 W. Pikes Peak, Colorado Springs CO 80904.

Anne Marks and Kerry Kaus have opened a bookstore in Visalia CA. Kindred Spirit Bookshop will focus on feminist, lesbian and gay and alternative books. Their address is 1110 N. Ben Maddox Way, Visalia CA 93291; 209-625-0978.

Stacey Rohrbaugh and Judy Nawrozki from Baltimore are hoping to open a feminist bookstore in the Frederick MD area. All suggestions and help will be greatly appreciated. Send ideas to Judy Nawrozki, 1320 Kenton Road, Baltimore MD 21234; 301-882-6484.

Monica Vaughan would appreciate information and input from booksellers on how to start a women's bookshop. Send information to her at 12131 Rip Van Winkle, Houston TX 77024; 713-932-9821.

Nannette Valpe writes FBN that she is "toying with the idea of opening a feminist book, record, art, feminilia type store." Send her information at 2401 N. 56th Terrace., Hollywood FL 33021.

Elaine Holenko plans to open a store in New Jersey and wants to hear from distributors and pub-

lishers. She's especially interested in women's studies, children's books, ecology and the environment. Contact her at 79 Clearmont Ave., Denville NJ 07834.

Thea Agee is opening a bookstore in Houston TX that will stock lesbian, gay, environmental, and spiritual/metaphysical books are featured in a new bookstore in Houston TX. Send catalogs to Thea at 7547 Thurow, Houston TX 77087; 713-644-4765.



Ponder Pocket is a new woman-owned general independent bookstore with a strong commitment to feminist, lesbian and gay, women's studies, health and children's books. Contact them at 125 E. 10th St., Durango CO 81301; 303-259-9335.

Atticus Books in Greensboro NC is expanding its stock of lesbian and gay titles. Send information and catalogs to Warren Kessler, Atticus Books, Brassfield Shopping Center, 3719 Battleground Ave., Greensboro NC 27410.

Springfield IL will soon have a new bookstore, called Two Stories on Second Street. Send information to Nola Joyce, Two Stories on Second Street, 1129 1/2 South Second St., Springfield IL 62704.

A new bookstore is opening in Modesto, CA. Get in touch with Lucinda Boyden, 920 Hackberry Ave., Modesto CA 95350; 209-521-6885.

Metamorphosis, a mail order service for groups in therapy, has taken up residence in Long Island City NY. For information, contact Michelle Poll at PO Box 6245, Long Island City NY 11106; 718-728-4615.

There's also a new mail order book service based in San Diego. Write to Okapi Productions, Susan Bridges, PO Box 16895, San Diego CA 92176; 619-593-0275. The shipping address is 1510 B Granite Hills Dr., El Cajon CA 92019.

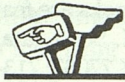
Closed

Storytellers Books and Gifts in Ventura CA has closed. Although the gifts sold well, owner Suzanne Trupp writes FBN that Ventura wasn't ready for a women and children's bookstore.

Moved

Paradigm, the new feminist bookstore in San Diego (see profile this issue) has moved to a much larger, much lovelier location. They're now at 3343 Adams Ave, San Diego CA 92116. The new phone number is 619-563-1981. FAX: 619-563-1832.

A Woman's Place Bookstore in Salt Lake City has moved. Their not-so-new address is 1400 Foothill Drive, Foothill Village, Suite 240, Salt Lake City UT 84108.



Magazines Move, Too

Visibilities magazine has a change of address. You can reach them at PO Box 1169, Olney MD 20830.

Fighting Woman News, the 15-year-old women's martial arts and self-defense quarterly has been sold to Frances Steinberg, an acupuncturist and kung-fu instructor. The magazine's new address is *Fighting Woman News*, 11438 Z Cronridge Dr., Owings Mills MD 21117.

After fifteen years at the University of Colorado, Boulder, *Frontiers: A Journal of Women's Studies* has moved to the Women Studies Program at the University of New Mexico where it will be published under the direction of Louise Lamphere/ editor, Jane Slaughter/ Associate editor, and Margaret Randall/ Managing editor. The journal will continue to publish significant contributions to scholarship on women in the humanities and social sciences, as well as photography, review essays, creative work, and interviews. Manuscripts that emphasize the diversity of women's lives as they are shaped by race, ethnicity, class, sexual preference, and region are especially welcome. The first issue from the New Mexico collective will be published in late June and will include previously unpublished work by Zora Neale Hurston, a symposium on women in the American West, poetry by Audre Lorde and short stories by Beth Brant. Look for it at Inland.

Books Travel On

Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon are hard at work on a 20-year update of *Lesbian/Woman*. If they meet their deadlines it will be out this fall!

The POWER Players, a novel about a NOW look-alike organization and the women who run it, is (finally) available from Inland and Baker & Taylor. Now that you can finally get it, it should sell reasonably well out of the lesbian section.

As of June 1, Second Story press will be handling sales and distribution of all Amanita Press titles in both the U.S. and Canada and will be available through InBook. Eve Zaremba writes "For all practical purposes Amanita will cease to exist by the end of next year; I just couldn't be a writer and a publisher simultaneously."

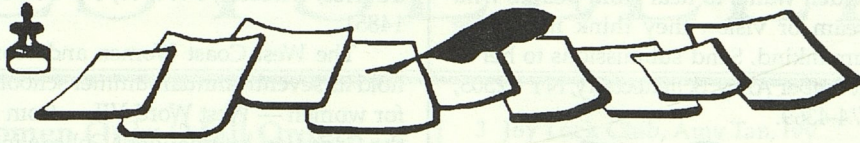
Feminist Press titles are no longer available from Inland, as you probably already know — a situation that has frustrated a large number of feminist booksellers if FBN's mailbag is any indication. Many of Feminist Press titles are available from the following distributors: Talman, B&T, Bookpeople, the distributors, Bookslinger, & Gordons.

Carole Spearin McCauley's *Happenthing In Travel On*, originally published by Daughters Press, is now available from The Women's Press/U.K. In 1992 the Women's Press will publish her new work, *Cold Steal*, a medical mystery.



Inventory nightmare: There are not one, nor two, nor three, but five (5!) books titled *Double Duty* — all by Claudia Black. The "mother" book (published by Ballantine) is a thick cloth volume addressing the complications of being an adult child of an alcoholic *and* having two alcoholic parents, being an only child, a person of color, gay or lesbian, physically disabled, chemically dependent, food addicted, and/or sexually or physically abused as a child. Four paperback books have been released by MAC Publishing that include the overview chapters and address specific issues. The books are titled *Double Duty — Gay-Lesbian*; *Double Duty — Chemically Dependent*; *Double Duty — Food Addiction*; and *Double Duty — Sexual Abuse*. Order the paperbacks from MAC, 5005 East 39th Ave., Denver CO 80207. And good luck keeping track of them! — AM & CS O

WRITING WANTED



Writers may submit up to five unpublished poems for an anthology of lesbian erotic poetry. Send SASE, a one paragraph biography and one paragraph about your interest in erotic/sex writing to Tee A. Corinne, PO Box 278, Wolf Creek, OR 97497. Deadline: June 1, 1991. A project on lesbian art and artists also is in the works. For information, send a SASE to the above address.

Stories, short-short stories, excerpts from novels, and poems about relationships with lovers, male and female, wanted for *Lovers*, an anthology of writings by women to be published by The Crossing Press in 1992. For guidelines or submissions, send SASE to Amber Coverdale Sumrall, 434 Pennsylvania Ave., Santa Cruz, CA 95062. Deadline: October 1, 1991.

Queer Press, a new Canadian lesbian and gay publishing company, wants writing and art work (do not send originals) for an anthology by and about lesbian and gay survivors of childhood sexual abuse. Send SASE and a brief biography to Q. Press, PO Box 485, Station 'P', Toronto ONT, M5S 2T1 Canada. Deadline: May 15, 1991.

Joan Nestle and John Preston invite queries for an anthology of essays, tentatively titled *Brothers and Sisters?*, by lesbians and gay men on their relationships with one another. For guidelines, write John Preston, Box 5314, Portland, ME 04101.



Lise Weil is seeking creative, passionate, uncensored responses to the question "What is a lesbian?" Unpublished writing welcome; reprints will be considered. Send SASE to Lise Weil at PO Box 70, Montague, MA 01351.

Short fiction, poetry and cartoons by lesbians and gay men wanted for a collection of "Ex-Lover Weird

Shit." Send submissions, brief biography and SASE to Debra Riggan Waugh, PO Box 5243, Takoma Park, MD 20913. Deadline: September 1, 1991.

Alyson Publications is seeking writing for an anthology of lesbian erotic fiction. Send typed, double-spaced submissions and SASE to Karen Barber, Alyson Publications, 40 Plympton St., Boston, MA 02118. Deadline: March 30, 1991.



Madwoman Press in Northboro, MA is accepting manuscripts by, for and about lesbians. The press is interested in cartoons, comics and novel-length romances, mysteries, adventure/spy stories, science fictions, erotica and westerns. For manuscript guidelines send SASE to Madwoman Press, PO Box 690, Northboro, MA 01532.

Alice James Books has announced it will be accepting book-length poetry manuscripts between August 1 and September 10, 1991 for the fourth Beatrice Hawley Award. The press, an 18-year-old cooperative with an emphasis on publishing poetry by women, will publish the winning collection in 1992. For more information, contact Alice James Books, Hawley Award, 33 Richdale Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02140.

Submissions sought for an anthology on women exploring interactions of body, mind and emotion. Before sending manuscripts, send a SASE for information to Arachne Stevens, 50 Pleasant St. #9E, Brookline, MA 02146.

Matriart, the feminist art journal published by the Women's Art Resource Centre, needs articles, reviews, criticism, poetry, short fiction, visual art and listings of upcoming events, discussions, job postings and exhibitions. The journal will feature Native artists in the Summer 1991 issue. Send submissions to The

Women's Art Resource Centre, 394 Euclid Ave. Suite 308, Toronto, ONT M6G 2S9 Canada. Deadline: April 5, 1991.

Bobbie Bowden wants to hear from people who have had a dream or vision they think may have meaning for humankind. Send submissions to her at Lightspeak, Cucumber Alley, Schenectady, NY 12305; or phone 518-374-4369.



Writing Workshops

The Flight of the Mind announces that its eighth annual summer writing workshop for women will be July 28 to August 4 in Oregon. It will be led by Suniti Namjoshi, Evelyn C. White, Judith Barrington, Theresa Clark and Gillian Hanscombe. Fees range from \$425 to \$615. Scholarships and college credit available. For brochure, send a 29 cent stamp (no envelope) to Flight of the Mind, 622 S.E. 29th Ave., Portland, OR 97214.

The 17th annual Feminist Women's Writing Workshop will be July 14-26 at Wells College, Aurora NY. Speakers are Jewelle Gomez, Grace Paley and

Nancy Bereano. Faculty are Mary Gilliland and Shay Youngblood. Scholarships available. Send query by April 15. For brochure, send SASE to Rachel Guido deVries, Director, FWWW, PO Box 6583, Ithaca NY 14851.

The West Coast Women and Words Society will hold its seventh annual summer school/writing retreat for women — West Word VII — from August 11-24 at the Canadian International College in North Vancouver. Instructors are Maria Campbell, Eve Zaremba and Gay Allison; guest readers are Sky Lee and Lee Maracle. For a brochure/application for this two-week residential program, write West Coast Women and Words, #210-640 West Broadway, Vancouver BC V5Z 1G4. Application deadline: May 10, 1991.

Illustrators Needed

The new Alyson Wonderland imprint, which plans to publish six children's books a year, is looking for illustrators. Many styles welcome, from black-and-white drawings to full-color artwork. Send copies (no originals) to Sasha Alyson, Alyson Publications, 40 Plympton St., Boston MA 02118. Do not send anything that needs to be returned. —AM ○



FACT Overall, women write 27% of front-page articles in major newspapers in the United States.

FACT Only 11% of first-page news stories are dedicated to women's lives.

FED UP ? Then look at ON THE ISSUES, a quarterly magazine filled with in-depth political analysis and book, music and film reviews, all from a progressive, feminist viewpoint.

You'll like our women cen-

tered brand of investigative reporting alongside provocative interviews with women well known and unknown, and astute, savvy commentary on the ever-changing landscape of movements for social change.

ISSUES
ON THE

PLEASE CONTACT YOUR LOCAL DISTRIBUTOR
ON THE ISSUES, 97-77 Queens Blvd. Forest Hills, NY 11374

BESTSELLERS

For Women Only (Mail Order)

Columbiana, OH

1990 Bestsellers

HEALTHCARE RESOURCES

- 1 **Thirteen Steps: An Empowerment Process for Women**, Bonnie Swan.
- 2 **Ourselves, Growing Older: Women Aging with Knowledge and Power**, Paula Brown Doress, Diana Laskin Siegal and The Midlife and Older Women Book Project.
- 3 **Menopause: A Self-Care Manual**, Santa Fe Health Education Project.
- 4 **Complaints and Disorders: The Sexual Politics of Sickness**, Barbara Ehrenreich and Deirdre English.
- 4 **Women's Health Perspectives: An Annual Review, Volume I**, edited by Carol J Leppa and Connie Miller.
- 5 **How to Stay Out of the Gynecologist's Office**, The Federation of Feminist Women's Health Centers.
- 6 **The Black Women's Health Book: Speaking for Ourselves**, edited by Evelyn C. White.
- 7 **Witches Heal: Lesbian Herbal Self-Sufficiency**, Billie Potts.
- 7 **The Playbook for Women about Sex**, Joani Blank.
- 7 **Making Peace with Food: A Step-by-Step Guide to Freedom from Diet and Weight Conflict**, Susan Kano.
- 7 **For Her Own Good: 150 Years of the Experts' Advice to Women**, Barbara Ehrenreich and Deirdre English.

Bookwoman

Austin, Texas

January/February Bestsellers

- 1 **Making Face, Making Soul**, Gloria Anzaldúa, Spinsters/Aunt Lute.
- 2 **Yours In Struggle**, Elly Bulkin, et al., Firebrand.

- 3 **Joy Luck Club**, Amy Tan, Ivy.
- 4 **Zami: A New Spelling of My Name**, Audre Lorde, Crossing.
- 5 **When Heaven and Earth Changed Places**, Le Ly Hayslip, NAL.
- 6 **The Woman Warrior**, Maxine Hong Kingston, Random.
- 7 **Loving in the War Years**, Cherrié Moraga, South End.
- 8 **Borderlands/La Frontera: The New Mestiza**, Gloria Anzaldúa, Spinsters/Aunt Lute.



- 9 **Talking Back**, bell hooks, South End.
- 10 **Beloved**, Toni Morrison, NAL.
- 11 **Feminism Unmodified**, Catherin MacKinnon, Harvard.
- 12 **Writing A Woman's Life**, Carolyn Heilbrun, Ballantine.
- 13 **Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit**, Jeanette Winterson, Atlantic.
- 14 **The Female Body and the Law**, Zillah Eisenstein, University of California Press.
- 15 **Henry & June**, Anaïs Nin, HBJ.
- 15 **Straight From the Heart**, Ann Richards, Simon & Schuster.
- 16 **Lesbian Bedtime Stories II**, Terry Woodrow, Tough Dove.
- 17 **The Handmaid's Tale**, Margaret Atwood, Fawcett.
- 18 **Slick**, Camarin Grae, Naiad.
- 19 **Ceremonies of the Heart**, Becky Butler, Seal.
- 20 **Delta of Venus**, Anaïs Nin, Simon & Schuster.

Clairlight

Santa Rosa, CA

Bestsellers

JANUARY

- 1 **Staying Power: Long Term Lesbian Relationships**, Susan E. Johnson, Naiad.
- 2 **How to Talk so Kids Will Listen and Listen so Kids Will Talk**, Adele Faber & Elaine Mazlish, Avon Books.
- 3 **Lesbian Erotic Dance**, JoAnn Loulan, Spinsters Book Company.
- 4 **Education of Little Tree**, Forrest Carter, University of New Mexico Press.
- 5 **Lesbian Bedtime Stories II**, Terry Woodrow, Tough Dove [7].
- 6 **Places of Interest to Women**, M. Ferrari, Ferrari Publications.
- 7 **Slick**, Camarin Grae, Naiad.
- 8 **When I Am an Old Woman I Shall Wear Purple**, Sandra Martz, Papier-Mache.
- 9 **Illuminations**, Stephen C. Paul, HarperCollins [5].
- 10 **Different Mothers**, Louise Rafkin, Cleis Press.
- 11 **Side By Side**, Isabel Miller, Naiad [4].

DECEMBER (Not on January List)

- 1 **Wild Mind: Living the Writer's Life**, Natalie Goldberg, Bantam.
 - 2 **Wisdom of the Heart**, Karen Signell, Bantam.
 - 6 **Wish You Were Here**, Rita Mae Brown, Bantam [10].
 - 9 **Quotable Women (mini)**, Running Press.
 - 10 **Bean Trees**, Barbara Kingsolver, HarperCollins.
- [#] = Position on list a month earlier. ○

ABA, continued from page 34

idea-exchanging sessions for booksellers interested in special subject areas."

So who *are* these Roundtables for? Specialty bookstores (per the title) or for every general bookstore with a feminist, mystery, and/or cookbook section? Each year we are told that the intention of the sessions is to provide a forum for Specialty bookstores and we are given verbal assurances that *next* year the focus really will be on Specialty bookstores. And this year, once again, the program description shifts the focus away from specialty bookstores.

Many specialty booksellers (from feminist booksellers to cookbook stores) find that time taken from

the convention floor is well spent with other specialty booksellers — but time spent tutoring general booksellers in the fine arts of their specialty area, while very useful to the general bookseller, is a poor use of the specialist's time at ABA. As the program is written, it's hard for specialty booksellers to know if the sessions will be worth attending or not.

At last year's Feminist Specialty Bookstore Roundtable, tables were set aside for Specialty Bookstores who wanted to meet with other specialty booksellers. Sandi Torkildson, this year's facilitator for the Feminist Bookstore Roundtable, will do likewise. Maybe this will be resolved by *next* year.

The ABA's Annual Membership Meeting is Sunday from 4:15-5:30. Unless you're tired of having the ABA under the control of booksellers and you want to elect a Chairman [sic] next year instead of a President, be there. (See above.)

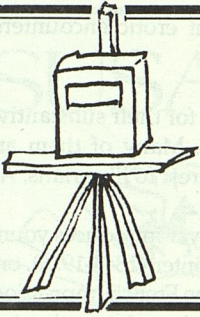
South End Press is organizing a reception to increase the political presence at ABA on Sunday at 5:30 (location to be announced). bell hooks will deliver a keynote address about the importance of diversity in publishing, a diversity that is measured in political, cultural, class, racial, gender-based, and spiritual terms, and publishers and booksellers with a political passion will have a chance to gather and discuss increasing their presence and visibility at future ABAs. Proposals include an annual reception and developing a "political" aisle at ABA.

MONDAY

"Challenges and Opportunities: Positioning the African-American Books in Our Marketplace" will examine cultural/ethnic differences as they relate to the bookseller. Moderated by Clara Villarosa, Hue-Man Experience Bookstore with speakers Glenderlyn Johnson, Black Books Plus; Sharon Howard, Schomburg Center; and Phyllis Mac, NY Public Library. Monday, 2:00-3:30.

Good grapevine: Word is that ABA will arrange for the recycling of abandoned paper (fliers, catalogs, etc.) left at the convention and for food that isn't served at meals to be forwarded to a shelter. — CS ○





ART BOOKS

By Tee Corinne

Mixed Blessings: New Art In A Multicultural America by Lucy R. Lippard deals with the work of both women and men from a feminist, highly politicized perspective. It's gorgeous, full of illustrations, personal histories, and thoughtful analysis. It is gay positive and massively inclusive, accessible for casual reading and an indispensable reference work. Pantheon, \$24.95 pb, 0-679-72966-6; \$50 cl, 0-394-57759-0.

Frida Kahlo: The Brush of Anguish by Martha Zamora gives us a thoughtful examination of Kahlo (1907-1954), born of a German Jewish father and a Mexican mother who is known for her vividly colored, autobiographical paintings, her Communist political associations and her tumultuous personal life which included marriage to the Mexican muralist Diego Rivera. At eighteen she was severely injured in a streetcar accident. The resulting damage to her body was the subject of many of her paintings. This book has glorious full color reproductions of her paintings and many photos of Kahlo and her associates. Chronicle Books, \$29.95 cl, 0-87701-746-8.

Stitched From the Soul: Slave Quilts from the Ante-Bellum South by Gladys-Marie Fry, Ph.D., is an intense and lovely book inspired by family stories about the creative work of the author's great-great-grandmother. Along with the quilts there is a wealth of historical information, narratives, folklore and photographs. This book admirably begins to fill in some of the gaps in U.S. official art history as well as in the history of quilting. Dutton, \$18.95 pb 0-525-48535-X.

Women In Architecture: A Contemporary Perspective by Clare Lorenz presents the work of forty-eight women from twenty nations, detailing their education and accomplishments and offering photos and diagrams of their projects. Rizzoli, \$29.95 pb, 0-8478-1277-4.

One of the women featured in **Women In Architecture** is the subject of another new book, **Eva Jiricna: Design in Exile**, by Martin Pawley. Jiricna (b. 1939) has worked in London since leaving her native Czechoslovakia in 1968. Her designs are modern, elegant and spare, using what has been called "a poetic manipulation of steel and glass." The text is exceptionally interesting. Rizzoli, \$19.95 pb, 0-8478-1289-8.



Photo historian Peter E. Palmquist has written and self-published three books about women photographers. These are labors of love printed in very small editions (300 and 500 copies). **Elizabeth Fleischmann: Pioneer X-Ray Photographer** discusses

the life and work of San Francisco's first radiologist. \$7.50 pb, saddle-stitched, no ISBN. **A Bibliography of Writings by and about Women in Photography: 1850-1950** is a small treasure of a reference book with engaging annotations. \$10 pb, saddle-stitched, no ISBN. **Shadowcatchers: A Directory of Women in California Photography before 1901** includes "life dates, place of origin and life chronology...occupation with dates and places active" and photos of the women and their work when available. The notations preserve much of the source language. You might want to put up a notice about this book in the art section so that people can ask you to special order it. \$40 pb, perfect bound, 120 illustrations, no ISBN. Palmquist, 1183 Union St. Arcata, CA 95521, 40% discount, no min. Postage will be billed.



Alyson Publications is entering the art publishing field with two books about gay male photographers. A book about lesbian photographers is now in the planning stages. **Himage**, photographs by Richard Plowright, features white and Black men in cheese-cake, humorous poses (bare buttocks framed by an auto tire with the title "Tread Softly"). Alyson, \$15 pb, 1-55583-160-5. **Look Back in Joy: A Celebration of Gay Lovers** by Malcolm Boyd with photographs by Crawford Barton contains tender, evocative, sometimes stunning images of mostly clothed individual

men combined with a text about erotic encounters. Alyson, \$12.95 pb, 1-55583-173-7.

Abrams is to be commended for their substantive books about women in the arts. Many of them are expensive, so will be of more interest to librarians. All are exquisitely produced.

Mary Cassatt by Susan E. Meyer introduces young readers to this remarkable U.S. painter (1844-1926), one of the few women involved with the French Impressionist movement. The quality illustrations, interesting text and, for an art book, modest price make this book especially appealing. Abrams, \$17.95 cl, 0-8109-3154-0.

Despite its price tag, I think **Women Photographers** by Constance Sullivan can sell in some women's bookstores. It is a massive undertaking, weaving an informative text around the work of seventy-three photographers active from the mid-nineteenth century to the present. Abrams, \$65 cl, 0-8109-3950-9.

Mary Frank by Hayden Herrea focuses on the life work of Frank (b. 1933) who is best known for large, sensuous, evocatively fragmented sculptures of women. Abrams, \$49.50 cl, 0-8109-3301-2.

Love For Sale: The Words and Pictures of Barbara Kruger, text by Kate Linker, deals with the work of a contemporary artist (b. 1945) who combines words and images in a highly confrontive way: Agit-prop celebrated as high art. Abrams, \$29.95 cl, 0-8109-1219-8.

Liubov Popova by Dmitri V. Sarabianov and Natalia L. Adaskina is the first full study in English of

See *Art Books*, page 86

"Limelight specializes in paperback reprints of books about the arts. If [*Stormy Weather* and *Women in Theatre*] are typical they are doing us all a great service." —*Feminist Bookstore News*

Ibsen's Heroines

... by Lou Salomé, "who symbolizes the struggle to transcend conventions and traditions in ideas and in living" (Anais Nin). First published in 1892 and hailed by Ibsen himself, this book lays bare the crises of will and spirit that his heroines undergo—leading to both defeat and triumph. "Ibsen's Heroines surely reflects women of today" (Liv Ullmann).

English translation by Siegfried Mandel. \$8.95 pb, 0-87910-131-8

STORMY WEATHER

The Music and Lives of a Century of Jazzwomen by Linda Dahl "is so good you can read it through from start to finish or dip in anywhere and become totally engrossed."

—*Feminist Bookstore News*

\$14.95 pb, 0-87910-128-8



Limelight Editions
118 E. 30th St. New York, NY 10016

WOMEN IN THEATRE

Compassion & Hope edited by Karen Malpede "is an inspiring collection of writings by theatre women from Fanny Kemble (1809-1893) to Edwina Lee Taylor (b.1944). Each excerpt is placed historically by superb introductory texts." —*Feminist Bookstore News*

\$9.95 pb, 0-87910-035-4

HIGH TIMES HARD TIMES

... by Anita O'Day (with George Eells) is "a valuable, revealing and read-at-a-gulp account of a premier American artist and the punishing winds that shaped her life and her craft." —*San Francisco Chronicle*. "... The best jazz autobiography I've ever read." —*Toronto Globe and Mail*... "A remarkably truthful book." —*The Chicago Tribune*.

\$12.95 pb, 0-87910-118-0

SUSANNA STURGIS

ON

SCIENCE FICTION



You'll notice that this column is somewhat shorter than usual, especially in the first-hand reviews department. The reasons are twofold: during January and February I was acting features editor for the *Martha's Vineyard Times* (as well as proofreader, freelance copy editor, and f/sf anthology editor); plus I've been junketing about, guesting at science fiction conventions (three in six weeks). Not only do these provide opportunities to revel and/or wallow in talk about books, publishing, politics, and other fun issues, but it's a great way to discover previously overlooked titles, often by meeting their authors. You'll see some of the results here and in subsequent columns.

More than balancing the aggravations of anthology editing (perpetual backlogs, that handful of writers who think it's clever to shortchange you on SASEs, etc.) are the satisfactions, one of the biggest of which are the long-distance friendships developed with writers you publish (and some you don't). So I'm pleased to call your attention to some milestones, like Eleanor Arnason's new novel (see below, under "William Morrow"); Carol Severance, whose story "Shark-Killer" appears in **The Women Who Walk Through Fire**, has sold her first sf novel, **Reefsong**, to Ballantine/Del Rey; J.L. Comeau's W3F story, "Firebird," has been picked up for Karl Edward Wagner's **The Year's Best Horror Stories** (1990) — a very big deal.

At much-too-long last, Rachel Pollack's **Unquenchable Fire** has a U.S. publisher: Overlook Press. You may be sick of "what's wrong with publishing" stories, but I'm still astonished that the winner of Britain's major sf award wasn't snapped up long ago. You pagan types and modern mythologists have a treat coming.

Kristine Kathryn Rusch, whose "Heading West" is in my third anthology, **Dreams in a Minor Key** (we're all trying to ignore the generic title the pub-

lisher hung on it), is the new editor of *The Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction*, as well as continuing as editor at Pulphouse. With World Fantasy and John C. Campbell awards in her pocket, she's nobody's newcomer — keep an eye out.

ISBNs are now included wherever available. Note too that the new practice among f/sf mass market publishers is to price books (e.g.) \$4.99 instead of \$4.95. I heard someone estimate how many more millions they expect to make because of the four-cent increase, but I've blocked it out.



BAEN BOOKS

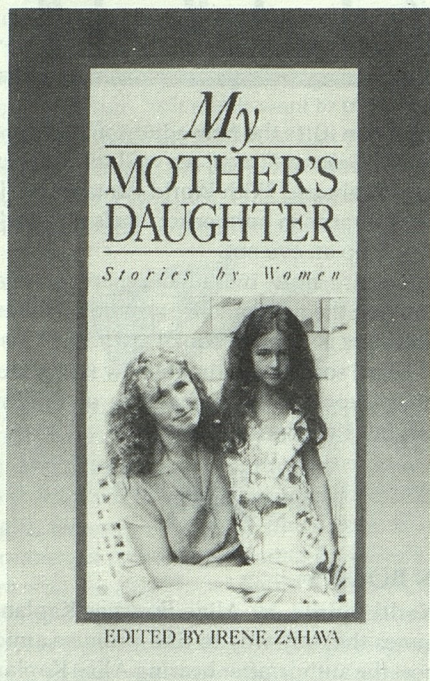
World Spirits, by Aline Boucher Kaplan, \$4.50. Sometimes the only way to find promise amid dreck is to meet the author; after hearing Aline Kaplan speak at Arisia 2, I say check out this, her new (March) novel. Her first, **Khyren** (0-671-69781-1, \$3.50), features a contemporary woman who wakes in a neo-medieval and intensely patriarchal world.

BANTAM/SPECTRA

The Deceivers, by Louise Cooper (0-553-28821-0, \$4.50). Book one in "The Chaos Gate Trilogy" by this very good English fantasy writer features a "child of Chaos," a young woman who looks like a formidable anti-hero.

Transition, by Vonda N. McIntyre (0-553-28850-4, \$4.95), as fervently hoped, does follow **Starfarers**, in which the crew of a vast research starship placed knowledge and humanity before political expedience and disobeyed the government. This one deals with this mission's "first contact" with alien life. Recommended. McIntyre recently sold a third volume, **Expedition**, to Bantam.

Spring titles from The Crossing Press



\$9.95

ISBN 0-89594-464-2

My Mother's Daughter

Stories by Women
Edited by Irene Zahava

Twenty-six stories revealing the mother/daughter relationship by Louise Erdrich, Vivian Gornick, Barbara Kingsolver, Audre Lorde, Grace Paley, Amy Tan, Joyce Carol Oates and many others.

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A Collection of Women's Humor
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A unique collection of state-of-the-art feminist humor. Includes selected stories, cartoons, poems, essays and photos by Nicole Hollander, Alison Bechdel, Alice Kahn, Nora Ephron, Maya Angelou, Gail Sausser, Lynda Barry and 60 other women wits.



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Lesbian Love Stories

VOLUME 2



Edited by **Irene Zahava**

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Lesbian Love Stories

VOLUME 2

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Twenty-six authors write about lesbian life and loves, in stories that explore passion, obsession, flings, monogamy, seduction, first dates, fantasies, long-term relationships, crushes, loyalty, break-ups, reconciliation, jealousy, celebrations—and much more.

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VOLUME 1

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"The pleasures of the collection are many..."

—*Publishers Weekly*

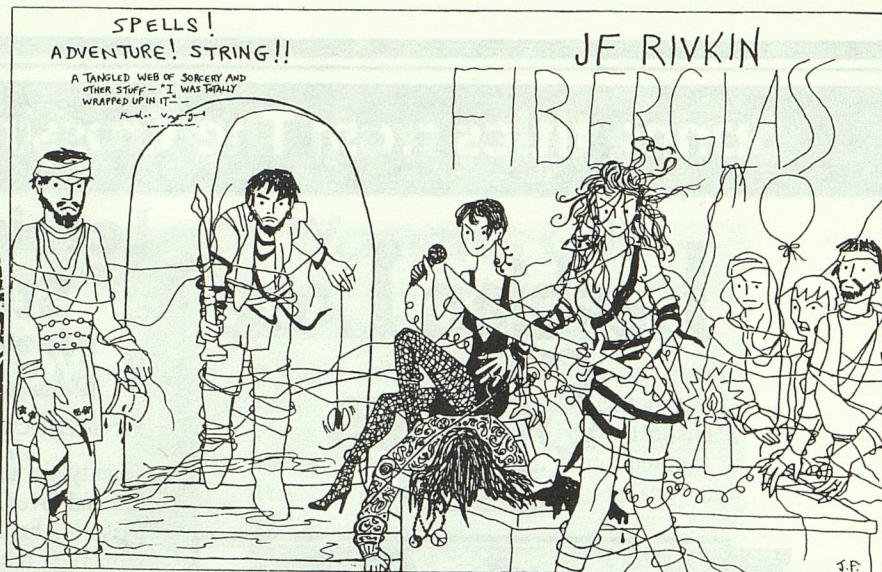
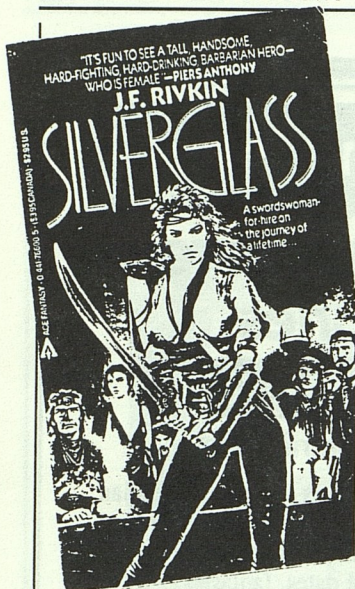
"...gasps and sighs of pleasure."

—*The Washington Blade*



The Crossing Press
Freedom, California 95019

March/April 1991



The cover of her first fantasy novel, *Silverglass*, inspired J. F. Rivkin to this parody. *Mistress of Ambiguities*, the fourth (and, she swears, last) novel of Corson and Nyctasia, is due from Ace in April. The women wear somewhat more clothes this time, and one is accompanied by a big fuzzy dog.

DAW BOOKS

Shadowkill, by Jo Clayton (0-88677-467-5, \$4.99).

The "Shadith's Quest" trilogy concludes (so says the publisher) in this sf adventure involving temporary mindwipe, a people with extraordinary powers, and lots of intrigue.

Redemption of Light (0-88677-470-5, \$4.99) concludes Kathleen M. O'Neal's ambitious sf trilogy. Laurie J. Marks's "Children of Triad" series finishes with **Ara's Field** (0-88677-479-9, \$4.50). Most promising is Tanya Huff's **Blood Price** (0-88677-471-3, \$3.99), in which private investigator Vicki Nelson confronts vampires and worse in modern Toronto; horror and dark fantasy aren't my usual fare, but Huff is a pleasure to read. Mystery and suspense fans might be interested too. May.

Hellflower, by eluki bes shahar (0-88677-475-6, \$3.99), sounds like good space adventure, with an "honest and dependable smuggler" (female) for a protagonist. Plus my cap's tipped to any author who not only uses lower-case initials but gets her publisher to respect her wishes — on the cover, no less. June.

WILLIAM MORROW

A Woman of the Iron People, by Eleanor Arnason (0-688-10375-8, \$22.95 cl). Real characters and scrupulous social detail highlight this well-reviewed

novel of intercultural contact, explored through Nia, the woman of the title, and Lixia, a field worker from a much-changed Earth. I promise a nudge when this comes out in paper.

PENGUIN/ROC

Sunder, Eclipse & Seed, by Elyse Guttenberg (0-451-45046-9, \$4.50). Though Elyse lives in Alaska, I was lucky to meet her at Boskone (Springfield, Mass.) in February. Everything I inferred about her book is true, plus it begins a trilogy. Said she in a recent interview, "I want fully realized women, not cardboard figures who are symbols for someone else's point of view. At the same time, I didn't want to write a book defending Calyx's [the protagonist's] right to be a self-motivated person in a male-oriented culture." Huzzah, hurrah; buy it, read it.

ST. MARTIN'S

The Ragged World, by Judith Moffett (0-312-05499-8, \$18.95 cl). This second novel (after *Pennterra*) draws on a variety of sources and themes, ancient, modern, and fantastic, and emerges highly recommended. However, from the price tag you can divine the obvious; shall we (probably) await the paperback?

See *Science Fiction*, page 116.

MYSTERIES

By Mary Lowry, New Words

Sandra Scoppettone (*Happy Endings Are All Alike*, just republished by Alyson Press), young adult and mystery writer (under the name Jake Early), is coming out of the literary closet in April. **Everything You Have Is Mine** by Scoppettone (Little Brown, \$19.45 cl fpt, 316-776467) initiates a new series with Lesbian P.I. Lauren Laurano. New York is the scene and Laurano is in a stable 11 year relationship with therapist Kip Adams. The novel is funny, replete with issues: rape, incest, AIDS, homelessness among others. Laurano is given to invoking other fictional women detectives (*What would V.I. Warshawski*, Pam Neilsen, etc., do) in times of stress, which gets a little annoying and the book suffers from too many issues, but it is fun and it's great that Scoppettone finally won her battle to publish mysteries under her own name. I have enjoyed both *Donato and Daughter*, still available in paper, and the now out of print *Razzamataz* written under the Jack Early pseudonym.

Patricia Cornwell's first book, **Postmortem** (Avon, \$4.95 pb, 0-380-7102-8) is out in paper now and Scribner's has just released her second, **A Body of Evidence** (\$18.95 cl, 0-684-19240-3). The jacket blurbs could be read as good or awful, so I was pleased to find the books very well written, seemingly accurate (what do I know about postmortems?) and suspenseful mysteries. In both books Dr. Kay Scarpetta is the Chief Medical Examiner of Richmond, VA. She gets involved in the investigation when serial murderers hit the city. Women as victims of a crazed killer is not my favorite subject, but Cornwell doesn't let her detective's rage slip so the book isn't about titillation but about justice and revenge. In both books Scarpetta chastizes the police and other law men on their practice of trivializing women's complaints and suggesting the women's actions contribute to their own

deaths. Scarpetta also points out the fallacies of her police partner on his homophobic mutterings every time he mouths off. One *caveat* — the medical terminology is explicit. But never never does the author or the character allow medical information to become a way to diminish the victim or titilate the reader. Dr. Kay Scarpetta is emotionally and intellectually on the side of the victim and fights for the answers. Author Cornwell is a crime reporter whose prose is swiftly paced and suspenseful.

Tender Death by Annette Meyers. Bantam, \$4.50 pb, 553-28719-2. Meyers first book *The Big Killing* introduced the team of Smith and Wetzon (cute?), partners in a firm dealing with executive search in Wall St. brokerage firms, seemed on the edge of good or bad. Xenia Smith and Lesley Wetzon are partners-in-money and alleged good friends. However their working relationship is seriously flawed by mistrust and active dislike of one another's friends. Wetzon is the one who stumbles onto murder and is then compelled to solve the mystery. Wetzon's good friend Carlos is gay but he and Smith are mutually antagonistic. Although Carlos is a sympathetic character, author Meyers has some gratuitous dyke bashing in **Tender Death**. I assume the money making world is as unappetizing as Meyers presents it. New York City is nicely presented but this second mystery is slightly overwritten.

Adjusted to Death by Jacqueline Girdner (Diamond/Berkley, \$3.50 pb, 1-55773-453) is a funny and light hearted California style murder. Present at the time of a murder in her chiropractor's office, Kate Jasper, vegetarian, divorcee and manufacturer of joke

items, investigates the assorted patients in the waiting room when the victim was killed. At the urging of her lesbian chiropractor she solves the mystery of which patient lost patience with the victim.

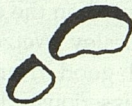
There seems to be a proliferation of authors who publish with no first names, only initials. Finding out which are women and which are men is sometimes easy and sometimes requires a plaintive call to our local mystery bookstore. A review or a careful reading of the copyright information gives some clues and that personal pronoun in a blurb or, less direct, a comparison to Paretsky, P.D. James or other women is usually a reliable clue. A few are hereby noted.

P.M. Carlson is one of my favorites and writes the Maggie Ryan series. Her latest is **Murder in the Dog Days**, Bantam, \$3.95 pb, 0-553-27778-2.

B.J. Oliphant's series features Coloradan Shirley McClintock who solves mysteries from her ranch. Oliphant writes a good story but has few interesting or strong women to give competition to her main character.

S.T. Haymon writes British cozies featuring a handsome male police detective. The first one I read was so gratuitously vicious in its anti-lesbian writing, I didn't bother finishing the book.

M.R.D. Meek also writes British cozies with a male, Lennox Kemp, a lawyer whose clients involve him willy nilly in death. I haven't read them all but the one I read was competent, unoffensive and not terribly exciting.

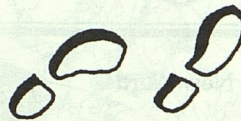


B.M. Gill, again British, writes with more emphasis on psychological effects of murder and violence with well realized characters. I've read **Time and Time Again** (Penguin, \$4.50 pb, 0-14-014360) which is a tight novel about an anti-nuclear protestor just released from serving prison time for accidentally injuring a policeman during a protest rally. It's a short novel about her struggle to integrate her life before prison with the loyalty she feels for her prison mates. An ambiguous ending.

M.D. Lake is in the "sounds interesting" department. Called "a Peggy O'Neill mystery," presumably indicating more to come, it's about a campus cop, O'Neill. The publicity calls it a must for Sue Grafton

fans. Sorry, I haven't read **Amends for Murder** (Avon, \$3.50 pb, 380-75865-2).

M.K. Lorens features Winston Marlowe Sherman, a Shakespeare Prof who writes mystery novels under a female name featuring a male sleuth. OK. Sherman is a likable enough sleuth, the mysteries are bookish and poke fun at academia's worst excesses. Put this one in the American cozy category.



That's the end of my initial sleuthing. Coming in April from Naiad: Katherine Forrest's **Beverly Malibu** finally in paper at \$8.95, 941483-84-3; and **Cop Out** by Claire McNab, \$9.95 pb, -48-7.

Coming in May from Bantam: **Hare Today, Gone Tomorrow** by Meg O'Brien, \$4.50 pb, 553-28978-0; and **Precious Blood** by Jane Haddam (Oriana Papazoglou), \$4.50 pb, -28193-6.

Fawcett is coming out in May with a dump called "Ladies Only" in their catalogue. Fortunately for them, the dump itself reads "Women of Mystery" with a figure of a cloaked and hooded woman holding aloft a glass embellished with a skull and crossbone. The dump contains 9 titles (not new releases) 4 copies each. The retail value is \$146.60 so it's pricey if you don't need to restock on the following, all in paper. The dump has an inclusive ISBN(446-28517-0) and includes the following titles:

Paying the Piper, Sharyn McCrumb, \$3.50, 345-34518-5.

A Trap for Fools, Amanda Cross, \$4.95, -35947-X.

Silence in Hanover Close, Anne Perry, \$3.95, 449-21686-1.

Why Aren't They Screaming?, Joan Smith, \$3.95, -21777-9.

Mrs. Pollifax & the Golden Triangle, Dorothy Gilman, \$4.50, -21515-6.

Murder at the PTA Luncheon, Valerie Wolzien, \$3.95, -14639-1.

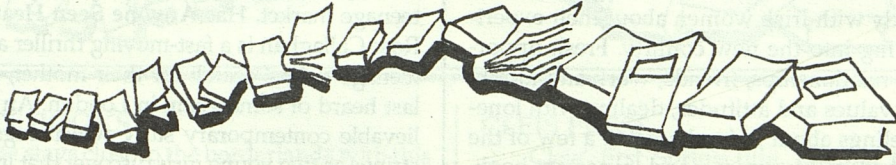
Stunning Way to Die, Joyce Christman, -14666-9.

The Last Billable Hour, Susan Wolfe, \$3.95, 804-10540-5.

Death of a Perfect Wife, M.C. Beaton, 3.95, -10593-6.

Hope to see some of you at the Feminist Bookstore Day at ABA. So, until June, good reading. ○

FROM OUR OWN PRESSES



Compiled by Carol Seajay

ASH TREE PUBLISHING

Ash Tree Publishing is a woman-run house specializing in books on women's health and spirituality. They are currently publishing two series of books, the Wise Woman Herbals and The Best of Europe. **Dragontime: Magic and Mystery of Menstruation**, by Louisa Francia (translated by Sasha Daucus) is the first book in the latter series. "A group of menstruating women is called a dragon." (So that's what those dragon-slaying myths are about!) **Dragontime** traces the thread of blood mysteries through ancient myths and old fairy tales to contemporary stories of menstrual magic. **Dragontime** power places, menstrual huts and alters, archetypal and animal allies, and the effect of the moon on menstruation are all included in this lively, sometimes shocking, look at the ever-flowing Red Sea of Lilith (menstruation).

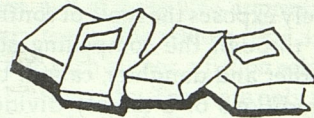
Louisa Francia is a German author making her first appearance in an English translation. She writes extensively on women's spirituality. Her books include *Hexentarot* (Witch's Tarot); *Beruhre Vega, kehre zur Erde zuruck* (Touch Vega, return to Earth), feminist

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

Inland Book Company, PO Box 120261, 140 Commerce St., East Haven CT 06512. Order number: 800-243-0138 (including Canada and Connecticut).

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

astrology; *Kalypso* — initiations, trances, magic, and visions; *Der afrikanische Traum* (studies with a West African fetish-priestess). \$9.95 pb, 0-9614620-3-5. Ash Tree Publishing, PO Box 64, Woodstock NY 12498. BP, IN, and others.



ATTIC PRESS

Attic has recently released a slew of books in the U.S. **The Kiss** by Linda Cullen is a sensuous and troubling story conveying the passion and the pain, the choices and dilemmas confronting two young women who fall deeply in love. Joanna and Helen are in their twenties — confident, energetic, successful, at ease with themselves and their lives. Suddenly, inexplicably, their childhood friendship turns into an intense and sexually explosive passion, bringing turmoil in its wake. Their struggle to come to terms with a relationship that goes against all the conventions of Irish life, and to find a measure of love and happiness together is at the core of this poignant and courageous novel. \$11.99 pb, 1-85594-002-7.

The Attic Book of Special Days for Women is a hardcover gift book/perpetual diary. Each day of the year is annotated with birthdays or other significant events from the history of women in different cultures. Plenty of room for recording personally important dates. Edited by Róisín Conroy, Michelle Cullen, Margaret Neylon and Ailbhe Smyth. \$29.99 cl, -011-6.

The Wit and Wisdom of Women by Margaret Neylon is a pocket-sized collection of entertaining and illuminating thoughts and witticisms by women from many cultures and countries. From Gloria Anzaldúa and Jane Austen to Alice Walker and Mae West. A wonderful relief from the improve-yourself-daily

books. 160 pages of women's wisest and wittiest quotes. \$7.99 pb, -010-8

In Models for Movers: Irish Women's Emigration to America Ide O'Carroll — an emigrant herself — talks frankly with Irish women about their experiences of settling into the new country. Fresh opportunities, new relationships, friends, work and family life, different values and attitudes, dealing with loneliness and feelings about Ireland are just a few of the themes explored in this moving and important book. Photographs. \$13.99. -008-6.



The Between People, a novel by Kitty Manning, uniquely exposes the roots of conflict in northern Ireland through the compelling story of two women, mother and daughter, caught between the opposing traditions of a tensely divided community. Kate Regan returns to northern Ireland to lay to rest the ghost of a past which has haunted her adult life. Seeing her mother again and the town where she grew up in the fifties brings memories

flooding back with heartbreaking force. \$11.99 pb, -012-4.

Attic has recently launched the first two titles in their sparky new "Bright Sparks" fiction series for the teenage market. **Has Anyone Seen Heather?** by Mary Rose Callaghan is a fast-moving thriller about two Irish teenage sisters' search for their mother, Heather Kelly, last heard of somewhere in London. An absolutely believable contemporary story which tugs at the heart-strings as two young girls discover that life in London is no bed of roses. \$9.99 pb, -003-5. **Daisy Chain War** by Joan O'Neill is set in Dublin during the late 30s and 40s and two cousins, one Irish and one English, growing up during the difficult years of the war. \$7.99 pb, -004.3

Many a publishing company finances its way with cookbooks. Here's Attic's first: **Tasty Food for Hasty Folk** by Lorna Reynolds is a cookery book to delight those who like their recipes served with generous helpings of individuality, style and more than a whiff of wit. From Bacon and Cabbage to heavenly salads. \$11.99 pb, - 005-1.

Attic Press, 44 East Essex St., Dublin 2 Ireland. Distributed in Canada by DEC, in the U.S. by Inland and Bookpeople.

Dream On by Chrystos

In her second collection of poetry, this Native American writer and activist brings a clear-sighted realism, outrage, and wry humour to her work. These poems and prose pieces meditate on eroticism, the long-term effects of incest, abuse within lesbian relationships, and the genocide of Native peoples. Chrystos gives us courageous, resilient, and sometimes celebratory poetry motivated by the necessity to name, and in so doing, offers an affirmation of life.

April 1991 132 pages, 6 X 9, Paper, ISBN 0-88974-029-1 **\$10.95**



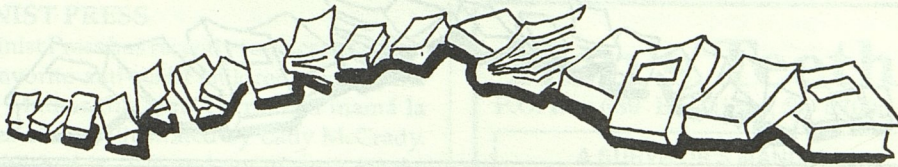
Drawing the Line by Kiss and Tell

This provocative and timely collection of forty black and white photographs selected from the original art exhibit, explores issues of lesbian sexuality and censorship. True to the interactive nature of the art show, each image in this post-card book includes a range of comments from women viewers in American, Australian, and Canadian cities, and an introduction by the artists discusses the context of their work. *Drawing the Line* is an invitation for women to participate in the dialogue.

April 1991 5 X 7, Paper/Perforated, ISBN 0-88974-030-5 **\$10.95**



PRESS GANG PUBLISHERS 603 Powell Street Vancouver, BC Canada V6A 1H2 (604) 253-2537



AUNT LUTE BOOKS

Aunt Lute stays close to the borderlands with this year's releases. **Daughter of the Mountain** by Edna Escamill describes the relationship of a young Chicana, who is coming to grips with the burgeoning gringo population taking over her desert town, and her Yacqui Indian grandmother, who strives to stay alive enough to teach her the Old Ways. \$8.95 pb, 0-933216-82-3. June.

Send My Roots Rain by Ibis Gómez-Vega takes place in a fictional small border town. The novel explores the unfolding love story between a visiting artist, running from her past, and a local exile who must face her new found desire for a woman. **Send My Roots Rain** was the first runner-up in the 1990 Spinsters/Aunt Lute Fiction Contest. \$9.95 pb, -80-7. June.

In the Fall, Aunt Lute will publish the translation of Mexico's first mainstream lesbian novel, **The Two Mujeres**, which remains number five on Mexico's bestseller list. Watch for it in September.

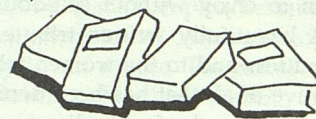
Aunt Lute Books, PO Box 410687, San Francisco CA 94141. 40% for 5+, 45% for 50+, direct orders preferred. BP, IN.

CASPAR ALCOHOLISM PROGRAM

Getting Sober, Getting Well is a comprehensive guide to the treatment of women with alcoholism and drug abuse problems. It presents 27 detailed chapters dealing with a range of issues including alcohol abuse, counseling and treatment strategies, emergency counseling, detoxification, residential care, inpatient and aftercare services, violence in women's lives, eating disorders, AIDS, disabled women, homeless women, young women, lesbians, women of color, and older women. It is the result of 14 years experience of The Women's Alcoholism Program in Cambridge. Expensive, and primarily intended for professionals. \$59.95. CASPAR Women's Alcoholism Program, 6 Camelia Ave., Cambridge MA 02139. Terms negotiated.

CLEIS PRESS

Cleis' first Spring title, **Beyond the Border: A New Age in Latin American Women's Fiction** should reach you by the time this issue does. Edited by Nora Erro-Peralta and Caridad Silva-Núñez combines literary excellence with a passion for justice. It will appeal to those with a special interest in Latin American and women's writing, to those who read politically engaged fiction, and to those who appreciate writing of extraordinary merit. The editors offer a biographical introduction to each author, a fiction selection, and an up-to-date bibliography. There are only two other anthologies devoted to Latin American women's fiction. As Isabel Allende notes, "Women writers have had to struggle and are still struggling against the prejudice of editors who think that masculine literature is better or sells better, and critics who keep a strategic silence about women's literary works." \$12.95 pb, 0-939416-43-3; 24.95 cl, -42-5.

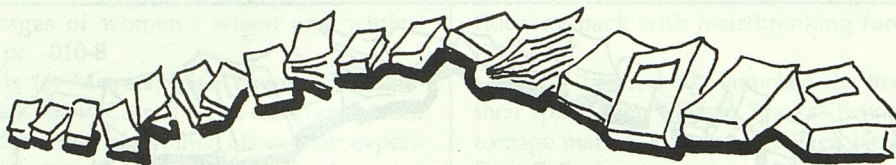


In May Cleis will release American editions of **Serious Pleasure: Lesbian Erotic Stories & Poetry** and **More Serious Pleasure**, both edited and originally published by the Sheba Collective, a British Feminist publisher with an emphasis on writings by lesbians and women of color. Many feminist booksellers will have sold the Sheba edition (which was available here through Inland until May 1989) so I'll just quote Joan Nestle: "Now, more than ever, the world needs **More Serious Pleasure**." Look for work by Jewelle Gomez, Sapphire, Terri Jewell, Storme Webber and other U.S., British, and Canadian writers.

Cleis Press, PO Box 8933, Pittsburgh PA 15221. 40% for 5+. IN, BP B&T and other distributors.

DELPHI PRESS

Delphi's first book, **To Know: A Guide to Women's Magic and Spirituality** by Jade is an exam-



ination of the theology of the women's spirituality movement, including the power and ethics of magic, and the role of healing and wellness. Jade looks at the past and the future of women's spiritual movement, the theology of women's witchcraft, women's spirituality and Neo-Paganism, Divination, and Women's Spiritual and Pagan Cultures. In a wise and friendly way, Jade answers questions from women seeking to define their spiritual lives in a woman affirming manner. Jade is a visionary, organizer, catalyst, teacher, Witch, and co-publisher of *Of A Like Mind*. \$13.95 pb, 1-878980-00-9.



Loving the Goddess Within: Sex Magic for Women by Nan Hawthorne offers a celebration of life, love, sex, sensuality, pleasure and beauty that helps teach women to enjoy without self-doubt or self-criticism. "A beautifully written tribute to the re-emerging Goddess and to the women who embody Her. Affirmative of all that has been denied: the life force inherent in our physical bodies, the erotic, the passionate, and the power and beauty that is women." \$13.95 pb, -01-7.

Delphi Press, PO Box 1538, Oak Park II 60304. Distributed by Inland and New Leaf

DOLO BLUE GRAPHICS

In **Dolo Romy** or *The Adventures of Dolo Romy in The Underground City of Women*, a comic book written and drawn by Karen Platt, readers follow the adventures of young lesbian Dolo Romy as her search for a missing friend leads to the Underground City of Women, a utopia gone bad. Watch for future titles including *Dolo Romy in Set A Bad*, *Bad Example* and *Daisy Age*. \$2.95, 80 pgs. 40% discount, Dolo Blue Graphics, PO Box 80023, Minneapolis MN 55409. Distributed by Inland and Last Gasp.

EDC: WEEA PUBLISHING CENTER

Because women are often left out of the mentoring process used by many corporations and organizations to move managers through their systems, the Educational Development Center's Women's Educational Equity Act Publishing Center has developed **Executive Mentoring: Myths, Issues, Strategies** that help mentors address the specific needs of women. \$8.00 pb. Order from EDC, 55 Chapel St., Newton MA 02160. 800-225-3088.

EIGHTH MOUNTAIN

Fear of Subways by Maureen Seaton was the winner of the 1990 Eighth Mountain Poetry Prize. "With a keen eye and an open heart, the poet introduces a large cast of characters — subway riders, street people, daughters, sisters, friends, ex-husband, father' lover — as she grapples with racism, responsibility, illness, fear, rage, loss, grief, forgiveness and spirituality. Her sense of place and of character will make these very specific people and places real to her readers. Relations between a white woman and Black women and men are central here: not thought about, but lived in struggle and love." \$9.95 pb, 0-933377-15-0; \$18.95 cl, -16-9.

The selections in **An Intimate Wilderness: Lesbian Writers on Sexuality** edited by Judith Barrington address a complex subject which has rarely been explored in literature until the last 20 years. This book is not a contribution to the on-going erotica/porn debates; it reaches around and beyond them. Writers get their turn here in essays that range from the humorous to the thoughtful to the lyrical. Essays that probe questions of definition, vocabulary, history, possibility and meaning are combined with poetry and prose that amplify and echo these visions and reflections. It has one of the most exciting lists of contributors I've seen in any anthology. 400 pgs., \$12.95 pb, -09-6; \$22.95 cl, -10-X. May.

40% for 5-49. Eighth Mountain Press, 624 Southeast 29th Ave., Portland OR 97214. BP, IN.

THE FEMINIST PRESS

The Feminist Press has recently re-released one of my all-time favorite anti-sexist children's books, the bilingual *My Mother the Mail Carrier/Mi mamá la cartera* by Inez Maury, illustrated by Lady McCrady. Originally published in 1976 and out of stock for the last three years, it has sold a total of 9,000 copies. Narrated by five-year-old Lupita, surrounded by the warmth of her relationship with her mother, we enjoy their shared experiences (riding the bus, shopping, cooking tamales, picnicing, painting Lupita's room to cheer each other up). Lupita conveys her mother's love for her job and fills us in on their urban adventures while showing off the satisfactions and demands of family life with one independent, loving parent. Ages 4-9. \$7.95 pb, 0-935312-23-4. The Feminist Press, 311 East 94th St., NY NY 10128. Distributed by Talman, BP.

Alix Kates Shulman says (Edith Konecky's) "*Allegra Maud Goldman* is one of those rare delights, a novel of childhood that is as wise and true as it is funny. There is probably something for everybody in this short funny book that had me laughing and crying to the last page." I couldn't have said it better. Shelve also in your pre-teen, gonna-grow-up-to-be-a-lesbian section. Konecky also wrote the-not-well-enough-known lesbian novel *A Place at the Table*. \$9.95 pb, 1-55861-022-7..

Truth Tales: Contemporary Stories by Women Writers of India edited by Kali for Women was first published in India in 1986 and in 1987 in Britain and is now finally available in the U.S. in an easily available edition. This edition is introduced by Meena Alexander. "*Truth Tales* invites us to a feast of rich and varied literature. These stories are riveting, witty, moving, and a wonderful gift of consciousness; they illumine Indian women's lives and also, across distance and culture, enable us to recognize ourselves. Bravo..." — Robin Morgan. \$12.95 pb, -012-X; \$35.00 cl, 011-1.



FIREBRAND

Firebrand has a five-book list this Spring featuring novels by Judith McDaniel and Jewell Gomez, a new collection of short stories by Beth Brant, and

Hen's Teeth

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poetry by Dorothy Allison and Eloise Klein Healy.

The Gilda Stories, Jewelle Gomez' long-awaited novel features a Black vampire/heroine who strides across time, listens to her own voice and learns that immortality is not simple. The novel takes us from Southern slavery to Northern Racism, from San Francisco to South America in the future. "An elegant, sensual, and naturalistic fantasy full of loud laughter and subtle terror, punctuated by the author's political acumen." It should be hot! \$9.95 pb, 0-932379-94-X; \$20.95 cl, -95-8.

Food & Spirits, Beth Brant's new collection of stories, offers a moving collection about going home: home to the physical place where you can walk the same land traveled by your ancestors, home to the interior space where all of who you are lives fully. A member of the Mohawk tribe, joined in the Six Nations Iroquois Confederation, Brant comes from a proud tradition. Like her people for generations before her, she believes in the power of honoring dreams and fulfilling their prophecy. "Writing that feeds the emotional journey." Published in Canada by Press Gang. \$8.95 pb; -92-3; \$18.95 cl, -93-1.

Judith McDaniel's *Just Say Yes* is a lesbian

romance with an edge — and a sense of humor — that sorts through contemporary issues of love and lust, lesbian community, the excitement of gay resorts and the realities of racism, homophobia, queer-bashing and drug-running. No white-bread formula lesbian romance here! This one tackles the real complexities that enrich lesbian lives. It made it all the way around the office in less than a week. Eye-catching cover, stock it in stacks. \$8.95 pb, -96-6; \$18.95 cl, -97-4. Judith McDaniel was one of the original founders of Spinsters Ink. Her other books include *Metamorphosis: Reflections On Recovery, Sanctuary: A Journey and Winter's Edge*.



“Situated in the urban landscape of Los Angeles, **Artemis In Echo Park: Poetry** by Eloise Klein Healy finds the mythical amazon goddess at home in both urban wildness and untamed desert. No rediscovered New Age version, this Artemis never left! Healy writes with a sophisticated West Coast sensibility, a fiercely lyrical style caught up in the

motion of fast cars, earthquake tremors, city animals, the migrations of the homeless. Like the climate in which lesbian loving occurs — undomesticated and self-defined, **Artemis in Echo Park** celebrates a different kind of nature poetry.” \$8.95 pb, -90-7; \$18.95 cl, -91-5.

Firebrand will also publish an expanded edition of Dorothy Allison (*Trash*)’s hard and honest, fierce and gutsy (and too-long-out-of-print) **The Women Who Hate Me: Poetry 1980-1990** (\$8.95 pb, -98-2; \$18.95 cl, -99-0).

FREEDOM SEMINARS

From We to Just Me by Kristapher Ryan is a revealing self- portrait of a birth mother and her journey through the process of relinquishing her two children to the adoptive parents of her choice. It breaks the silence imposed upon birth mothers, challenges traditional notions of motherhood, examines issues surrounding continued contact, shame and silence, grieving and healing, family membership, and women’s healing. \$12.50 pb. 40% bookstore discount. Freedom to Be Me Seminars, PO Box 52057, Winnipeg MB R2M 5P9.

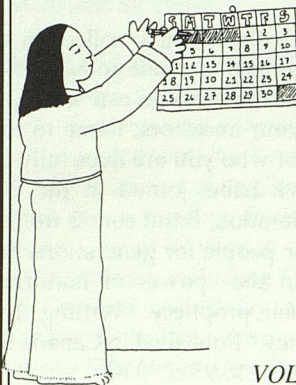
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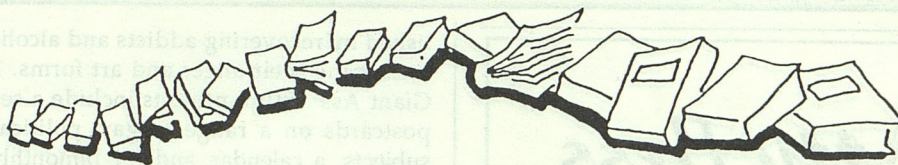
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GAIA'S GUIDE

Gaia's Guide 1990/91 is, of course, out in every bookstore. This is the 15th annual edition and it's still the ultimate in lesbian guides for bars, clubs, discos, restaurants, resorts, hotels, travel agencies, bookstores, periodicals, publishers, hotlines and switchboards. Over 1,000 entries in 200+ categories for the U.S., Canada, Australia, New Zealand and Europe with some information on Mexico & South America, South Asia, South Africa, Israel, Japan and Thailand. \$11.95 pb, 0-94792-220-24. Send revisions & updates to Gaia's Guide, 412 Archway Road, London N6, England or 147 West 42nd St., NY NY 10036. Distributed to bookstores in the U.S. by Inland, Bookpeople, and the distributors. In Europe by Airlift.

GALLERIE PUBLICATIONS

Gallerie, the beautiful women's art magazine from Vancouver, has shifted focus to publishing a series of Women Artists' Monographs. Three have already been published.

Oratory: Coming to Theory by Native writer, poet and orator Lee Maracle, reflects on the creative process, discusses the relationship of story to theory, thinking to being and argues for a (Native) traditional oratory/theory/ that is story- and human- inclusive. It is illustrated with a wonderful series of "self-portraits" created with photographer Brenda Hemsing. \$3.95.

Family: Growing up in an Alcoholic Family by FBN's Art Books columnist Tee Corinne features work and text from a show that has been exhibited extensively in the Pacific Northwest and is the subject of a video interview as well. The art is based on photocopying and rearranging, enlarging, and redrawing photographs of the artist's family and childhood, making visible truths that were hidden in the family (alcoholism, child abuse, neglect) and the power of reintegrating the past and the present to affirm new relationships and new ways of understandings. I wish more of the images were published in color. Shelve both in art and recovery. \$3.95. (Both of the above

monographs feature the artists/authors names on the covers, with the titles on the inside front page, so you might want to list the authors as the titles.)

Living With AIDS features collaborative portraits by Gypsy Ray of women and men with AIDS along with friends and caregivers, and their statements. \$3.95.

The most recent issue of *Gallerie* (#8) features a special section on surviving childhood, deciphering sexual identity, and healing the wounds of sexual abuse. The next issue **Quilts as Women's Art** by Radka Donnell challenges assumptions of recent philosophy, psychology and art criticism with a radical critique. Rooted in a concern for women's lives and liberation, her vision of quiltmaking embraces a world view. \$12.95.

Gallerie Publications, Box 2190 Panorama Drive, North Vancouver BC V7G 2A4. 40% discount, pre-paid. Gallerie Publications are also distributed by Inland, Bookpeople, and the Canadian Magazine Publishers Association.



GIANT ASS PUBLISHING

Giant Ass Publishing was founded in January by Diane DiMassa and Stacy Sheehan. Their first publication is a comic book, **HotHead Paisan: Homicidal Lesbian Terrorist**, a semi- autobiographical/fantasy about "an ordinary lesbian" who crosses the line one day and becomes a product of all the misogynist mediaization — a sort of "good dyke gone mad" kicking back with all the means at her disposal. Her creator Diane DiMassa qualifies the autobiographical part saying that, unlike HotHead, she's never mutilated any physical male body parts — just a few thousand egos. Not for the faint of heart, but definitely for angry, gutsy young women. "HotHead speaks for a lot of us, some in an exaggerated way and some...." Written and pub-



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lished by recovering addicts and alcoholics *actively* reclaiming their anger and art forms. 12 pg. \$2.50. Giant Ass' future projects include a series of B&W postcards on a range of gay, political and feline subjects, a calendar, and the bimonthly continuing tale of HotHead Paisan. Distributed by Inland or order direct. Giant Ass, PO Box 214, New Haven CT 06502.

For more comic books see Dolo Blue Graphics and GirlJock.



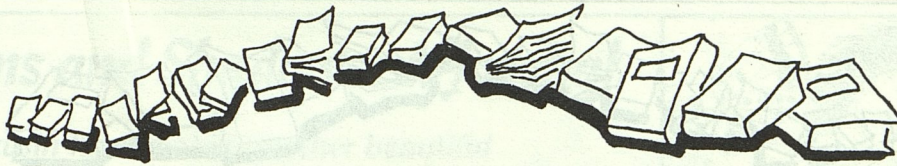
GIRLJOCK

GirlJock is a comic/zine attacking key issues in the lives of girl jocks — the correct ways and times to wear bandannas, eating junk food, the improper arrangement of maxi-pads in bike shorts... practical football terminology for the non-jock girl ("Offensive Line" = When your oafish brother-in-law asks, "So, what do you do in bed?") and explores important topics like Novel Deprivation Phobia and "Telling Your Inner Child to Shut Up." Love em' or hate 'em, it doesn't matter, (Maga)'Zines are the younger generation's chosen form of communication and political analysis. **GirlJock** is an irreverent riot. 40% bookstore discount. Order from Sarah Rosen, 2060 Third St., Berkeley CA 94710.

HEN'S TEETH

Hen's Teeth is a small, woman-owned publishing house in South Dakota. **A Survivor's Manual** by Janice Mikesell collects poetry from 25 years that tells the story of one woman's survival. She addresses the ambiguities in family life, in nature, and in the discoveries she makes about herself. The publisher particularly recommends it to women who have moved from traditional values to feminist values. \$6.00 pb, 0-9621112-1-X.

Women, Houses & Homes, an anthology of prose, poetry and photography contains the stories of eleven upper midwestern women who recall their memories of home. The book is cut in the shape of a house and features a color cover. Now in it's third printing, the book was an outgrowth of a performance by the Brookings SD based "Women Artists in Collaboration, a project of the Brookings Women's Center. \$6.00 pb, -0-1.



Hen's Teeth's third title (not seen by FBN) is **We've Got to Do Something About Mother**, a book about being a caregiver for elderly parents by Marilyn Richardson. All three titles are available from Hen's Teeth, PO Box 689, Brookings SD 57006. 40% discount to bookstores. A **Survival's Manual** is also distributed by Womontyme.

HERBOOKS

Cats (and their Dykes) edited by Irene Reti and Shoney Sien is the latest wonderful offering from Herbooks. It explores ancient and contemporary connections between lesbians and cats in poetry, stories, photographs, essays, political analysis and cartoons. \$10.00 pb, 0-939821-47-8. Bright red cover features Cat and Dyke eye-to-eye. I wish all small presses knew how to do such effective covers. HerBooks, PO Box 7467, Santa Cruz CA 95061. BP & IN.

KALI FOR WOMEN

Kali for Women, India's first women's publishing house, is now publishing 12 books a year and doing well.

The Quilt & Other Stories gave me quite a surprise. Granted, Ismat Chughtai is one of Urdu's best known, best loved — and boldest and most outspoken — women writers. Born in 1915, she wrote in a time when any attempt by a woman to write poetry or fiction was viewed as "intellectual vagrancy." In 1944 she stepped into the realm of Urdu fiction with the bold and unconventional story "Lihaaf" (The Quilt). In "The Quilt," a frustrated housewife whose nawab husband has no time for her finds solace (sexual and emotional) with a female servant in a vividly drawn lesbian relationship. The story is narrated by a woman remembering a childhood experience. Chughtai was charged with obscenity for the story, and tried in Lahore. The trial lasted for two years. The court couldn't find any definable obscenity in the story and eventually dismissed the case. Although the introduction to the stories implies that Chughtai didn't know

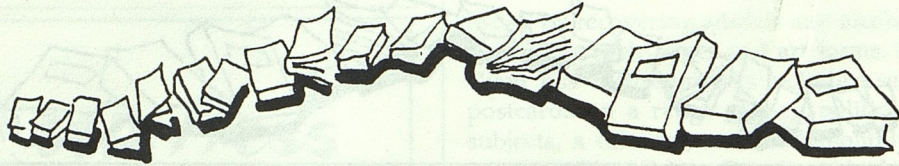
what she was writing about, the story's clarity thoroughly disproves that idea. So I am delighted to discover, in **The Quilt**, a new chapter in international lesbian writing and publishing history. Only the one story in the book deals with lesbianism, but you might shelve the book in your lesbian section (as well as in international fiction, of course) because it so strongly and boldly breaks the silence about lesbianism in that time and place. Eye-catching cover. Rs. 70 (\$5.00) pb, 81-8507-10-6. Published in the U.K. by The Women's Press.

Phaniyamma is based on the life of a child widowed at 13 who lived to be 112 years old. Phaniyamma's poignant and passionate story is set against a backdrop of unrelenting orthodoxy and a society that sees widowhood as the ultimate pollution. She survives through sheer willpower and grows to abhor the moral perversions practiced against women. Rs. 50. -09-2. Published in the U.K. by The Women's Press.

The Slate of Life presents a rich and varied selection of stories translated from ten different languages, by some of the most inventive and important contemporary women writers from India. The stories touch upon the nuances of women's being with delicacy, humour and candour and offer us a glimpse into the everyday lives of women. Rs. 55. Red & white cover. -21-1. Published in the U.K. by The Women's Press.



Kali for Women sells to foreign bookstores at 25% discount — all of which is eaten up by air mail. (Air mail takes about two weeks and the books don't get lost. Sea mail takes forever to arrive — when it doesn't get lost entirely. Air mail is definitely worth it.) So ordering books direct from India makes no sense financially — except for one thing: Books in India, although priced high by local standards, are actually very inexpensive compared to books published here



and the books can easily be marked up to the point where they generate a standard or near standard discount. For example, **The Quilt**, a 222 page, (small) trade paperback retails 70 rupees. That's about US \$5.00. Subtract the bookstore discount and add the postage, and it's still \$5.00. If you price the book at \$7.95, you'll make just about the standard 40% discount. With airmail, the turn-around time is quite reasonable.



The History of Doing: An Illustrated Account of the Women's Movement in India has been 5 years in the researching and writing. It covers the years from 1800 to the present. It looks at how women's issues were raised. Using photographs, old and new documents, excerpts from letters, books and informal writings, the author provides a wealth of information in an easily written and accessible style. Shelve with women's histories around the world. Rs 220. -13-0.

Kali for Women offers 25% discount to foreign bookstores — all of which is eaten up by air mail. (Air mail takes about two weeks and the books don't get lost. Sea mail takes forever to arrive — when it doesn't get lost entirely. Air mail is definitely worth it.) So ordering books direct from India makes no sense financially — except for one thing: Books in India, although priced high by local standards, are actually very inexpensive compared to books published here and the books can easily be marked up to the point where they generate a standard or near standard discount. For example, **The Quilt**, a 222 page, (small) trade paperback retails for 70 rupees. That's about US \$5.00. Subtract the bookstore discount and add the postage, and it's still \$5.00. If you price the book at \$7.95, you'll make just about the standard 40% discount. With air mail, the turn-around time is quite reasonable.

So, if Kali has books you want, order them now! And ask for a complete catalog, too. Kali for Women, A 36 Gulmohar Park, New Delhi 110 049, India.

KINHEART

Kinheart offers two new pamphlets: **Homophobia is a Social Disease** by Mary Jo Osterman considers the history of homophobia, the nature of homophobic oppression, the cycle of homophobic oppression and ways to break down the walls of fear, all in a 45- page pamphlet. \$6.95. **When We Are Sisters** looks at women's struggles to build community between/among lesbian, bisexual, and heterosexual women. Poetry and essays reflect on eight years of building women's community at Kinheart. It also includes a brief discussion guide. \$4.95. No ISBN's. 40% bookstore discount for 5+ mixed titles. Also combines with Kinheart's useful **Lesbian Relationship Handbook**. \$5.95. Kinheart Inc, 2214 Ridge, Evanston IL 60201.

MOTHER COURAGE PRESS

Mother Courage offers a trio of lesbian novels to inspire a spring-reading fever: Set in Madison, Wisconsin, **Hodag Winter** a novel by Deborah Wiese, tells the tale of a first-grade teacher fired for being a lesbian, and the fight she, her lover, and her community wage to contest the firing. Set in a time before Wisconsin enacted gay rights legislation, the book offers a portrait of the women in a lesbian community, their problems — including alcoholism — their love connections and interactions. \$8.95 pb, 0-941300-18-8. June.

Mega by B. L. Holmes offers science fiction set in the vast city- state of Chicago-Milwaukee-Megalopolis. Kerek Leight, who is monitored by computer because of her past crimes of lesbianism and a previous escape from the city-state, joins forces with three scientists, a programmer, a teacher and seven DNA-improved teens with various psychic powers to escape again and, this time, to perform an "interlock" to save the Earth from further pollution and destruction. \$8.95 pb, -19-6. June

Singin' the Sun Up by Ocala Wings tells the tale of a young woman finally free to love whom she chooses after a childhood caring for younger siblings

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and an abusive father to contend with. When she takes a scuba diving class she not only falls in love with her teacher and her best friend, but it isn't until after she has an incredible experience in mentally melding with dolphins and goes home to find her grandmother's legacy that she can admit that she, too, has inherited magical powers to interact with nature. \$8.95 pb, -19-6. June.

Mother Courage Press, 1533 Illinois St., Racine WI 53405. BP, IN.

MOVIMIENTO MANUELA RAMOS

Fotonovelas, stories told by photographs with captions and dialog are immensely popular throughout Latin America. Women, many of whom are minimally literate, enjoy the easy-to-read romance stories. With this in mind, Movimiento has taken the Fotonovela concept to address the problems of incest, resulting teen pregnancy (90% of adolescent pregnancies in Peru are the result of rape by a father, step-father, or other family member), and the campaign to legalize abortion for pregnancies that are the result of rape.

Violacion "¿Cómo tener un hijo así?" (Rape: How can you have a child like this?) portrays this too-

common situation, using the story of a lower-middle class teen who is pregnant as a result of rape by a family member. As is the reality for many Peruvian women, Maria is afraid that she will be blamed or even disowned by her family if she discloses the rape. At the end of the story she opts for an abortion, a decision her parents eventually support. Full color cover, and nicely produced. \$5.00 U.S. payable by international check. Bookstore discounts not sent. Worth the hassle to order for booksellers who stock books in Spanish. Movimiento Manuela Ramos, Av. Bolivia 921, Breña Lima 5 Peru.

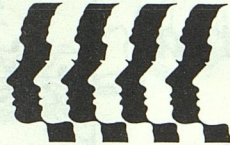
NAIAD

Naiad Press continues to steam along at a rate of 24 books a year. This Spring's titles include **Cop Out** a new Claire McNab mystery featuring Australian detective inspector Carol Ashton. "Sick of the patriarchal framework of police work (!), sick of hiding her real lesbian self for the sake of her career, in personal crisis and close to burn-out, Ashton takes a second look at an open-and-shut murder case when the deceased's aunt argues to the contrary. It turns out that the dead man was a member of a support group

IRIS

A Journal About Women

Women's Center,
University of Virginia



"Feminists have had difficulty recognizing the needs of all the diverse women stratified and bounded by cultural and sexual classifications. The editors of IRIS are ensuring that, in their wonderful journal at least, no woman's voice goes unheard."

— Utne Reader

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SUBSCRIBE IN TIME to catch our dialogue on motherhood — the adoption option, the link between reproduction and depression, and on writing for young readers in IRIS 25.

IRIS is distributed by Inland Book Company, Ubiquity Distributors, Bookpeople and Fine Print Distributors.

IRIS: A Journal About Women, Box 323, HSC, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA 22908

for married gay men... one secret among many in a complicated family..." \$8.95 pb, 0-941483-84-3. **Touchwood**, by Karin Kallmaker (*In Every Port*) offers a love story about a recently and unhappily single 29-year-old and a rare book dealer many years her senior... Previously announced. \$8.95 pb, -76-2.

Lodestar by Phyllis Horn (*The Chesapeake Project*) is an action-adventure and romance centering on a lesbian mother's custody case and a commune named Enlightenment — where a chemical compound turns the residents into compliant robots ready to do the bidding of whoever gains control of the commune. \$8.95 pb, -83-5.

Naiad promises that **Bayou City Secrets** by Deborah Powell is one of the funniest, most entertaining, most unusual mysteries of the year (\$8.95 pb, -91-6)

In **Calling Rain**, by Karen Marie Christa Minns (*Virago*) explores both passion and loyalty in a story centered on the preservation of the natural world and the great apes with whom we share it. \$9.95 pb, -87-8. May. **Black Iris** by Jeane Harris pits a brutal rapist, recently released and seeking revenge against the woman who turned him in, against the entire gay community of

Denver. Guess who wins? \$8.95 pb, -68-1. May.

Naiad Press, PO Box 10543, Tallahassee FL 32302. 800-533-1973. IN, BP, and a world of distributors..

NEW VICTORIA

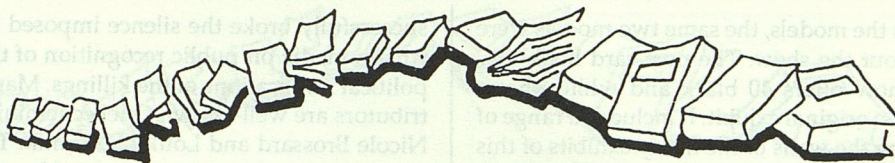
The Woman With Red Hair, a novel by Sigrid Brunel, follows a woman's return to France to find the woman who gave her up for adoption at the age of five. Aided by a French journalist, she pursues her memory of a woman with red hair through the swamps of Camargue and the slums of Marseille to learn of her mother's life and her mother's lover, Celine, the woman with the red hair. \$8.95 pb, 0-934678-30-8.'

Cody Angel by Joanne Whitfield tells the tale of a young woman who leaves her home in Cody, Wyoming after her high school lover chooses to get married. Down and out in San Francisco, she is taken up by an older Southern matron who offers her a job as a maid and a place to work. But what looked like a way out turns up emotional entanglements, an alcoholic boss, a bike dyke, and an academic who mixes sex and power. Through it all Dana struggles for self-esteem, independence and love. \$8.95 pb, -28-6. New Victoria Publishers, PO Box 27, Norwich VT 05055. BP, IN.

ONLYWOMEN PRESS

Due to some glitch in communication, we're a bit behind with OnlyWomen's titles. So we'll flash back for a moment to an earlier list before catching up to the near-past. The exhilaration as well as the pain of self realization forms the core of **Stranger than Fish**, J.E. Hardy's lesbian feminist short stories. These are stories narrating the turbulence of coming-out, the world-weary knowledge of relationships with heretofore heterosexuals, as well as the paths traversed — in England, France and the U.S. — to reach the strength and independence of lesbianism. \$8.95pb, 0-906500-32-X. Anna Livia's recent collection of stories, **Saccharin Cyanide**, was published in the U.S. as **Incidents Involving Mirth** by Eighth Mountain.

More recently, OnlyWoman published **The Hang-Glider's Daughter: New and Selected Poems**, a collection of new work and selected poems from two of Marilyn Hacker's earlier books. Hacker is one of our finest poets — even the *New York Times Book Review* raves about Hacker, "A Cappella, she's a whole choir. Elegant and versatile in the strictest forms, she is



inventive and exuberant in content... colloquial, lyrical, uncouth, old-fashioned and fun. (How many books of poems are fun?)” OnlyWomen says, “Intimate ties between mothers and daughters and lovers and friends are expressed here with Marilyn’s dazzling technical voracity and extraordinary clarity of heart. Form verse with radical intentions **The Hang-Glider’s Daughter** reasserts poetry’s place in lesbian feminism and pays tribute to a consummate artist.” \$9.95 pb, -36-2.

Water Wings by Caroline Natzler offers twelve fictions set in Britain of the 50’s, in sinister futuristic societies and today’s recognizable London, that show hope and humour in unlikely places. Herein we find familiar feminists who criticize each other’s lovers and each other’s compromises; very old women who “have nothing against men in their rightful place;” children who want to know “What’s she done wrong;” and, of course, lesbians everywhere. \$8.95 pb, -38-9. OnlyWomen Press, 38 Mount Pleasant, London WC1X 0AP. Distributed in the U.S. by Inland and Bookpeople.

PANDORA PRESS - ST. MARTINS PRESS

Render Me My Song: African American Women Writers from Slavery to the Present documents the history of Black women writers in America in narrative that reads like story, insightfully conveying the strength, passion, and wisdom of Black women writers. “A sensitive treatment that makes clear that the sheer will of the African-American woman, despite her struggles, is the fire that ignites the creative energy burning at the heart of literature.” Russell grew up in Harlem and now lives in England. She co-edited *The Virago Book of Love Poetry*. Originally published by Pandora Press in 1990 and now published in the U.S. by St. Martin’s Press. \$18.95 cl, 0-312-05288-X.

PRESS GANG

Dream On, Native writer and activist Chrystos’ (*Not Vanishing*) second collection of poetry, is rich with

clear-sighted realism, outrage, and wry humour. These poems and prose pieces meditate on eroticism, the long-term effects of incest, abuse within lesbian relationships, and the genocide of Native peoples. Chrystos gives us courageous, resilient, and sometimes celebratory poetry motivated by the necessity to name and, in so doing, offers an affirmation of life. \$10.95 pb, 0-88974-029-1. Chrystos’ poem “Shame On” (See the October FBN) is included in this volume. It is also available as a broadsheet suitable for posting in the bookstore. The broadsheet is available only from Press Gang. \$3.00 each, 40% discount to bookstores.

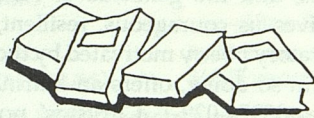


The survival of spirit in the lives of Native people throughout generations is the enduring theme of Beth Brant’s new collection of stories **Food and Spirits**. Brant’s writing traces the quiet daily triumphs in lives struggling to overcome violence and abuse and to reconcile grief and loss. The return to a home, bitter-sweet memories of childhood and family, a reverence for the land, and the perseverance for a life of dignity and self-worth by lesbian and gay people are movingly portrayed. These stories are a visible testament to the history and endurance of Native peoples, and especially Native women. Brant is the editor of *A Gathering of Spirit* and author of *Mohawk Trail*. \$10.95 pb, -032-1. In the U.S. order this title from Firebrand Books.

Drawing the Line by Kiss and Tell (Photography by Susan Stewart in collaboration with Persimmon Blackbridge and Lizard Jones) was originally designed as a traveling photo exhibit that addressed the questions of lesbian sexuality, censorship, and personal limits by inviting the viewers to “draw the line” on the walls between what they found acceptable and non-acceptable and to write (on the walls) about why. To keep the focus on the behaviors being portrayed,

rather than on the models, the same two models were used throughout the show. The post-card book version of the show offers 40 black and white photographs from the original exhibit. It includes a range of comments from the walls of the many exhibits of this show and an introduction by the artists discussing the context of the work. \$10.95 pb, -030- 5.

Press Gang Publishers, 603 Powell St., Vancouver BC V6A 1H2. Distributed in Canada by University of Toronto, and in the U.S. by Bookpeople, Inland, and Pacific Pipeline.



RAGWEED PRESS/ gynergy books

The Montreal Massacre edited by Marie Chalouh and Louise Malette, translated by Marlene Wildeman was originally published by Quebecois feminist publisher *les éditions du remue-ménage*, as *Polytechnique, 6 décembre*, immediately after the murder of the 14 women engineering students at Ecole Polytechnique on that horrid December afternoon. The essays discuss the massacre as an act of misogyny and

successfully broke the silence imposed by the mainstream media on public recognition of the social and political implications of the killings. Many of the contributors are well-known Quebec feminists including Nicole Brossard and Louky Bersianik. **The Montreal Massacre** speaks to the unspeakable violence in the daily lives of all women and demands that we acknowledge the hatred our patriarchal society directs at the feminist pursuit of freedom and equality. \$12.95 pb, 0- 921881-14-2. Published under Ragweed's gynergy books imprint. PO Box 2023, Charlottetown PEI C1A 7N7. In Canada order from University of Toronto, in the U.S from Inland, Bookpeople, and Bookslinger.

SEAL PRESS

Seal brings us five new titles this spring: **The Forbidden Poems** by Black lesbian poet and short story writer Becky Birtha (*Lover's Choice* and *For Nights Like This One*) chronicles a journey of loss and mending. Beginning with poems about confronting racism and her empowerment as an African- American woman and feminist, Birtha proceeds into the realm of personal grief at the loss of a longtime lover. The



NEW VICTORIA PUBLISHERS

PO box 27 Norwich, Vermont 05055 Spring Titles

Woman With Red Hair by Sigrid Brunel \$8.95 ISBN 0-934678-30-8

At twenty-seven, Magalie returns to France where she was born, in search of the woman who gave her up at the age of five. The mystery surrounding her mother's death leads her into the swamps of Camargue, the slums of Marseille, and to a shady gypsy woman. With the help of Danielle, a French journalist, she learns of her mother's tortured life, and of her lover, Celine, the woman with the red hair.



Cody Angel by Joanne Whitfield \$8.95 ISBN 0-93467828-6

Dana leaves her home in Cody, Wyoming after her high school lover chooses to get married. Down and out in San Francisco, she (literally) runs into an older Southern matron who offers her a job as a maid and a place to live. What looked like the way out of her financial difficulties becomes a way into emotional entanglements. But through it all Dana struggles for self-esteem, independence and love.





poems here chart emotional devastation even as they suggest a way forward. Her images are full of fruit and flower gardens, of plants that reseed themselves and return perennially. Take a copy of **The Forbidden Poems** home with you the minute they hit the store — then read them slowly, spread over time so they last as long as possible. \$10.95, pb 1-878067-01-X.

The Children's Crusade is the second Rebecca Brown novel published by Seal. Like *The Haunted House*, it explores the themes of family love, betrayal and desertion, this time exploring a surreal landscape of parental and sibling relations. \$8.95 pb, -04-4.

No More Secrets by Nina Weinstein is a down-to-earth novel about a funny, tough, bewildered sixteen-year-old unraveling memories and family silences about the time she was molested by her mother's male friend. An essential coming-of-age story for teens and for survivors of sexual abuse of any age. Particularly good on surviving difficult relationships with mothers. \$8.95 pb, -00-1; \$14.95 cl, -07-9.

Dating Violence: Young Women in Danger edited by Barrie Levy is the first comprehensive resource to address the issues of teenage women who are, in alarmingly high numbers, being sexually, emotionally, or physically abused in their dating relationships. It includes personal stories, presents perspectives from researchers who are documenting dating violence, examining the societal context of this violence — sexism, racism, class bias, the general invisibility and powerlessness of adolescents, and describes a variety of community-based programs developed to assist teens. \$16.95 pb, -03-6.

On a lighter note, **Vital Lies** is Ellen Hart (*Hallowed Murder*)'s second mystery featuring mid-westerner Jane Lawless and her theatrical pal Cordelia Thorn and a fine mix of lesbian, gay male, and straight characters spending the winter holidays at a lovely old Northern Minnesota inn. It seems pleasant enough — solstice rituals, ex-lovers, good friends and family — until it gets complicated. \$9.95 pb, -02-8.

Seal Press, 3131 Western Ave. #410, Seattle WA 98121. Distributed to the trade by Consortium (1-800-283-3572), IN & BP, etc.

SECOND STORY PRESS

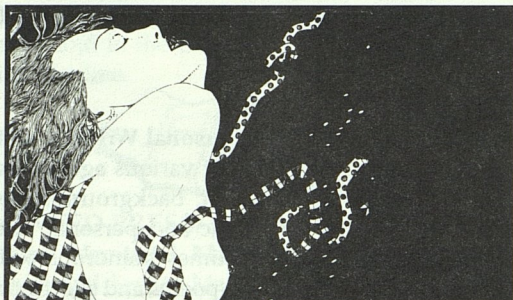
In Our Lives: Lesbian Personal Writings edited by Frances Rooney, lesbians of various ages, experiences, cultural and economic backgrounds write about their lives in very basic and personal terms, creating a compelling, sometimes humorous collection of diary accounts, letters, poems and short stories from Canadian lesbians. Rooney has done wonderful lesbian documentary history. Expect this to be equally exciting. \$14.95 pb, 0-929005-21-X.



Canadian Feminism and the Law: The Women's Legal Education and Action Fund and the Pursuit of Equality by Sherene Razack considers the history of LEAF, a feminist advocacy group established to bring cases under the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, as well as the legal issues and the feminist principles that come into play around them. A compelling study of legal advocacy. \$16.95 pb, -19-8.

Other titles include: **As For the Sky Falling: A Critical Analysis of Psychiatry and Suffering** by Shelagh Lynne Supeene, a first-person account shows how prevailing attitudes and approaches, rather than alleviating the problems of those in treatment, increase them by making the injustices of psychiatry systemic and routine. \$14.95 pb, -09-0. **Karen and the Summer Kid** by Myrna Neuringer Levy, a novel for children under eleven about learning disabilities that follows Karen as she tries to unravel why her new friend seems different and as she learns to appreciate his strengths and talents. \$5.95 pb, -20-1. **A Taste for Justice** is a cookbook from Bridgehead, the alternative trading company owned by OXFAM-Canada. \$14.95 pb, -08-X.

NEW from
Sidewalk Revolution Press!
Wanting Women
 an Anthology of Erotic Lesbian Poetry
 edited by Jan Hardy



ISBN: 0-961-74061-2
 Paper, \$9.95
 Available from Inland

Sidewalk Revolution Press
 P.O. Box 9062
 Pittsburgh, PA 15224
 (412) 361-8927

Second Story Press, 760 Bathurst St., Toronto, Canada M5S 2R6. Distributed in Canada by sales reps, in the U.S. by Bookpeople, Inland and the University of Toronto Press.



SHEBA FEMINIST PUBLISHERS

Sheba Press has increased the number of titles they're publishing in a concerted effort to expand their list and build on the successes they've had. Three titles on their Fall list were British publications of books already published here (*People in Trouble*, *Zami*, and *The Playbook for Kids about Sex*) and the U.S. rights to *More Serious Pleasure* were sold to Cleis (see above). So from here it looks like Sheba is being fairly quiet when actually they're expanding quite rapidly — including expansion into the children's market. *School Daze*, edited by Michelle McKenzie and Christina Dunhill is a new and stimulating collection of stories for girls and boys aged 8-12 that explores questions of gender, race and identity in a school context. \$7.95 pb,

0-907197-41-X.

Published last Spring, and chosen as a Selected Twenty Title for the 1990 Feminist Book Fortnight, *To Do Something Beautiful* is a unique and panoramic novel set in the swirling streets and slums of contemporary Bombay. A sophisticated political novel, it examines interlocked themes of violence and domestic violence, sexual harassment and other workplace struggles, governmental corruption, poverty, hate, unionizing and love in a context of social organizing, and a web of community-based relationships. For every woman who has every done community organizing against apparently impossible odds. \$ 8.95 pb, pb, -50-9.

Sheba will publish six books this Spring. *Ghost Pains* by Jane Severance charts the lives to two American teenage sisters and their alcoholic mother. "Without shying away from pain and disappointment, this novel sensitively explores the struggles of growing up in a world where alcoholism threatens their survival. \$9.95 pb, -45-2.

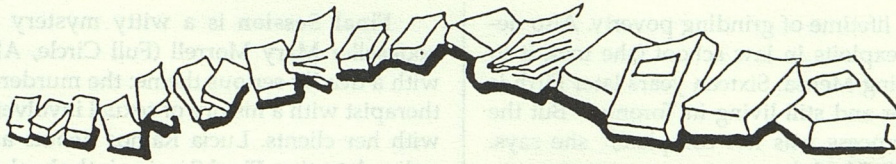
The Move by Tina Kindall is an intense and lyrical novel from a Black English writer that explores mystery, motherhood, friendship, shifting sexualities and love between women as the novel unravels Lee's past and the choices she must make in her life. -46-0.

The stories in *The Flying Hart* by Claire Macquet are set in London, South Africa and Jamaica and deal with lesbian love from childhood through to middle age, from poor peasants to social climbers affected with angst. \$9.95 pb, -55-X.

Store of My Heart: Contemporary Irish Short Stories edited by Bernadette Halpin represents writers from both the North and South, both Catholic and Protestant, as well as second generation Irish women living in Britain. In different ways, with different voices, the stories explore dimensions of 'being Irish' and how this identity shapes sensibility and is translated into writing. \$10.99 pb, -56-8.



Sheba will also publish a revised edition of *Through the Break: Women and Personal Struggle* edited by Pearlie McNeill, Maria McShea, and Pratibha Parmar, a collection that challenges the stigma of mental illness by breaking the taboo of silence. In it



women of color and white women share their experience of nervous breakdown, alcoholism, rape, domestic violence, disease and disablement, everyday depressions and anxieties. It combines personal understanding with practical help. \$10.95 pb, -39-8.

Sheba's sixth title on this list is the British edition of Sara Schulman's **The Sophie Horowitz Story**.

Sheba, 10A Bradbury St., London N16 8JN. Distributed in the US by BP & IN.



SIDEWALK REVOLUTION PRESS

Congratulations to Jan Hardy for getting **Wanting Women: An Anthology of Erotic Lesbian Poetry** through to see the light of print. (See "Short Stories" in FBNV. 13 #4). **Wanting Women** celebrates and testifies to the joy and radical inspiration dykes find in loving women. "The poets in this collection shout, sing, whisper and croon their words of tenderness, anticipation, lust and love." — *Women's Review of Books*. I couldn't say it better — and it includes a wonderful range of poets from the well-known to the first-published. \$9.95 pb, 0-961-74096-1-2. Edited and published by Jan Hardy/Sidewalk Revolution Press, PO Box 9062, Pittsburgh PA 15224. IN.

SISTER VISION PRESS

Coloured Pictures by Himani Bannerji is an entertaining story that takes the reader — through the adventures of Sujata, a South Asian girl and her friends — into the bitter world of racism. The reader also witnesses the capacity of youth to face life with courage and humour, for it is 13-year-old Sujata who bravely initiates the discussion about racism in her classroom and stands up to the local bullies who attack her and her friends. For ages 9-13, for teens of all races. \$8.95 pb, 80 pp, 0-920813-86-0.

In Norma de Haarte's **Guyana Betrayal**, passion,

corruption, and childhood secrets combine to ignite the story of a friendship between two women that reaches back to childhood. Set in pre-independent Guyana, their bond stands witness to a tragic collusion between a people longing for a saviour and a psychotic leader. \$14.95 pb, -80-1.

This Spring Sister Vision has two books for the 4-10 set. **Bird Talk** by Lenore Keeshig-Tobias, is a story that addresses the sadness felt by a young Native girl when the kids at school want to play cowboys and Indians and celebrates her own special culture. "A warm, witty tale that looks at being and feeling different." \$6.95 pb, -89-5. **How the East-Pond Got Its Flowers** by Althea Trotman is a magic-filled story that celebrates the wisdom a traditional healer has to offer a young girl. \$6.95 pb, -85-2.

Sister Vision: Black Women and Women of Colour Press, PO Box 217 Station E, Toronto ONT, Canada M6H 4E2. Distributed by University of Toronto, IN & BP.



Attic Book of Special Days

SORORAL PUBLISHING

Sororal Publishing (Manitoba's Feminist Publisher) offers a range of interesting titles.

The Urbanization of Sophia Firth, recently released by Sororal but originally published in 1974, traces Firth's move with five children (ages 5-17) from rural New Brunswick to Toronto to join her husband. It follows them though the red tape of city living as Sophia learns to cope with the absurdities of the law, landlords and lice. It offers an articulate, brutally honest and humorous look at one woman's struggle

with life and a lifetime of grinding poverty. Also detailed are her exploits in law school (she took it to court) and joining Mensa. Sixteen years later Firth is as feisty as ever and still living in Toronto. "But the urbanization process was not complete," she says. \$12.95 pb, 1-895153-03-4.

Masks We Wear by Robin Moore records a lengthy and strenuous journey from almost 50 years of abuse — by her father, by her husband, and then by society in general — through all the steps necessary to come out from behind the mask. "If we don't talk, we can't help each other. The silence is condemning us to isolation and bondage." \$6.95 pb, 30 pgs, -00-X. This Spring Sororal will publish **Women Change Academia/Les femmes changent l'academie**, the proceedings of the 1990 Canadian Women's Studies Association Conference. \$10.95 pb, -04-2. Sororal's future projects include a series of short story collections arranged in decade intervals as an approach to women's history and a cross-disciplinary collection of undergraduate and graduate student essays focusing on women's studies. 40% bookstore discount. Sororal Publishing, Box 2041, Winnipeg Manitoba R3C 3R3.



Strategies for Change

SPINSTERS BOOK COMPANY

Lesbians at Midlife: The Creative Transition edited by Barbara Sang, Joyce Warshow, and Adrienne Smith is an anthology by and about lesbians from 40 to 60, with personal stories, poems, and analysis. Topics include: Sex after menopause, changing body image, re-emerging creativity, planning for retirement, being single at midlife, caring for an aging parent, and more. \$12.95 pb, 0-933216-77-7.

Final Session is a witty mystery by feminist bookseller Mary Morrell (Full Circle, Albuquerque) with a deadly serious theme: the murder of a lesbian therapist with a history of sexual involvement/abuse with her clients. Lucia Ramos debuts as a Chicana police detective. **Final Session** is the book Joanna Russ chose as the winner for Spinsters 1990 Lesbian Fiction Contest. \$9.95 pb, -78-5. Spring.

Two mainstream lesbian novelists teamed up under the name Claire Kensington to launch a light-hearted series of romances set at Adela Honeycutt College, a women's college in Northern California. **Elise**, the first in the series, unravels the mysteries of the college's founder and that of the new history professor, Maiju Rittola, who has a secret past. \$7.95 pb, -79-3. Spring.

Spinsters Book Company, PO Box 410687, San Francisco CA 94141. Distributed by Inland and Bookpeople. Spinsters is not (as reported in the Fall Announcements issue) distributed through InBook.

THIRD WOMAN PRESS

I was lucky enough to be at the reading/party celebrating the publication of **Chicana Lesbians: The Girls Our Mothers Warned Us About**. It was one of the most exciting book parties I'd been to in a long time and one of those moments that makes it crystal clear to me why I do the work I do and why it's worth every bit of the effort along the way. It's a wonderful celebration of a particular lesbian community and a gift to those of us who aren't Chicana but will find our dyke-selves powerfully stated in these pages. As editor Carla Trujillo says, this volume is "a shock wave. It not only validates our own existence, it also speaks of often difficult subjects: our roles in society, our culture, relationships with other women, ourselves." It includes short stories by Cherríe Moraga, Monica Palacios, Terri de la Peña, and Karen T. Delgadillo, poetry from Gloria Anzaldúa, Cathy Arrellano, and Gina Montoya, essays by Emma Pérez, and Martha Barrera, an interview with Ana Castillo, art by Ester Hernández, and Ana Barreto, plus much, much more. Cherríe Moraga's 'La ofrenda' made my list of ten all-time favorite lesbian stories when she read it after last year's Out/Write conference, once again returning me to some center and reminding me what it's all about. \$10.95 pb, 0-943219-06-X. Third Woman Press, Chicano Studies Dept., Dwinelle Hall 3412, University of California, Berkeley CA 94720. Distributed by Small Press Distribution and Bookslinger. Inquire for it at Inland.

VIRAGO

Three more Viragoes have reached our shores. In **Cry Hard and Swim: The Story of an Incest Survivor** offers "The true story of the childhood and therapy of an incest survivor — myself." Jacqueline Spring (a pseudonym) was the youngest of seven children born into a Glaswegian family that appeared conventional, at east both emotionally and materially. But the picture that emerges here is one of pain and immense bewilderment caused by her father's sexual advances. The frightened, compliant child was pressured by family silence never to refer to what was going on inside or outside the family. Only years later was she able to rid herself of guilt and self-hated, to rid herself of the "disability" ("of not knowing what I am feeling") with the aid of therapy and talking to other women in incest survivors groups. In **Cry Hard and Swim** she describes what was for her a "beautiful and ultimately healing journey." \$11.95 pb, 0-86068-813-5.

The Babe is Wise: Contemporary Stories by **Australian Women** collects work from well known and less familiar writers: Elizabeth Jolley, Georgia Savage (*House Tibet*), Kate Grenville, Olga Masters, Barbara Hanrahan, Beverly Farmer, Sue Chin and others. All share a wonderful talent for storytelling. Here the bizarre rubs shoulders with the mundane; men, women and children love, laugh, argue — and misunderstand each other; immigrants and expatriates regret or rejoice in lost inheritances, and the landscape, beautiful and brutal by turns, etches itself onto consciousness and memory. \$13.95 pb, -032-0.

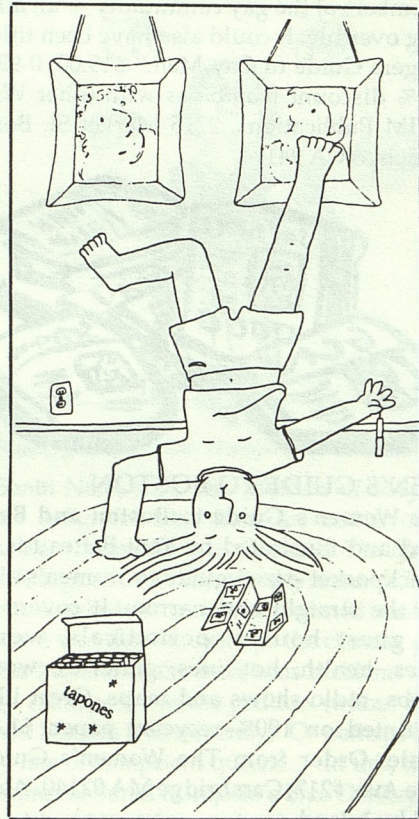
In Jennifer Dawson's novel **The Upstairs People** Cossey, unconventional and full of fun, seems to be the perfect mother, captivating her children with stories of her past and her escape from the Evangelical vicarage of her childhood. But her storytelling has a darker edge. Only her eldest child, Vivian, sees through her mother's self-dramatization, as Cossey, thwarted by her husband, turns with destructive power on the next generation. "A wonderfully atmospheric picture of early century London with its moan-

ing and reeking river Byzantine public lavatories, hymn-singing, flagellation and other routines of a seemingly upbring. \$11.95 pb, -998-0.

All three distributed in the U.S. by Trafalgar Square/David & Charles, Box 257, North Pomfret VT 05053. 800-243-4525. 40% for 5-24.

VOLCANO PRESS

Period., the world's most wonderful book about menstruation, is out in a new updated 1991 tenth anniversary (!) edition. 150,000 sold in the previous editions. This edition features a guide for the people who need the most help and information when it comes to talking

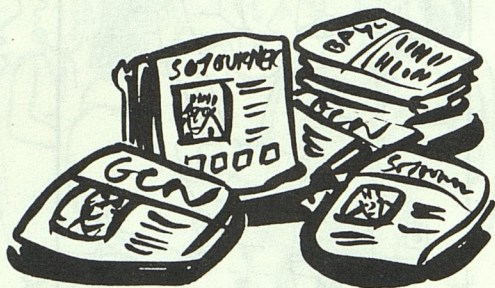


Period.

about menstruation: parents. The Parents' Guide section is perforated for easy removal — though whether that's so the kids won't know what the parents know, or so the parents can keep it as a crib sheet long after the kids make off with the book — isn't clear. \$9.95 pb. Volcano Press, Box 270, Volcano CA 95689. BP, IN, and every intelligent distributor in the land.

WIM (Woman in the Moon)

Boring is not what you'll ever get from the mind and pen of SDiane Bogus. For **The Love of Men: Poems for Gay Men** is collection of poems written by a lesbian (bulldagger) to, for, and about gay men designed to build bridges between the lesbian and gay men's communities and to explore, name, and honor the common bonds between gay men and lesbians as well as to explain the two seemingly conflicted communities to each other. With these poems SDiane affirms love between men, between women, and between male and female members of the gay community — an affirmation long overdue. It could also have been titled "A Bulldaggers Guide to Gay Men." \$15.00, 0-934172-30-7. 40% discount (combines with other WIM titles). WIM Publications, 2215 Market St. Box 137, San Francisco CA 94114.



WOMEN'S GUIDE TO BOSTON

The Women's Guide to Boston and Beyond, compiled and illustrated by Yani Batteau is a 20+ page, backpocket -sized guide to women's alternatives to the straight and narrow. It covers bookstores, guest houses, periodicals, women's resources, health, hot-lines, galleries, women's nightclubs, radio shows and maps. Great illustrations. Printed on 100% recycled paper. \$1.35 ea. wholesale. Order from The Women's Guide, 33 Richdale Ave. #217, Cambridge MA 02140. Also distributed by Inland.

THE WOMEN'S PRESS/CANADA

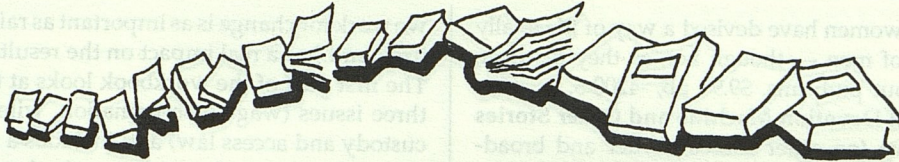
I know it's been out for awhile but I can't resist mentioning (again) **Asha's Mums**, currently my favorite among the books for kids with lesbian parents. Wonderfully illustrated by Dawn Lee (full color cover and color and b&w illustrations within), it addresses the problems that arise when Asha's teacher tells her that her permission slip for the class trip is filled out incorrectly and that she can't go on the trip unless she takes the form home again and gets it signed "correctly." But Asha *knows* she has two Mums — and so do her Mums. The whole class gets into the discussion when Asha — clearly a girl who has learned to confront problems and prejudice directly — draws a picture of the big brick building where she lives with her mums and her brother. The kids come up with a full range of responses with one kid yelling across the room, "It's not wrong if they're nice to you and if you like them." After the trip to the Science Centre, the kids ask each of Asha's mums which mum she is — and they both answer, to everyone's delight, "I'm mummy number one." The resolution and the dynamic is with the kids and the support of the mothers — rather than depending on the teacher getting over her prejudice. An approach that will serve children well. Not the least bit stiff or preachy or unrealistic. Wonderfully multi-cultural in every regard. Now here's a book that should get a LAMMY! Written by Rosamund Elwin and Michele Paulse. \$5.95 pb, 24 pgs, 0-88961-143-2.

The Women's Press's Spring audio tape is an abridged version of **Harriet's Daughter** performed by Ahdri Zhina Mandiela and Alison Sealy-Smith and produced by Lillian Allen. \$11.00 cassette, 0-88961-154-8.

Unsettling Relations: The University as a Site of Feminist Struggles by Himani Bannerji, Linda Carty, Kari Dehli, Susan Heald, and Kate McKenna is a powerful collection of essays and a thorough examination of how social relations and practices of domination and oppression are being produced and reproduced in academe. \$14.95 pb, -160-2. May.



Petticoats and Prejudice: Women and Law in 19th Century Canada by Constance Backhouse documents, for the first time, the legal history of women in



19th century Canada in this very readable research into the historical impact of law on women's lives. It addresses marriage, divorce, seduction, rape, custody, infanticide, abortion, prostitution, labour legislation and the entry of women into the legal professions. \$24.95 pb, -161-0. May.

The 1992 **Everywoman's Almanac** will be produced by the Native Women's Resource Center to commemorate 500 years of survival. More details in the Summer Calendar & Sidelines issue.

The Women's Press, 517 College St. # 233, Toronto ON M6G 4A2. Distributed by University of Toronto, BP & IN.

THE WOMEN'S PRESS/U.K.

The Women's Press has recently released a half-dozen titles into the U.S., three of them in cloth, three in paperback. **A Compass for the Sunflower** by Liana Badr, translated from the Arabic by Catherine Cobham, tells the story of Jinan, as child growing up on the West Bank, as teenager studying in Amman, then as a nurse and social worker in the refugee camps of Beirut. Her life is scattered, fragmented by foreign occupation, exile and war. This intense and poetic novel represents her struggle to find meaning and coherence in her own life and that of her people. Liana Badr is a Palestinian writer already well known in her language. She is an activist in the PLO. \$19.95 cl, 0-7043-5037-8.

Agnes Sam's stories in **Jesus Is Indian** "are about women from our world — from Africa and from the East — confronting, adapting and winning in various situations where our cultures conflicted with Europe." These stories move, like the migrations of the women who are their subjects, from India across the Indian Ocean; through childhood and adolescence in a mixed-race area of small-town South Africa; to eventual exile in Europe, where once more the women have burdens to carry and racism to confront, this time on behalf of their children. \$19.95 cl, -5045-9.

Val Wilmer is an internationally known photographer and one of the few British writers on jazz and the lives of jazz musicians to be recognized on both sides of the Atlantic. In her autobiography, **Mama Said There'd Be Days Like This: My Life in the Jazz World** she tells of her first encounters with music, her struggle to establish herself as a professional jazz commentator in an otherwise all-male world, and her journeys from Harlem to rural Mississippi in search of the cultural and historical roots of this music that speaks to women as much as to men, as well as her own conflicts in coming to terms with her identity as a writer and photographer, and as a lesbian. \$24.95 cl, -5040-8.



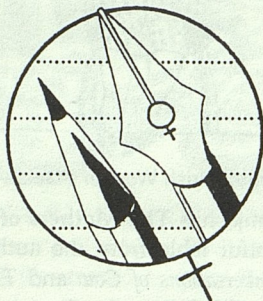
"On Reading Freud," Irish Women's Guide Book and Diary

Suniti Namjoshi's **The Mothers of Maya Diip** is another delightful fable from the author of *Feminist Fables*, *The Conversations of Cow* and *The Blue Donkey Fables*. It begins 'Of all the princely states of India there was one in which a matriarchy bloomed unashamedly. Perhaps it was the soil, perhaps the climate, perhaps it was the location of the fortuitous accidents of genetic history. Perhaps it was the goddess (whom feminist in the west beseech intermittently). Or perhaps it was the happy line of competent queens....' In this, the further adventures of Suniti Namjoshi's Blue Donkey, the donkey and her friend Jyanvi decide to risk a visit to the

island where women have devised a way of life totally independent of men — though not, as they discover, entirely without problems. \$9.95 pb, -4200-6.

The Total Devotion Machine and Other Stories by well-known (on other shores) writer and broadcaster on science and technology Rosaleen Love uses history and prehistory, science and scientific endeavor, ecology and technology to inform her joyfully absurd stories. Herein dolphins, sea snakes, electric fish and even prehistoric bones enter the realm of human relationships and upset them as the bizarre creeps into the everyday event and is recorded with subversive and ironic wit. Four of the stories included in the collection have won literary awards in Australia. \$9.95 pb, -4188-3.

I Never Told Her I Loved Her by Sandra Chick was one of the first books published in The Women's Press' Livewire series for teenagers. It won The Other Award 1987, was shortlisted for the Observer Teenage Fiction Prize 1987, and was a 'Selected Twenty' title for the 1987 Feminist Book Fortnight. "'You'll miss me one day,' her mum used to say. 'When you're dead I'll be able to do whatever I want! I can't wait...'" Francie had replied. Now her mother is dead and Francie remembers these words and others. A painfully intense but very readable novel about the complexities of teenage grief at the loss of a parent. The Women's Press, 34 Great Sutton Street, London EC1V 0DX. Distributed in the U.S. by IN and BP \$5.95 pb, -4912-4.



WOMEN'S RESEARCH CENTRE

The Women's Research Center is a feminist, community-based organization in Vancouver that provides research and strategy development to groups that don't normally have access to these resources. Their recent publication **Strategies for Change** is intended to assist women's groups in deciding on strategy. It assumes that once an issue is raised, *how*

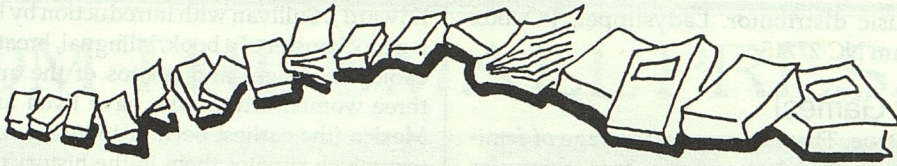
we work for change is as important as raising the issue itself and has a real impact on the results we achieve. The first part of the workbook looks at the history of three issues (wage discrimination, wife assault, and custody and access law) and includes a "roundtable" expressing women's experience in developing strategy, their successes and failures, and what they have learned for future work. The second part of the book describes four key steps for developing a strategy for change for specific issues. "Planning a strategy is not difficult. It's a matter of asking the right questions and building upon the answers." This book shows how. I'd like to get a copy into the hands of every feminist and gay activist in North America. \$9.00, spiral bound, 90 pgs., 0-9692145-8-8.

WRC co-published **Recollecting Our Lives: Women's Experience of Childhood Sexual Abuse** (order from Press Gang, \$14.95). Their other publications include **Patterns of Violence in the Lives of Girls and Women: A Reading Guide** (\$7.50), **Evaluation Guide for Women's Groups** (\$7.00) and more. Great tools and well worth the hassle of border-crossing orders. 40% for 5+. WRC, 101-2245 W. Broadway, Vancouver BC V6K 2E4.

Magazines

Listen Real Loud: News of Women's Liberation Worldwide, published by an American Friends Service Committee group called Nationwide Women's Program, has resumed publishing after a two year break to work on the book *The Global Factory*. The new issue focuses on the effects of U.S. militarism on women in the countries that support the U.S.'s 350 military bases. It is a fascinating issue and highlights a global women's problem — one that has become even more widespread with the recent war. Look for a consistently international perspective from LRL, and one that supports and highlights the perspectives of women of color. A bargain at \$2.50. Published quarterly. AFSC, 1501 Cherry St., Philadelphia PA 19102. Distributed to bookstores by Inland.

Encodings is a new feminist literary magazine out of Texas. Cheerfully touting the slogan "Because a room of one's own is only a beginning," *Encodings* is published by Liaud, a new feminist publishing company in Houston. "We began this project because of our interest in women's writing and the fascination with language that is characteristic of the current



women's movement." They're interested in publishing previously unpublished writing with a feminist perspective as well as women's artwork.

\$4.50/issue, 40 pgs., ISSN: 1047-403X. Terms not sent. Liaud, PO Box 6793, Houston TX 77265.

Tapes & Music

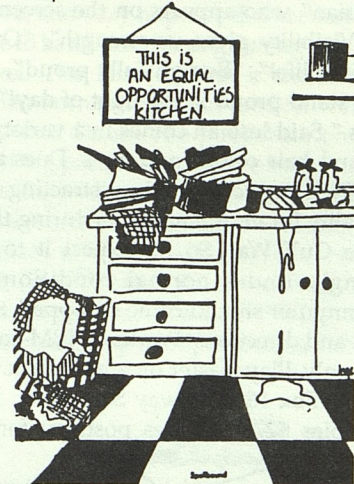
Voices of Battered Lesbians is a 30-minute audio program offering the experiences of lesbian survivors of battering and is a good, overall discussion-prompting tape. It dispels the myths around lesbian battering and presents experiences of battered lesbians from different cultural, economic and racial backgrounds and with differing physical abilities. It is useful both for women seeking to validate and understand their own experiences as well as for workers in the battered women's movement, therapists and community members who want to recognize and confront battering of lesbians. \$7.95. Produced by the Caucus on Lesbian Battering, The Massachusetts Coalition of Battered Women Service Groups, 107 South St. 5th Floor, Boston MA 02111. 617-426-8492. Booksellers please order through Inland.

Full Circle: Songs of Growth and Recovery by Akia Woods offers twelve songs of love, hope, healing, and spirituality. Songs include *Twelve Step Junkie*, *Child of the Goddess*, *Angel on Your Shoulder*, and *First Things First*. "Lively folk music of one lesbian's recovery story: leaving alcohol and codependence, surviving a lover's death by suicide, and opening to joy..." \$9.95 cassette, \$15.95 CD. 40% discount to bookstores. Order from Purple Angel Records, PO Box 804, Grants Pass OR 97526.



Probably you already know, but: Ladyslipper's latest releases include: **Sounding the Inner Landscape** (Guided meditations and music) by internationally-known composer of healing music and pioneer in

both the women's spirituality and women's music movements, Kay Gardner. This special 70-minute album is a companion piece to her book *Sounding the Inner Landscape: Music as Medicine* and includes songs



Irish Women's Guide Book and Diary

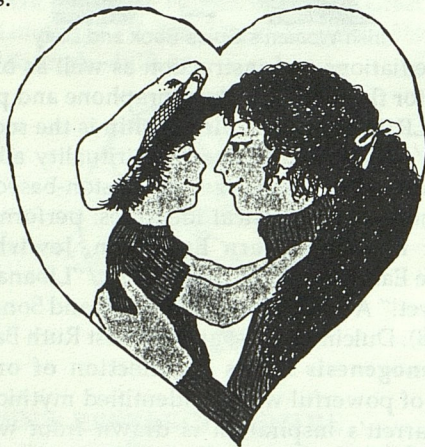
ken mediations and instruction as well as original music for flute, harp, cello, vibraphone and percussion. (LR109 Cassette). **Fire Within** is the sequel to Libana's acclaimed women's spirituality album *A Circle is Cast!* It synthesizes the Boston-based feminist chorus' two musical identities: performers of ethnic music (Eastern European, Jewish, and Middle Eastern) and of ritual music. "Libana's best work yet!" Available in Cassette, CD and Songbook. (LR108). Dulcimer artist and vocalist Ruth Barrett's **Parthenogenesis** offers a collection of original songs of powerful woman-identified mythic imagery. Barrett's inspiration is drawn from woman-identified mythology and Goddess-oriented spirituality. She also performs and records with Cyntia Smith (*Aeolus, Music of the Rolling World, and Deepening*). (LR110). Cassette.

Ladyslipper also distributes Alix Dobkin's **Yahoo Australia!** and Sue Fink's **True Life Adventures**. All of the above available from Ladyslipper or you local

women's music distributor. Ladyslipper, PO Box 3124R, Durham NC 27715.

Computer Games!

Yep! it's true. There's an acute shortage of feminist-, womanist- and lesbian- powered computer games. Even the compulsive eater Ms. Pac-Man is a distant memory in most video arcades. And have feminists pushed forward to fill the demand? No. Not until **Stand Proud!**, a "hangman" style word game using over 300 quotes by lesbians and featuring a "proud lesbian" who appears on the screen holding placards ("Visibility gives us strength", "Out of the closet and into life!", "Be rightfully proud", and "Let all lesbians stand proud in the light of day!") to celebrate "wins." Said lesbian comes in a variety of haircuts, skin and hair colors, and ages. Does the game play well? Well, it succeeded in distracting Ann and me from reality for entire moments during the beginning of the Gulf War. So I'd expect it to perform outstandingly under normal conditions! Every lesbian's computer should come equipped. \$14.95 includes disk and directions. Works on IBM-compatible computers only. Plays faster on a hard disk. BeProud Products, PO Box 16130 Elway Station, St. Paul MN 55116. 4 copies \$27 (includes postage) for prepaid orders. ○



My Mother the Mail Carrier

Art, continued from p. 56

this major and influential Russian modernist artist, teacher, stage and textile designer (1889-1924). Abrams, \$85 cl, 0-8109-3701-8.

La Mujer En Mexico/Women in Mexico by

Edward J. Sullivan with introduction by Linda Nochlin is a blockbuster of a book, bilingual, breathtaking in the choice of images and photos of the artists. Twenty-three women artists who have lived and worked in Mexico (the earliest born in 1896) are featured with a text which situates them in the history of Mexican art and outlines their lives. Order from Centro Cultural Arte Contemporaneo, Campos Eliseos y Jorge Eliot, Polanco, C.P. 11560, D. F. México, \$75 pb/wholesale, payable in US\$ with any check. They prefer to ship DHL (\$45.00!) so be prepared to propose cheaper shipping! 968-6191-26-7.



The National Museum of Women in the Arts' beautifully produced an excellent book **Camille Claudel** by Reine-Marie Paris is now distributed by Northeastern University Press, \$24.95 pb, 0-940979-04-7.

Correction: Libby (see *Art Books*, Oct. 1990) edited by Betty John, is a narrative about the life of Elizabeth (Libby) Bearman. The book includes "The Sketches, Letters and Journal of Libby Bearman 1879-1880." There is drama, humor and tenderness in Libby's narrative, charm in the drawings and an exquisite sense of design binding it all together. Council Oak Books, distributed by Independent Publishers Group, 814 N. Franklin St., Chicago IL 60610, \$27.95 cl, 0-933031-09-2. ○

Kids, continued from page 40

As told in **The Indian Way: Learning to Communicate with Mother Earth**, the children in a contemporary Arapaho family always look forward to the night of a full moon because on these evenings they gather at Grandpa and Grandma Iron's house to hear Grandpa Iron tell a full-moon story. Each of Grandpa Iron's traditional stories carries an ecological lesson of some sort and is intended to teach his grandchildren a respect for nature. The 13 stories included here are brief and lyrical; each one is introduced by a first-person description of the children's boisterous arrival, which serves as a constant reminder of the book's present-day setting. A final section entitled "Experiences" suggests seasonal activities related to each of the full-moon stories. Grades 3-6. \$9.95 pb, 0-945465-73-4. John Muir; bookstores order from Norton. ○

FROM THE SMALL PRESSES



By Ann Morse

If you have time to read, order, or buy only one of the books mentioned in this column, make it Australian author Georgia Savage's **The House Tibet**, the stunning story of a young girl's indomitable spirit. Opening with the sentence, "While it was happening I watched the moon," **The House Tibet** tells the story of Vicky, who is raped by her father and subsequently rejected by her mother, grandmother and aunt. In despair, Vicky flees the province, taking her autistic younger brother James with her. Together, the two figuratively, and literally, find their voices. They join a band of homeless kids and, after a series of gripping triumphs and tragedies, make a home for themselves at a place called the House Tibet. Along the way, they tackle topics including domestic abuse, drug abuse, class, race and gender issues, prostitution, reproductive rights and homosexuality. With ne'er a false step, Savage expertly and entertainingly spins a tale that is at once beautiful and disturbing. The characters are captivating; Vicky's narration utterly honest. And despite the ugly backdrop of incest, homelessness and murder, **The House Tibet** left all of us at FBN feeling

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

Inland Book Company, PO Box 120261, 140 Commerce St., East Haven CT 06512. Order number: 800-243-0138 (including Canada and Connecticut).

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

very alive, and very hopeful. Booksellers will find it a pleasure to hand-sell this engrossing and deeply moving novel. **The House Tibet** is the fourth book by Australian-born Savage, but the first work published in the United States. The publishers promise a truly breathtaking poster based on the book's cover; a richly detailed, layered and unsettling painting which in many ways mirrors the book's content, but may not attract all the women who will want to read this novel. \$18.95 cl, 1-55597-144-X. Graywolf Press, 2402 University Ave., Suite 203, St. Paul MN 55114. 1-4 20%, 5-24 40%. Distributed by Bookpeople and Inland.



In **The Faces**, author Tove Ditlevsen traces the story of Lise Mundus, an award-winning children's author who lands in a locked ward at a Copenhagen hospital after a suicide attempt. There she struggles against taunting voices and melting faces, until she's finally able to pull herself out of madness by resuming her writing and accepting who she is, rather than others' conceptions — and expectations — of her. Ditlevsen, author of *Early Spring* (Seal Press, 1985), based **The Faces** on her own struggles with depression and despair. "It is a remarkable and courageous attempt to describe the experience of madness from the inside," says Tiina Nunnally, who translated the book from Danish. \$9.95 pb, 0-940242-11-7; \$19.95 cl, -12-5. Direct orders to Fjord Press/Publishers Services, PO Box 2510, Novato CA 94948. STOP orders, 40%; 1-4, 20%; 5+, 40%. Distributed by Inland and Bookslinger.

Two novels from Wang Anyi's *Love Trilogy* — **Love on a Barren Mountain** and **Love in a Small**

Town are now available in English translations. **Love On a Barren Mountain** (\$8.50 pb, 962-7255-09-2) is based on the true story of a man and a woman who, along with Anyi, worked with China's Anhui Performing Arts Troupe during the Cultural Revolution. Using the story of a cellist caught between his passion for his lover and affection for his wife, Anyi explores extra-martial love in a repressive society. **Love in a Small Town**, although chronologically the second book in this triptych, thematically can be considered the opening piece because it traces the relationship of two teen-age dancers. \$6.50 pb, -03-3. The stories earned her critical acclaim — and ideological criticism. Translated by Eva Hung. Two more contribu-

tions from Renditions Paperbacks are **Contemporary Women Writing: Hong Kong and Taiwan** (\$9.50 pb, -08-4), a collection that presents an array of stories by seven of Hong Kong and Taiwan's leading women writers, including Xi Xi; and **A Girl Like Me, And Other Stories** by Xi Xi. The title story in this seven-story collection won the Taiwan United Daily prize for fiction. Also includes a short essay on the author. \$5.50 pb, -201-382-1. Renditions Paperbacks, Research Centre For Translations, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shatin, N.T., Hong Kong. Distributed by Cheng & Tsui, Inland and Bookslinger.

— And They Didn't Die —

And They Didn't Die is a novel of extraordinary power. It portrays the lives of South African women living on the "reserves" during the period when the strict new apartheid laws — laws that forced even rural women to carry passes, that separated Black married couples for 50 weeks a year, and forbade women to leave the borders of their immediate community without governmental approval — were being implemented even as the government relocation and economic programs turned the already-poor land barren and created the kind of poverty that kills children, destroys community... and inspires resistance in even otherwise timid women. In **And They Didn't Die** Lauretta Ngcobo, using fiction as her method, creates an unforgettable portrait of the women who lived during this time by giving us their daily lives, internal conflicts, and acts of courage. Probably one of the most effective anti-apartheid documents in print — and an excellent novel. One that tells the truth of women's lives and, in so doing, makes us all taller and stronger. Recommend it to everyone who ever buys hardcover fiction. Look for the paperback edition to be one of the year's bestsellers. Ngcobo was born in the Natal province of South Africa. After the 1960s political upheavals, she went into exile and eventually settled in London. Published in the U.K. by Virago. \$17.95 cl, 0-8076-1263-4. George Braziller, 60 Madison Ave, New York NY 10010. — CS ○

From the Latin American Literary Review Press come three new books. In **The False Years**, Mexican novelist Josefina Vicens reveals the relationship between a corrupt patriarch, dead four years, and his 19-year-old son, who must live up to his father's image and whose inheritance includes his father's mistress. \$11.50 pb, 0-935480-40-4. The short stories in Costa Rican author Carmen Naranjo's **There Never Was a Once Upon a Time** are brief, lyrical pieces that focus on children coming of age. Translated by Linda Britt. \$11.50 pb, -41-2. Also from the LALRP is **Chambacu: Black Slum**, by Manuel Zapata Olivella, whom the publishers call the male dean of living Black Colombian narrators. The story, set on a mosquito-infested island near the tropical Colombian city of Cartagena, follows the struggles of an Afro-Colombian single mother and her family, whose lives are changed irrevocably by the United States' Korean War. "It is narrated in a staccato style that reflects the violence from which it emerges." \$12.95 pb, -39-0. Latin American Literary Review Press, 2300 Palmer St. Dept. C, Pittsburgh, PA 15218. BP, IN.

Is Beauty Good is the first U.S. publication of one of England's best post-war writers, Rosalind Belben. The book is a collection of 30 short, self-contained chapters, each giving voice to a different personality and taking on subjects from beetroot juice to executions. \$10.95 pb, 1-85242-153-3. Also by Belben is **Dreaming of Dead People**, first published 10 years ago. It's the story of a middle-age, lonely woman, starved for love yet "avoiding the seductions of resentment." She dreams of her childhood in the country, makes up fantasy lives, visits Venice and tours the highlands of Scotland — and throughout it all,

THE HOUSE TIBET

by Georgia Savage



GRAYWOLF PRESS

“These two kids constitute one of the great character duos of Australian fiction.” —Kate Veitch, *The Sydney Morning Herald*

The House Tibet is the riveting tale of Vicky, who flees her home after being raped by her father and creates a new life among other homeless children on Australia's Gold Coast. A moving novel of a young girl's tremendous courage, *The House Tibet* is a beautiful, disturbing, and ultimately uplifting novel that will not soon be forgotten. \$18.95 Cloth/1-55597-144-X. Available in April.

Write for a free catalogue:

2402 University Avenue, Suite 203
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55114



describes her acute sexual frustration. (*The Guardian* said of this book “It will not, repeat *not*, make an acceptable Christmas gift for a person living alone.”) \$10.95 pb, -150-9. Serpent's Tail, Unit 4, Blackstock Mews, London N4. BP, IN

Nancy Lord, writer and commercial fisher, “captures the character — and characters — of her home state of Alaska” in her most recent work, *Survival*. The women who people this collection of 15 short stories range from “The Lady with the Sled Dog” to a mother with cabin fever, a newcomer who withdraws into Alaska's isolated wilderness and a worker at a fish hatchery. \$9.95 pb, 0-918273-84-6. Coffee House Press, 27 N. Fourth St., Suite 400, Minneapolis MN 55401. Distributed by Bookpeople, Inland, Bookslinger, Small Press Distribution and Consortium Book Sales & Distribution.

Caroline Woodward grew up on a homestead in the farming community of Cecil Lake in the Peace River area of northeastern B.C., a fact reflected in the sharp-edged and often humorous short stories that make up her collection *Disturbing the Peace*. Readers

will meet two teen-age sisters who work at a sleazy truck-stop, the Pouce Coupe women's softball team, bewildered ghosts from the Peace River dam sites, and an immigrant woman who finally takes the boat home. \$12.95 pb, 0-919591-53-1. Polestar Press, R.R. 1 Winlaw B.C. V0G 2J0. Distributed by Raincoast Book Distribution.



Sara Paretsky, Karen Lee Osborne, Angela Jackson, Ana Castillo and Susan House are a few of the authors who contributed to the montage that is *New Chicago Stories*. The stories in this progressive volume create a multi-cultural neighborhood that has yet to exist on Chicago streets. The authors — both women and men — write of murder, racism, homophobia, the troubles facing the elderly and the struggle for control over one's body. Readers may remember Castillo from *Chicana Lesbians*. Osborne's lesbian novel *Hawkwings* will be published by Third Side Press this Spring. Forthcoming books from City Stoop Press include *West Side Stories* and *South Side*

Stories. \$8.95 pb, 0- 9627425-0-3. City Stoop Press, 4317 N. Wolcott Ave., Chicago IL 60613. 1-25 40%, 25+ 50%. IN and Bookslinger.



One night when Signe Hammer was nine, her mother tucked her into bed and then went downstairs and killed herself. Now, 41 years later, Hammer has written **By Her Own Hand: Memoirs of a Suicide's**

Daughter, an account of that suicide and the after-shocks which affected her family. Hammer was the youngest child in that family, and the only one who seemingly had trouble coming to terms with the loss. In trying to fathom why her mother would be driven to that act, Hammer comes to a greater understanding of her own destiny. \$18.95 cl, 0-939149-49-5. Soho Press, One Union Square, New York NY. Distributed by Farrar, Straus and Giroux.

Author Ethel Gorham describes her novel **Natural Light** as "A feminist novel, yes. An anti-war novel too. An affirmation of love as well." Gorham writes of Molly Barrett, a famous photographer now in her 70s. While on a pro-choice march in Washington, DC, Barrett stops to stare at her son's name, engraved on the Vietnam Memorial. While she reflects upon her life, the reader discovers an artist and an activist struggling to accept the political differences of the people she loves, while holding on to her own beliefs. \$18.95 cl, 0-944072-14-3. Zoland Books, 384 Huron Ave., Cambridge MA 02138. Distributed by Inland, ILPA and Baker and Taylor.

Few of the stories in Diane Williams' **This Is About the Body, the Mind, the Soul, the World, Time and Fate** run longer than three pages, but they have an eerie staying power. The 46 short-short stories seem to start mid-thought and unravel from there, revealing infidelity, obsession, the death of a parent, the dark side of child-rearing and varieties of sexual experience. \$8.95 pb, 0-8021-3239-1. An Evergreen Book published by Grove Weidenfeld, 841 Broadway, New York NY 10003.

From Carol Emshwiller, the author of *Carmen Dog* comes a new book, **The Start of the End of It All**. The short stories in this work revolve around human and non-human characters: a middle-aged divorcee, aliens, cats, birthing minnows, "a white dog with a wide face and eager eyes." And while Emshwiller depicts human cruelty in these stories, she also celebrates the creativity of the human imagination and the power of human love. \$10.95 pb, 1-56279-002-1; \$17.95 cl, -001-3. Mercury House, 201 Filbert St., Suite 400, San Francisco CA 94133. 1-4 20%, 5-24 40%. Consortium Book Sales and Distribution, BP, IN.

Telling It Like It Is

Reflections of a Not So Radical Feminist



Elayne Clift

Telling It Like It Is
By Elayne Clift

Ms. Clift offers perceptions and observations like beads of a necklace strung out on a strong thread of feminism. Her art lies in taking the commonplace and revealing it with the brilliant spotlight of original insight. As she makes the ordinary unique,

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ISBN 1-879198-00-2, 208 pp, \$14.95

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ISBN 1-879198-28-2, 280 pp, \$24.95. Pub. May 1.

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Topping the list of books from Alyson Publications is **Brother to Brother: New Writing by Black Gay Men**, the long-awaited follow-up to Joseph Beam's *In the Life*, the first anthology of gay Black voices ever published. When Beam died of AIDS-related causes in December 1988, soon after beginning to compile material for this second anthology, activist, artist and poet Essex Hemphill took it on and completed it while staying at Beam's parents' home in Philadelphia. The resulting work contains fiction, essays, interviews, poems and a bibliography — all exploring what it means to be a Black gay man in America today. Beam, Hemphill, Assotto Saint, Craig G. Harris, Melvin Dixon, Marlon Riggs and many other writers address subjects including AIDS, gay-bashing, racism, love, intimacy and the tension between family, church and homosexuality. \$8.95 pb, 1-55583-146-X.

Editor Tina Portillo has collected works by both new and established writers in **Dykescapes: Short Fiction by Lesbians**. The 17 storytellers explore themes including racism, death, parenting, prison relationships, and interracial love and sex. Check out the story by FBN's very own Carol Seajay! \$8.95 pb, -195-8.

Alyson Wonderland is offering some lovely, life-affirming children's books, including **Hey! How Would You Feel if Your Dad Was Gay?** by Ann Heron (editor of *One Teenager in Ten*) and Meredith Maran, and illustrated by George Martins (*Spin a Soft Black Song*). It's the inspirational story of Jasmine, who announces in class that her dad is gay; her big brother Michael, who then gets teased on the playground; Noah, a classmate whose mom is a lesbian; and the ensuing events at both home and school. Along the way, the book tackles concerns facing the children of gay and lesbian parents. Full-color and black-and-white illustrations. \$14.95 cl, -188-5.

From the author of *Heather Has Two Mommies* (\$7.95 pb, -180-X) comes **Gloria Goes to Gay Pride**. Leslea Newman describes, from a young girl's point of view, what it's like to attend Gay Pride Day with

her mothers. Black-and-white illustrations by Russell Crocker. \$7.95 pb, -185-0.

Illustrator Michael Willhoite depicts many kinds of families — including a diversity of races, generations, cultural backgrounds and sexual orientations — in his coloring book **Families**. Some text. \$2.95 pb, -192-3. And don't forget the first book in the Alyson Wonderland imprint **Daddy's Roommate**, also written and illustrated by Michael Willhoite. It's a book that could pass for a "Little Golden Book" on any kid's shelf. \$14.95 cl, -178-8.

Booksellers will be pleased to learn that Alyson has brought back into print Sandra Scoppettone's **Happy Endings Are All Alike** (\$6.95 pb, -177-X), a work first published by Harper and Row in 1978. It's the story of two young women in a small town who fall in love during their senior year in high school. One of the women is raped by a male high school student who threatens to expose the couple's relationship if she reports the rape. She refuses to keep silent, and courageously fights the despicable sexism and homophobia around her. Selected as an ALA Best Book for Young Adults. Alyson will be releasing a new paperback edition of Scoppettone's **Trying Hard to Hear You**, the story of a group of 16-year-olds who discover that two of the boys in their gang are gay, this fall. Scoppettone's new mystery, *Everything You Have is Mine*, is now out from Little, Brown.



A revised and updated **Coming Out Right** (first published in 1982) and its companion **Coming Along Fine** (1986), both written by Wes Muchmore and William Hanson, are two handbooks for men coming out. **Coming Out Right** wastes no words spelling out the pros and cons of coming out, and what to expect along the way. The authors discuss everything from how to cruise, to gay sex, health, institutions and more. \$7.95 pb, -021-8. **Coming Along Fine** takes a broader look at gay life. It addresses relationships, getting involved

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—Helen Dudar

NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW

WARNING

"Beware of imitations. There are many accounts of the Bingham family saga, but no other by someone who was there. For the first time, a gifted writer born into a family of inherited wealth and power takes us with her behind the doors of that patriarchal hothouse. Because the feminization of poverty can never be solved without dissolving the masculination of wealth, *Passion and Prejudice* is a major step toward feminist change and democracy. By her courage and example, Sallie Bingham already has inspired women in powerful families to begin to revolt. What is wrongly seen now as a private war will become the opening skirmish in a high-level revolution."

Gloria Steinem

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with straight men, show business, politics, law, starting a gay business, travel, preserving gay history and even what to do if gay life bores you. \$6.95 pb, 0-932870-92-9.

For the past decade, Pat Califia (*Sapphistry*, *Macho Sluts*, *Doc and Fluff*) has been writing "The Advocate Adviser" for the gay magazine of the same name. Alyson has collected these essays in the soon-to-be-released *The Advocate Adviser*, an anthology that's divided into 16 sections, including chapters on meeting people, friendships, coming out, raising children, breaking up, anatomy, sexual problems and specialties, disability, safer sex, AIDS and aging. The Q and A format includes information for lesbians, as well as gay men. \$8.95 pb, 1-55583-169-9.

New from Alyson's Lace Publications is Regine Sands' *Alarming Heat* (\$7.95 pb, -311-X). The author of *Travels with Diana Hunter* (\$7.95 pb, -304-7) is back with more tales of sexual adventures — in planetariums, on the phone, in the leather world, in cars and the doctor's office. Alyson Publications, 40 Plympton St., Boston MA 02118. 2-4 30%, 5-29 40%. BP, IN.

New releases from Crossing Press span the horizon from humor to horoscopes, with lots of solid short story writing in between. Several books edited by Irene Zahava (Smedley's, Ithaca, NY) top this list. *My Mother's Daughter: Stories by Women*, the companion to the earlier *My Father's Daughter*, features 26 stories illuminating many dimensions of the mother/daughter relationship. Contributors include Kim Chernin, Louise Erdrich, Vivian Gornick, Barbara Kingsolver, Gish Jen, Audre Lorde, Christian McEwen, Grace Paley, Ntozake Shange and Hilma Wolitzer. Many of these chapters have been culled from the contributors' major works. \$9.95 pb, 0-89594-464-2; \$21.95 cl, -465-0.

Another book edited by Zahava that's sure to be popular in feminist bookstores is *Lesbian Love Stories, Volume 2*, a collection of 26 stories about lesbian passions, obsessions, flings, long-term relationships, break-ups and much more. Includes a piece on Nancy Drew, now 45 and finally ready to come out! \$9.95 pb, -462-6; \$21.95 cl, -463-4.

Women's Glib: An Anthology of Women's Humor is a laugh-out-loud collection of feminist humor on topics including dating, sex, breaking-up, children, relationships, death, culture, "female body



yucks," animals, The President, God and Cher. More than 60 women — including Alison Bechdel, Andrea Natalie, Maya Angelou, Lynda Barry and Roz Chast — contributed stories, poems, cartoons and essays. We were relieved *not* to find any of Cathy Guisewite's "Cathy" cartoons in the book, but disappointed there weren't more strips featuring women of color. Edited by Rosalind Warren. \$10.95 pb, -466-9; \$24.95 cl, -470-7.

FBN f/sf reviewer Susanna J. Sturgis is the editor of the intriguing, twilight zone stories collected in **Tales of Magic Realism by Women: Dreams in a Minor Key**. "On the peripheries of fantasy, in the heart of reality, exists a dimension where the two mingle with barely a raised eyebrow," Sturgis writes in the introduction to the book. The women in the stories are recognizable, the settings too. But then, "Reality turns a somersault, twists and backflips and lands in an unexpected place. The artist scrapes away a bit of paint on her canvas; something covered over is revealed." Check it out. \$9.95 pb, -474-X; \$21.95 cl -500-2.

Written as a companion book to Diane Stein's *Casting the Circle: A Women's Book of Ritual*, **The Goddess Celebrates: An Anthology of Women's Rituals** brings together writings to help readers create their own rituals. This how-to book, edited by Stein, highlights rituals for birth, menopause and healing childhood sexual abuse. Writers include Z Budapest, Starhawk, Carol Christ, Shekinah Mountainwater, Uzuri Amini, Penina Adelman and Jeanine Parvati Baker. Includes photos and brief descriptions of all contributors. \$12.95 pb, -460-X; \$24.95 cl, -461-8.

We must admit that we stopped everything to check out our love signs (Aquarius, Cancer and a Virgo/Libra cusp) when we received Aurora's **Lesbian Love Signs: An Astrological Guide for Women Loving Women**. It's an easy-to-use guide to acquaint women with the basic characteristics of their own signs and those of their lovers, and to introduce them to the specific chemistry between signs. Throughout the book, Aurora, an astrologer to lesbians for the past 20 years, emphasizes honesty and the ability to accept other women's behaviors. \$7.95 pb, -467-7.

Kathi Maio's **Popcorn and Sexual Politics** carries on where *Feminist in the Dark* left off — with the author aiming to help moviegoers see through the "powerful (often reprehensible) suggestions made by Hollywood about gender, race, and class in this country." This time around, Maio offers insightful reviews of 36 films, including *Pretty Woman*, *Ghost*, *A World Apart*, *Bagdad Cafe*, *Beaches*, *The Accused*, *Shame*, *Postcards from the Edge*, *Another Woman*, and *Driving Miss Daisy*. The reviews fall into seven categories: romance, race and racism, the "new women's film," women as victims and avengers, movie moms, misogynist movies and class. Maio is the film critic for *Sojourner* and has contributed to *Ms.* \$8.95 pb, -468-5; \$21.95 cl, -469-3.



Other forthcoming books from Crossing Press include: Deborah Cady's **Journey to Serenity: A Recovery Journal**, a book that combines a journal for personal reflections with recovery affirmations. \$5.95 pb, -471-5. In **The Gay Nineties: An Anthology of Contemporary Gay Fiction**, editors Phil Willkie and Greg Baysans (editor of *The James White Review*) present 19 short stories by gay men. \$10.95 pb, -472-3; \$22.95 cl, -473-1. James Green's **The Male Herbal: Health Care for Men and Boys** is the first holistic herbal guide for males. It offers guidelines for selecting and preparing herbs, historical background on herbalism, and a resource guide. \$12.95 pb, -458-8; \$24.95 cl, -459-6. The Crossing Press, PO Box 1048, Freedom, CA 95019. 1-4 25%, 5-24 40%. BP, IN and Bookslinger.

Ox Head Press has issued lesbian poet Martha Courtot's essay **Tribes** in miniature edition, size 2 1/4" by 1/8". "We tell you this: We are doing the impossible. We are teaching ourselves to be human... Hear our music across the dying land." \$6 pb (300 copies printed), \$25 cl (25 copies printed). Ox Head Press, Route 3, Box 136, Browerville, MN 56438. Paperback

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Three of Kay Boyle's short novels are now back in print: "The Crazy Hunter," "The Bridegroom's Body" and "Decision." **Three Short Novels** was first published by Beacon Press in 1958. This Revived Modern Classic edition includes an introduction by Doris Grumbach. \$10.95 pb, 0-8112-1149-5. New Directions, 80 Eighth Ave., New York NY 10011. BP.

And now in paperback is Sallie Bingham's family memoir **Passion and Prejudice**, the multi-generational saga of Kentucky's Bingham clan. \$12.95 pb, 1-55783-077-0. Applause Books, 211 W. 71st, New York NY 10023. Ingram, Gordons.

Zora Neale Hurston fans will be interested in two new books about the writer: **Sorrow's Kitchen: The Life and Folklore of Zora Neale Hurston** by Mary Lyons and **Zora! A Woman and Her Community** compiled and edited by N.Y. Nathiri. **Sorrow's Kitchen** tells the remarkable story of Hurston's life, and interweaves generous samples of her writing, to

create the only book on Hurston for young adults. \$13.95 cl, 0-684-19198-9. Charles Scribner's Sons Books for Young Readers, Macmillan Publishing Company, 866 Third Ave., New York NY 10022. **Zora!** looks at Hurston's life and work within the context of her family and her community. It includes an interview with her closest living relatives; a look at Eatonville, the first incorporated town in the United States founded by African-Americans; an essay by Alice Walker; and a slew of photographs of Hurston, Eatonville and the first Zora Neale Hurston Festival of the Arts, held in January 1990. \$24.95 cl, 0-941263-21-5. Sentinel Books, PO Box 1100, Orlando FL 32802. 1-4 20%, 5-9 40%. Non-returnable, 50%. BP, IN.

From Cindy Patton, author of *Making It: A Woman's Guide to Sex in the Age of AIDS* (Firebrand, 1987) and *Sex and Germs: The Politics of AIDS* (South End Press, 1985), comes **Inventing AIDS**. In the introduction to this work, Patton says the book seeks to "understand the tensions between the extremes (a tiny virus at one extreme, vast cultural shifts on the other); to understand how systems of power both inhibit and enable communities to organize around AIDS; to understand who is allowed to speak and what is kept from view; and to provide at least a handful of strategies for moving through the vertigo produced by engaging in or being engaged by the HIV epidemic at any of its many levels." \$13.95 pb, 0-415-90257-6; \$42.50 cl, -90256-8. Routledge, Chapman & Hall, 29 W. 35th St., New York NY 10001. IN.



Also from Routledge comes Richard Dyer's **Now You See It: Studies on Lesbian and Gay Film** (\$15.95 pb, 0-415-03556-2; \$57.50 cl, -0355504), in which he discusses lesbian and gay film-making from the 1920's through 1980 and places these films in their historical contexts. Dyer pays special attention to the influence of Jean Genet and devotes part of his chapter "Lesbian/Woman: Lesbian Cultural Feminist Film" to a study of the works of Barbara Hammer; and Donna J. Haraway's **Simians, Cyborgs, and Women: The Reinvention of Nature** (\$16.95 pb, -90387-4; \$55 cl, -90386-6), a collection of 10 essays written between 1978 and 1989. Haraway, a science historian and



author of *Primate Visions: Gender, Race and Nature in the World of Modern Science*, once again challenges conventional beliefs with feminist arguments that science is not a neutral entity, but a story we spin using cultural assumptions and prejudices. The essays in this book analyze accounts, narratives and stories on the creation of nature, living organisms and cyborgs. "By exploring the invention of nature, Haraway reveals the implications such social 'story-telling' has on the inhabitants of our planet."

Author Philomena Essed based **Everyday Racism: Reports From Women of Two Cultures** on interviews with 14 Surinamese women in Amsterdam and 11 African-American women in Oakland, CA. The result is a picture of how deeply racism is rooted in the two societies. Essed, a Surinamese-Dutch scholar and feminist, analyzes how racism affects women of color in their workplace and in public situations such as transportation, shopping, housing, and in contact with aggressive white men. She describes the actions and reactions of the victims of racism and the psychological consequences. "The feminist belief that women can recognize and learn a great deal from each other's experience runs as a central theme throughout the book." Translated from Dutch by Cynthia Jaffe. \$12.95 pb, 0-89793-069-X; \$19.95 cl, -068-1. Hunter House, PO Box 847, Claremont CA 91711. BP, IN.

From South End Press comes Teresa Amott and Julie Matthaei's **Race, Gender & Work: A Multicultural Economic History of Women in the United States**. The authors divide the text into three parts: an introduction to their methodology and conceptual framework; the economic histories of American Indian, Chicana, European American, African American, Asian American and Puerto Rican women; and the similarities and differences in women's work experiences across racial-ethnic groups over the course of U.S. economic history. The book had its origins in a collective writing project undertaken by the Boston-based organization the Economic Literacy Project of

Women for Economic Justice, which will receive some of the proceeds from the sale of the book. Includes dozens of interesting tables. \$16 pb, 0-89608-376-4; \$40 cl, -377-2. South End Press, 116 St. Botolph St., Boston MA 02115. 5+ 40%. BP and IN.



Activist and writer Margaret Randall has put together a powerful collection of essays in her latest work **Walking to the Edge: Essays of Resistance**, also published by South End Press. Randall wrote the pieces following her return to the United States after 23 years in Latin America. The essays detail her struggle against deportation, and include her reflections on coming out as a lesbian in mid-life, commentaries on U.S. popular culture, book reviews, an examination of changing dress codes for Cuban and U.S. women, and thoughts on writing about incest. In her introduction, Randall writes, "So, these are the pieces that fit nowhere else. But they are not gathered here without reason. Together, I hope they form a chorus of voices walking to the edge. Linked by a feminist perspective; class, race, and gender analysis; the conviction that the invasion of a body and the invasion of a nation are sad reflections on one another; a fascination with language with and with people's culture; and a delight in the breakdown of conventional genre; they are part of my homecoming response to this land in which I was born, grew up and to which I return — not without struggle, and powerfully cognizant of its multicultural terrain." Includes nine photographs. \$12 pb, -387-7; \$25 cl, -398-5.

In **Grandmothers, Mothers, and Daughters: An Oral History of Three Generations of Ethnic American Women**, Corinne Azen Krause presents the stories of 20th century women from six Italian, Jewish and Slavic families. The women recount the stories of their lives and reflect on topics such as relationships, values, work, recreation, sexuality, immigration and

child-rearing. "Their words demonstrate the resilience of family bonds despite sharply different values and lifestyles and offer rare insights into changes in ethnic neighborhoods." \$24.95 cl, 0- 8057-9105-1. Twayne Publishers, a division of G.K. Hall and Co., 70 Lincoln St., Boston MA 02111.



Also part of Twayne's Oral History Series is **Peacework: Oral Histories of Women Peace Activists**, by Judith Porters Adams. Adams collects the testimonies of 23 women of various races and classes, all of whom picketed, lobbied and risked jail for women's rights, civil rights, labor rights and disarmament. She also provides an overview of the history and strategies of the peace movement. \$25.95 cl, -9106-X. Two more books on peace are **Peace Pilgrim: Her Life and Work in Her Own Words** and Sue Guist's **Peace Like a River: A Personal Journey Across America**, both published by Ocean Tree Books. In the first book, Mildred Norman — who called herself Peace Pilgrim — talks about her travels and shares

her views on life. This new, expanded, hardcover edition also includes photographs and news clippings recording her more than 25,000-mile walk across America (\$14.95 cl, 0-943734-20-7). **Peace Like a River** is Sue Guist's first-person account of the people, places and personal revelations that made up the Great Peace March of 1986. Illustrated with drawings and photographs. \$8.95 cl, -17-7. Ocean Tree Books, PO Box 1295, Sante Fe NM 87504. BP, IN.

Joan Newman Kuyek's **Fighting For Hope: Organizing to Realize Our Dreams** is a guidebook for people working for peace and justice. It examines the context of community organizing in Canada; looks at cultural, social, economic and political strategies for change; provides five exercises for analyzing situations from a community organizer's perspective; and puts forward suggestions for the future of community organizing in Canada. Kuyek also includes a list of print resources, and examples of topics such as how to hold a successful meeting, raise funds and research a topic. Also useful to U.S. organizers. \$16.95 pb, 0-921689-86-1; \$35.95 cl, -87-X. Black Rose Books, 3981 St. Lawrence Blvd., Suite 444, Montreal, Quebec H2W

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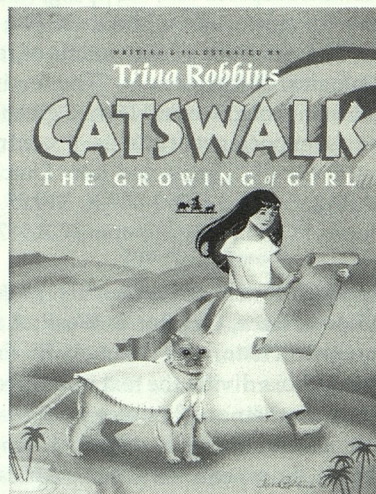
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From the editor of *Choices* . . .

San Francisco artist/illustrator Trina Robbins (the first woman illustrator of *Wonder Woman*) is also the editor of *Choices*, a pro-choice benefit book for NOW, and *Strip AIDS USA*, a benefit book for SHANTI Project.

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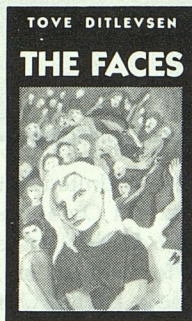
The poems, songs, essays and personal testimonies in **Sweeter Than Honey: Ethiopian Women and Revolution** portray the involvement of women in the fight for a democratic society in Ethiopia's northern province of Tigray. Editors Nell Druce and Jenny Hammond, writing for the British-based organization Third World First, originally met with the Tigray People's Liberation Front while producing a publication on the politics of famine. Interested in finding out if in fact the Tigrayan revolution was a "people's struggle," Druce and Hammond made two several-month-long visits to the region; the book grew out of those trips. "The extent to which women's interests are prioritised is an acid test for any society claiming democracy or undergoing revolutionary development. The stories and testimonies in this book let readers see for themselves what is happening in Tigray. Through the voices of women farmers and famine survivors, military commanders and mechanics, it becomes clear that the revolution is truly 'sweeter than honey'." ; \$11.95 pb, 0-932415-56-3; \$35 cl, -55-5. The Red Sea Press, 15 Industry Court, Trenton NJ 08638. IN.

Five more wonderful books from the academic presses also provide crucial information about the lives of third world women. Tessa Cleaver and Marion Wallace chronicle the lives of Namibian women in **Namibia: Women in War**. "As Africa's last colony embarks upon a new era of independence, Namibian women are reassessing their lives. These vivid photographs and extracts from the women's own stories tell of their experiences and their hopes." \$15 pb, 0-86232-901-9; \$49.95 cl, -900-0. Zed Books, 57 Caledonian Road, London N1 9BU. Distributed in the United States by Humanities Press International, 171 First Ave., Atlantic Highlands NJ 07716; and by Inland and Bookpeople.

From UNESCO, the Paris-based United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, comes **Writing for Women** (\$9 pb, UB6621), a report examining literacy programs for women in Australia, Bangladesh, China and India. UNESCO statistics indicate 60% of illiterate people in the world are women; out of this group, 63% — or nearly 360 million women — live in Asia and the Pacific. **Writing for Women** contains an overview of the situation in that region, suggestions on developing materials to raise civic awareness among women with limited reading skills and a survey of existing materials. Also from UNESCO are **Women's Participation in Higher Education: China, Nepal and the Philippines** (\$15 pb, UB3371), a study which includes an analysis as well as a review of policies, programs and strategies for promoting women's participation in higher education; and two more books in UNESCO's "Status of Women" series: **Status of Women: Thailand** (\$9 pb, UB4501) and **Status of Women: Mongolia** (\$9 pb, UB3227), both of which outline the history and position of these women, their participation in public life, and the public policies and planning that affect them. UNIPUB is the exclusive US distributor for all UNESCO publications. UNIPUB, 4611-F Assembly Drive, Lanham MD 20706. 1-4 25%, 5-99 40%.



Second Spring: A Guide To Healthy Menopause Through Traditional Chinese Medicine (\$12.95 pb, 0-936185-18-X) is the first book-length description of the traditional Chinese medical view of menopause, menopausal syndrome and post-menopausal disorders. The book, by Honora Lee Wolfe, also addresses self-help measures to ease or prevent symptoms; using diet, vitamins, minerals and herbs to the best advantage; and alternatives to estrogen replacement therapy. Blue Poppy Press has specialized in publishing books, pamphlets and other educational



THE FACES

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Translated from the Danish
by Tiina Nunnally

An extraordinary novel by Tove Ditlevsen, author of *Early Spring*, her acclaimed memoirs. It's the gripping story of a writer who lands in the locked ward of a Copenhagen hospital after a

suicide attempt, but ultimately finds her way out of madness. *Kirkus* called it "a searing but never sensational account of . . . the struggle of the artist to do her work without guilt about family or the outside world. Admirably without self-pity, and often ironic, Ditlevsen is a voice to heed."

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materials concerning Chinese/Asian medicine since 1981. Other titles that may interest women include: **Free & Easy: Traditional Chinese Gynecology for American Women** by Bob Flaws; **The Breast Connection: A Laywoman's Guide to the Treatment of Breast Disease by Chinese Medicine** by Wolfe; **Endometriosis & Infertility And Traditional Chinese Medicine: A Laywoman's Guide** by Flaws; **PMS: Its Cause, Diagnosis & Treatment According to Traditional Chinese Medicine** by Flaws. Blue Poppy Press, 1775 Linden Ave., Boulder CO 80804. BP, IN.

Susan Winn says she inherited her mother's brown eyes — and the cancer gene she carried. **Chemo and Lunch: One Woman's Victory Over Hereditary Breast Cancer** chronicles Winn's struggle against that gene, against her own fears and against medical ignorance and intransigence. Winn presents medical information about breast cancer and its link to heredity, discusses preventive measures, encourages women to be assertive about their own health care, and assures readers that there is life, fun and sex after breast cancer. \$8.95 pb, 0-931832-53-5. Fithian Press, PO Box 1525, Santa Barbara CA 93102. BP.

Another Fithian Press book, and one that comes highly recommended, is **Wanted: First Child — A Birth Mother's Story**. Author Rebecca Harsin recounts her strict upbringing and teen-age pregnancy, her stay in an unsupportive "home" for unwed mothers and the birth of her daughter, whom she names Erica. Coerced into giving Erica up for adoption, Harsin also writes of the long and difficult search for her daughter and their eventual happy reunion. Harsin, the co-founder of TABU (The Adoptees and Birthparents United) support group in Boise, ID, offers a compelling first-person account that illustrates the need for adoption reform without advocating specific changes or actions. We look forward to reading more about her work in adoption rights. \$9.95 pb, -69-1. BP.

Penny Simkin's **The Birth Partner: Everything You Need to Know to Help a Woman Through Childbirth** provides detailed information about labor and delivery, including definitions of technical terms, how to prepare for the birth, methods of stimulating labor, types of pain medication, an outline of the postpartum blues syndromes, and a discussion of breastfeeding. Its non-sexist approach encourages birth partners ("husband, lover, mother, friend, or other loved one") to share in the mother's emotional and physical experience during childbirth. For handy use during labor (!), Simkin darkened the page edges of selected sections, such as supplies for a home birth, signs of labor, positions for birthing, first aid for emergencies during childbirth, incompatibility with nurse or caregiver, and knowing what to expect during Cesarean Birth. The publishers include "lesbians and women in non-traditional families" in their audience, but we didn't find any references or advice directed specifically to these mothers and their partners. Clearly presented, very readable. \$8.95 pb, 1-55832-011-3; \$16.95 cl, -011-3 The Harvard Common Press, publishers of Gambit Books, 535 Albany St., Boston MA 02118. IN.

With **Women and Herbs: Remembering Our Roots**, Deb Soule has written a practical guide to using herbs. The book includes information on how to gather and use common weeds and cultivated medicine plants for pre-menstrual, menstrual and menopausal discomforts, vaginal and urinary tract infections, liver problems, anemia and more.



Illustrated. \$8.95 pb, 0-942396-61-8. Blackberry Books, RR 1, Box 228, Nobleboro ME 04555. IN.

Several more additions to books on recovery include the large print edition of Melody Beattie's **Beyond Codependency**. \$14.95 pb, 0-8027-2649-6. Walker and Company, 720 Fifth Ave., New York NY 10019. Distributed by Ingram and Baker and Taylor. **Laugh! I Thought I'd Die (If I Didn't)**, Anne Wilson Schaefer's book of daily meditations on healing through humor. She dedicates the book to "those in recovery, those who aren't, those who refuse to be, those who need to be and aren't, and those who don't know they need to be." \$7.95 pb, 0-345-36097-4. Ballantine Books. Another book of meditations that might interest feminist booksellers is **The Woman's Book of Courage: Meditations for Empowerment and Peace of Mind**. Sue Patton Thoele, author of *The Courage to be Yourself*, offers 120 meditations and 360 affirmations to help overcome anxiety, gain self-esteem and improve relationships. \$7.95 pb, 0-943233-17-8. Conari Press, 1339 61st St., Emeryville 94608. IN.

Do I Have A Daddy? A Story About a Single-Parent Child is back with a new format and new illustrations. Four-year-old Eric doesn't know how to respond when his friends tease him about his absent father. His mother explains that all children have daddies, but that his went away when Eric was very young. A special section offers suggestions for single parents who have to deal with the "Do I have a daddy/mommy" question. Geared toward unwed, not lesbian, mothers. \$5.95 pb, 0-930934-44-X; \$12.95 cl, -45-8. Morning Glory Press, 6595 San Haroldo Way, Buena Park CA 90620. BP, IN.



Catswalk: The Growing of a Girl, written and illustrated by Trina Robbins, grew out of Robbins' love for art and literature, her interests in mythology

and archaeology, and her desire to read a story where the girl saves the boy. It's the story of a young girl and a talking cat called Mother who set out on a journey of self-discovery. Their quest takes them far from their hut on the Euphrates River and introduces them to a mysterious merchant, a clever king, and "a peculiar creature named Boy." \$17.95 cl, 0-89087-608-8. Celestial Arts, PO Box 7123, Berkeley CA 94707. BP.



The stories in **Wise Women: Folk and Fairy Tales From Around the World** celebrate strong women who triumph using their intelligence, courage or resourcefulness. Suzanne Barchers collected, edited and sometimes retold these 61 tales from around the world. She divides the collections by theme: "Daughters: Clever and Courageous", "Sisters: Resourceful and Steadfast", "Maidens: Clever and True", "Attendants: Ingenious and Loyal", "Wives and Mothers: Devoted and Cunning", and "Mature Women: Bold and Wise." \$17.95 cl, 0-87287-816-3. Libraries Unlimited, PO Box 3988, Englewood CO 80155. 1+ 10%, 15+ 20%.

In **Language In Her Eye: Writing and Gender**, editors Libby Scheier, Sarah Sheard and Eleanor Wachtel invite readers to join 44 of Canada's most distinguished women writers in a lively debate on the relationship of feminism to writing. The essays, articles and commentaries traverse both the personal and theoretical in addressing the issues of feminism, women's writing and writing in a voice other than one's own. \$18.95 pb, 0-88910-397-6. Coach House Press, 401 Huron St., Toronto ONT M5S 2G5. IN.

Fiction writers will enjoy Carol Bly's **The Passionate, Accurate Story: Making Your Heart's Truth into Literature**, a writing guide that encourages writers to

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Putting Out Books has created a wonderful reference for writers called **Putting Out 1991: A Publishing Resource Guide for Lesbian and Gay Writers**, a parallel to Firebrand's *Words to the Wise* pamphlet for feminist lesbian writers. The guide, which the publishers will update annually, lists more than 250 publishing outlets — publishers, magazines, newspapers, newsletters and theaters — for lesbian and gay writers. Includes addresses, phone numbers, contacts, submission guidelines and writing topics from AIDS to arts, feminist concerns, historical subjects, humor, politics, recovery

and travel. The resource also features two essays: The first by *Outlook* publisher Jeffrey Escoffier on finding a literary agent and negotiating contracts between publishers and writers; the second by Mark Richard Zubro on how "an author can promote *his* (pronoun theirs, italics ours) published work." \$12.95 pb, 0-9628387-0-5. Putting Out Books, 2215-R Market St., Suite 113, San Francisco CA 94114. 40% bookstore discount. Distributed by BP, IN, Bookslinger.

If you can sell reference books you might want to carry **Gay and Lesbian Library Service**, edited by Cal Gough and Ellen Greenblatt. This 366-page reference contains 16 main chapters on subjects from collection development to censorship, patron services and AIDS information; and 16 appendices on topics including core collections, gay/lesbian plays and directories of bookstores. It also includes a chapter on evaluating young adult materials, by FBN's young adult books columnist Christine Jenkins. Although this is a good resource, unfortunately many of the lists are already quite dated. \$36.50 cl, 0-89950-535-X. McFarland & Company, Box 611, Jefferson NC 28640. 2+ 20%. Baker and Taylor.



Women who love the wilds will delight in Jennifer Abromowitz's wonderful bibliography **Women Outdoors: The Best 1900 Books, Programs and Periodicals**. The reference includes reviews of adult and children's books by women, a resource list, a look at nine periodicals focusing on women in the outdoors and summaries of more than 140 outdoor organizations offering programs especially for women. Topics covered range from animal study to camping, activities for differently abled women, dog sledding, fishing, living on the land, mysticism, walking and much more. The only drawback to this book is its price — \$28 (postpaid). Order from Jennifer Abromowitz, RD 1, Williamsburg MA 01096.

Latina women now have their very own "Cinderella Complex", according to the publisher of Bettina R. Flores's self-help book **Chiquita's Cocoon**. Flores draws on her life and interviews with 200 other Latinas to write a bubbly manual on how to help Latinas break out of the male-dominated cultural cocoon. Flores takes on the constraints of the Catholic Church, poverty, birth control and machismo. She urges women to postpone marriage and get an education. What she does not advocate is that Latinas give up their culture and traditions. \$13.50 pb, 0-9625777-5-8. Pepper Vine Press, PO Box 2037, Granite Bay CA 95746. 2-4 \$10.80 each, 5-9 \$9.45 each. Distributed by Ingram, Baker and Taylor and Quality Books.

The subtitle to Elayne Clift's **Telling It Like It Is** tells it like it is: These are the **Reflections of a Not So Radical Feminist**. What it doesn't say is that these 52 life-affirming essays are written with humor and compassion. Clift writes of family relationships, women and men at work, middle age, her views on feminism today and in "Driving Me Crazy," the agonizing wait for an adolescent out past curfew. A good present for the not-so-radical-feminists in your life. \$14.95 pb, 1-879198-00-2. Knowledge, Ideas and

Trends, 1131-0 Tolland Turnpike Suite 175, Manchester CT 06040. BP, IN.

Winning Tactics for Women Over Forty: How To Take Charge Of Your Life And Have Fun Doing It, by Anne DeSola Cardoza and Mavis B. Sutton, offers lots of chatty, upbeat advice and information on topics including health, personal growth, adapting to loss, financial planning, housing, alcoholism, dating (exclusively heterosexual), and job hunting. When you reach the chapter on "Life As a Shadow: How to Find Fulfillment as a Corporate Wife," keep in mind that the book was written especially for "those women who have been jolted from the traditional marry-early, have-children, stay-at-home lifestyle by separation, divorce, or the death of a spouse." \$9.95 pb, 0-938179-09-8. Mills & Sanderson, 442 Marrett Road, Suite 5, Lexington MA 02173. IN.

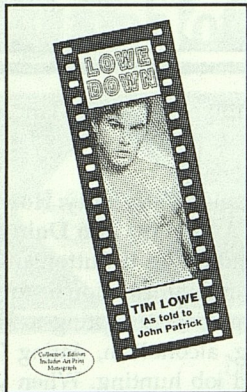


While lying in a hospital bed shortly before her death in 1963, Edith Piaf dictated recollections of her life to journalist Jean Noli. The result is **My Life**, the story of the woman who started her career as a street singer and went on to world fame. Piaf talks of her years in the Paris underground, her love affairs, and her struggles with drink and drugs. In accompanying notes, translator Margaret Crosland "corrects certain half-truths and fills in the details Piaf chose to omit, making this the definitive account of a remarkable life." \$30 cl, 0-7206-0797-3. Published in England by Peter Owen. Distributed in the US by Dufour Editions, PO Box 449, Chester Springs PA 19425.

Magazines

The first issue of *Tema International*, a quarterly publication focusing on international gay and lesbian concerns, is now available. The first issue of this 12-page newsletter, published by the International

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Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission, contains fascinating reports on and from the Soviet Union and translations from the first three issues of the Moscow lesbian and gay newspaper *Tema*. Future issues will examine lesbian and gay communities in other Eastern European countries and, eventually, worldwide. Copies are available for free if you join the IGLHRC by sending \$15 to Julie Dorf, co-chair IGLHRC, 2978 Folsom St., San Francisco CA 94110. The newsletter also is available for \$1 to individuals and at 35 cents for bookstores. Bookstores on the West Coast order from Dorf; stores on the East Coast order from Masha Gesson, 310 Clermont Ave., Second Floor, Brooklyn NY 12205.



If you sell books for gay men, you might consider *The White Crane Newsletter*, a quarterly 10-page journal addressing the development of gay men's spirituality. Recent articles have included "The Erotic Basis for World Peace," a guide to a healing ritual, an exploration of male homosexuality and spirituality, a gay

myth series, and poems. Edited by former Jesuit (now neo-pagan) Robert Barzan. Issue 7 (Winter '91) is available directly from the publisher. *The White Crane Newsletter*, PO Box 170152, San Francisco CA 94117. Cover price \$1.50; price to retailers \$1. The publishers expect the newsletter to be available through New Leaf Distributing.

Tapes

Three voices emerge from the Traveling Jewish Theatre's tape of Naomi Newman's one-woman performance *Snake Talk: Urgent Messages From the Mother*: that of the Hag, a tough, homeless old woman; Rifka, an Eastern European Jewish mother who advises "fall-down-get-up"; and Else, an uncompromising poet who wonders "if anyone ever told Beethoven to 'calm down.'" These three women, Newman says, are personifications of the Three Fates, who served as the creator, preserver and destroyer of life. Newman, a founding member of the Traveling Jewish Theater, threads her performance with humor and, through stories and songs, tackles issues including aging and death, planetary survival, competition and jealousy, child abuse and the theft of women's power and sacred teachings. The play was created in collaboration with Martha Boesing, founder and former director of Minnesota's experimental women's theater group, At the Foot of the Mountain. Order from the Traveling Jewish Theatre, PO Box 421985, San Francisco CA 94142. \$11. California residents add 6 1/2% sales tax. Discounts negotiable for multiple orders. A VHS video cassette of the performance will be available later this spring for \$34.

Richard Grenier and Kayendres call their tape *Journey for Wounded Healers* a cross-cultural expression of spirit, mind and blood. The recording features two New Age musical meditations, "Waves of Change" and "Mother Earth," and two shamanic chants. They describe the first chant, "To Reincarnation," as a humbling shamanic death chant, and the second, "Humble My Soul," as a lullaby to nurture the child within. Kayendres, a Mohawk Medicine Woman, has led workshops and lectures in Canada, the United States and throughout Europe. Order tapes from her at 669 24th St. #B, Oakland CA 94612. \$12. 40% discount. ○

FROM THE UNIVERSITY PRESSES



By Kris Hoover

University press books are rolling out slowly this spring, with most releases concentrated in May and June. Until then, I have only a few books to tell you about, but that leaves room for a timely recap of some good recent University Press books by and about women in the Arab world.

SPRING 1991: A PREVIEW

The feminist publishing event of the season from the university presses will no doubt be Lillian Faderman's *Odd Girls and Twilight Lovers: A History of Lesbian Life in Twentieth Century America*, Columbia University Press, \$29.95 cl, 0-231-07488-3, 400pp., June. Faderman is best known to feminist readers through her well-loved history of women's romantic friendships, *Surpassing the Love of Men* (Morrow, \$10.95). This new lesbian history promises to move beyond literary sources, and not coincidentally to include women of color and working-class and poor women. I trust that Faderman's writing will be as accessible and interesting as ever, leaving only the price as a barrier to a wide lesbian-feminist audience for her new book.

Also in Columbia's new lesbian and gay studies series are: *Families We Choose: Lesbians, Gays and Kinship*, by Kath Weston, on the San Francisco community, \$35. cl, -07288-0, 304pp. March, and *Violence Against Lesbians and Gay Men*, by a male author, Gary Comstock, \$35.00, cl, -07330-5, 336pp., Feb. More about all of these in the next issue of FBN.

WOMEN IN THE ARAB WORLD

More than half of the books about women in the Arab world that are currently available in English come from university presses. Though the universities

aren't a good source for books on Israeli women, Arab feminist writing can be found in more than token quantities on the lists of Indiana, Syracuse, and Columbia. Texas, California, Rutgers, and Chicago also have at least one title.

Released just last fall, Indiana University's *Opening the Gates: A Century of Arab Feminist Writing*, \$17.50 pb, 0-253-20577-8, 412pp., is an excellent introduction. Editors Margot Badran and Mariam Cooke have included diaries, poetry and interviews as well as essays and speeches. Over 40 women from all over the Persian Gulf, Egypt and North Africa are represented.



The old standard has been Lois Beck and Nikki Keddie's massive 1978 collection, *Women in the Muslim World*, Harvard, \$16.50, 0-6749-5481-5, 700pp. This remains a particularly good source for history and religion, and includes Turkey and more distant Muslim lands as well as Arab territories. Its size and style make it best suited to fairly academically-oriented readers, however.

At first glance, *Arab Women in the Field* looks like a book for feminist anthropologists, but it has more to recommend it. The anthropologists among us should prize its challenging and straightforward approach to questions about how and how well we can study our own cultures. Of more general interest are the six personal narratives by Arab women scholars that form the core of the book. All talk about the cultural marginality of feminist activists, scholars and intellectuals in ways that Arab and non-Arab women will find profound. In addition, each has something precious to offer on the subject of being feminist and bicultural. Arab-American and other Middle-Eastern-American women will find



Feminist Ethics

Edited by Claudia Card

This volume brings together some of the best and best known feminist philosophers in the U.S. to examine the nature, current state, and implications of feminist ethics. They address such topics as terrorism, bitterness, women trusting other women, and survival and ethics. Contributors include Annette C. Baier, Marilyn Friedman, Marilyn Frye, Alison M. Jaggar, and Michele M. Moody-Adams.

240 pages

\$29.95 cloth, \$14.95 paper

The Philosophy of (Erotic) Love

Edited by Robert C. Solomon and

Kathleen M. Higgins

Foreword by Arthur C. Danto

This collection of classic and modern writings combines excerpts from the great philosophical texts with the most exciting new work of philosophers writing today. It includes contributions from Plato, Sappho, Heloise and Abelard, Shakespeare, Nietzsche, Freud, Jung, Karen Horney, Emma Goldman, Simone de Beauvoir, Martha Nussbaum, Amelie Rorty, Elizabeth Rapaport, Kathryn Pauly Morgan, Robert Nozick, and Annette Baier.

536 pages

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their stories particularly moving. Edited by Soraya Altorki and Camilla Fawzi El-Solh, Syracuse University Press, \$14.95 pb., 0-8156-2449-2, 184pp.

Fabulous in both visual appeal and scope is Sarah Graham-Brown's *Images of Women: The Portrayal of Women in Photography of the Middle East, 1860-1950*, Columbia University Press, \$40.00 cl, 0-231-06826-3, 274pp., 215 illus. A model of feminist photography criticism, it is also an accessible, illustrated history of women throughout the Middle East. Unlike the other books highlighted here, it is also as thoroughly multi-ethnic as the region. Woven into the text along with the majority Arab and Turkish Muslim cultures are the experiences of Armenian, Coptic and Maronite Christian women, Druzes, Berbers, Jews, Greeks and others. It also deals effectively with the concept of "Orientalism," the popular racist and romanticized Western images of Middle Eastern peoples. Too bad about the price, although the cost of reproducing over 200 carefully-chosen photographs makes it somewhat understandable.



Also in a general vein, though somewhat more scholarly in style is Fatima Mernissi's *Beyond the Veil: Male-Female Dynamics in Modern Muslim Society*, Indiana University, \$7.95 pb, 0-253-20423-1, 200pp. Mernissi, a Moroccan sociologist, is adept at explaining Muslim family dynamics to a Western feminist audience. Her introduction also takes up the subject, often mentioned by Arab feminists and misunderstood by Western ones, of why Arab anti-feminists are so successful at portraying feminism as just another form of Western imperialism.

For most readers, personal stories and fiction are the most enjoyable and moving ways to learn about women in another culture. More than the best social analysis, these books are capable of portraying Middle Eastern women's strength and dignity as well as the nature and difficulty of their circumstances. Narratives, both biographical and fictional, also show that women in the Arab world are active participants in their families and societies, not simply the passive occupants of narrow, patriarchally-determined social roles. On the Gulf region, there's Soraya Altorki's *Women in Saudi Arabia*, about elite women's lives

and aspirations, Columbia University, \$13.00 pb, 0-231-06183-8, 186pp., and, new this spring from the University of Chicago, **Behind the Veil in Arabia: Women in Oman**, by Unni Wikan, \$14.95 pb, 0-226-89682-8, 314pp, 21 illus., May. It's a sad commentary on the state of publishing on Middle Eastern women that, however well-written, Elizabeth Fernea's 1969 **Guests of the Sheikh** (Doubleday, \$8.95) is still the only book available on Iraqi women, and it deals only with rural women's lives.

Across the Persian Gulf, Iranian women's insights and experiences appear in the new University of Texas collection, **Stories by Iranian Women Since the Revolution**, Soraya Paknazar Sullivan ed., \$8.95 pb, 0-293-77649-7, 180pp. Also interesting, and more general than it seems, is Shahla Haeri's study of women under Shi'i Islam, **Laws of Desire: Temporary Marriage in Iran**, Syracuse University, \$14.95 pb, 0-8156-2483-2, 256pp. About 40% of Iraqis are also Shi'ite Muslims (rather than the Sunni sect that is a majority in the rest of Arabia, Turkey, and North Africa), and some women Haeri interviewed had lived in Iraq.

Farther afield are several books about women in Egypt, Algeria and Morocco. Lila Abu-Lughod's **Veiled Sentiments: Honor and Poetry in a Bedouin Society** is beautifully written feminist anthropology. True to its title, it is about the practice of veiling, honor — women's, men's and families' — and oral poetry, a lyrical sort of Bedouin blues. Abu-Lughod also writes movingly about daily life with her "adopted" Bedouin family. University of California, \$11.95 pb, 0-520-06327-9, 317pp., 15 photos. Syracuse offers **Khul-Khaal: Five Egyptian Women Tell Their Stories**, by Nayra Atiya, \$13.95 pb, 0-8156-0181-6, 177pp.



More distant still from the Gulf, but providing interesting perspectives, are two recent titles from Rutgers: Fatima Mernissi's interviews with contemporary Moroccan women, **Doing Daily Battle**, \$12.00 pb, 0-8135-1418-5, 224pp., and **My Life Story: The Autobiography of a Berber Woman** by Fadhma Amrouche, \$12.00 pb, -1426-6, 196pp. Amrouche's story, written in the 1960's, spans eighty years and contains fascinating insights into the French Colonial influence in Algeria. Lastly, there is a vivid novella

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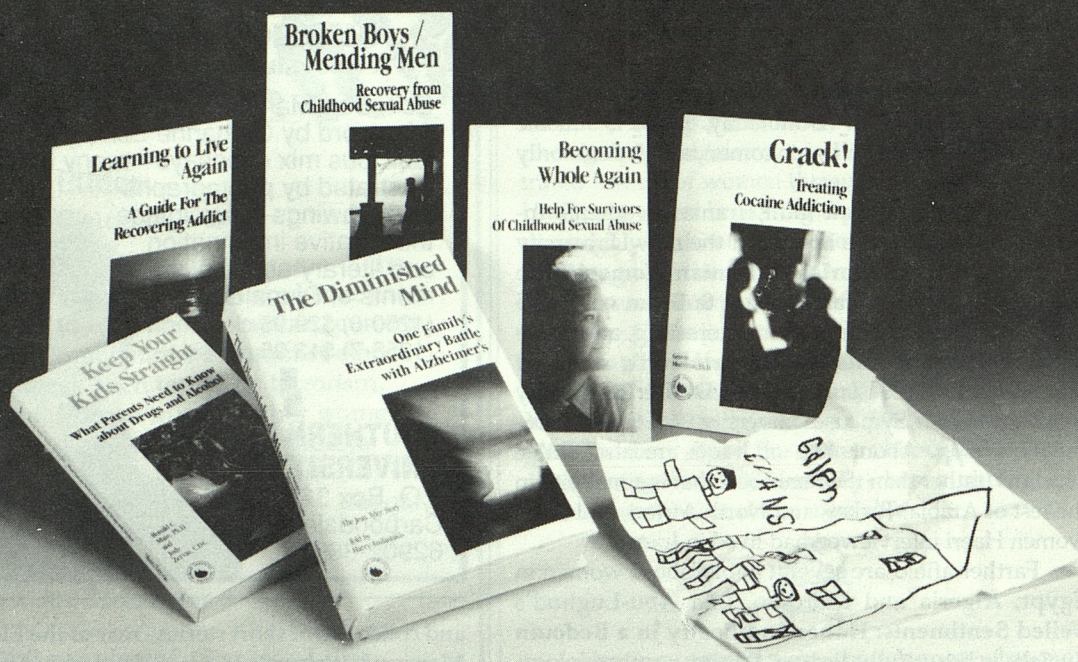
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and collection of short stories: **Year of the Elephant: A Moroccan Woman's Journey Toward Independence**, by Leila Abouzeid, University of Texas, \$8.95 pb, 0-292-79603-X, 101pp.

Sadly, there is nothing current on Palestinian women from the university presses. You might recommend Rosemary Sayigh and Julie Peteet's essay on Palestinian women in Lebanon in the fine multinational collection, **Women and Political Conflict**, Rosemary Ridd and Helen Callaway, eds, New York University Press, \$15.00 pb, 0-8147-7399-0, 246pp. The best sources for books on women in the Arab world outside of the university presses are: Zed for political essays, personal narratives and some novels; Seal for Nawal El-Saadawi's novel **Two Women in One**, \$7.95, 0-9311-8840-7, 166pp., and Women's Press/England for, among other titles, Bouthaina Shaaban's wonderful, feminist collection of women's perspectives from Syria, Lebanon, Palestine and Algeria, **Both Right and Left Handed: Arab Women Talk About Their Lives**, \$12.95 pb, 0-7043-4102-6, 242pp. Feminist consciousness of many sorts informs all the books listed here, but lesbians are mentioned nowhere but briefly in this last title. ○



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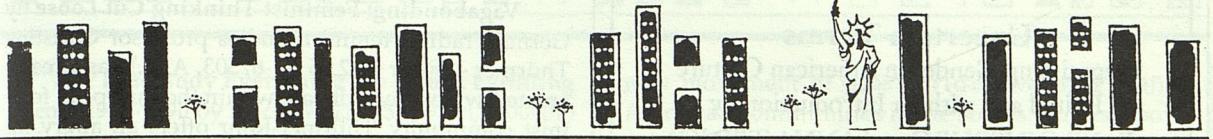
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AND ON PUBLISHER'S ROW



By Sandi Torkildson

BEACON (dist. by Farrar, Straus and Giroux)

Thousand Pieces of Gold by Ruthanne Lum McCunn (\$9.95 pb, 0-8070-8317-8) is a biographical novel telling the extraordinary story of a remarkable woman who was born in Northern China, and sold by her father during a famine in 1871, auctioned by a slave merchant to an American saloon keeper in the gold country, and won as a prize in a poker game by a friend who bid for her freedom. She went on, independently, to achieve respect and dignity among the pioneer women of the American West. **Thousand Pieces of Gold** will be released as a film this spring. This edition features a four-color movie tie-in cover.

All of the Above by Dorothy Barresi (\$9.95 pb, -68152; \$22.50 cl, -68144) is a collection of poems by the 1990 winner of the Barnard New Women Poets Prize. The introduction is by Olga Broumas.

Adrienne Rich called **Twice Blessed: On Being Lesbian or Gay and Jewish** (\$14.95 pb, -7909X) a "resource for all individuals and communities working toward renewal and liberation." This collection of essays edited by Christie Balka and Andy Rose is challenging and informative.



On Trial: America's Courts and Their Treatment of Sexually Abused Children by Billie Dziech and Judge Charles Schudson (\$14.95 pb, -04154, May) is an updated edition that looks at the most recent developments in the treatment of child witnesses by the court system. It presents a horrifying and accurate picture of a child's anguish as a complaining witness in adult

criminal court and hopefully will prod the legal system to find better trial procedures in these cases.

Territories of the Voice: Contemporary Stories by Irish Women Writers edited by Louise DeSalvo et al. (\$12.95 pb, -83259, May) includes 27 stories by writers such as Julia O'Faolain, Edna O'Brien and Mary Lavin who portray the powerful pains and triumphs of women's lives in Ireland.



Radical Spirits: Spiritualism and Women's Rights in Nineteenth Century America by Ann Braude (\$12.95 pb, -75019, May) looks at the crucial link between early feminists and spiritualists. This book is essential reading for every student of 19th century American society and women's history.

The Dancing Goddess by Heide Göttner - Abendroth (\$15.95 pb, -67539, Aug.), a major voice in women's spirituality in Europe, draws on her research into ancient goddess centered societies. She also looks at the "matriarchal art" produced in those ancient societies and today's contemporary art and rituals inspired by it.

Shiela Rowbotham offers a lively overview of the current feminist movement from the late 1960's to the present in **The Past is Before Us** (\$14.95 pb, -67598, Aug.). This very readable account of the women's movement in Great Britain shows how much the movement has been about "the re-ordering of private and public, personal and political."

The Safe Sea of Women: Lesbian Fiction, 1969 - 1989 by Bonnie Zimmerman (\$14.95 pb, -79138, Aug.) is the first book to study the birth and growth of the remarkable body of lesbian fiction. This essential and enjoyable book will become a classic and required

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reading in both women's studies and gay and lesbian studies courses. The Lambda Book Report said that it "tells the history of our lives...[and] has made us real in a way no other book ever has before."

Vagabonding: Feminist Thinking Cut Loose by German radical feminist studies professor Christina Thürmer – Rohr (\$22.95 cl, -67503, Aug.) has already created widespread debate within the European feminist community. Thürmer-Rohr offers an angry indictment of Western society and rejects the optimism of the many feminists and new agers who hope to replace patriarchy with a new spirituality based on "female virtues." She believes that women cannot heal political and environmental devastation simply by being women.



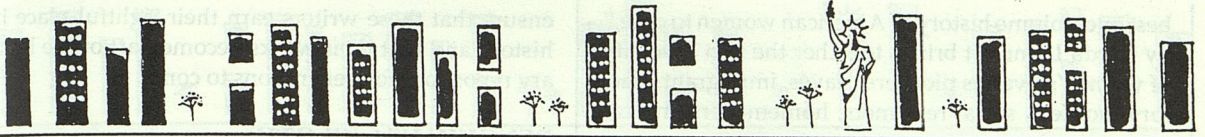
DAVID GODINE (dist. by Grodine)

People with AIDS by Nicholas Nixon and Bebe Nixon (\$25.00 pb, 087923-8860; \$45.00 cl, -9085, 73 photos) is about fifteen people with AIDS. Nixon's portraits of these people are accompanied with text gathered and edited from hundreds of hours of intimate conversations. Together these words and pictures present an almost overwhelmingly direct encounter with people who have had to confront the meaning of life and death. All profits from this book will be donated to the Hospice at Mission Hill in Boston.

The Bride Price by Grete Weil (\$18.95, -893-3, May) is a novel that interweaves two separate stories to produce a haunting testament and plea for humankind. The first is the story of King David as told by his wife. The other is Wiel's own story as a survivor of the Holocaust who must continue to confront death and aging in the present as well as in memory.

HARCOURT BRACE JOVANOVICH

Strange Fits of Passion by Anita Shreve (\$18.95 cl, 0151-857601) is the story of a woman who flees with her small daughter when her "perfect" marriage is shattered by domestic violence. The brief respite she finds ends suddenly with a murder, a rape, a suicide. Years later her daughter is bequeathed a cache of documents about her mother — abused, accused and imprisoned. The reader along with her daughter must find the truth of her mother's life.



Her Blue Body Everything We Know: Earthling Poems 1965-1990 by Alice Walker (\$22.95 cl, -400407) includes all her previous volumes of poetry plus new and unpublished poems collected for the first time. This anthology offers a historical perspective on the political and spiritual issues of the last three decades as well as insight into Walker's evolution as a writer and voice of our time.

Baby of the Family by Tina McElroy Ansa (\$8.95 pb, 015-610-150-5, May) is the stunning debut novel by a new Black woman writer. This is the tale of Lena McPherson, a special child, born with the power to see ghosts and predict the future. Lena is prey to suspicions no one else need consider: a new face may be a new kid in town or a face from the grave. Lena grows into a fearful and ostracized adolescent who learns by the novel's end that she must find her own uncertain way in the world.

Congenial Spirits: The Selected Letters of Virginia Woolf ed. by Joan Trautmann Banks (\$14.95 pb, 015-622-030-X, May) includes letters selected from the six volumes already published as well as previously withheld or undiscovered.

HARPERCOLLINS

The Crown of Columbus by Michael Dorris and Louise Erdrich (\$21.95 cl, 0060-160799, May) chronicles the adventures of a pair of mismatched lovers and their quest for the truth about Christopher Columbus and themselves. When Vivian Twostar uncovers Columbus' lost diary and a reference to "the greatest treasure of Europe," she and her poet-lover Roger are drawn into a journey to the Caribbean that threatens and finally changes their lives.

Lakota Woman by Mary Crow Dog with Richard Erdoes (\$9.95 pb, -973986, May) is the autobiography of Mary Brave Bird who grew up on the Rosebud Reservation (South Dakota) in a one-room cabin without running water or electricity. Rebellious against the aimless drinking, missionary school, narrow roles for women and the violence and hopelessness of reservation life, she joined the

new movement of tribal pride sweeping Native American communities in the sixties. This is a powerful account of one woman's triumphant struggle to survive in a hostile world.

The Worst Years of Our Lives by Barbara Ehrenreich (\$9.95 pb, -973846, May) is a collection of essays about the last decade. Ehrenreich goes after not only the Republican right, but also timid liberals, wishy-washy feminists, couch potatoes, Yuppies and the "new" male. The *New York Times* called it, "Elegant, trenchant, savagely angry, morally outraged and outrageously funny."

HOUGHTON-MIFFLIN

My Life with Darwin by Molly Best Tinsley (\$19.95 cl, 0395-577853, May) is a first novel about a woman's struggle to keep her life together. Her marriage is failing as her husband is on the verge of another affair, her four children have four sets of problems and her missionary mother occasionally still thinks she's back in Ecuador. It is Hannah's childhood memory of the older tribal woman, Nimu, and her stories of the world of the spirit and nature, that give her the resources to bring her family together.



MACMILLAN

The Selected Short Stories of Edith Wharton, edited by R.W.B. Lewis (\$24.95 cl, 0684-193043, May) includes twenty-one of her best stories. These stories are as powerful today as when they were first written 60 to 100 years ago. From social critic to teller of ghost tales, Wharton was a woman ahead of her time.

Free Press

Sara Evans' history of women in America won critical acclaim when it was published. Now in paper, **Born for Liberty** (\$14.95, 002-9030900) was called "the

best one-volume history of American women to date," by Gerda Lerner. It brings together the rich diversity of women's lives as pioneers, slaves, immigrants, factory workers, social reformers, homemakers and career women.



Pergamon Press (Titles dist. by Macmillan)

Living by the Pen: Early British Women Writers by Dale Spender (\$16.95 pb, 0080-374654, May) reclaims the literary heritage of women writers from a predominantly male tradition. This work provides accessible and useful background material on women, their writings and the period. This collection helps to

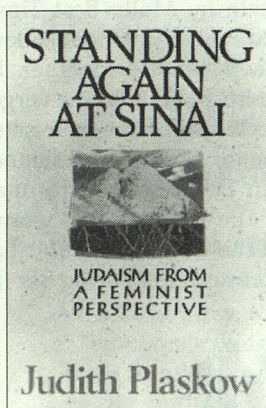
ensure that these writers earn their rightful place in history and that their works become part of the literary repository for generations to come.

PENGUIN USA (CLOTH)

Viking

The Wild Blue Yonder (\$19.95, 0670829641, May) is a new collection of short stories by Canadian writer Audrey Thomas. Thomas writes about women trying to define and understand themselves in an age of divorce and alienation. These women include Pauline who tries to love her mother across a large gap in rites and understanding and a missionary's wife who leaves her husband when he decides to return to West Africa. Thomas' women show us vulnerability, strength and new perspectives.

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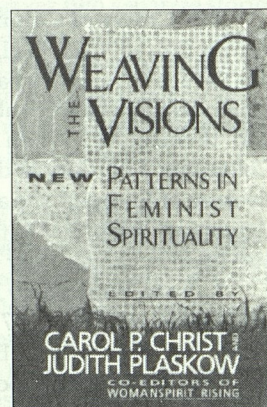
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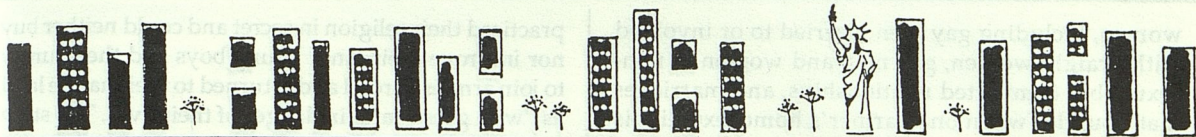


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PENGUIN USA (PAPERBACKS)

Fay Weldon's latest novel **The Cloning of Joanna May** (\$8.95 pb, 01401-28514) is the story of the beautiful, passive, ex-wife of nuclear entrepreneur Carl May. Shortly after their break-up, the 60-year-old Joanna discovers that her husband and gynecologist had performed an experiment thirty years earlier. They took an unfertilized egg from her, quartered it and implanted it into four different women. The resultant clones were brought up in completely different environments, unaware of each other's existence. When Joanna brings them together, she finds four sisters uncannily like her, yet different.

Taking Shelter by Australian writer Jessica Anderson (\$8.95 pb, -25930) is by the author of *Tirra Lirra by the River*. This novel deals with finding a place in an uncertain world with no rules about age, gender, faithfulness and the threat of AIDS lurking in the background of every relationship.

The Survivors by Elaine Feinstein (\$8.95 pb, -48485) is the saga of two Russian Jewish families who settle in Liverpool at the turn of the century. The Katz's are orthodox, scholarly and poor but rich in tradition. The Gordons are socially mobile, opting for material gain at the price of cultural loss.

A new collection of short stories by Mavis Gallant, **My Heart Is Broken** (\$8.95 pb, -52288, May) includes eight stories by this Canadian writer who should get more notice in the U.S. The title story is about a young engineer's wife who learns a harsh lesson about men at a road-construction camp in the Canadian wilderness. In "Bernadette" a French house servant working for a wealthy couple in Quebec is a pawn in her employers' troubled marriage. Margaret Atwood calls her "a terrifyingly good writer."

Overlook Press (Dist. by Penguin)

A novel by Eva Kanturkova, who herself spent a year in a Czech prison, looks at the life of six women prisoners in Roynze. **My Companions in the Bleak House** (\$10.95 pb, 087951-3004) shares the lives of these women as they comfort each other, steal from

and betray one another, and exchange both intimacies and obscenities. This novel defines a true and just society based on solidarity and citizenship.

The Umbrella Tree by Rose Zwi (\$6.95 pb, 01401-34107) is a fictional account of the 1976 Soweto schoolchildren's march protesting the use of Afrikaans as the language of instruction in Black schools.

Plume

Joyce Carol Oates' 20th novel, **Because It Is Bitter and Because It Is My Heart** (\$8.95 pb, 0452-265819) takes place in a small city in upstate New York during the 1950s and 60s. Two young girls, one white, the other Black, become linked when Iris who is white witnesses a murderous street fight between Jinx, who is Black, and a white man who threatened her. A bond of passion and guilt is formed between them — at first unspoken but gathering force over the years until it must be declared.



Allan Berube's historical account of gay men and lesbians who served in WWII, **Coming Out Under Fire** (\$10.95 pb, -265983) is a groundbreaking work in gay and lesbian history and American social history. Carefully researched and documented, this book provides a complete picture of the relationships between the military and its gay personnel.

The AIDS Reader edited by Nancy McKenzie (\$12.95 pb, -010721) is a collection of essays by leading researchers, scientists and social commentators on the AIDS epidemic. The AIDS crisis highlights some disturbing prejudices in our society, underscores the inequities in our economic and health care systems and raises ethical issues. This anthology addresses the medical facts and issues of prevention and the role of the community in responding to AIDS.

Uncommon Lives by Catherine Whitney (\$8.95 pb, -265908) is an in-depth look at the range of relationships between gay men and straight

women, including gay men married to or involved with straight women, gay men and women in non-sexual but committed relationships, and marriages that flounder when one partner's homosexuality is revealed as well as the new ways they are finding to relate to one another.

Plume will also reissue all four novels in Doris Lessing's **Children of Violence** series in new paperback editions.



Virago

Olivia Manning's **The Wind of Changes** (\$8.95 pb, 01401-62194) is the portrait of three people caught in the political turmoil of Dublin in 1921. Sean is a young temperamental crusader who heads a group of Catholics waiting for their leader to emerge from exile. Elizabeth is Sean's sometime lover and Arion is an Englishman who is the ballast for Sean's fiery moods. The links between the group shift and strain and the end can only signify betrayal.

Loving Without Tears by M.V. Farrell (Molly Keane) (\$8.95 pb, -62186) is a comedy of manners about a mother's plans for her children that do not run as smoothly as she had anticipated. Angel, the mother, must sharpen her wits to maintain her hold over her clan.

Wild Geese by Bridget Boland (\$8.95 pb, -62208) takes place in 18th century Ireland where Catholics

practiced their religion in secret and could neither buy nor improve their land. Young boys fled the country to join armies abroad and returned to their native land as "wild geese" and in danger of their lives. The story of one family struggling to maintain the family estate brings these desperate times alive.

Tea at Four O'Clock by Janet McNeill (\$7.95 pb, -62216) is set against the background of the fading Protestant gentility in Belfast. Laura who for years nursed and deferred to her elder sister who has recently died must confront her own cowardice and self-sacrifice. Laura must reclaim her past and discover the truth about her family.

PUTNAM

Move On: Adventures in the Real World by TV journalist Linda Ellerbee (\$21.95 cl, 0399-136231, May) covers her continuing professional perils, but also the changes she's seen in her generation, her medium and herself. It is about politics and society, rock and roll, getting arrested, being a parent, living barefoot in a commune in Alaska, alcohol and feminism and the pain of learning who you are.

The Kitchen God's Wife by Amy Tan (\$21.95 cl, -135782, June) is a powerful new novel by the author of *The Joy Luck Club*. For 40 years in China and in San Francisco, Winnie Louie and Helen Kwong have kept certain confidences. Then Helen, convinced she is dying, threatens to unburden herself of everyone's hidden truths. This begins a series of comic misunderstandings and heartbreaking

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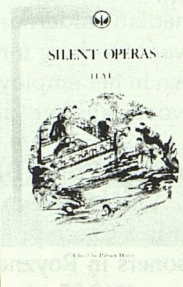
In this second volume of her Love Trilogy, Wang continues to explore sexual love as a powerful motivating force in human nature. A probing story of how love may turn destructive in a restricted society. Also available: **Love in a Small Town** ISBN 962-7255-03-3 US\$6.50

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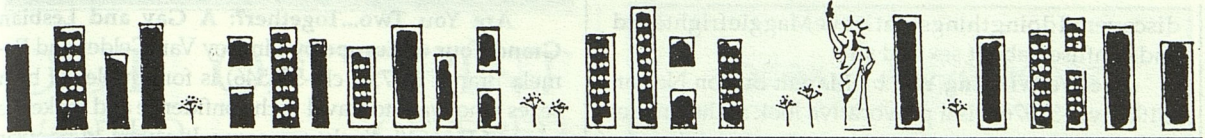
Seven stories by prominent authors explore changing attitudes and issues facing modern women from two Chinese experiences.

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izations about luck, loss, trust and about the things a mother cannot tell her daughter and the secrets daughters keep.

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My Dear Cassandra: The Letters of Jane Austen edited by Penelope Hughes-Hallett (\$27.50 cl, 0517-583127) is an illustrated collection of Austen's letters to her sister Cassandra and others. These letters provide a lively glimpse into the novelist's life and times.

Cry of the Peacock by exiled Iranian Jew Gina Barkhordar-Nahai (\$20.00 cl, -574799, May) is a novel that recreates the history of the Persian Jews and the transformation of ancient Persia into Shi'ite Iran. Her story is woven through the stories of Jews and Muslims, war and revolution, Kings and holy men and the entire fabric of Persian and Iranian culture.

Xam Cartier the author of *Be-Bop, Re-Bop* has written a new novel about jazz, African-American life and music and two women. **Muse-Echo Blues** (\$18.00 cl, -577933, May) is the story of Kat, a young pianist with composer's block who finds inspiration in the jazzy past of the 1940's and in soul sister Kitty.

Knopf

Caroline's Daughters by Alice Adams (\$22.00 cl, 0394-568257) set in San Francisco in the 1980's tells the story of a mother and her five daughters — a "bravely unsuccessful" ceramist with a too young, too handsome, unfaithful husband; the one everyone depends on; a four-star yuppie; a lawyer who supplements her already adequate income in a startling way; a poet and sometime horticulturist who has more trials and more errors than most people; and the one everyone depends on.

In the Beginning by Irina Ratushinskaya (\$23.00 cl, -57141X) is a moving memoir by this Soviet poet who spent four years in prison. Beginning with her girlhood in Odessa she gives us a resonant account of

growing up in the Soviet Union. She describes a rigid and turbulent education, the flowing of faith and love as well as the world of banned writers and the samizdat network that made it possible for her poetry to circulate in her own country and in the West.

The Tattered Clock and Other Novels by Nina Berberova (\$21.00 cl, 0679-402810, May) are the novels of an 89-year-old Russian émigré who fled the Revolution to settle in the Paris of the 1930s, 40s and 50s. The men and women in her novels lose their lives of privilege in Russia and must live in diminished circumstances in Paris. They become businessmen, embittered waiters, kept women or melancholy laundresses full of nostalgia and longing, looking for love or salvation or release.

Rita Mae Brown has said that Blanche McCrary Boyd's "insights vibrate with originality." Boyd's new novel **The Revolution of Little Girls** (\$19.00 cl, -400907, May) pierces the heart of the South and of the sixties. From the start, Ellen has plotted a different course. When playing Tarzan and Jane, she always wanted to be Tarzan; at 13 her drink of choice was Coke and ammonia spirits; her attempt to travel the beaten path with her Harvard husband ends with a series of revolutionary lesbian experiences which lead to spiritual wanderings. She becomes bedeviled by imaginary little girls — fragments of her childhood self — as she trips into madness. She eventually makes peace with both herself and her mother.



Random House-Cloth

Object Lessons by New York *Times* columnist Anna Quindlen (\$19.00 cl, 0394-569652) is a coming-of-age novel set in a large Irish-Italian family. In the summer of late 1960, twelve-year-old Maggie's world begins to go wrong. Her powerful grandfather is reduced to a shadow by a stroke, her father cries, her mother is suddenly never home, and her street-smart cousin Monica and her best friend Debbie are

discovered doing things that leave Maggie frightened and confused about sex and sin.

Are We Winning Yet? by Mariah Burton Nelson (\$19.00 cl, -575768) is a provocative look at the impact of muscles, money, teamwork and competition on women in sports. Nelson examines such questions as: Are men naturally better athletes? Is there a conflict between muscles and "femininity?" (Do we care?) Are there more lesbians in professional sports? Is there a future for coed sports?



Women Hollering Creek and Other Stories by Sandra Cisneros (\$18.00 cl, -576543) gathers together the voices of the American Southwest. This Chicana writer's first collection of short stories, *The House on Mango Street*, has been an underground bestseller for many feminist bookstores. These stories bring us an eleven-year-old girl who wishes she were a woman of all ages, a Mexican bride brought across the border only to suffer abuse and frustration, the disembodied spirit of the wife of a Mexican general and many more.

Are You Two...Together?: A Gay and Lesbian Grand Tour of Europe by Lindsey Van Gelder and Pamela Brandt (\$17.00 cl, -584546) is for couples of both sexes who want to travel with confidence and make the most of Europe's lively gay scene. It covers 14 popular gay travel destinations and provides a select listing of hotels, restaurants, bars, clubs and beaches that welcome gays and lesbians. Included are witty, down-to-earth essays about local history, travel pointers, interviews with members of the local gay communities.

Ann Beattie's new collection of short stories, **What Was Mine and Other Stories** (\$20.00 cl, -400774, May) includes 12 works, each well crafted, distinct and introspective. Here are disconnected marriages, uneasy reunions, nostalgic reminiscences and sudden epiphanies.

Villard Books

How to Make an American Quilt is a novel by Whitney Otto (\$18.00 cl, -400702) that interweaves the stories of the members of a California women's quilting group with seven sets of historical and technical instructions on the quilting process. Otto has devised a structure that conveys the significant passages in women's lives.

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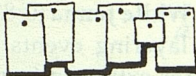
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Announcements, continued from page 41

dues? What would it be worth to you, in dollars and cents? Would you be willing to make small donations to help get things started?



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Would you be interested in attending a special meeting at the ABA Convention in NY in June to address these issues? (Please R.S.V.P. on this issue.)

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Science Fiction, continued from page 60.

Tor

Future on Fire, edited by Orson Scott Card (0-812-51183-2, \$4.95). What, you say? Recommend an anthology that (1) includes only 6 stories by women (out of 15), and (2) was edited by a Mormon writer whose homophobia is a hot topic on the sf circuit? Well, yes; these stories are essential. The writers include Rachel Pollack, Pat Murphy, Pat Cadigan, Ursula K. Le Guin, Connie Willis, and Susan Palwick. The male writers are pretty neat too.

Sadar's Keep, by Midori Snyder (0-812-50912-9, \$3.95). Published in March, this is the second volume of the "Queen's Quarter" series, whose first volume, **New Moon**, I haven't seen, but reviews and blurbs make it sound worth a look, e.g., it "brings together the girls Earth, Air, and Fire [who] learn to use their powers, trust each other" and escape the plots of a nasty queen.

Jane Yolen's **White Jenna** (0-812-50907-2, \$3.95) is a good read, layering events with the history, legends, and myths extracted from them — but it's not as persuasive as its predecessor, *Sister Light*, *Sister Dark*. The reason, I suspect, is the author's attempt to impose hope on the grimmest story ever told: the patriarchal takeover. Your mission, all you fantasy writers and alternate-historians out there, should you decide to accept it: give this story a *convincing* happy ending. ○

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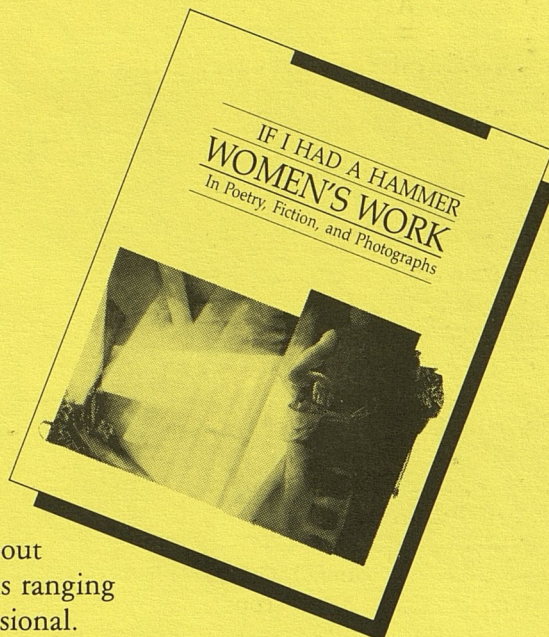
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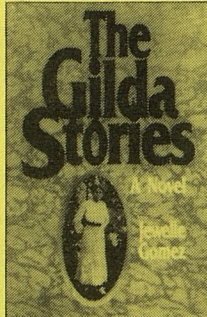


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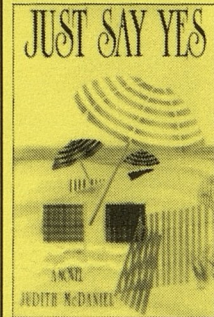
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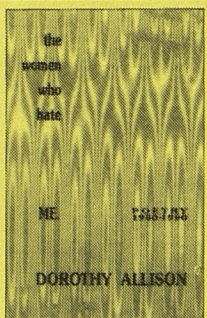
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