Feminist Bookstore News

May/June 1992

Volume 15 Number 1

Femind Serial am F32978 5/12/92

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To our Booksellers:

Once a year is not often enough to thank you for your support and loyalty to us. Our only problem is that we don't hear from you enough. We would like you to be more than bookstore names and account numbers in our computers. But we wish you would call us collect from time to time, tell us about any problems you may have, any good news you want to share, any ideas for changes or updates in our existing books, any suggestions for new books (speaking of which, are you aware of our growing children's list?) Or, just say "Hi!"

The good news we'd like to share is that a completely updated **MENOPAUSE, NATURALLY** will be out in August, written in Sadja Greenwood's usual warm and informative style, sharing the latest knowledge about the estrogen replacement controversy, and more good ideas about self-empowerment, diet, exercise and growing personal consciousness.

ISBN 0-912078-95-2 $13.95 pa illus.

SAVE MY RAINFOREST, a true story about a Mexico City boy who led a pilgrimage to save the rainforest, is available now. We will be hearing more about child environmentalists--they are fighting for their future survival.

ISBN 0-912078-94-4 $14.95 hb full color illus. juv.

Also, an audio-cassette adapted from **LEARNING TO LIVE WITHOUT VIOLENCE** has just been issued. Many men attempting to end domestic violence will find this tape a valuable tool, either by itself or in conjunction with the book. Tell the women's shelters, the counseling and correctional agencies in your area about it.

ISBN 0-912078-92-8 $11.95 two C-60 cassettes

ABA Stand #4450

Volcano Press, Inc. P.O. Box 270 Volcano CA 95689 (209) 296-3445 Fax (209) 296-4515

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NOTES FROM THE COMPUTER TABLE

Welcome to FBN's annual ABA/International Feminist Book Fair Issue.

This issue is packed to the staples with all kinds of discussion and information. See the letters column for essential information about the upcoming International Feminist Book Fair and for responses to last issue's editorial about ABA's priorities, *Troubled Times in Tarrytown?* This issue also contains updates on the ABA '92 schedules, news of the New Zealand feminist book fortnight, announcement of a new women writer's retreat, coverage of the Out/Write Writers' Conference and a profile of Tennessee feminist bookstore Meristem. On the distribution front, FBN takes a look at an old friend — worker-owned, California-based, small press and trade distributor, Bookpeople. Dig deep into the issue for Patty Callaghan's practical, right-to-the-point article "Buying and Selling Used Books" and Jennifer Croft's "Bookstore Newsletters — Do They Really Work?" — the first in a new series of articles on marketing. Look for "Elements of Good Design" and "Starting From Scratch — Putting a Newsletter Together Quickly for the Least Amount of Money" in upcoming issues. Felice Newman uses FBN's feminist publishers' column to describe Cleis' decision to publish a literary novel. Nett Hart continues on her theme of accessibility, this time tackling the difficult question of financial access. And, of course, there are hundreds of new book announcements and a host of well-worth-the-reading ads announcing a number of spectacular books.

The late-breaking issue as we go to press involves a new form of censorship: trucking firms and customs brokers that refuse to handle books they don't like. See page 17 for Press Gang's experience with a customs broker that refused to handle two of their titles. As we went to press we heard from Inland that TNT Express Worldwide, the trucking service they'd hired as part of their consolidated shipping service to Canadian stores, refused to take some of Inland's shipments through Canadian Customs saying, "There are gay and lesbian materials in these boxes. This is porn." "Basically," says Inland's David Wilk, "we're being homophobized. If a shipment has lesbian and gay books in it, they won't touch it. And this is all material that UPS carries routinely with no problem." We'll have more information in the next issue.

Many thanks to everyone who helped to get this issue out in time for the "early" ABA — to the columnists and writers who got their articles in on time, to our advertisers, a few of whom turned cartwheels to make our deadline, all of whom where as helpful as

FBN Deadlines

Summer Sidelines Issue
July/August
June 15

Fall Announcements Issue
September/October
August 14

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Binding Cultures

Black Women Writers in Africa and the Diaspora

Gay Wilentz

Binding Cultures investigates the cultural bonds between African and African-American women writers such as Nigerian Flora Nwapa and Ghanaians Efua Sutherland and Ama Ata Aidoo, writers who focus on the role of women in passing on cultural values to future generations, and African-American writers Alice Walker, Toni Morrison, and Paule Marshall, who self-consciously evoke African culture to help create a more integrated African-American community.

Blacks in the Diaspora • **paper $9.95**

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Brazilian Women's Fiction in the Twentieth Century

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Women writers have revolutionized Brazilian literature, and this impressive collection will provide English readers with a window on this revolution. These twenty previously untranslated selections by some of Brazil's most important writers illustrate the remarkable power of women's voices and the important contributions they have made to twentieth-century literature.

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possible, to Siné Anahita for our cover, to our printer who is striving to make this issue shine, and to FBN's intern Tanya Garig who gave up her hard-earned spring break to paste up this issue.

And my heartfelt thanks to FBN's Production Manager Cill Janeway and Assistant Editor Ann Morse who picked up the ball when I was called away at the beginning of production to attend to a family emergency. If asked, I would have said that it would have been impossible to get this issue out on time. Fortunately neither of them asked me — they just picked up every detail, dealt with every problem that came along, prevented many others with their foresight and gave me the back-up I needed to do my part when I was able to get back to the office. I feel very privileged to work with this crew.

I'd also like to thank Ed Hermance for all of his years of writing FBN's "Gay Lit for Feminist Bookstores" column. This issue includes either his last or his next-to-last column. If you're interested in writing this column, give us a call. We're also looking for a couple of feminist booksellers to take on 8 to 10 mainstream publishers for "On Publisher's Row." "Canadian Content" and "Border Crossings" (Books from Canada) will return in August.

The next issue will be our annual bookstore-sidelines issue. We'll also be reporting on the ABA Convention and the Fifth International Feminist Book Fair. If you're at either event, please stop by our booth, say hello, and catch us up on your news. We plan to have that issue in your mailbox by early August.

Speaking of August, Cill will be at the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival working with Simone in the craftswomen's area. If you're at Michigan, stop by and introduce yourself.

And last but not least, greetings to those of you picking up FBN for the first time at the International Feminist Bookfair in Amsterdam or at the American Booksellers Association Convention in California. FBN is a trade magazine for feminist bookstores, any aspect of feminist publishing and everyone who cares passionately about the status of women in print. Please see page 120 for subscription information. Publishers, please write to us or stop by our booth at either book fair for advertising rates.

Yours in spreading the words,
Carol Seajay ○

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

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

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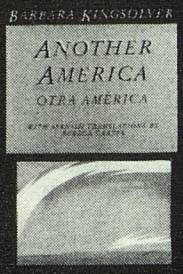

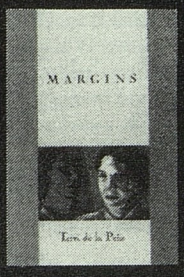

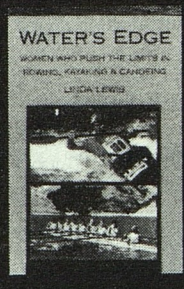

The Seal Press

NEW DISTRIBUTOR
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BEGINNING June 1, 1992 Seal Press will be distributed to the trade by Publishers Group West. Titles will still be available from Inland, Bookpeople, Baker & Taylor and Ingram, and returns will be accepted by Consortium Book Sales and Distribution through November 30, 1992.

VISIT our booth, #3210, at the ABA, and meet authors Barbara Kingsolver (*Another America/Otra America*) and Terri de la Peña (*Margins*).

JOIN us at the Lambda Literary Awards Dinner where Becky Birtha's *The Forbidden Poems* has been nominated for 'Best Lesbian Poetry.'

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FALL 1992

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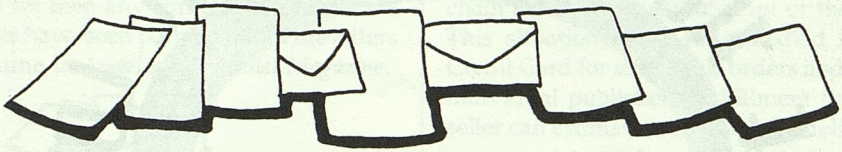
LETTERS



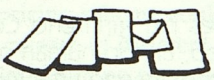
Volcano Press
PO Box 270
Volcano CA 95689

Dear FBN,

I really appreciated your comprehensive report on the problems booksellers have with ABA in *Troubled Times in Tarrytown*.

One statistic you cited really struck me, as one of the publishers whose fees for booth rentals contribute more than one-half the income of the ABA. Talk about taxation without representation! We have nothing to say about the booths assigned to us (anyone visiting the Volcano Press stand during the 1992 ABA might wonder if more than twenty years of seniority should entitle us to a better location).

But an even more unjust use of our money is demonstrated in the "house" space (means free) donated by ABA to *Children's Books Mean Business*, a large exhibit, ideally located. Whose children's books? Those books published by the members of the Children's Book Council, conglomerate publishing companies in the country. Do we independents get to exhibit our books there too? Are you kidding? Our role is to underwrite the space by paying for our own stands — the goodies go to the biggies. What else is new in the U.S. today?



If some of the independent booksellers carrying children's books would raise this issue via their ABA/CBC committee, it would be very effective. At the same time, they might ask why their widely distributed catalog, also entitled *Children's Books Mean Business*, does not list the independent publishers.

I would be happy to send my article entitled *Malice In Wonderland*, which appeared in *Small Press*, and analyzes the Children's Book Council and its affiliated joint committees, to anyone who phones or writes me for it.

Ruth Gottstein
209-296-2445

(Mr.) Texas FitzGerald
2410 West Avenue "N"
San Angelo TX 76904

Dear FBN,

We read with great interest your editorial about American Booksellers Association.

We joined ABA in 1989-1990 when we opened our store, Books Etc, in San Angelo, Texas. We based our decision in part on a brochure from AMA. After joining we received a refund for several ABA publications which were unavailable. We felt misled about the value of ABA membership and were denied useful information we wanted.

Garrison Keillor's radio program is of no interest to us because we have no access to public radio. Recently when we had an opportunity to hear the program for the first time, we were disimpressed with the content and alleged public relations value.

The Bookbuyer's Handbook is superfluous to us because we have Bowker's Books-In-Print. When ordering a single title, we confirm by phone availability, price, discount, shipping, and address. Other orders warrant seeing the publisher's catalog. We suspect many gay/lesbian/feminist stores rely upon a distributor or two and have no need for this publication.

Our most important reason to be members of ABA was to ward off censorship groups.

This year we decided to drop our ABA membership. Our store's finances dictated that decision, although we've seen less and less reason to be members.

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THE HOUSE OF REAL LOVE

Debra White

SHE HAS A HABIT THAT COULD BREAK HER HEART—LOVE

"IN *THE HOUSE OF REAL LOVE*, CARLA TOMASO TAKES AN IRREVERENT LOOK AT THE ATTITUDES AND ISSUES THAT AFFECT LESBIAN RELATIONSHIPS. A TRUE LESBIAN FARCE."
—NISA DONNELLY, AUTHOR OF *THE BAR STORIES*

"HIGHLY ORIGINAL CHARACTERS...ALL OF TOMASO'S NARRATORS TAKE GREAT EMOTIONAL RISKS."
—*PUBLISHERS WEEKLY*
(ON TOMASO'S STORIES IN *VOYAGES OUT 1*)

This gleefully irreverent novel is the story of a woman who loves her girlfriend Connie very much–in fact, they've been together for 20 years. But our unnamed, all-too-human narrator has one bad habit she just can't break; a little matter of casual affairs from time to time to time. And when Connie finds out, their home life takes a decidedly dramatic and outrageously offbeat turn. Wildly comic yet astonishingly perceptive, this antic tale will make you think twice about what goes into a "relationship that works." Turns out it's a *lot* more than you might suppose.

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CARLA TOMASO

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We have never attended an ABA Convention because of time and money constraints.

There are several major problems facing independent booksellers. We see ABA addressing none of these. Nor have we seen any constructive responses when these issues have been pointed out in the letters to the editor column in *American Bookseller Magazine*.

Retailing:

The price of a book is being split from the cost of services, but no means has been developed to charge for services. The 24-hour super grocery store has a book section of best seller and fast sellers, all at 25% off. The area of the store has no assigned employee. Labor cost consists of allocated time for restocking and cashiering by clerks. We see this trend accelerating with Ingram's new program to identify the top 1500 fastest selling titles. A logical extension is to offer discounts on the best sellers or newest books in specialty sections, including feminist, gay/lesbian, etc.

Publishing:

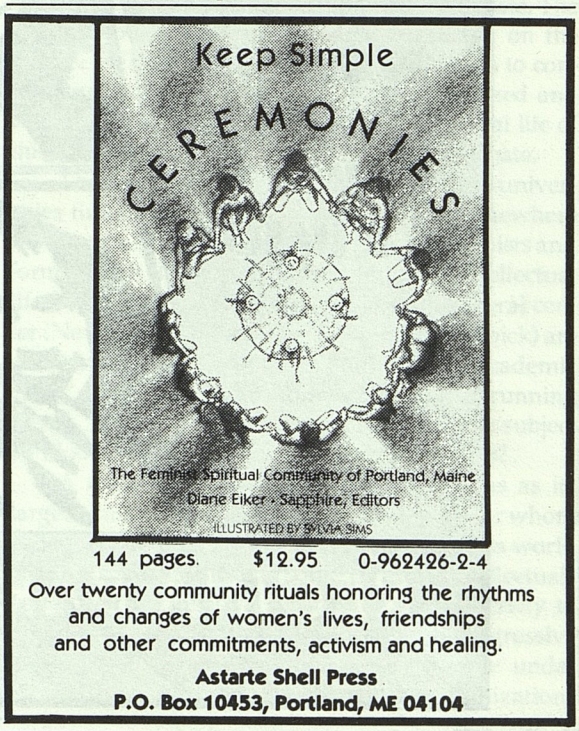
Multi-level pricing is the main reason for sequential release of hardcover and softcover formats. It is an attempt to gain a premium from people who need the information or want the information. This process delays dissemination of information and depreciates stock. Books expire because after their return date, they are no longer good for credit at the distributor or publisher, and their value is destroyed by dumping (remaindering). This practice is actually contrary to the industry's avowed purpose to disseminate information in an economic and timely manner. We cannot afford to keep books past the return date; nor can we afford to stock backlist that is discounted in mail order brochures. This pricing scheme could be dismantled by simultaneous release of different formats, limited press runs, and limited or no returns allowed.

Special Ordering:

The Single Title Order Plan (STOP) has been detrimental to our business. A customer with a credit card and a telephone can get better, faster service than we can since we have to mail a check. We have put our reputation on the line with the STOP program. The result? Publishers have taken weeks to six months to fulfill orders whose particulars were confirmed by phone. Customers rarely understand why it took so long to get a book. Most customers don't come back unless they have another problem order which the chain stores say is out of print or they cannot order. This situation could be remedied by a Bookseller Credit Card for single title orders and a system to rate individual publisher's fulfillment time so the bookseller can estimate accurately the delivery time.

Perks or Profit?

On the one hand we are grateful for the low minimums for trade discount from distributors and publishers. On the other hand, we realize certain perks such as free shipping orders of 100 books from distributors, or wider discounts for larger orders from publishers, could represent the profit margin in this business. As a small store, we have never benefited from Ingram's free freight policy. To keep special orders arriving in a timely manner, we place daily orders, usually the minimum 10 books on electronic order. Rarely does our order from a publisher earn more than typical trade discount. These perks actually favor chains and superstores.



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She who laughs, lasts.

THEY USED TO CALL ME SNOW WHITE... BUT I DRIFTED

WOMEN'S STRATEGIC USE OF HUMOR

With ample wit of her own, as well as help from Jane Austen, Mae West, Dorothy Parker and Lily Tomlin, Regina Barreca explains how any woman can put her humor to work at home, in the office and on the sexual battlefield.

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—Los Angeles Times

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—Chicago Tribune

"Funny, painful, electric...a book not just about gender, but about life, fit to invigorate the learned and reeducate the blasé."
—Fay Weldon

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REGINA BARRECA

PENGUIN BOOKS

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These are issues which a bookseller trade organization needs to address. When ABA's annual report points out that booksellers account for 15% of ABA's income, I suspect booksellers are regarded as the tail on ABA.

I have become cynical from my experiences in a number of organizations over the last few years. Dropping our ABA membership was one of the easiest decisions we have made.

Sincerely,
Texas FitzGerald

Kay Hagan
PO Box 18482
Denver CO 80218-0482

Dear FBN,

Thanks for including my letter about *Women Respond to the Men's Movement: a feminist Collection* (forthcoming from HarperSanFrancisco June '92) in the March/April issue. However, for those who might wonder who "Rosemary Eisler" is, looks like a line was dropped from the list of contributors — she's a typo-combo of Rosemary Radford Ruether and Riane Eisler, both of whom wrote their very own outstanding essays for the collection. Other contributors dropped with that line or who confirmed later: Starhawk, Margaret Randall, Barbara Kingsolver, Phyllis Chesler, Elizabeth Dodson Gray, Myriam Miedzan, Harriet Gill, Laura S. Brown, Kathleen Carlin, Jane Caputi, and Gordon McKenzie. Yes, there's a feminist here for everyone. Order big, and order early: wouldn't it be fun to bump Bly off the bestseller lists with this one?

Have fun at ABA & see you in Amsterdam!

Kay Hagan

Craig Gilmore
5353 Palmer Canyon
Claremont CA 91711

Dear Bookseller for Social Responsibility,

You are certainly aware of the massive campaign being waged to limit intellectual debate. Financed by the Olin Foundation and others, organized through the Heritage Foundation, Hoover Institute, etc., led by the National Association of Scholars, publicized by Newsweek, The New Republic, The Atlantic...the "Right" has been successful in setting the terms for the debate. The simultaneous attacks on academic "Leftists," on the NEA & NEH, and the huge infusions of funds to conservative think tanks represent a well-organized and well-financed attempt to control the intellectual life of this country as a means to limiting political debate.

Those of us working close to colleges and universities find it difficult to comprehend that somewhere in America Afrocentric activists, lesbian-feminists and former draft dodgers are controlling our intellectual life, especially when periodicals from the liberal center (New Republic) to the far right (take your pick) are attacking this alleged state of affairs. If this academic "Left" schooled in Saul Alinsky and Mao is running things, why are the best known books on the subject by Bloom, Bennett, D'Souza, Kimball & Sykes?

A massive disinformation campaign has as its target a small number of "Left" intellectuals for whom colleges have provided havens in the heartless world of the Reagan-Bush era. Some of those intellectuals have used the relative security of the university to open intellectual and political debate on progressive issues. It is this presumption which is now under attack. In response to this attack, two organizations

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Tanya Lester
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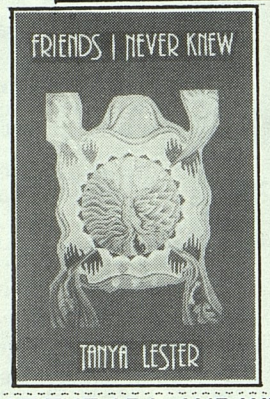

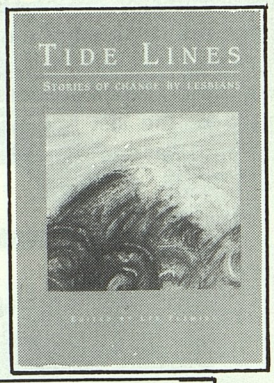

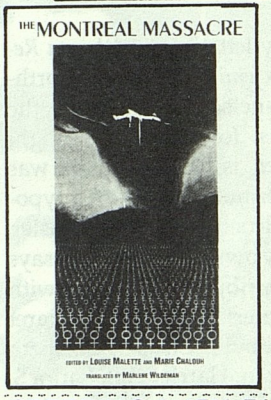

RECENT

TIDE LINES: Stories of Change by Lesbians
Lee Fleming (ed.)
0-921881-15-0 $10.95

FASCINATION and other bar stories
Jackie Manthorne
0-921881-16-9 $10.95

THE MONTREAL MASSACRE
Louise Malette and
Marie Chalouh (eds.)
Translated by
Marlene Wildeman
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EACH SMALL STEP: Breaking the chains of abuse and addiction
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WE'RE AT THE ABA, AND WE'RE OFFERING A 45% DISCOUNT
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have formed: Teachers for a Democratic Culture and Union of Democratic Intellectuals. Both seek among other goals to challenge the dominance of the "Right" in the national debate on cultural and intellectual issues.

It seems vital that the debate over who controls the cultural life of the country not take place without the participation of those of us involved in the material distribution of that culture. As you know, many of your best and brightest customers haven't the foggiest idea how books are acquired, published, distributed, promoted and sold. No understanding of the production of culture will be adequate which does not understand the role of market forces in shaping that culture. In this project to contest ideas of what our culture is, what it might be, how it is produced, booksellers have much to learn and to teach.

It is not my concern that we on the progressive side of the industry speak with a single voice on these issues. It is my concern that we speak, that we speak to each other, to publishers, writers, journalists, faculty, our customers, and that all these voices be heard. Stanley Fish and Dinesh D'Souza or Catherine Stimson and Lynn Cheney are great on McNeil-Lehrer, but that debate needs to be broadened. In order for a wide range of voices to be heard, we must organize.

I encourage you to raise such issues at regional meetings and at the ABA. Write articles for local newspapers, trade publications etc. Sponsor debates in store.

I'll be compiling a bibliography/resource center. Please send a note, letter, clipping of events you sponsor. Send also any bibliographic information on articles or books you've read (Annotations encouraged).

Craig Gilmore

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Anita D. McClellan
50 Stearns St.
Cambridge MA 02138

Dear FBN,

I'd like to share news from recent conversations with members of the Dutch organization that has been established as part of the 1992 Fifth International Feminist Book Fair — what fair participants can look forward to and what we need to think about regarding the structure of the feminist book fairs generally.

In October 1990, past fair-team representatives and all the Fourth Fair team attended a meeting to select the Fifth Fair group. As reported by the Fourth Fair Closing Report published in late 1991, these women also decided to create a "a permanent secretariat capable of guaranteeing the continuity from one fair to the next" and established an International Feminist Book Fair Advisory Board "composed of a small group of women from different parts of the world to maintain the wealth of information and experiences accumulated so far." The group stated the principle behind such a permanent fair-structure as to provide "great assistance to all the future fair organizers." They then appointed first-term members as follows:

Permanent Secretary: Carole Spedding, Great Britain. *Advisory Board:* Carole Spedding, Great Britain, representing the First Fair; Elisabet Middelthon, Norway, representing the Second Fair; María José Aubet, Spain, representing the Fourth Fair; Carol Seajay, USA, *Feminist Bookstore News*, editor; Urvashi Butalia, India, Kali for Women, publisher; Jester Tshuma, Zimbabwe, Zimbabwe Publishing House, publisher; Bärbel Becker, Germany, Frankfort Book Fair International Department.

The Dutch Fifth Fair organization will propose to Fifth Fair participants (exhibitors and writers attending the fair, non- members of the general public) that they take an active part in developing further the very useful concept of a permanent structure for feminist book fairs. In Amsterdam, therefore, plan to attend an open meeting during the trade days.

The initial order of business will be a report from the first advisory board members summarizing their 1990-1992 term activities with fiscal accountings. Next, participants will be asked to nominate and elect new board members for the 1992-1994 term of office, based on written descriptions of the duties of advisory board members, which will be circulated to fair registrants. Finally, candidates for future fairs will be introduced by the Dutch organizers. Participants will select the team for the 1994 Sixth Fair at this meeting.

The Dutch Fifth Fair organization has been fielding a number of strong candidates for future fairs and encourages all aspiring fair candidates to be in touch with them. The leading option for 1994 Sixth Fair is from Munich. The most promising option for the 1996 Seventh Fair is from a Brazilian network. Vienna is already actively preparing a proposal for the 1998 Eighth Fair.

See you in Amsterdam!
Anita D. McClellan,
Women In Publishing International Committee
Women's Review of Books
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ABA Responds to FBN Editorial

(The following is a response to the FBN editorial "Troubled Times in Tarrytown?" Vol. 14#6.)

By Joyce Meskis,
President, American Booksellers Association

The ABA is comprised of thousands of members with diverse interests and approaches: to bookselling, to their place within the book industry as well as in their communities, and toward the work of their association. Carol Seajay hit the mark when she noted that booksellers are independent thinkers and this is one of the great strengths of our industry and our association, not to mention our society.

The Board of Directors of the ABA has recognized this diversity from the outset. Its perspective and direction have been and continue to be directed toward meeting the needs and enhancing the position of this broad constituency of the community of booksellers. That has been and continues to be the soul of its vision.

The Board has felt that a strong ABA is an integral part in making that happen by fostering a social and business climate that encourages a strong and diverse network of bookstores. The Board is not always in agreement as to the means to accomplish its goals. The votes are not always unanimous. But the interests of the membership are always central in the making of any decision. People can pick any single thing that they dislike or that could have been done differently, but they should also recognize that this Board is considering many alternatives and tending the needs of a complex composite of members, and doing so with finite resources that must be sown, grown, and harvested over time. Not all programs will benefit all members equally all of the time, but taken as a whole there is a direct benefit to each member as a partner in the enhanced community of booksellers.

Providing programs and services takes money, and barely 15% of ABA's revenue is attributed to member contributions. Consequently, in order to do what the majority of the members think we ought to be doing, a certain amount of energy must go into producing income. Yes, it depends on trade show income, as well as advertising income and a host of other sources to produce the revenue it takes to serve the members. And the Board has intentionally set on a course to bring financial stability and an infrastructure to the Association that will enable it to continue to address issues of concern and to accomplish goals in the interests of its members into the next century. It's a temptation to wonder what we might have accomplished with our volunteer time and resources over the years if an ABA headquarters building had been purchased decades ago as some other associations have done. But this Association until recent years has virtually had its hands tied as a result of its low revenue base.

Booksellers, despite their import to the community of readers that they serve, were looked at by many of their colleagues in other segments of our industry as the poor relations, often with short shrift given to their opinions and concerns. That position has changed for a number of reasons, not the least of which is the active role that the ABA has played and the resources it has marshaled on their behalf. But there is much more to do. No, everything isn't fine, nor has the ABA purported it to be.

Neither is the sky falling. And while we may indeed be upbeat in our approach, we have not been blind-sighted as to the challenges confronting us, as an Association or as the bookselling community. The Board is not content with the fact that the bookselling community is "the lowest-income branch" of our industry. A bookstore, whether it be "Mom and Pop," "Mom and Mom," or a corporate entity, deserves to have a level playing field on which to do business, and opportunities to learn and professionalize its operation should it wish to do so, thus maximizing its potential in serving the marketplace of readers. Neither is the Board content with the inefficient distribution in our industry, nor with the state of illiteracy, alliteracy, and censorship attempts in our nation. It has worked hard on all of these issues and more, but again, there is much more to be done. Yes, we have come a long way but there is a long way to go.

The individuals who comprise the Board of Directors represent stores of various sizes and types in geographically diverse parts of the country. They are hands-on booksellers with an extensive collective pool

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pool of experience and are very much in touch with the problems and opportunities confronting our industry. ABA's is a management Board charged with the 'good of the whole', not a political Board with each member representing their own or special interests. And its members have always recognized the importance of listening to the ideas of their bookselling colleagues.

Task forces have been given assignments to study special problems (such as censorship, the needs of small stores, ...) and make recommendations to the Board, this in an effort to assure that the Board has an even greater experience on which to draw. The committee structure of the association has been broadened to include an even wider range of stores. And many individuals who have been critical of ABA have found themselves appointed to committees or on the Board itself.

That said in overview as to ABA's perspective and direction, I would like to address other, more specific points made in FBN's editorial.

• The ABA strives to find more effective ways to communicate with its members. Certain discussions are suitable in a public forum and others are not. Well intentioned people with the same goals may still differ as to what comes under and when there should be public discussion.

• It would be a breach of fiduciary duty and not good business sense to be discussing publicly the details of ongoing real estate negotiations. The negotiations are continuing and the results will be reported at their conclusion.

• That the *American Spectrum Encyclopedia*, like so many other books in its price category, did not sell in the anticipated numbers during this past holiday season was no secret. But it did take time to make an assessment of what the returns might be because booksellers usually don't start making returns until after January 1st. That preliminary assessment was made at the Board meeting in early February and reported shortly thereafter in my letter to the membership. In fact, subsequent returns have materialized to be less than expected. As business people and entrepreneurs ourselves, we certainly recognized the potential for changes in the marketplace and that a pro-active strategy such as making a book rather than buying an old one and putting it on sale does involve inherent risk. But the project is far from over, and conclusions drawn now as to the final disposition of the inventory with attendant profits or losses would be premature. Naturally, we had hoped to sell more in a shorter time, as everyone always does, but are prepared to either carry inventory or mark it down, depending on what business conditions dictate at the time. Among other possibilities we have also had a number of inquiries as to rights for alternative markets and are testing a direct mail program that would for the first time allow BOS and its booksellers to direct-mail professionally produced mass mailing pieces to selected lists of American consumers and provide them with materials and direction for new outreach sales programs.

• As to the composition of the background/experience of ABA staff, the preference is to have a blend that serves the needs of the membership best. When it is beneficial to have experience in some specialized facet of association management or in computer systems, or in convention management, an individual is sought out with those credentials. When a bookselling background is helpful, likewise.

• There is no double-think regarding the 4% membership drop. The membership department reported to the Board that the majority who volunteered information were canceling their membership because they were closing a store; they had been purchased and absorbed; or purchased with the new owner unsure about joining. We do not, as yet, have information from those who didn't volunteer it. In any case, early indicators in 1992 show that we're gaining on the losses of 1991.

• FBN's report on the suggestion for an ABA bookseller liaison missed the mark. Two items were under discussion. The first dealt with the problems experienced with ABA's voice mail system (hardly a secret) and suggestions for dealing with it. The second had to do with an ABA liaison to the Regional offices.

• And last, this Board is hopeful, too, in what the future holds: for the Association, for its members, the industry and the community of readers we serve. As we face the issues ahead it is to be hoped as well that what differences we may have will be approached constructively, not destructively, to ensure an environment where ideas can be exchanged freely and the most creative productive solutions found. ○

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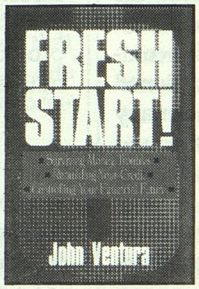

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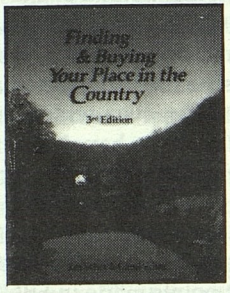

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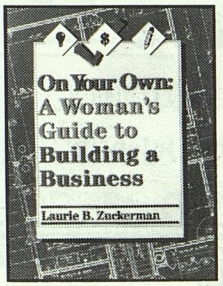

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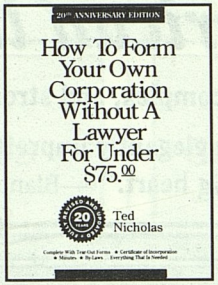
Laurie Zuckerman owns a management consulting business in Akron, Ohio. She works with numerous women entrepreneurs. Her book has been selected by numerous book clubs, including Fortune Book Club, Macmillan Executive Program and Homestyle Book Club.



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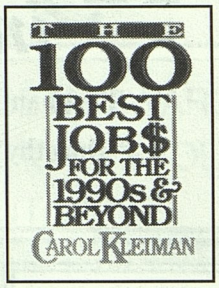

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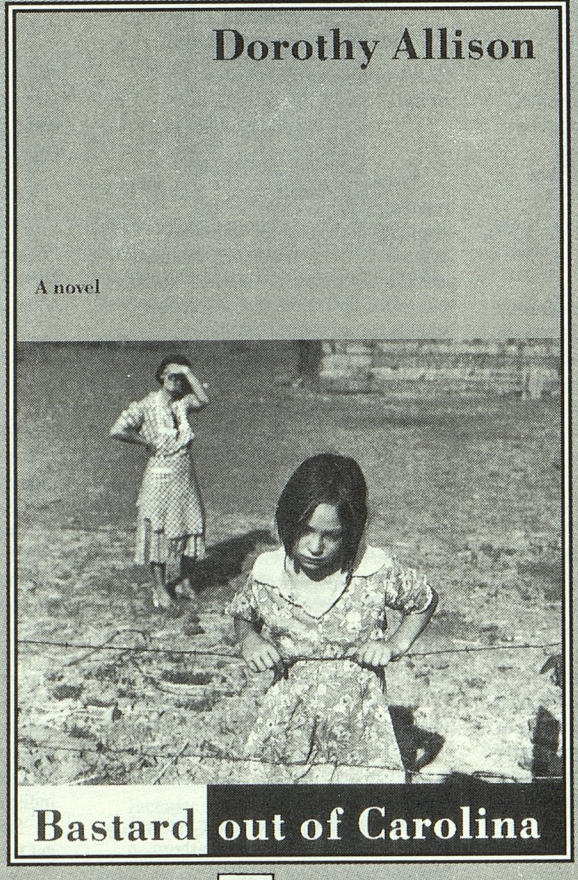

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News News News

CUSTOMS BROKER REFUSES TO PROCESS PRESS GANG TITLES

Vancouver feminist publisher Press Gang reports that customs broker Norman G. Jensen, Inc. has refused to handle two of their titles, *Drawing the Line* and *Inversions: Writing by Dykes, Queers & Lesbians* ,despite the fact that both titles have been cleared by U.S. Customs.

"We were concerned that Customs might have misconstrued the intent of *Drawing the Line* and its role in the debate about censorship in our community," Press Gang's Della McCreary told FBN. "But it never occurred to us that it would be our own broker who would censor and prevent *the clearance of our books*."

While one can imagine that some people might be

See **Customs**, *page 122*

SEAL MOVES TO NEW DISTRIBUTOR

Publishers Group West will begin distributing books by the Seattle-based feminist publisher Seal Press on June 1. Seal publishers said the move represents a new stage in their growth and plans for the future. "We look forward to working with (PGW) to bring our books to a wider audience," said Seal's co-publisher Faith Conlon.

The 16-year-old Seal Press will continue to publish feminist mysteries and multicultural literature, but will concentrate on expanding its nonfiction list. Its Fall 1992 season, the first with PGW, will feature books on women's achievements in areas from mountain climbing to rock music.

Seal's current distributor, Consortium, will accept returns for Seal titles until November 30.

JOSEPH BEAM AWARD CONTROVERSY RESOLVED AT OUT/WRITE

In response to protest and criticism voiced by Black lesbian and gay writers and activists at the use of Joseph Beam's name, the previously announced Joseph Beam Award was not presented at Out/Write. The Award was designed to recognize a book that is outstanding for its exploration of new subject matter, or that reaches a new audience that was not previously served by lesbian and gay publishing.

Two hundred people convened to discuss the issue Saturday evening at the Out/Write conference, to present and hear a statement signed by 250 Black lesbian and gay writers and activists, and to hear responses from Award organizers.

The statement read in part "[Mrs. Dorothy Beam] has rescinded her permission to use her son's name in connection with this award as it is presently constructed.... She believes, as do many of us, than an award in Joseph Beam's name should at least represent the Black-identified politics, concerns and issues he stood for.... We are both insulted and angry that no input was sought from the Black lesbian and gay community to establish criteria for nomination....

"We agree that an award honoring a work of significant social impact coming from the gay and lesbian community should be established, but to set in motion an award in Joseph Beam's name that does not acknowledge his primary life-force and vision as a Black gay man who was committed to anti-racist activism is an act of erasure that could be considered possible only in the context of cultural domination....

"An award is surely not a cure-all and pain-reliever for all the indignity and oppression many persons of color have suffered within the lesbian and gay literary community. An award will not totally

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Together, they journey over grueling terrain, to the shining world of Artemis, and in their struggle to survive, find themselves unexpectedly drawn to each other.

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address the complexities inherent in our differences. But since Joseph Beam's name has been raised, and attempts have been made to misconstrue his work and identity, it is fitting that we should now explore the possibility of establishing an award in his name that serves to empower the vision he held for the communities he sought to represent....

"Furthermore, there should be many awards established to affirm and empower the various angles of vision and the diversity of communities which have been marginalized, silenced or rendered invisible, within a lesbian and gay framework. In 1992, we challenge the entire lesbian and gay community to put anti-racism finally into practice — and to support on every level those of us who must confront multiple oppressions in our writings, in our political works and in our everyday lives." The statement was signed by Jewelle Gomez, Ron Simmons, Essex Hemphill, Barbara Smith, Assoto Saint and over 250 others.

The meeting concluded with the decisions that the previously announced award would be renamed and that an award honoring Joseph Beam that serves to empower his vision be developed and funded during the next year. The first award will now be called The Out/Write — Vanguard Award. It will be presented in conjunction with the ALA in June.

The meeting was described by several observers as profoundly successful in terms of dealing with a problem and resolving it, in terms of creating an award felt to be more appropriate by Beam's immediate community, in terms of continuing, rather than losing, the award that had previously been designed, and in terms of acknowledging mistakes, rectifying them, and moving on — a success that will hopefully inform the political process and growth of our communities in years to come.

For more on Out/Write, see page 23.

BOOKS ON WINGS STOCKS NEW ALLENDE BOOK

The most recent book by Isabel Allende is now available in Spanish from Books On Wings. Allende's *Lel Plan Infinito* has been published by Diana in Mexico ($15.95 pb, 968-13-2238-X) and by Sud Americana in Argentina ($15.95 pb, 950-07-0724-1). There also is a hardcover first edition of her new book available at $37.50 from Plaza & Janes in Spain (ISBN 84-01-38204-1). Books On Wings promises that they have plenty of copies in stock.

Other recent titles of interest to feminist booksellers stocking Spanish-language editions are Cristina Peri Rossi's *Solitario De Amor*, published by Grihalbo in Mexico ($12.50 pb, 970-05-0027-6); and Laura Esquivel's *Como Agua Para Chocolate*, published by Planeta in Mexico ($17.95 pb, 968-406-140-4).

Order from Books On Wings, 1453 Mission St. Sixth Floor, San Francisco CA 94103. No minimum order. 35% discount, 40% discount prepaid.

SCARLET PRESS ANNOUNCES FIRST TITLES

Scarlet Press, a new, British, feminist press will launch its first titles June 8. Scarlet will publish a broad range of titles covering subjects such as information about women, sexuality, politics and history. Scarlet's first four titles will be *The European Women's Almanac* by Paula Snyder; *Women Talk Sex* by Pearlie McNeill, Bea Freeman, and Jenny Newman; *Queer Politics* by Cherry Smyth; and *Superwomen and the Double Burden: Women's Experience of Change in Central and Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union* by Chris Corrin.

Titles announced for Fall include: *Women and Bisexuality* by Sue George; *Lesbians Talk Safer Sex* by Sue O'Sullivan and Pratibha Parmar; and *Because You Want to Write: A Guide to Writing* by Pearlie McNeill. In 1993 watch for *Sexuality* by Meg Coulson, the first in Scarlet's "What's Best for Women: A European Perspective on Social Policy" series; *Lesbianism Within Popular Culture; How to Be Butch in a Petticoat: The Growth of Lesbian Identity 1694-1824; Lesbian Histories; The Complete Guide to Women's Football* and *The Midwife's Tale: An Oral History from Handywoman to Professional Midwife.*

Canadian and U.S. rights to *Superwomen and the Double Burden* have already been sold to Second Story Press (Toronto). Columbia University Press has purchased both U.S. and Canadian rights to *The European Women's Almanac.* U.S. distribution has not yet been announced. Look for Scarlet Press at the V International Feminist Book Fair.

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CLEIS, FIREBRAND & SPINSTERS JOIN INBOOK

Three major U.S. women's presses will be represented by InBook, the trade sales division of Inland Book Co., effective June 1, 1992.

Cleis Press, Firebrand Books, and Spinsters Book Company signed on with InBook after weighing the benefits and costs of joining an exclusive distribution group for more than a year. They expect their collective influence at InBook to insure a strong feminist and lesbian presence.

The publishers expect increased visibility and increased sales as a result of the move. They cited InBook's U.S. and Canada sales reps, their familiarity with feminist and lesbian books, and the increasing centralization of book distribution as the deciding factors.

As of June 1, 1992, all bookstore orders for Cleis, Firebrand, and Spinsters Book Company titles should be directed to Inland Book Co. Booksellers should send all payments due each press for previous orders directly to the publisher. Please contact the presses individually for information on returns.

Cleis Press: Felice Newman, 412-937-1555.

Firebrand Books: Nancy Bereano, 607-272-0000.

Spinsters Books: Susan Fleming, 415-558-9586. ○

OBITUARY

Parke Bowman, co-founder of Daughters, Inc., died at her home in Key West, Florida, on February 5, 1992 of lung cancer.

Born February 7, 1934 in New Jersey, and raised in the vicinity of Short Hills, New Jersey, Parke (Patti) Bowman together with her lover and partner June Arnold, founded Daughters, Inc., the lesbian-feminist publishing company most often singled out for the initial publication of Rita Mae Brown's *Rubyfruit Jungle.*

After June Arnold's death in March, 1982, Parke moved to Lonelyville, New York, a virtually uninhabited town on Fire Island, and lived there until the Fall of 1991 when she moved to Key West.

At the time of her death she was editing a book entitled "The Way My Father Died" scheduled for publication by Running Press.

There are no known survivors. ○

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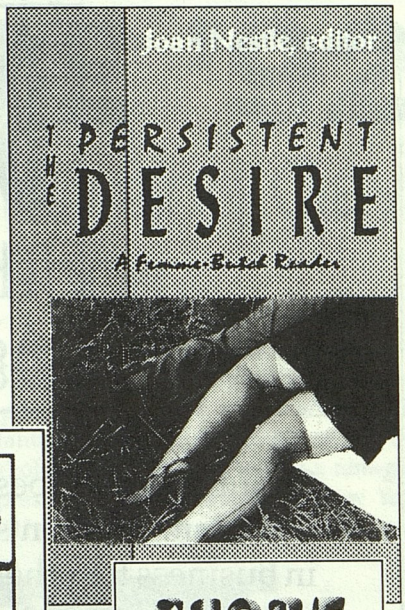
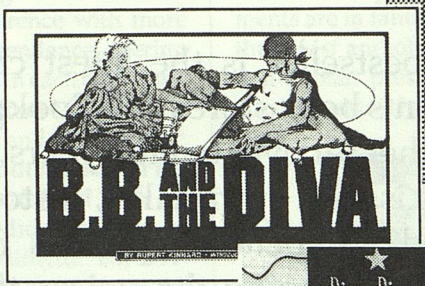
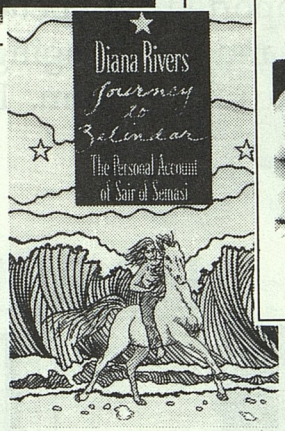


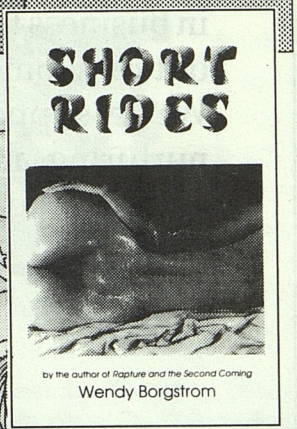
THE PERSISTENT DESIRE: A femme-butch reader, edited by Joan Nestle, trade paper, $12.95. Through personal essays, short fiction, poetry, interviews, and photographs, some eighty women explore femme and butch identities in the lesbian community.
ISBN 1-55583-190-7; about 380 pages. Photographs. June.



B.B. AND THE DIVA, by Rupert Kinnard, trade paper, $6.95. Meet the Brown Bomber — a fearless black superhero with a bedsheet pinned to his shoulders — and his best friend, Diva Touché Flambé, as they take on Jesse Helms, the right wing, and badmindedness in general.
ISBN 1-55583-134-6; 144 pages. Available now.



JOURNEY TO ZELINDAR: The personal account of Sair of Semasi, by Diana Rivers, trade paper, $9.95. A young woman from the mythical town of Eezore flees the tyranny of her husband and learns the goodness of life from a mystical band of lesbian warriors.
ISBN 1-55583-305-5; 301 pages. Available now.



SHORT RIDES, by Wendy Borgstrom, trade paper, $7.95. The author of the popular *Rapture and the Second Coming* delights readers with these eclectic tales of lesbian lust and love: a mud-wrestling reverend, cowgirls exploring the Wyoming wilderness, and even a lesbian who provides sex education for the married woman next door.
ISBN 1-55583-313-6; about 180 pages. June.

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OUT/WRITE '92

The 3rd National Lesbian and Gay Writers Conference

By Susanna J. Sturgis

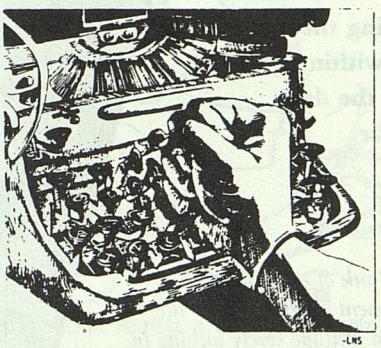
How to take in, never mind digest and summarize, Out/Write '92, a writers conference with more than 1,500 gay men and lesbians in attendance, offering as many as 13 panels and workshops in each of six time slots? Held in Boston's Park Plaza Hotel March 20-22, the conference was both stimulating and unsettling.

Out/Write participants turned out in force for the panels, which meant that many overflowed their assigned rooms, and even when they didn't, the size of the assembly made real discussion difficult. For novice writers, a half-dozen or so workshops were offered; most time slots included at least one reading that grouped regionally and nationally known writers with those just breaking into print.

Some sessions explored the nuts-and-bolts of publishing: dealing with agents and editors, self-publishing, marketing, and the like. The National Association of Lesbian/Gay Journalists helped organize several panels dealing with media, both gay/ lesbian and mainstream. Others such literary topics as theater, travel writing, writing in Spanish, censorship, multiculturalism, and the political implications of literary style. Among the non-book panels were those on local history projects, cartoonists, music, "'Zine Cuisine," making movies, and performance art.

One unexpected pleasure was that, for the most part, the mood was one of open-hearted inquiry. Sure, "you must" and "you must not" were sometimes heard, about what should be written and where it should be published, but these remarks didn't set the tone of the conference.

I wasn't invited to Out/Write as a panelist, which puzzled and annoyed me until the conference was well under way and I realized that my accomplishments were in areas that seemed to be largely invisible to Out/Write organizers: (1) my history is in feminist/lesbian print; (2) my most recent accomplishments are in fantasy/science fiction (f/sf); and (3) my three f/sf anthologies were published by a non-gay, non-lesbian press that isn't quartered in New York City. I couldn't have camouflaged myself better had I tried.



F/sf, for instance, was represented on only one panel, "Genrefication," which it had to share with mysteries and the idea that lesbian and gay writing might constitute a genre itself. The Gaylaxian Science Fiction Society, which produced the first three Gaylaxicons (an sf convention for lesbians, gay men, and friends), was nowhere in evidence, on panels, in caucuses, in the dealers' room. Did Out/Write organizers make any attempt to contact the Gaylaxians? If not, why not?

The feminist dis/connection was less blatant and more complicated. Sometimes passionate feminism fairly crackled in the air, as in the panel, "Beyond Boundaries," that explored the unclassifiability of new lesbian fiction. At other times, I seemed to be looking at a familiar group photograph with some

See **Out/Write**, *page 58*

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RETURN OF THE GODDESS 1993

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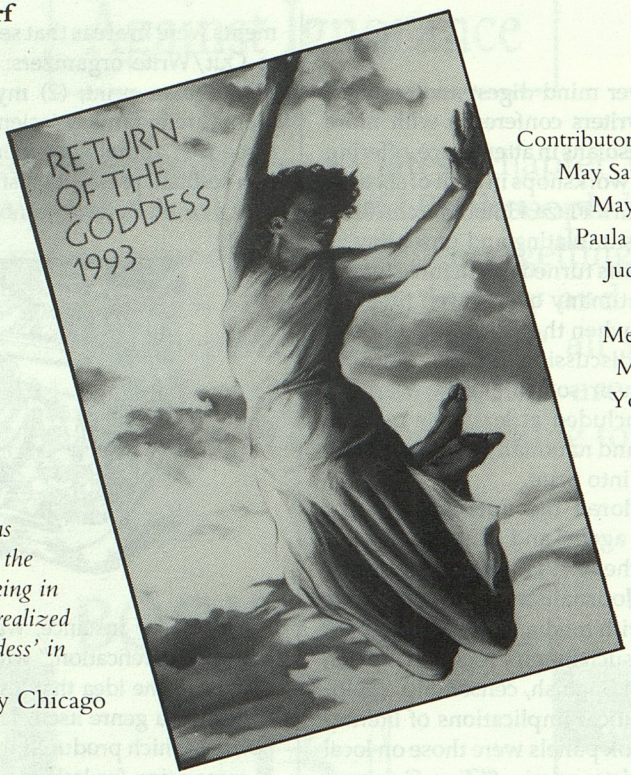

Contributors include: Marija Gimbutas, May Sarton, Imogen Cunningham, Mayumi Oda, Ntozake Shange, Paula Gunn Allen, Elinor Gadon, Judy Dater, Gregory Gillespie, Nancy Spero, Linda Post, Merlin Stone, Leonard Baskin, Mary Frank, Barbara Walker, Yoko Ono, Jospeh Campbell, Irene Young, Vicki Noble, Hella Hammid.

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Judy Chicago

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Soapstone: A Retreat of One's Own

The organizers of Flight of the Mind writing workshops are creating something very special in the forests of Oregon: Soapstone, a writing retreat for women.

Soapstone is 24-acres of cedar, maple and alder trees in Oregon's Coast Range, an hour and a half from Portland. The property includes "a mile of magical creek" and a cabin, and is home to deer, elk and beaver. The retreat will operate six months out of the year to provide women writers with the peace and support they need to work. Each woman will have a private sleeping and work space, with a shared kitchen and living room. The cabin will be heated with a wood stove, there will be a wood cookstove in the kitchen and electricity for typewriters or word processors.

Initially, Soapstone will offer residencies to two women writers at a time, for periods of between one week and one month. Organizers hope to eventually build more studios at Soapstone to accommodate additional writers. To apply, writers must submit samples of their work and information about their projects. According to the organizers, "Acceptance into the retreat program will constitute a fellowship, but those who can afford to contribute to the cost of their stay will be given the opportunity to do so."

Siné Anahita

To make this retreat a reality, Soapstone needs donations — donations of money, time, skills and materials. Organizers need to raise $100,000 to buy into the property and begin the construction which will allow writers to have private living and work spaces. Although in the early stages of a fundraising campaign, Soapstone already had collected $18,600 by early March, an amount which includes $10,000 from Nancy Nordhoff, who founded a similar retreat on Whidbey Island.

To contribute to the Soapstone fund, send donations to Soapstone, 622 SE 29th Ave., Portland OR 97214; 503-236-9862.

Soapstone's president is Ursula K. LeGuin, Judith Barrington is executive director and the board of directors includes Ruth Gundle, (Eighth Mountain Press) Madeline Moore, Monza Naff, Gloria Borg Olds, Geraldine Pearson and Evelyn C. White. ○

Why a Women Writers' Retreat?

A statement from the organizers of Soapstone: "Women writers find it particularly difficult to make time for their writing. Traditionally accustomed to putting others' needs before their own, many women who attend Flight of the Mind writing workshops have *never before* had any time where their only responsibility was to their writing.

"Women, too, face particular economic difficulties, which often make it impossible for them to go away and concentrate on their writing.

"The practical support and validation offered by an organization devoted to women's writing is essential to the creation of work that embodies the powerful truths of women's lives." ○

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The Poetry of Sex

Edited by Tee Corinne

The Poetry of Sex: Lesbians Write the Erotic presents a diverse group of women writing multi-layered poems. With a fierce honesty, seventy-eight women share their knowledge of sexual pleasure, humor, the loss of desire, body memories, politics, self-sexuality, separation, fantasy, and lust. Michelle Parkerson speaks for many contributors when she says, "Giving voice to the erotic in my writing is a way of celebrating why I am a lesbian — the force and transcendence of women's passions. In a society that thrives on pornography, racism, and homophobia, there is defiance in shaping a sexual universe in my own image."

ISBN 0-934411-50-6 ..... $9.95

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NEWS FROM THE BOOKSTORES

Compiled by Carol Seajay

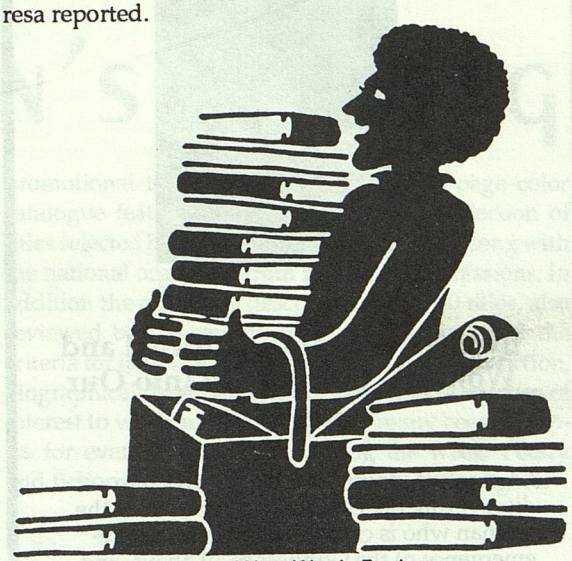
Long-term Old Wives Tales (San Francisco) staffer Tiana Arruda has left the bookstore to purchase and run a news-kiosk in a nearby neighborhood. Current OWT collective members include Janet Klein, Elisa Mondschein and Darlene Pagano.

Crazy Ladies in Cincinnati writes that they had their best December ever, that January and February were also excellent, and that March was off to a good start when they penned their letter. "It seems that Anita Hill has galvanized women. Women are walking into Crazy Ladies who have never been here before. It's great!"

Southern Sisters Bookstore in Durham ("probably the only bookstore in the world with a research geneticist as a bookkeeper") is hitting the break-even point. They, of course, are eager to move beyond break-even and into serious profitability. They also report a series of break-ins that stopped when they got a burglar alarm. "It's expensive — there are other ways we'd rather spend our money — but it works," is their advice.

Lioness Books showed a 10% increase in sales in 1991 over 1990, though expenses were up an additional $10,000 due to increased staff costs. In 1981 when Theresa purchased the store, sales were $18,000. Since then sales have increased every year except one (when inexperienced staff did the bulk of the book ordering) to the store's present $222,000 sales level. In 1990 the store showed a 30% growth rate.

"We've expanded to fill the entire first floor of our building," Theresa reports, "and we now have three major displays: our main display of new titles, a children's book display, and we've recently started doing a display that features the work of a different feminist publisher every month." Lioness has also recently purchased a number of new shelving units that allow for face-out display of art books, children's books and new hardcovers. "The first weekend they were up we sold *a lot* of new hardcover books," Theresa reported.



Courtesy of New Words Bookstore

Lioness also has "a whole new staff — again," a situation Theresa is, philosophically, looking at as "an opportunity to clean up work areas and procedures that had grown sloppy" despite the tremendous amount of time that training new staff takes. Innovations in the staff area include assigning sections so that someone is responsible for dusting, tidying, and keeping the books organized in the appropriate manner. "It worked out well once we decided to do it. Everyone picked her favorite sections and we divvied up the rest." Theresa also created a task list of miscellaneous tasks that weren't getting done (cleaning the bathroom, etc.) and staff signed up for those as well. "I don't care who *does* the work — more power to anyone who can figure out how to delegate these tasks or get someone else to do them — just so someone's accountable for seeing that the jobs are done regularly."

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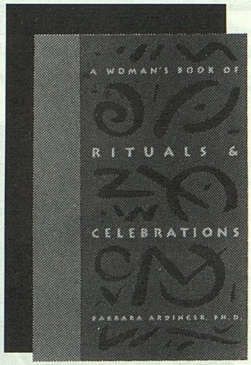
A WOMAN'S BOOK OF RITUALS AND CELEBRATIONS



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— Gloria Fenman Orenstein
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Madison feminist bookstore A Room of One's Own has twice been the recipient of late-night, drive-by pellet-gun shootings that have put holes in several large plate-glass windows and shattered others. The same nights that the bookstore's windows were shot, Planned Parenthood's windows were also broken with shot-gun blasts. Several other stores in the vicinity, including local department stores unlikely to be political targets, also had windows broken in drive-by shootings at the same time. The shootings have occurred late at nigh, when, presumably, no one would be in any of the buildings. It isn't clear if the bookstore, Planned Parenthood, and the other stores are the victims of "malicious mischief," or if these were attacks targeted specifically at feminist and pro-choice organizations with a few added "pot-shots" at other plate-glass windows along the way. At the time of the first shooting, the bookstore also received a series of violent phone calls with men screaming (or using amplifiers) "fucking feminist bitches" though none of the calls referred to the window damage in any way.

Police support has been excellent. Most of the police working on the investigation have been women, some of whom are regular bookstore customers, or men working with female partners. Police have reported the attacks as "potential hate crimes" which allows them to continue the investigation indefinitely. A Room of One's Own also suffered from an intentionally set trash-fire earlier this year.

Courtesy of *Everywoman's Almanac 1991*

There was no further damage following the pro-choice marches in Washington and Madison.

A Room of One's Own also reports that 1992 sales are way over last year despite December 1991 sales being below December 1990 sales, and that, fortunately, their lease specifies that their landlord carries the window insurance and deductible. ○

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Listener WOMEN'S BOOK FESTIVAL

New Zealand Celebrates Women's Writing

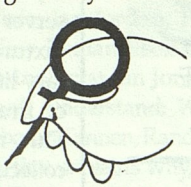
By Penny Hansen
National Organiser of the Listener Women's Book Festival

New Zealand will hold the Fifth Annual Listener Women's Book Festival this September. Once again, the festival will feature a whole week of readings, discussions, and events focused on books written by and for women — bliss for thousands of women throughout New Zealand who turn out to regional events, tune in to radio, and pour over newspapers and magazines featuring New Zealand women writers and one or two invited guests.

The organisers of the Listener Women's Book Festival — a national committee of women prominent in the book trade — have based the celebration on the British and Australian "Feminist Book Fortnights," but adapted it to New Zealand. Compared to the British and Australian festivals, the New Zealand one is more broadly based. With such a small population we don't see ourselves as having any other choice. And it works very well to draw women in who might shy away from a "feminist book festival."

The festival week always encompasses September 19, the day in 1893 on which New Zealand women achieved suffrage. On that day each year, regional groups all over New Zealand celebrate women's suffrage. Events on that day are invariably political: breakfasts at which politicians — always women of course — speak, panel discussions on where we've come from, where we're going.

Other events focus on titles from the Listener Women's Book Festival Catalogue, the festival's main promotional tool. This approximately 24-page color catalogue features the "Top Twenty," a collection of titles selected by a committee of booksellers, along with the national organiser, from publisher submissions. In addition the catalogue describes another 80 titles, also reviewed by the committee to ensure they meet the criteria for inclusion, in the areas of fiction, non-fiction, biographical, health and money matters. All issues of interest to women are covered, and many become topics for events/celebrations during the week. Poetry and fiction readings satisfy the literary festival goer.



Feminist booksellers work hard before and during festival week promoting events and books. Auckland organiser Carole Beu, from The Women's Bookshop, coordinated 30 events during festival week and — with the help of her friends — ran her shop at the same time. Other booksellers — both feminist and non-feminist — find the festival works well for them if they are involved with regional events and encourage customers to use the catalogue effectively as a buying tool.

A network of 28 regional groups decide on their week's programmes. With funding from the Queen Elizabeth II Arts Council, writers are toured, with programmes coordinated nationwide through the national organiser in Auckland. One night a writer might find herself in a rural hall in a town with a total population of 1,000, the next night she may be in the

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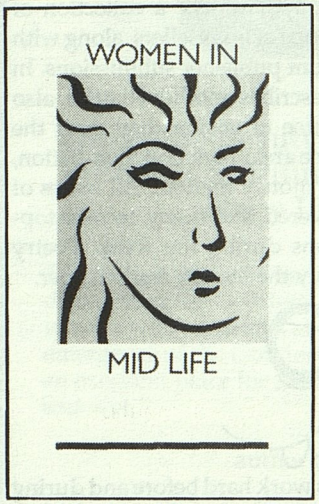
Town Halls of Auckland or Wellington talking to 1,000 women. "Exhausting and exhilarating, not to be missed" is how Lauris Edmond, New Zealand poet, describes her festival experience of readings to six different groups on four days.

In a small country (population 3 million) at the edge of the world, visits from international writers are a highlight of the festival for many women. The public attention these writers get provides invaluable news coverage for the festival as a whole.

Stephanie Dowrick in 1990 and 1991, Fay Weldon, Bernice Rubens, Lisa Alther and Lisa St Aubin de Teran have attracted large crowds, and given audiences reading treats. Lisa Alther's visit in 1991 coincided with Stephanie Dowrick's second visit. Unknown to anyone except her publishers, Stephanie Dowrick had dedicated her latest title *Intimacy and Solitude* to Lisa Alther. To have them both together on the same platform, as we had in Auckland and Dunedin, provided a special excitement; a literary event that was also a living expression of friendship and professional support between two women whose lives have exemplified celebration of women's writing.

In 1992, when the celebration will run from September 13-20, the Listener Women's Book Festival is hoping that funds will enable Marilyn French to attend. In 1993 the centennial of women's suffrage in New Zealand will provide a focus for intensive celebrations.

Anyone with questions about the festival should contact national organiser Penny Hansen, 5 Bellevue Road, Mt. Eden, Auckland, 3, New Zealand; phone (09) 600-335.



NZ Selects Top 20

FICTION

Wilderness Tips, Margaret Atwood, Bloomsbury. Atwood is an incomparable observer both of the many textures of contemporary life and of the logic of irrational behaviour. This magnificent new collection is rich, alarming, satisfying.

The Word Burners, Beryl Fletcher, Daphne Brasell Associates Press. A missing budgie, a mysterious hang-glider, a burnt notebook. This gripping novel shows the maturity of women's writing, combining strong narrative with compelling ideas. Stories interweave and counterpoint as three women confront their lives' directions, and fight for and celebrate their power.

Patricia Grace Selected Stories, Patricia Grace, Penguin. This first-ever selection of Patricia Grace's short stories brings together her finest stories in one volume. These 26 stories are selected from three existing anthologies and cover the years 1975-87.

Joanna, Lisa St. Aubin de Terán, Virago. With extraordinary depictions of places and human complexity, here is a novel that is at once a harrowing family drama and a powerful allegory of the rise of Nazism and the tragedies of a century.

Darcy's Utopia, Fay Weldon, Collins Publishers. From one of Britain's leading contemporary authors, this is a dangerously funny and deeply serious novel about God and the Devil, about love and betrayal, about the state of our society and about sexual passion.

A Sensible Life, Mary Wesley, Black Swan. Wesley's best novel to date; obsessions, rejection and love are described with acute social perception and striking compassion in the magnificent story tracing the three relationships in the life of a lonely, dark-haired girl named Flora.

NON-FICTION

Aunts and Windmills: Stories From My Past, Pauline O'Regan, Bridget Williams Books. With characteristic warmth and wit, Pauline O'Regan evokes the world of her 1930s childhood in a small West Coast farming community.

The Beauty Myth, Naomi Wolf, Vintage UK. What is the myth that still enslaves women? The compulsive pursuit of beauty: a tyrannical and seductive trap in which women are imprisoned — and in which they imprison themselves. This book explodes the myth. A cultural hand-grenade for the '90s.

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Bonfires in the Rain Volume II, Lauris Edmond, Bridget Williams Books. Eloquent and assured, the second volume of Lauris Edmond's autobiography is a remarkable account of a woman's journey from conformity to a tentative and painful independence; of the growth and death of a marriage, and the questioning and discovery of self.

Intimacy and Solitude, Stephanie Dowrick, Reed. The delicate balance between the need for closeness and for independence is at the heart of many relationship difficulties. This book will help you uncover your own emotional history and discover what you want in the present.

Ladies A Plate: Changes and Continuity in the Lives of New Zealand Women, Julie Park, editor, Auckland University Press. A fascinating landmark study of what it means to be a woman in late 20th-century New Zealand.

Mana Wahine Maori: Writings on the Culture and Politics of Maori Women, 1972-1990, Ngahuia Te Awekotuku, New Women's Press. The author has been involved in Maori, feminist and gay issues for more than 20 years.

The Menopause Industry: Medicine's Discovery of the Mid-life Woman, Sandra Coney, Penguin. Sandra Coney challenges both medical and popular stereotypes of women at mid-life.

The New Zealand Pregnancy Book, Sue Pullon with Becky Bliss, Bridget Williams Books. Practical and informative, this comprehensive guide for New Zealand women offers a wealth of information about pregnancy, delivery and the early months with a new baby.

Parker & Hulme: A Lesbian View, Julie Glamuzina & Alison J. Laurie, New Women's Press. The usual treatment of the 1954 murder case has been sensational, resulting in an association of lesbianism with 'evil' and 'insanity.' This is a fascinating discussion of the case in the context of mid-50s New Zealand and surrounding issues of sexuality and social control.

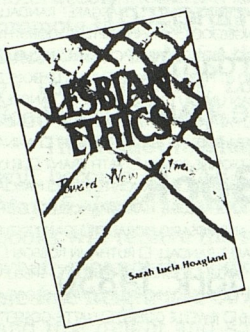
Telling It, Valerie Scott, Mallinson Rendel. A helpful and reassuring book for parents about how and what to tell their children about sexual development, keeping safe, sexual abuse, drugs, glue and alchohol, the law, finding a job, and many other topics concerning children growing up today.

Wahine Toa: Women of Maori Myth, Robyn Kahukiwa (Illustrations), Patricia Grace (Text), Viking Pacific. A brilliantly illustrated, vibrant retelling of Maori creation myths from a women's perspective.

Women In Mid Life, Leteia Potter, New Women's Press. Covers physical changes from the mid-30s leading to and including the menopause. Includes self-help advice, from homeopathic medicines to relaxation techniques.

Working Girls, Jan Jordan, Penguin. Seventeen women in the New Zealand sex industry talk about their lives to criminologist Jan Jordan.

You Just Don't Understand: Women and Men in Conversation, Deborah Tannen, Random Australia. At last a pioneering book that explains why, with the best intentions, we find it difficult to talk to the opposite sex. ○



LESBIAN ETHICS
Sarah Lucia Hoagland

In a time when much of what is written by non-colored women fails to touch me, *Lesbian Ethics* is a politically engaged philosophy I can relate to.
Gloria E. Anzaldúa

This is a book in which your best friend discusses and argues with you until 3 a.m., and you finally fall asleep delighted to be a lesbian, able to dream "lesbianism, the theory."
Elana Dykewomon

LESBIAN ETHICS uses lesbian experience as a starting point for redefining ethics. The overall thesis is that the values from anglo-european ethical philosophy undermine rather than promote lesbian connection. Challenging control in lesbian relationships, the book develops an ethics relevant to lesbians under oppression — one which avoids both blaming the victim and victimism, which embraces the spirit of lesbian resistance, and which encourages plurality.

INSTITUTE OF LESBIAN STUDIES
I.L.S.
P.O. BOX 60242
PALO ALTO, CA 94306

$14.95
ISBN 0-934903-03-4

Bookstores: Order from Inland or Bookpeople

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Firebrand Books

Congratulates its 1992

Lambda Book Award Finalists:

Artemis In Echo Park by Eloise Klein Healy

(Poetry)

The Gilda Stories by Jewelle Gomez

(Science Fiction/Fantasy and Lesbian Fiction)

Just Say Yes by Judith McDaniel

(Lesbian Fiction)

Rebellion, Essays 1980–1991 by Minnie Bruce Pratt

(Lesbian Nonfiction)

Visit our booth at:

American Booksellers Association Convention (Anaheim)

American Library Association Conference (San Francisco)

Fifth International Feminist Book Fair (Amsterdam)

National Women's Studies Association Conference (Austin)

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ABA 1992: Part 2

See last issue (page 21) for details about Feminist Bookstores Days (Thursday, May 21 and Friday May 22), the Women's Presses Conference (Thursday, May 21), The Feminist Bookstore/Feminist Publisher Dinner (Saturday, 8 pm, $20 — Call FBN, 415-626-1556 by May 15 to reserve tickets), the Publishers' Triangle "Town Meeting" on Lesbian & Gay Book Month (Saturday, 5:30-7 pm), Feminist/Gay/Lesbian Row (the entire 4500 block), and the "Friends of Feminist/Gay/Lesbian Aisle" (Booths 4411-4415) and the Multicultural Exhibit.

Check the ABA schedule for additional workshops. This year's line-up looks particularly solid.

Motels:

The block of rooms FBN booked at the Convention Center Inn in Anaheim is filled and they are (as we go to press) turning people away. Word is that they expect a number of cancellations in May from other groups who booked blocks of rooms but haven't filled them, so you may want to call the Convention Center Inn and ask to be put on a waiting list for rooms. But, in the meantime, be sure to book a room elsewhere to insure that you do end up with a place to stay.

Feminist/Gay/Lesbian Row:

Eighth Mountain Press will be giving away a trip for two to Costa Rica, including air fare from any U.S. city that American Airlines flies from, and four nights hotel accommodation to a lucky bookseller. All this to promote their lead Fall title *A Journey of One's Own: Uncommon Advice for the Independent Woman Traveler* by Thalia Zepatos. Look for Eighth Mountain in Booths 4504 and 4506.

Third Side Press has announced that its ABA offer will become an "ABA Season Discount." Effective May 15 - June 1, any bookstore that orders 20 or more books will receive the special ABA Season Discount, whether or not the bookseller attends ABA. The terms are free freight and 50% discount on prepaid orders and free freight and 45% discount on net 30 orders. (Discount reverts to 40% after 30 days.) Look for Third Side in booth 4509.

Readings & Book Signings

Seal Press author Barbara Kingsolver (*Another American/Otra América*) will be reading at ABA along with Firebrand author Janice Gould (*Beneath My Heart*), Judith Freeman and Eduardo Galeano at the Booksellers for Social Responsibility/PEN Center West Reading Room on Sunday from 2:30-4 pm.

Naiad Press authors Nikki Baker and Jenny Fulton will be signing books at ABA. Diane Salvatore will also be in attendance. Check Naiad Booth (#4500-4502) for times.

From "Life at Inland" cartoons by Diane DiMassa

Alyson Press Film

Alyson Publications will premiere an advance edition of an hour-long film about Forman Brown, the now 91-year-old author of *Better Angel*, one of the *(the?!)* first positive gay men's novels, originally published in 1933 and currently published by Alyson. Brown, a long-time puppeteer, has also published a book in Alyson's series for children with gay parents, *The Generous Jefferson Bartleby Jones*. Check with Alyson. It may be shown on the eve of ABA.

Lammies Banquet

The Fourth Annual Lambda Literary Awards Banquet will be Friday, May 22 at the Anaheim Hilton. Kate Clinton will emcee. Adrienne Rich will present

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the Fourth Annual Bill Whitehead Lecture. Tickets are $60. Vegetarian meals are available on request. Financial assistance will be available to ensure accessibility. Those for whom a $60 ticket is not a financial issue are encouraged to contribute to the "scholarship" fund so that everyone who wishes to participate may do so. Cocktail hour begins at 6 pm with the Awards dinner and program starting at 7 pm. Black tie optional (men or women). To order tickets phone the Lammies Line at 202- 462-7924 or send your check to Lambda Literary Awards, c/o Lambda Rising Bookstore, 1625 Connecticut Ave. NW, Washington DC 20009.

Inland Sponsors Fund-Raiser

Get ready for a change of pace. Rather than continuing to co-sponsor the annual small press party, Inland is underwriting a fund-raising drive that will honor the values that small presses have been promoting all along. The goal is to raise $25,000 dollars that will be distributed among five organizations that address the issues of literacy, environmental issues, homelessness and poverty, AIDS care, and a literary organization. The funds will go to small local organizations, some of which focus on women's and third world issues, where $5,000 will make a big difference. The fundraiser, The Small Press Action Fund, will be repeated annually as a way for small press people to contribute to the political life of the communities where ABA is held, rather than breezing in and out like tourists.

Inland will underwrite all expenses so that 100% of the money donated will go to the recipient organizations. Make checks out to Liberty Hill Foundation and mail to David Wilk c/o Inland Books, Box 120261, East Haven CT 06512, or bring your donation to the Inland Booth at ABA.

The presentation ceremony is tentatively scheduled for Monday at show closing. Check at the Inland booth for time and place.

More Association & Trade Meetings

The Women's National Book Association Meeting for Women In Publishing reception will be Friday, May 22, from 5-7 pm. Check ABA program for location.

The Association of Booksellers for Children (ABC) will sponsor a day of workshops for children's booksellers all day Friday, May 22. Contact Caron Chapman at 800-421-1665 for reservations. The meetings are open to anyone interested in children's books. ABC's annual "Evening with Children's Booksellers" Dinner will be a tribute to Dr. Seuss. Tickets are $56 by May 15 to ABC National Office, 175 Ash St., St. Paul MN 55126.

ABA Specialty Bookstore Roundtables

The Feminist Bookstore Roundtable will meet Sunday from noon to 2 pm. It will be facilitated by Theresa Corrigan, Lioness Books, Sacramento. Also in the same time slot will be the African-American Bookstore Roundtable, The Recovery Bookstore Roundtable, as well as the Mystery and Cookbook Bookstore Roundtables.

The Gay/Lesbian Bookstore Roundtable will meet Monday from noon to 2 pm. Facilitators will be Carrie Barnett and Brett Shingledecker, co-owners of People Like Us Books in Chicago. New Age, Science Fiction, Technical/Scientific, and Travel Bookstore Roundtables will also meet in the same time slot.

ABA's Annual Meeting

ABA's Annual Membership Meeting will be Sunday from 4-5:30 pm. Don't miss it!

ABFFE Benefit

The American Booksellers Foundation for Free Expression benefit will be held on Monday night this year. The ABBY Awards will be presented, emcee will be Garrison Keillor, with other guest performers to be announced. Tickets range from $25-$100. Order from ABA.

Later that night (11:30 pm to 1 am) ABA's wildest "literary" event, The Rock Bottom Remainders, featuring Amy Tan, Barbara Kingsolver, Louise Erdrich, Stephen King, Roy Blount, Robert Fulghum and other writers (who will have actually practiced together by then) will perform rock oldies at the Cowboy Boogie Club. You need your ABA badge to get in. Cover charge will benefit literacy groups. Call 415-664-3333 for more info. — *CS* ○

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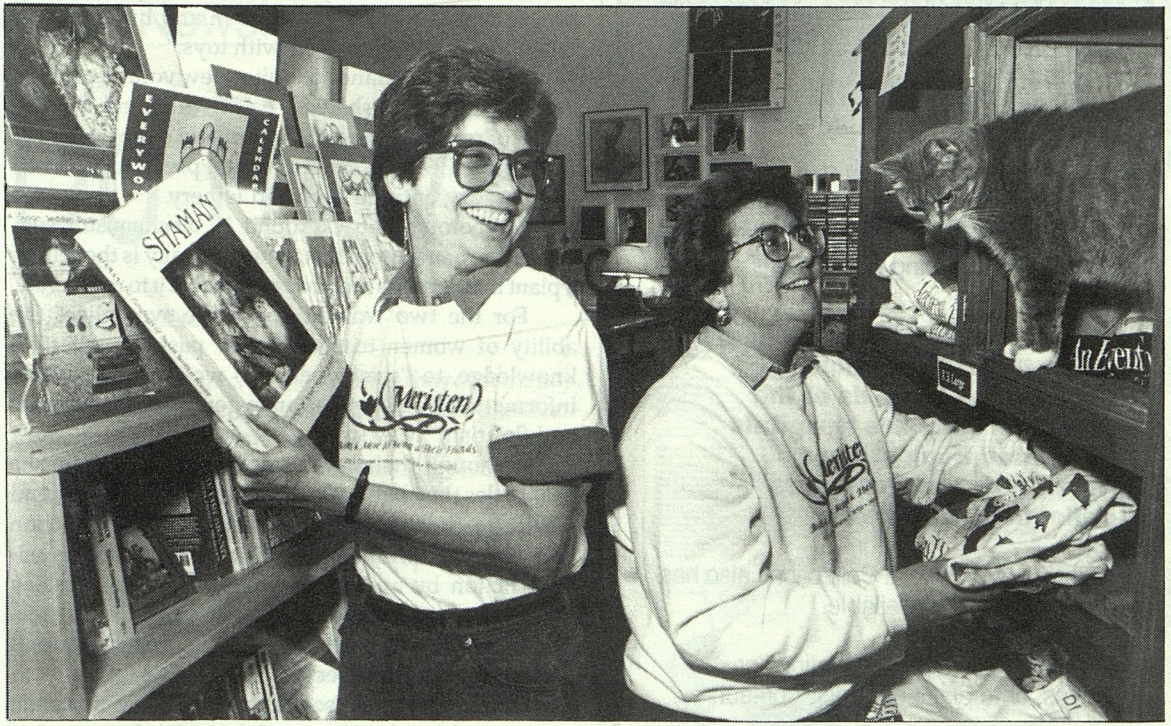
Bookstore Profile



Audrey, Vicky, and Ellie, the bookstore cat. Photo by Alan Howell.

Meristem Bookstore

By Kathleen Dombhart Bark

While Labor Day trips to the beach usually are filled with sunning, relaxing and water sports, a holiday trip for Audrey May and Vickie Scarborough several years ago also proved to be an opportunity to plan a business venture.

"We had thought about opening a business and what kind of business would be good," Scarborough says. "We both have a long history of activism in the feminist community and we both have strong feelings about that. "While we were on vacation we visited a feminist bookstore in Gulfport, Mississippi, and were impressed with what they had going.

"We thought, 'Hell, if they can do it in Gulfport, Miss., we can certainly do it in Memphis, Tennessee,'" she says.

After spending the weekend "drawing pictures in the sand of an imaginary bookstore," the two women then spent the next year doing research and making further plans for the opening of the Meristem bookstore in the Cooper-Young neighborhood.

"We spent the year talking to the owners of other women's bookstores, " May says. "We went to these stores and talked to the owners and got a lot of feedback and information."

Part of that research involved deciding on a location for the bookstore, and the two women very deliberately picked the Cooper-Young neighborhood for their business.

"We knew it had to be in Midtown," May says, "and we liked the Cooper-Young neighborhood. We could see it was in the midst of a revitalization.

"It's a neighborhood with a distinct sense of itself,

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Publications on Women in Medicine and Health Care

The Archives and Special Collections on Women in Medicine is an internationally recognized center for research on women physicians. The following publications are available:

- **Women in Medicine: A Bibliography**
- **Guide to the Collections...**
- **Guide to the Records of the American Women's Hospitals**
- **Illustrated Book of Days**
- **Note Cards and Postcards**
- ***Collections* Newsletter**

The Archives and Special Collections also has a research fellowship available.

For more information on publications or fellowships, or to place an order, contact:

Archives and Special Collections on Women in Medicine
Medical College of Pennsylvania
3300 Henry Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19129 U.S.A.
(215) 842-7124

Fund-raisers for the American Women's Hospitals Service, 1919

it's integrated, people walk on the street at night and it has a lot of diversity. We wanted a place where people would feel free to come in and browse or sit while their children played with toys."

With the assistance of quite a few volunteers who helped build bookshelves, paint walls and build a stage for concerts, the 800- square-foot store opened in September 1990 in a space that had previously served as a laundry, antique store and winery.

Scarborough's background in biochemistry suggested the name Meristem, which literally is the cells of a plant that carry its memory and enable it to regenerate.

For the two women, the name symbolizes the ability of women to endure and pass on collective knowledge, to "remember who we are and pass on information from generation to generation — to grow and flourish," May says.

Although their inventory has doubled from the 1,000 titles they had when the store opened a year and a half ago, the store still specializes in women's fiction and non-fiction, multicultural children's books, science fiction by and about women, gay and lesbian non-fiction and lesbian fiction. The store also has sections on parenting, women of color, poetry, sex and body image and recovery.

Lesbian and gay books have been an important mainstay of their business, and the store's fastest-growing areas have been women's spirituality, including earth-based religions and the goddess movement and mysteries by and about women, Scarborough says.

However, in the past year, jewelry and music also have been a major part of the store's success and their non-book inventory has also doubled. While books represented about 60% of their sales, jewelry accounted for about 18%.

The store also offers a variety of women's music from small independent labels that is not as readily available elsewhere, and music sales account for about 17% of the store's business.

"We try to connect with major artists and, if we can afford them, bring them up to Memphis. We plan the concert, set up the sound system, sell tickets, do just about everything," Scarborough says. "We do women's music because women need a place to perform and women want to hear them."

The store also provides a variety of other services to its customers, primarily through networking and

See **Meristem**, *page 122*

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Store Newsletters

Do They Really Work?

By Jennifer S. Croft

Store newsletters... they take time; they cost money. Sending them out on a regular basis is difficult. Measuring their return is impossible.

Yet, women's communities often rely on them and customers always love them.

Still, is publishing a newsletter worth the time and energy? Six women's bookstores respond with a resounding, if fatigued, "yes!"

ClaireLight, Santa Rosa

"It's a lot of work, but it's the best thing you can do," says Claire Sapiro about the newsletter she's published regularly since ClaireLight opened six years ago.

Currently a two-sided, 8 1/2 by 14 inch monthly newsletter that's mailed to 2,000 customers, each issue contains book briefs and a 10% discount on items purchased in a certain section of the store (one issue, it's children's books, the next psychology, etc.). There's also a listing of three to four eclectic events, held each month at the store. In one recent issue, the events ranged from a multiple personalities workshop to a Robbi Sommers reading. The calendar is always created a month in advance and sent out as a press release to local newspapers and FM stations. The free publicity improves event attendance and increases store visibility.

All of the staff, and particularly Moonyean Grosch,

February 1992 issue, ClaireLight

help gather the copy and outside woman-owned businesses design and print each issue.

Claire believes the newsletter is "certainly" profitable, and adds, "...that's the way news gets out. People appreciate it. They say the newsletter is important to them. Because ClaireLight is a specialty bookstore in an area with a lot of bookstores, we have to create the niche."

Amazon Books, Minneapolis

"Maintaining contact with the community that supports the store.... so they know we're alive and func-

Jennifer S. Croft has produced newsletters and other marketing materials for 300 small businesses and non-profit organizations. She is intimate with every aspect of production: creating concepts, writing copy, design, typesetting, printing, folding, and bulk rate mailing.

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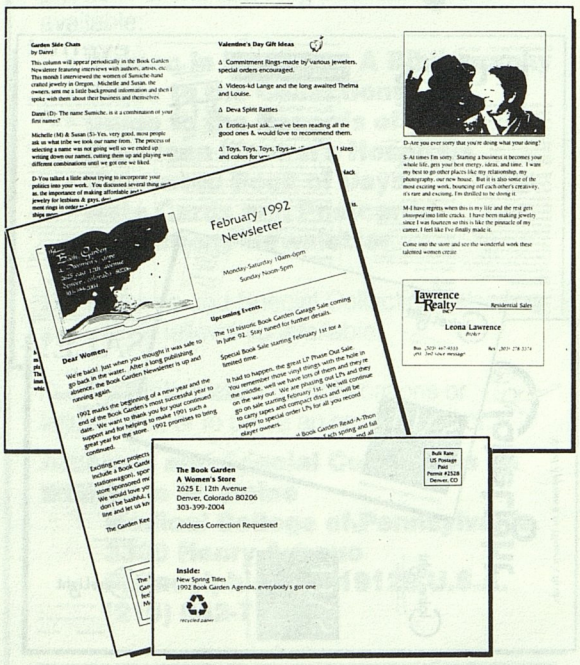
tioning," is the main reason 21-year-old Amazon Books publishes a newsletter, according to Barb Wieser.

Twice a year, they send a six- to eight-page catalogue to 1,500 women. Every month, they produce 1,000 copies of a two-page flyer featuring readings and new books. Of these 1,000, 600 are mailed to women who pay $20 per year per to hold an Amazon Discount Card.

A former staff member writes the book copy and creates the design with desktop publishing equip-



February 1992 issue, Book Garden

ment. An outside company does the printing and Amazon women prepare the bulk rate mailing. "It's important to delegate as much as you can," Barb observes.

A Room Of One's Own, Madison

Even though they "never call it a newsletter," the women in Madison have been putting out information pieces almost since the store opened 17 years ago.

At one point, they published four a year. These days, it's 2,000-2,500 four- to six-page newsletters twice a year and mini newsletters for conferences.

They see an increase in sales after each issue goes out. "A lot of regular mail-order customers like to order through it," says Robyn Horrall who thinks "It's a good outreach."

The entire staff comes up with content, then Robyn spends 10 to 15 hours per issue writing the book briefs and searching for suitable graphics. Diana Hughes uses a word processor to create a giant layout, which is reduced and copied, and everyone pitches in on the mailing.

For stores considering doing a newsletter, Robyn advises, "It doesn't have to be expensive. It's a lot cheaper than an ad in a newspaper and it's going to be around several months."

Inklings, Houston

"Someone coming to town," is usually what spurs Pokey Anderson, owner of Inklings, to publish the latest in "a series of occasional mailings."

Two to four times a year, the store contacts 1,800 customers with a printed piece, ranging in size from a simple postcard to a four-page newsletter. A personal letter, a bestseller list, squibs about books, and most importantly, event information, fill each issue.

In Pokey's opinion, "Just writing about books doesn't bring people in." For Inklings, it's the events that increase sales. Pokey does the writing and layout herself, "which is one of the reasons it doesn't go out very often," and tends to do it all in one 12 to 15 hour chunk using a word processor and cut and paste. The newsletter is copied and five to 10 volunteers work two to three hours preparing the mailing.

Customers "worry when they don't get one for awhile" and "think they deserve something when they put their name on a list."

Pokey thinks publishing is worth the time and energy if there's a big event coming up, and she constantly works to keep their mailing list "active and current - slim enough to afford it."

The Book Garden, Denver

Kasha Songer spends 45 minutes selling $1,450 worth of ads to defray the cost of her eight-page, $2,000 newsletter. With the exception of one year when no newsletters were published, Kasha has published newsletters every spring and fall for the last six years.

The issues have always contained copious amounts of book annotations (about 60 titles), a letter to the

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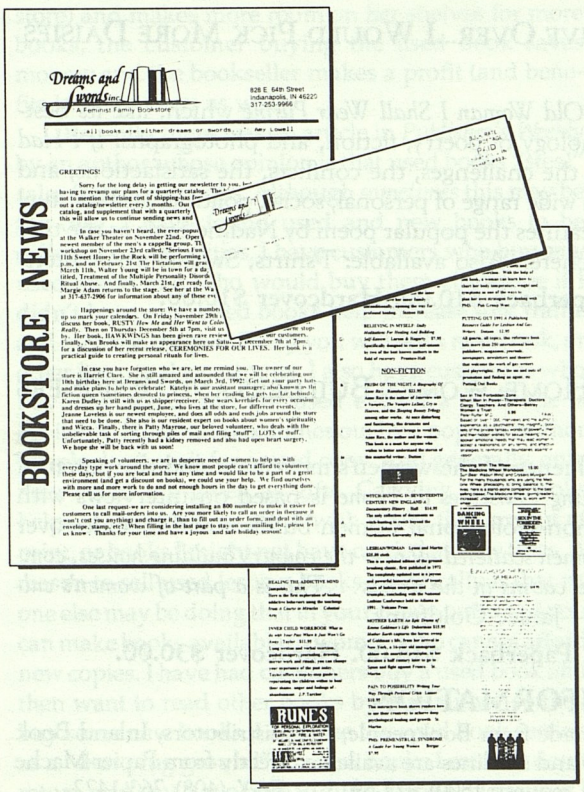
community, a mail order form, and advertising from local woman-owned businesses. This year, though, Kasha and her staff member Danni Lederman have embarked on an ambitious course.

They will publish 12 newsletters (two to be mailed and ten to be passed out in the store) and they have dramatically changed the content. They have added "Gardenside Chats" (interviews with authors and artists whose work they sell), "Your Two Cents Worth" (a column asking for customers' opinions on different store actions) and other fun features. The response, according to Kasha, has been excellent. "We've always put tons of information in it. Now that we've started putting entertainment in it, I think it's making the difference. For the first time, women are asking for extra copies."

Danni does the writing and design (using desktop publishing equipment), an outside company prints, folds, and staples the newsletters, and Danni and Kasha knock off the bulk rate preparations in six hours.



Winter 1991 issue, Dreams and Swords

While Kasha believes the newsletter is profitable — although she didn't before advertising revenues — she also publishes it because "... you have to project an image of being a vital part of the community."

Dreams and Swords, Indianapolis

By advertising in other publications, Harriet Claire has built her mailing list to an impressive 6,000 names, 3,000 of which are outside Indiana and 100 of which are outside the U.S.

For 10 years, she's faithfully sent an annual catalogue to these women and now sends a six- to eight-page newsletter every six months or so.

The newsletter is full of books, but each issue also includes a mail order form, a personal letter, and lately, a survey. (The most recent survey asked readers if they thought an 800 number should be installed. Hundreds of responses came back, almost all in favor of it.)

After each mailing goes out, Harriet sees a "large influx of orders and people coming into the store clutching newsletters with titles circled." She spends "entirely too much" — close to $3,000 an issue — but believes it's "intangibly profitable."

"It's important for people to know we exist. The fact that we have a mailing list of 6,000 earns respect. My gut feeling is that it's good to do it so that when people do want to buy books, Dreams and Swords pops into their heads."

Assistant manager Katelyn does the vast majority of the work, writing and word processing the newsletter. They send it out to be printed, collated, folded, and mailed ("money well spent in peace of mind"). Harriet admits, "The physical doing of it is a nightmare, but the product's lovely. Once it's off the press, I feel great about it."

In four words, she captures the enigma of newsletters as she recommends, "Keep doing it anyway."

Topics for future columns by Jennifer S. Croft include: "Elements of Good Design" (in newsletters, brochures, posters, flyers, and more); and "Starting From Scratch - Putting A Newsletter Together Quickly for the Least Amount of Money." If you have suggestions for other marketing topics you'd like to see featured, please write to: Jennifer S. Croft, P.O. Box 6977, Denver, CO 80206. ○

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New Women's Books from Papier-Mache Press

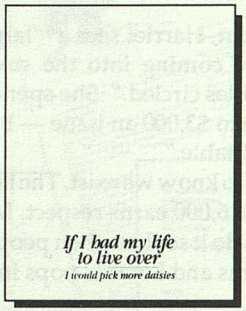
Blue Collar Goodbyes
Sue Doro

Sue Doro, for thirteen years the only female machinist at the former Milwaukee Road Railway is one of countless victims of widespread American plant closings. In this powerful collection of poetry and essays, she speaks not only to the thousands of workers who are subject to the devastating effects of these closings, but also to all women who are forced to deal with gender issues at their place of employment. This book is not just for women who work nontraditional jobs—it is for every woman who works.

We do not know if the author is an industrial worker with a writer's sensibility, or a poet who works in industry. And that's the way it should be: the authentic blend of shoulder and heart, experience and vision. Rarely are we given such a gift. —Margaret Randall

Sue Doro writes. . .of the lives of workers and women at work, their double duties, their rich and often humorous wealth of experience we have been robbed of. —Meridel Le Sueur

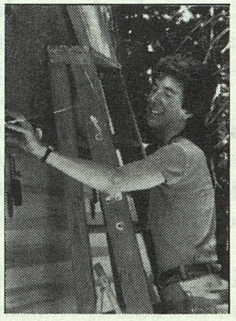
Available: July 1992. Paperback $8.00. Hardcover $12.00.



If I Had My Life to Live Over...I Would Pick More Daisies
Edited by Sandra Martz

The sequel to *When I Am an Old Woman I Shall Wear Purple* which, like its best-selling predecessor, is an anthology of poetry, fiction, and photographs. *If I Had My Life to Live Over* explores the challenges, the conflicts, the satisfactions, and the dilemmas associated with a wide range of personal, social, political, and spiritual choices. This new collection features the popular poem by Nadine Stair as the title piece. Cover art by Deirdre Scherer. Also available: T-shirts, Sweatshirts, Posters.

Available: August 1992. Paperback $10.00. Hardcover $16.00.



Making Ourselves at Home: Women Builders and Designers
Janice Goldfrank

A testament to the lasting influence of the women's movement and the power of individual commitment, *Making Ourselves at Home* is based on interviews with twenty-one professional and non-professional women builders and includes over 200 photographs. *There are women scattered all over the country building houses, communes, apartment buildings, and cabins in the woods. . .This is a part of women's culture and contemporary history.* —Janice Goldfrank

Available: November 1992. Paperback $18.00. Hardcover $30.00.

ORDERING INFORMATION

papier-mache

All books are available to the book trade from Bookpeople, the Distributors, Inland Book Company, and Moving Books. Books and sidelines are available directly from Papier-Mache Press. Trade terms are available upon request: (800) 927-5913 or FAX (408) 763-1422.

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Buying & Selling Used Books

By Patty Callaghan
Brigit Books, St. Petersburg FL

Why Sell Used Books?

Selling used books along with new ones is a win-win-win situation. The woman selling her used books to the bookstore gets cash (hopefully to spend in the store) and makes more room on her shelves for more books; the customer buying the used book saves money; and the bookseller makes a profit (and benefits in other ways as well).

Recently there was an article in *Publisher's Weekly* by an author whose opinion is that used books "steal" sales from new books. Although *sometimes* this may be the case, I have found used and new books to be different commodities. I have customers who buy *only* used books and who would buy them elsewhere if I didn't have any. Used books help increase foot traffic and increase the possibility you will sell a new book, or other item, to the customer. I also have customers who buy new books and not used even if a used one is available. If a new book comes out by a popular author people don't wait for a used copy. And generally, only new books are given as gifts. Carrying used books helps me expand my stock with books that are out of print, or books I might not have carried as new titles. A reason to sell used lesbian books specifically is that no one else may be doing that in your community and you can make books available to women who cannot afford new copies. I have had customers buy a used book and then want to read other books by that author so they buy some new books. I also use my used book section as a "dumping ground" for new books I can't or don't return and that have been around awhile. Hopefully I can get back what I paid for them. Used books are easy to handle, too. I keep no inventory records on them because they aren't replaced.

One last, but best, reason to sell used books is that it's *fun*. I love seeing again some of the books from the beginning days of the lesbian/feminist movement — from presses like Diana, Daughters, and Persephone — **Riverfinger Women**, **Songs to a Handsome Woman**, early Judy Grahn. What a rich culture we have!

How To Begin

I started to sell used books, on the advice of my lover, when I first opened and so publicized it when I advertised. An already existing store could make flyers, advertise in local publications or put out a press release that you're buying used books. Let women know the kinds of books you want to buy. Maybe offer an incentive to get them in to sell you so you can start off the section with enough books. Let them know you pay cash. You can also look in thrift stores and go to used book sales. In the beginning I went to other used bookstores and bought if the price was right. Check your own bookshelves. There are probably some books you could part with. Once you get started and people know you pay a fair price, they will bring in their used books. It seems to run in spurts and I've asked my astrologer about it, but so far we've found no answer in the stars.

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Pricing

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Pricing varies from store to store. It may help to look at other stores in your area and find out what they pay. I pay 20% of the cover price for paperbacks and sell them for 60% (or more) of the cover price. I pay only $2 for hardbacks with dust jackets because I find they sell best for $4-6. You may have to pay more and may be able to sell them for more. Sometimes I pay a little more for out-of-print books I know I can sell quickly.

I pay cash, give credit, or write a check on occasion. Most people want the credit to use right away, some to use later, and some need the cash for groceries.

Profit on Used and New Books

Lesbian Novel $8.95

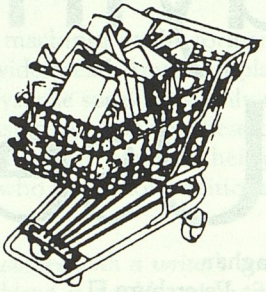
	USED	NEW 40%	NEW 45%
RETAIL	6.00	8.95	8.95
COST	1.80	5.37	4.92
PROFIT	4.20	3.58	4.03

Mass Market $4.95

	USED	NEW 40%	NEW 46%
RETAIL	3.00	4.95	4.95
COST	1.00	2.97	2.77
PROFIT	2.00	1.98	2.18

(Freight cost not included.)

The only time it takes to handle say 20-30 used books is maybe 5 or 10 minutes to buy, mark the price, and shelve. I also put a red sticker on the spine to distinguish them.



Shelving

I shelve used books separately. Some stores interfile them with new books. The used lesbian books are just across the aisle from the new ones. Other categories I shelve together in another space under categories mentioned above. I use "women's studies" as a used book category because it's a broad category and many used book buyers are browsers. I don't shelve the books in any order within categories (except fiction) because I only have about 1,000 used books and if someone wants a specific title I can usually find it. About once a year or when I need the space I weed the used books and put them on a sale table to get them out the door. It's important to turn them over once in a while.

Two books with additional information are: the ABA **Manual on Bookselling** which has one chapter on selling used books and **The Complete Guide to Starting a Used Bookstore** by Dale L. Gilbert, Chicago Review Press, $11.95. Although this has a lot of redundant information for an already existing store, there are some useful ideas. He explains how to trade books if you prefer to do it that way.

I don't keep separate figures on used book sales. I might if I had more keys on my cash register. I do count how many I sell — just the librarian in me I guess. My shelves seem to be almost full most of the time, so I'm selling and buying at a uniform pace. If the shelves start to get too full, I become more selective.

I'd like to hear ideas from others of you who sell used books or are considering it.

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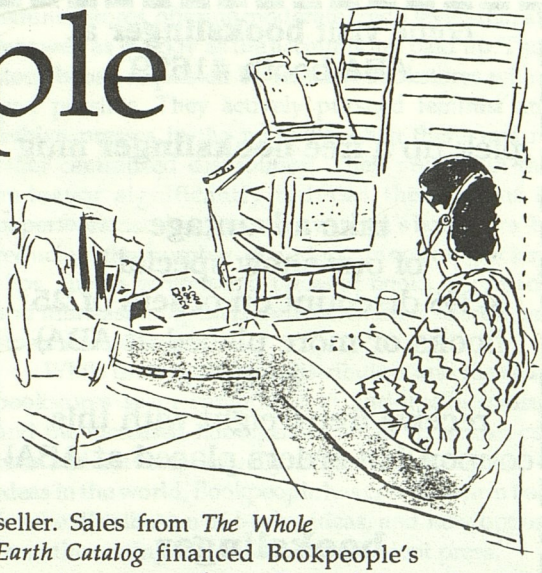
Bookpeople at 21



By Carol Seajay

Bookpeople had two beginnings. In 1968 a woman and two men started a book distribution company called Bookpeople. The company was located in the old Berkeley industrial district and employed four people who reportedly worked 12 hours a day. The stock consisted of the complete paperback lines of 13 publishers — all major trade houses — including Viking, Doubleday, Vintage and Penguin, accounts Bookpeople had to fight for because no one wanted to sell books to a bunch of West Coast hippies. One of the employees was particularly into small press literature, and so local writers started bringing their books with them when they came to hang out. Soon Bookpeople had a few books on consignment. Then a shelf full. And thus began Bookpeople's association with the independent small press.

By 1969 there were 12 employees and one of the owners had moved into independent publishing, a movement fast taking root in the '60s soil and creating its own distribution networks. Independent bookstores were discovering Bookpeople's eclectic collection of books and became regular customers. (Chain bookstores, with their mass buying and homogenizing effect on publishing were still a future nightmare.)

Bookpeople's first big distribution success was *Trout Fishing in America* (originally published by Four Seasons Foundation), which sold as many as 1,000 copies a week. The spectacular success of *The Whole Earth Catalog* was responsible for Bookpeople's transition from trade to small press distribution. The first printing (Fall 1968) was 2,000 copies. The Fall 1969 printing was 160,000 copies, most of them moving through Bookpeople's warehouse. In 1971 *How to Keep Your Volkswagen Alive* was reviewed in *Life Magazine* and sold 120,000 copies. *Prenatal Yoga* was another big seller. Sales from *The Whole Earth Catalog* financed Bookpeople's move to a new warehouse. Proceeds from sales of *How to Keep Your Volkswagen Alive* bought Bookpeople's first computer in 1975. Before that momentous transition, every book in the warehouse was inventoried monthly — by hand. To calculate the amounts payable, the figures from the inventories were converted (also by hand) to numbers of books sold per publisher.

But growth rarely proceeds smoothly. Employees working in the distribution side of the company began to feel that their needs — as employees and as a distributorship — were being ignored as the owners focused increasingly on publishing. Friction came to a head in 1971 when the owners tried to fire some of the employees. In many parts of the world, owners routinely fire employees and it's taken as the owners' right. But in 1971 in Berkeley, in the heyday of People's Park/Stop the War movements/SDS and that wild, hopeful, rise of the left, Bookpeople workers weren't having any part of being fired. They unplugged telephones and postage meters, gathered up other essentials and hid them in and behind the thousands of cartons of books in the warehouse, effectively closing the company down.

The situation was resolved within a month. Bookpeople employees raised $60,000 to buy the distribution side of the business and, in keeping with the commune and worker-owner movements of the day, created a worker/owner structure, The Bookpeople

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Employees Association. Bookpeople today counts its age, not from the founding of the original company, but from the beginning of ownership by the Employees Association.

The new worker/owner/shareholders defined three priorities for the business: 1) to promote the financial solvency of the corporation to provide for the needs and general welfare of the shareholder/-employees; 2) to pursue polices designed to promote and encourage independent trade book distribution, retailing, and publishing, and; 3) to maintain a democratic structure of total ownership by employees — principles which still guide the company. At the time they hoped their employee/ownership structure would be a bellwether for the book industry and the business world at large. Unfortunately, this hasn't happened. Even in the women's bookstore movement, where most of the stores begun in the '70s were collectively run, most of the new stores started after the mid-'80s are privately owned by one, two, or three women.

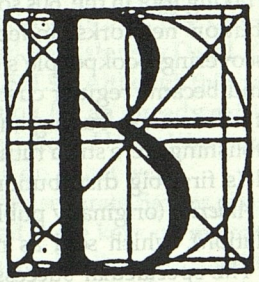
To achieve their goals, the 22 original shareholders of the Bookpeople Employees Association created a structure of worker-ownership that continues to work for the 88 or so current worker/owners and has allowed the company to grow from a $1.8 million business in 1972 to an $18 million business in 1991.

Basically the ownership program works like this: Upon completion of a six-month probation period, all full-time and regular part-time employees become owners and purchase $500 of Bookpeople stock. Buying the stock imposes no financial burden because, upon passing probation, workers immediately receive a $100/month owner's raise and have 12 months to pay for the stock. All employee/owners own the same amount of stock and must sell it back to the corporation if they leave Bookpeople.

Employee/owners elect five shareholders to the Board of Directors. Nominations are made both by a nominating committee and from the floor. Any employee/owner is eligible to run. All shareholders have an equal number of votes.

The Board of Directors appoints officers and committees, approves all raises, writes the annual plan, sets sales, profit, and other financial objectives, sets priorities for management, hires (and fires) department heads and the Personnel Director, hears grievances, decides on bonuses and generally oversees the running of the company.

Shareholders meet monthly to stay abreast of current developments. In-house educational classes on subjects such as how books get published, Bookpeople's place in the book industry, and being on the Board of Directors, are held as needed.



While pay rates are not outstanding, benefits are excellent. They include extensive medical and alternative health care benefits, generous sick leave, eight paid holidays, two to three weeks of vacation, a hot lunch program that is the envy of every bookseller who's ever pulled books at Bookpeople on a weekday morning, and an excellent book discount (bookstore

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discount + 20%). Less measurable benefits include a published salary structure, regular performance reviews, a clear termination policy, a grievance procedure, and an employee manual that should be published as a model for other alternative businesses that want to develop similar programs.

Over half of the shareholders work in the warehouse. The accounting and order-taking departments each employ about 10 people, and sales, publications, small press buying, trade press buying, and Wingbow Press all employ five or fewer people. Everyone who works at Bookpeople pitches in when it's inventory time.

In 1972 Bookpeople stocked an unprecedented number of titles from small presses — 60. Twenty years later, Bookpeople stocks books from 1,700 small presses and has added 100 new small presses to their list since their recent move to a much larger warehouse with expanded office space. Bookpeople stocks a total of 24,000 books and expects to expand to 40,000 titles within five years. About 1,400 (6%) of those titles are identifiably women's titles and 3,000 of the titles are classified as New-Age. Bookpeople has 4,500 bookstore accounts in the U.S., Canada, Australia and New Zealand. Around 60% of Bookpeople's sales ($18 million last year) were from small press books. The remaining 40% came from trade book sales, with HarperCollins being Bookpeople's largest account. Small press titles are carried on consignment at 52% or 55% discount. (55% discounts get free advertising in Bookpeople publications.)

Over the years, Bookpeople has been very responsive to women's bookstores. Many women's stores have started out by doing the bulk of their ordering from Bookpeople, or from Bookpeople and one or two other distributors, then expanding into direct orders from publishers. Bookpeople has "taken a chance" and extended credit to a number of new feminist stores, offering moderate credit levels that are renewed as quickly as the accounts are paid up. They stock books requested by feminist bookstores whenever possible. They actively pursued feminist and lesbian presses in the mid-'70s when there was no other centralized distribution. Their success in this endeavor significantly reduced the amount of paperwork necessary to run a women's bookstore (by reducing the number of orders, invoices, packing slips, checks written and boxes of books to unpack) and immeasurably increased the chances of women's stores succeeding.

While the largest book distributors and the chain bookstores seem committed to anti-intellectualism and the increased homogenization of American culture and serve to actually decrease the number of ideas in the world, Bookpeople has created a firm base for the distribution of books, ideas, and new options from the cutting edge of the independent press.

•••

Bookpeople is located at 7900 Edgewater Drive, Oakland CA 94621; 800-999-4650. For more information about distributors, see the companion piece on Inland Book Company in FBN Vol. 14#5. ○

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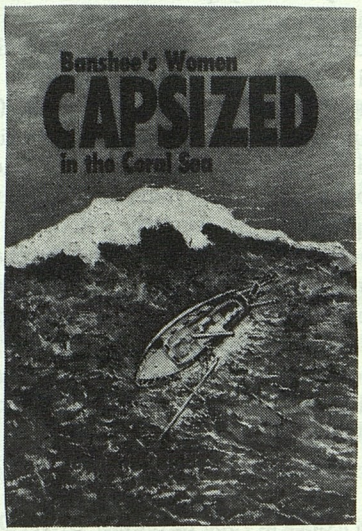


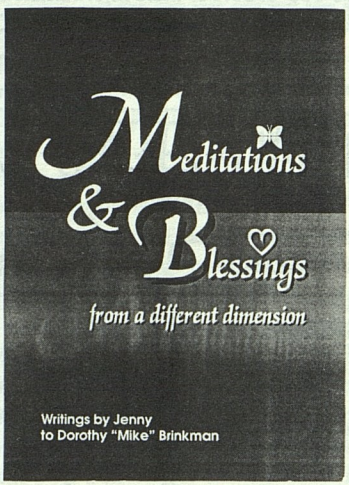
Banshee's Women, CAPSIZED in the Coral Sea

by Jeannine Talley

True-life adventure of two experienced American cruising women whose 34-foot sailboat is capsized and dismasted in a terrible storm off the east coast of Australia. Joy Smith, one of the women, is injured in the roll-over and she and Jeannine Talley call for rescue. After four days of being helplessly tossed about, they are found and rescued first by a cargo ship and then by helicopters flown out from Australia, 450 miles away. The women are forced to abandon their boat, *Banshee*, in mid-Pacific. But the story doesn't end there. Two intrepid Australian sailors, learning of the women's fate, volunteer to go out searching for the *Banshee* in their 63-foot motor vessel. They find and tow the *Banshee* back to Australia and generously return the boat to her two owners without claiming a salvage fee.

ISBN 0-941300-23-4 $12.95 paperback

(also by Jeannine Talley—*Women at the Helm* $11.95 paperback)



Meditations & Blessings from a different dimension

by Dorothy "Mike" Brinkman

The inspired and empowering meditations and blessings in this book were taken from *Welcome to the Home of Your Heart*, a book of channeled writings by Jenny to Dorothy "Mike" Brinkman. The meditations may be used by spirituality and therapy groups that implement guided meditation. They may also be used by individuals who tape record the instructions. The blessings can be used any time, any where.

ISBN 0-941300-21-8 $5.95 paperback

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Feminist Publishers' Column:

Selling *The Wall*

By Felice Newman

In the fall of 1990, Cleis Press acquisitions editor Frederique Delacoste sent me a copy of a novel, an English translation of a feminist classic she had read years before in France.

It's an exquisite novel, she said, well-known in Europe, where the original German edition sold 200,000 copies. A generation of German feminists had been reared on Marlen Haushofer's *The Wall*, just as a generation of U.S. feminists had been inspired by Atwood, Lessing and Piercy. Ines Rieder, our roaming European editor, had pushed Frederique to consider translating the book years before. Now an English language edition had appeared in Britain, and the U.S. rights were available.

Could Cleis Press — with little ad money and a reputation for nonfiction — publish a "serious" novel by an unknown deceased European author?

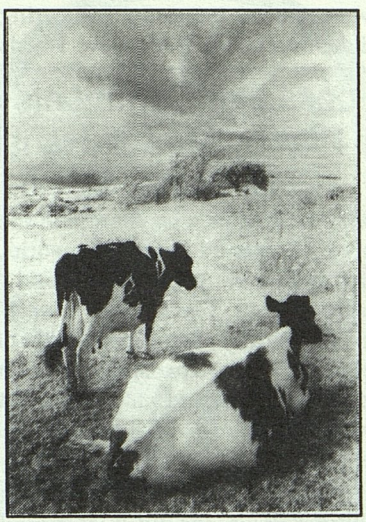
I found the idea scary, imagining dollar-weary buyers in mainstream stores barely masking their impatience with this obscure book by an even more obscure author.

My bottom line fear was that a small press would not be able to do justice to such a big book. I didn't want to publish, fail and know that I'd blown this novel's chance at an American audience.

But then I read *The Wall*. It was late November and my darkened house was a perfect setting for this survivor's journal of a quite ordinary middle-aged woman who awakens to find all of humanity either dead or missing.

The Wall was such a masterful novel that my fears suddenly seemed rather small and inconsequential. Even if we lost money, even if we found only a small audience for *The Wall*, it would be worth it just to participate in this brilliant novel's entrance into the American market.

I asked for help. Sometime during the winter of 1991, I called Carol Seajay. How could a little press like ours sell a literary novel by an unknown deceased European author?



I articulated some sales goals during that conversation. A super-bestselling Cleis book will sell its first printing of 4,000 to 5,000 copies faster than you can say "accounts payable." A more earth-bound bestseller will sell out in three to five months. A midlist Cleis book will sell its first printing of 4,000 copies in 12 months and continue to sell as a backlist title. Would *The Wall* sell 4000 copies its first year? Would it take its place among Cleis' strong backlist?

Carol gave me lots of advice, the most important of which was this: Talk to feminist booksellers, she said. After all, they are the people who will sell your book.

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During the summer and fall of 1991 I called dozens of booksellers. I asked questions, listened to their advice, and offered galleys. Most seemed to agree that a magically intangible ingredient called "publisher enthusiasm" would help *The Wall* find its readers. I asked booksellers who read the book to give me some quotable feedback. I used early bookseller quotes — from stores like New Words in Boston and the Regulator in Durham, NC — to introduce the book to other booksellers, through letters, cover mailings, and ads in FBN, and BookPeople's and Inland's catalogs. I was confident that booksellers would like the novel, and that having responded to my request for quotable feedback, would want to see it sell well.

We went to the ABA in New York with a quote from Doris Lessing (who read *The Wall* and faxed us right away) that certainly attracted comment. Booksellers were indeed interested in hearing about *The Wall*. Gilda Bruckman from New Words in Boston offered very constructive criticism in the form of her "20-foot cover rule": every cover should be readable from 20 feet away. When we tried the test we discovered our cover did not have enough contrast and so we fixed it. I had dinner with Darlene Pagano (Cody's, Old Wives Tales) who told us that publishing serious literary fiction required that we take the long view. Think in terms of three years of active promotion, she said, not three months.

Bookseller Comments on *The Wall* by Marlen Haushofer, Cleis Press, $9.95.

"For those of us who champion the richness of women's literature around the world, *The Wall* is a great find...a compelling tale, morally rich and politically vibrant. The images leave the reader with a dramatically altered perception of the substance of daily life. Expansive and haunting, *The Wall* is a chronicle of ordinary living in the realm of the unthinkable." — Gilda Bruckman, New Words, Massachusetts

"*The Wall* is a challenging, disturbing, thought-provoking, beautiful book about the essentials in life. A really good book for a discussion group." — Linda Bryant, Charis: Books & More, Atlanta, Georgia

"A little reminiscent of Kafka — but without the despair. Definitely a celebration of the survival instinct. I think *The Wall* will sell, and could be a very absorbing read for someone interested in fantasy/sci-fi themes. As a literary work, it's way above average and could turn into a steady 'cult classic' in the 60's tradition." — Susan N. Southern, Regulator Bookshop, Durham, North Carolina ○

Five months after publication *The Wall* has been reviewed by *Kirkus, Belles Lettres, American Bookseller, Publishers Weekly, Hungry Mind Review, Women's Review of Books, LA Reader, Minnesota Daily,* the *Bloomsbury Review* and other publications.

We have sold more than half the first printing and are well on our way to meeting the goal of a second printing before the anniversary of its October 1991 publication.

Recently, we've heard from Pandora Book Peddlers in New Jersey ("When you sell it to Hollywood, make sure they don't change the ending"); A Different Light in San Francisco (who reported hot sales, even though *The Wall* is not a lesbian novel); Anne Fox from Lammas in Washington DC who told me *The Wall* was "probably one of the best books" she'd read in five years.

Have I learned Carol's lesson about talking to the people who sell the books? Absolutely. You'll be hearing from me in the future.

What do I hope for? Steady backlist sales. More booksellers requesting and *reading* copies. The early morning pleasure of booksellers' praise on my answering machine. Sales, of course. But mostly, an ever-widening audience for a novel so purely brilliant its name is embroidered on my heart.

For a partial list of stores receiving reading copies, see page 54. ○

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But Can She Type?

Taking A Slide

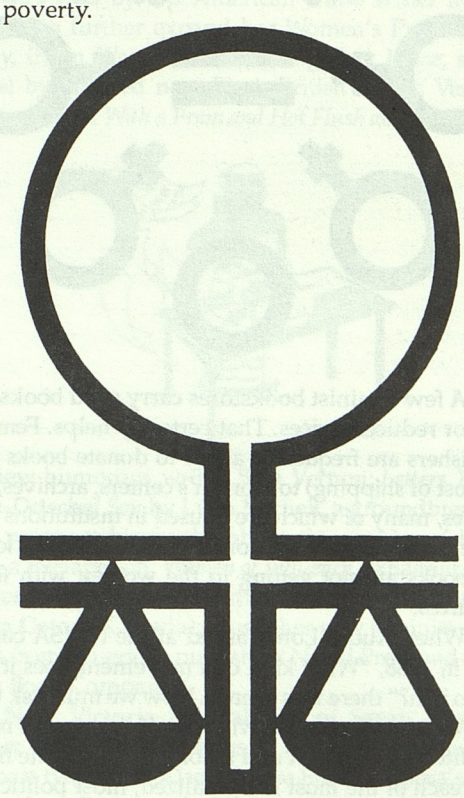
By Nett Hart

Every now and then someone asks, "What happened to the sliding fee scale?" Every once in a while a feminist group produces a feminist event on a sliding fee scale or a feminist practitioner offers such a scale for her services. Almost never do we see an event or service produced by a not explicitly feminist organization — even when the performer and/or intended audience is feminist — offer a sliding scale. It's a feminist idea/ideal that never caught on, not even in our own communities. Why?

The politics behind it are never reproached. Vast disparities in resources are themselves an inequity that creates and perpetuates oppression. In our analysis of sexism, few doubt that if all women had the financial autonomy of white men many oppressions would be dismantled. Money and power are inextricably linked. Power cannot become power-of-the-people without sharing resources.

Few women have enough power or money, yet we cannot dismiss the failure of the sliding fee scale, or the economic parity it represents, by citing this deficiency of sexism. In our community some women have the resources previously accorded only to white men and the inheritors of family wealth. Some women have this hard earned earning power thanks to their abilities, feminism, and a larger pool of impoverished women. If no women had money there would not be the popularity of feminist/Lesbian events at prices that represent a day's work or more to some members of our community.

It's not just that the sliding scale is disappearing. It doesn't work. Seldom is the slide realistic, that is, the resource discrepancies in our community cannot be accounted for in a $5- $15 slide. Even in these very modified slides it is difficult to cover production expenses if the mathematical average of the slide is the actual cost. That's because the actual fee collected is usually close to the minimum. Granted, in these economic times, we're all feeling the crunch, but feeling a squeeze on your disposable income is not poverty.



Symbol from the Women's Equity Action League, Washington, D.C.

Now, I don't know of any feminist bookstore or publisher that sells books sliding fee, nor am I suggesting it. Those who could pay the "more if..." would

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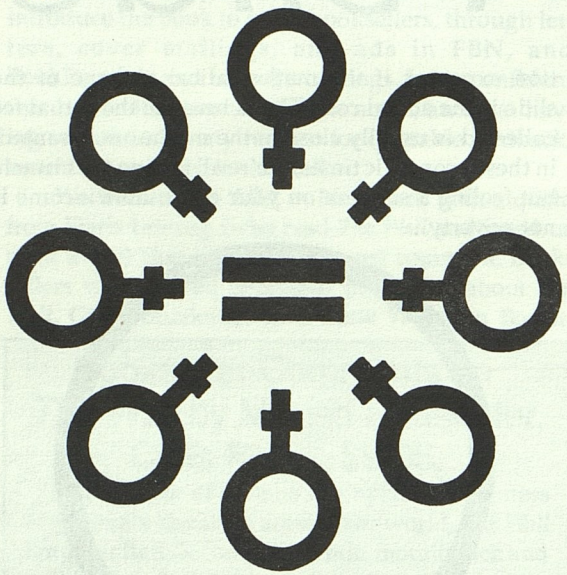
simply buy cheaper at the chains. But the failure of the feminist community to develop economic alternatives is evident in the disappearance of lending libraries. At a time when there are enough of "our" books to fill whole walls in some feminists' homes and offices, when a very small percentage of "our" books ever see public and school library shelves, where are women who really cannot afford these books going to gain access to them?



A few feminist bookstores carry used books that sell for reduced prices. That certainly helps. Feminist publishers are frequently asked to donate books (and the cost of shipping) to women's centers, archives, and studies, many of which are housed in institutions with more resources than the donating publisher. But lots of our books are not getting to the women with fewer resources.

When Audre Lorde asked at the NWSA conference in 1988, "What kind of a movement does it take $50 to join?" there was silence. Now we must ask what kind of a movement we will have if events and music and literature and art and theory are out of the financial reach of the most marginalized, most politicized, members of our community? What will we "win" and how will we know it?

There is a lot of talk recently about feminist organizations not only surviving (goddess knows we've lost too many of them!), but *thriving*. What is the nature of this thriving and by what standards? How do the structures for longevity fit with a revolutionary agenda? In my five year plan, the answer to where I want to "be" is not-"-pressed" — oppressed, depressed, repressed. Can you dig it?

If tough economic times for 95% of us can stall our movement, do you believe that economic parity will revive, if and when "the economy" changes? We all did more or less before. It's time to take seriously the slide.

My proposal for a realistic sliding fee schedule for a five day conference:

How to Calculate Your Conference Fee

1% of Annual Income

+

Amount you spend on eating out, entertainment, comforts and treats in an average week

+

$10-50 for each of these you have:

- health insurance
- savings account
- inheritance or anticipated inheritance
- credit cards
- loans available from family or friends
- retirement plans or annuities
- workers compensation insurance
- your own home
- additional recreational, rental or investment property
- a car worth more than $5,000
- education beyond high school

Deduct $20-70 for each of these that apply to you:

- chronic illness
- disability
- unusual travel costs due to distance (not convenience)
- special dietary needs requiring you to supply your own food
- you are the primary financial support of a partner, child, friend
- you have to hire a PCA to attend the conference

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Total Participatory Fee ○

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BACK TO PRESS
AND OTHER GOOD NEWS

Back to Press

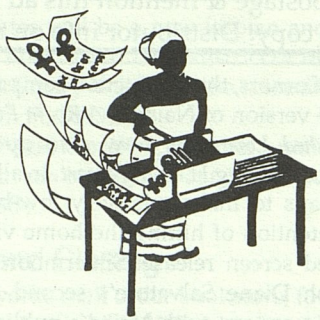
New Victoria Publishers has sent *Something Shady* and *Stoner McTavish* back to press for the fourth time.

Suzanne Pharr's *Homophobia: A Weapon of Sexism*, published by Chardon Press of Inverness, CA, and distributed by the Women's Project in Little Rock, AR, has gone back to press for the fourth time with a run of 5,000 books, for a total of 18,000 copies in print. The publishers report that colleges and universities in the U.S., Canada and Great Britain have bought the greatest number of copies.

Rights

Scarlet Press in London has just sold the rights to two of its launch titles: *Superwomen and the Double Burden* by Chris Corrin, which will be published in Canada and the U.S. by Second Story Press of Toronto and distributed in the U.S. by Inland; and *The European Women's Almanac* by Paula Snyder, which will be published in the U.S. and Canada by Columbia University Press. (Scarlet Press's two other launch titles will be *Women Talk Sex* by Pearlie McNeill, Bea Freeman and Jenny Newman; and *Queer Politics* by Cherry Smyth.)

Kathy Gale says The Women's Press (London) has recently acquired the following titles: "*Plain Jane*, an exciting fourth novel from Canadian Joan Barfoot (Macmillan, Canada); *Endgame* (her latest title) and *Mrs. Stevens Hears the Mermaids Singing* by distinguished American author May Sarton (from Norton, USA); *The Pocket Mirror*, a first poetry collection by well-known and highly respected New Zealand writer Janet Frame; *Union Jack*, the new Lindsay Gordon mystery by Val McDermid...and the long-awaited and very racy new lesbian gothic thriller, *Divine Victim*, by Mary Wings; *A Kindness to Children*, the beautiful fourth novel from renowned Jamaican/British writer, Joan Riley; *Forced To Grow*, the next volume of the autobiography of South African Sindiwe Magona, plus her first remarkable collection of short stories, *Living, Loving, and Lying Awake at Night*. Plus... *Under The Silk Cotton Tree*, a touching novel of Grenadian life by Jean Buffong; *Holograms of Fear*, and *Marble Skin*, two superb novels by Slavenka Drakulic, referred to as "the Simone de Beauvoir of Eastern Europe" by Robin Morgan, and acclaimed by many including Alice Walker, Gloria Steinem, Barbara Ehrenreich; *Pennies On A Dead Woman's Eyes* by top American crime writer Marcia Muller, to further expand her Women's Press UK library, (from Warner, USA); *Going Back Home*, a first novel by talented new Black British writer, Vernella Fuller; *Travels With a Pram and Hot Flush and the Toy Boy*



by new humorous writer, Sara Vernon; *Letters To My Semi-Detached Son* by Lynn Michell, a groundbreaking and poignant biography about the agonies of living with a teenage son; *Women of Influence*, exhaltant short stories by acclaimed Canadian writer Bonnie Burnard (from Coteau, Canada); plus other new feminist crime titles from American publishers Naiad Press and Spinsters Book Company."

New Victoria has sold all of Sarah Dreher's Stoner McTavish mysteries to German publishers in the past two years. Also sold are Frances Lucas's *Dark Horse*, Jean Redmann's *Death by the Riverside* and Jessica Lauren's *She Died Twice*. One of New Victoria's German publishers has just sold the mass market rights for *Stoner McTavish* for 63,000 DM (about $38,500).

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Three Corners, the production company working on a movie version of Naiad's *A Room Full of Women* and *Cherished Love*, has now also optioned Jaye Maiman's bestselling *I Left My Heart*. In all cases Three Corners plans to make relatively low-budget films with the intention of hitting the home video market after limited screen release. Silvermoon in England will publish Diane Salvatore's second novel, *Love, Zena Beth*, in concert with Naiad's publication of the novel in August.

Awards and Other Good News

The winners of the American Library Association's Gay and Lesbian Book Award are Lillian Faderman's *Odd Girls and Twilight Lovers* in non-fiction, and Paul Monette's *Halfway Home* in the fiction category. Other fiction finalists included *A Stone Gone Mad* by Jacquelyn Holt Park; *Brother to Brother* edited by Essex Hemphill; *Two Mujeres* by Sara Levi Calderon; *Piece of My Heart: A Lesbian of Colour Anthology* edited by Makeda Silvera; *Hawkwings* by Karen Lee Osborne; *The Man Who Fell in Love With the Moon* by Tom Spanbauer; *Atlas of the Difficult World* by Adrienne Rich; and *The Road Before Us: 100 Gay Black Poets* edited by Assoto Saint. In non-fiction, finalists included *Are You Two...Together?* by Lindsey Van Gelder and Pam Brandt; *Cancer in Two Voices* by Barbara Rosenblum and Sandra Butler; *Cures: A Gay Man's Odyssey* by Martin Duberman; *Violence Against Lesbians and Gay Men* by Gary Comstock; and *Zuni Man Woman* by Will Roscoe.

Doris Bauman Gold, founder, editor and publisher of Biblio Press, was one of the winners of the 13th annual Susan B. Anthony Awards, presented by the New York City Chapter of NOW.

Aché has won the 1992 National Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum's Harriet Tubman Award, which is given annually to the organization that by providing service to the lesbian and gay community has made significant contributions to the welfare of black lesbians and gays.

Faith Ringgold and Walter Dean Myers received the 1992 Coretta Scott King Book Awards recognizing outstanding books by African-American authors that promote an understanding and appreciation of all cultures. Ringgold earned the King Illustrator Award for her book *Tar Beach* (Crown), Myers won the King Author Award for *Now Is Your Time: The African-American Struggle for Freedom* (HarperCollins). King honor books are *Night on Neighborhood Street* (Dial), written by Eloise Greenfield and illustrated by Jan Spivey Gilchrist; and *All Night, All Day: A Child's First Book of African American Spirituals* (Atheneum), illustrated by Ashley Bryan.

Leslie Marmon Silko, Maria Irene Fornes and Jane Miller were among 13 writers to receive the 1991 Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Writer's Awards. They will receive $35,000 each year for up to three years.

The 10 nominees for the 1992 Booksellers' Abby Award are *Animal Dreams* by Barbara Kingsolver; *Brother Eagle, Sister Sky: A Message from Chief Seattle* by Susan Jeffers; *Cold Sassy Tree* by Olive Ann Burns; *The Firm* by John Grisham; *Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Cafe* by Fannie Flagg; *Griffin & Sabine: An Extraordinary Correspondence*, by Nick Bantock; *Life's Little Instruction Book*, by H. Jackson Brown; *Possession: A Romance* by A. S. Byatt; *The Remains of the Day*, by Kazuo Ishiguro; and *A Year in Provence*, by Peter Mayle. The winner will be announced at the ABA in Anaheim this May. — *AM* ○

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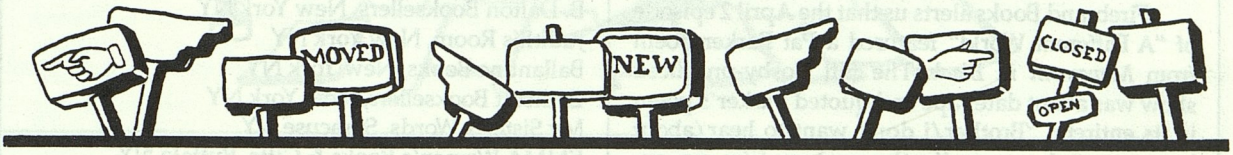
THEY WENT THAT-A-WAY



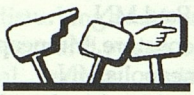
Compiled by Ann Morse

New and Future Stores

We're delighted to announce that Kelly Smith and Amy Blake's Detroit-area feminist and lesbian bookstore, A Woman's Prerogative, will open June 2 at 175 W. Nine Mile, Ferndale MI 48220, 313-545-5703. In addition to selling books, they also plan to have a cafe.

Sandra Adamson is the woman to contact at Violet's Book, a new feminist/lesbian store in North Andover, MA. You can reach her at 14 Walker Road #2, North Andover MA 01845.

Connie A. Rael and her partner are getting ready to open Sappho's Garden, a feminist/lesbian bookstore and resource center in Sewell, N.J. Send greetings to her at 322 Surrey Ct., Sewell NJ 08080; 609-227-2730.



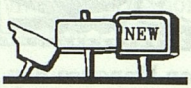
Mary Blake, who now works at A Novel Experience bookstore in upstate New York, and a friend are planning to open a women's and children's bookstore focusing on feminist, lesbian and gay books. Send catalogs and advice to her at PO Box 1116, Saranac Lake NY 12983.

We just received our first copy of the Haven Book Club catalog, a mail order service featuring lesbian and gay titles. For your own copy, write Haven Book Club, PO Box 1668, Grand Rapids MI 49501.

Bruce Ground, the former owner of Tomes and Treasures in Tampa, has opened a gay bookstore called Out and About Books in Orlando, FL. Call him at 407-384-7835.

Opus Inc., a new bookstore in Hattiesburg, MS, is interested in feminist, lesbian and gay books. Send catalogs to S.M. Youssef at Opus, PO Box 16902, Hattiesburg MS 39402; 601-582-0560.

Because of the recent closing of Emma Women's Books in Buffalo, the women who run the Book Revue plan to carry more women's books in their store. Send information to the Book Revue at 1382 Hertle, Buffalo NY 14216; 716-874-5553.



Alternates will be a new lesbian and gay bookstore in the historic Art Deco district of Miami Beach. Kenneth McCreary will open the store at 805 8th St., Miami Beach FL 33139.

Gloria Maki is putting together a mail order book business that can be reached at 6615 W. Lupino, Glendale AZ 85304.

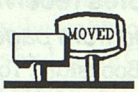
Closed and Closing

Sisterworks mail order bookstore, formerly at 14 Fawn Drive, Scotia NY 12302, has closed.

Moved

Phoenix Books, the Missouri feminist bookstore, has moved to a new location in Kansas City. The store is now at 317 Westport Road, Kansas City MO 64111.

HarperSanFrancisco is moving to 1160 Battery St., San Francisco CA 94111.



New Names

Stevie Bryant and Demian's network for same-sex couples has become a magazine and changed its name to Partners Magazine for Gay and Lesbian Couples. The address is PO Box 9685, Seattle WA 98109; 206-784-1519. ○

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Firebrand Books alerts us that the April 2 episode of "A Different World" featured a Pat Parker poem from *Movement in Black*. The Bill Cosby-produced show was about date rape and quoted Parker's poem in its entirety: "Brother/i don't want to hear/about how *my* real enemy/is the system./i'm no genius,/but i do know/that system/you hit me with/is called/a fist." "Can you imagine how pleased Pat would have been to hear her work on primetime?" Firebrand wrote.

The third San Francisco Bay Area Book Festival, to run October 17-18, will feature a 50-booth multicultural book exhibit coordinated by the Multicultural Publishers Exchange. (The MPE will be in San Francisco for its own annual conference, October 15-16.)

The festival also will feature more than 250 publisher, bookstore and library exhibits, author readings and signings, demonstrations, children's activities and panel discussions.

Because of the success of last year's festival, attended by more than 35,000 people, the festival committee has doubled the fair space.

The free book festival will be from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. October 17 and 18 at the Concourse Exhibition Center, 635 Eighth St., San Francisco. For more information, contact the San Francisco Bay Area Book Council, 555 De Haro St., Suite 220, San Francisco CA 94107; 415-861-BOOK. ○

Partial list of stores receiving reading copies, *continued from page 48.*

Toronto Women's Bookstore, Toronto ONT
Odyssey Book Shop, South Hadley MA
Crones' Harvest Bookstore, Jamaica Plain MA
New Words Bookstore, Cambridge MA
Baker Books, New Bedford MA
Stillpoint, Walpole NH
Bookland of Maine, Portland ME
Reader's Feast, Hartford CT
Inland Book Company, East Haven CT
Barnes & Noble Mail Order, Rockleigh NJ
Baker & Taylor, Bridgewater NJ
St. Mark's Bookshop, New York NY
B. Dalton Booksellers, New York NY
Judith's Room, New York NY
Ballantine Books, New York NY
Endicott Booksellers, New York NY
My Sister's Words, Syracuse NY
EMMA Women's Books & Gifts, Buffalo NY
Talking Leaves Books, Buffalo NY
Wild Seeds Bookstore & Cafe, Rochester NY
Border's Book Shop, Pittsburgh PA
Border's Book Shop, Philadelphia PA
Kramer Books & Afterwards, Washington DC
Lammas, Washington DC
Daedalus Books, Hvattsville MD
Chuck & Dave's Bookstore, Takoma Park MD
Main Street Books, Frostburg MD
The Regulator Bookshop, Durham NC
Charis-Books & More, Atlanta GA
New Leaf Distribution Company, Atlanta GA
Meristem, Memphis TN
Appletree Books, Cleveland Hts OH
Little Professor Book Ctr Inc, Ann Arbor MI
Book Inventory Systems, Ann Arbor MI
Hungry Mind, St Paul MN
Micawber's Bookstore, St Paul MN
Bookslinger, St. Paul MN
Uncle Hugo's Bookstore, Minneapolis MN
Orr Books, Minneapolis MN
Our Mothers' Gardens, Mankato MN
Guild Books, Chicago IL
Women & Children First, Chicago IL
People Like Us Books, Chicago IL
Unabridged Books Inc, Chicago IL
T.I.S. Bookstore, Champaign IL
Connections Bookstore, Fort Worth TX
Inklings, Houston TX
Tattered Cover Bookstore, Denver CO
Humanspace Books, Phoenix AZ
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Cody's Books, Berkeley CA
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Booktent Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz CA
Traveling Pages, Oroville CA
Bellingham Public Library, Bellingham WA ○

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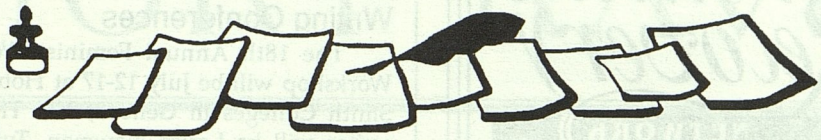
WRITING WANTED



Editor Raymond Luczak wants submissions for an anthology to focus on lesbians and gay men who are deaf. Luczak, who has been out in the deaf gay community since 1984, will accept submissions — from interested members of that community — written in English, or he can translate from American Sign Language on videotape (VHS/8mm formats) into English. Send submissions or inquiries, and a SASE, to Luczak at PO Box 1263, Cooper Station, New York NY 10276. Deadline: June 1, 1992.

Lesbian full-length plays, one-acts, and small musicals with all-women roles (or roles which may be cross-dressed) wanted for the First Annual Lesbian Playwriting Competition. Winner receives $200 and production of the play. Submit script and resume to Tiana Lee, Tribad Productions, PO Box 1745, Guerneville CA 95446. Deadline: November 1, 1992.

Outrageous, disturbing and humorous short fiction, personal accounts and poems on themes such as obsession, betrayal, revenge, multi-cultural differences and grief are wanted for *The Dark Side of Love*, an anthology of writings by women to be published by Crossing Press in 1993. Send submissions and a SASE to Amber Coverdale Sumrall, PO Box 334, Capitola CA 95010. Deadline: September 30, 1992.

Terri Jewell seeks first-person essays, fiction, humor, cartoons, interviews with non-celebrities (especially with elders) and poetry for an anthology to be called *Snap! Black Gays and Lesbians Tell It All*. Send SASE and black-and-white photograph of yourself to Jewell at PO Box 32154, Lansing MI 48909.

Personal narratives, short autobiographical fiction, poems, and before-and-after photographs sought for an anthology *From Wedded Wife to Lesbian Life: Stories of Formerly Married Lesbians*. Send submissions and a SASE for guidelines to Deborah Abbott/Ellen Farmer, editors, 1515 Capitola Road Ste. E, Santa Cruz CA 95062. Deadline: July 15, 1992.

Queer Press is producing a Canadian-specific lesbian health guide and seeks information about health organizations' lesbian resources, and lesbian-specific health issues. For more information, contact Queer Press, PO Box 485, Station P, Toronto ONT M5S 2T1 Canada.

Aché seeks writings and artwork by lesbians of African descent. The magazine also seeks staff writers, women around the country — or world — who are willing to be "on call" to write for the journal on particular topics. Contact The Editor, c/o *Aché*, PO Box 6071, Albany CA 94706.

Mennonite/Church of the Brethren seeks contributors for an anthology regarding lesbian and bisexual women's issues. Submissions from parents, lovers, relatives and spouses as well as lesbians and bisexual women are encouraged. Anonymity is respected if requested. For information, contact B. Zook, PO Box 86, Cheraw CO 81031.

GMP in London is putting together an anthology of poetry informed by the reality of AIDS. Send poems to Martin Humphries and Steve Cranfield, GMP Publishers, PO Box 247, London N17 9QR, England.

At The Crossroads, a new feminist magazine, is looking for women- and earth-affirming essays, articles, book reviews, theory, research and first-person narratives. Women of color and lesbians especially encouraged to contribute. The preview issue will be

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Women's Recovery NETWORK

- 16-page, bimonthly feminist newsletter
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published in Fall 1992. For more information, write *At the Crossroads*, PO Box 112, St. Paul AR 72760.

Women Fight Back is looking for women's personal stories of discrimination, harassment and patronization. Send stories and permission for *WFB* to edit and publish those stories to the magazine at PO Box 161775, Cupertino CA 95016.

Alyson Publications welcomes suggestions for entries to a sort of lesbian and gay *Guiness Book of Records*, to chronicle facts such as the first openly lesbian and gay elected officials at various levels, first gay books, first openly lesbian and gay people in various occupations, etc. Include documentation to the extent it's available. Send to Lynne Yamaguchi Fletcher at Alyson Publications, 40 Plympton St., Boston MA 02118.

Partners Anthology seeks writing and art by lesbian partners of incest survivors. Send SASE to Cynthia Bechtel, Box 16717, St. Louis MO 63105. Deadline: June 1992.

During the 1992-93 academic year the journal *Historical Reflections/Réflexions Historiques* hopes to publish a special edition devoted to lesbian history. For guidelines, contact Vicki L. Eaklor, Guest Editor, *Historical Reflections/Réflexions Historiques*, Division of Human Studies, Alfred University, Alfred NY 14802.

Writing Conferences

The 18th Annual Feminist Women's Writing Workshop will be July 12-17 at Hobart and William Smith Colleges in Geneva, NY. This year's guest writer will be Leslea Newman. Tuition, room and board for the conference is $325. Space is guaranteed if your materials are postmarked by May 15. For information or to register contact FWWW, PO Box 6583, Ithaca NY 14851.

The eighth annual summer school/writing retreat for women, West Word VIII, will be held August 9-22 at Canadian International College, North Vancouver, BC. This two-week residential study program offers courses in three genres: poetry, led by Maxine Tynes; fiction, with Leona Gom; and creative documentary, with Susan Riley. Tuition, room and board are $600. There are a limited number of partial scholarships available. Applications must be postmarked no later than May 8. For information contact West Coast Women and Words, #210-640 W. Broadway, Vancouver BC V5Z 1G4, Canada; 604-872-8014.

Liz Prager, *Short Fiction By Women*

The Publishing Triangle (NYC) is sponsoring a regional Lesbian and Gay Writers Weekend October 16-18 at the City of New York University's Graduate Center. The three-day series of panels and related events will be hosted by CLAGs, the Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies, which is under the direction of Martin Duberman. Unlike OutWrite, the conference will be "'very New York- oriented,' emphasizing the city's many ethnic and racial groups, as well as 'multicultural,' embracing often ignored aspects of the writer's art such as song, theater, comics, film, video and performance art." For more information contact Eric Brandt at Publishing Triangle, PO Box 114, Prince St. Sta., New York NY 10012. — *AM* ○

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SHORT RAVES

The Left Hand of Darkness by Ursula Le Guin

A lot of Sci-fi has a certain "what if" kind of philosophy, but I have read no author as masterful as Ursula Le Guin at integrating the deepest human philosophies with a universal questioning. *The Left Hand of Darkness* is, I understand, only one of her many books that hit such a nerve.

In an attempt to bring a certain world ("Winter") into a union of planets, our main character, Genly, is struggling to understand a race in which every member is both male and female, yet most of the time appear to be neither. This society from LeGuin's imagination can find parallels in every aspect of human anthropology. In fact, she goes so far beyond simple Sci-fi, perhaps we should designate a new category of "Anthro-fiction." — *Marcia*

Sisterspirit, San Jose, CA

Out in the World: International Lesbian Organizing by Shelley Anderson

Is anyone reading Firebrand's new pamphlet *Out in the World: International Lesbian Organizing*? It's been out for several months now, and I'm amazed that I haven't heard more women talking about it. It's a 50-page short booklet that lists and describes lesbian organizing and organizations in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and Eastern Europe, as well as the more familiar forms of lesbian organizing in Aoteara/New Zealand, Australia, Western Europe and Canada. In 1975, having recently returned to my new home in San Francisco after traveling in India and Bangladesh, I dreamed of putting together a collection of works that would document lesbian experience around the world — that would show that we really do exist everywhere, in every culture, whether visible and culturally sanctioned or underground in whatever forms exist in various cultures. I didn't have the contacts or experience to do it, but I've wanted that book for nearly two decades. *Out in the World* is the closest I've come to finding it. I read it slowly, savoring each section before moving on, as I once savored *Edward the Dyke and Other Poems*, hoping that if I read slowly

Margaret Mason, *Word Play, Word Power*

enough, more would be published by the time I come to the end. I shelve it with books like *The Coming Out Stories*, *Eye to Eye*, and *This Bridge Called My Back*, books that celebrate and document our many existences. I cherish lines like "South Africa [may] become the first country in the world with a constitutional guarantee of lesbian and gay rights in a new constitution."; like "No single word for lesbian exists in the Xhosa language: a dictionary lists the phrase *umntu obhinqileyo othandana nomnye okwabhinqileyo*, a literal translation of which is *a woman who is love of another woman*"; "It is impossible to describe in any one book, much less a pamphlet, the variety of lesbian life in Asia...."; "While lesbian history can be traced back thousands of years in parts of Asia...." and, perhaps best of all, "Asian lesbians are developing their own definitions and analyses of what it means to be a

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woman who loves other women. Such Asian perspectives will both challenge and enrich everyone's understandings of these issues." Cherish this booklet. Sleepwith it under your pillow and dream international lesbian understanding and communication. Read it quick before it's outdated and replaced by a book detailing international lesbian organizing. And help me with my dream of international, multi-cultural anthologies detailing (in fiction and true-life-accounts) the many, many, many ways women find to love other women. Meanwhile, read *Out in the World* by Shelley Anderson, Firebrand Sparks Pamphlet #4. $4.95, 1-56341-005-2, and put a stack of them on the front counter. — *Carol Seajay*

Rant:

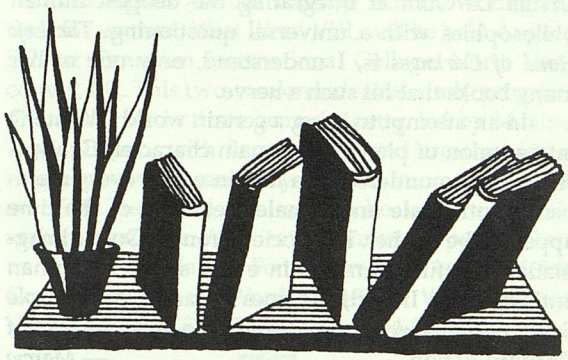
Homophobia and heterosexism are different. Homophobia is an internal emotional conflict. Heterosexism is the bigoted behavior of a person(s) toward another person (or persons) of different sexual (affectional) orientation. A heterosexist assumes that heterosexuality is superior to homosexuality. Case in point: Joseph Nicolosi, heterosexist author of *Reparative Therapy of Male Homosexuality: A New Clinical Approach*, (0-87668-5459) and Jason Aronson, heterosexist publisher of the book.

Are they motivated by their own internal emotional conflict (homophobia)? Who cares! At issue is that they have published a book that will put gay men at risk of emotional abuse, that will reinforce society's hatred toward us, that completely ignores lesbians, perpetuating lesbian invisibility by saying that lesbians are unimportant because the sacred symbol of the patriarchy, the penis, is not involved — lesbians are non-entities.

I found no "new clinical approach," but more of the same dangerous heterosexist propaganda that attempts to control surface behavior while murdering our souls. With phrases like "maladjustment" and "natural heterosexuality," we are told that gay men who wish to leave the "gay lifestyle" do not have to stay within the "confines" of their "homosexual behavior." What they ignore is the basic fact that gay men (and their invisible sisters) would have no need, wish, or desire to "get straight" if this society allowed us freedom to express our affectional orientation without the usual bashing, murders, family rejections, and the usual assortment of heterosexist behaviors.

Jason Aronson not only published this book, he promoted it in a big way. It is spotlighted as the "main selection" in "Psychotherapy Book News" (the catalog of the Psychotherapy Book Club) and I even received two separate flyers at the store. Jason Aronson must be told that not only is it inappropriate and offensive to publish such a book, it also will be costly to his company. If you can, please help. Boycott the company. Write to the publisher (c/o Jason Aronson Inc., 230 Livingston St., Northvale NJ 07647) or call (their dime) 1-800-782-0015. I am printing postcards that I can send to interested persons.

Tom Brandeberry, co-owner, Valley Women Books and Gifts, 1118 N. Fulton, Fresno CA 93728. ○



Out/Write, *continued from page 23.*

faces airbrushed away. No feminist journal was represented on "What Is Wrong with Lesbian and Gay Book Reviewing?" Feminist publications in general seemed seriously underrepresented, as did feminist bookstores. Why? Lack of interest, lack of money, lack of invitation?

A woman without a man is like a fish without a bicycle, but discussing lesbian writing — or, for that matter, gay bookselling and publishing — without reference to feminist print is like flying in a plane with one wing. I actually heard one (female) panelist suggest that anthologies were a late-1980s development of mainstream publishing!

Whatever happened to feminist publishing, bookselling, and writing? I'm sure that there are other women out there for whom "lesbian/gay" is only part of the picture. Is it time for another (feminist) Women in Print conference??

For additional coverage of the Out/Write conference, see **News**, page 17. ○

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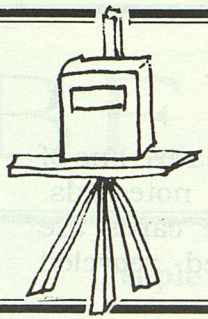


ART BOOKS

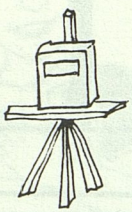
By Tee Corinne

I'm going to start with an expensive book — a rare beginning for this column — because it is unique, important, and might easily be overlooked. **Betty Parsons: Artist, Dealer, Collector** by Lee Hall is about the legendary, and primarily lesbian, N. Y. art dealer who championed radical, confrontive, "new" art from the mid-1940s until 1981. She was the first to show the Abstract Expressionists and the gallery was always associated with abstraction. This beautifully produced and very candid biography is rich with photographs, including a seductive and semi-nude Greta Garbo. What is most unique is the non-sensationalized way that Parsons' lesbianism is integrated throughout the book. Abrams, $39.95 cl, 0-8109-3712-3.

Frida Kahlo: Torment and Triumph in Her Life and Art by Malka Drucker is an easy-to-read, entertaining narrative about the now well-known Mexican painter (1907-1954). It is marketed for young adults, but is a good introduction for anyone interested in Kahlo's self-created mystique, her almost obsessive self-portraiture, and her use of art to overcome physical and psychological pain. Bantam, $16.50 cl, 0-553-07165-3.

Coming Into Our Fullness: On Women Turning Forty, interviews and photographs by Cathleen Rountree, includes many creative women such as artists Mayumi Oda, Betsy Damon, Judy Chicago, and lesbian filmmaker Barbara Hammer, as well as writers Natalie Goldberg, Maxine Hong Kingston, Susan Griffin, Deena Metzger and others. Through brief descriptions by Rountree and first person narratives, it effectively interweaves themes of productivity, self-awareness and transcendence. Crossing Press, $14.95 pb, 0-89594-517-7.

What I Love About Lesbian Politics Is Arguing With People I Agree With, cartoons and essays by Kris Kovick, is good for laughs and conversation. Kovick lovingly lampoons gays, lesbians, community politics, and safe sex. As a classically bad speller, I particularly enjoyed the one where a woman sits up in bed after a nightmare saying, "God! I dreamt I was playing scrabble with Mary Daly!" Alyson, $7.95 pb, 1-55583-128-1.



Three Weavers by Joan Potter Loveless is the story of a young weaver who went to Taos in the early 1950s with her artist husband and young child and found there a landscape to resonate with and two special weaver friends. This is a story of how life events flow into the making of art and how important support is. University of New Mexico Press, $16.95 cl, 0-8263-1318-3.

Artist Bea Nettles (b. 1946) has been working within the Women's Art Movement for many years. Two recent releases, **The Skirted Garden: 20 Years of Images** ($5 pb, 0-930810-04-X) and **Life's Lessons, A Mother's Journal** ($15 pb, 0-930810-05-8), are warm, wonderful, very personal books filled with pictures, comments and subtle surprises. Inky Press Productions, distributed by Prairie Book Arts Center, Box 725, Urbana IL 61801.

Also by Bea Nettles is **28 Days: A Deck of Cards** made up of a moon cycle's worth of picture cards beginning with "First cramp..." $5.

Three postcard books have arrived recently. **30 Contemporary Women Artists** is full of beautiful, cheerful landscapes, still lives, and figure paintings. Pomegranate Artbooks, $8.95, 0-87654-591-6.

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Gay Portraits, 30 black and white postcards, includes many favorite images and some surprises, like actress Alla Nazimova (Russian, 1878-1945). Pomegranate Artbooks, $8.95, 0-87654-585-1.

The Medieval Woman: An Illuminated Book of Postcards begins with a picture of a woman sitting up in bed, writing and includes images of women "Defending Castle with Bow and Crossbow," painting a self-portrait, hunting, building, attending a birth and more. Delightful and inspiring. Bulfinch, $8.95, 0-8212-1847-6.

Susan Sontag: The Elegiac Modernist by Sohnya Sayre is the portrait of a contemporary intellectual at the height of her powers. Sontag (b.1933), author of *On Photography* (Farrar, Straus, Giroux) has earned praise for the breadth of her interests as well as the lucidity of her arguments. Routledge, $12.95 pb, 0-415-90031-X.

On the expensive side, but important for its understructure of feminist methodology, is **Lines of Vision: Drawings by Contemporary Women** by Judy K. Collischan Van Wagner, featuring the work of 135 women artists: a broad and inclusive range. Each artist has a page for comment and an illustration of one work. Brief biographies and a framing introduction are included. Hudson Hills, $37.50 cl, 1-55595-027-2.

Clyde Connell by Charlotte Moser features the sculpture of an amazing southern artist (b. 1901) who builds abstract towers and enclosures that have a comfortable familiarity coupled with a magical, evocative, sometimes whimsical quality. The color photos are exceptional. University of Texas Press, $ 17.95 pb, 0-292-71141-7.

Still available is **Neon Lovers Glow In The Dark** by lesbian artist Lili Lakich, luscious color and fascinating images of neon sculpture coupled with descriptions of how the work was produced. Museum of Neon Art, 704 Traction Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90013. $15.95 pb, 0-87905-419-0; 22.95 cl, 0-9615240-1-4.

Painfully expensive, but utterly fascinating and sure to find interested buyers, is **Forms of the Goddess Lajja Gauri in Indian Art** by Carol Radclyffe Bolon. Variously referred to as the "shameless woman," the "nude squatting goddess," or the "mother goddess," she is a frontal figure with legs spread to fully expose the vulva. Sometimes her head is a lotus blossom. The text is scholarly. Penn State Press, $47.50 cl, 0-271-00761-3. ○

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BESTSELLERS

People Like Us Books

Chicago IL

1991 Bestselling Women's Titles

1. **Bushfire**, Karen Barber, ed., Lace Productions
2. **Don Juan in the Village**, Jane DeLynn, Ballantine
3. **Re/Search #13: Angry Women**, Various contributors, Re/Search
4. **Gertrude and Alice**, Diana Souhami, Pandora
5. **Houston Town**, Deborah Powell, Naiad
6. **A Singular Spy**, Amanda Kyle Williams, Naiad
7. **What I Love About Lesbian Politics is Arguing with People I Agree With**, Kris Kovick, Alyson
8. **On Ships At Sea**, Madelyn Arnold, St. Martin's
9. **Trash**, Dorothy Allison, Firebrand
10. **The Sparkling Lavender Dust of Lust**, Tee Corinne, Banned Books

Now Voyager

Provincetown MA

1991 Bestsellers

Cloth

1. **Odd Girls and Twilight Lovers**, Lillian Faderman
2. **Me**, Katharine Hepburn
3. **Murder By Tradition**, Katherine Forrest
4. **Halfway Home**, Paul Monette
5. **A Stone Gone Mad**, Jacquelyn Holt Park
6. **The Language We Use Up Here**, Phillip Gambone
7. **Cape Cod**, William Martin
8. **The Revolution of Little Girls**, Blanche Boyd
9. **Sita** , Kate Millett (signed first editions)
10. **Everything You Have is Mine**, Sandra Scoppetone

Paperbacks

1. **Just Say Yes**, Judith McDaniel
2. **A Place at the Table**, Edith Konecky
3. **The Loony Bin Trip**, Kate Millett
4. **The Beverly Malibu**, Katherine Forrest
5. **Behind the Mask**, Dave Pallone
6. **G is for Gumshoe**, Sue Grafton
7. **Final Session**, Mary Morrell
8. **Serious Pleasure**, the Sheba Colective
9. **A Body to Dye For**, Grant Michaels
10. **The Edge of Passion**, Shelley Smith

Queer Press

ClaireLight

Santa Rosa CA

February 1992

1. **Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Cafe**, Fannie Flagg, McGraw-Hill
2. **Revolution From Within**, Gloria Steinem, Little, Brown & Co.
3. **Wish You Were Here**, Rita Mae Brown, Bantam Books
4. **Backlash**, Susan Faludi, Crown Publishers
5. **Animal Dreams**, Barbara Kingsolver, HarperCollins
6. **The Courage To Heal Workbook**, Laura Davis, HarperCollins
7. **Return To Love**, Marianne Williamson, HarperCollins
8. **Allies In Healing**, Laura Davis, HarperCollins
9. **The Feminine Face of God**, Sherry Ruth Anderson & Patricia Hopkins, Bantam Books
10. **Kiss and Tell**, Robbi Sommers, Naiad Press
11. **Places of Interest to Women**, Marianne Ferrari, ed., Ferrari Publications ○

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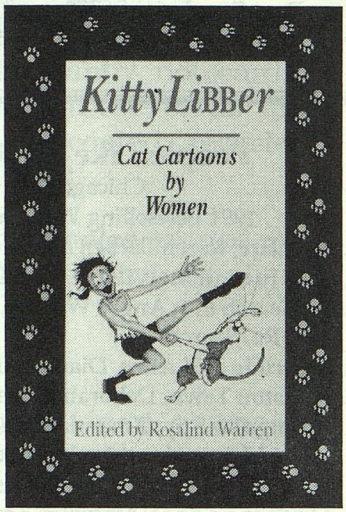
SPRING TITLES FROM THE CROSSING PRESS

Kitty Libber
Cat Cartoons By Women
Edited by Rosalind Warren

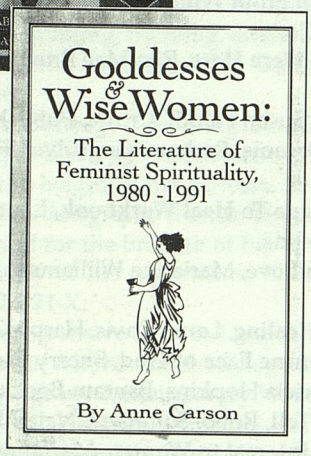


Women cartoonists explore the world of cats in a new collection of cartoons by 52 women cartoonists including Roz Chast, Claire Bretecher, Alison Bechdel, Alice Muhlback and Suzy Becker.

$8.95 ISBN 89594-539-8

What's a Nice Girl Like You Doing in a Relationship Like This?
Women in Abusive Relationships
Edited by Kay Marie Porterfield

$9.95 ISBN 89594-492-8



Goddesses & Wise Women
The Literature of Feminist Spirituality 1980-1991
Edited by Anne Carson

$39.95 Cloth ISBN 89594-536-3

$8.95 ISBN 89594-494-4

Lady Sun, Lady Moon
Poems by Diane Stein

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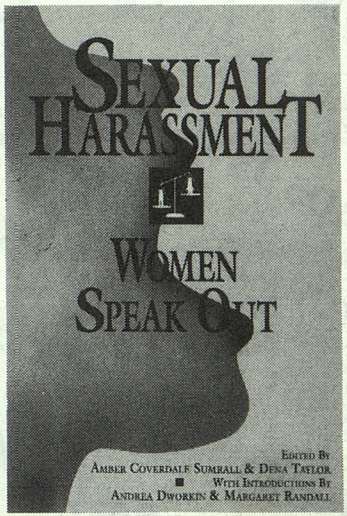
Sexual Harassment

Women Speak Out

Edited by Dena Taylor and Amber Coverdale Sumrall



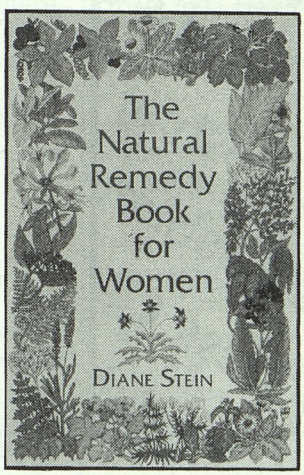
Personal accounts by 80 women from all walks of life. "A compelling, deeply disturbing and ultimately empowering anthology." *-Feminist Bookstore News*

"...passionate and powerful... male readers who genuinely want to "get it" will find the collection enlightening." *-Booklist*

$10.95 ISBN 89594-544-4

The Natural Remedy Book For Women

by Diane Stein



"A must read for women who 'are refusing the cost, danger and invasive practices of standard medicine...' An excellent reference... the AMA will probably hate this book." *-Booklist*

$14.95 ISBN 89594-525-8

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Just After Inca
One Woman's Journey Through Incest To Healing
By Rebecca Bass

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Call Me Lesbian
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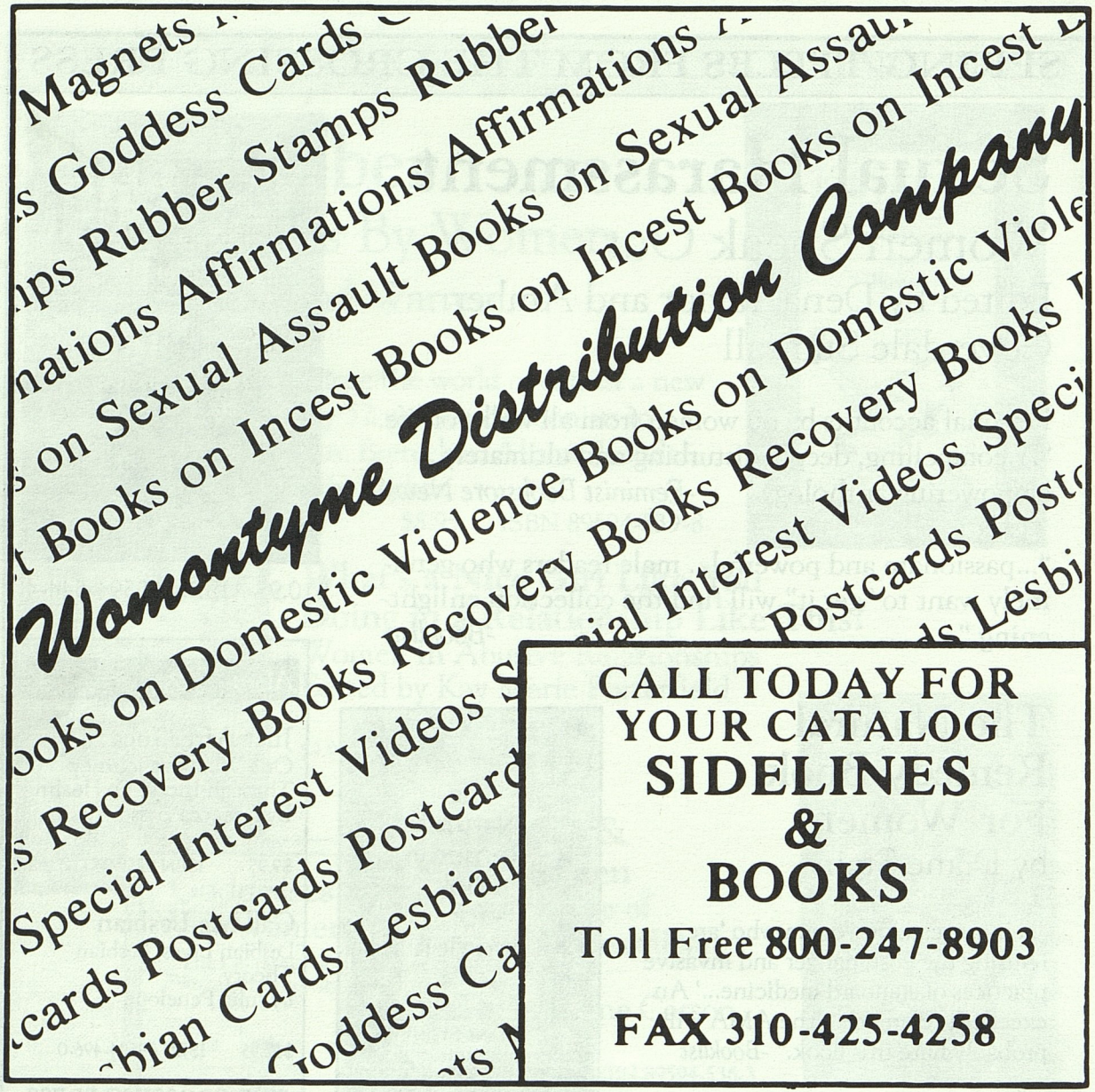

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GAY MEN'S LIT FOR FEMINIST BOOKSTORES

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

Four of the top seven books on our bestseller list are Black gay men's books:

A Warm December: A Black Gay Men's Anthology of Poetry, Art, and Photography, edited by Vega (Vega Studios, $9.95 pb, 1-880729-01-6). Published in February, this title follows Vega's earlier collection of poetry, illustrations, and photos of Black gay male couples, *Men of Color*. Both are available through Inland. Melvin Dixon's novels, **Trouble the Water** (S&S, $8 pb, 0-671- 74187-X) and **Vanishing Rooms** (NAL, $9 pb, 0-452-26761-7) are both out now in paperback editions.

And though it was published a year ago, **Brother to Brother: New Writings by Black Gay Men**, edited by Essex Hemphill (Alyson, $8.95 pb, 1-55583-146-X) is still our seventh bestselling men's title. (I think I've mentioned the new collection of Essex Hemphill's poetry, **Ceremonies** (NAL, 6/92, $10 pb ISBN), in a previous article, but I'd like, again, to encourage you to get it.)

Just as we were putting out the new bestsellers lists, E. Lynn Harris, a young Black man, appeared with his new self-published book, **Invisible Life** (Consortium Press, $12.95, 0-963179-10-1), which is an autobiographical novel about his love affairs with two women and two men. This bisexual novel is, for the time being, available only direct: Consortium Press, 1447 Peachtree, Suite 1011, Atlanta GA 30309 or 404-888-9220. We've sold four copies a week since we got it — no publicity, nobody's heard of it before, just a stack in the store.

MORE BLACK GAY MEN'S FORTHCOMING BOOKS:

Langston Hughes: Before and After Harlem, by F. Berry (Lyle Stuart, $15.95 pb, 0-8065-1307-1).

Good Morning Revolution: Selected Poetry and Prose, by Langston Hughes (Lyle Stuart, $9.95 pb, 0-8065-1308-X).

Infants of the Spring, by W. Thurman (Northeastern University Press, $12.95 pb, 1-55553-128-8), a *roman á clef* by a major figure of the Harlem Renaissance.

Deep Are the Roots: Memoirs of a Black Expatriate, by G. Heath (University of Massachusetts Press, $25 cl, 0-87023-778-0), which the sales rep says is thoroughly gay, though the catalog copy just speaks of his "sexual awakening" — another case of a university press trying to slip it into homophobic Black bookstores? Who knows? But your Black gay male customers are sure to be interested.

If you're inspired to do a Black gay men's display, you might want to include the new paperback biography of James Baldwin, **Talking at the Gates**, by J. Campbell (Penguin, $10, 0-14-012395-4); the new edition of Baldwin & Margaret Mead's **A Rap on Race** (Dell, $5.99 pb, 0-440-21176-X); Larry Duplechan's novels; Assoto Saint's anthology of a hundred Black gay male poets, **The Road Before Us**; and of course, Joseph Beam's **In the Life**, the first anthology of black gay men's work, published by Alyson. And goad NAL to reprint Samuel Delaney's wonderful memoir of being gay in Greenwich Village in the late '50s and early '60s, **The Motion of Light in Water**, which, by the way, includes quite a lot about his then-wife Marilyn Hacker.

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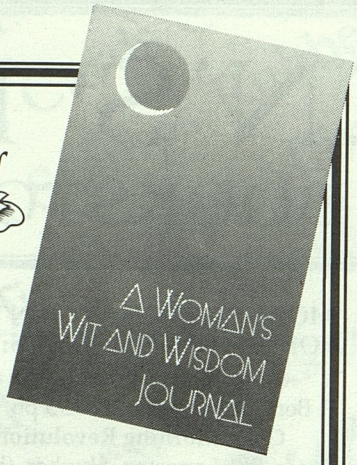
Amber Lotus

A WOMAN'S WIT AND WISDOM JOURNAL



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And now two books from the '20s that I look forward to very much: GMP is publishing in April the first English translation of Bruno Vogel's gay/pacifist novel, **Alf** ($8.95 pb, 0-85449-155-4). Vogel, a member of the board of directors of Magnus Hirschfeld's Scientific-Humanitarian Committee (the first gay and lesbian rights organization in the world), wrote the book as a propaganda book directed at young people. Two high school boys fall in love and are separated when one goes off to fight in the First World War. The two innocents and their love are buffeted by institutional homophobia and war hysteria. Bruno Vogel escaped the Nazis and lived the rest of his life in London.

The second is Richard McAlmon's **Miss Knight and Others** (University of New Mexico Press, $14.95 pb, 0-8263-4686-1), a collection of four short stories set in '20s Berlin.

If you have sold Isherwood's fiction or Stephen Spender's *The Temple*, you may be able to sell Vogel and McAlmon as well.

FICTION THAT SHOULD SELL WELL:

A Home at the End of the World, by Michael Cunningham (Bantam, $6.99 pb reprint, 0-553-55002-0).

The Language We Use Up Here, by Paul Gambone (NAL, $10 pb reprint, 0-452-26816-8).

O, Beautiful, by J. Green (Random House, $9 pb original, 0-345- 37470-3).

Two by Richard Hall: the first is the paperback reprint of **Family Fictions** (Penguin, 7/92, $11, 0-14-014796-9); the second is a new book of short stories, **Fidelities** (Viking, 6/92, $21 cl, 0-670-83785-7).

A Country of Old Men: The Last Dave Brandstetter Mystery, by Joseph Hansen (NAL, $6 pb reprint, 0-452-26805-2).

The Death of Donna May Dean, by J. Manley (St. Martin's, 6/92, $8.95 pb reprint, 0-312-07702-5).

The Easy Way Out, by Simon McCauley (S&S, 6/92, $20 cl, 0-671-70818-X).

Sweetheart, by Paul McGehee (St. Martin's, 6/92, $17.95 cl, 0-312-07863-3).

Love You to Death by Grant Michaels (St. Martin's, $18.95, 0-312-07027-6).

The Night G.A.A. Died, by J. Ricardo (St. Martin's, 6/92, $17.95 cl, 0-312-07752-1).

Boys of Life, by Paul Russell (NAL, 8/92, $10 pb reprint, 0-452- 26837-0).

Two by Mark Zubro: the first is the paperback reprint of **The Only Good Priest** (St. Martin's, $8.95, 0-312-07054-3) and the second is his new **The Principle Cause of Death** (St. Martin's, $17.95 cl, 0-312-07767-X).

Dennis Cooper has a lot of books this season, all loaded with violence and immoral behavior expressed in fine form: **Frisk: A Novel** (Grove, $9.95 pb reprint, 0-8021-3289-8) and **Wrong: Stories** (Grove, $18.95 cl, 0-8021-1401-6).

Jerk, art by Neyland Blake, fiction by Dennis Cooper (Serpent's Tail, $15 cl, 0-963109-51-0).

Cooper edits **Discontents: A New Crowd of Queer Writers** (Amethyst, announced for 1/92 but not seen, $12.95 pb original, 0-9272000-10-4).

And last is that rare item, a good gay men's science fiction title: **China Mountain Zhang**, by M. McHugh (St. Martin's, $19.95 cl, 0-312-85271-1). ○

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SUSANNA STURGIS ON SCIENCE FICTION

Exactly a year after the idea was launched by the irrepressible Pat Murphy, the first James Tiptree Jr. Memorial Awards were given at WisCon 16 on March 7. As noted in the last *FBN*, the winners were Eleanor Arnason's **A Woman of the Iron People** (reviewed below) and Gwyneth Jones's **White Queen** (Victor Gollancz), which along with most of her work, has not been published in the U.S.

Both authors were at the con, as were Pat; two of the five judges, Suzy McKee Charnas and Debbie Notkin; and about half the contributors to **The Bakery Men Don't See,** the notoriously high-cal dessert cookbook that, along with bake sales at conventions around the country, helped bankroll the award. Each winner received a plaque, a check, airfare to WisCon, and a chocolate typewriter. Giddy euphoria was in the air, along, it seemed, with drop-jaw amazement at how real this project has become in 12 months.

Nominations for next year's Tiptree Award — f/sf stories or novels published in 1992 that creatively explore questions of gender — can be sent to Pat Murphy, 2238 23rd St., San Francisco CA 94107, or to the valiant sf club that held it all together, SF3, P.O. Box 1624, Madison WI 53701. Judges will be this year's winners, plus Pamela Sargent, Michaela Roessner, and John Kessel. Contributions are always welcome.

At the convention Suzy McKee Charnas read from the long-awaited sequel to **Motherlines** (OP in the U.S.; available from Women's Press/U.K. in a double with its predecessor, **Walk to the End of the World**). This was exciting stuff, dealing with the free fems' return to the Holdfast. Charnas envisions two books, one focused on "so we've won, now what?" and the last moving into the next generation, the women who remember slavery in the Holdfast and their daughters who do not.

Thanks to Karen Axness of Room of One's Own, for letting me into the store before hours so I could get to the airport on time; to Ryn, Jean, and Morel for introducing me to the video *Cannibal Women and the Avocado Jungle of Death;* and to artist, cartoon historian, and comic-book publisher Trina Robbins for giving me her "Graduate of the Thelma & Louise Finishing School" button after a successful panel on *"Thelma & Louise:* Triumph or Tragedy?"

Among the finalists for the 1991 Nebula Awards, given by the newly renamed Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America (SFFWA), are Lois McMaster Bujold's **Barrayar** (Baen), Pat Cadigan's **Synners** (Bantam/Spectra), and Emma Bull's **Bone Dance** (Ace). I've read two of the three already, which is better than my usual record. Nominated for best novella are stories by Nancy Kress, Kristine Kathryn Rusch, and Connie Willis; novelette, Karen Joy Fowler and Susan Shwartz; and short story, Karen Joy Fowler again and Martha Soukup.

Synners, in its British edition (HarperCollins), is also short-listed for the 1991 Arthur C. Clarke Award, as is Gwyneth Jones' Tiptree Award winner, **White Queen.**

Delia Sherman sold her second novel, **The Porcelain Dove,** to Dutton for cloth publication. Her first, **Through a Brazen Mirror,** a gender-bending medieval fantasy with style and integrity, went out of print way too fast, but she's still willing to wholesale her dwindling stash at standard trade discount. Contact

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her at 303 Franklin St., Newton MA 02158.

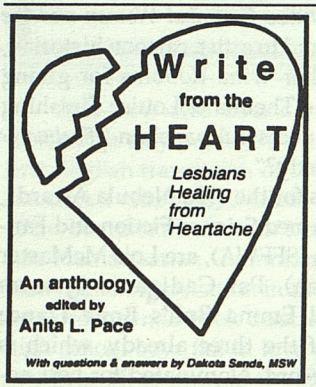
Here are some "briefly noted," about most of which I know no more than author and title:

Forbidden Journeys: Fairy Tales and Fantasies by Victorian Women Writers, by Nina Auerbach with U.C. Knoepflmacher, from the University of Chicago Press (May, cl).

From Baen: After a string of successful sf novels, Lois McMaster Bujold ventures into fantasy with **The Spirit Ring**, (November, cl).

From Bantam/Spectra: Megan (*Cloven Hooves, Wizard of the Pigeons*, etc.) Lindholm, **Alien Earth** (July); Elisabeth Vonarburg, **The Silent City** (August); Vonda N. (*Dreamsnake, Starfarers*, etc.) McIntyre, **Metaphase** (September); Elizabeth (*Winterlong*) Hand, **Aestival Tide** (September).

From Penguin/Roc: R. M. (*Jerusalem Fire, Chicago Red*, etc.) Meluch, **The Queen's Squadron** (July).



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This touching anthology includes stories, poems, questions and answers, all pertaining to the losses of lesbians, and their ways to recovery.

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"WRITE FROM THE HEART. . . LESBIANS HEALING FROM HEARTACHE" was written to inspire and give hope to those experiencing the myriad painful feelings of loss. It is a thoughtful, often intense, sometimes even lighthearted reading for all lesbians-- and for anyone who has ever experienced the loss of a relationship.

This **Baby Steps Press** *publication is available through BOOK PEOPLE, INLAND BOOKS, and PACIFIC PIPELINE.*

Editor/Publisher: Anita L. Pace, (503) 524-7105
Baby Steps Press: PO Box 1917, Beaverton, OR 97075

From St. Martin's: Judith (*Pennterra*, etc.) Moffett, **Time, Like an Ever-Rolling Stream** (September, cl).

From Tor: Midori Snyder, **Beldan's Fire** (September); Esther Friesner, **Yesterday We Saw Mermaids** (October, cl).

AVON

A Woman of the Iron People, by Eleanor Arnason. Okay, I've finally got this straight. The paperback is coming out in two volumes: **In the Light of Sigma Draconis** in June and **Changing Women** in July. The excuse seems to be that customers won't stand for a $6.99 or $7.99 mass-market paperback, the assumption being that they're more likely to snap up two volumes with prices totalling at least that much. You really must carry both, and read them yourself if you can.

The crew of a starship centuries from Earth sets out to explore an unnamed planet, where women run the villages, adult men are assumed to be asocial but territorial wanderers, and women who consort with men for anything but procreation are deemed perverts. While Lixia, an Earth woman, develops a friendship with Nia, the woman of the iron people, the starship crew grapples with the slippery ethics of first contact. (One faction thinks that because they are socialists, they can't possibly be imperialistic, or even insensitive.) 6/92

BAEN BOOKS

Liar's Oath, by Elizabeth Moon (0-671-72117-8, $5.99). Not of major feminist interest in itself, but Moon's Paksenarrion trilogy (*Sheepfarmer's Daughter*, etc.) has plenty of fans out there and this, like *Surrender None: The Legacy of Gird*, explores its background. My next backlist tear will probably be through Moon's work; more news then.

Fire in the Mist, by Holly Lisle (0-671-72132-1, $4.99). An unambitious shepherd girl discovers her magic potential when her village is decimated by plague, whereupon her options, temptations, and enemies increase exponentially. All that can save this kind of thing is the quality of the writing, and that I won't know till I see it.

The Ship Who Searched, by Anne McCaffrey and Mercedes Lackey (0-671-72129-1, $5.99). Like *The*

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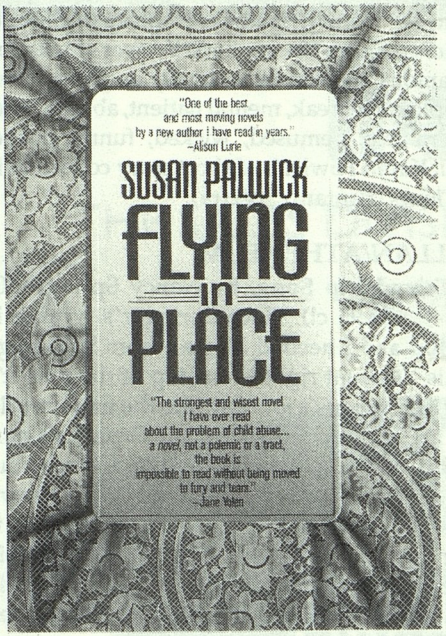

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"This is a book that needed to be written: a moving and memorable story."—Pat Murphy

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0-312-85183-9 ◆ Hardcover ◆ $17.95

TOR BOOKS ®

Ship Who Sang, this features a severely disabled woman — actually a seven-year-old girl — who chooses to become the mind of a spaceship. McCaffrey and Lackey (who in a curious twist of categories won a Lammy last year for gay men's sf) both have legions of female fans. 8/92

BALLANTINE/DEL REY

In July, Del Rey kicks off "Del Rey Discoveries," a line focusing on first and occasionally second novels. The publisher promises to design and promote these books to encourage readers to take a chance on something new. Of the titles already announced, Carol (*Reef Song*) Severance's **Demon Drums** (July) and Rosemary Kirstein's **The Outskirter's Secret** (November), sequel to *The Steerswoman*, are of particular interest.

BANTAM/SPECTRA

Sideshow, by Sheri S. Tepper (0-553-08130-6, $21.50 cl). Haven't seen this yet. One reviewer calls it a "loose sequel" to *Grass* and *Raising the Stones*, a "complex mixture of metaphysics, satire, morality play, and sf conspiracy thriller, where diversity and unity are at odds, and a viral peril could destroy the ordered chaos of a future society." More later. 5/92

Doomsday Book, by Connie Willis (0-553-08131-4, $22 cl). An advance review calls this big (600 pages or so) novel "ambitious, finely detailed, and compulsively readable," along with other superlatives for writing, medieval and near-future settings, and general integrity. The protagonist is Kivrin, a student of history, who is doing her practicum in 1349 England, during the Plague. *In*, that is, not *on*, for time travel is possible here, though it has its liabilities. 7/92

HENRY HOLT

Sarah Canary, by Karen Joy Fowler (0-8050-1753-4, $21.95 cl). Whether this notice comes too late (the hardcover came out last October) or too early (the paperback hasn't been announced yet), don't pass this novel by. Roaming all over the Pacific Northwest, the book sets a strange band of marginal people — a Chinese railway worker, an insane-asylum alumnus, an ardent advocate of female sexuality, among others

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— against an even stranger historical backdrop of state-of-the-art history, medicine, spiritualism, and natural science. Sarah Canary herself never speaks; for her companions she serves variously as ghost lover, demon, exploitable freak, mental patient, abused wife. It's indescribable: bemused, wicked, funny, poetic, wonderful. Karen Fowler's sf short story collection is *Artificial Things* (Bantam/Spectra).

MACMILLAN/ATHENEUM

The Friendship Song, by Nancy Springer (0-689-31727-1, $13.95 cl). Since Springer's writing is wicked good and I needed a break from 500+-page novels, this YA went right to the top of the pile. It's a retelling of Orpheus's journey into the underworld to rescue his beloved Eurydice, but Orpheus's part is taken by two 12-year-old best girlfriends, Eurydice is rock star Nico Torres, and the path is strewn with rock-musical allusions. Narrator Harper is white, her best buddy Rawnie is Black; this is no big deal in some ways, though racism looms large in others. A warm and inspiring gift for daughter, mother, sister, friend.

TOR

Tam Lin, by Pamela Dean (0-812-54450-1, $4.99), is just out in paperback. It sets the Scottish ballad of young Tam Lin, kidnapped by the Queen of Fairies and heroically rescued by his lover, Janet, on a Minnesota college campus in the early 1970s, against a theatrical background. Good stuff, and of particular interest to traditional-music lovers.

Glass Houses, by Laura J. Mixon (0-812-51918-3, $3.99). In this close-hauled, fast-moving first novel, narrator Ruby Kubick is a scrappy, often broke freelance salvage operator in a 21st century New York where the greenhouse effect has raised both the temperature and the oceans. An accident involves her in the deadly intrigues of a wealthy family. Her responses to her dilemma and her resulting growth as a character are as persuasively developed as the virtual reality nets and the human/machine interfaces. One major theme is Ruby's struggle to make sense of her mostly unrequited lust/love for her roommate, Melissa. Highly recommended. 5/92 ○

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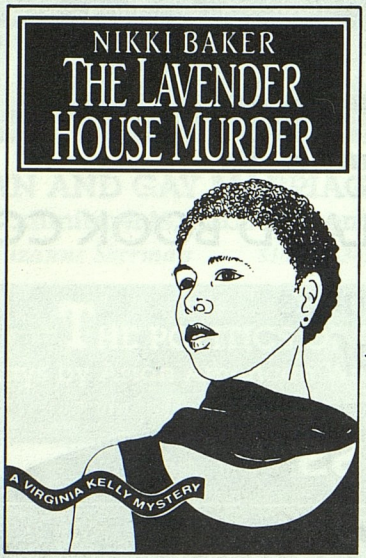

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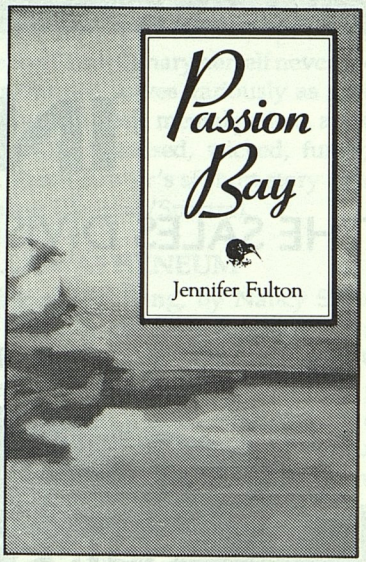

The Lavender House Murder

A Virginia Kelly Mystery

by Nikki Baker

By night — the bars, the music, the sexual energy.

By day — the beaches, the bay...basking in the sun and the scent of suntan lotion. And everywhere the women of Provincetown.

Among these women in the sun is Afro-American Virginia Kelly, on vacation apart from lover Emily. Ginny has come to P-town with friend Naomi. They stay at Lavender House, a hotel for lesbians run by a woman from Naomi's past named Sam...

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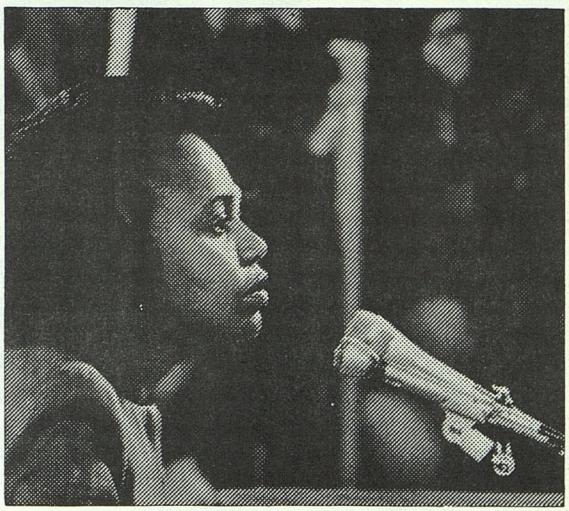
FROM OUR OWN PRESSES

This issue's From Our Own Presses column begins with a few FBN-written annotations and then continues in its new format of "notes" from feminist publishers to feminist booksellers describing their new titles, why they chose to publish these particular books, and what makes these books particularly important and interesting. —*CS*

On October 11, 1991, Anita Hill testified before the Senate Judiciary Committee. On October 15th, the Senate ignored her testimony and confirmed Clarence Thomas to the Supreme Court. On November 17, 1,603 Black women fought back with ads in the *New York Times* and six Black newspapers protesting the confirmation, declaring "We pledge ourselves to continue to speak out in defense of one another, in defense of the African-American community and against those who are hostile to social justice no matter what color they are. No one will speak for us but ourselves." The ad was signed by all 1,603 women. Copies of the ad were photocopied and photocopied again and posted in women's bookstores, offices, workplaces, and everywhere that outraged women gather. This ad marked a historic moment in Black feminist organizing. To commemorate the event, Kitchen Table: Women of Color Press has, with the aid of Amy E. Bartell/Syracuse Cultural Workers, turned the ad into a three-color poster on glossy stock that will further circulate the outrage and commitment inspired by the Thomas confirmation. A note at the bottom of the poster reads, in part, "The ads cost more than $50,000 and African American Women in Defense of Ourselves'



Rick Reinhard, Impact Visuals

ability to raise this sum in a few weeks, mostly from small individual donations, symbolized the success of an unprecedented grassroots effort to make the voices of Black women heard. Their action has become a catalyst for ongoing organizing to combat racial and sexual oppression and also to challenge the complex and painful reality of violence against women of color." Order individual copies from Kitchen Table: Women of Color Press, PO Box 908, Latham NY 12110. $15.95 each. One copy free for each 4 ordered, plus $3.00 shipping for the first poster ordered and $1.75 for each additional poster. (25% discount to women

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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, 7900 Edgewater Dr, Oakland CA 94621. Phone: 800-999-4650.

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Six FROM KIT

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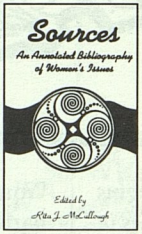


SOURCES: An Annotated Bibliography of Women's Issues. Edited by Rita I. McCullough.

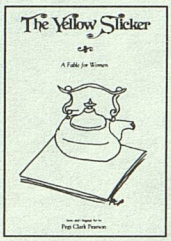
A guide to the most recent books on woment's issues,"...A wealth of annotated titles...(many) unknown or hard to find..."

Linda Vara, Small Press Magazine. ISBN: 1-879189-28-2/$24.95/paper

BE AN OUTRAGEOUS OLDER WOMAN - a R*A*S*P* (Remarkable Aging Smart Person) by Ruth Harriet Jacobs, Ph.D.

"...Lively, wise, and often sassy guidebook... for becoming outrageous and successful as an older woman... a major coup."

Cheryl Kniderknecht, ACSW / Journal of Women and Aging, ISBN: 1-879198-03-7/$14.95/paper



THE YELLOW SLICKER, A Fable for Women by Pegi Clark Pearson. Illustrated by the author.

A fable of a beautiful young uninhibited woman whose boundaries are tested to the limits. The line drawn nudes eloquently depict the depth of emotion the heroine experiences.

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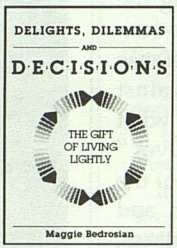

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MAKING PEACE WITH MY MOTHER by Sylvia B. Grossman.

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who signed the ad.) Booksellers, order from Syracuse Cultural Workers, Box 6367, Syracuse NY 13217. (315) 474-1132.

Truth Visiting is either a short journal or a collection of 32 writing papers (you decide) from Jane Evershed's Power of Woman, Scarred Sacred Earth, and Revisiting Our Souls collections. Each page features a different meditation/comment/hope/prayer and is bordered by drawings with space in the middle to write.... My favorites include: "Write/read. To read is to empower, To empower is to write. To write is to influence. To influence is to change. To change is to live." "Be prepared to risk everything you hold precious, for the truth inside you." "'It is more noble to cultivate life than to man a warship,' whispered the peasant woman to the naval officer across the sea." "Treasure the remaining tribes, Aborigine, Zulu, Cheyenne.... All the stolen gold in Africa could not buy this wealth of culture, this dignity of great and noble tribes...." Thirty-two pages, printed on recycled paper using soy inks. Spiral bound. $12.00 retail, 50% bookstore discount. Order direct from Jane Evershed, PO Box 8874, Minneapolis MN 55408.

The first calendar of the 1993 season is in! **Return of the Goddess 1993** is a beautiful, full-color calendar featuring traditional and unexpected images of the Goddess from many cultures with quotations and comments from a range of writings. Burleigh Mutén created this calendar because nothing like it existed. Pages are about 5 x 7 inches, with each week spread across two facing pages, plenty of room for daily appointments or short journal notes. It should do well in feminist bookstores. $16.95, spiral bound with thick "board-book" covers, 0-9631468-0-7. 40% returnable; 50% non-returnable. Hands of the Goddess Press, 19 Kettle Hill Rd, RFD 3, Amherst MA 01002.

Jane Evershed, *Truth Visiting*

Australian feminist press Spinifex adds two new lesbian titles to their list with Gillian Hanscombe's new collection of poetry **Sybil: The Glide of Her Tongue** and Susan Hawthorne's novel **The Falling Woman**.

Suniti Namjoshi happily compares **Sybil** with the works of Sappho, Virginia Woolf and Adrienne Rich. Daphne Marlatt says, "Gillian Hanscombe performs a feat of lesbian imagination in this stunning sequence. Her sybilic voice, familiar and strange at once, radiates both vision and anger in a prose that echoes the music of our thoughts back to us. **Sybil** gives us a lesbian politics and a lesbian tradition, [both] grounded in the prophetic. Welcome to lesbian imagination singing at full range." US$11.95 pb, 1-875559-05-1.

In **The Falling Woman**, Susan Hawthorne dramatizes a desert journey in which two women confront ancient and modern myths ranging from the Garden of Eden to the mystique of epilepsy, and the mysteries of the universe itself. In the guise of three personae — Stella, Estella, Estelle — the falling woman struggles to find the map for her life and meet the challenge of her own survival. "A rare and extraordinary insight into the mysteries of a condition all but ignored in modern literature." You could sell this novel out of your "Art Books" section for its wonderful cover which features porcelain sculpture by Suzanne Bellamy. US$14.95 pb, 1-875559-04-3.

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"This book kept me up all night." –Kate Millett

"Jess Wells makes us face our worst nightmares without flinching. She is a visionary writer who has both feet firmly planted in reality."
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Classic short stories by Jess Wells also available from Third Side Press:
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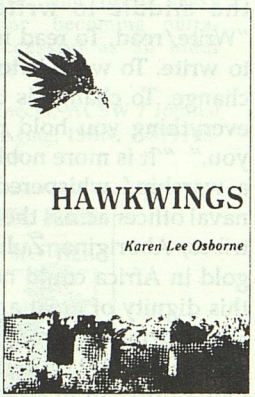

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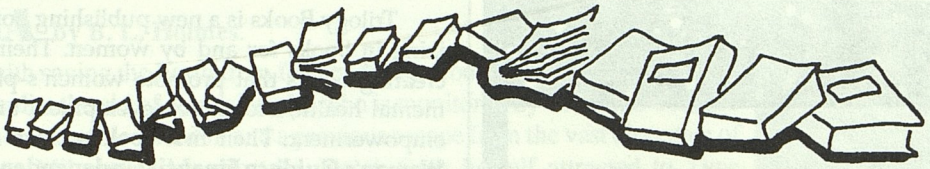

Spinifex will publish four more titles later this year. Spinifex Press, 504 Queensberry St., PO Box 212, North Melbourne Victoria 3051, Australia. Available in the U.S. from Inland.

Women, Race and Ethnicity is a 202-page annotated bibliography of recent print and audiovisual materials. It lists 2,400 citations under twenty-eight disciplines and topics with the following subsections: Asian and Pacific American women, Black women, Latinas, American Indian women, Jewish women, and Euro-American women. Fully indexed by subject. Covers everything from the academic, to articles in feminist publications to videos by Whoopi Goldberg. An incredible resource that no feminist or multi-cultural bookstore should be without. $7.00 pb. No ISBN. No discount available, but it would be easily salable at the price necessary to make a 40% discount. Published by the Office of the Women's Studies Librarian of the University of Wisconsin System (let's hear it for the work of feminist librarians!). Prepaid only. Make checks payable to the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Order from Women's Studies Librarian, 430 Memorial Library, 728 State St., Madison WI 53706.

WIRE: Women's International Resource Exchange is a collective dedicated to reprinting and distributing information about, and analyses of, the problems, struggles, achievements of women of the Third World. WIRE's new catalog includes a slew of new pamphlets including **Life in a Police State: A Black South African Woman Speaks Out** (transcribed and edited by Diana Russell); **I Feel Like Lying Down for the First Time in My Life: Life of Korean Women Farmers** by Kim Yon; **Vera: To Be A Mother to Your Own Children — That's Very Little'** (Brazil), and **Third World Lesbians Organizing: A Collection of Articles by Third World Lesbians** compiled by Juanita Ramos; **The Role of Development in the Exploitation of Southeast Asian Women: Sex Tourism in Thailand; The Literacy Issue: Feminist Perspectives on Reading and Writing**; and **Women in the Intifada**. Prices range from $1 to $4.00. Write for complete catalog. (They'd appreciate $1 toward printing and postage.) 30% discount to bookstores. WIRE, 122 West 27th St. 10th Floor, NY NY 10001. 212-741-2955.

Anxiety Attack, short-short stories by Lorrie Sprecher, is an irreverent collection of short-short fiction and one- and multi-liners about a lesbian in therapy with a lesbian shrink. Published by Violet Ink and printed (of course) in violet ink... Violet Ink is the brain-child of feminist bookseller and anthologist extraordinaire, Irene Zahava (Smedley's Bookshop). $5.00, 30 pgs., saddle-stitched, 0-9631656-0-7. Violet Ink, 307 W. State St., Ithaca NY 14850. Distributed to bookstores by Inland.

"One of 1991's Top Books"
-- *Lambda Rising News*

"One of my five favorite books for 1991" -- Carol Seajay
Feminist Bookstore News

Rusty: How Me and Her Went to Colorado and Everything... Except Not Really **By GARBO**

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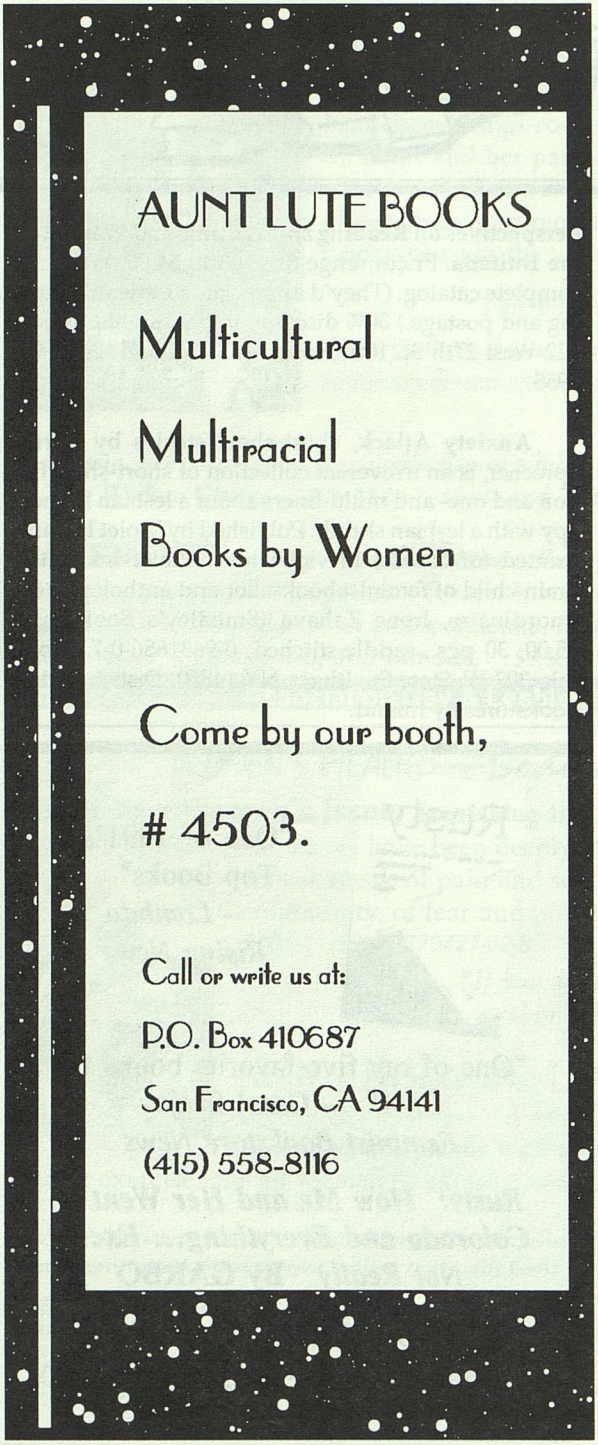

Trilogy Books is a new publishing house specializing in books for and by women. Their priority is creating books that promote women's physical and mental health, economic development and spiritual empowerment. Their first book is **Head & Heart: A Woman's Guide to Financial Independence** by Susan Weidman Schneider, Arthur B.C. Drache, and Helene Brezinsky, which was originally published in Canada in 1987 by MacMillan of Canada and has been revised and updated for the U.S. market. **Head & Heart** provides a crash course in financial literacy and addresses many financial situations women encounter, from venturing out into the world of work as a young woman to planning for retirement. The fundamental financial education is laced with stories about real-life women dealing with tangled emotional/financial concerns. *"The authors' combined expertise and their shared feminist viewpoint produce a book that takes financial independence for women very seriously." — Booklist.* Susan Schneider is the editor and founder of *Lilith* magazine and the author of *Jewish and Female: Choices and Changes in Our Lives Today*. $14.95 pb, 0-9623879-0-8.

This Fall, Trilogy will publish **What's a Mother to Do? Conversations on Work & Family** by Michele Hoffnung, which examines attitudes and actions that enhance a woman's ability to effectively combine motherhood and career, and **Calling: Essays on Teaching in the Mother Tongue** by Gail B. Griffin, a highly personal account of the author's daily life as a feminist English professor in the academic trenches of a small, liberal arts college in the midwest.

Trilogy Books, 155 S. El Molino Ave #103, Pasadena, CA 91101. Distributed by Independent Publisher's Group (800-888-4741), Bookpeople, Inland, the distributors, Pacific Pipeline and B&T.

The Making of a Man: A Sexual Fantasy by Audrey Savage (*The Fourth Woman* and *Twice Raped*) is a feminist response to *The Story of O*, based on the premise that women (and men) are only happy if both are free and that only when both men and women know and respect the central core of another's being will sexuality become the transcendent experience it was meant to be. In this novel, one Adrian Carlyle, a bored and arrogant lawyer, is noted to be deficient in many of the essential skills necessary to fulfill a woman emotionally and sexually — and he is sent off

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MEGA by B. L. Holmes.

Charged with saving the Earth from further destruction, a group of psychics and scientists enlist the aid of Kerek Leight, who is monitored by computer because of her past crimes of lesbianism and a previous escape from the vast city-state of the Chicago-Milwaukee-Megalopolis. Kerek finds herself attracted to Tyne Raykar, the psychics' programer, as she reluctantly agrees to help them. Unfortunately, Mega Central learns of their escape plan and is determined to stop them. "... a daring fast-paced affair filled with danger and excitement." Rose Fennell, Lambda Book Report. **ISBN 0-941300-19-6, $8.95 papeback**

We are pleased to announce that Mega has been nominated for a 1992 Lambda Literary Award in the Science Fiction/Fantasy Category

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Available from Inland, Bookpeople, Bookslinger

to "school" to learn. Savage wrote **The Making of a Man** as an antidote to her earlier book *Twice Raped*. $10.00 pb, 0-929698-02-9. Book Weaver Publishing Company, PO Box 30072, Indianapolis IN 46230. Distributed by Bookpeople, Inland, New Leaf, the distributors, or direct from the publisher.

Tender Heart by Kate Lee is a collection of poems about the author's experience of incest, ritual abuse, and recovery. A wellness consultant, Lee's thesis is that it is possible for wounded souls to face their pain, feel the full force of its raging agony, move through it and let it go, emerging healed and victorious. $12.95 pb, 80 pgs., 0-9626031-5-5. Order from Children of the Light Publications, PO Box 18154, Knoxville TN 37928. Distributor to be announced at a later date. 40% for 5+.

Within the Earth A Mountain by Harriet Lewis is both a book about women traveling (Nepal and backpacking in the Tetons) and about mothers and daughters, about the strength it takes for a mother to "let go," and the courage of a daughter to feel that freedom. The book centers on the daughter's letters from Nepal and Tang-Ting, where she spent six months of her sophomore year. Her letters inspired her mother to write about their joint wilderness adventures in the Wind Rivers and the Teton Mountains of Wyoming where they gained the trust and understanding that sustained them as they moved away from traditional mother/daughter roles and engaged one another as friends. $9.95 pb, 0-933294-03-4. Available from the publisher only. 40% bookstore discount, no minimum. Published by Backroads, Box 14, Kelly WY 83011. — *Carol Seajay*

Compiled by Ann Morse with the feminist presses

ATTIC PRESS

The Kiss by Linda Cullen. This novel, first published in October 1990, has been huge in the U.K. but even better in the U.S. Our distribution companies in the U.S. — Bookpeople and Inland — are having difficulty in keeping up with the demand. As a result we have reprinted the novel. Copies should be available in the U.S. by late May, early June 1992. However, as you can imagine, the cost of printing has increased since we first published **the Kiss** in 1990 and, as a

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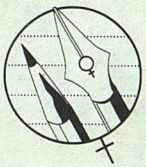

We are a community based feminist research organisation. We have conducted research and produced publications on violence against women and on economic issues such as pay equity. We have also published guides for women's groups on action research and evaluation methods. For more information/ publications list write or call:

Women's Research Centre
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Vancouver, B.C. V6K 2E4
Canada
Phone: (604) 734-0485
Fax: (604) 734-0484

result the cover price will now be $13.99. The ISBN is 1-855940-027.

Attic Press, 4 Upper Mount St., Dublin 2, Ireland. Distributed by Bookpeople, Inland. — *Attic Press*

AUNT LUTE BOOKS

New From Aunt Lute: **Visionary Voices**, interviews, edited by Penny Rosenwasser. $8.95 pb, 1-879960-20-6. Includes 19 photographs. **Visionary Voices** gathers together a collection of interviews with women from very different backgrounds in politics and spirituality. Spanning a wide range of ages, ethnicities, organizations and occupations, they all address the complexities of personal and political empowerment in dealing with the necessity of global change. Interviewees include longtime feminist artists and activists Barbara Smith, Papusa Molina, Fran Peavey, Deena Metzger, Winona LaDuke and many more.

The Issue is Power, essays by Melanie Kaye/Kantrowitz. $8.95 pb, 1-879960-16-8. The issue is power in this new collection of essays, speeches and reviews spanning 15 years of writing and organizing. Political and literary activist Melanie Kaye/Kantrowitz's passion for justice connects a wide range of issues, from the power of community to the complexity of violence. With intelligence and clarity, these diverse writings address lesbian culture, war, sexual power, identity politics, Israel, Palestine and the Middle East and international and domestic violence against women. Aunt Lute Books, 223 Mississippi, PO Box 410687, San Francisco CA 94141. BP, IN.

— *Aunt Lute Books*

CLEIS PRESS

Cleis Press offers two new contributions to its growing (and bestselling!) catalog of books addressing sexuality from a progressive, pro-sex perspective. These titles will draw readers to your lesbian and gay studies, sexuality, and gender studies sections.

Good Sex: Real Stories From Real People by Julia Hutton looks at sexuality from the point of view of 80 women and men (ages 17 to 73) who view sex as a powerful, positive force in their lives. Says Susie Bright (to whom we couldn't resist showing the manuscript): "What Studs Terkel did for working, Julia Hutton does for sex." **Good Sex** is about sex: kinky and straight, staged and spontaneous, paid and unpaid, natural and technologically enhanced... a "fistful of polaroids" of sex in the '90s. Like good sex, **Good Sex** is risky, honest, revealing, communicative, lively, explicit, exciting and fun. Chapters include interviews on the nature of desire, how we talk about sex, sex toys and gender-bending, sexuality and recovery from sexual assault, and more. $12.95 pb, 0-939416-57-3; $24.95 cl, 0-939416-56-5.

In **Susie Bright's Sexual Reality: A Virtual Sex World Reader**, her new collection of essays, Susie Bright turns her pen to politics and passion, jealousy and risk in an intimate look at the human sexual condition. **Susie Bright's Sexual Reality** takes on *virtual* reality — where our "fantasies and fears — especially the sexual ones — are more real than 'real' forces..." In this new pop culture primer on sex, Susie Bright continues the erotic travelogue begun in *Susie Sexpert's Lesbian Sex World* (which sold 10,000 copies its first year!). From computer age erotic technologies to sex talk with Camille Paglia and life on the road for everyone's favorite "cheerleader" for desire ("I Got This Way From Kissing Donahue")...**Sexual Reality** is the latest outrageous collection from Susie Bright, perhaps the first vibrator saleswoman to put lesbian sex

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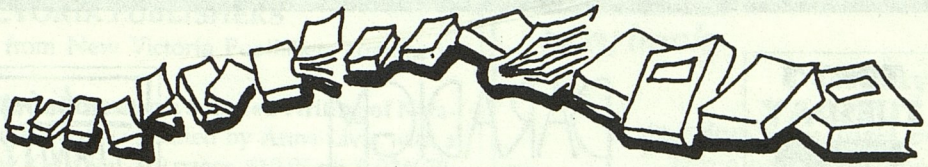

on the pages of *Rolling Stone*. $9.95 pb, 0-939416-59-X; $24.95 cl, 0-939416-58-1.

Available from Baker & Taylor, Bookpeople, Bookslinger, Inland, Ingram, New Leaf and direct from Cleis Press, PO Box 8933, Pittsburgh PA 15221.

— *Cleis Press*

MOTHER COURAGE PRESS

Banshee's Women, Capsized in the Coral Sea by Jeannine Talley. Talley, who with Joy Smith captivated readers with their cruising adventures on a 34-foot sailboat *Banshee* in *Women at the Helm*, weaves another gripping true-life adventure tale of their capsize and dismasting in a terrible storm off the east coast of Australia. Joy was injured in the roll-over and she and Jeannine put out a radio call for help. After four days of being helplessly tossed about, they were found and rescued first by a cargo ship and then by helicopter flown out from Australia, 450 miles away. The women were forced to abandon their boat in mid- Pacific. But the story doesn't end there. Two intrepid Australian sailors, learning of the women's fate, volunteered to go out searching for the *Banshee* in their 63-foot motor vessel. They found and towed the *Banshee* back to Australia and generously returned to boat to her two owners without claiming a salvage fee. $12.95 pb, 0-941300-23-4; $21.95 cl, 0-941300-24-2.

Meditations & Blessings From a Different Dimension by Dorothy "Mike" Brinkman. The inspired and empowering meditations and blessings in this book were taken from *Welcome to the Home of Your Heart*, a book of channeled writings by Jenny to Dorothy "Mike" Brinkman. The meditation may be used by spirituality and therapy groups that implement guided meditation. They may also be used by individuals who tape record the instructions. The blessings can be used anytime, anywhere. $5.95 pb, 0-941300-21-8.

Both titles distributed by Bookpeople, Inland and Bookslinger. Mother Courage Press, 1667 Douglas Avenue, Racine WI 53404; 414-637-2227, fax 414-637-8242.

— *Mother Courage Press*

NAIAD PRESS

The coming season brings what may be the most attractive selection of spring/summer books in the history of Naiad Press.

Leading off is **Sticks and Stones** by Jackie Calhoun, whose portraits of everyday lesbian life in *Lifestyles* and *Second Chance* earned her instant reader loyalty. Lesbians with children will especially welcome a rare and realistic portrayal of the

KELSEY ST. PRESS
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ISLE

Rena Rosenwasser, text Kate Delos, drawings

A selection of writings including lesbian author's long narrative prose poem set on the Greek islands. Rosenwasser continues her explorations of prehistory, place and embodied sensations. Composed of journal entries, guidebook prose and personal meditations, the piece resonates with puns and overlays. "Each island," she writes, "is its own clear page," as she herself, page-like, is inscribed by her experience. The page also becomes a visual metaphor, the islands of text now floating, now grounded in seas of white space. Artist Delos' spare sensual drawings, originally in graphite and wash, are talismans for the text.

56pp. six color drawings, $12.95
ISBN 0-932716-28-8

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Set in Bialystok, Poland in 1939, this is a poignant novel about two lovers who struggle not only to stay together, but to stay alive during the horrors of World War II. Through the atrocities both women must face, their love for each other never wavers. In their journey, they meet other courageous women who help them in their fight to both survive and reunite. By the author of *Taken By Storm*.
ISBN 0-9628595-3-2

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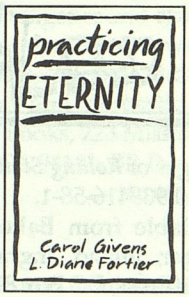
"Paradigm Publishing . . . a publisher of contemporary lesbian literature with a big L."
—Marie Kuda, Gay Chicago Magazine



The powerful, moving testament of partners in a long-term lesbian relationship dealing with the process of living, the prospect of death.
"This book is helping to lay the groundwork for the political road ahead, challenging readers to begin asking the hard questions about what can be done to confront the cancer epidemic in our midst."
—Sue Rochman, The ADVOCATE
ISBN 0-9628595-2-4

stresses placed on a lesbian relationship by an ex-husband who ignites a custody battle. $9.95 pb, 1-56280-020-5.

The suspense read of the summer has to be **Delia Ironfoot**, a beautifully detailed survival tale of two women on a Utah mountain with only Delia's courage and cunning to protect them from armed killers. Jeane Harris's follow-up to *Black Iris* marks the debut of a quality series featuring a woman of Ute descent, and will surely awaken echoes of Tony Hillerman's excellent Native American mystery series...$9.95 pb, 1-56280-014-0.

The Lavender House Murder, follow-up to last year's eagerly greeted *In the Game*, fulfills author Nikki Baker's* promise as one of the most exciting new voices in the mystery genre. Afro-American Virginia Kelly's newest involvement, in murderous doings in Provincetown, will give your readership an entirely new "take" on that fabled mecca — this time through the eyes of an unusual and most perceptive detective. $9.95 pb, 1-56280-012-4.

Send your customers looking for the perfect beach book to **Passion Bay** by New Zealand newcomer Jenny Fulton*. This novel absolutely has it all: passionate romance and mystery and intrigue on virgin beaches on an exotic tropical island; an American and a New Zealander, with secrets in both of their pasts; and a hurricane named Mary gathering off the coast. We *told* you this book has it all...$9.95 pb, 1-56280-028-0.

And finally, **Love, Zena Beth**. Surely the powerhouse novel of the year. Already the subject of unprecedented pre-publication "buzz," and certain to appeal across the board to every lesbian. Certain to be discussed in any gathering of lesbians anywhere, certain to place Lammy nominee Diane Salvatore* (*Benediction*) in the first rank of lesbian novelists. Stock up on this very high quality, very erotic depiction of a young woman's affair with a world-famous lesbian writer on the rebound from her own affair with a world-famous sports star. **Love, Zena Beth** is a can't miss bestseller. $18.95 cl, 1-56280-015-9. This novel will come out in July, *not* in September as previously reported.

* Jenny Fulton, Nikki Baker and Diane Salvatore will appear at ABA. Nikki and Jenny will sign their new books. See us at booth number 4500 and 4502.

Order direct, save money. Also available from Inland, Bookpeople, Bookslinger, the distributors, Ingram. Naiad Press, PO Box 10543, Tallahassee FL 32302. — *Naiad Press*

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NEW VICTORIA PUBLISHERS

Titles from New Victoria Publishers coming in July:

A Perilous Advantage: Selected Writing of Natalie Clifford Barney, translated by Anna Livia with a foreword by Karla Jay, 220 pages. $10.95 pb, 0-934678-45-6; $19.95 cl, 0-934678-38-3. Natalie Barney not only lived her lesbianism, she celebrated it, hosting the avant garde of Paris for 30 years. Even though she was known as the Amazon of letters, and was American, we could never find much of her writing in English. In Barcelona we talked with Anna Livia and learned of her interest in doing a translation. We are very excited now to be able to discover for ourselves, and share with others, Natalie's view on some of the people she loved, as well as her wry observations of conventional and unconventional lifestyles. Her writing brings to light yet another chapter of lesbian herstory.

Deaths of Jocasta: A Mickey Knight Mystery by J.M. Redmann, 288 pages. $9.95 pb, 0-934678-39-1. Jean Redmann has written a sequel to *Death by the Riverside*, this one called **Deaths of Jocasta**. Detective Micky Knight is called in to investigate the death of a young woman from what looks like a botched abortion. The police suspect Dr. Cordelia James, director of the women's health clinic. Not only is the book full of action and suspense, the issues are real, and the characters are vividly drawn. As the *New Orleans Times-Picayune* observed, "Knight is witty, irreverent and very sexy." This book will appeal to mystery readers, those who love a fast-paced story, and those who want to read about some of the stickier aspects of relationships — between friends and lovers.

Books may be ordered from Inland, Bookpeople, and Bookslinger in the U.S. and Canada; Airlift in England and Europe, and Stilone in Australia. New Victoria is very happy to take orders direct from booksellers. We can turn your order around in two or three days and send bookpost or UPS. We can offer a higher discount if books are bought in large quantities. But we also support our distributors and feel they do an excellent job of fulfillment. New Victoria Publishers, PO Box 27, Norwich VT 05055. — *New Victoria Publishers*

PAPIER-MACHE PRESS

Blue Collar Goodbyes is a new collection of poetry and essays by worker-writer Sue Doro. Doro, for 13 years the only female machinist at the former Mil-

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$9.50, paper, 170p

Erotic by Nature
David Steinberg, editor
"...free, feminist sexual expression." *Photo Metro*
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Good Vibrations, *Joani Blank*
A reassuring, entertaining introduction to the purchase, care and enjoyment of vibrators for "personal" use.
$5.50, paper, 80p, illus, biblio

The Playbook for Women About Sex, *Joani Blank*
"...a sensible course in self-awareness for people who are sexually uncertain or just curious." *S.F. Bay Guardian*
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waukee Road Railway and Allis Chalmers Corporation Tractor Shop, is one of countless victims of widespread American plant closings. In this powerful book, she speaks not only to the thousands of workers who are subject to the devastating effects of these closings, but also to all women who are forced to deal with gender issues at their place of employment. This book is not just for women who work non-traditional jobs —it is for every woman who works. Includes listings of resources for dealing with plant layoff/closure stress, and a bibliography of worker-writer publications. Available August. $8 pb, $12 cl. Papier-Mache Press, PO Box 1304, Freedom CA 95019. Phone 800-927-5913; fax 408-763-1422. IN, BP etc.

— Papier-Mache Press

PRESS GANG PUBLISHERS

Paper, Scissors, Rock is a powerful first novel by Ann Decter about grief, memory and recovery, and how those things are manifested personally, socially and historically — about how they can be changed. Ten years after the death of her father, an Irish-Jewish woman returns to the former location of her family's holidays — an overgrown lakeside cabin in southern Manitoba — to reflect and "trim" the tangle of carragana and personal memories. $12.95 pb, 0-88974-040-2.

Collateral Damage: The Tragedy of Medea (A Play) by Jackie Crossland. A hit of the 1991 Vancouver Fringe Festival, Jackie Crossland's feminist reworking of the Medea myth is at once hilarious, inspiring and...tragic. But not for the reasons in the original version. $9.50 pb, 0-88974-042-9.

"Humans find such folly in raven, particularly those humans who have not bothered to search the world for their own folly." — Lee Maracle's newest novel, **Raven's Song**, tells of one young Native woman's view of the world around her. Set in urban northwest coast in the early 1950s, she describes the flu epidemic that devastated her community at that time, and her passage through the white school system with its inherent racism — countered by her ongoing resistance and strength of spirit. $12.95 pb, 0-88974-044-5.

Sing Me No More by Lynette Dueck is a gripping first novel told in the strong voice of a survivor — this is an unflinching look at the realities of a young woman's life which in indelibly touched by trauma and repeated patterns of violence. Spare and fragmented in style, Dueck's writing gives voice to the struggle of endurance and survival against the odds. $12.95 pb, 0-88974-046-1.

Press Gang Publishers, 603 Powell St., Vancouver BC Canada V6A 1H2. BP, IN. Distributed by BP, IN, Bookslinger, Moving Books, New Leaf, Pacific Pipeline, University of Toronto Press, Turnaround Distribution in England and Bulldog in Australia.

— Press Gang Publishers

SISTER VISION PRESS

Sister Vision Press is warming up to spring...**Running on the March Wind: Other Dreams and References**, Lenore Keeshig Tobias's second book with Sister Vision Press. Her first book, a children's story entitled *Bird Talk/Bineshiinh Dibaajmowin*, is a super success among adults and children alike in Canada and the United States. This compelling collection of poetry makes reference to dreams and dreaming. With Ojibway translation by Edna Manitowabi, Lenore's poetry becomes more accessible to the people she writes for, the Anishnabeg. $13.95 pb, 0-920813-48-8.

Opal Palmer Adisa's fourth book of poetry, which explores her relationships with friends, family and

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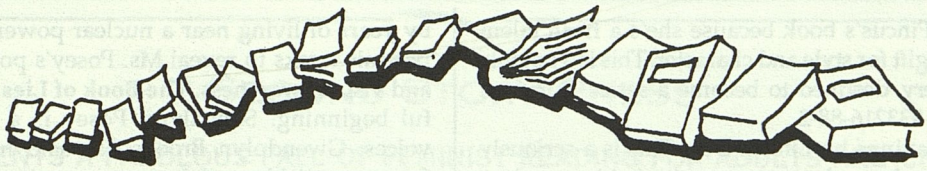

lovers, comes alive with the sights, sounds and smells peculiar to the Caribbean. The voices of **Tamarind and Mango Women** speak to all who are willing to listen. Adisa is active as a writer, storyteller, and community organizer. She lives in Oakland, CA. $12.95 pb, 0-920813-71-2.

Afua Cooper's **Memories Have Tongue** conducts an enchanting tour into one Black woman's past. It explores both public and personal history, making it at once local and international. It is about shaking hands with grandmothers and great-grandmothers; it is about reclaiming, recovering and resisting. $11.95 pb, 0-920813-50-X.

For the younger set...An absorbing and comprehensive biography of Rosemary Brown written by Lynette Roy. Roy reveals the political and the personal/social life of a real life heroine, best known as the first Black woman elected to Parliament in Canada, Rosemary Brown. Filled with personal photographs, **Rosemary Brown: A Biography** is an uplifting must-read for young women. $9.95 pb, 0-920813-52-6.

Althea Trotman's **How the Star-Fish Got to the Sea** is the second title in a series of children's folklore, set in the days of plantation slavery in the Caribbean. Pappa Biggas, the storyteller, shares his love and wisdom with the children of the plantation in this unique way. Star-Fish is a story within a story about a star that doesn't want to shine in the sky anymore. $6.95 pb, 0-920813-70-4.

Unique to Sister Vision's collection...**Words Are What I've Got** is a thought-provoking collection of writings documenting the words of newly literate men and women from all over the world. Written in English, French, Spanish and the native tongue of the learner, these inspirational testimonies address the social, political and economic realities of many of those who are part of the dispossessed and marginalized populations of the world. $19.95 cl, 0-920813-46-1.

Sister Vision Black Women and Women of Colour Press, PO Box 217, Station E, Toronto ONT M6H 4E2 Canada. BP, IN. — *Sister Vision*

SPINSTERS

The Two-Bit Tango by Elizabeth Pincus. This mystery set in San Francisco's Tenderloin district debuts a new P.I., Nell Fury. A secretive politician, big-time insurance fraud and Las Vegas gangsters lead Nell in a fast dance up and down the California coast.

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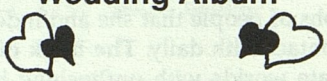

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We chose Pincus's book because she's a fresh talent with a real gift for style and character. This is a notable new mystery, destined to become a series. Summer, $9.95 pb, 0-933216-88-2.

Life Savings by Linnea Due. This is a seriously sexy novel whose characters aren't afraid to explore their sexual limits — and the limits of life outside the bedroom. In this most recent novel by Linnea Due (*Give Me Time, High and Outside*), a group of 40-something lesbian tradeswomen join together to renovate a house in a poor Berkeley neighborhood. We like this book because we're tired of the sex wars, and are pleased to present women who do s-m sex as complex characters with much bigger lives than just what they do in bed. Summer, $10.95 pb, 0- 933216-89-0. Spinsters, 223 Mississippi, PO Box 410687, San Francisco CA 94141. BP, IN. — *Spinsters*

WOMAN IN THE MOON

Verses in the Eye of the Wind by MaryJane Brewster. Read again Oregon's poet for social change. **Eye of the Wind** is MaryJane Brewster's second book of poems from Woman in the Moon and we are proud to continue to make her voice heard. This collection features both new and classic Brewster, including such politically salient poems as "Space Shuttle" and a sorrow-laden rumination, "The Last Spring." **Eye of the Wind** brings back these and other poems from the poet's work. But this new collector's edition also features powerful new poems that are relentless in their condemnation of social injustice — a 10-year poem journal that documents contemporary American events from Reagan's inauguration to Nelson Mandela's American visit to the war in Kuwait. $8 pb, 0-934172-27-7; $10 cl, -27-2.

The Book of Lies by Sherrilynn Posey. Posey's first book of poetry is a verbal collection of photographs of people that she and indeed all of us come in contact with daily. **The Book of Lies** opens these private worlds with unflinching honesty and compassion: a person with AIDS struggles with feelings of betrayal; a young soldier finds that life is far from better for having served in the military; a woman bodybuilder realizes that she "could become beautiful like a sculpture;" a man dies of cancer brought on by years of living near a nuclear power plant. Each portrait works to reveal Ms. Posey's political, social and visual awareness. **The Book of Lies** is a wonderful beginning. Sherrilynn Posey is a writer with voices. Gwendolyn Brooks has said her creativity features reliable and honest portraiture. $8 pb, 0-934172-26-9.

Black of Moonlit Sea by Abby Lynn Bogomolny. This strikingly produced book by New York-born poet Abby Lynn Bogomolny will fit as well in your compact disc rack as in your bookcase. Bogomolny's verses display a wonderful rhythmical voice. Her writing springs from questions that are both personal and planetary. Through eloquent turns of phrase, rhythm and humor, she describes a woman's spiritual and worldly experiences. Her often stark images are generously balanced with humor and compassion. The book is divided into three parts: the first called "Epiphanies," which is steeped in the spirituality of place; the second is "Voices," which gives utterance to the experience of the older generation and women; and the third, "A Story Told to Me," explores the power of her geographic, familial and ethnic influences. William Dickey at San Francisco State University says that Bogomolny's **Black of Moonlit Sea** looks at the bought, sold, raped, betrayed world around us, searching for the little possibilities of hope and "the night without edges..." $9 pb, 0-934172-02-8. Comes in CD disc packaging.

Also from Woman in the Moon is the third edition of SDiane Bogus's **Woman in the Moon** ($8 pb, 0-934172-01-3); and two tapes (produced and packaged for WIM by Lavender Tapes): **The Chant of the Women of Magdalena** ($10/tape, 0-934172-33-1; or just $7 for the book and the tape) and **Sex: SDiane's Erotic Extras**, poems on sex from Bogus's *Dyke Hands, Sapphire's Sampler, Woman in the Moon* and *For the Love of Men* ($12/tape, 0-934172-34-X; or $7 book and tape.) Both tapes run approximately 70 minutes. (These tapes represent Lavender Tapes first two spoken-audio tapes. Publishers interested in similar spoken-audio projects should contact Deby DeWeese, Lavender Tapes, 1125 Veronica Springs Road, Santa Barbara CA 93105; 805-682-4047.) Woman in the Moon books are distributed by Bookslinger, Book Haven, and Inland. Women in the Moon Publications, 10203 Parkwood Dr. #7, Cupertino CA 95014.

— *Woman in the Moon* ○

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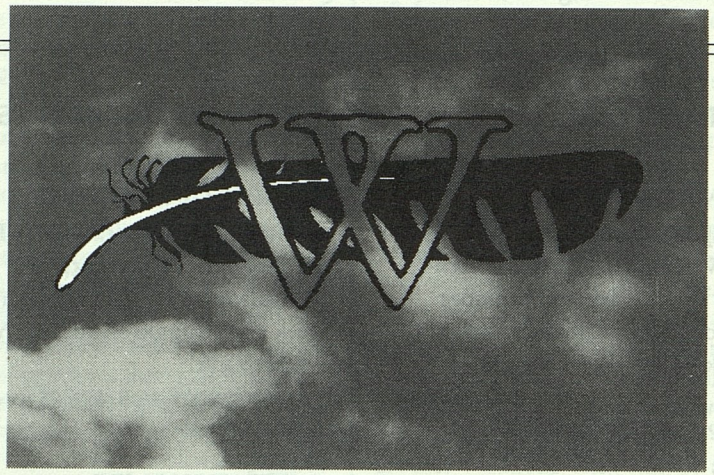

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FROM THE SMALL PRESSES

By Ann Morse

"For years," writes Tee Corinne, "I tried to talk others into writing/editing the kind of books I wanted to read: books which would be sexy, gentle, diverse, romantic, explicit." Corinne recently took this desire into her own hands, and edited **The Poetry of Sex: Lesbians Write the Erotic**. This definitely "sexy, gentle, diverse, romantic and explicit" collection features poems by 78 women, writers known and unknown. The poems, with titles such as "Desire," "How I Became a Lesbian," "Married Ladies Have Sex in the Bathroom," "Two Incest Survivors 'Doin' It'," "Triangulation," "Beatings," and "In Adoration," speak of the pleasures, perils and politics of sex. According to Corinne's introduction, **The Poetry of Sex** is only the second collection of lesbian erotic poetry, the first being Sidewalk Revolution's 1991 anthology *Wanting Women*, edited by Jan Hardy. $9.95 pb, 0- 934411-50-6. Banned Books, PO Box 33280, Austin, TX 78764. In-Book, BP, IN, the distributors, Baker & Taylor etc.

Moon Crossing Bridge is poet Tess Gallagher's moving collection of poems about coming to terms with the death of her husband, writer Raymond Carver. Gallagher is the author of four previous books of poetry. Graywolf will reissue her collection of short stories, *The Lover of Horses*, this spring. $17 cl, 1-55597-156-3. Graywolf Press, 2402 University Ave., Suite 203, St. Paul MN 55114. BP, IN, Bookslinger.

Tee Corinne, *The Poetry of Sex: Lesbians Write the Erotic*

Four Walls Eight Windows has published French writer Annie Ernaux's prize-winning novel **A Man's Place**, the companion work to her much acclaimed *A Woman's Story* (a portrait of Ernaux's mother published in 1991 by FWEW). "**A Man's Place**, written in

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

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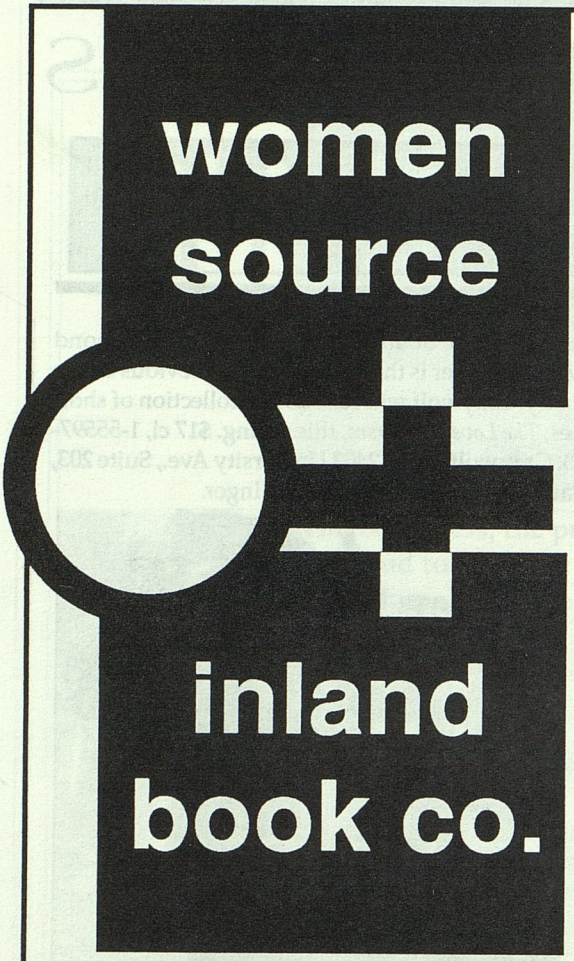

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spare and straightforward prose, is the author's reckoning of the life of her father, a simple man who went from farm hand to cafe owner; it is a story that speaks to the heart of father/daughter relationships and class struggle." The publishers also note that Ballantine will print the paperbacks of both novels (50,000 copies of *A Woman's Story* alone), making Ernaux "perhaps the most widely circulated French woman author after Marguerite Duras." $15.95 cl, 0-941423-75-1. Four Walls Eight Windows, PO Box 548, Village Station, New York, NY 10014. IN.

Sure to be a bestseller is Joan Nestle's long-awaited ground-breaking anthology **The Persistent Desire: A Femme- Butch Reader**, featuring a fascinating collection of essays, interviews, oral histories, short stories, poems and photographs exploring butch-femme life. Nestle includes voices collected from 200 years of lesbian history in the U.S. and abroad. $12.95 pb, 1-55583-190-7. Alyson.

Recent re-issues we received from Alyson include **Journey to Zelindar** by Diana Rivers ($9.95 pb, 1-55583-305-5, published under Alyson's imprint Lace Publications); **Gay Men and Women Who Enriched the World** by Thomas Cowan ($8.95 pb, 1-55583-147-8); and Phil Andros's **Greek Ways** ($7.95 pb, 1-55583-223-7) and **Shuttlecock** ($7.95 pb, 1- 55583-226-1), both published by another Alyson imprint, Perineum Press. Alyson Publications, 40 Plympton St., Boston MA 02118. Available from Alyson, InBook, IN, BP and others.

New Directions has just published the first U.S. editions of Brazilian writer Clarice Lispector's 1964 **The Foreign Legion** and her 1977 **The Hour of the Star**. **The Foreign Legion** consists of two parts: the first, 13 short stories, and the second a series of essays on Brazilian art and society, conversations with her children and aphorisms. $10.95 pb, 0-8112-1189-4.

The Hour of the Star was Lispector's final novel, the story of a girl living in the slums of Rio "who doesn't seem to know how unhappy she should be." $8.95 pb, 0-8112-1190-8. Both books translated by Giovanni Pontiero. New Directions, 80 Eighth Ave., New York, NY 10011. BP.

In **No Pictures on My Grave: A Spiritual Journey in Sicily**, Susan Caperna Lloyd recounts her search to find a place within her own Italian heritage,

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SEASONS OF THE WITCH

By Patricia Monaghan
with illustrations by Sudie Rakusin

The power and passion of Woman reflected in the seasons – the aching vulnerability and endless potential of Spring, Summer's juicy ripe abundance, the harvest of Fall that brings both death and life, Winter's hidden silence and endless depth. Ms. Monaghan explores the mysteries and rhythms of the seasons of women's lives in prose and poetry and the text is illuminated with 13 original drawings by Ms. Rakusin.

$11.95; ISBN: 1-878980-09-2

CELEBRATING LIFE:

Rites of Passage for All Ages

by Tzipora Klein

A warm and loving Witch shows us the magic that exists in our everyday lives and how by using ritual we can deepen and enrich our experiences. Beginning with a ritual to celebrate conception, the book takes us on a journey through life, from birth and the celebration of a child's first steps through the passages of adolescence and young adulthood to the many levels of marriage and family commitment and on through the milestones of middle-age and finally to death. It is a book that celebrates the joy and passion of life.

$14.95; ISBN: 1-878980-05-X

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THE CAULDRON OF CHANGE:

Myth, Mysteries and Magick of the Goddess

by De-Anna Alba

Women are coming to know the sacred connection between the cycles of their own bodies, of their lives and the greater seasonal and evolutionary cycles of the Earth. They are defining these sacred cycles as female – as Goddess. De-Anna Alba recounts the ancient Myths and Mysteries of Goddess religion and explains how women can use the Magick of the Goddess and their own power to consciously effect change in their lives and in the larger world. The mythic cycles and rituals presented focus exclusively on women's Witchcraft or Dianic Wicca.

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THE FLOWERING ROD:

Men, Sex and Spirituality

by Kenny Klein

An examination of Men's Mysteries that traces the male experience back to the times of the hunter-gatherers, when the simple acts of working and hunting to provide food was seen as sacred, and when men's passionate sexuality was celebrated as their personal connection to Earth.

Recognizing that centuries of patriarchal rule has robbed men of this sense of sacred identity, Klein provides men with images of the male as Sacred Seed Bearer and Nurturer. He then offers a framework for ritual and self-examination that gives men the means to reclaim their own sacred self.

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and to reclaim the power of ancient female deities. Her journey begins in Trapani, Sicily where Lloyd encounters the Black Madonna while observing the *Processione*, a 400-year-old Easter procession in which only men may participate. During that and subsequent trips to Sicily, Lloyd makes connections between this Black Madonna ("a role model of power for women") and other "dark goddesses," such as Demeter, Cybele and Isis. Eventually, she returns to Trapani and, in an unprecedented move, is asked to join in the Easter procession. $12.95 pb, 1-56279-023-4.

Alison Moore's first collection of short stories, **Small Spaces Between Emergencies** chronicles the ways in which people come back to life after tragedies. Barbara Kingsolver says of Moore, "(She) has uncommon insight into the lives we live as wives and husbands and lovers, as children and parents, and the moments of grace that make us believe we are not ordinary but senselessly lucky and blessed." $18.95 cl, 1-56279-022-6. Mercury House, 201 Filbert St., Suite 401, San Francisco, CA 94133. BP, IN and Consortium.

The bestselling Greek novel **The Seventh Garment** is the first of Eugenia Fakinou's magical realist tales to be translated into English. Through the voices of three women, Fakinou tells the story of three generations of a Greek family, paints a picture of Greece between the 1820s and 1974, and shows the traumatic effect of history on people's lives. Translated by Ed Emery. $11.99 pb, 1-85242-186-X. Serpent's Tail, 4 Blackstock Mews, London N4 2BT, and in the US at 401 West Broadway #2, New York NY 10012. BP, IN, Consortium.

Sally Hayton-Keeva's **Unholy Sacrifice** travels back in time to 1519, when Hernán Cortés, aided by Malinalli, a female translator later to be called "La Malinche" or "the traitress of Mexico," began his conquest of the Aztec Empire. Little is known of this woman, and so Hayton-Keeva sets about creating a life for her, giving her a twin sister, Xochitl, who becomes the high priestess of Mexico, and developing "a plot of mystery and intrigue which explains why a small group of Spaniards conquered the mighty Aztec Empire and why history has all but forgotten this most formidable woman warrior." $12.95 pb, 0-9626295-8-8. Sagn Books, Swan Route, Bigfork MT 59911.BP, PGW, Ingram, Baker & Taylor and Pacific Pipeline.

Two small presses have brought back into print the works of Olive Moore and Mary Butts, writers who published highly praised works in the 1920s and '30s but remained virtually unknown. (What's new.) Dalkey Archive has published Olive Moore's **Collected Writings**, consisting of three novels, *Celestial Seraglio*, *Spleen* and *Fugue*, and a collection of observations and aphorism on modern civilization and art,

Hispanic Women Write

Eulogy for a Brown Angel: A Mystery Novel, by Lucha Corpi. 1992. 200 pages. Clothbound. ISBN 1-55885-033-3 $17.95

Shattering the Myth: Plays by Hispanic Women, selected by Denise Chávez, edited by Linda Feyder. 1992. 200 pages. ISBN 1-55885-041-4 $13.00

Heart Beat, Drum Beat, by Irene Beltrán Hernández. 1992. 200 pages. ISBN 1-55885-052-X $9.50

Beautiful Señoritas and Other Plays, by Dolores Prida. 1992. 180 pages. ISBN 1-55885-026-0 $11.00

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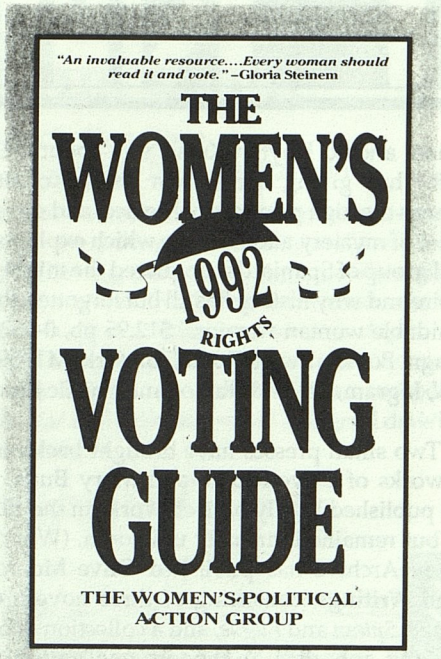

"*The Women's 1992 Voting Guide* rectifies a long-time void in the media's political coverage...Every American woman of voting age should consult this invaluable guide—and then go vote."

—Susan Faludi, author of Backlash: The Undeclared War Against American Women

"*The Women's 1992 Voting Guide* is an important tool for empowering women to effectively use the vote to protect the gains we've already made, and to elect candidates who will protect our rights!"

—Faye Wattleton, immediate past president Planned Parenthood® Federation of America

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BEHIND THE NEWS PRESS
Publishers Group West

The Apple is Bitten Again. $22.95 cl, 1-56478-000-1. Dalkey Archive Press, 1817 79th Ave., Elmwood Park, IL 60635. IN.

As part of their Recovered Classics series, McPherson & Company has published Butts's **The Taverner Novels**, which includes *Armed with Madness* and *Death of Felicity Taverner* — "mythic and contemporary tale[s] of struggle against spiritual alienation." $15 pb, 0-929701-18-6; $25 cl, 0-929701-17-8. McPherson & Company will issue *From Altar to Chimney-Piece: Selected Stories of Mary Butts* in May. McPherson & Company, PO Box 1126, Kingston NY 12401. BP, IN.

As a woman reduced to wheezing, insane itching, near blindness and an unstoppably runny nose by cats, I do not have a great love for kitty tributes — but Crossing Press's **Kitty Libber: Cat Cartoons by Women**, edited by Rosalind (*Women's Glib*) Warren quickly won me over. This cat 'toon collection features 120 cartoons by 52 women cartoonists. $8.95 pb, 0-89594-539-8.

Turning from humor to recovery books, Crossing has issued **Through the Fire: Personal Recovery Stories**. Edited by Mary LeLoo, this powerful book features six women and five men sharing their stories of recovering from childhood sexual, physical and emotional abuse. $10.95 pb, 0-89594-527-4. Crossing Press, PO Box 1048, Freedom CA 95019. BP, IN, Bookslinger.

Ann Perkins and Rita Townsend present stories, oral histories, poems and illustrations by women who have struggled with the choices they made concerning their unplanned pregnancies in **Bitter Fruit: Women's Experiences of Unplanned Pregnancy, Abortion and Adoption**. Susan Faludi (*Backlash*) said of the collection, "In this compassionate work, the authors restore to women a basic right — to speak for themselves. To anyone who wonders still why reproductive freedom is fundamental to all women, this book is essential. If we had more collections like **Bitter Fruit** in wide circulation, perhaps Roe v. Wade wouldn't be in such grave jeopardy today." $12.95 pb, 0-89793-090-8. Hunter House.

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In May, Hunter House will make available **Breast Implants: Everything You Need to Know** by Nancy Bruning, the spokesperson for Breast Cancer Action, a grassroots activist organization. The publishers say this title will answer women's concerns and questions about implants in a non-judgmental way, with a firm bottom line about the potential risks and dangers, and will examine several alternatives to implants. $7.95 pb, 0-89793-119-X. Hunter House, 2200 Central Ave., Suite 202, Alameda CA 94501. Distributed by Publishers Group West.

Mothers Talk Back, a collection of 15 interviews with mothers, was inspired by "Momz Radio," a radio program created by Margaret Dragu that "gave women the permission to cut the crap about motherhood." In this same smash-the-stereotypes tradition, Dragu and co-editors Sarah Sheard and Susan Swan interview American and Canadian moms, single mothers, working mothers, a welfare mother, a stepmother, the mother of a child with special needs, a lesbian mother and a "Mr. Mom" about both the depressing and delightful aspects of motherhood. $12.95 pb, 0-88910-420-4. Coach House Press, 401 (rear) Huron St., Toronto ONT Canada M5S 2G5. IN.

Sarah Hafner, a recovering alcoholic, has collected the stories of 18 diverse women fighting alcoholism in **Nice Girls Don't Drink: Stories of Recovery**. In addition to including the triumphs of women who found recovery in A.A., the book also tells the story of Jean Kirkpatrick, who believes women need different recovery programs from men's, and so founded Women in Sobriety. $12.95 pb, 0-89789-247-X. Bergin & Garvey, an imprint of Greenwood Publishing Group, One Madison Ave., New York NY 10010. Distributed by National Book Network.

From Conari Press comes **Making It Through the Night: How Couples Can Survive a Crisis Together**, by Pat Quigley and Marilyn Shroyer. Aimed at straight couples, this guide offers anecdotes, advice and exercises to help couples develop the skills to get through a crisis together. $12.95 pb, 0-943233-33-X. Conari Press, 1339 61st St., Emeryville CA 94608. IN.

In **Reclaiming Woman's Voice: Becoming Whole**, psychologist Lesley Irene Shore traces the source of many women's problems to the devaluation of the feminine, and goes on to offer ways in which women can "regain contact with their innermost selves — from exercises for learning to love your body to simple things like walking, breathing and letting your hair down!" (Llewellyn says this is "A book men can enjoy without feeling blamed, threatened or casti-

THE SACRAMENT OF ABORTION

Author of *Pagan Meditations*, Ginette Paris shows that a pro-choice position is religiously supported, a collective – as well as individual – choice. She combines historical research with reflections on the Greek Goddess Artemis and women's personal stories. (113 pp., $12, trade pb, ISBN 0-88214-352-2)

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Middle Sister

Poems by Melinda Goodman

"Soaring, sad, eloquent — Goodman's poems have a direct and telling effect upon me."
— Audre Lorde

Melinda Goodman is the recipient of the Astraea Foundation 1991 Lesbian Poetry Award.

Middle Sister ($7.95) is available through Inland. 800-243-0138

gated.") $9.95 pb, 0-87542-722-7. Llewellyn, PO Box 64383, St. Paul MN 55164. BP, IN.

For those with hard-core women's studies scholars as customers, Greenwood Press has published two academic — and expensive — titles: **Women, Men and Time: Gender Difference in Paid Work, Housework and Leisure** by Beth Anne Shelton ($39.95 cl, 0-313-26512-7); and **Stereotypes of Women in Power: Historical Perspectives and Revisionist Views**, edited by Barbara Garlick, Suzanne Dixon and Pauline Allen ($45 cl, 0-313-27731-1). Greenwood Press, 88 Post Road West, PO Box 5007, Westport CT 06881.

An interesting addition to the discussion on women and Judaism is **Daughters of the King: Women and the Synagogue**, edited by Susan Grossman and Rivka Haut. Twenty-eight men and women from all denominations within Judaism debate women's involvement in and around the synagogue from Biblical times to the present. The publishers say "the book can be used as a study guide; it will encourage women to achieve a greater and more active participation in all aspects of synagogue life." $29.95 cl, 0-8276-0393-9. The Jewish Publication Society, 1930 Chestnut St., Philadelphia PA 19103. 40% for 4-24. Ingram, Baker & Taylor.

In the introduction to **Reclaiming the Mainstream: Individualist Feminism Rediscovered**, author Joan Kennedy Taylor writes that her examination of feminism past and present is "an attempt to explore the tangled skein of individualist and collectivist ideas and theories that have led to today's rich diversities of feminisms, in the frank hope that I may persuade my reader of my particular view of what is important in this disparate heritage." Taylor is the former editor of the *Libertarian Review* and a great admirer of Ayn Rand. $24.95 cl, 0-87975-717-5. Prometheus Books, 59 John Glenn Drive, Amherst NY 14228. 20% for 1-4, 40% for 5-9. Ingram, Baker & Taylor and New Leaf.

From New Society Publishers comes a thought-provoking look at wealth, privilege, class and the role of money in our lives: **We Gave Away a Fortune: Stories of People Who Have Devoted Themselves and Their Wealth to Peace, Justice and a Healthy Environment**, by Christopher Mogil and Anne Slepian with Peter Woodrow. The book features the stories of 16 wealthy women and men (including Sallie Bingham, founder of the Kentucky Foundation for Women, and Tracy Gary, co-founder of The Women's Foundation) who used their money to change those underlying structures in society that create injustice. Also includes chapters on the political and social context of these stories and personal issues surrounding wealth, exercises and resource lists. Published in cooperation with the Funding Exchange. $14.95 pb, 0-86571-221-2. New Society Publishers, PO Box 582, Santa Cruz CA 95061. BP, IN etc.

Zed Books has published two books studying the lives of women in India: **Gender and Tribe: Women, Land and Forests in Jharkhand** by Govind Kelkar and Dev Nathan, originally published in India and South Asia by Kali for Women in New Dehli ($19.95 pb,

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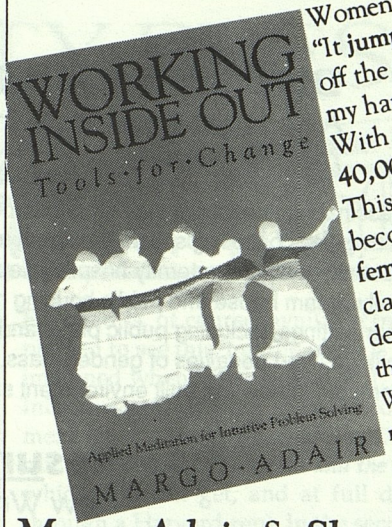
1-85649-036-X); and **Mukkuvar Women: Gender, Hegemony and Capitalist Transformation in a South Indian Fishing Village** by Kalpana Ram ($57.95 cl, 1-85649-031-9). Zed Books, 57 Caledonian Road, London N1 9BU England. Distributed by Humanities Press International, BP and IN.

The essays in **Women and the Environment: A Reader — Crisis and Development in the Third World** examine women's use and management of land, forest and water, and present the success stories of women who have organized to improve their lives and the lives of their communities through environmental protection or repair. Edited by Sally Sontheimer. $13 pb, 0-85345-835-9. Monthly Review Press, 122 West 27th St., New York NY 10001. BP, IN.

Hilary Tham's third collection of poetry, **Tigerbone Wine**, includes 69 poems expressing her broad personal and cultural perspectives: Malaysian, Chinese, American and Jewish. "She makes the bizarre, the foreign, the other culture, the past accessible and universal." $10 pb, 0-89410-728-3. Backlist titles from Three Continents include Laurence Deonna's **The War with Two Voices**, interviews with women on both sides of the Egyptian-Israeli conflict ($12 pb, 0-89410-639-2) and a study, in words and photographs, of **Yemen** ($16 pb, 0-89410-711-9). Three Continents Press, 1901 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Suite 407, Washington DC 20006. 20% for 2+ non-prepaid, 30% for 2+ prepaid. Phone, 202-223-2554.

Magazines

Amethyst, a semi-annual literary magazine, is one of the outreach projects of SAME (Southeastern Arts, Media and Education), the only multi-disciplinary lesbian and gay arts organization in the Southeast. We very much enjoyed the copy we saw — the Winter/Spring 1992 Lesbian Focus Issue, which included lots of art, poetry, short plays and fiction (including an excerpt from Garbo's wonderful novel *Rusty*). It also featured a 25-page special section called "As I See Myself Changing" featuring work by lesbian artists over 35 years of age. $5/issue. SAME, PO Box 54719, Atlanta GA 30308. IN, EPSCO. 40%. ○



Women say: "It **jumped** right off the shelf and into my hands!!" With over **40,000 sold**, This book has become a **feminist spirituality** classic, in steady demand. Do you have the book and the *Working Inside Out* **meditation tapes** in stock?

Margo Adair & Sharon Howell

have written two pamphlets on

HEALING THE SCHISMS ACROSS THE LINES OF RACE, CLASS, GENDER, AND ...

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Breaking Old Patterns Weaving New Ties

For those of us who prefer to move forward rather than run around in circles until we fall exhausted! — Holly Near

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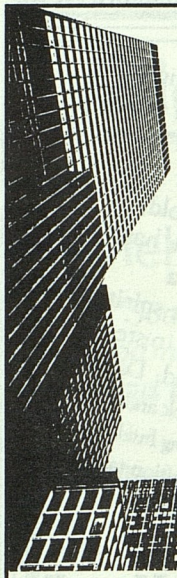
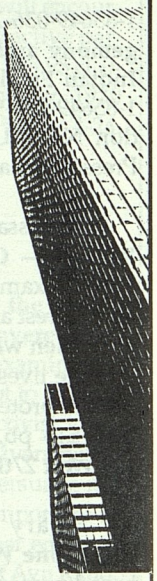


Discrimination by Design

A Feminist Critique of the Man-Made Environment

Leslie Kanes Weisman

A fascinating account of the complex processes and power struggles involved in building and controlling space. Weisman traces the social and architectural histories of the skyscraper, maternity hospital, department store, shopping mall, nuclear-family dream house and public housing highrise, documenting how these and other settings, including public parks and streets, embody and transmit the privileges and penalties of gender, class, and race. Should be read by everyone interested in how the built environment shapes daily lives. Illus. $24.95



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FROM THE UNIVERSITY PRESSES

By Ann Christopherson
Women & Children First, Chicago IL

Before looking at the best titles coming out in May/June/July, I thought it would be appropriate, this being the ABA issue of FBN, to say a few words about using the convention to set up accounts with the presses you want to order from. First, it is an ideal time to meet people at the press and establish a procedure for ordering from them, whether it be with a rep who will call on you regularly or on a telephone sales schedule. Second, it will give you an opportunity to get informed help on what the key backlist titles are so you can make a qualifying order for becoming an agency account, if that's an option, or just fill in the titles you would sell as steady backlist if you only knew about them. Third, you can get the details that are sometimes lacking in catalogues and the Book Buyers Handbook regarding the exact terms and policies for each publisher. And, finally, you can place the order — sometimes with a free freight or higher discount offer — that will get you off and running. For suggestions on which publishers to focus on, I refer you to the February "From the University Presses" column in FBN; also, a review of any of the columns forecasting titles will give you a good idea of who is publishing the kind of titles (as well as the particular ones) you want in your store.

One last word about ordering books. Inland is now carrying selected titles from a number of university presses, Harvard, Yale, California and Indiana, to name a few. (A complete list is in the February FBN and is, of course, available from Inland.) I am pleased to see this, but the scene is not as idyllic as I imagined when I first looked at it. In the first place, Inland is not carrying short discount titles, which means that while you can get *In a Different Voice*, you can't get *Sexual Orientation and the Law* (the latter of which you can get, and at full discount, ordered through a Harvard rep). In the second place, Inland has been out of stock on some of the trade titles I have ordered lately. My point is simply that having university press titles available from a good distributor like Inland is great — but it does not alleviate the need to order directly.

I want to begin this time with what are, in my opinion, the four lead titles coming out in the next three months. The first, timed nicely to correspond with the release of her new novel, *Jazz*, is Toni Morrison's collection of essays in which she examines the fiction of several white American writers in terms of their response to an "Africanist presence." A provocative and important work of literary criticism, **Playing in the Dark: Whiteness and the Literary Imagination** (Harvard, 0674673778, $14.95 cl) should be stacked next to copies of *Jazz*. The second is **The Women Outside: Meanings and Myths of Homelessness** (California, 0520071581, $25 cl). The author, journalist Stephanie Golden, worked as a volunteer in a shelter for four years. Drawing on that personal experience, as well as broad-based research, she has constructed a cultural analysis that places homeless women in the context of "deviant" women-hoboes, tramps, witches, prostitutes — and comes up with a markedly feminist interpretation.

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Wesleyan University Press. $15.95 cloth

SYLVIA BARAK FISHMAN, editor
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FRANCESCA MILLER
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$45.00 cloth / $19.95 paper

MICHÈLE LONGINO FARRELL
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Third, **Sadomasochism in Everyday Life: The Dynamics of Power and Powerlessness**, by Lynn S. Chancer (Rutgers, 0813518083, $14.95 pb), is a book I have been looking for for a number of years. Taking the subject beyond the protected realm of freely chosen sexual drama and placing it on the commonplace stage of daily life, she argues that our culture is steeped in experiences of dominance and subordination and explores how that dynamic relates to gender and race. I haven't read it yet so I don't know how insightful or cogent it is, but the subject is an important one. The fourth probably needs no mention since it has been heralded for months already, but one more notice certainly won't hurt. **The Cutting Edge: Lesbian Life and Literature** is a series from NYU Press of reissued classics and never published diaries, letters, memoirs and novels. The first six volumes are coming out individually in June and July and as a set in July. I won't list them all here, but they are, obviously, books we will all want to carry, so get in touch with NYU. (See FBN Vol.14 No.5 for complete list.)

Moving on to subject categories, there are a number of interesting international books. **Death Without Weeping: The Violence of Everyday Life in Brazil**, by Nancy Schieper-Hughes (California, 0520075366, $29 cl) is a big book — 550 pages — with 65 black-and-white photographs focusing on the effects of hunger, sickness, and scarcity on women and children in a town in Brazil. Sara Ruddick calls it "An astonishing brilliant, moving, vast, and compassionate book." It is one to carry in conservative numbers, but certainly sounds like one to have. For those of us committed to the idea of a drama section (perhaps there are those of you who also sell books out of that section), **The Divided Home/Land: Contemporary German Women's Plays** (Sue-Ellen Case, ed., Michigan, 0472064061, $15.95 pb) is a book to represent. **New Chicana/Chicano Writing I** (Charles M. Tatum, ed., Arizona, 0816513074, $14.95 pb) includes enough entries by writers like Gloria Anzaldua, Norma Cantu, Sandra Cisneros, and Bernice Zamora for many of us to want to carry it. Rutgers is publishing a collection of short stories by Indian-born and -educated writer

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Anjana Appachana. Although she came to the U.S. in 1984 and continued her studies at Penn State, her stories, **"Incantations" and Other Stories** (081351827X, $11.95 pb) are mostly set in urban India. As is often the case with feminist literary criticism, **Veils and Words: The Emerging Voices of Iranian**

Women's Writers (Farzanek Milani, Syracuse, 0815602669, $16.95 pb), creates a bridge between criticism and politics, uncovering a link between Iranian women's literature and the social practice of veiling. A collection of stories to put next to *Secret Weavers* (White Pine Press), stories by women of Argentina and Chile, is editor and translator Darlene J. Sadlier's **One Hundred Years After Tomorrow: Brazilian Women's Fiction in the Twentieth Century** (Indiana, 0253206995, $12.95 pb). Concluding this section is another book from Indiana, **Binding Cultures: Black Women Writers in Africa and the Diaspora** (Gay Wilentz, 0253207142, $9.95 pb), which examines the cultural bonds between African and African-American women as illustrated in the writings of contemporary authors of the United States and West Africa.

On the theoretical side of women's studies, there are three titles I want to highlight. In **Gender and Knowledge: Elements of a Postmodern Feminism** (Northeastern, 1555531296, $12.95 pb), Susan J. Hekman argues that rather than being divergent, feminism and postmodernism can complement each other in important ways. Michelle Fine, in **Disruptive Voices: The Possibilities of Feminist Research** (Michigan, 0472064657, $11.95 pb), identifies new research methods that have the potential to disrupt and transform conventional practices. **Rethinking Obligation: A Feminist Method for Political Theory** (Nancy J. Hirschmann, Cornell, 0801495679, $15.95 pb) reexamines liberal theory and concludes that because gender bias is reflected in the very structure of the theory, it must be redefined according to a specific feminist perspective. A crossover between theory and herstory, **Gendered Domains: Rethinking Public and Private in Women's History** (Dorothy O. Healy and Susan M. Reverby, eds., Cornell, 0801497027, $13.95 pb) is a collection of essays from the Seventh Berkshire Conference on the History of Women that considers a range of interesting issues pertaining to the concept and reality of the public/private dichotomy and its significance for women. From contemporary herstory, **Nuclear Summer: The Clash of Communities at the Seneca Women's Peace Encampment** (Louise Krasniewicz, Cornell, 0801499380, $13.95 pb) sounds like a fascinating ethnography and social history of the effects of the women's community on the local communities in Seneca County. **A Woman's Civil War**, by Cornelia Peake McDonald (Wisconsin, 0299132641, $14.95 pb) is a diary of a woman in Virginia describing the war, and emphasizes the perspective that history is as much a domestic subject as an account of public affairs. **Unruly Women: The Politics of Social and Sexual Control in the Old South** (Victoria E. Bynum, North Carolina, 080784361X, $12.95 pb) looks at atypical women (e.g., those who protested domestic abuse in courts; those who engaged in deviant or illegal sexual relationships) and argues that Western women did, thought, and felt in and about the colonies in Africa and India, juxtaposing feminists and social reformers with pro-imperialist women and looking at the workings of race and class ideologies within imperialism.

Turning to spirituality, the first book is one that didn't sell in hardcover but I think will in paperback: **Mama Lola: A Vodou Priestess in Brooklyn** (Karen McCarthy Brown, California, 0520077806, $13 pb) looks at Vodou in everyday life. Ilana Pardes offers

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new feminist insight into the Bible in her book from Harvard, **Countertraditions in the Bible** (0674175425, $29.95 cl). One of the few contributions I have seen from Notre Dame that feminist stores might even consider carrying is **A Legend of Holy Women** (0268012954, $14.95 pb), the first all-female hagiography available in modern English. We have had interest over the years in Hildegard of Bingen and Julia of Norwich, so I suspect **Maps of Flesh and Light: The Religious Experience of Medieval Women Mystics** (Ulrike Wiethaus, ed., Syracuse, 081562560X) would be good to carry if it weren't for its $34.95 price tag. Most interesting of all is Nancy Jay's **Throughout Your Generations Forever: Sacrifice, Religion, and Paternity** (Chicago, 0226395723, $24.95 cl) which gets high praise from Nancy Chodorow: "In this extraordinary work, Nancy Jay establishes the terrain of a feminist sociology of religion.... This capacious, erudite, wide-ranging book...will stand as one of the great sociologies of religion and great feminist theories."

In the field of lesbian studies, a book that sold well in cloth and will do even better in paper is Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick's **Epistemology of the Closet** (California, 0520078748, $13 pb). With a pub date of May but already out in March is Kath Weston's **Families We Choose: Lesbians, Gays, Kinship** (Columbia, 0231072899, $13.95 pb), covering an important and little-written on subject. Southern Illinois is bringing out an updated version of the ACLU guide, **The Rights of Lesbians and Gay Men** (Hunter, Michaelson, Stoddard, 080931634X, $7.95 pb).

The only contributions to drama (besides the German plays referred to earlier) are **The Alexander Plays** (Minnesota, 0816620770, $15.95 cl), a new collection of one-act plays by Adreinne Kennedy, and a collection of criticism on Kennedy's work, **Intersecting Boundaries** (Paul K. Bryant-Jackson and Lois More Overbeck, eds., Minnesota, 0816620164, $16.95 pb).

An interesting contribution to literature is a collection of stories edited by Nina Auerbach and U.C. Knoepflmacher, **Forbidden Journeys: Fairy Tales and Fantasies by Victorian Women Writers** (Chicago,

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0226032035). In cloth only at $27.50, we will probably only carry a few copies, but these "subversive" tales should be available to students of the period and of the genre. A poetry collection that we will carry in conservative numbers (one, probably) is **American Women Poets of the Nineteenth Century**, Cheryl Walker, ed. (Rutgers, 0813517915, $15 pb).

In the category of art, there are two titles to mention. The first is **Lenora Carrington: The Mexican Years, 1943-1985** (New Mexico, 1880508001, $20 pb). The other is **Kathe Kollwitz** (Elizabeth Prelinger, Yale, 0300057296, $45 cl), a collection of essays with 65 colorplates and 76 black-and-white illustrations.

A few last miscellaneous titles. In health an important sounding book, **Nameless Diseases** (Terra Ziporyn, Rutgers, 0813518008, $22.95 cl), is about why it can be so hard to find out what is wrong, why it matters so much, and what to do about it. Having watched a friend suffer through the anxiety of being sick and remaining undiagnosed test after test makes me sympathize with the need for this kind of analysis and helpful advice. Since there are so few books on women and sports, I want to mention Allen Guttmann's contribution, **Women's Sports: A History** (Columbia, 023106957X, $13.95 pb). And to my delight **Cowgirls: Women of the American West** by Teresa Jordan is again available, this time from Nebraska (0803275757, $12.95 pb).

I will end with the observation that publishing battles are not only the domain of mainstream houses. Random House answers Doubleday's bid on the Martha Graham biography market; Harper will not allow Viking to be out there alone with Garbo. And our own university presses have gotten into the fray with one of my heroes. Will you go with Oklahoma's **Annie Oakley** in cloth or be content with **Annie Oakley of the Wild West** from Nebraska in paper? Like me, you will probably choose to be the complete Annie Oakley store and have them both. Happy trails. ○

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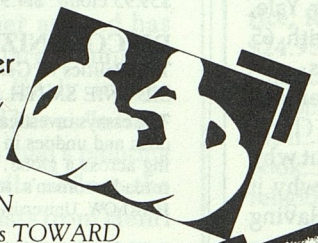

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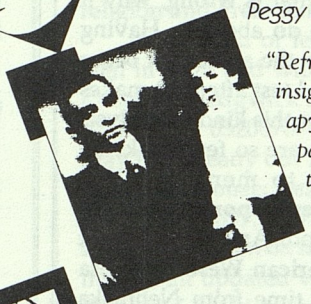

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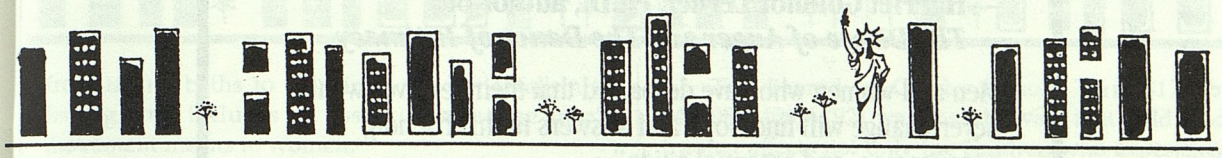

By Sandi Torkildson and Shane Snowdon

DOUBLEDAY

The Mother's Almanac by Marguerite Kelly and Elia Parsons ($15.00 pb, 0-385-41769-1) has been revised and updated, and should continue to be very popular. First published in 1975, it now gives greater attention to topics like working mothers, amniocentesis, the ecology of disposable diapers, the influence of TV, the value of spiritual education, adoption, and post-partum depression.

Noted environmental/animal rights activists Jeremy Rifkin and Carol Grunewald Rifkin offer **Voting Green: Your Complete Environmental Guide to Making Political Choices in the 1990s** ($10.00 pb, -41917-1). It lists the most important and creative environmental legislation introduced in the last few years, details legislator voting records, provides a "Green Quiz" for candidates, and describes how to get involved in environmental activism.

Inside One Author's Heart: My Life as a Writer by Eugenia Price ($15.00 cl, -42331-7, 96 pp) describes Price's move from Chicago to the sanctuary of St. Simons Island, Georgia, after she gained writing fame in the '60s. "Deeply private and spiritual," she absorbed her new surroundings and "created a mystique about the island and its history." — *SMS*

HARPERCOLLINS

Annie Dillard's first novel is set in the Pacific Northwest during the last decades of the 19th century. **The Living** ($22.50 cl, 0060168706) tells the story of a town near Washington's Puget Sound during its birth, settlement, growth, financial boom and panic. Nooksack Indian fishermen, loggers, surveyors, miners, farmers, and shopkeepers struggle over the terminus for the Northern Pacific Railroad, clear forests, fish for salmon and the women raise children and farm. Settlers dream of making a new life and some succeed while others fail, but Dillard brings their aspirations, fears, loves and weaknesses to life in the richly complex novel of a real life adventure.

A new collection of stories by Doris Lessing centers around the city of London. **The Real Thing** ($20 cl, 0060168536, 6/92) gives the reader a rich kaleidoscopic profile of contemporary London. In "Among the Roses" a chance meeting in a park allows a mother and daughter to reconcile. In "Sparrows" an older couple argue over their daughter's independence, while "Debbie and Julie" is a compassionate depiction of a pregnant girl alone. Lessing's grasp of character, situations and history is as sharp as ever.

The Invisible Epidemic by Gena Corea ($21 cl, 0060166487) uncovers the growing population of women infected with AIDS and the many women activists, scientists and caretakers who are struggling to keep this epidemic in check. Corea addresses the invisible women's role in the AIDS crisis; from the lack of research into how women can contract and prevent the disease, to their active participation in the movement for change. She addresses how the historical precedent for inadequate research into women's health concerns has prevented any intelligent assessment of women's risk, and brings into focus the extent to which AIDS has become not just a health issue but a larger social issue.

Brenda Peterson looks at the influence of the feminine quality in our daily lives in **Nature And Other Mothers** ($22 cl, 0060163135). Using the model of the mother rather than the father, she looks at everything

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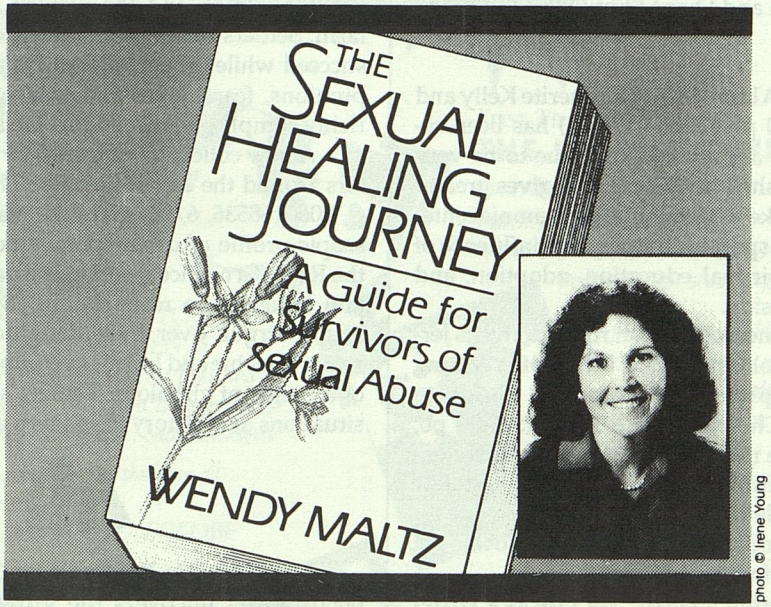
"The first book to offer sound and detailed guidelines for sexual healing."
—Harriet Goldhor Lerner, Ph.D., author of *The Dance of Anger* and *The Dance of Intimacy*

"Men and women who have despaired that their sex lives would never change will find hope and answers in this friendly, encouraging, and essential guide."
—Laura Davis, coauthor of *The Courage to Heal*



Now survivors of all types of sexual abuse can achieve the loving and safe sexual lives they so richly deserve. This compassionate, comprehensive guide helps men and women: **identify the sexual effects of sexual abuse • develop a healthy sexual self-concept • gain control over automatic reactions to touch and sex • stop negative sexual behaviors and resolve specific problems,** and much more.

"Wendy Maltz takes her readers carefully, step-by-step, through a program of self-healing. Survivors of sexual abuse, their partners, and their therapists will benefit enormously from this reassuring guide."
—Lonnie Barbach, Ph.D., author of *For Yourself* and *For Each Other*

$11.00 paperback

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from taking baths to war, from fundamentalism to fishing, and includes an essay on what the men's movement means to women.

Working Vice by Tamar Hosansky and Pat Sparling ($20 cl, 0060166797, 6/92) is the true story of Lt. Lucie Duvall, one of the first woman cops. From her early experiences on patrol in one of Cleveland's toughest neighborhoods to becoming Lieutenant and running the vice squad and eventually founding and heading Cleveland's landmark sex crimes unit, Duvall overcame the apprehensions of male superiors and fellow officers and helped change public attitudes. Duvall discusses how her job has affected her personal relationships and her role as a single mother and what it was like for women officers when she was first sworn in and how much has changed since then.

A revised and updated edition of **The Language of the Night** by Ursula Le Guin ($20 cl, 0060168358), a collection of essays on fantasy and science fiction, addresses the issues, concepts, challenges and paradoxes that confront the science fiction writer and reader. I assume the paperback of the first edition is still out-of-print even though it is listed in BIP. — *ST*

HARPERPERENNIAL

The Sexual Healing Journey by Wendy Maltz ($11 pb, 0060921552) is a compassionate and accessible guidebook for survivors of sexual abuse. Maltz offers a step by step guide through all aspects of recovery from sexual abuse. This book is filled with first-person accounts of women and men at every stage of recovery and includes groundbreaking exercises and techniques for survivors to work on alone or with their partners.

There is a new edition of **The Courage To Heal** by Ellen Bass and Laura Davis ($20 pb, 0898458331, ready) with a fully expanded and revised resource guide with more than 600 entries.

Too Scared to Cry by Lenore Terr ($12 pb, 04650864406, 6/92) examines the ways that childhood trauma affects not only the children who experience it, but all of us. She shows how innocent victims can be helped in an increasingly violent world. She also looks at how childhood trauma has affected the work of creative artists such as Edgar Allan Poe, Virginia Woolf and Stephen King.

Sylvia Ann Hewlett looks at the cost of neglecting our children in **When the Bough Breaks** ($12 pb, 0060974796, 6/92). Hewlett demonstrates in shocking detail how the United States has fallen so far behind other countries in its commitment to children. She challenges a government that spends five times as much on the elderly as on children and shows how funding the welfare of children is both an issue of compassion and an economic imperative.

Easing the Passage by David Outerbridge and Alan Hersh ($10 pb, 0060921579, ready) explains the importance of a living will and the rights of patients to refuse life-prolonging treatment. The authors also cover the value of a hospice for alternate care as well as organizations that provide sound legal and medical assistance of the terminally ill.

A new revised edition of **Overcoming Depression** by Demitri and Janice Papolos ($13 pb, 0060965940) provides state-of-the-art medical information and solid practical advice that empowers patients and their families to participate actively in diagnosis and treatment of depression. There is extensive information on the drug Prozac and other new antidepressant drugs, a section on the methods and benefits of psychological treatments, instruction on charting mood disorders and recent studies on the origins of depression and experimental treatment options.

The Family Interpreted by Deborah Anna Luepnitz ($15 pb, 0456023517, 6/92) looks at femi-

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nism and family therapy. Luepnitz demonstrates how family therapists unwittingly confirm the patriarchal power structure by trivializing marital violence, implicating mothers and exonerating fathers. She offers a new therapy based on feminist psychoanalytic theory.

There will be a new edition of **The Adoption Resource Book** by Lois Gilman ($11 pb, 0062730436, 6/92) that includes new information about open adoption and many emerging adoption practices, a diverse bibliography of recommended reading and an updated listing of over a thousand agencies, parent groups and public offices.

The fourth edition of **How To Get Happily Published** by Judith Appelbaum ($10 pb, 0062731335, 8/92) contains new information on publishing in the 1990s and a special section on literary agents.

Harper will bring back into print **Letters Home** by Sylvia Plath ($15 pb, 0060974915, ready). This collection of more than 350 letters written to her mother and family between the years of 1950-1963 shows a very human and approachable young woman. Harper will also reissue **Ariel: Poems by Sylvia Plath** ($9 pb, 0060908904, ready) and **The Collected Poems** by Sylvia Plath ($15 pb, 0060909005, ready).

Riding the Nightmare by Selma Williams ($10 pb, 0060974966, ready) is a reissue of this exploration of the infamous Salem witch trials. In 1692 twenty people were put to death for the crime of witchcraft. Estimates of the number of people burned or hanged as witches in Europe and America during this era range up to a million — 90 percent of them women. Williams demonstrates how witchcraft trials were used to deprive women of social, spiritual and political power.

The memoirs of the political and literary scene between the wars, by Josephine Herbst, are collected for the first time in **The Starched Blue Sky of Spain** ($10 pb, 0060923059, 6/92). These memoirs cover Herbst's youth in Iowa and her active literary and political life in 1920s and '30s.

Passenger to Teheran by Vita Sackville-West ($11 pb, 0060974583, 6/92) is a recount of Vita's trip in 1926 to Persia to visit her husband Harold Nicolson. This four-month journey resulted in a spirited and reflective book detailing the land and the diverse people. Virginia Woolf called it awfully good..."The whole book is full of nooks and crannies."

There is not much new fiction from Harper this season in paperback. **A Glimpse of Scarlet** by Roxana Robinson ($10 pb, 060981164, 6/92) is a first collection of short fiction by the author of *Georgia O'Keeffe: a Life*. **Bet They'll Miss Us When We're Gone** ($10 pb, 0060921641, 6/92) is a new collection of stories by Marianne Wiggins, the author of *John Dollar*. "Sometimes her turn of phrase is reminiscent of Anne Tyler's: sad, poignant and, particularly in 'Balloons 'n Tunes,' morbidly funny." *San Francisco Chronicle*.

— *ST*

HARPERSANFRANCISCO

Noted feminist spirituality writers Carol Christ and Judith Plaskow will release a new edition (with updated preface and index) of their essential **Womanspirit Rising: A Feminist Reader in Religion** ($12.00 pb, 0-06-061377-7). The acclaimed collection includes essays by Mary Daly, Starhawk, Z. Budapest, Elisabeth Schussler Fiorenza, Merlin Stone, and Rosemary Radford Ruether.

Jean Shinoda Bolen, M.D., the Jungian analyst who wrote the popular *Goddesses in Everywoman*, reappears with **Ring of Power: The Abandoned Child, the Authoritarian Father, and the Disempowered Feminine** ($20.00 cl, -250086-4). The book revolves around Bolen's analysis of the four operas of Wagner's Ring Cycle, which, she believes, have near-universal power because "we recognize ourselves and our relationships in the Cycle's stern father, disempowered mother, abandoned children, and brave truth-tellers." She hopes her work will free readers from the personal and global "Ring Cycle" of destruction and dysfunction.

Barbara Walker, author of the beloved *Woman's Encyclopedia of Myths and Secrets*, will publish a novel: **Amazon** ($15.00 cl, -250975-6). Compared—like many spring releases—with *Thelma and Louise*, it revolves around "a beautiful young Amazon warrior who is spirited thousands of years through time to find her-

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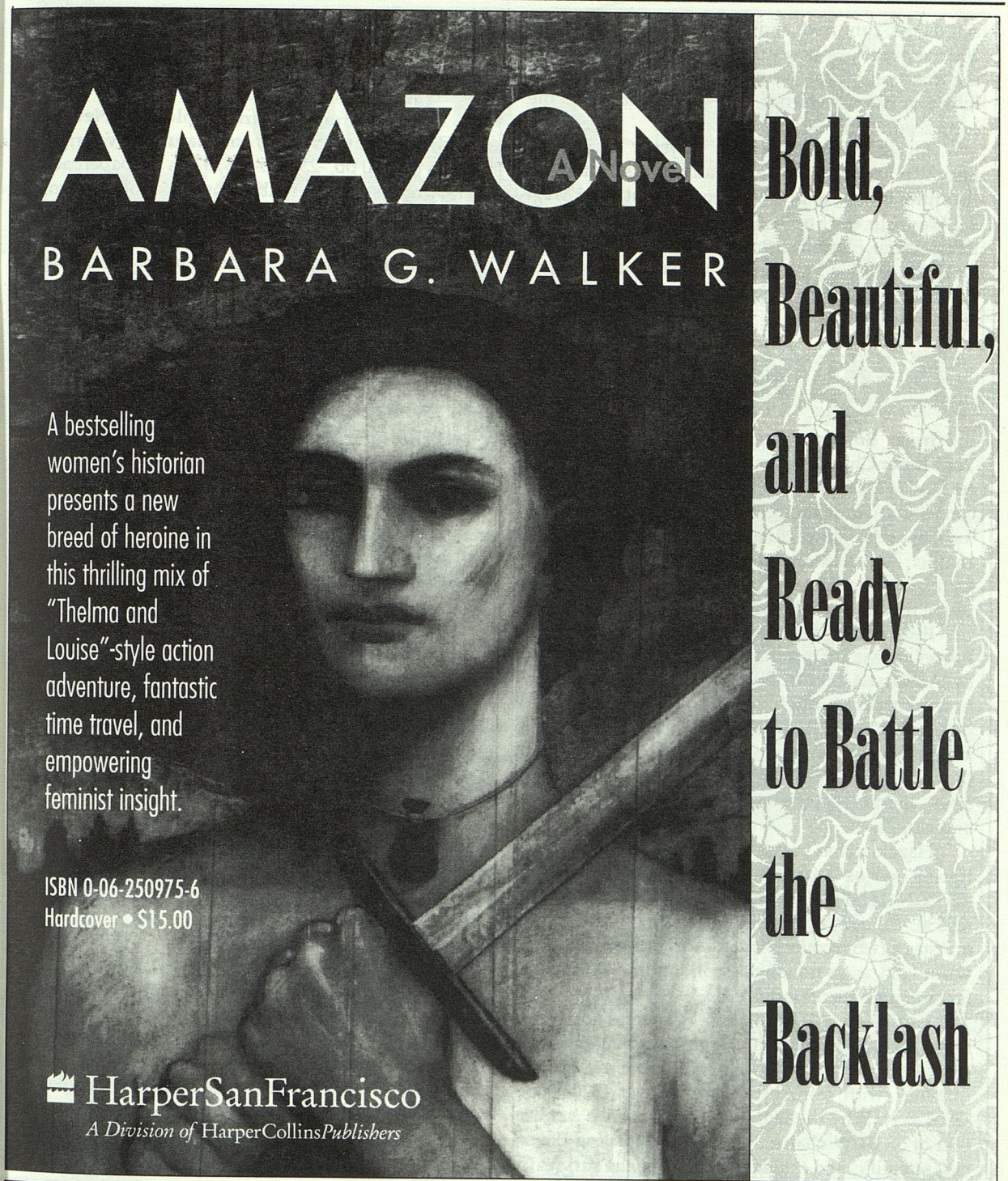

Bold, Beautiful, and Ready to Battle the Backlash

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self dazed, confused, and about to be assaulted on a 20th-century New Jersey freeway." The novel answers the question, "Ever wonder how our world would look to a woman warrior time-traveler from the prehistoric, prepatriarchal past?"

Harper's unveiling a new "Odyssey" series, to be heavily publicized in the alternative press. Among the first titles is **Shabono: A Visit to a Remote and Magical World in the South American Rainforest** by anthropologist Florinda Donner ($10.00, -250242-5). A Dell hardcover in 1982, the book offers "rich images of daily life" from Donner's stay with the Yanomama tribe.

Inner Bonding: Becoming a Loving Adult to Your Inner Child by popular self-help author Margaret Paul ($13.00 pb, -250710-9) describes a process for connecting adult thoughts with the instinctual, gut feelings of the "inner child" so as to live free of internal conflict. Paul believes that the key to a productive and joyful life is maintaining a loving relationship between the inner adult and child.

Freeing the Creative Spirit: Drawing on the Power of Art to Tap the Magic & Wisdom Within by Adriana Diaz ($16.00 pb, -250182-8) describes how to break through "art fear" through "autonomous play" that facilitates personal discovery and acceptance and explores the sacred dimensions of the creative experience. The book includes art exercises, meditations, and multicultural ceremonies and rituals.

Hazelden has begun a "Trusting Intuition" meditation series with **Embrace Change** ($7.00 pb, -255302-X) and **My Timing Is Always Right** ($7.00 pb, -255303-8), both by Helene Lerner-Robbins. Focused on "stage-two recovery," they address transition times when "old ways no longer work and new behaviors feel stiff and uncomfortable."

Earth Day will be marked by several notable releases, among them the intriguing **Endangered Species: Portraits of a Dying Millenium** by Deirdre Luzwick with intro by David Brower ($20.00 pb, -250420-7). Why the high price? Because it's a collection of 53 B&W charcoal drawings depicting the social, scientific, and ecological threats to the survival of humanity. The images—divided into sections on ecology, technology, sexual revolution, and alienation—are arresting and disturbing; the human figures depicted are almost all white.

A Passion for This Earth: Exploring a New Partnership of Man, Woman, and Nature by Valerie Andrews ($10.00 pb, -250085-6, 6/92) is the paperback of a 1990 release that describes how to restore a personal connection to the earth through myth, relationship patterns, and social change.

Green Spirituality: Reflections on Belonging to a World Beyond Myself by Veronica Ray ($9.00 pb, -255304-6, 6/92) is a repackaged, small-format Hazelden offering meditations "with special emphasis on moving beyond personal growth . . . in order to become part of the human family."

Natural Healing For Women: Caring for Yourself with Herbs, Homeopathy & Essential Oils by Susan Curtis and Romy Fraser ($15.00 pb, 0-04-440645-2, 6/92) alphabetically lists conditions and describes hundreds of treatments.

English nutritionist Jill Davies presents **Premenstrual Syndrome: How to Beat the Monthly Blues and Lead a Happy, Healthy Life** ($11.00 pb, 0-7225-2542-7, 6/92). Part of the "Special Diet Cookbook" series, it explores the multitude of PMS symptoms and offers over 100 recipes, including main meals, sweets, and snacks.

A Gentler Strength: The Yoga Book for Women by Paddy O'Brien ($12.00 pb, -2536-2, 6/92) provides photos and step-by-step instructions for woman of every age, stage, and fitness level. It also offers special programs for women experiencing adolescence, pregnancy, or stress; struggling with eating, weight, and self-image; and enjoying confidence, fitness, and loving partnership.

When a Baby Dies: The Experience of Late Miscarriage, Stillbirth, and Neonatal Death by Nancy Kohner and Alix Henley ($12.00 pb, 0-04-440566-9, 6/92) presents the stories of parents who have lost a baby, describing how they felt and how they helped themselves. It also provides information about why babies die, hospital practices, grieving, support, and care needed in future pregnancies. — *SMS*

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WOMEN RESPOND to the MEN'S MOVEMENT

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EDITED BY KAY LEIGH HAGAN
FOREWORD BY GLORIA STEINEM

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HOUGHTON MIFFLIN

Cancervive by Susan Nessim and Judith Ellis ($8.95 pb, 0395624320, 6/92) is a book of support and advice for the five million cancer survivors who are ostracized by old friends, discriminated against on the job, refused insurance and left with the physical and psychological effects of cancer. Susan Nessim, who had cancer in her late teens, founded a support group called Cancervive and this book is based on the experiences of the group's members.

The Bookmaker's Daughter is the acclaimed memoir by Shirley Abbott ($10.95 pb, 0395629446, 7/92) of her Arkansas childhood and her volatile relationship with her father, a bookie at an illegal gambling house. Abbott ventures in the relatively unexplored territory of fathers and daughters with rich details of family anecdotes, feminist insight, history and Southern mythology. This is a familiar story to all daughters of romantic, failed fathers.

— *ST*

HYPERION

I Been in Sorrow's Kitchen and Licked Out All the Pots by Susan Straight ($19.95 cl, 1-56282-963-7, 6/92) is a novel featuring "a woman so large and so Black that she seems to burst the confines of her birthplace in the Gullah-speaking Low Country of South Carolina." She makes her way to Charleston, returns home with twin boys, supports them by working as a domestic at the height of the civil rights movement, sees them achieve football fame, and ultimately moves to California, "a country woman in the land of freeways and luxury condos."

Clairvoyant: The Imagined Life of Lucia Joyce by Alison Leslie Gold ($19.95 cl, -986-6, 6/92) is a fictional re-creation of the life of Lucia, James Joyce's daughter, who was diagnosed as schizophrenic, but whose father believed her to be clairvoyant instead. Drawn from factual details and told through a mixture of memory, dream, and hallucination, the book is a gripping portrayal of Lucia's inner life.

Walt Disney-owned Hyperion also brings us **What To Do When *He* Has a Headache** by psychologist/sex therapist Janet Wolfe ($18.95 cl, -973-4). The first book for women troubled by a man's lack of desire, it offers advice, insights, and exercises for such women and their partners. — *SMS*

LITTLE BROWN

Cats & Their Women ($10.95 pb, 0316150460). This is a heartwarming collection of photographs that captures the unique bond between women and their cats. Each photo is accompanied by a brief note written by the cat's owner. The book is done by Barbara Cohen and Louise Taylor, the authors of *Dogs & Their Women*. — *ST*

MACMILLAN PUBLISHING GROUP

Two new books on adoption offer advice on all phases of the adoption process. **The Open Adoption Book** by Bruce Rappaport ($19.95 cl, 0026011050, 6/92) is a guide to open adoption where both birth parents and adopting parents are actively involved in all phases of the adoption process. **The Adoption Life Cycle** by Elinor Rosenberg ($22.95 cl, 029270553, 8/92) is the first book I have seen that offers practical advice on the issues and conflicts adoptees and their parents will encounter over the years. Rosenberg offers a balanced overview of what adoption means for adoptee, adoptive parents and birth parents at every stage of life.

Policing Domestic Violence by Lawrence Sherman ($24.95 cl, 0029287316, 6/92) is a study that makes a controversial case against relying on arrest to deter family violence. Lawrence's study shows that while arrest may deter some offenders, it incites others to renewed assaults. He feels that using arrest as a "cheap fix" only underscores the historical neglect of underlying causative problems that still need to be addressed.

Sumiko Iwao, a professor of psychology at Keio University in Tokyo and an adviser on women's issues to the Japanese government, looks at the changing roles of Japanese women in her book **The Japanese Woman** ($22.95 cl, 0029323150, 7/92). She explodes the myth that Japanese women are dependent and subservient and shows that today Japanese women hold equal and sometimes even more powerful positions than men in many spheres.

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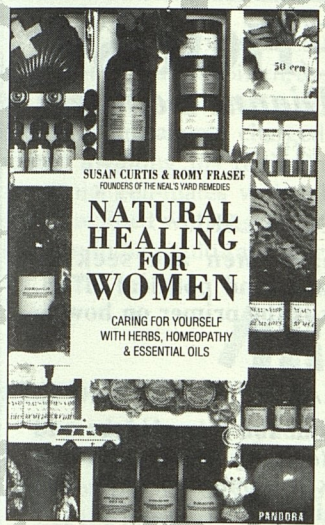

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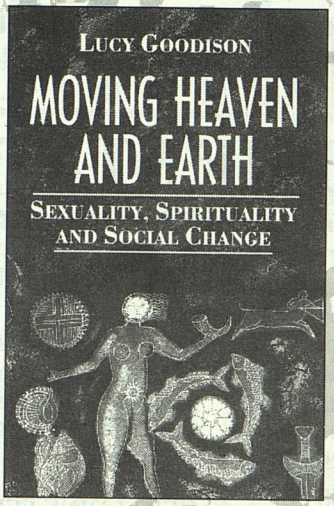

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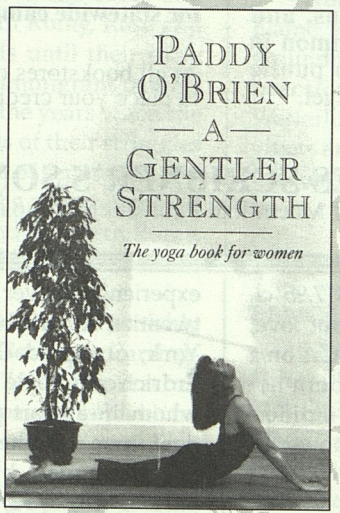

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Summer Rain by Marguerite Duras ($17.95 cl, 0684194031, 7/92) is a minimalist novel about love, loss and the essence of human identity. It centers on a large immigrant family that lives in the modern no-man's land of suburban Paris. Castoffs of an indifferent society, they stay bound together by a powerful intimacy. — *ST*

NEW DIRECTIONS (Norton dist.)

A Bernadette Mayer Reader ($11.95 pb, 0811212033) is the first time this poet's works, many previously unavailable, have been collected together. Included are poems, prose pieces, and translations from her dozens of small-press books.

The stories of Kay Boyle are available in a Revived Modern Classics edition of **Fifty Stories** ($15.95 pb, 0811212068, 6/92). Boyle is a chronicler of the human experience all over the world. She writes of Paris in the twenties, Austria before and after the Anschluss, New York, occupied Germany and California. Louise Erdrich calls Boyle "a citizen of the world, a woman for whom life and art are intertwined, one morally dependent upon the other, both inexhaustible."

Nissequott by Margaret Dawe ($19.95 cl, 0811212025, 6/92) is the novel of an Irish Catholic American girl growing up on Long Island in the late 1960s and early 1970s. Sheila, the narrator of this novel, is a girl possessed of considerable resources and intelligence but not a perfect face. This coming of age story shares Sheila's worries about her looks, her understandings and misunderstandings and her wonderfully drawn family.

Mistaken Identity by Mayantara Sahgal ($10.95 pb, 0811212076, 6/92) is a novel set in India beginning

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in 1929, a year of strikes when the British Raj is close to panic and Bhushan Singh, the purposeless but amiable son of a minor raja is arrested on his journey home and mistakenly charged with treason. In the months awaiting his trial, Bhushan entertains his communist cell-mates with tales of his world. His stories are filled with suspense, irony and a wealth of Northern India's cultural history. — *ST*

NORTON

Shared Lives by Lyndall Gordon ($24.95 cl, 0393031640, 6/92) is a memoir of her girlhood in the Jewish community in Cape Town in the 1950s and '60s and the bonds she forged with Romy, Rose and Ellie who were her closest friends until their early deaths. Gordon looks back at her immigrant parents and grandparents and forward to the years when she and her friends are adults. She tells of their struggles with the pressure to marry, the pain of separation and exile and her own struggles with the power games of big-time academia. Gordon's friendship with Romy, Rose and Ellie was an important creative element in her life.

The life story of Dora Carrington is told as richly as a novel in Gretchen Holbrook Gerzina's **Carrington: A Life** ($14.95 pb, 0393308561, 7/92). The first full biography of this talented English painter is "A blend of scholarship and compelling narrative," said Toni Morrison.

Freud on Women edited and with an introduction by Elisabeth Young-Bruehl ($10.95 pb, 0393308707, 8/92) is a reader arranged chronologically to show how Freud's views arose, were refined and often revised. Each selection carries a brief commentary, and there is an annotated bibliography covering developments since Freud's death. This is not designed as a position paper on his view of women but as a source book of his writings on women. — *ST*

NORTON PROFESSIONAL BOOKS

Ask your rep, but I think most trade bookstores can get 33% on these books. **At Personal Risk** by Marilyn Paterson ($22.95 cl, 0393701387) addresses the issue of boundary violations in the professional-client relationship. Paterson looks at the law, medicine, religion, education and psychotherapy for examples of misconduct. She expands the definition of professional violation beyond the common examples of sexual harassment or misuse of client funds to a "process of disconnection that occurs within the relational context." She describes the four characteristics of boundary violation — reversal of roles, a secret, a double bind and indulgence of professional privilege and the damage it does to the client.

Women's Sexuality After Childhood Incest by Elaine Westerlund ($27.95 cl, 0393701417) presents groundbreaking research on the sexual attitudes and practices of women with a history of incest. Westerlund dispels many myths regarding incest survivors and recommends enhanced and improved sexual functioning. — *ST*

PENGUIN BOOKS - PENGUIN USA

Already released is **Freedom From Fear and Other Writings** by Aung San Suu Kyi ($12 pb, 0140171363). This is a collection of essays, speeches, letters, and interviews by this year's Nobel Peace Prize winner. Under house arrest in Rangoon, she is the leader of Burma's National League for Democracy and the daughter of the founder of modern Burma. She was awarded the prize for her nonviolent struggle for democracy and human rights.

I Dreamed of Africa by Kuki Gallmann ($12 pb, 0140171029) is a memoir of her life in Kenya. At the age of 25, Gallmann left Italy after her divorce and a nearly crippling car accident. She and her future husband establish a vast ranch, but soon his violent death leaves her with an infant, a 12-year-old son and a

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WOMANSPIRIT RISING

A FEMINIST READER IN RELIGION

EDITED BY
CAROL P. CHRIST
AND
JUDITH PLASKOW

"An interesting, well-edited collection of essays—many vividly moving, some dazzling."
—*The New York Times Book Review*

"An honest, disturbing, and illuminating examination of women's spirituality."—
Marilyn J. Mason, Ph.D., author of *Making Our Lives Our Own*

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90,000 acre ranch to oversee. She writes movingly of the death of her son when he is a young man. Her courage and love for Africa lead her to establish a foundation which promotes the harmonious coexistence of people and the environment.

The autobiography of a country woman born in 1890 into the conservative patriarchal world of a poor and isolated peasant community in the Alps of southeastern France, **A Life of Her Own** by Emilie Carles ($12 pb, 0140169652, 6/92) is a story of a world that has disappeared. Carles reflects on the turbulent history of the 20th century and the many roles she played in her life — teacher, farmer, feminist, pacifist and political activist.

Wall To Wall by Mary Morris ($10 pb, 014019939X, 6/92) is an account of her 1986 trip on the Trans-Siberian express through China, Russia, and Eastern Europe. This is a travelogue but also a personal journey in search of her family and ancestral home in the Ukraine.

Lillian Faderman's history of lesbian life in the 20th-century America, **Odd Girls And Twilight Lovers** ($14 pb, 0140171223, 6/92) has already sold many copies at the $29.95 cloth price. This should be a bestseller for feminist bookstores this summer. Make sure you take advantage of co-op advertising dollars that are available on this title. This narrative of lesbian life discusses the establishment of lesbian subculture in each decade of this century and the ways feminism and gay liberation have gradually destigmatized same-sex loving. She misses the boat on the influence of the women in print movement, but this is still a challenging and compelling work.

Buffalo by Sydney Blair ($9 pb, 0140143548) is a first novel about a Vietnam vet, Ray McCreary who at 40 has decided to settle down, marry, and have a child. Yes, Sydney is a woman writing about a man and from what my rep tells me, very well. Ray sets out on a journey to tie up the ends of his frayed life and a quest for what he might be missing or what he might want to give up. Blair has an eye for the violence of men who never find their place and the effects of war. She shows us the despair of some vets and the slow healing of others.

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A reissue of Antonia White's novel **Frost In May** ($11 pb, 0140162321, 6/92) coincides with the publication of her diaries in June 1992 by Viking. This classic novel is the story of a young English girl at a convent school dealing with the loneliness and isolation of this hostile environment and her search for spirituality and understanding.

Two humor books offer a little comic relief for working moms and the wives of great male artists. **Great Housewives of Art Revisited** by Sally Swain ($12 pb, 0140158375) are more parodies of the women who inspired some of the greatest works of art. We find "Mrs. Duccio Changes a Diaper" and "Mrs. da Vinci Loses Weight" in these funny parodies of classic works of art. **The Working Mother's Guilt Guide** by Mary Hickey and Sandra Salmans ($8.95 pb, 0140166246) is a ruefully funny look at the occupational hazards of working motherhood, from the danger of being shunted onto the corporate Mommy Track to the likelihood of never again making love without scheduling it two weeks in advance. — *ST*

PLUME - PENGUIN USA

How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents by Julia Alvarez ($9 pb, 0452268060, 6/92) is a lively novel about immigration, exile, Hispanic culture and the American Dream. The Garcia girls travel from a pampered privileged life on an island compound to the chaos of New York City. They rebel against the old-world ways of their parents, iron their hair, smoke cigarettes and even forget Spanish. But in losing their accents they also lose a sense of their place in the world. Their spirit helps them through boyfriends, careers, nervous breakdowns and divorce.

A comical and perceptive novel about a lesbian relationship, **The House of Real Love** by Carla Tomaso ($9 pb, 0452268265, 6/92) is the story of a woman who loves her girlfriend Connie but has a habit of casual affairs from time to time. Their 20-year-long relationship takes a dramatic and offbeat turn when Connie finds out about these little affairs. The narrator tries moving in with her shrink, posing as a man, appearing on a Sally Jessy Raphael-type show in her efforts to find true love. Tomaso's short stories have appeared in *Common Lives, Lesbian Lives* and two anthologies, *Unholy Alliances* and *Voyages Out 1*.

The Gay Decades by Leigh Rutledge ($12 pb, 0452268109, 6/92) is a history of the gay liberation movement from the Stonewall Riots in 1969 to the present. This day-by-day account of the flowering of a gay culture that would change America forever, is highlighted by dozens of photographs and quotes of the heroes, villains and landmark events that have made gay history.

A book on overcoming anorexia and bulimia through biopsychiatry offers hope and reassurance to those afflicted by these eating disorders. **It's Not Your Fault** by Russell Marx, M. D. ($10 pb, 0452268095, 6/92) combines the use of medical and psychiatric treatment to help the sufferers of these life-threatening conditions. Marx explains the causes of eating disorders, identifies who is at special risk, and offers the latest advice on treatment. — *ST*

PUTNAM

A new novel by Lee Smith, the author of *Fair And Tender Ladies*, is a saga about the world of country music. **The Devil's Dream** ($21.95 cl, 0399137459 7/92) begins with the story of Kate, a lively girl from a fiddle-playing family who marries the preacher's son. Even though her husband warns her not to take up the fiddle, Kate and her children can't leave it alone. This begins the tragedy for generations to come. Their sons and daughters become caught up in the world of country music and the desire to be stars and fight their way to the top. Smith is a wonderful story-

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In Full Flower

Aging Women, Power, and Sexuality

By Lois Banner
Author of American Beauty

"Lois Banner has done it again..she deepens our understanding of the structural roots of sexism and ageism that must be addressed if the elderly and the women of the future are to live happy, secure, and meaningful lives."
--Alice S. Rossi,
University of Massachusetts

"*In Full Flower* is very special and original. It will inspire many readers. It will enhance the sense of human possibility for all." --Catherine Stimpson, University Professor, Rutgers University

"A deeply absorbing book that will help everyone understand the ways in which attitudes toward seemingly biological states, like gender and aging, have been cultural constrictions."
--Lisa Alther

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teller in the best Southern tradition, so I bet this novel will hold your interest even if country music isn't your passion.

Somebody Else's Heart by Nanci Kincaid ($21.95 cl, 039913719X, 6/92) is a first novel about a white girl growing up during the sixties in a small Southern town. Martin Luther King, Jr. and George Wallace are on the television and Elvis and Little Richard on the radio, and Lucy Conyers lives in the last house in the white part of town, just before the pavement ends and the road turns to dirt. Lucy's stepfather likes the world just as it is and her mother is hell-bent on changing it. Lucy knows trouble when she sees it, but nobody is expecting a murder on California Street.

Another first novel, by Bebe Moore Campbell, the author of *Sweet Summer*, **Your Blues Ain't Like Mine** ($22.95 cl, 0399137467, 8/92) is a story about the repercussions of a racist beating and cold-blooded murder in small Mississippi town in the 1950s. Fifteen-year-old Armstrong Todd from Chicago, visiting relatives in the South pays the ultimate price for not understanding the segregated ways of the Deep South. Everyone involved in the incident, black and white, are changed forever in this story of sorrows of poverty and racial prejudice and well as the triumphs of love and social justice.

Wednesday's Children: Adult Survivors of Abuse Speak Out by Suzanne Somers ($22.95 cl, 0399137432, 8/92) is a collection of the stories of famous people telling about the effects of growing up in abusive families — physical, emotional and sexual. Included are stories by Angie Dickinson, Desi Arnaz, Patti Davis, and Cindy Williams. — *ST*

RANDOM

A Cure for Dreams by Kaye Gibbons ($9 pb, 0679736727, 7/92) is a novel that one critic called "a fictional oral history of female wishes." This story traces the bonds between four generations of Southern women through stories passed from mother to daughter to granddaughter. Gibbons knows the poetry of the way plain people speak and the clear strong words of her women show us these resourceful women prevailing over hard times and heartless men and finding unexpected pleasures along the way.

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Blanche McCrary Boyd's lesbian novel, **The Revolution of Little Girls** ($10 pb, 0679738126, 7/92), is a funny and harrowing story of Ellen Burns, a Southern girl who will never be Scarlett O'Hara. As a girl she preferred to play Tarzan, not Jane, and as a young woman she baffled her elders with her Freedom Riding sympathies. In the '70s, she finds herself as a lesbian at Harvard and nearly loses herself to booze and shamans.

New editions of Toni Cade Bambara's works are due in July. Her collection of fifteen stories, **Gorilla, My Love** ($9 pb, 067973893) is a collection of portraits of a wide range of unforgettable characters, from a young girl who suffers her first betrayal, to a white social worker who is taught a lesson by the neighborhood loan shark. **The Salt Eaters** ($10 pb, 0679740767) is Bambara's novel about a small town in the South where a community of Black faith healers search for the healing properties of salt and witness an event that will change their lives forever.

Megatrends for Women by Patricia Aburdene and John Naisbitt ($22.50 cl, 067940337X, 8/92) looks at how women are redefining our future. Women are transforming every sector of contemporary life for the 21st century — redefining leadership in business, reasserting our primacy role in religion, running for political office, taking the lead in the environment and education, changing the family and more. This looks like a very hopeful view of the future but may help dispel the notion that women's liberation hasn't done anything.

— *ST*

SIMON & SCHUSTER

Margaret Sanger: A Biography by Ellen Chesler ($24.50 cl, 0-671-60088-5, 6/92) looks great—and is, of course, timely. With 608 pages and 24 B&W photos, it details the life of the champion of birth control, and also serves as a sweeping history of the U.S. birth control movement.

One of baseball's first female umpires tells her story in **It Takes B*lls to Make It in This League** by Pam Postema and Gene Wojciechowski ($19.50 cl, 74772-X). In twelve years of umpiring, she was kissed at home plate, had her bra pulled out by a team mascot, found countless messages in her underwear, etc.; she skewers "the macho, posturing managers, often unhelpful colleagues, and league presidents who made her task tougher."

Joan Didion returns with **After Henry** ($21.50 cl, -72731-1), another of her collections of analysis of contemporary events and personalities. Her essays include an inside look at the Reagan White House, a reinterpretation of Patty Hearst as "a child of the American frontier," and an account of public response to the Central Park "wilding."

NPR reporter Deborah Amos, who is usually assigned to the Middle East, weighs in with **Lines in the Sand: Desert Storm and the Remaking of the Arab World** ($21.50 cl, -76068-8). Amos, whose outlook is fairly progressive, describes the basis for the war (including the arming of Hussein by the U.S.), the conflict itself, and its aftermath (including the crushing of the Kuwaiti democracy movement).

Blood and Banquets: A Berlin Diary 1930-38 offers the secret writings of Bella Fromm, a selfdescribed "Jewish aristocrat" who was a society columnist for two Berlin papers until banned from journalism by the Nazis ($12.00 pb, -75139-5). Before fleeing to the U.S. in 1938, she privately recorded chilling, intimate details about the Nazi rise to power, which she observed close at hand.

Luisa Valenzuela, the Argentinian novelist whom Carlos Fuentes has called "the heiress of Latin American fiction," offers **Blame** ($19.50 cl, -68764-6). This stark, powerful new novel is set in New York City, and evokes its "punky, perverse fascination" in a tale of murder.

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Also set in New York, and getting heavy PR in alternative papers, is **The Blindfold**, a novel by Siri Hustvedt ($18.50, -75953-1). It focuses on a grad student, living alone and impoverished in the city, who has to defend her identity against other characters' efforts to alter it: one wants her to revive the memory of a murdered woman, one takes a life-changing photo of her, another leads her to wander the streets dressed as the hero of a novel he is translating.

Final Passages: Positive Choices for the Dying and Their Loved Ones by right-to-die advocates Judith Ahronheim, M.D., and Doron Weber ($17.50 cl, -78025-5) is a guide that views death and dying as one of life's passages, not an "abrupt 'final exit.'" Covering a range of situations (including AIDS, cancer, and Alzheimer's), this medically-based book encourages patients and families to work with doctors in making end-of-life health decisions, the specifics of which are discussed in detail.

The Complete Sports Medicine Book for Women by Mona Shangold, M.D., and Gabe Mirkin, M.D. ($13.00 pb, -74427-5, 6/92) has been revised and expanded for the '90s. Its text, photos, and drawings cover sports and exercise options, injury prevention and treatment, nutrition, menstruation and menopause, pregnancy, and recent medical research on birth control, beta blockers, and steroids.

The obnoxiously-titled **How to Manage Your Mother: Skills and Strategies to Improve Mother-Daughter Relationships** by Nancy Wasserman Cocola and Arlene Modica Matthews ($19.50 cl, -74216-7) promises to "teach you to understand the intense nature of the mother-daughter bond, identify maternal styles, and recognize your own roles—and the roles of your family members—in perpetuating unproductive patterns." Skills and strategies to erode barriers, set limits, balance power, contend with "the inner maternal voice," and manage watershed events in the relationship are offered.

The Recovery of Your Self-Esteem: A Guide for Women by Carolyn Hillman ($11.00 pb, -73813-5, 6/92) is yet another title designed to help women nurture themselves, break the failure cycle, learn to communicate and be heard, and overcome external obstacles.

Workaholics, The Respectable Addicts: A Family Survival Guide by Barbara Killinger ($11.00 pb,

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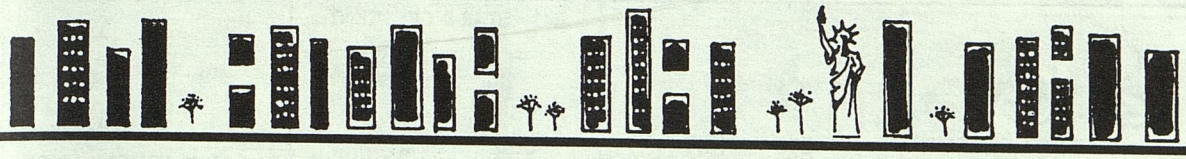

-76984-7, 6/92) looks at the origins and symptoms of workaholism and shows how they can be overcome.

— *SMS*

VIKING

Great news! Fiction writer and anthology editor Terry McMillan is back with **Waiting to Exhale** ($22.00 cl, 0-670-83980-9). It features four fascinating African American women "who lean on each other while 'waiting to exhale,' waiting for that man who will take their breath away." The result is a rich and powerful portrait of modern female friendship.

In other big fiction news, Margaret Drabble's latest is **The Gates of Ivory** ($23.00 cl, -84270-2), which "recreates nothing less than the end of our century." The novel's protagonist is a London psychiatrist whose comfortable life is shattered when she receives a cryptic package containing drawings of Cambodian temple ruins, fragments of a novel by an old friend of hers, and two joints from a finger; she sets out for southeast Asia and "a world of entrepreneurial beauty queens, media superstars, ideological butchers, and permanent refugees."

Very funny Merrill Markoe—for years the guiding wit of the David Letterman show—has published **What the Dogs Have Taught Me and Other Amazing Things I've Learned** ($19.00 cl, -84310-5). I heartily agree that "readers of her exquisitely apt takes on the skewed triangle of women, dogs, and men will discover a feminist cousin to James Thurber, with not a little of the finely honed misanthropy of Fran Lebowitz."

Susan Chitty has edited the riveting **Antonia White Diaries 1926-1957** ($25.00 cl, -83970-1, 6/92). White, an English actress and writer (her novel *Frost in May* will be reissued by Virago in June), wrote shrewdly and provocatively about the events and luminaries of her day (she died in 1980 at 81). She also wrote candidly about her persistent depression, three marriages, and relationships with Emma Goldman and Bertrand Russell.

Speaking of charismatic bisexual women of that time and place, Violet Trefusis's autobiography **Don't Look Round** ($23.00 cl, -84067-X) will be republished after years out of print. Trefusis, lover of Vita Sackville-West and Edward VII, chronicles the first half of the 20th century in English social/literary circles.

The Myth of the Goddess: The Evolution of an Image by Jungian analysts Anne Baring and Jules Cashford ($40.00 cl, -83564-1, 6/92, 768 pp) is an encyclopedic, Marija Gimbutas-endorsed synthesis of mythology, literature, psychology, and physics that ranges from the Paleolithic Age to the modern Gaia Hypothesis.

The "comically erotic, unbridled" novel **The Indoor Boy** by South Africa-born actor Antony Sher ($20.00 cl, -84456-X, 5/92) focuses on a bisexual South African Jew who leaves his homeland for an opulent life in London supported by his white supremacist father. His "decadent" and "drug-addled" existence changes when another South African exile shows him "truths that he and his homeland have taken insane measures to deny."

Barbara Tedlock is being compared to Annie Dillard and Louise Erdrich for her **The Beautiful and the Dangerous: Encounters with the Zuni Indians** ($23.00 cl, -84448-9, 6/92). An anthropologist who has lived among the Zunis of New Mexico for 22 years, Tedlock describes the daily life of a particular Zuni family and examines the Southwestern landscape in the light of traditional Zuni teachings.

Likely to stir controversy is **The Sorcerers' Crossing** by "woman sorcerer" Taisha Abelar ($21.00 cl, -84272-9, 6/92). Abelar, who says she was taught by the female students of Carlos Castaneda's famous Don Juan, recounts her initiation into sorcery and "the responsibilities and perils that face a woman sorcerer" in a book that's being called "a sorcerer's manual, anthropology, and a work of women's spirituality."

— *SMS* ○

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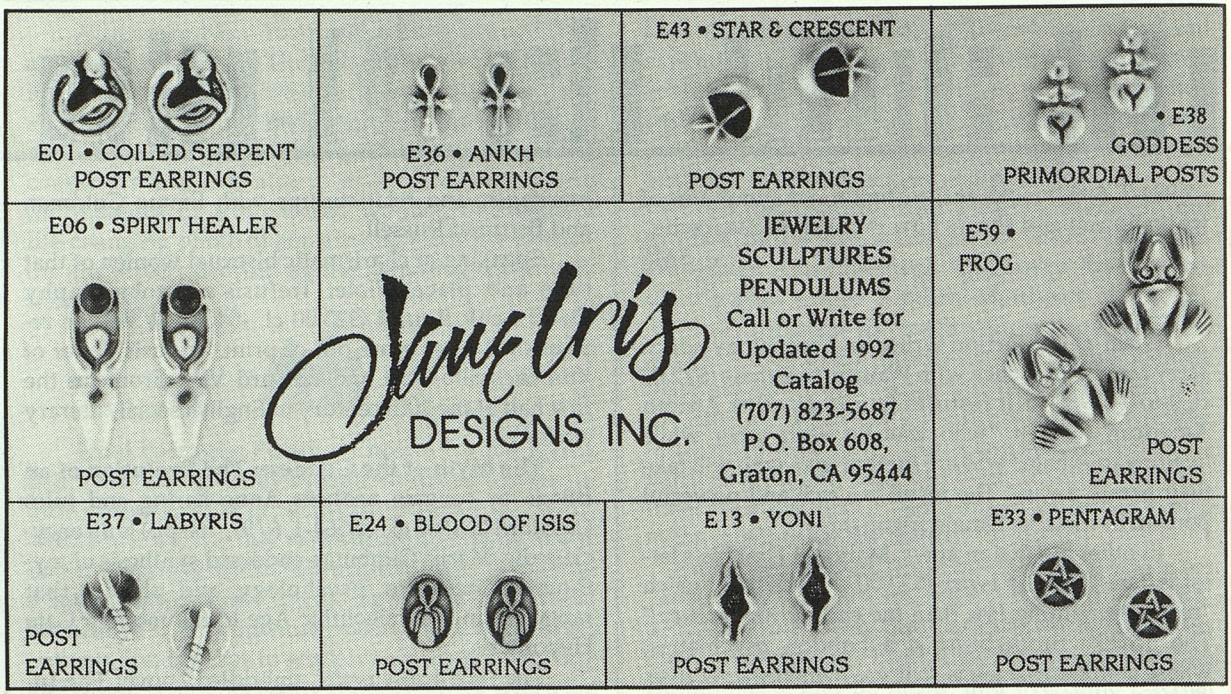

Meristem, *continued from page 36.*

referrals. The store gets many calls from customers requesting referrals for female professionals such as doctors or lawyers, and inquiring about the existence of various support groups in the area. The two owners also answer the local phone line for the National Organization for Women, in addition to serving as a gathering place for their friends and customers.

"We're also a meeting place for events and concerts," May says. "There's a women's book discussion group that meets here and a women's writer's group. We are able to offer a place, in addition to other special things such as book signings or special orders."

It's this support and personal attention for their customers that the owners believe has kept their business strong even during the recent recession.

"What small independent bookstores are able to do is offer the personal service and a sense of community that creates a loyal clientele."

While Meristem does provide many services and products for women, the owners say the store is designed to appeal to a wide variety of people.

"We want to be inclusive, multicultural and to reach out to men, women, gays, lesbians, families, the ecology movement and others. That's why our tag line is 'Books and More for Women & Their Friends.'"

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Customs, *continued from page 17.*

uncomfortable with some of the images in *Drawing the Line*, especially if they failed to take time to consider the context of the book, it's hard to imagine anyone bothering to take offense at *Inversions*, a collection of essays by North American women writers such as Jane Rule, Barbara Wilson, Gloria Anzaldúa, Irena Klepfisz, and Beth Brant, exploring questions of cultural community, literary theory, creativity, and sexual identity. But, in a telephone call to Press Gang collective member Val Speidel a Jensen representative referred to *Inversions* as "disgusting," asked Val if she had read the book, and added that if Val looked at the book carefully, she would see "how truly disgusting it is."

Press Gang has since shifted their customs brokerage work to Border Brokerage Company, Inc., a firm "that will clear anything that Customs will clear — which is what we hire a customs broker to do." ○

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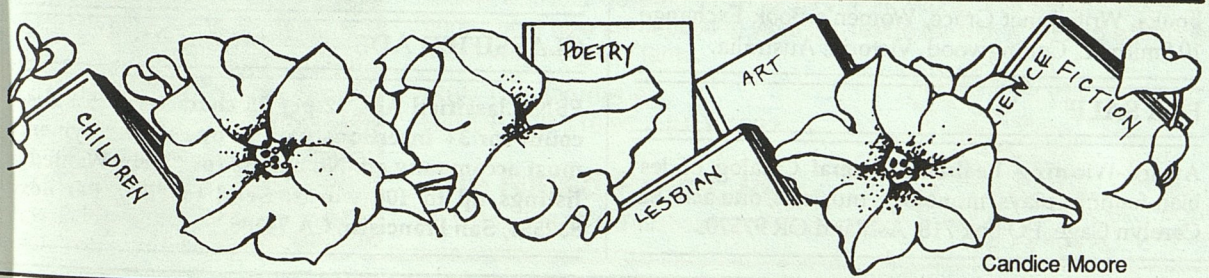

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From the critically acclaimed, bestselling author of *Benediction*,
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Love, Zena Beth

a novel by

Diane Salvatore

Certain to be the most talked-about novel of the nineties — for both its stellar quality and its extraordinary theme.

For young Joyce Ecco, walking into a particular New York hotel room overlooking Central Park is pure wish-fulfillment. She has been granted an interview with Zena Beth Frazer, the most famous — and notorious — lesbian writer in America. Notorious not just for the legendary pioneering vision of her work but for her sexy attractiveness, her outrageous wit, her in-your-face aplomb with the nation's media. Not to mention her sensational affair with a world-famous woman sports star.

The interview leads to another encounter with Zena Beth — this one the fulfillment of Joyce's every erotic fantasy. Soon she is invited to the lesbian writer's home in the South. But if she joins Zena Beth, the price will be immense: her relationship with lover Elaine, and a promising career as a journalist in the dynamic world of New York publishing.

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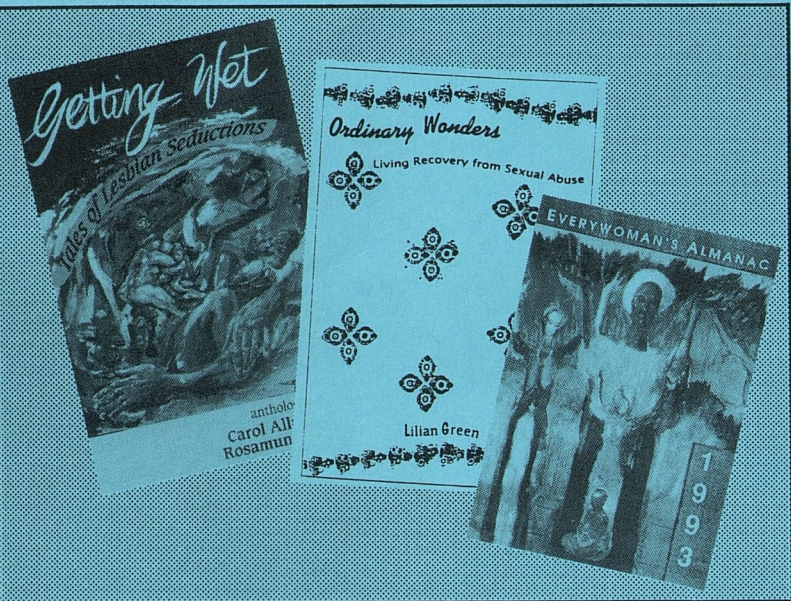

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