Feminist Bookstore News I:NI:III



The University Press Issue

November/December 1992

Volume 15 Number 4 Femina Serial am F32978 11/19/92

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Welcome to FBN's Seventh Annual University Press Issue. We started doing special university press issues during the "first" round of mainstream press mergers and corporate buy-outs that set the stage for the "massification" of mainstream publishing and the "Decline of the Midlist." At that point, university presses began publishing many of the titles that would have been published by mainstream presses in previous years. University presses were generally, at that time, expanding their publishing mandates and, not incidentally, expanding their women's studies lists in a big way. We thought it was a trend worth noting and ended up doing an entire issue around the theme — our first University Press Issue.

In this year's University Press Issue Joan Catapano tackles hard questions about the present and future of women's studies publishing and the number of books currently being published. She challenges us all to take pride in our successes. We've also reprinted a disturbing study of sex discrimination and sexual harassment in academic publishing houses (Does the upper management read what it publishes? — Apparently not.) and Firebrand's query, "What would happen if every women's studies class used one feminist press title?" We ran this question last year and it's the kind of question we're likely to keep on asking until it's adequately heard. This issue also features an excellent article by Sandi Torkildson on selling textbooks.

And that's just the beginning! This issue welcomes Theresa Corrigan as FBN's official Feminist Bookstore Humor columnist. This column was inspired by the laughter at Feminist Bookstore's Day. The issue also includes some notes on writing press releases that I hope will be inspirational to every feminist bookseller in the land, more on newsletters, a profile of feminist publishing in The Netherlands, more responses to the International Feminist Book Fair in Amsterdam, an update on the Little Sisters challenge to Canada Customs, and more.

Thanks to Ann Morse's diligent efforts and reporting skills, we also have a follow-up on the rumor that five people were arrested for bombing The Closet bookstore last spring. (See News.) We forwarded the information that Ann found to ABA, ABFFE, and PW, so watch for case updates in *Newswire*, et al. We want to see the book thrown at the people who bombed The Closet and threatened to kill bookstore owner Nancy Helm. We'll be doing everything in our power to encourage the prosecution to take this case very seriously and to also go after all the co-conspirators. One favor: If anyone can put us back in touch with Nancy Helm, please give us a call.

FBN's January issue will focus on children's books. Send us a rave about your favorite kids' book(s), your bestsellers list for your children's and



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young adult sections, tips, suggestions, great ideas, graphics and drawings, news, and funny stories.

Of course we realize that we're putting this issue together during the busiest time of the year for booksellers — but we've decided to make this production cycle easier by starting production on November 23. We'll go to press on December 18. This is early, but it should work better for everyone. As always, we'll take letters to the editor and late-breaking news until a week before press date, December 11th in this case. See page 4 for details of our schedule for the next year.

Speaking of holidays, November 20 to December 20, the month preceeding Hanukkah, is National Jewish Book Month. One of my favorite bookstores in the world does a special display of Jewish feminist books every December as their contribution to fighting the dominant Christian/Christmas norm. Coming out of this electoral season, I think it's safe to say that we've all had too much "Christianity" jammed down our throats this year. If you haven't done it before, this is a good year to start celebrating Jewish Book month and to do displays to celebrate *all* of the cultures in your community that don't celebrate Christmas.

It looks as though FBN is going to have a job opening sometime in the next two to six months. Ann has decided to pursue her dream of publishing feminist books and will be looking for a job with a feminist (book) publisher. I'm very sorry to see her go and envy the publisher who is lucky enough to get her. Our timetables aren't clear yet, but I do know that we'll be looking for someone with a passion for feminist and lesbian books who knows and loves the world of feminist bookselling and has writing, reporting, editing, and proofing skills. My wildest dream is to find a woman with all these skills and a past in feminist bookselling. This is the first time FBN has had a job opening with time for someone to consider moving to San Francisco, so please pass the word to any ex-bookstore workers who might be qualified. We should have a job description by the time this issue reaches you. Publishers who anticipate openings in the next two to six months would do well to give Ann a call. I'm not sure how all of this is going to work out time wise, but I'm willing to believe that Ann's next job and FBN's next coworker will all arrive with a perfect amount of overlap for training.

Yours in spreading the words, Carol Seajay

<image>

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FBN

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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.

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FBN's First John Pomper Kids' Books Issue

Ad Reservation: Nov. 25 Ad Copy Due: Dec. 3

JANUARY 1993

Booksellers: Send us your bestsellers list, rave about your favorite kids books, share tips and anecdotes on selling children's books. We want all your news and great ideas!

Issue	Articles Due	Ads Due	Last Minute News
Kids' Books	Nov. 23	Dec. 3	Dec. 10
Spring Announcements	Jan. 27	Feb. 4	Feb. 11
ABA Issue	March 24	Apr. 1	Apr. 15
Sidelines/Calendar	May 5	June 7	June 21
Summer Announcements	June 25	June 28	July 15
Fall Announcements	Aug. 13	Aug. 12	Sept. 2
University Press	Oct. 5	Oct. 5	Oct. 21

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Pandora Book Peddlers 885 Belmont Ave. N. Haledon NJ 07508

Dear FBN,

In the previous issue of FBN we read with sympathy of the plight of such stores as Reader's Feast in Hartford contending with the onslaught of superstores. Fortunately, we have not been invaded by Barnes & Nobles, Encore, et al., in our neck of the woods. We have a different problem.

Bookmen, a wholesaler in Minneapolis, has been courting customers Pandora Book Peddlers has worked diligently with for over five years. As a wholesaler, they are offering 40-43% (!) discount on books for a special program called SEED - Seeking Educational Equity through Diversity. Bookmen called the director of the program trying to convince her to release the names and addresses of her seminar leaders who would be ordering books. She refused, but Bookmen managed to get the names from another source. It looks like the chain has been broken: Writer -> publisher -> wholesaler/distributor -> bookstore -> reader. What Bookmen is doing is not illegal, but how about some ethics here. If they want to go after special customers, why not drum up business of their own and not play on an independent women-owned bookstore's turf.

We hope other feminist bookstores will take note of what Bookmen is doing. Institutional orders are an important part of our business, even in our new location near a state college. We're happy to say that the co-directors of SEED have sent a letter to leaders explaining the situation. However, some potential and former customers had already bitten on the 40% bait and we've lost their business. Happily, others have chosen to remain with us because of *their* loyalty and *our* commitment to the books we make available at 20% discount. We've also developed a good reputation for the quick turn-around on those rush orders. By the way, when we first heard about this situation, we placed a call to Norton Stillman at Bookmen, but did not get our call returned.

Vivian Scheinmann Pamela Sheldrick

Woman to Woman Books 106-12404-114 Ave. Edmonton, Alberta T5M 3M5 Canada

Dear FBN,

Thank you very much for sending us copies of FBN. They have been very helpful to us.

We began the venture last Winter after the only feminist bookstore in Edmonton closed. Originally we were a group of 10, but this slowly narrowed to four who were willing to make the small investment in time to get a mail-order service operational. The small size is a definite asset as we are able to divide the work evenly and develop the trust necessary to do this business and carry on with our own busy lives. We also found that to carry lesbian titles and be able to take the books to women's events and conferences, meant that everyone involved had to be comfortable with their own sexuality. This is a sad statement about the conservatism in our Province and the potential for harassment around books.

What we hope to do is to bring books into areas where women have limited access to anything not considered mainstream. For the most part we will not carry titles that we know are available in most bookstores; that is those who now find it politically correct to carry "safe" feminist titles. Thus we are looking for

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the unusual, small press works, and off the beaten track feminist and lesbian theory. If we get a reputation for being provocative and controversial, we'll know we're filling our purpose.

So far we've published a short list of titles in conjunction with Pride Week (June) and now our first major catalogue is out. We hope word of mouth will carry us into the more rural and isolated parts of our region. It is a great adventure to all of us even on those days when we look at each other and wonder where we got the nerve to do this.

Thanks again. Sincerely, Sheryl McInnes



Calyx Books PO Box B Corvallis OR 97339

Dear FBN.

Does anyone know of any good software programs for journal subscription fulfillment? After 16 years of publishing Calyx we are learning that few small literary magazines have adequate fulfillment systems for their subscriptions.

Best. Margarita Donnelly 503-753-9384 fax: 503-753-0515

> **Ruth Wiens** Tulsa City-County Library 400 Civic Center Tulsa OK 74103

Dear FBN Readers,

Tulsa's Multiple Sclerosis Society asked the Library to track down a book for people who have MS and are also dealing with the loss of their partner. We have a fairly good selection of titles on MS, but nothing along these lines.

If you can recommend a book on this topic, or know of some titles we definitely need to have (especially from small presses), I would appreciate hearing from you.

Ruth Wiens 918-596-7977 fax: 918-596-2641

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5th International Feminist Bookfair: More Experiences/Perspectives

The following are two letters we received from Joyce Brown and Renee Albrecht from The Women's Bookshop (333 Main Street West, Hamilton Ontario.)

By Joyce Brown

I am writing this report to address my concerns with regard to the Fifth International Feminist Bookfair hosted by Dutch women in Amsterdam.

First of all there appeared to be little correspondence between the organizers and the women who were traveling from abroad. Journeying to interact with women from other lands is a mechanism for not only bringing back information to our sisters in the struggle but also to carry with us new issues and concerns. My traveling companion who is both my employer and a white woman, had very similar and simultaneously mixed feelings about the conference. We arrived in Amsterdam with the address of a vacant building. The office housed the co-ordinators of the bookfair but, since the bookfair was in progress, it was vacant. Many thanks go out to the young male receptionist in the Orthopedic Hospital; otherwise we would have wandered about for much longer than we did.

We found ourselves booked into a youth hostel. This was not an objection with us when we departed from Canada. The organizers arranged this accommodation for us. What we found appalling was that we were placed into a room with no fewer than seventy other people and that it was co-ed. A critical analysis would indicate a curious form of feminism. I don't mind sharing a space with other women whom I don't know but will soon come to know, but I am particular about sharing space with unknown males. I did not appreciate being made privy to a young male working off his "urge". This was one of our first experiences of "Feminism" at the Book Fair.

Everything was unexpected. The entrance fee for the bookfair was divided into halves. The private and the public, inside and outside. There was a further division between the day program and the evening program. All four categories had to be paid for separately. Hidden costs were everywhere.

To dress the entire figure which they had created was a special invitation-only official opening program and ceremony. None of the Canadian booksellers possessed the required "pass." It seemed that none of the American booksellers had one either.* Furthermore, none of the Canadian writers who were women of colour had one either. The appropriate attire for the official opening was European white skin.



This was a anthropological observation. We women who stood "outside" of the doorway watched for one hour. The Western women both white and of colour were excluded. The African and Indian women from the southern developing countries were admitted. As an unofficial recorder of facts, I noted that five Black women entered the 900-seat auditorium. What do you call this? How can you accuse the organizers of being racist? It was very subtle indeed. Women of colour from Canada, America and England were excluded, but African and Indian women from the Southern developing countries were admitted.

So, why some and not others? Who defined the difference? Why was the Black Dutch author invited to speak as an afterthought? Whose bookfair is it anyway? It painfully and slowly became very obvious. No one had to say it but it was there.

Yes it is true that a panel of Black French-speaking women presented in French, but it was the only occasion that there were not any translators in this audito-

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rium. Who could access what these women had to say — a limited audience. Other Blacks who would have found value in their words, in their "Truths," were cut off by the barrier of language. The organizers had done it to us "in our faces." Furthermore any white woman who may have benefited from their Truths could not unless she was French-speaking. In effect those writers were "silenced." The words came out of their mouths but fell on uncomprehending ears so that language was the tool utilized to divide us.



There were no Black American women present. If my eyes do not deceive me and I know that I am not blind, the official poster which came out announced that Alice Walker was to be present. She was not there. Why? Either this was a lure or false advertisement. Enough of the Black Issue. The women of colour faired (no pun intended) no better. The Indian women from the developing countries were also cut off in their speech. One such women was placed on a panel with five white women. Each presented a different perspective on the possibility of co-publishing. Co-publishing exists only when there is equality. When all women have an equal voice. When language is not used to conquer and divide us. When we are not separated into geographical contexts, only then can there be a solidarity within the feminist framework. Women of colour are tired of being the matte or the borders; we are also the picture itself.

*Editor's note: "Invitations" were distributed to exhibitors at the rate of one "pass" per stand regardless of the number of women working at the stand or the number of publishers who shared the stand.

A Letter to Other White Feminists By Renee Albrecht

White women need to make the effort to travel and socialize with women of color if white women are to have any hope of achieving solidarity amongst all women. Through close association in everyday life and by allowing ourselves to listen and learn from women who are silenced in our culture, we shall become aware. Initially that awareness will be uncomfortable. One of the first things we will notice is the lack of enthusiasm among many Black women with (white) mentors, our (white) history, our (white) intellectual development.

I have found that when white women mingle amongst ourselves it is easy to pat each other on the back and spout off about our progress in political and social arenas. However, when there is a Black women within our midst we are defused. Then we must admit that our white professors, white clergy, white businesswomen, white social workers are generally closed to the reality of women who make up the majority of the planet's population.

Occasionally, white women working towards liberation attempt to include a woman of colour in panel discussions as a guest speaker, or ask them to join the organizing committee for some conference or event. These efforts are usually not organic and women of colour are easily able to see through these thin veils of "equal representation." Then the tendency is to convince ourselves and each other that we've tried but just haven't been appreciated, and/or that Native women, Asian women, or Southern women have complex, difficult social and political communities, and that these are the obstacles that prevent them from working with white feminists. We manage to delude ourselves and avoid listening to the women who go to the trouble to tell us — for the millionth time — that we are racist or unaware.

Over the last decade white women in Canada have become aware of our failure to address racism. This awareness can be regarded as the first step in the right direction. However we must not let pride cloud

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the fact that it has taken centuries to get this far and that really we are not changing much faster than the patriarchy. Resistance stems from the cold fact that we cannot confront our own racism, nor do we want to jeopardize our status. Becoming aware is the first small step towards progress, but we all know that a little knowledge can be dangerous. We must work toward a full awareness of our sisters' reality and our own racism. We need to know that our Black sisters' history is full of horrors forced on them by the dominant white culture. We must put ourselves in the shoes of these women and feel the fear.

Recently I had the privilege of visiting the V International Feminist Book Fair in Amsterdam. The book fair happens biannually, this being the third I have attended in the last six years. Each of the five book fairs have been organized by white European women, except for Montreal in 1988. I have seen few signs of progress for the women of the Southern Hemisphere, i.e. South America and the Mediterranean. In fact I would say that the women organizing the fair are more concerned with getting media coverage or appearing professional enough to encourage mainstream publishers' participation. The grassroots of feminism have been lost. During panel discussions we heard that Europeans and Americans expected to sell books by white women about life in southern countries. However, the dominant cultures rarely publish books by Southern women about their own experience. Often hot issues were raised but the organizers quelled meaningful discussion by keeping the workshops on a tight schedule and sticking to uncompromising agendas. This was an effective tool borrowed from the mainstream to uphold the apparent professionalism of the conference.

I was also disappointed when Ellen Kuzwayo, an African political activist, was paired with Canadian artist and writer, Mary Meigs. They were interviewed together to speak about their experiences as older women writers. By asking them to speak about old age the organizers avoided having to deal with Ellen Kuzwayo's energetic anti-apartheid work. Furthermore, the significant life and loves of Mary Meigs, a women who only dared to come out as a lesbian after her sixtieth birthday, remained invisible to the audience.

Perhaps I would have been less critical of the predominantly apolitical conference had I not been traveling with a co-worker who is a Black woman.

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Together we tried to search out and make contact with women from India, Bangladesh, and Africa. We felt frustrated, but we imagined that those women who did manage the great expense of coming to Amsterdam from developing nations must have felt greatly insulted. On the plane trip home we heard that the organizers of the book fair had begun to notice their oversights three days before the conference. At this point they persuaded a Black Dutch writer to join a panel of writers. She was not fooled into feeling sincerely included, but came to the fair with the hope that she'd make some significant personal connections.

These are examples of the way many white women organize. Thus it is easy to see why many Black women, Native women, and Asian women do not choose to do feminist organizing with white women.

White women must ask ourselves whether the feminist movement understands the desires we all share. Do we have close associations with women of colour? Do we listen as they relate their experiences? Do we accept the fact that we may need to change our thought patterns? Or are we nervous around women *See* Bookfair Responses, page 111

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Books About Women's Work...



BLUE COLLAR GOODBYES Sue Doro

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If I had my life

to live over

I would pick more daisies

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Suspects Arrested in Bombing of Closet Bookstore

Police arrested five people June 4 in connection with two bombings at the lesbian and gay Closet Bookstore in Lancaster, PA. Police also confiscated a "massive cache of highly dangerous fireworks" and illegal explosive devices as a result of a probe into the bombings, according to the Lancaster Intelligencer Journal.

Bookstore owner Nancy Helm closed The Closet in mid May after two explosions (in June and August 1991), three bomb threats and promised pressure from a local anti-pornography group.

Arrested and charged with with various counts of arson and criminal conspiracy were Daniel J. Van-Aulen, 48, Linda A. Ward, 30, two 17-year-old boys and a 15-year-old boy.

VanAulen, who is also charged with the manufacturing, sale and discharge of fireworks, is scheduled to be arraigned in Lancaster County Court on November 25. His preliminary hearing was held October 7. Ward will appear in court December 14 for a preliminary hearing.

After his arrest, VanAulen reportedly told City Police Detective Stephen Skiles that he had been drinking and was offended by material he saw in the window of the bookstore. He also reportedly admitted that the explosives used in the bombings were his.

On May 29, in connection with the bombing investigation, police seized 30 cases of Class B and C fireworks and illegal explosive devices found in VanAulen's garage. And on June 1, police seized a 27-foot van carrying more than 150 cases of explosives. Calling the explosives "very, very dangerous," a spokesperson from the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms said officers needed a special truck to haul the cases to a holding area in northeastern Pennsylvania. Class B fireworks are illegal explosive devices that have no legitimate use in fireworks shows, according to the ATF. Class B devices include M-80s, "Blockbusters," and M-1000s, also known as "quarter sticks."

Police said the suspects allegedly used M-1000s in both bombings. "A lit cigarette was placed on the fuse of the device and then it was taped to the store to allow the suspects to be away from the building at the time of the explosion," said Lancaster City Police Det. Capt. Joseph P. Geesey.

Police refused to speculate on the motives for the bombings or to call them gay bashing, the *Intelligencer Journal* reported. — AM

Feminist Presses Create the "Library Project"

Eighteen feminist presses joined forces this spring to create the "Library Project" to address the exclusion of feminist presses by library jobbers and to expand the presses' working relationship with the ALA Feminist Task Force. A steering committee was formed and met during ABA to set and prioritize goals.

The major problem is that jobbers, the distributors that sell millions of dollars of books annually to libraries throughout North America, do not know about, understand or take feminist presses seriously. Library jobbers do not include feminist press titles on their approval lists even when qualified by the jobbers' own definitions, nor do they look at feminist press lists to see which books should be included on the bibliographies they develop and give to libraries to use in making book buying decisions.

The consequences are significant to the publishers, the women's movement, and to library patrons across the U.S. and Canada. This loss of visibility

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means that our presses lose thousands of sales to public and academic libraries and thousands of subsequent sales to library patrons who, having read a library book, will go out and buy their own copies. It also means that library patrons do not have access to the broad range of ideas being published by nonmainstream publishers. The financial ramifications of this discrimination are enormous in terms of publishers' cash flow and financial stability.

The goal of the Library Project is to increase the visibility of women's press books among librarians and the jobbers who serve them as vendors, to get feminist press titles on the approval lists of jobbers, and to have feminist press titles routinely included in bibliographies, which are the principal selling tools. The Library Project will also work with the ALA Feminist Task Force to increase awareness of feminist press books, to increase the number of reviews of feminist press books in the key review media that are required to get on jobber bibliographies, to bring pressure on the jobbers to include feminist presses and our titles on their lists, and to work with the ALA Feminist Task Force to coordinate the annual ALA Feminist Book and Author Breakfast.

Pursuant to these goals, the Library Project will build a database of titles published by member presses that fit the subject categories jobbers use for library approval lists and that meet the review criteria for inclusion on those lists.

Concurrently, the Library Project will conduct an education program to help member presses get more library-appropriate reviews of their books and to make sure that their books meet the criteria used by jobbers in selecting publishing houses and titles for approval.

Dues for the Library Project are \$100/year for presses with up to 25 titles and \$200/year for presses with 26 or more titles or annual sales of \$150,000 or more, and \$15 for each title included in the bibliography plus \$10 for each additional listing of a single title.

The presses involved include Aunt Lute, Cleis, Down There, Firebrand, Gynergy, Kelsy Street, KIT, Kitchen Table, Madwoman, Naiad, New Victoria, Papier Mache, Paradigm, Post-Apollo, Seal, Spinsters, Third Side, and Women's Press/Canada.

Women's presses that are interested in joining the project should contact Felice Newman, Steering Committee Communications Coordinator, at Cleis Press, 412-937-1555.

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Crown Tries to Dismiss Little Sisters' Censorship Challenge

Two weeks before the Little Sisters v. Canada Customs trial was set to begin, the Crown, joined by the British Columbia provincial government, filed a motion asking that the case be thrown out of court. In a day of hearings on the validity of the case, the Crown argued that Little Sisters should appeal each title on a case by case basis, that addressing the entire question in court is inappropriate and, ironically, argued that the Butler Decision (Manitoba) removed anal penetration from the prohibited list and, consequently, there is no case to be tried. (The decision in the Glad Day case, however, was that it is absolutely illegal to import images of anal penetration. Customs did not back up this last assertation by returning any of the previously seized titles, however.

More likely, say local followers of the case, the Crown and the provincial government were surprised by the breadth of the case, the extensive and thorough preparations, and the wide-ranging support for the Little Sisters challenge. Dismissing the case would, presumably, be an effective tactic for dispersing the support. It is a tactic that the Crown used previously.

This is the first time that both the provincial and federal governments have joined forces in a case like this, which is taken as a sign that both government bodies are taking the case very seriously.

Little Sisters' lawyers argued that the case should be heard, that the plaintiff's faith in the system has been consistently disturbed, and that this remedy is appropriate to the situation. Little Sisters previously spent 2 1/2 years working on the *Advocate* case, only to have Customs rescind the ban on *The Advocate* two weeks before the trial was to begin. Customs was liable only for the cost of the magazines, leaving Little Sisters with the cost of preparing the case that was dismissed.

While the judge presiding at the hearing seemed somewhat sympathetic and seemed to feel that it was inappropriate for the Crown to request dismissal at this late date, the judge's delay in ruling on whether the case will be heard or not is not an encouraging sign.

Little Sisters, while angry about the delay, which will increase their costs significantly, is adamant that the

case will be heard. Mean while, Little Sisters is brewing up another case — this one specifically over the importation of O.G. (Oriental Guys), a "glossy, expensive male magazine — the most vanilla of any gay male magazines" which is published in Hong Kong to conform to Hong Kong's very strict regulations "and certainly should not be a problem for Customs."

Meanwhile, Madonna's book Sex, "which violates all of Canada Customs' restrictions," breezed through Customs without a moment's delay and is selling briskly in mainstream bookstores as well as at Little Sisters. Canada Customs apparently uses two standards — if material is gay and/or published by small or independent presses and/or is addressed to gay bookstores, it's "obscene" and is confiscated. If material is heterosexual and published by large corporate publishers, it's just dandy!

Naiad Updates List of Bookstores

Now is the time for all good booksellers who stock 75% or more of Naiad's titles at all times to send Naiad your annual postcard telling them that you do so.

Naiad is once again revising and updating their list of stores that stock their titles. Naiad sends this list to their entire (retail) mailing list every year and to all new customers who were added to their list during the year. This year Naiad is investing an additional \$10,000 into the distribution of the list to reach women who aren't on Naiad's mailing list.

Getting your store's name on Naiad's list is one of the cheapest, easiest, and most effective bits of bookstore promotion you can do. Not only does the list direct Naiad's thousands of mail order customers to feminist, gay, alternative, and independent bookstores that stock Naiad's titles, it also turns these readers loose on the entire world of lesbian titles published by other presses by sending them off to the bookstores. Naiad should get an award for supporting the community that supports Naiad for this annual list.

Be sure to include your bookstore name and address (and note if you've moved during the last year), phone number and the first name of the person who deals with Naiad Press titles at your store. Send to Naiad Press, PO Box 10543, Tallahassee FL 32302.

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FEMINIST FUNNIES

By Theresa Corrigan Lioness Bookstore, Sacramento CA

Dear all of you funny feminist booksellers,

So what's the matter, summer sales slumps got you down? We're not very funny these days, at least as indicated by the numbers of responses I received from my humor inquiry. So pep it up. Remember, a laugh a day keeps burnout away. And be sure to remind your customers that they'll get better service if they keep you laughing.



Vivian Revill in Strategies for Change

Just a few chuckles:

Carol Seajay came back from Amsterdam with a report from June Thomas (Seal Press) of their new slogan: "Seal women don't eat quiche."

Ruth Gundle of Eighth Mountain Press was pleasantly surprised at the ABA to sell a few copies of *Fear of Subways* by Maureen Seaton purely on the basis of its cover. And I don't mean the design (although it is attractive) but the color. To a store that sells only purple books. That would certainly make ordering a lot simpler, don't you think? Kasha Songer from The Book Garden in Denver tells one of her favorite stories about a customer in the early throes of coming out who came in and blurted out, "Do you have Lesbian Sex?" Immediately she retracted, "I don't mean that, I mean the book," to which Kasha replied, "Yes, on both accounts."

My nominee for the best pre-publication promo flyer is for *Stage Fright* by Ellen Hart (Seal Press). If you haven't seen it, order one from Publishers Group West. In its praise for her previous books, we get quotes such as the following:

"I don't read books. Now quit standing in front of my TV set."

- Ellen Hart's mother

"Ellen who?"

- The Edgar's Committee

I did get a short list of botched titles. See how many you can guess. From Southern Sisters: 1. The Colored People 2. Touching Ourselves From Antigone Books: 3. The Crown by Barbara Wagner 4. Dombey's Daughters by Jane Zwinger 5. A book by "Liz from South America" From Page One: 6. All of the Lord Need Tennis Shoes From the Book Garden: 7. Ride to Pelindar From Lioness Books: 8. Fried Green Onions 9. Hot Crotch From the Feminist Bookshop (Sydney, Australia):

10. Making Love in the Lounge Room

I hope to hear from all of you real soon with all your great new material.

For answers, see page 110.

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Compiled by Carol Seajay

FBN went to press four days before the election and came back from the printer three days after the votes were in. One thing that we do know at this point is that many feminist bookstores contributed to the "Get Out the Vote" effort by becoming voter registrars and making it easier for feminist bookstore customers to register to vote. Dreams and Swords (Indianapolis) registered voters. Full Circle (Albuquerque) had signed up 75 voters with a week still to go. Women and Children First (Chicago) had two on-site registrars and signed up 200+ voters. Many bookstore newsletters urged readers to get out and vote and at least a few pointed out the pro-woman and progay candidates (and/or the anti-woman and antigay candidates). People Like Us' (Chicago) get-out-the-vote effort included an advertised 10% discount to all customers who brought in their voting-stubs on Election Tuesday through the following Sunday.

Good Vibrations (San Francisco) celebrated Banned Books week by offering a 10% discount on all of their "banned" titles for the week.

Herland (Oklahoma City) celebrated her 10th anniversary with a huge lawn party at the bookstore/women's center in August. The highlight of the evening was the presentation of Herland's first community service awards. Awards included "Outstanding Businesswoman of 1992," a "Brazen Hussy Award" given to the 13 women who founded La Salle des Femmes, the forerunner of Herland, a "Daughter of Maaia Award" given to Barbara Cleveland for her leadership in the development of Herland (Maaia being one of the founders of the women's utopia described in Charlotte Perkins Gilman's novel, *Herland*), and an "Honorary Lesbian" award presented to Stephen Hardway in appreciation of his work on behalf of women in Oklahoma City. Herland is currently engaged in a "Hanukkah and Christmas for Herland" fundraising project. The goal is to get 100 \$200 donations by January to pay off the balloon payment on Herland's building.



T.W.B. is a collectively operated, non-profit feminist bookstore. Above is their "new" logo.

Pandora Book Peddlers reports that they love their new, larger storefront near William Patterson College (see "Thataway"), but that they miss the city. The new store is carpeted and "people sit down and stay." "Many of the professors at the college have been customers for years — now they're sending their students in. That, and the fact that we can have larger in-store events, helps to make up for the way that mail order has dried up with the recession," reports Pandora's Vivian Scheinmann.

The Minnesota Women's Press (and Bookshop) (Minneapolis) launched its fifth year of organizing and sponsoring book groups this fall. Seventeen Fall quarter groups will read and discuss an interesting variety of authors and topics. Fiction groups will read books by Barbara Kingsolver, Jane Smiley, Ursula Le-Guin and others. Feminist nonfiction titles will in-

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clude Backlash, Women Respond to the Men's Movement, as well as the feminist classics listed in Ms.' 20th anniversary issue. A choice of daytime, evening, and week-end opportunities provide flexible meeting times. One month, one quarter, and year-long formats are available.

Southern Sisters has just published an annotated bibliography for abuse survivors and professionals who work with survivors. It includes sections on child sexual abuse books for adult survivors, male survivors, for children and parents, for partners of adult survivors, domestic-violence, rape, dating violence, sexual harassment, legal issues, pornography, cult abuse, self-defense, and a special section of books from a "Christian" perspective for clergy and counselors working with Christian clients. Southern Sisters, 411 Morris St., Durham NC 27701. Send a SASE if you'd like a copy.

Barb Wieser and Donna Niles attended ABA's Booksellers School when it was in Minneapolis. "It was pretty good," Barb said. "I left with a lot of great ideas, but I also found out that I knew a lot already, which is good to know, even if it made the School seem less useful." Feminist booksellers who are considering attending booksellers school might want to give Barb or Donna a call at Amazon Bookstore (Minneapolis).

Opening Books (Huntsville, Alabama) received a \$1,500 grant from Astraea — I *think* the grant is for expanding their library...

Brigit Books (and Tampa Tribune staff writer Suzie Siegel) get the award for making the most out of the recent Ms. and PW articles. Siegel did an interlocking set of articles called "Feminism on the Shelf" that featured five color pictures (Patty Calligahn in Brigit's bookstore, the cover of the Ms. 20th Anniversary issue, a collection of feminist buttons, sidelines from the bookstore and a photo of Ms. publisher Ruth Bower) an article about the bookstore, an article about Ms. and PW's list of the 20 most influential feminist books in the past 20 years. All on the front page of the Baylife section. Great photos, great articles, great placement now that's the kind of coverage all feminist bookstores should be getting - and a great example of using spin-off publicity. (See also the article on press releases and comments in this issues Trivia column for more on generating publicity for feminist bookstores....)



SisterSpirit (San Jose) has created a new committee structure to help the volunteer-run bookstore & coffeehouse to function more smoothly. SIS now has a bookstore committee, a promotions committee, a finance committee, an outside sales committee, a volunteer coordination committee and a coffeehouse committee. The facilitator or co-facilitator of each committee is also a member of the core committee which oversees everything.

SIS just purchased a new accounting program. It only handles businesses that gross up to \$20 million, so they hope they don't outgrow it too quickly.

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From The Minnesota Women's Press

Women and Children First (Chicago) reports that this has been a great season for readings. "Going to hear radical speakers is the thing to do in town this year," says W&CF's Ann Christophersen. A hundred people showed up to hear Sarah Weddington (A Question of Choice) on a rainy Monday night with very little support publicity (beyond the bookstore's normal promotion). Three hundred people showed up for Naomi Wolf (The Beauty Myth) 90% of whom were under thirty and 10% of whom were men. Three hundred people turned up for Clarissa Pinkola Estés (Women Who Run With the Wolves). W&CF had to turn people away for both events. Inspired by these crowds, W&CF obtained permission from the Chamber of Commerce to block off a side street and mount speakers outside for their upcoming Susan Faludi Backlash reading. W&CF will "warn" their neighbors of the upcoming event, the outdoor speakers, and the time that the program will be over. Neighborhood restaurants and other local businesses have also benefited from W&CF's successful programs.

Silver Moon Bookshop (London) is enjoying its new, expanded store space. (See photo in Bookstore News, last issue.) The expanded store stretches from number 64 to the original site at number 68, Charing Cross Road. In her grand re-opening speech, Glenda Jackson stressed how wonderful it is to have such a

It's Books In Print time!

The 1992-93 **Books In Print** is out. If you have a 1991-92 edition that you'd like to recycle or pass along to another bookstore, give us a call or drop us a postcard. If you need a set, do the same and we'll match up the "haves" and the "needs." The usual deal is that the store that receives the used BIP pays the postage or UPS (about \$40?) whichever is easier for the shipper. Some stores also charge a small amount for the used BIP.

This is one of the many ways that larger stores (including general independent stores) can help smaller stores in a big way for an insignificant cost (the price of a postcard and a few minutes boxing and addressing the books).

Why wait? Call now! FBN's answering machine takes calls 24-hours a day!

FBN, 415-626-1556, PO Box 882554, San Francisco CA 94188. wide-ranging display of the contribution women have made to the world.



Says co-founder Jane Chomeley "We set up the shop in 1984 to put women's writing and feminism on the high street where we knew they belonged. The response to the store over the years has been magnificent and we have many loyal customers. But it was getting increasingly uncomfortable in the original site. A baby buggy and any two women with back packs created a traffic jam on the main aisle and some days we could see women turning away because they literally could not get through the door."

Co-founder Sue Butterworth adds, "The lesbian and sexual politics sections in particular were just crying out for more space. Now we believe that we have created the largest lesbian department in the UK which underlines our commitment to lesbian publishing and bookselling."

Virago benefits from the expanded site with a dedicated Virago window and a Virago section which stocks every Virago in print. Other sections that are enjoying additional shelf space include Black and Asian Fiction, Psychology and Therapy, and Religion and Spirituality. Fall events in the expanded space include readings and/or signings with Jeannette Winterson, Michelle Roberts, and Alice Walker.

To celebrate their expansion, Silver Moon made a donation of £1000 to Feminist Audio Books. The money was raised by donations from customers in Silver Moon and by a gift in memory of Jane's aunt, Cicely Rhoda Chomeley, who was partially sighted. — Info from Silver Moon Quarterly and WIPLash. O

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If just one Firebrand title (there are 62 to choose from) was on the required reading list of just one women's studies course (there are some 3,000 nationwide) in every women's studies department (there are over 600 on NWSA's mailing list) **the following could happen:**

- 1. More readers would be exposed to Firebrand's award-winning feminist and lesbian literature ethnically diverse, varied in genre, risk-taking.
- 2. Increased textbook sales would move us toward the financial stability that allows our kind of innovative, progressive, feminist publishing to survive.
- Our greater visibility would help spread the words from independent women's presses* — book publishing coming out of, and giving back to, feminist political/ cultural/intellectual work.



Consider the Possibilities.

* Firebrand Books is one of several women-owned and controlled feminist publishing houses in the U.S. For more information contact your local women's bookstore or Feminist Bookstore News, PO Box 882554, San Francisco California 94188.

Firebrand Books, 141 The Commons, Ithaca New York 14850; 607-272-0000

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Evolution & Change: Feminist Scholarly & University Publishing

By Joan Catapano

Senior Sponsoring Editor, Indiana University Press

In reflecting on the history and evolution of feminist publishing — more specifically feminist scholarly publishing — I recalled a discussion I participated in five years ago at the annual meeting of the Association of American University Presses. In that presentation, I proclaimed the impact of feminist scholarship and the explosion of feminist publishing. At that conference, I discovered that almost every university press in the U.S. had jumped on the bandwagon of women's studies publishing. Today, however, in some quarters there is the sense that the feminist scholarly publishing engine is stalling. Not only do the number of feminist titles seem fewer, they often seem less interesting than in the past.

At Indiana University Press, the publication of feminist studies titles reached a peak in 1987 when 21 feminist books were issued. In 1992 Indiana will again publish 21 feminist titles. Although the number of feminist titles has not decreased, the overall number of titles on the list has increased by 30 books this year. These numbers confirm my sense that over the past few years feminist publishing at Indiana, and at other scholarly publishers, has reached a plateau or perhaps a crossroads. Although a publishing program can, I believe, have an impact on society and culture, that program in turn is influenced by social and political currents. Perhaps this publishing development is a reflection of the much-discussed phenomenon of postfeminism.

It was through such interaction during the heyday of the second feminist movement — the early seventies

— that Indiana's feminist publishing program was born. A book entitled *Suffer and Be Still*, published in 1972, set Indiana on its feminist publishing course.



From Antioch College Women's Studies pamphlet

Most of the current Press staff were not even involved with this auspicious event; the "midwife" for the birth of the Indiana's women's studies list was the former director, Bernard Perry. He was not necessarily a fem-

inist, but a man with eclectic interests and an open mind. He saw a special issue of the journal *Victorian Studies* which was devoted to Victorian women, and decided that it might make an interesting book. He approached the journal editor, Martha Vicinus (who has emerged as a leading feminist scholar), with this idea. As she later reported, "I wish I could take credit. It was a good idea." It certainly was a good idea for Indiana and for feminist publishing. That book is still in print twenty years later and has sold over 4,000 copies in cloth and 16,500 copies in paper.

While the number of feminist scholarly books has remained constant, we are witnessing an explosion of gender studies, gay studies, postcolonial studies, cultural studies, etc.

That successful beginning, however, did not mean that anyone at Indiana knew they were pioneering women's studies publishing - Suffer and Be Still was published as part of a Victorian studies list. Although employing new approaches and topics, it deceptively seemed to fit the mold of traditional scholarship. Its publication did not lead to a full-fledged women's studies publishing program. Indiana's second women's studies title did not appear until 1977 - five years later, and A Widening Sphere was a sort of sequel to Suffer and Be Still. Then, in 1978, Indiana published The Resisting Reader. This groundbreaking study was a more obvious attempt to redefine the literary canon. Judith Fetterley's reformulations of American literature were so innovative and original that no less a feminist than Norman Mailer called her analysis "a superb piece of criticism" - although he added, "We can hardly embrace on every one of your ideas."

1979 saw the publication of another volume consciously intended to challenge the literary status quo. *Shakespeare's Sisters*, edited by Sandra Gilbert and Susan Gubar, was a revisioning of nineteenth-century women writers. The next women's studies title, however, marked Indiana's conscious commitment to feminist publishing. *Pulling Our Own Strings*, a collection of feminist comic literature, appeared in 1980. For some scholarly publishers, this humor collection might have been a bit problematical (as it was for some individuals at Indiana) as a university press book. But the consciousness of the Press had been raised to the level that *Pulling Our Own Strings* was recognized as a cultural history of a social movement. The book was a tremendous success, becoming a cult favorite. (I still encounter people who tell me they have used material from the book to spice up lectures or speeches.) Fortunately, the book also sold very well.

With four very successful women's studies titles on the list, the entire Press was becoming aware of the importance and demand for women's studies books. From that time, Indiana, through aggressive acquisitions by a core of feminist editors and scholars, steadily increased its women's studies titles from four in 1981 to 15 in 1986, to 21 in 1992. This growth in women's studies publishing was pervasive throughout the scholarly publishing world. My own informal survey of university presses in 1986 revealed that 6% of all titles published were women's studies titles. The percentage ranged from a high of 12% at Indiana to a low of 3% at some presses. Indiana reached a peak of 17% in 1987. This exponential growth, at Indiana and elsewhere, was always nurtured by the presence of feminists in key positions in the publishing hierarchy. Their advocacy, whether in editorial or marketing and sales, was validated by the financial success of the books published. Without strong sales, many male "feminist" press directors would have been much less enthusiastic and committed to publishing feminist studies.



In 1987 feminist titles so dominated the Indiana list that the Press received anonymous hate mail accusing us of lowering academic standards and advocating extreme political positions. Although that criticism has not altered our commitment to feminist publishing, numbers seem to indicate a relative decline in the quantity of feminist titles on the Indiana list and, indeed, on the list of most scholarly publishers. At first glance, feminist publishing appears to have been superceded by the current wave of multiculturalism. While the

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number of feminist scholarly books has remained constant over the last few years, we are witnessing an explosion of new genres — gender studies, gay studies, postcolonial studies, cultural studies, etc. These categories, for example, will account for over 6% of Indiana's 1992 title output. This phenomenom is causing concern in some quarters. Some feminists, seeing the declining prominence of women's or feminist studies in bookstores and publishers' catalogs, look with fear and anger at the emergence of multiculturalism and its many manifestations.



My own belief and hope is that these phenomena are examples of the success of feminist theory and scholarship. Early feminist publishing rediscovered our female heroes and recovered women's cultural contributions. This early scholarship, for the most part, rarely addressed issues of differences - racial, economic, sexual, cultural. These studies dealt almost exclusively with the concerns of Western, middle-class, white women. Books being published today, employing various analytical tools, are attempting to examine the situation of all women — and all people. This development reflects attempts by feminist scholarship to be more universal, more inclusive, to escape the constraints of patriarchal categories, to "deconstruct" patriarchal concepts. Some critics, however, claim that in this process some feminist scholars and writers are losing sight of feminist goals. In "playing" theory games, critics say, women scholars get so caught up in mastering a theory or rhetoric that they fail to realize they are participating in the creation of other hierarchies — hives of queen theorists maintained by the workers/teachers and activists. This criticism is partially true. At the same time, however, some feminist theorists are addressing critical issues of differences and speaking to everyone (feminists and non-feminists) in language understandable to all. The publishing of theoretical multicultural texts does not signal the decline of feminist publishing; these works are the fruit of maturing feminist ideas and scholarship. Rather than fearing or attacking these writers, readers should examine their discourse and measure this work against feminist goals. Some of these formulations will be useful; others should be discarded and ignored. Much of the current cultural theory is well-intentioned; some of it is crass opportunism; a good deal of it is a little bit of both. In this arena of contesting ideas, knowledge is advanced. The situation of feminist publishing today is not one of contraction or cooptation, but one of expansion. Feminist publishing is evolving to address the broader agenda of an inclusive feminism.

Joan Catapano has worked with Indiana University's feminist publishing program since 1980 and now serves as a senior sponsoring editor. Current president of WISP, Catapano also aquires books for culture studies, lesbian & gay studies, and African-American studies.



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Women In Scholarly Publishing: Study Reveals Sex Discrimination & Sexual Harassment

By Joan Milligan Coeditor, WISP Newsletter

The results of the first career status survey of women in scholarly publishing, long awaited by WISP members, were presented at the AAUP annual meeting in Chicago in June by Albert N. Greco, Associate Dean of the Gallatin Division* and the Director of Publishing Studies program at New York University.

Among the findings:

Although women comprise 70% of scholarly publishing's work force, they hold 14% of its director-ships.

Begun in 1979, Women in Scholarly Publishing (WISP) was formed to facilitate the mutual exchanges of ideas and assistance, and exists as a national organization through which its members can act in concert on issues that affect their welfare. WISP has a strong political focus on issues that relate directly to women's salaries and benefits, career development opportunities, the use of bias-free language, and full representation of our presses and within our professional associations. WISP's goal is to facilitate the career development and professional advancement of women and minorities in scholarly publishing and to achieve equity in salary and rank for its members.

For further information about WISP contact: Jessica Philyaw, c/o University of North Carolina Press, PO Box 2288, Chapel Hill NC 27515-2288; 919-966-3561. While women hold 59% of the upper management category jobs, this category nonetheless includes what could be best described as second-level titles with limited authority to hire, fire, discipline, promote, or determine wages.



Twenty-eight percent of women surveyed said they had experienced some form of discrimination on the job; 26% revealed that they had been the subject of sexual or some other form of harassment on the job.

Some respondents, apparently afraid that their responses would not be sufficiently anonymous, removed an identification number on their surveys; the percentage of this group reporting discrimination on the job jumped to 50%, with complaints about harassment at 53%.

The Survey

The project began in the summer of 1990 when the Gallatin Division agreed to conduct the survey on behalf of WISP at no charge. WISP was asked to pay only the mailing costs.

Quotes from the Surveys

"[Discrimination here is] more in the nature of a chronic disease than catastrophic illness. I have been in meetings where I have asked a male colleague to raise an issue for me so I could be sure it would be heard. I have had to fight for financial responsibilities; while I have repeatedly (here and elsewhere) made sales income and budget projections that are accurate, they are always viewed as a fluke or lucky guesses, etc. Unwanted advances and lewd propositions, usually at meetings and conferences. Something happens to married men out of town."

"If a woman wants to . . . get ahead, then you act cute, dress cute, never show anger, and invest time in keeping the good old boys jollied. There are countless examples of sexual harassment around here, from "X looks so cute today I just want to chase her around the office" (from a department head) to, in the middle of a department meeting, "How many penises do you count here," said by Y [a senior manager] to a female department head while holding up a [photograph that could be used in a book]. The message is: "humor us if you want to get ahead around here." As a witness to these events, I have heard the message loud and clear. These women do want to get ahead, and they put up with this."

"Not sexual harassment, but rather baiting about my beliefs about gender equality, affirmative action, [and] equal opportunities for women. When your boss baits you about an issue he knows is important to you, there is not an equal power relationship going on in the argument."

"Many men I work with here have made sexual advances in the office, especially when I first began work here. I have never made a formal complaint, but have threatened these men on my own. Now they don't even talk to me."

"In this office there are three male employees; three out of the four highest salaries in the company belong to those three men.... This is discouraging, if not to say debilitating." O But because WISP could not afford mailing costs of a complete census of the 2,940 final count, a random group was selected by choosing every third name on the alphabetical list. This list of 980 names proved to be a representative distribution both by gender and geography.

A total of 483 usable surveys were returned, representing a 51% return rate. While this percentage cannot produce definitive scientific conclusions, the Gallatin Division said that since this was the first known independent survey of university press employees the results are nonetheless unquestionably of interest to anyone seeking insight into the status of women in scholarly publishing. Follow-up surveys are planned.

Identification numbers were placed on the surveys so researchers could break down statistics by region and so that those who did not respond to the first mailing could be mailed a second questionnaire. Twenty-seven surveys were returned with the identification number removed. These surveys reported a higher level of discrimination, which probably explains their desire not to be identified.

Because WISP was specifically concerned to find out about the status of *women* in scholarly publishing, and because of time constraints, the following statistics are limited to the responses of females only.



Demographic Profile

The average respondents were in their late 30s, married, with fewer than one child, and white. However, there was a large concentration of single women in the Middle Atlantic region.

The vast majority of all female respondents hold a B.A. degree. Average individuals in the Middle Atlantic, the South, and the Far West had completed some graduate work as well. Academic majors were primarily in the liberal arts and humanities. Males in the survey had identical academic majors. It appears that educational

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Per	centage man	of wome agerial a	n in scho nd polic	olarly put y-making	olishing r authorit	reporting y	
Region	Supervise employees	Hire, fire & promote	Delegate work	Determine salaries	Editorial decisions	Financial decisions	Policy- making
New England	57	40	63	33	33	23	27
Middle Atlantic	53	36	71	32	26	35	34
Midwest	63	41	69	31	26	37	41
South	76	41	78	37	22	43	46
Southwest	55	24	76	28	31	34	31
Far West	57	38	76	29	43	26	31

background alone does not explain logically or statistically why so many men and so few women hold the top positions at these presses, Greco said.

Professional Development

Women hold 11 directorships, men hold 68.

Women comprise 59% of the "upper-management" category. These individuals have some ability to determine publishing, editorial, and financial policy at their presses. In the middle-management category, women hold 75% of the jobs. This category includes those who follow but do not create policy (for example, assistant editors, reprint coordinators, assistant marketing managers). Women comprise 70% of the third and lowest category: mostly clerical positions.

Anyone familiar with top management positions at Fortune 500 companies will not be shocked with the results of this study, said Greco. However, universities are not large industrial firms; they have traditionally employed a significant number of men and women in a variety of faculty, staff, and administrative positions. In addition American universities have long been active in developing effective affirmative action hiring procedures. How can one examine these statistical results and not wonder how these presses, which report after all to a top level academic or administrative officer at each university, have not been able to find and promote women into the upper echelons of management? Clearly this is a key issue that needs additional research, analysis, and discussion.

A large majority of female press employees in the Southwest (90%), Canada (83%), and the Midwest (78%) do attend meetings paid for by their press. The questionnaires did not reveal why lesser numbers of women from New England, the Middle Atlantic, and the Far West were unable to obtain this level of support (averaging about 55%).

The survey also revealed that overall there is remarkably little contact with peers at other presses, which, Greco said, must have some impact on the job mobility and career development of many women. Regular professional contact was reported as being

25% had been the object of sexual or other forms of harassment on the job.

the highest in the Midwest (57%) and South (54%) and lowest in the Southwest (13%). Regular social contact was reported by an average of only 18% overall.

However, mentoring has a strong tradition, Greco found, with an average of 61% saying they have a mentor. Equally important, said Greco, is the fact that a clear majority of the mentors are females, which could signify that women have been compelled to work together to make progress through the ranks into middle- and upper-management.

Sexual Harassment and Discrimination

Women reporting some form of discrimination on the job numbered 101 (28%). Ninety-three women



movement in the U.S. should be a standard resource for years to come." -PUBLISHERS WEEKLY

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WINNER OF THE FOURTH ANNUAL **NEW JERSEY COMMITTEE FOR THE** HUMANITIES BOOK AWARD

(26%) said that they had been the subject of sexual or some other form of harassment on the job.

On a regional basis, almost four out of every ten women in the Midwest reported incidents of discrimination on the job; the South and New England followed closely behind (33 and 30%, respectively), with the remaining regions reporting averages of 24%.

Incidents of sexual harassment or some other form of discrimination were reportedly the highest in the Southwest (34%). The lowest rate was reported in Canada (17%).

What was most upsetting was the fact that the individuals who removed their identification number [and therefore cannot be categorized by region] reported the highest frequency of discrimination on the job (50%) and sexual or other forms of harassment (53%).

A section containing respondents thoughts on the status of women in scholarly publishing, primarily with regard to discrimination, is found in the sidebar on page 24.



Recommendations

After studying the results of the statistics, Greco offered WISP these recommendations: continue to develop the mentoring program; initiate an intensive scholarly book and journal publishing management training program, advanced professional certificate program, or graduate degree program; inaugurate a scholarly publishing resume referral service that directors or top university administrators could access to fill vacancies at a press; develop a national campaign to attract more minorities; and seek outside funding to subsidize the costs of launching these programs.

Joan Milligan is Assistant Production Manager at Duke University Press.

Excerpted with permission from the Newsletter of Women in Scholarly Publishing.

* The Gallatin Division is the publishing studies section of NYU.

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Compiled by Carol Seajay

University of Illinois Bars Feminist Professor from Teaching

Long-time feminist activist and scholar Pauline Bart (*Stopping Rape: Successful Survival Strategies*) has been barred from teaching by the Dean of Liberal Letters, Arts and Sciences at the University of Illinois (Chicago). Bart is a tenured professor and is three years away from retirement.

Bart, who has been teaching women's studies for over 20 years, was charged with sexism and racism by a male student after she stated in class that she would not allow male speech to silence and invalidate women's experiences. Disregarding the fact that a university investigation cleared Bart of all charges, the Dean barred Bart from teaching both undergraduates and graduate students and from supervising independent studies. In a letter to Bart, he stated that she took too "maternal" and "therapeutic" an attitude toward her students and said that she would not be allowed "ever" to teach undergraduates again.

Bart's comment was made last fall in an undergraduate class on Gender and Society. The student who made the charges frequently made comments during class discussion derogating women's perception of male violence and, when one woman student who said that she had been raped defended the conviction of boxer Mike Tyson on the grounds that a woman has the right to say "no" at any point, stated that he didn't know what the difference was between sex and rape anyway. A number of students in the class complained to Bart that they were silenced by his comments and Bart responded, in class, by stating that she would not allow male speech to silence and invalidate women's experience. In private discussion, after this student asked if the remark was directed at him, Bart suggested that he transfer to another class. Instead he stayed and a number of women stopped attending the class.

Students, faculty, and feminists have rallied around Bart at this time, including a Chilean student who told Bart that this kind of silencing reminded him of the treatment of professors in Chile under the military dictatorship.

Bart's defense committee, the Don't Kill the Messenger Fund, is raising money for her legal expenses. For more information or to make donations (make checks out to "Don't Kill the Messenger"), contact Peggy Byrne, 4669 N. Manor Ave., Chicago IL 60625.

— Information from off our backs.

Brown University Inaugurates Lesbian & Gay Collection

Brown University's John Hay Library houses one of the world's major collections of American and Canadian poetry and drama, including an extensive collection of gay and lesbian writing. The John Hay Library is now expanding its focus to collect the archives of lesbian and gay writers in general. The first major acquisition will be the papers and manuscripts of John Preston. Brown is particularly interested in documenting the AIDS epidemic and gay and lesbian culture at this time of change.

News from the

University of Minnesota Press

In 1992, the University of Minnesota Press continues its tradition of publishing groundbreaking books in women's studies. Leading the list are two books that deal with women and the media. *Private Screenings: Television and the Female Consumer* by Lynn Spigel and Denise Mann is a fascinating collection of articles dealing with topics from images of women in early television to *Cagney and Lacey* and *Kate and Allie. The*

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Movie of the Week: Private Stories/Public Events by Elayne Rapping argues that "made-for-television movies probe serious issues better than most other TV genres" (Publishers Weekly). Movies such as Roe vs. Wade and The Burning Bed are discussed in a feminist framework.

Minnesota has also published two new books, The Alexander Plays and Intersecting Boundaries: The Theatre of Adrienne Kennedy, by and about Adrienne Kennedy, the Obie-winning playwright whose work has been central to the development of both Black and avantgarde theatre since the 1960s.



Paula Clayton

Also of interest is De/Colonizing the Subject: The Politics of Gender in Women's Autobiography by Sidonie Smith and Julia Watson, which includes a discussion of the work of Isak Dinesen, Beryl Markham, Native American Mabel McKay and Marguerite Duras as well as autobiographical narratives of Australian Aborigines. Framing History: The Rosenberg Story and the Cold War by Virginia Carmichael provides a provocative new reading of the Rosenberg story which is infused with a feminist perspective. Reading the Body Politic by Amy Kaminsky is an insightful reflection on the practice of feminist criticism in the context of Latin American literature. Megalopolis: Contemporary Cultural Sensibilities by Celeste Olalquiaga is an examination of how personal experience is shaped by the act of living in today's huge, ruined cities. The discussion ranges from phone sex to snuff films to cyborgs to kitsch.

These books join the landmark books published by the University of Minnesota Press in the past — The Newly Born Woman by Hélène Cixous and Catherine Clément, Surviving Sexual Violence by Liz Kelly, Unruly Practices: Power, Discourse and Gender in Contemporary Social Theory by Nancy Fraser, and Daring to be Bad: Radical Feminism in America 1967-1975 by Alice Echols. — Info from University of Minnesota

Columbia Editor Resigns: Charges Censorship

Richard Mohr has resigned as editor of Columbia University's lesbian and gay book series, charging nine university presses with censorship in their treatment of his forthcoming book *Gay Ideas: Outing and Other Controversies.*

Mohr, who founded the Columbia series "Between Men — Between Women: Lesbian and Gay Studies," is a professor of philosophy at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. His criticisms, published in the July 15 *Chronicle of Higher Education*, stem from his efforts to find a publisher for *Gay Ideas*.

Mohr writes that the book, despite being enthusiastically received by referees, was rejected by presses on the basis of illustrations for a chapter analyzing homoerotic art.

Mohr states, "...the images caused the manuscript to crash and burn through university presses. I found that the presses no longer fulfill their responsibility to present intellectually challenging, if unpopular, ideas."

Finally, Beacon Press agreed to publish the book, only to have trouble finding a printer.

Columbia has replaced Mohr with co-editors: Lillian Faderman and Larry Gross. $-AM \odot$

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Selling extbooks

By Sandi Torkildson with Carol Seajay and Ann Morse

There's no way around it - it stinks. Sandi Torkildson of A Room of One's Own in Madison, WI, hates selling textbooks. "It's not a pleasant job. It's a lot of public relations. And when you make mistakes, you really pay." Textbook sales steal away selling space, pre-empt all staff vacations for the first two weeks of term and require much energy tracking down missing orders and suddenly out-of-stock books. Professors have been known to change orders after Sandi has already received requested books. Students, many of whom will complain to you about the price of textbooks, have been known to simply not buy a book which you jumped through hoops to order. And the number of bad checks always increases.

So why, twice a year, does Sandi bother to take on such a project? \$\$\$. "You do make a lot of money," Sandi says. Textbook sales boost cash flow during two of the store's slowest months: September and January. They also bring in the students, professors and librarians who may become A Room of One's Own most loyal customers. "We establish a connection with the university community," Sandi says. "As difficult as they can be to deal with they do have a lot of money to buy books." And they do hold conferences, and make referrals, and ...

So, for booksellers interested in tackling a financially rewarding challenge, Sandi offers some tips on ordering and selling textbooks.

Booksellers should consider a couple of factors before deciding whether to sell textbooks: Sandi believes that to ensure success, your store needs to be within walking distance of campus. Also, you must have room to not only display the books for six to eight weeks, but to store them before putting them out on the floor. Finally, believing that clarity and communication are keys to ordering and selling textbooks, Sandi strongly suggests designating one person as the liaison between professors and the store. That person must be constantly on top of textbooks

sales, and willing to go to great lengths to set up and maintain good relations. (Sandi once offered to pay students' photocopying costs when a publisher failed to ship a title on time.) If you do it halfway you run the risk of earning a poor reputation in the university community.

When it comes to soliciting textbook orders from professors, A Room of One's Own relies mainly on word of mouth. Sandi concentrates on talking with professors in the university's women's studies department and related courses.

"It's helpful to find some connections," she says.

It's also helpful to start by focusing on smaller courses, Sandi advises. You'll have to lay out a lot less

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money if you order for classes with 18 to 25 students, or seminars with 15 students, than ordering for a 300-student course. In addition, professors are more likely to have accurate enrollment figures and you will be less likely to get stuck with cases and cases of books. Starting small "will give you time to have experience without making drastic mistakes," Sandi says.

Another goal when setting up textbook sales is to try for exclusive orders. If the university bookstore carries the same book, most students will buy it there. Some booksellers accept non- exclusive orders, hoping to establish a rapport with the professors and eventually net an exclusive order. That route, however, requires space and money for books that might not sell.

Once you have a commitment from a professor to order books, it's helpful to know as much about the class as possible: In what order will books be taught? Is the class always full? Is the class taught often (meaning are there many used books around)? Is the professor strict about students reading the texts? Does the professor over- or underestimate class enrollment? A

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great source for this information is the department secretary. "That's a really good relationship to establish," Sandi says.

To record this information and more, Sandi created sheets that track required and recommended titles, the number of books ordered and sold, and course enrollment. (See table on page 30.) The sheets have proven themselves invaluable ordering tools.

Occasionally, a professor won't have a reading list prepared when Sandi is ready to order. In that case, she tries to have them nail down the first two or three titles in the course. That way she doesn't have to hold up orders for an entire class. At other times, Sandi has even helped professors choose titles or particular editions. "Get them to use the edition you want," Sandi recommends. You might find it's easier to get a certain edition, and on better terms, than the one they suggest. "Sometimes you have to do a little research, but it's worth it."



Sandi cautions that once in a while, a professor will go ahead and change a syllabus without your knowledge, sticking you with cases of unsellable books. This situation may call on all your powers of restraint: "You can't get real angry at the professors," Sandi says. "You can't burden them with your financial problems or they'll say, 'I don't want to be guilttripped and I won't order from you.' But you do have to be firm and make them understand that they have to notify you. It puts you in a bad spot financially."

Sandi starts ordering in August. She always calls publishers personally and confirms availability, price and credit policy and asks to have books shipped UPS or, for big orders, by truck. Always check price, Sandi says, because oftentimes the prices aren't already on the books, and you won't necessarily receive the invoice in the university press book shipments. Also, be careful to check credit policies so you don't get stuck with credit from a publisher from which you rarely order. (In some cases, a publisher will offer cash in-

Tips from booksellers on how to get textbook orders

Personal connection is what gets the orders. Initially we sent letters to women's studies professorss telling them that we were willing to order textbooks. That got us a couple of orders.

We'll take the books to the classes or the students come in and pick them up themselves. We get more money quicker with the first option which is good, but the students don't come and find the store and browse...

The negative side of selling texbooks is that it really strains our budget the first month of the term — that reduces what we have for the rest of the store, but the cash flow works out in the end and that's the "pro."

Susan Peterman Bold Print/Winnipeg

We talk to professors and instructors and Teaching Assistants who come into the store and tell them we do course books and encourage them to order from us. We focus our attention on the women's studies department and put fliers in their mail boxes reminding them that we sell books for classes. We're also on the university's computer bulletin board but I don't know that we've gotten any orders from that.

Last year we did a mailing to 200 faculty with press releases, fliers and course book order forms and got zero response from it. Basically it's personal contact that works best. We also sell books for some other odd courses (English Comp) that are taught by feminist and/or lesbian instructors who want to support the store.

We give a 20% book discount to instructors who order their books from us and really coddle them. This year the Intro to Women's Studies classes used a course packet rather than ordering books — so our course books sales dropped by 20%. But our non-course book sales were up 70%, so we're OK. We pay university-town rent and need to get university-town sales to pay it! Kate Burkhardt

Common Language/Ann Arbor

See Tips, page 32

Tips, continued from page 31

Smith is the closest school. The school puts a lot of pressure on professors to use their bookstores. A few professors with tenure have said "No" and order with us anyway but there are plenty of other people who can't do that. Sometimes we'll take an order even though it's not an exclusive order. In that case we don't sell as many copies of the books — but we don't feel guilty if we run out, either!

Madelaine Zakik Lunaria/Amherst

We're on very good terms with our local women's studies department. We work closely with them on a number of things and sell books at special events they sponsor, such as their recent Women and Addiction Conference.

The women's studies department here encourages professors to support minority-owned bookstores so we're getting more and more orders, including orders from other departments.

We also offer some services that the university bookstore doesn't: We'll go to class the first night to sell the books. We'll also use our computer to put together suggested reading lists for classes on any topic the instructor wants (such as children's books on abuse) so that the class has more books to choose from. And we'll stock books from their suggested reading lists.

Katelyn

Dreams & Swords/Indianapolis

The instructors come to us now, because we do a really good job for them and because of our reputation for getting even the "hard to get" books.

In the beginning it was a lot of footwork calling people, doing mailings, and giving out business cards everywhere I went. Get the names of the people who make the decisions, find the right ones to call. Go to events. If there's a lecture series, go to it and meet people and give them your business cards. Then follow through on what you promise. People call us now. It's almost more than we can handle — that's my favorite "problem."

Harriet Clare Dreams & Swords/Indianapolis stead of credit after six months, so be sure to ask.) Again, if there are any problems, call the professors. They can change the syllabus if a book is out of stock. Sandi even checks in with professors if a book seems unusually pricey.

It's extremely important when selling textbooks to order the full amount, particularly if the store has an exclusive order. "Don't underorder," Sandi says. "You can't restock quickly and you'll be perceived as doing a bad job. It's much better to return." (Note: One exception to this case is if you know you can get the book quickly through a wholesaler.) If in doubt about how much to order, Sandi will call the department office to check on class enrollment figures. When A Room of One's Own discovers it has a large overstock, it returns the books right away, before the bill is due. Also, never mark textbooks above the suggested retail price. The university store will undersell you and you'll look bad, Sandi warns.



Sandi keeps all textbook orders separate so she can easily track which books have arrived, which have disappeared into the publishers' order void. Most titles arrive in two to three weeks.

Even though the books arrive in August, A Room of One's Own usually doesn't display them until the first day of classes. It's a form of self-protection. "Be aware that the local textbook store will not like you competing for textbook business," Sandi says. "The university store has even been known to send spies to check out our store and then air-freight in texts to sell. They'd rather lose money and undermine us than let A Room of One's Own get the sales.... They think that if they make it as difficult as possible we might stop." Though not displaying titles until the first day of classes may cause a few problems with people who want to buy books in advance, Sandi has found negative reactions can be avoided by explaining the situation to professors and students.

A Room of One's Own generally starts returning books after about six weeks. Most textbook publish-

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ers will wait longer for bills than trade publishers, so you can pay after returns. If you return before 60 days you can pay the balance with a note saying "Returned _____ books worth \$_____ on (date)." On the other hand, many university presses require payment before you can return, so you will need good credit and cash flow.

In cases of overstocked titles, Sandi might decide to return books after two weeks (the end of the period during which students can drop or add classes). In that case, she's always sure to let the professor know, and to keep one or two copies of each title on hand in case a student loses a book.

A final area of textbook selling to consider is buying back used books. Sandi buys back only what she knows is being used again, and she never buys back after school starts. "Then there's too much to deal with, and there's the problem of buying back stolen books." She's also very careful about buying back titles that she would never normally stock. "I make damn sure they will be using that book before I buy it back," she says.

A Room of One's Own buys back used textbooks (which the store bought at 20% discount) for half the cover price if the books are in great condition. If the book is in good condition, the store pays one-third the cover price; books in fair condition fetch one-quarter the cover price. Sandi then prices the book at 30% of what the store paid for it. For example, the store would pay \$10 for a used \$20 textbook in great condition. The store would then sell that book for \$13.



The store buys back used trade books (which the store bought at 40% discount) for one-third the cover price if the books are in good condition; one-quarter if in fair condition. Sandi then marks up those books 50% of the buy-back price.

Well, that's a quick overview of "Selling Textbooks 101." Any questions? Sandi invites booksellers to call her at the store at 608-257-7888. O

Women and Self-Help Culture: Reading Between the Lines

Wendy Simonds 267 pp. Paper, \$14.00; Cloth, \$35.00

Lucy Stone: Speaking Out for Equality

Andrea Moore Kerr 416 pp. 9 b & w illus. Paper \$15.95; Cloth \$43.00

Women and Substance Use

Elizabeth Ettorre 200 pp. Paper, \$15.00; Cloth, \$37.00

Feminism and American Literary

History: Essáys by Nina Baym 260 pp. Paper \$16.00; Cloth \$45.00

Mixed Feelings: Feminism, Mass Culture, and Victorian Sensationalism Ann Cvetkovich 250 pp. Paper, \$16.00; Cloth, \$42.00 **Telling Glances: Voyeurism in the French Novel** *Dorothy Kelly* 260 pp. Paper \$18.00; Cloth \$50.00



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and Carol Gilligan listened to 100 girls who were negotiating the rough terrain of adolescence. Their groundbreaking study invites us to listen along with them, to witness the transition from self-knowledge to uncertainty, from independence to compliance.

"Gilligan's first book, In a Different Voice . . . was a land-

mark in psychology . . . This latest study, Meeting at the Crossroads shows that she and her colleagues continue to do original and incisive work." -Carolyn G. Heilbrun,

New York Times Book Review



vn Mikel Brown & Carol Gilligar

AT THE



Carol Gilligan

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By Ann Christophersen

In the last issue of *FBN*, I covered those presses that had the best and the most to offer in the way of fall and winter books of interest to feminist bookstores. There are plenty of other strong titles to consider: those are the ones I want to bring to your attention now.

Leading the lists of this round are Oxford, University Presses of New England, and the University of Michigan. Taking them in order, Oxford is bringing out a book called Vita and Virginia: The Work and Friendship of V. Sackville-West and Virginia Woolf (Suzanne Raitt, \$12.95 pb, 019-8122-722, Jan.). Capitalizing on the interest in Vita generated by her husband, Harold, and her lover, Violet Trefusis, this book is part biography, part criticism, and a look at the "relations between sexuality and feminism and modernism." It also interprets the relationship between Vita and Virginia and their work "in light of their experience as married lesbians." I am piqued to read this after watching Portrait of a Marriage; I trust others will be also. Coming in January also is Glenna Mathews' history of 350 years of the American women's movement out of the home into the public arena. The Rise of Public Woman: Woman's Power and Woman's Place in the United States (019-5054601) is only available in cloth at \$25, but because it occupies a unique place due to the breadth of its scope, there will surely be a few buyers. Also in the history category is Divided Houses: Gender and the Civil War (\$14.95, 0-19508-034-3), by Catherine Clinton and Nina Silber. We get requests from time to time on women and the Civil War, and besides Mary Chestnut, there are only a few other titles to offer. Besides helping to fill that gap, this one makes a special contribution by looking at how the war transformed gender roles. Two other titles from Oxford you may already have since they are September and October's books, respectively, are Glenda Riley's **Divorce: An American Tradition** (\$10.95, 0-19-507912-4), a history of marital breakdown from colonial times to the present, and the third edition of **World Human Rights Guide** (Charles Humana, \$11.95, 0-19507-926-4), an up-to-date survey of the human rights records of more than 100 countries.



University Presses of New England has made a smart move in its readers series: it has switched to paperback editions. The volumes of selected poetry and prose of Nancy Willard and Rosellen Brown did reasonably well in cloth, but I expect the upcoming A Lynn Sharon Schwartz Reader (\$16.95, 0-87451-5912) will do really well in paper. Also strong on New England's list, I hope, is the collection of essays by Ellen Willis coming in January, No More Nice Girls: Countercultural Essays (\$22.95 cl, 0-8195-5202X). I am sometimes overly optimistic about the possibility of strong sales of essay collections in cloth (Caryl Rivers' More Joy Than Rage only sold two copies here of the four I ordered), but this really should go. It is Willis' first collection since Beginning to See the Light and her insight and challenges to the backlash of the '80s will find an audience because of her reputation. Another really interesting book from UPNE is Barred: Women, Writing, and Political Detention (Barbara Harlow, \$17.95 pb, 0-8195-6258-0, Jan.). It is the first literary and cultural analysis of writing by and about women who are political prisoners, examining works from Northern Ireland, Israel, El Salvador, Egypt, South Africa, and the United States. And for the Drama criticism section,

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lew and Recent Titles

St. Martin's Press and Berg Publishers

St. Martin's Press

Decoding Women's Magazines

From Mademoiselle to Ms. Ellen McCracken

for reading contemporary women's magazines, utilizing theory from the fields of literature, sociology and linguistics.

1992 • 288pp. • ISBN 0-312-07971-0 • \$18.95 pb

Feminism and Linguistic Theory

Second Edition

Deborah Cameron

1992 • 257pp. • ISBN 0-312-08376-9 • \$19.95 pb

St. Martin's Press 175 Fifth Ave. New York, NY 10010 1-800-221-7945

Berg Publishers

Dress and Gender

Making and Meaning

Edited by Ruth Barnes and Joanne B. Eicher This study develops a series of critical methods Costume is one of the most significant markers of gender identity, yet is only rarely explored in depth. This volume addresses the relationship between gender and dress, covering a variety of ethnographic areas reaching from Asia, Europe and Africa to North and South America.

Jan • 304pp. • ISBN 0-85496-865-2 • \$19.95 pb

Willa Cather

Writing at the Frontier

Jamie Ambrose

"For any lover of Cather." -Booklist 1992 • 188pp. • ISBN 0-85496-668-4 • \$17.50 pb

Berg Publishers titles are exclusively distributed in North America by St. Martin's Press.

The Anthropology of Breast-Feeding

Natural Law or Social Construct Vanessa A. Maher

This volume offers an "ethnography" of breastfeeding by examining cultural norms and practices in a number of European and non-European societies.

1992 • 196pp. • ISBN 0-85496-537-8 • \$14.95 pb

Women and Space

Ground Rules and Social Maps Revised, Second Edition Edited by Shirley Ardener

. fascinating in the variety of accounts of the different settings in and through which women experience the world." - Journal of Environmental Psychology

Dec • 240pp • ISBN 0-85496-728-1 • \$16.95 pb

Women in Developing Economies

Making Visible the Invisible Edited by L. Massiah et al, Unesco Nov • 320pp • ISBN 0-85496-346-4 • \$22.50 pb Berg/Unesco Comparative Studies

you might want a copy or two of Gender in Performance: The Presentation of Difference in the Performing Arts (edited by Laurence Senelick, \$22.95 pb, 0-87451-604-8), an anthology dealing with how gender is constructed before an audience and framed by the idea that "gender is performance."



The lead title from the University of Michigan for us is Discourse of Sexuality: From AIDS to Aristotle (Donna E. Stanton, ed., \$13.95, 0-472-064-77-0). Its contributors include Judith Butler, Catharine MacKinnon, and Teresa de Lauretis as well as a number of male academics. Critical essays on May Sarton at \$32.50 (That Great Sanity, Swartlander and Mumford, eds., 0-472-102-591, Dec.) may be stretching it, unless you have a Sarton scholar or zealous fan in mind. In Justice, Gender, and Affirmative Action (\$12.95, 0-472-06464-9), authors Susan D. Clayton and Faye J. Crosby pose the question, "Is affirmative action fair and necessary" and answer that, indeed it is both. Finally, for your poetry section, there is a new collection of poems

from Jamaican poet Lorna Goodison, Selected Poems (\$12.95, 0-472-06493-2), which continues the tradition of Caribbean women writers "confronting the pain and celebrating the spirit of country people in language that slides effortlessly between the codes of standard English and Jamaican Creole."

Syracuse has three interesting books. Peace as a Women's Issue: A History of the U.S. Movement for World Peace and Women's Rights (Harriet Hyman Alonso, \$17.95 pb, 0-8156-0-2693, Feb.) provides an analysis of the connections between traditional feminist issues and opposition to war as well as a history of the organizations that have linked pacifism with women's equality. A related title is One Woman's Passion for Peace and Freedom: The Life of Mildred Scott Olmstead (Margaret Hope Bacon, \$29.95 cl, 0-8156-0270-7, Dec.). A protege of Jane Addams, Olmstead devoted her life to building the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. Another history written, like Peace as a Women's Issue, from a feminist perspective is Women in Spiritual and Communitarian Societies in the United States (Chmielewski, Kern, and Klee- Hartzell, eds., \$17.95 pb, 0-8156-2569-3), which explores the question of



whether experimental communities have offered women a better life. Some of the communities looked at are Owenite, Shaker, Oneida, Twin Oaks Community, and The Farm. A novel that women in experimental communities might have been drawn to is **The Unpredictable Adventure: A Comedy of Woman's Independence**, by Claire Myers Spotswood Ownes (\$16.95 pb, 0-8156-25839). Written in 1935, it is a complex allegory that exposes male privilege and power and provides a utopian alternative.

Rutgers has two books coming in December plus two recently out that I want to mention. The December titles include one by literary historian Nina Baym, a collection of essays, Feminism and American Literary History (\$16, 0-8135-18555). And historian Andrea Moore Kerr has written a new biography of abolitionist and women's rights activist Lucy Stone (Lucy Stone: Speaking Out for Equality, \$15.95, 0-8135-18601). Recently published are Women and the Self-Help Culture: Reading Between the Lines (Wendy Simonds, \$15 pb, 0-8135-1864-4), a look at what the phenomenon of self-help reading reveals about gender relations, and Elizabeth Ettorre's Women and Substance Abuse (\$15 pb, 0-8135-18664-4), a feminist analysis of the way women are misunderstood and mistreated in the field of substance abuse.



University of Illinois has one upcoming book and two recently published ones most feminist stores will want to have. The first sounds like a solid contribution to the field of lesbian psychology, **On Intimate Terms: The Psychology of Difference in Lesbian Relationships** (Beverly Burch, \$26.95 cl, 0-252-01801-x, Jan.). Among other interesting observations the Oakland clinician makes is that there is a special attraction between primary lesbians and lesbians who were formerly heterosexual. She also argues that there is an "internal logic" to lesbian relationships that rely on the interplay of psychosexual differences between women and are not patterned after heterosexual relationships. The previously published titles of note are **The Challenge of Feminist Biography: Writing The Lives of Modern American Women** (Alpern, Antler, Perry, and Scobie, eds., \$14.95, 0-252-06292-2) and **Dishing It Out: Waitresses and Their Unions in the Twentieth Century** (Dorothy Sue Cobble, \$14.95, 0-252-06186-1).



Another ACLU guide to civil rights is coming out in February from Southern Illinois University Press. The third edition of **The Rights of Women** (\$7.95, 0-8093-1633-1) is a handbook that explores in detail how women can use the law currently on the books in their continuing struggle to gain equality in the family, marketplace, and workplace. Also from SIU is the first full-length biography of prominent stage actress Eva Le Gallienne, a lesbian who complained that her sexuality "ruined her career." Author Robert Schanke points out that it also influenced her style of acting. With a forward by May Sarton, **Shattered Applause: The Lives of Eva Le Gallienne** (\$39.95 cl, 0-8093-1820-2), it sounds fascinating. Too bad it is so expensive.

The University of Mississippi Press doesn't have a lot of titles for us, but its literary 'conversations with' series is good. Past titles include conversations with Maya Angelou, Nadine Gordimer, Lillian Hellman, Mary McCarthy, Joyce Carol Oates, Katherine Anne Porter, May Sarton, and Eudora Welty. Coming in December is **Conversations with Nikki Giovanni**, edited by Virginia C. Fowler (\$14.95 pb, 0-87805-587-8) and in January, **Conversations with M.F.K. Fisher**, edited by David Lazar (\$14.95 pb, 0-87805-596-7).

Before concluding, there is one book published in September by the University Press of Virginia I hope everyone already has stocked and sold. Just in case it slipped by, however, Maryse Conde's novel, I, Tituba,

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ISABEL THE QUEEN Life and Times PEGGY K. LISS

"Provides a wealth of detail documenting Isabel's love for Femando, her devotion to her children, her ruthless ambition, and her canny statecraft"—*Publishers Weekly.* "Magnificently researched.... A valuable reference book for the period and region"—*Library Journal.* "Illuminates the tension between the idealized roles of ruler and woman that informed the Queen's relationship with her subjects"—Thomas F. Glick. \$30.00, 398 pp.

VIRGIN OR VAMP How the Press Covers Sex Crimes HELEN BENEDICT

"A fine job in uncovering bias and misinformation in news reports of some well-known rape cases"—Susan Brownmiller. "Elegantly written and carefully documented...should be required reading for journalists—and the rest of us" —Katha Pollitt. "This outstanding book should be required reading for all media people" —Publishers Weekly. \$25.00, 320 pp.

THE RISE OF PUBLIC WOMAN Woman's Power and Woman's Place in the United States, 1630-1970 GLENNA MATTHEWS

"An extremely worthwhile study which makes a long overdue contribution to our heretofore slim knowledge of...women's growing participation in US public life"—Ruth Mandel. "A tremendously enjoyable book—both moving and illuminating"— Loni Hancock, Mayor, Berkeley. \$25.00, 328 pp.



GOT TO TELL IT Mahalia Jackson, Queen of Gospel JULES SCHWERIN

"A memorable profile of a woman whose life and art epitomized the civil rights movement" —*Booklist.* "A fine biography, and a valuable

contribution to the too-sparse literature on gospel music"—Kirkus Reviews \$19.95, 204 pp.

THE FACTS OF LIFE

Science and the Abortion Controversy HAROLD J. MOROWITZ and JAMES S. TREFIL

"The women of America owe Professors Morowitz and Trefil a debt of gratitude. Their careful scientific review cuts through the hype and hyperbole in the abortion debates and gives us a new perspective on the future of this issue"—Ann Stone, Republicans for Choice. \$19.95, 192 pp.

THE FAMILY IN THE WESTERN WORLD

From the Black Death to the Industrial Age BEATRICE GOTTLIEB

"I enjoyed every minute of reading the book, and I was impressed on almost every page by Gottlieb's skill in sorting through a vast and complex literature"—Judith Bennett, author of Women in the Medieval English Countryside. \$25.00, 384 pp.

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Black Witch of Salem (\$19.95, 0-8139-1398-5) is a must have if you carry hardcover fiction. If you don't, keep a close eye out for paper next fall. Less readable and salable but an important addition to feminist labor history is an upcoming book from Cornell, The Most Difficult Revolution: Women and Trade Unions (Cook, Lorwin, and Daniels, \$14.95, 0- 8014-8065-5, Dec.).

And now to conclude, Ohio State University Press wins the prize for the most expensive books on the fall/winter lists. Two for \$39.50 are Making Stories, Making Selves: Feminist Reflections on the Holocaust (R. Ruth Linden, 0-8142-0583-6, Dec.) and This Strange Society of Women: Reading the Letters and Lives of the Woman's Commonwealth (Sally L. Kitch, 0-8142-0579-8). The first explores the interconnected phenomena of remembering, storytelling, and self-fashioning through the life histories of three women, all Holocaust survivors. The second tells the story of an unusual, all-female urban utopian community founded in the late 19th century in Belton, Texas.

But other books in this list cost \$39. So let's really hit the bigtime and turn to the **Complete Works of Aphra Behn**, edited by Janet Todd. Volume I, Poems, is \$95. To buy all six volumes when they are out will presumably run around \$665. But that outlay is dwarfed by the final entry. **Epodes: First Poems**, by Cynthia Ozick, with prints by Sidney Chafetz, is \$1500 in the regular edition, \$3000 in the special. You would definitely need a glass case to house that one.

That's it! I hope winter sales of university press books is brisk and here's my sales tip of the month: push the special edition of the Ozick and take a nice February holiday. O

Favorite University Press Titles of the Moment:

Compiled by Carol Seajay

Meetings at the Crossroads by Carol Gilligan and Lyn Brown! Gilligan's explorations of young girls' and women's psychological development are always good. Good, solid, and readable. Harvard.

> *— Ann Frost* Full Circle Albuquerque, New Mexico

Opening the Gate: A Century of Arab Feminist Writing. I like it because it *exists*! I haven't seen that many books about Arab women, so this was a real find for me. \$17.95 pb, 0-253205778, Indiana.

Another book out of Indiana that's really cool is In Stitches. It's backlist but that doesn't matter here because we're a new store — the first store in the Detroit area in a long time — so it's all new to our customers.

And then there's **Gender Blending: Confronting the Limits of Duality** by Holly Beaver. I got it by accident — it was a misshipment — but it looked interesting so I kept it and put it on the shelf. People were buying it so I've reordered it a couple of times now. \$12.95 pb, 0253205336, Indiana.

> — Kelly Smith A Woman's Prerogative Ferndale, Michigan

There's not a lot in Manitoba about feminist theory — much less lesbian and gay theory, so it's great to have **Inside/Out: Lesbian Theories/Gay Theories** by Diana Fuss (from Routledge). She has a new one coming.

Carol Gilligan's **In A Different Voice** is big as is Marilyn Frye's **The Politics of Reality**. Frye's essays are reasonably accessible — you don't have to have a doctorate in English to know what she's talking about..... I love the Gilligan because of the focus on language. — Susan Peterman

> Bold Print Winnipeg, Manitoba

Toni Morrison's Playing in the Dark: Whiteness and the Literary Imagination published by Harvard University Press! Morrison turns the focus from the analysis of the Black character to the analysis of the white writer. Her analysis of Willa Cather's Sapphira and the Slave Girl is beautifully done - just beautifully done. This book has been a tremendous boon in dealing with the little spate of racist stuff going on in the feminist community here. They can argue with us, but it's very difficult to argue with the intellect and skill level of Toni Morrison! It just rips the rug right out from under them. It's very academic - it's literary criticism and it's the first literary criticism I've enjoyed since Kate Millet! - Mary Morell Full Circle

Albuquerque, New Mexico

My favorite academic title is one that just arrived. We haven't sold a single copy yet, but I'm eager to point it out to feminist therapists. It's **Radical Feminist Therapy** by Bonnie Burstow, published by Sage Publications (\$22.95 pb, 0-8039-4788-7). The subtitle is "Working in the Context of Violence." She sees violence as central to women's personal problems.

Sage recently began an agency plan so bookstores can get 30% on non-course adoption purchases. Contact Amy Kazilsky at Sage for more information. (805-499-0721). — Karen Axness

A Room of One's Own Madison, Wisconsin

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Favorite books? In a Different Voice by Carol Gilligan. Why? Based on sales!! Our favorites are often books that sell well or have good covers! Odd Girls and Twilight Lovers has such an attractive cover! And we love having a hardback edition of Their Eyes were Watching God. But based on content? I'd have to say In Stitches. We read bits of that one to each other when there's no one in the store. It keeps us going!

> — Teresa Williams Bluestocking Books Columbia, South Carolina

Doing What the Day Brought, an oral history of Arizona pioneer women, is the book at the moment here. It's neat because it has pictures of the women 50-60 years ago, and the pictures of the same women now, (well, 4-5 years ago when the book was written) as well as their stories. It's multi-cultural, too, which is essential. It includes stories and photos of Anglo, Native American, Black, and Chicana women. It's published by University of Arizona Press. Many of Arizona's books that aren't specifically woman-oriented titles, such as books about Native American people and pioneer women, include solid information about women — which is still rare.

Women's Writing in Latin America, published by Westview Press, is popular here, too.

— Marty Shideler Aradia Flagstaff, Arizona



Jane Caputi's book, Age of Sex Crime from Bowling Green State University Press. It's a little intense.... It's very intense and hard to read. It presents historical views of serial killers and sex crimes. The subject is so difficult. It provokes a lot of anger and some fear as well... We need to look at the way that the media glorifies many of these criminals and their very serious crimes.

> *— Betina Valdez* Full Circle Albuquerque, New Mexico

Without a doubt our bestseller is In A Different Voice — and it's a swell book. Everyone reads it. Being an early music buff I like The Historical Anthology of Music by Women from Indiana. Also from Indiana and in the same vein is Women and Music. We sell a lot of that every year at the National Women's Music Festival. It discusses women and music from antiquity through contemporary music and looks at women's roles not only as performers, but also as composers and in behind-the-scenes roles. It's a very comprehensive book.

Another book that I appreciate a lot is John Hopkins' **The Guide to Living with HIV**. I wish there weren't so many people that need it, but it's the most thorough book for dealing with living with HIV. It's about *living* — it doesn't assume that you're going to die.

In Stitches is the classic and, from Chicago, there's Christianity, Social Tolerance and Homosexuality. It's a real oldie, but we keep on selling it.

> — Harriet Clare Dreams & Swords Indianapolis, Indiana

This is ironic - my absolutely favorite university press book is Idols of Perversity: Fantasies of Feminine Evil in Fin-de-Siecle Culture, written by Bram Dijkstra, yes, a man. I adore this book. It includes the most remarkable collection of art by and about women that I've seen anywhere and includes things I haven't seen before or since. There was an eruption in the 19th century of anti-woman sentiments in art and literature and science. Bram uses art and literature to establish and document the rise of misogynist and racist attitudes at that time. By the end of the book you really understand where the idea came from that being sick and /or near-death is attractive in women. That idea, of course, evolved into the bulimia and anorexia we see today. It's a ground-breaking analysis. He does very successfully what Camille Paglia is still trying to do. It's a pretty amazing piece of feminist literature and an astounding art book. It's \$16.95 in paperback from Oxford. I liked it so much that I paid \$40 for the - Donna Niles hardcover.

Amazon Bookstore Minneapolis MN

Doing Participatory Research, Patricia Maguire, is an unexpected seller. It's a guidebook for people

doing research from a feminist perspective. People from the university are really hot for it. It's published by the Center for International Education and distributed by University of Massachusetts. —*Katelyn*

> Dreams and Swords Indianapolis, Indiana



My favorite university press books? Odd Girls & Twilight Lovers. Lillian Faderman covers a lot of territory and it feels like I belong in the book — it's that kind of personal history.

Zora Neale Hurston's **Their Eyes Were Watching God** is a book a lot of people seem to like. I was impressed by reading about an entirely African-American society and town....

There's renewed interest in **Women's Growth** and Connection from Guilford Press. It's an anthology about women doing therapy that includes work by Carol Gilligan and others. I'm selling a lot of books to therapists, so I'm learning more about what's available for them. I find I'm ordering from Jossey Bass and Brunner/Mazel Publishers pretty regularly. Brunner/Mazel had the first book on multiple personality that I found — unfortunately it's out of print now. They also have a series of kids books called Magination Press that deal with special situations like attention deficit or a child with a mentally ill parent — that therapists here are using with adult clients doing inner child work.

— River Artz Pandora Books for Open Minds Kalamazoo, Michigan

Odd Girls and Twilight Lovers isn't new but it's very popular. We're also selling a lot of Both Right and Left Handed: Arab Women Talk About Their Lives from Indiana. It has a nice cover which, of course, helps, and its a really good anthology. Indiana's Third World Women and the Politics of Feminism is also doing well. They're all on our bestseller list. — Kate Burkhardt

> Common Language Ann Arbor, Michigan

Mud Women: Poems from the Clay, by Nora Naranjo-Morse has pictures of clay figures that are just wonderful. They're beautiful and hilarious and they're just great! \$15.95, 0816512817. University of Arizona.

I also really like University of Nebraska press. They put out a lot of Native American women's books under their Bison Books imprint: Life Lived Like a Story: Life Stories of Three Yukon Native Elders by Julie Cruikshank, \$14.95 pb, 080326352X. American Indian Women Telling Their Lives by Gretchen M. Bataille and Kathleen Mullen Sands, \$8.95 pb, 0803260822. Water Lily by Ella Cara Deloria, a novel based on a true story. \$8.95 pb, 0803265794.

> — Madelaine Zadik Lunaria Amherst, Massachusetts O



Race, Gender, and Empire-Building by Laura E. Donaldson "Offers welcome attention to the complex situations of and interactions among different kinds of women within colonial discourses." —Elizabeth Fox-Genovese 186 pp., \$29.95 cloth, \$10.95 paper

THE SUPREME COURT AND LEGAL CHANGE

1,1

Abortion and the Death Penalty by Lee Epstein and Joseph F. Kobylka With a comprehensive account of key abortion and death penalty cases, the authors conclude that the way litigants frame arguments has at least as much impact on Supreme Court decisions as do public opinion and justices' political beliefs.

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University Press Bestsellers

Lioness Books Sacramento CA

- 1. Odd Girls and Twilight Lovers, Lillian Faderman, Columbia University Press, \$29.95 cl.
- Rape of the Wild, Andrée Collard & Joyce Contrucci, Indiana University Press, \$8.95 pb.
- 3. Feminism Unmodified, Catherine MacKinnon, Harvard University Press, \$10.95 pb.
- Making Connections, Carol Gilligan, Nona P. Lyons & Trudy J. Hanmer, Harvard University Press, \$10.95 pb.
- 5. Father-Daughter Incest, Judith Lewis Herman, Harvard University Press, \$11.95 pb.



- Women of the Klan, Kathleen Blee, University of California, \$24.95 cl.
- Sexual Harassment of Working Women, Catherine MacKinnon, Yale University Press, \$15 pb.
- Toward a Feminist Theory of the State, Catherine MacKinnon, Harvard University Press, \$12.95 pb.
- From Surviving to Thriving: Incest, Feminism and Recovery, Christine Dinsmore, State University of New York Press, \$16.95 pb.
- 10. Lesbian Psychologies, ed. by the Boston Lesbian Psychologies Collective, University of Illinois Press, \$14.95 pb.

Dreams and Swords Indianapolis IN (all paperback)

- 1. Odd Girls and Twilight Lovers (originally a Columbia University Press title, it was our bestselling cloth university press title ever.)
- 2. Opening the Gates: A Century of Arab Feminist Writing by Margot Badran, Indiana.
- 3. Families We Choose: Lesbians, Gays and Kinship by Ruth Weston, Columbia.
- 4. Feminism Without Illusions by Elizabeth Fox Genovese, University of North Carolina.
- 5. Gender Blending by Holly Devor, Indiana.
- 6. Feminism Unmodified by Catherine MacKinnon, Harvard.
- The Alchemy of Race and Rights by Patricia Williams, Harvard.
- 8. Sexual Orientation and the Law by the Harvard Law Review, Harvard.
- 9. Third World Women and the Politics of Feminism by Cher Muhanty, Indiana.
- 10. Doing Participatory Research, Patricia Maguire, published by the Center for International Education, dist. by University of Massachusetts.
- 11. Lesbian and Gay Marriage edited by Suzanne Sherman, Temple.



Sisterhood Bookstore

Los Angeles CA (all paperback)

- In A Different Voice, Carol Gilligan, Harvard University Press, \$7.95.
- 2. Feminism & Psychoanalytic Theory, Nancy
- Chodorow, Yale University Press, \$14.

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- 3. The Reproduction of Mothering: Psychoanalysis & the Sociology of Gender, Nancy Chodorow, University of California Press, \$14.
- 4. Father-Daughter Incest, Judith Lewis Herman, Harvard University Press, \$11.95.
- 5. Feminism Unmodified, Catharine A. Mac-Kinnon, Harvard University Press, \$12.95.
- 6. Woman, Native, Other, Trinh T. Minh-ha, Indiana University Press, \$14.95.
- 7. Remembered Lives: The Work of Ritual, Storytelling, and Growing Older, Barbara Myerhoff, University of Michigan Press, \$16.95.
- 8. The Science Question in Feminism, Sandra Harding, Cornell University Press, \$9.95.
- 9. New Chicano/Chicana Writing, Charles M. Tatum, ed., University of Arizona Press, \$14.95.
- 10. This Sex Which is Not One, Luce Irigaray, Cornell University Press, \$13.95.
- 11. Speculum of the Other Woman, Luce Irigary, Cornell University Press, \$16.95.
- 12. The Newly Born Woman, Helene Cixous & Catherine Clement, University of Minnesota Press, \$12.95.
- 13. The Madwoman in the Attic, Sandra Gilbert & Susan Gubar, Yale University Press, \$19.95.
- 14. Identity Politics: Lesbian Feminism & the Limits of Community, Shane Phelan, Temple University Press, \$16.95.

A Room of One's Own Madison WI

(all paperback)

- 1. Alchemy of Race and Rights, Patricia Williams, Harvard University Press.
- 2. In Stitches, Gloria Kaufman, Indiana University Press.
- 3. Women's Friendships, Susan Koppelman, ed., University of Oklahoma Press.
- 4. Gender Trouble, Judith Butler, Routledge.
- Whose Science, Whose Knowledge, Sandra Harding, Cornell University Press.
- 6. Feminism & Foucault, Irene Diamond, Northeastern University Press.
- 7. From Surviving to Thriving, Christine Dinsmore, SUNY.
- 8. Gay & Lesbian Liberation Movement, Margaret Cruikshank, Routledge.

9. New Lesbian Criticism, Sally Munt, ed., Columbia University Press.

- 10. Women of the Klan, Kathleen Blee, University of California Press.
- 11. Black Feminist Thought, Patricia Collins, Routledge.
- 12. Third World Women & the Politics of Feminism, Chandra Mohanty, Indiana University Press.



31st Street Bookstore Cooperative Baltimore MD

- 1. **The Baltimore Book: New Views of Local History**, edited by Elizabeth Fee, Linda Shopes and Linda Zeidman, Temple University Press, \$29.95 cl.
- Odd Girls & Twilight Lovers: A History of Lesbian Life in Twentieth Century America, Lillian Faderman, ed., Columbia University Press, \$29.95, cl; Penguin, \$12 pb.
- 3. Black Looks: Race and Representation, bell hooks, South End Press, \$12 pb.
- 4. Unequal Sisters: A Multicultural Reader in U.S. Women's History, Ellen Carol DuBois & Vicki L. Ruiz, Routledge, \$18.95 pb.
- 5. The Alchemy of Race & Rights: Diary of a Law Professor, Patricia J. Williams, Harvard University Press, \$10.95 pb.
- 6. Invisibility Blues: From Pop to Theory, Michele Wallace, Verso, \$17.95 pb.
- 7. Bananas, Beaches and Bases: Making Feminist Sense of International Politics, Cynthia Enloe, University of California Press, \$10.95 pb.
- 8. Black Feminist Thought, Patricia Hill Collins, Routledge, \$16.95 pb.
- Abortion and Women's Choice: The State, Sexuality & Reproductive Freedom, Rosalind Pollack Petchesky, Northeastern University Press, \$16.95 pb.
- 10. Inside/Out: Lesbian Theories/Gay Theories, Diana Fuss, Routledge, \$15.95 pb.
- Latin American Women & the Search for Social Justice, Francesca Miller, University Press of New England, \$19.95 pb.

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by Diana Rivers ISBN 1-55583-314-4 • 408 pages

The daughters — those born during the passing of the Great Star — possessed strange powers, which often they themselves did not understand. As they came of age, they found themselves estranged from their villages and even from their families. Instead, they found one another, and created a community where they belonged. In this panoramic and exciting prequel to *Journey to Zelindar*, Diana Rivers portrays a world of strong and sensual women, ready to defend themselves against a hostile world without surrendering their ability to love each other.

"Rivers conveys a strong pro-lesbian message through lucid storytelling and the portrayal of characters who possess equal amounts of strength and weakness. The high overall quality of this gracefully written fantasy should attract a broad readership." —Library Journal

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"This is a great book. Ms. Rivers's fantasy land of women shows great imagination. I would certainly recommend it to lovers of fantasy. If you've never read fantasy, this is a great place to start." —*Dimensions*

"This book deserves its place as a great lesbian/feminist fantasy along with Marion Zimmer Bradley's *The Shattered Chain* and other books about the Free Amazons of Darkover. Highly recommended." —*Women Library Workers*



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V International Feminist Bookfair

Publishing Women in the Netherlands

By Shelley Anderson

In their diaries and memoirs, 18th century visitors to the Netherlands noted with amazement the variety of broadsheets and books published by the Dutch. What was even more remarkable to many of the travelers was the fact that so many Dutch women could read.

The Dutch remain great readers not only of their own writers, but of the world's: one quarter of all the books published in the Netherlands are translations. And Dutch women are continuing to write and publish as never before. Writers such as Marion Bloem. Renate Dorrestein, Tessa De Loo and Hella S. Haasse are well-known inside the Netherlands, and in parts of Belgium and South Africa where Dutch-based languages such as Flemish and Afrikaans are spoken. This is despite the fact that publishing in Dutch is a risky business: few people outside the Netherlands read Dutch. If an author wants to reach beyond the small Dutch market and establish an international reputation, translation is essential. Dutch publishers may be willing to spend time and money on translation, but many other publishers are not.

"The international publishing scene is very small," said Scott Rollins of the Dutch press In De Knipscheer. "There may be 80 to 100 publishers of international fiction in the world. It's a risk to get the mix right — you need a good writer, a good translator and the right market. We are a translating nation — the U.S. isn't." Rollins thinks this may change as more people travel and become interested in foreign cultures. "America is discovering the world," he said. "Literary publishers are becoming more international. If they get a really good book, and put time and energy into building an author's reputation, they are willing to look further afield, though small presses and university presses are more apt to take a chance."



In De Knipscheer is a small press. It is also the first Dutch press, according to Rollins, "to tap into multi-culturalism. We published East Indian colonial literature and are now publishing the works of the children of Turkish and Moroccan immigrants." The press has also published Alice Walker, Maryse Condé, Nawal El Saadawi and Tsitsi Dangarembga, a Zimbabwean writer whose novel Nervous Condi-

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tions was published in the U.S. by Seal Press. In De Knipscheer sold about 6,000 copies of Marion Bloem's 1983 novel *Geen gewoon Indisch meisje* (*No Ordinary Indonesian Girl*). The novel explores Bloem's search for her Indonesian roots, a search which struck a chord with many second and third generation Indonesian-Dutch readers. The novel, later picked up by Rainbow Pocketboeken in an inexpensive paperback edition, sold over 60,000 copies.



In De Knipscheer has taken over one of the few remaining Dutch women's presses, Furie. Furie began in 1984 with the original intention of publishing only lesbian books. Before 1986 the three-women collective had published six titles. By 1988 they had published eight titles, about 1,500 copies each, of mostly new Dutch writers. It was around this time that the press changed from lesbian feminist to publishing general women's fiction. Although at least one novel, *Paso Doble* by Megchel J. Doewina, had been praised as reflecting a new stream in Dutch literature, critics did not consider feminist and lesbian books as real literature, and seldom reviewed them.

Furie is luckier than most Dutch women's presses. The biggest women's press, Sara, folded in 1987. Two smaller presses, Vrouw Holle and De Bonte Was, are no longer publishing. De Bonte Was had great success with a 320-page feminist history book called

Geschiedenis van de Vrouwentoekomst (The History of Women's Future), which sold about 100,000 copies and was adopted for use in many universities. "We began in 1974, for fun," said Anneke van Baalen of De Bonte Was. "We published 20 books, never less than 3,000 copies each. They sold very cheap and were written for women with all levels of education. We are trying now to get a commercial publisher interested in our back list." Van Baalen believes the dissolution of an organized feminist movement led to the end of many women's presses.

The only independent Dutch women's press left is An Dekker, run by An Dekker and her partner Gemma Polders. Dekker began publishing in 1968 and has about 100 titles, 70 still in print. "We publish good writing, but good writing for women. There are a few men on our list, but only if their work has something to do with women. If someone writes as an enemy of women, we won't publish it," said Polders. She estimates that three-quarters of Dekker's fiction list, which includes Han Suyin, Margaret Laurence and Nadine Gordimer, are foreign writers. Dekker has translated Sarah Schulman's After Delores and the popular Australian autobiography by Aboriginal artist Sally Morgan, My Place, into Dutch. Their non-fiction list, almost all by Dutch writers, includes books on incest and racism. Two of the press's best selling nonfiction works are Vrouwelijke uitvinders bestaan (Women Inventors) by Farag Moussa, and Passion, a stunning photography book by African playwright Angèle Etoundi Essamba.

"We publish between 15 to 20 new titles each year," said An Dekker. "We recently began a Modern Classics series, by women who wrote after World War II. They are now more or less forgotten and we want to bring them into the spotlight again. We are a small publishing house, working together with lots of free-lancers. It's a real struggle to keep our place as feminist publishers with the mainstream. We give more attention to our authors than a mainstream publisher, but we like that." None of Dekker's authors, who include Erica Eijsker, Helke Sander, Leila Houari and Ankie Peypers, have been translated into English. "Very few publishers want the extra expense of translation," said Polders. "We are used to it. It's a difficult problem for Dutch writers, not only for women writers."

One of the biggest publishers in the Netherlands is Meulenhoff, which will celebrate a century of publishing in 1995. "We publish about 100 new books a year, which for Holland is a lot," said a company representative. "We publish mostly Dutch writers, particularly new writers or foreign writers who have proved themselves." He estimates that 35% of their list is women writers. Meulenhoff's list of foreign writers includes Germaine Greer, Marilyn French, Kate Millet, Doris Lessing and Bessie Head. Their Dutch writers include Renate Rubinstein (whose account of her love affair with the married writer Simon Carmiggelt, Mijn beter ik (My Better I), created a scandal), Hermine de Graaf, Ethel Portnoy and Nelleke Noordervliet. Meulenhoff also regularly publishes new editions of the late Anna Blamah, a lesbian writer who created the modern Dutch novel.



"We try hard to sell our authors to foreign publishers. It's important for authors to know they're being read all over the world," the representative continued. "A lot of our writers are worth it. It's always difficult, because Holland is small. But we are optimistic, because Dutch women writers are good and there are a lot of them."

Shelley Anderson lives in The Netherlands where she edits the Bulletin of the International Lesbian Information Service (ILIS). She has traveled in more than 20 countries and is actively involved in both international lesbian organizing and the international peace movement. She's the author of Out in the World: International Lesbian Organizing, Firebrand Sparks pamphlet #4.

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BACK TO PRESS AND OTHER GOOD NEWS

Back to Press

Women's Glibber, edited by Roz Warren and published by Crossing Press, has gone back to press for a second time for a run of 10,000 books, bringing the total in print to 17,500.

Keepers of the Western Door by Rayna M. Gangi, published by Maple Street Press, has gone back to press for a second run of 3,000, bringing the total number of copies in print to 5,000. Butch by Jay Rayn, published by Free Women Press, has gone back to press for a second run of 5,000 and a total of 8,000.

As of Sept. 1, Dorothy Allison's Bastard Out of Carolina, published by Dutton, had gone back to press seven times for a total of 30,000 copies in print. Bastard Out of Carolina will be published as a Plume Trade Paperback in March and has been selected for the Quality Paperback Book Club.



Rights

Did you see the report in PW under the title "Into the Bigtime"? It read "Seal Press has made its first reprint sale, with Ballantine Books acquiring three mysteries from the Seattle firm. All are by Minnesota author Ellen Hart: Hallowed Murder, Vital Lies and Stagefright. Seals' Faith Conlon obtained \$18,000 for the trio from Ballantine executive editor Joe Blades."

On the Naiad rights front: Skriftstallarnas Forlag AB in Sweden has purchased all of Claire McNab's books. Silvermoon Books in London has bought Rose Beecham's Introducing Amanda Valentine, Lauren Wright Douglas' A Tiger's Heart and Karin Kallmaker's Paperback Romance. Introducing Amanda Valentine has also sold to Frauenoffensive.

Dorothy Allison's Bastard Out of Carolina will be published in the UK by Flamingo, an imprint of HarperCollins.

HarperCollins paid Beacon Press \$425,000 for the trade and mass- market paperback rights for Marian Wright Edelman's *The Measure of Our Success*.

Awards and Other Good News

Dorothy Allison has been nominated for a National Book Award for her novel *Bastard Out of Carolina*. (We've also heard rumors that she is being considered for nomination for a Pulitzer.)

Karen Tei Yamashita, Jill Krementz, Sandra Maria Esteves and Terry McMillan have been selected to present readings across the U.S. as part of the National Writer's Voice Project's Reading Tour for 1992-1993.

In Whoopi Goldberg's upcoming movie Maid in America the star plays the owner of a fictional Black bookstore, The African Queen. Apparently Blanche Richardson, one of the owners of the Marcus Bookstores in San Francisco and Oakland, helped create the store.

The Word Burners by Beryl Fletcher, published by Daphne Brasell, has won the Best First Published Book for the Southeast Asia/Pacific Region, Commonwealth Writers Prize. The prize includes a trip to Canada for Fletcher.

Seal Press was one of 10 businesses to receive a Mayor's Small Business Award for 1992 for outstanding achievement in the Seattle community. Seal, which was nominated by their bank (!), got to take home a big trophy for their achievements and Faith Conlon got a handshake from the mayor.

Terri de le Peña (*Margins*, Seal Press) has won the See Back to Press, page 70

Taking Care of Business:

Press Releases: Some Informal Jottings

By Judith Rosen

ASW

As anyone who has ever tried to work with a nonexistent, or a virtually nonexistent, ad budget knows, the cheapest form of advertising is publicity. But in order to get publicity, you need to speak the language of editors, i.e., know how to write a press release.

> Good press releases cover the six basic "w"s that an editor needs to know — who, when, where, what, why, and w-phone number.

Letter writing may be a good way to communicate with friends, but for editors, the best way to correspond is via press releases. Part of the reason editors rely on press releases is that good ones cover the six basic "w"s that an editor needs to know to assign a story or to run a listing — who, when, where, what, why, and w-phone number.

By the way, the best press releases actually manage to get all six in the first paragraph. Most editors just don't have the time, or patience, to skim through your release to figure out the point, so be sure to tell them up front.

On the following page is an example of the lead for a benefit reading for the homeless that I helped work on last year. In this instance, I took a few liberties with the opening, because it was such an unusual project that I felt sure that editors would read past paragraph one. They did, and both the *Boston Globe* and the *Middlesex News* ran front-page stories about the event. Notice that I give editors a contact and phone number to find out more information to run their stories. In this instance the contact at the top of the release was different from the contact for people interested in getting tickets. When this happens, I will sometimes circle the number at the top and mark "DO NOT PRINT THIS #:".

Steve Morgan, former book review editor at the *Boston Herald*, told me that the biggest problem he has with press releases from amateurs is "they're too windy. I scan the first paragraph. If it has nothing of interest, it goes into the garbage."

He also advises his busy counterparts on the bookseller side who like to send off several months worth of reading information at a time to send updates now and again. When it came time to use some of the information they sent, he would often wonder if the reading scheduled had changed during the intervening months. He recommends that publicity folk call the publication and introduce themselves so that the editor has someone to call later on if he or she has a question. But remember, don't be a nudge; it can be counterproductive.

One of the other mistakes that newcomers, myself included, often make is to forget to repeat the name of the store in the body of the release. Even if you are sending it in on store letterhead (which, by the way, you should be), you must repeat the name and address of the store. Many overworked journalists and newspapers with leftover space, including the *New York Times*, will take listings straight from a release. So if the name of the store isn't in the release, it won't be in the newspaper either.

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For immediate release Now through November 22nd Words Worth Books 30 Brattle Street Cambridge MA 02138

> Contact: Judith Rosen 617-876-2469

BOSTON & CAMBRIDGE BOOKSELLERS JOIN TOGETHER TO RAISE MONEY FOR HOMELESS KIDS

Concerned about the fate of the homeless, especially homeless children, 19 Boston and Cambridgebased booksellers have joined together to raise money and provide books for homeless children in Boston, Cambridge, and Somerville.

The resulting Voices Louder Than Words: A Benefit for the Homeless is the first large-scale bookselling benefit of its kind in the Boston area. Voices Louder Than Words will take place on Friday November 22nd at 6pm at Sanders Theatre in Harvard Square, Cambridge, and will feature readings by three of New England's leading writers:

Stephen King, author of Needful Things,

·John Edgar Wideman, author of Philadelphia Fire, and

• Jamaica Kincaid, author of Lucy.

To make special press releases stand out, if you have a special author in your reading series or if your store is undergoing a major change, try putting art work on your release. If you are including separate artwork be sure to tape another press release to the back of that art work in case it gets lost. You might also try including a cover note. Some editors use information lifted from cover notes as fillers to go with stories from press releases.



I am also not above sending an occasional gift to go with a press release or to thank a newspaper for running a story about an event. A common technique is to send food with press releases that go with foodoriented stories. Brownies and cakes seem to be most editors' (or their subordinates') favorites.

I also like to send flowers, not fancy arrangements, but wildflower bouquets as thanks. For the homeless benefit though I relied on an old-fashioned technique I learned from my mother, the thank-you note.

Let's backtrack a bit for those who know how to write the release, but don't know where to send it.

As a feminist bookseller, every press release about your store should go to:

• Carol Seajay, Editor, *Feminist Bookstore News*, PO Box 882554, San Francisco CA 94188.

• Dan Cullen, Editor, American Bookseller, 560 White Plains Road, Tarrytown NY 10591

• John Mutter, Editor, Bookselling News, Publishers Weekly, 249 West 17th Street, New York NY 10011.

You should also send releases to your local wire service bureaus, local newspapers and magazines, and producers of radio and television programs geared to books. For especially newsworthy events, send a release to the news desk of each of your local TV and radio stations, as well as local stringers for

national publications. I actually send them releases for not so memorable events, too, just because I like to get the store's name out there. The difference is that I follow up on the really important events, like the homeless benefit, and check to see if it is in the day book. The day book is what is referred to each day by the news department. Then if nothing major happens, like Dan Quayle learning to spell, your event might actually get covered.



If it is a really newsworthy event, you might check with the local TV stations first before you set the time. You may want to do the event in time for it to be aired on the 6 and 11 o'clock news broadcasts.

For late-breaking events, don't worry about the normal four- to six-week lead time for calendar listings. Drop off or fax a release to the news desks of the major media in your community.

Also, as long as you're looking for free publicity, don't overlook Public Service Announcements on the radio. Most stations have a PSA director whose job is to put all the releases in a day book and to see that they get air time. Sometimes you may know of a producer or host who might be very personally interested in the item in your release. Go ahead and send a PSA announcement to him or her as well. It's hard to plaster the media with too many press releases. For PSAs just keep in mind, the shorter the better. It's hard to fit much information into a 10- or 15-second spot.

While I have concentrated on sending out publicity to the media, there are times when it make sense to send out a full press packet to publishers to help book authors. Sometimes it's important to remind publishers of all your store can do in terms of delivering an

Feminist Bookstore News

audience for a book. Children's booksellers especially excel at these types of packets. They usually include an information sheet about the store - when it was founded, highlights of the store, interesting bits of store history — and information on where the store is located. It's amazing how many people have no concept of geography, so help the poor publicist figure out how it would fit in for the author to stop off at your store and then continue to another important book community. It also helps to add a list of other authors who have appeared in your author series to show that other publishers have had faith in your ability to deliver. Some people like to go all out and send a store pin or t-shirt. Your press packet may not get the author you want this season but it may help you get the next big author coming up.

You'll be amazed at how effective a well-written press release sent in a timely fashion can be.

And that's about all it takes to get good publicity. Make a plan, figure out where you want the publicity to appear and who is most likely to be responsive to your event or store news, and then write a release and send it out. You'll be amazed at how effective a wellwritten press release sent in a timely fashion can be.

> American Bookseller would like to hear about any bookstore anniversaries or milestones as well as any second-store openings or new locations. Send all information to:

> > Dan Cullen American Bookseller 560 White Plains Road Tarrytown, NY 10591

Judith Rosen is a free-lance writer based in Cambridge MA, who handles publicity for Words Worth Books in Harvard Square. This article is based on Judith's workshop on press releases at Feminist Bookstore's Day in May.

Art work from the International Women's Tribune Centre O

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Sleeping With Dionysus, a Crossing Press women's anthology, is looking for poetry, stories and essays about addiction and recovery, focusing on sexuality and spirituality. For more information write Porterfield, PO Box 951, Englewood, CO 80151.

Pat Rutherford and Stacy Saetta are seeking personal narratives and photographs for an anthology on intergenerational lesbian relationships. Send writing and a SASE to the editors at 3060 Porter St. #31, Soquel CA 95073. Deadline Dec. 30, 1992.

ColorLife!, the new monthly news magazine by and about lesbian, gay, twospirit and bisexual people of color, seeks articles and graphics on local, national or international news, arts, sports, politics and more. Articles must be 500-800 words or four, double-spaced typed pages. Do not send originals. Contact *ColorLife!*, 2840 Broadway #287, New York NY 10025. Submission deadlines are the 15th of the month.

Irene Zahava is seeking short stories for an anthology of lesbian mysteries to be published by Seal Press. Work by lesbian authors, written within a lesbian context, will be considered. Send stories and SASE to Irene Zahava, 307 W. State St., Ithaca NY 14850. Deadline: June 1, 1993.

Marsha Leslie is accepting personal stories, essays and articles about the experiences of single mothers for an anthology to be published by Seal Press in the fall of 1994. Send manuscripts and a SASE to Marsha Leslie, PO Box 15715, Wedgewood Station, Seattle WA 98115. Deadline: January 31, 1993. Aunt Lute Books is collecting short fiction by women of African-American descent for an upcoming collection to be published in Spring 1993. Short fiction includes short narrative works, longer prose poems but no poetry. Aunt Lute will especially be looking for work that delineates our experiences/wisdom; reflects our written language and the rich variety of idioms we use daily; and comes from our many different perspectives. Include a brief bio, a resume and a SASE and send to Jayna Brown, Editor, Aunt Lute Books, PO Box 410687, San Francisco CA 94141; 415-558-8116. Deadline: February 1993.

Proposals for papers, panels, workshops, round table discussions, video screenings and performance events are wanted for *Inside and Out: The Third National Graduate Student Conference on Queer Studies*, to be held April 15-17, 1993 in Minneapolis. Send proposals and inquiries to *Inside and Out*, c/o Program in American Studies, 104 Scott Hall, 72 Pleasant St. SE, University of Minnesota MN 55455. Deadline: January 4, 1993.

Articles, news, newsletters, clippings and other information wanted for *Bad Attitude*, a radical women's newspaper being started in Britain. The first issue is due out December, 1992. *Bad Attitude* is willing to exchange subscriptions in return for some information. Contact *Bad Attitude*, 121 Railton Road, London SE24 OLR, England.

Lesbian plays of any length or style are wanted for an anthology of plays showing a diversity of ages, races, classes, dis/abilities, political positions and theatrical styles. Send a resume of plays published and produced, press releases and reviews, a large SASE See Writing Wanted, page 70

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Store Newsletters: Starting From Scratch

By Jennifer Croft

Store newsletters can do more for you than any other type of marketing or advertising. With ease, they can bring in customers, increase sales, and create goodwill. If you've never published a newsletter, or if you're publishing one but it seems expensive and time-consuming rather than pleasurable and profitable, it might be time to rethink the whole process.

Setting Goals For Your Newsletter

Before you ever publish your first newsletter, it's important to sit down and decide what you want to accomplish by sending a newsletter. This will determine:

- How often you'll publish,
- What you'll write about,
- How many copies you'll print,
- · Whether you'll accept advertising, and
- Whether you'll publish news from the community.

At this stage, it's important to have realistic expectations, to weigh what's actually possible — not just for one issue or one year, but for the long haul given a limited amount of time and money. In the beginning, err on the side of conservative. Start out with smaller issues put out less often. You can always grow later, which customers will equate with prosperity, just as conversely, they will equate cutbacks with signs of doom.

The most obvious reason for publishing a newsletter is to stay in touch with customers, to remind women that you're there to serve them. New Words Bookstore in Cambridge, MA publishes their fourpage newsletter three to four times a year because, according to Laura Zimmerman "We see it as a way of getting information out. We use it as a promotional piece for new customers and as a way of keeping in contact with loyal customers." As a side benefit, the women at New Words also have found that "It's a way for us to organize our thoughts about the store."

Other bookstores use newsletters to let customers know about events going on in their stores, or even in their communities. In Menlo Park, CA, Suzanne Unger uses the Two Sisters Bookshop Newsletter to "tell women about our workshops," while Debbie Straub at A Different Drummer Bookshoppe in Laguna Beach, CA cites "helping other organizations like PFLAG or Human Options (a local shelter)" as one of the goals for their newsletter.



Pokey Anderson at Inklings in Houston, TX uses a newsletter for an obvious, but sometimes overlooked, reason: "To let people know about things we'd like to sell them." Along the same line, Kasha Songer, Book Garden, Denver, CO has an unusual goal for her newsletter which she publishes twelve times a year, but only mails out twice a year. Each issue, she strives for creative content so that "Women will want the newsletter — that makes women come into the store to pick it up." Whether they're mailed or passed out,

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newsletters will increase sales! A Different Drummer sees a 20% increase in business the month they send out their newsletter.



Motivating Yourself

The effectiveness of newsletters still has to be weighed against the tremendous amount of work that goes into each issue. Because many bookstores are managed by crisis, the long-term or even intangible benefits of putting out a newsletter can often take a backseat to more pressing matters.

Pokey Anderson hasn't done "a full-fledged newsletter in awhile," choosing instead to send out reminder postcards. Her motivation for publishing a newsletter is simple: "My partner cajoles, threatens and nags." Acknowledging that "It's an effort," Kasha Songer came up with the perfect solution: Hire someone else to do it. She sees enough of an increase in traffic to justify hiring a former staff member to put in thirty hours a month producing their eight-page newsletter.

Suzanne Unger has no problem motivating herself, because it's her "favorite thing to do in the store!" and Laura Zimmerman echoes her sentiment: "I love doing the newsletter. It's creative. I see it as a great tool. We've learned over the years to do the majority of the work (the editing, writing, etc.) outside the store. The hard part is coordinating it all, staying on schedule, and having everyone in the collective read it."

Positive feedback from customers can be a great motivator, but don't expect a flood of it to come from your publishing efforts. What feedback you do get will probably come on strong at first and then taper off. Don't lose heart. This doesn't mean that your customers value the newsletter any less; it simply means that it's something they've come to take for granted.

Gathering Copy

Gathering copy is usually the most enjoyable aspect of newsletter publishing. You can do it the easy way, the way Pokey Anderson does it: "I keep a file and drop stuff in." Or you can delegate the work by dividing it up among interested staff members or loyal customers. You can save tons of time by using jacket copy and promo copy for the book blurbs, and don't feel one bit bad using it - it was designed for the exact purpose (selling books!) your newsletter supports. Carol Seajay cheerfully gives her permission to "Steal as many book blurbs as you can use from FBN."

In each newsletter, you can list top-selling books and new sidelines. You can include staff profiles or incentive coupons — A Different Drummer offered a 15% discount for three days in October to celebrate their third anniversary. You can introduce policy changes or educate customers on sections of your store. A popular feature in New Words' newsletter was "G:fts We'd Love To Get," compiled by the women who work in the store. Flora Faraci has added questionnaires to her newsletter, polling women on books they'd like to see added to the Jane Addams Book Shop inventory, and soliciting names of women to add to the store's mailing list.



One of the most popular features of each Book Garden newsletter is a two-page interview. The women profiled have ranged from Sara Levi Calderon and Katherine V. Forrest to Nikki Baker and Sumiche See Newsletters, page 111

Your Best Question for Interviewing Potential Staff

During the "Staff" workshop at Feminist Bookstore Day we fell to the question of "What do you ask when interviewing potential staff?" and asked everyone to write down their best and most effective interview questions. I said I'd type them up and publish them in FBN, so here they are! — CS

• What is your opinion/experience of our store? How long have you been a customer? What do you prefer to read?

• Do you enjoy reading?



Courtesy of ILIS Newsletter

• Tell me about a person you've met who is most unlike yourself.

- What things do you do to take care of yourself?
- Do you have problems with homophobia?
- Knowing how grueling this job can/will be, why do you still want to work here?
- Tell me about the most recent book you've read.

• Why do you think this is a place you would want to work? Tell me about your favorite parts of a past job or jobs. Tell me about your least favorite parts.

• Do you have personal responsibilities which may inhibit your duties (i.e., single parent, etc.)?

• Name three of your favorite books? Why? What do you know about each section?

How do you function with disorder? Order?

• What would you do when one of your more experienced co-workers is having a real bad day (i.e., throws a temper tantrum)? How would you deal with this?

• On a scale of 1 to 10, with 1 being incredibly sloppy and 10 being compulsively, obsessively neat, where would you rank yourself?

• How would you cope with a dissatisfied customer? Disgruntled co-worker? Interpersonal relationships in general?

• What is your previous involvement with the feminist/lesbian community?

• What was the last book you read that you really loved? Persuade me that I should read it.

• What are your personal strengths? Your weaknesses? Besides this job, what other commitments and activities are priorities for you? What are your major criticisms of yourself?

• How do you accept criticism? Is there anything about yourself that you haven't told us that you think we should know?

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- Staff Evaluations

Women and Children First brought their staff evaluation form to the Feminist Bookstore meetings. They also give copies of the evaluation to newly hired staff as a way of making expectations clear. We're publishing it here for inspiration. — CS

Customer Relations

- ____ Aware of people in the store
- ____ Takes responsibility for approaching customers
- ____ Deals with them enthusiastically and pleasantly
- ____ Able to provide help
- ____ Able to increase sales (e.g., recommends books beyond specific request)
- ____ Creative in helping people
- ____ Demonstrates willingness to go the extra measure to aid customer (offers to wrap presents, make special orders, etc.)
- Pleasant and thorough in dealings with phone customers
- ____ Aware at all times of counter & phone; doesn't assume co-worker will handle it

Co-worker Relations

- ____ Is friendly and open
- ____ Discusses projects with co-workers; negotiates on tasks to be done and seeks consensus on priorities
- ____ Sensitive to co-workers' needs on a daily basis
- ____ Respects and values co-workers efforts and work as much as her own
- ____ Makes her needs & expectations known

Overall Competence

Adequate working knowledge of all systems (receiving, shelving, re-stocking, ordering, special ordering, computer, videos) Ability to recognize the priorities of the day and to do that work

- _ Willingness to perform all tasks as needed
- _ Care and accuracy in receiving books
- ____ Checking quantities and price
- ____ Pricing books that need it
- ____ Doing necessary paperwork/making calls on problems with shipment
- Care and accuracy in shelving books
- ___ Neat
 - ____ Keeps counter area clear
 - ____ Throws away personal garbage
 - ____ Puts things back where all can find them (files, forms, scissors, etc.)
- ____ Thorough knowledge of stock
- ____ Care and respect for books
- ____ Takes initiative
- ____ Knows what needs doing and does it
- ____ Creative
- ____ Adds something recognizable and distinct to store

Special Responsibilities

- Assumes responsibility for certain areas of the store
- ____ Fulfills that responsibility consistently

Miscellaneous

- Punctual
- Flexible
- ____ Careful about personal phone calls
 - Demonstrates genuine interest in the people, content and processes of the store.

Magazines, Newspapers and a 'Zine or two...

By Carol Seajay

No matter how many wonderful books are published, it's still the periodicals that carry the most current ideas, the most important (if not most popular) ideas, that support the debates that lead to good theory, that create community among unique groups of women, and give new writers their first exposure.

Periodical publishing, if not affordable for everyone, is more financially accessible than other aspects of the women-in-print movement. Magazines are labor — rather than cash — intensive. In these days of desktop publishing, access to a computer and money for a copy shop bill are the essentials much cheaper than setting up a bookstore or publishing books.

On the other hand, cashflow is also the hardest for magazines. Most newspapers and magazines (like TV shows) are supported by advertising (a practice that severely limits the "news" we hear) but there are still too few advertisers who see the value in advertising products to (disenfranchised groups of) women to support most feminist magazines. Billing individual stores for sales (usually consignment) is also very labor intensive - for both the periodical and the bookseller. Distributors like Inland and Bookpeople are godsends for both the bookseller and the magazine — but they take a high percent of the after-bookstore-discount revenue. Subscriptions are often the key to magazines' survival, but without major promotion budgets (and I've yet to meet a feminist magazine that's got one) often the best way to find new subscribers is by being "out there" on the bookstores' magazine racks.

And yet magazines are among the "least profitable" and/or most labor-intensive sections in many bookstores. One solution to this problem is to carry only the most readily accessible/easily returnable publications (locally published or via a distributor) or to stock only those magazines that sell best. But that kind of solution misses the point of what we're



doing in feminist bookstores — making information available and building community. Sometimes it's a particular magazine that will change a woman's life, rather than a book. Sometimes it's a particular back issue that has information in it that isn't yet in book

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form. Sometimes it's the debates that rage in our periodicals that vastly improve the quality of the books we publish or sell.

We need that periodical liveliness, those constant debates, those fresh new ideas that take root and change our lives. These are the real profit margins in periodicals and we — and our customers — can't afford to miss out on them.

There are many minimal effort/low budget things booksellers can do to promote magazines and increase magazine sales:

• One of the most successful, low-budget magazine promotion tricks I've seen is a rotating "magazine-of-the-month" display on the counter next to the cash register. It both presents new magazines to your customers and reminds them to check out the magazine rack for other gems.

• If a magazine has a special issue or is on a special topic, shelve it (or doubleshelve it) in that section of the store—i.e., shelve lesbian magazines in the lesbian sec-



tion, recovery newsletters in the recovery section. A new Common Lives/Lesbian Lives or a new Sinister Wisdom thus becomes a new lesbian title with every issue.

• If you *only* stock certain magazines in the appropriate sections, be sure to post a note listing these titles and directing customers to the specific sections where they will be found.

Post notes in various sections that there's an article on this topic in the new issue of _____ magazine.

• Recommend theme magazines or special issues to particular customers the same way you'd mention a new book in a field that interests them.

• Take appropriate magazines with you for conference and other out-of-store sales.

• A well-designed, well-located periodicals rack makes a huge difference in magazine sales — as does keeping it up-to-date and tidy.

• Rotating the magazines in the "highest visibility" areas of your magazine rack presents different titles to regular customers and keeps the display fresh and lively. Scan the table of contents when you log in magazines just as you do anthologies to see what's there that you can recommend to various customers.

• Then there's the option of actually *reading* magazines yourself. I tend to read them most often during burn-out phases when books are too long and anthologies are too focused.

Here are some new periodicals that have arrived at *FBN* over the last six months or so:



Esto no tiene nombre started as a local (Miami) newsletter for Spanish speaking lesbians and has very quickly grown into a national Latina magazine. The most recent issue features a glossy cover with articles in Spanish, English and Spanglish. Contributors include Cherríe Moraga, Juana María González Paz, as well as editors Vanessa Cruz, Tatiana de la Tierra, Patricia Pereira-Pujol and Margarita Castilla and others. Articles covered news from around the national/international Latina lesbian community, looked at building community, creating/claiming a Chicana Lésbica Diosa, a Lesbiana Latina Archives, building coalitions with women of color, living in a mixed collective, discussed the Rodney King verdict, reviewed Cherrie Moraga's play Heroes and Saints and Carla Trujillo's anthology Chicana Lesbians, offered personal reminiscences, and analyzed the main-



stream-media sensationalism attendant to the death sentence given to Anna Cardona, a Cuban lesbian living in Miami, for allegedly abusing and killing her two-year-old son. It's one of the most jam-packed 24-page magazines I've ever seen. All for only \$4.40% bookstore discount for 5+ copies (consignment terms). Stock it even if you *think* you don't have Spanish-reading women in your community. Odds are that you do or that women who shop in your store will know someone who will know someone who knows a les-

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bian who needs this community and won't learn about this magazine any other way. Hopefully at Inland soon. In the meantime, order from *Esto*, 4700 NW 7 St. #463, Miami FL 33126. 305-541-6097.

It's slick, it's flashy. It's Out! It has lots of expensive color pages and it's printed on coated stock throughout and even has a United Colors of Benetton ad (telling you Out is available at all UCB stores.) (No mention of those nonflashy gay, gay/lesbian or feminist bookstores, of course; this is a magazine for real people.) There's Madison Avenue and Fashion (boys section and girls section), Arts, Films and, essential to every not-yet-high-brow gay, a section on Acquiring Taste (lovely lamps and fans with finesse, etc.), and even a "Real World" section. It's (painfully) genderequalized. It's not that there's no content - it's just hard to find beneath all the glitz. You'd have to actually read all two pages of Ms. executive editor Helen Zia's article to get the message gay guys better come out for abortion rights because if the right to abortion is lost, the right to be queer will go next. I hear that it's selling like hot-cakes in gay bookstores. Haven't heard a peep about it from lesbian and feminist bookstores. Out is gay-mag mainstreamed. Their advertising promo claims 20,000 pre-pub subscribers and 80,000 copies ordered by distributors for newsstand and bookstore distribution. Out, 594 Broadway Suite 804, New York NY 10012. InBook, BP, and Ingram Periodicals.

Lower-tech and closer to my heart, Siren is a "women's music" 'zine interested in "rock, thrash, hardcore, art, pop and other rebellious genres that don't have the outlet of the womyn's coffeehouse or womyn's music subculture to shelter them." Features include "Six Really Cool Bands That Have Women In Key Positions" (that then lists only five), interviews, cartoons, jokes, advice (Go for the groin, gals!), quotes ("If you treat a woman like a dog, she will piss on you." -SisterSerpents), Guerrilla Girls posters, a grungy he-fag perspective, madcap buttons and more, all in the best of 'zine production tradition. Too nice? Not! Siren: 1) a sea nymph that lures men to their death with her singing. 2) A device producing a loud, often wailing sound. Rumor is that one or both of the editors works at Women & Children First. Support the next generation of "women's music" and stock Siren. Girltime Production, c/o Kathie Bergquist, 727 W. Briar #A3, Chicago IL 60657. \$3. 40% discount for 5+.

Dyke Review, now in its third issue, is "the other" hot new San Francisco lesbian 'zine/mag. The literary goal is "to be out there" and to put out an uncensored and unjudged dyke-trail. Issues include fiction, personal stories, textual and visual erotica, humor, and news of "in-spots" for traveling women. Hot, 'in' and essential. \$4. 40% bookstore discount. Dyke Review, 584 Castro #456, San Francisco CA 94114.



At the Crossroads (Crossroads: the point where a decision must be made/a course of action chosen) is a visual, performing and literary arts journal for women artists of African descent. It arose from the virtual absence of documentation of Black Canadian women's art and the apparent need for a cultural/po-litical magazine encompassing a wide range of issues. The issue we received at *FBN* included a number of artist's profiles with images of their art work, news of an alternative gallery in Montréal, some wonderful

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short stories, a bit of poetry, scenes from a play in progress, film and book reviews, and some suggested reading lists: Black Canadian Women, Art Books, and more. *At the Crossroads* offers a fittingly artistic layout that actually enhances the words, rather than obscures them. \$6/issue in Canada, \$7/issue outside Canada, 66 pgs. Published twice a year. 20% for 5+, 4-% for 10+. Subs are \$14/Canadian, \$18/US and abroad. At the Crossroads, PO Box 317 Stn. P, Toronto ONT M5S 258, Canada.



COLORLife! is the Lesbian, Gay, Two Spirit, and Bisexual People of Color magazine out of New York. The premiere issue was released on Gay Pride Day. The first regular issue was published in October. Both issues are thick and rich with politics, commentary, news of the "local" and international scene, profiles of relevant groups, and a wonderful, angry article on "international" adoptions by white lesbians and gay men.... There's also comment on the Rodney King riots, the quincentennial, and a lot more information on the encuentros than I've seen anywhere. It also includes articles on gay life and activism in Nigeria, in Latin American countries, news of the anti-gay law passed this summer in Nicaragua - and that's just the beginning. You don't have to already know everything to read COLORLife! - like why Native Americans prefer the term "Two Spirit" to gay or lesbian or why "from the Southern Countries" is preferable to "Third World." There's a lot of information in these relatively thin (22 & 32 page) issues. \$2/issue. What a bargain! 40% bookstore discount. Subs are \$15/year. COLORLife!, 2840 Broadway #287, New York NY 10025. 212-222- 9794.

FBQ - Feminist Broadcast Quarterly is a new, unafraid- of-the-F-word "multi-cultural, multi-racial magazine for/by and about women and our struggles for survival, dignity and equal rights." Articles in the first issue include "Sisters Standing Together Against Racism and Sexism," a response to the Rodney King verdict, " African Heritage: Working Class in a White Progressive Movement," a column called "Raging Hormones" that consists of news items about men whose mental and moral capacities have been addled by an overabundance of testosterone, a photo essay on a homeless people's protest, domestic violence, sexual abuse, and a series of articles about Oregon Citizen's Alliance and the Campaign for a Hate Free Oregon, and more. Whew! 60 pages, \$2/issue. 25% bookstore discount (hopefully that will change), pay at the end of the quarter for copies sold. FBQ, PO Box 19946, Portland OR 97280.

Signals is a new Santa Fe bimonthly newspaper covering "women's news/culture/politics." The issues we saw included local and national news, articles about lesbian youth, anorexia and bulimia, profiles of local activists, and more. Great energy. Twelve pages/issue. Every town needs a women's newspaper/calendar. Signals, PO Box 1713, Santa Fe NM 87504. Subs are \$10/year.

Not new, but now readily available in the USA: *Feminist Review*, the UK's leading socialist feminist journal. *Feminist Review* has played a key role in shaping the debates of the last decade. It is produced by a London-based editorial collective and features articles on feminist theory, race, class and sexuality, women's history, cultural politics, and Black and Third World feminism. Issue 39 was a special issue "Feminism & Europe: Shifting Territories" that included more news and analysis of what's happening to/with women in Europe than anything I've seen published in the States.... No. 40 includes articles on disability and feminism, motherhood, qualitative research and empowerment, women artists and modernism, and Indonesian women's organizations. No. 41 will focus on

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health, No. 42 on popular feminist literature, and No. 43 on food... \$12.95 perfect bound. 40% (no minimum if you're on the agency plan), otherwise combines with paperback for discount. Order *Feminist Review* through your sales rep or send orders including *FR* to the Director of Sales (not the customer services or order department) for appropriate handling and billing. Routledge, Chapman & Hall, 29 West 35th St., NY NY 10001.

The Crone Chronicles began as a collection of writings published and handed around among friends in Jackson Hole. Nine issues later, *Crone Chronicles* is in magazine format and ready to meet a larger world. The issues we saw included debates about how "old" you had to be to be a crone, if men could ever be crones, an article about attending a Sun Dance, an article about the impact of reading Anais Nin, living in a remote wilderness area, a piece about a mother's death, book commentaries, and more. Newsletter format, 24 pages. \$2 each, bookstore terms not sent. *Crones*, Box 81, Kelly WY 83011.

Ubiquity now distributing Spare Rib magazine

Spare Rib is again (finally) distributed in the U.S. Ubiquity Distributors has it. They also stock a number of other fine periodicals that aren't available at Inland or Bookpeople including Indigenous Women, Challenges, Partners (for lesbian & gay couples), ReThinking Schools, Dollars & Sense and Sing Heavenly Muse.

Ubiquity's Women's & Feminist list also includes Feminist Issues, Belles Lettres, Birth Gazette, Connexions, Girljock, Healthsharing from Canada, Lilith, Frontiers, Disability Rag, On the Issues, Sister 2 Sister, Midwifery Today, Ms., New Directions for Women, off our backs, Sojourner, Women's Review of Books, Sagewomen and more.

The Gay/Lesbian list includes BLK, Black Lace, New York Native, Out, Our World, etc. Ubiquity offers only a 30% discount, but they pay shipping for orders over \$100/month (wholesale) or \$75/week. There is a service charge added to smaller orders applied on a case by case basis. Ubiquity Distributors, 607 DeGraw St., Brooklyn NY 11217. 718-875-5491; fax 718-875-8047. Conscience: A Newsjournal of Prochoice Catholic Opinion published by Catholics for a Free Choice, a gutsy, 45-page magazine, is making its first foray into bookstores. "Focusing on ideas and values, Conscience takes a leading role in bringing into the public arena



an ethical discussion of reproductive rights, the role of women and church in society, conscience and dissent, and social conditions and policies affecting women's choices in childbearing and child rearing. The issue they sent FBN included an article on RU 486 by feminist theologian Mary E. Hunt, a critique of RU 486 by the Institute on Women and Technology with response from RU 486 supporters, an article on the Catholic hierarchy's intensification of its opposition to all abortion and contraception, and a dialog on "Defining Personhood" by Mary Catherine Bateson and others. Stocking this magazine would be a good way to support pro-choice Catholics. \$3.50, 40% bookstore discount. Write for a free sample copy. *Conscience*, 1436 U Street NW #301, Washington DC 20009.

Survival News is a newspaper published for, about, and partly by low-/no-income women and their allies. It deals with survival issues — welfare, Social Security, homelessness and housing, health, child care, et al., and provides a forum for low-income women to present their writings and graphics. It informs people of their entitlements and seeks to increase those entitlements. (Pays \$25 for each submission used.) Sponsored by Advocacy for Resources for Modern Survival, a welfare rights institute at the University of Massachu-

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setts, Downtown Center. *Survival News* is also the official newspaper of the National Welfare Rights Union. Subs are \$10/individuals, \$25 for organizations for four issues. *Survival News*, 102 Anawan Ave., W. Roxbury MA 02132.

Women and Recovery "a new monthly update, is a compilation of all the tools in a newly recovering woman's toolbox. News of organizations, publications, services, news releases, legal changes, the latest in treatments and advances, video and book reviews, seminars, conferences and retreats. Women in Recovery gives each woman positive actions to take, tools to fight back, and avenues to pursue their healing more aggressively." Directed toward women in recovery as well as service providers. Sample issues \$1, \$18 for 12 issues. Women to Women Communications, PO Box 161775, Cupertino CA 95016.

The Healing Woman: The monthly newsletter for women survivors of childhood sexual abuse "provides survivors with a monthly reminder that they are not alone, that healing from the deep wounds of incest and childhood sexual abuse is possible, and offers a wise, warm, and loving community where their voices can be heard, where their issues will be understood." Subs are \$25/year, \$15 low income. The Healing Woman, PO Box 3038, Moss Beach CA 94038.

Feminists for Animal Rights is the biannual newsletter of FAR, a group of feminist, vegetarian women with a vegan orientation who are dedicated to ending all forms of animal abuse. FAR welcomes the support of women interested in working to abolish the exploi-



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tation of animals and women. A recent newsletter included articles looking at the war against Iraq, pornography and hunting, abortion rights and animal rights, the Canadian Anti-Fur Alliance's success in defending itself against five of six charges brought against it by the Canadian Advertising Foundation, a review of *With a Fly's Eye* that starts "The only spectator sport that interests me is watching a good mind at work...." Published twice a year. \$12-20 for yearly membership. Bookstore terms and prices not sent. *Feminists for Animal Rights*, PO Box 10017 North Berkeley Station, Berkeley CA 94709.



GLPCI Network is the Newsletter of the Gay & Lesbian Parents' Coalition International. They also publish Just For Us, a newsletter written and produced by kids with gay or lesbian parents for kids with gay or lesbian parents. \$15 for 4 issues. PO Box 50360, Washington DC 20091.

Women & Environments is a feminist environmental newsletter/magazine. Articles in the Spring issue include "The Green Consumer: A European Perspective," "Exposing the Sanitary Products' Whitewash' and What You Can Do About It," "Women, Environment and Urbanization in A Third World Context," and book reviews of 1 in 3: Women with Cancer Confront an Epidemic and Rethinking Ecofeminist Politics. \$20 for 4 issues. Bookstore terms not sent. Women & Environments, 736 Bathurst St., Toronto ONT M5S 2R4, Canada.

Asian Women's Liberation, published in Japan by an all-volunteer collective, is back in print after a five-year hiatus. The new version is a 50-page magazine looking at feminist issues in Asia. One recent issue focused on the plight of Asian migrant workers in Japan, another on women in development. There is currently no US distribution, which is a pity, since international feminist news is so hard to come by here. The English language edition is published twice a year. US\$5 each. Asian Women's Association, Shibuya Coop Rm. 211, 14-10 Sakuragaoka, Shibuya-ku Tokyo 150, Japan.

But Can She Type?

Watching the Middle Man

By Nett Hart

My friends and associates know there is not much room in my life for men, save for cleaning the portajanes at "Michigan" and "moving the piano" for Malvina. It's a kind of pragmatism about who is most likely to encourage, understand, criticize, cherish, and take seriously my efforts. And women, to me, are, well, more interesting. I'm saying all this up front because lesbian baiting/separatist hating seems to follow any discussion about men in the movement. I am not trying to fuel gender antipathy; *au contraire*, I believe we foment more by complacency regarding the Middle Man.

What's wrong with this picture when a groovy guy gets up on stage to *introduce* the feminist woman performer to a nearly all-female, presumably feminist, most likely lesbian audience just because his production company swallowed up the venues and the independent women producers as well? What's wrong with this picture when women's bookstores buy books written, produced, and published by women from men? What's wrong with this picture when sympathetic males help us pick and choose among our issues in order to let our voices be heard? How long before some guy does a women's music festival? Would you go?

By placing men in the middle, brokering us to ourselves, we let them determine the market and marketing of our work and culture. The Middle Man controls access from both sides: how and what is recognized and promoted and to whom. At this point of access, decisions are made that have a significant



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impact on the presentation of our politics and culture and the "success" of them. Remember from the beginning of this wave of feminism how men have initialized good feminists and bad feminists and alienated large numbers of women from feminism by how they presented it. I don't want to hear how this guy is different. I hope they all are. What kind of shmuck could be unchanged by all this feminist brilliance? It is not a gender issue as much as a political reality, a matter of competence: I clearly believe men cannot lead the feminist movement.

I am not an isolationist. The social change I envision as a lesbian and radical feminist is, I believe, for the good of all people and the planet, helping oppressors and their oppression as well as freeing the oppressed and dominated. And I believe the work of feminism needs to be done on and by all people. Feminist ideas and ideals belong in the public domain. They should be as widely promoted as possible. My concern is that women who are feminists (I think at best, men can be feminist or feminist sensitive or profeminist) remain responsible for our work. What we are doing is a new vision of form as well as content and by shirking responsibility for our work we expose it to dilution and reversal.

The tendency toward stasis in the dominant patriarchal society should tell us that a feminist agenda will be recast to their purposes every time they put their fingers in the pie. We have to stop being flattered when someone from the mainstream "legitimizes" us to ourselves by paying attention. We're one hell of a force for change and we need to take ourselves seriously. Forget the Wall Street Journal, et al.

Women are leaders, although you'd never know it from the papers. We actually invented feminism, developed it in a hostile environment, and have been implementing it in choices for our daily lives ever since. We not only thought it up, we've been practicing it. Now it is incumbent upon us to *lead* the feminist movement. We are in a time in the development of feminist thought and politics for feminism to be mainstreamed, that is, *become the mainstream*. No other political agenda addresses the complexities of the human dilemma nor the economic/environmental fusion. Outside of feminism we have only ditherers mouthing 50-year-old political jargon and self-proclaimed progressives.

For this reason we need to shape the institutions around us by our feminist vision. We need to shape and take responsibility for the way feminism enters the mainstream. Feminism is becoming popular — of the people — because of its values, not because of the reluctant attention of the male power brokers.

Fawning for the legitimization men's attention renders in a misogynist society reinforces internalized woman-hating and promotes competition among women. It does not matter whether they are "progressive" (as opposed to "regressive"?) or "left" or "gay." It matters that men who would share in the development of a feminist world are allies who love and respect women.

Under such criteria, our allies who are men and institutions of men will not strive for self-aggrandizement and financial gain at the expense of women and the women's ideas they pander. They will not insist that they know the world better than we and should pick and choose among our agendas or help us shape them to be more "universal." They will not interfere with the ways women cooperate and share resources or pull us aside and tell us they like us better than other women. They will not separate us from our sisters whose political and economic lives are crushed by their systems.

Feminism is not a fragile thing; in fact, it is among the most resilient of human ideals. The notion of female agency to create bonds of respect, love and trust doesn't need "protection" or a grandfatherly mentor. It needs action.

As feminists we are challenged to take that lead rather than let our ideas go the way of the Anthony coin. When it was time to honor a woman on the currency, Susan B. Anthony certainly was a likely candidate. But it was cut down in size, made to appear confused about its value, and ultimately shelved.

This is a time for feminist leadership — outfront and bold. As feminists we are challenged to believe women *can* lead this movement. O

Artwork by Sudie Rakusin

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By Carol Seajay

According to the Northern California Booksellers Association newsletter, Al Gore recently invited Carol Gilligan (In a Different Voice), Deborah Tannen (You Just Don't Understand and Sam Keen (Fire in the Belly) to meet with a group of Senators to discuss gender dynamics and family values. Could we have this coming from the White House???



I haven't seen it either — but I've heard about American Libraries' July and August issues from a number of sources. Seems that the cover photo of the July issue featured the librarians' contingent marching in San Francisco's Gay Pride March. (The annual ALA meeting was in San Francisco during Gay Pride Week.) Doesn't seem like a big deal here in the '90s, but American Libraries' received an outpouring of hate mail like they'd never seen before, inspiring an editorial in the following issue by the (straight male) editor saying that he used to think that reports of homophobia were overstated and blown out of proportion.... Ask your librarian customers for a copy....

Speaking of allies, I recently stumbled upon the *Essence* May '91 and October '91 articles by *Essence* editor Linda Villarosa and her mother Clara Villarosa, ABA Board Member and owner of the African-American Hue-Man Experience Bookstore in Denver. The first article — published for Mother's Day, is a mother-daughter article about the difficulty of coming out to family and the difficulty of learning that your daughter is gay. The second article is made up of letters selected from the avalanche of mail the

magazine relieved in response to the article. Would that they were available in reprint form! Together they make up the most useful in-print tool I know for Black lesbians and gay men dealing with their families and Black families dealing with lesbian & gay kids.... Would make a great Mother's Day window, too....

This year the ALA's Feminist Task Force organized and sponsored a *very* well-attended feminist publisher and author breakfast. It was a resounding success and the word is that it will become an annual event.

ABA has just released the 1992 ABACUS survey results as an insert in *American Bookseller*, which goes to all ABA members. The complete report is available to ABA members for \$20 and to non-members for \$30. Call ABA at 800-637-0037 for details. This update to ABA's ongoing financial survey is based on 1990 operations.

Last Spring New Victoria sent questionnaires to their mailing list: 25% of their mail-order customers read over 100 books per year, 40% of the books their readers choose are lesbian novels, 75% have BA's, 90% have been to college, 39% have attended graduate school and the age range is wide but 75% of the respondents are between 31 and 51 years old. Half the respondents live on one of the coasts, half are from that great space in between.



Naiad took a major step this election and endorsed a presidential candidate — Clinton, of course — and stressed, in a mailing to their entire mailing list, that the Republicans have taken overtly anti-gay positions and that Clinton & Gore have committed themselves to ending discrimination against lesbians and gay men.

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Also on the activist front, Naiad has decided to march as an official body in the 1993 March on Washington and will invite authors and readers to march with Naiad if they don't already have another contingent to march with.



More Naiad news: Naiad reports that 55% of the women on their mailing list ordered from Naiad or made other contact with Naiad (address changes, etc.) during the last two years. Very impressive! Naiad has also decided to cut back on reprinting slow-selling backlist titles.

L'Androgyne, the gay and lesbian bookstore in Montreal is still looking for a buyer. The word is that business is booming — which is good — except that it makes the bookstore harder to sell as the price goes up as the sales go up.

K-Mart (Waldenbooks' parent company) has signed an agreement to purchase Borders. That will unnerve those who are threatened by Waldenbooks' expansion, but might provide some long-term relief for booksellers with Borders "superstores" opening in their towns. Borders has a reputation for excellence including excellence in their feminist and lesbian/gay sections. It's hard to imagine that K-Mart is going to provide the support needed to keep that level of excellence intact.

Feminist booksellers are beginning to be recognized as the experts we are... Mary Morell (Full Circle) spoke at the ALA's Mid-Winter Feminist Task Force's

The Sabbats Series



"Winter Solstice" © Sudie Rakusin

This is a new series of color notecards. They are reproductions from original oil paintings of the eight sabbats by Sudie Rakusin. Each painting personifies one sabbat and holds the symbols, phase of the moon, time of day, the feeling of the season, what is growing or being harvested, etc. against a background color of the corresponding chakra.

There are eight sabbats —

Winter Solstice, Candlemas, Spring Equinox, Beltane/May Eve, Summer Solstice, Lammas, Autumn Equinox and Hallomas. Each card is as detailed as this sample.

Ordering information: Minimum order of one card is one dozen/\$12. (suggested retail \$2 each) Net 30 days. Bookstore pays postage.

Write to: Sudie Rakusin/Cards 3315 Arthur Minnis Rd., Hillsborough NC 27278 Or call: 919-942-4689

Distributed by Ladyslipper

meetings. Gilda Bruckman (New Words) recently spoke on the New England Booksellers Association's front-list buying panel.... If word gets out about what an incredibly experienced group of booksellers we are, we'll get so many invitations that we'll run short on time to run our bookstores....

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Pandora Press, after years of being bought and sold and moved from publisher to publisher, seems to be firmly settled in at HarperCollins. New titles are being published by editorial offices in both the U.K. and at HarperSanFrancisco. By *all* accounts HarperSF is delighted to have the Pandora titles and sees the entire list as a complement to strong feminist spirituality titles they've published for many years. The Pandora line is "right on target" with the best of HarperSF's publishing.

Good Ideas Dept: How can you convince publishers that your store is the best place to send their touring authors? I hear that expensive lunches work, but other strategies I've seen employed include Conant & Conant Bookstore's 8 1/2 by 17 color xerox (folded to make a four page booklet) that is addressed to publicists, directors, and marketing media tour consultants and features newspaper articles about the store and successful events they've sponsored. The back page describes the kind of exposure they are able to provide and services they offer - making media connections, seeking out special interest groups for selected titles, etc. Another (large) bookstore I know puts together an entire packet that they give to appropriate publishers at ABA and by mail when there's an author they're particularly interested in. The packet includes samples of their calendar (plus circulation figures), special fliers, ads and promotional pieces for their readings, media accounts of successful author appearances in their store, a listing of some of the better known authors who have read at the store (with attendance figures), and quotes from letters from happy authors...

Remember those great "Rx for Books" pads that were circulating a few years ago? (I *think* they were Kasha Songer's/Book Garden brainchild.) They were a take-off on the standard physician's prescription pad, but with the "Rx for Books" heading and the store's name and address across the bottom. Book-

stores printed them up and then sent pads to therapists and women's studies teachers, and other women who recommend books on a regular basis. Builder's Booksource, a San Francisco Bay Area specialty bookstore printed up pads that describe their specialty areas (with a note that special & phone orders are always welcome) their phone number and address on one side and have a map showing exactly how to find the store on the back. They sent the pads out to all the local general bookstores to encourage referrals. Builder's is the kind of bookstore that is so specialized that there's little sense of competition with general bookstores and they are the kind of good neighbor that everyone enjoys referring to. For example, Builder's recently developed an Employee Health and Safety Plan (as required by a new California law) and then distributed copies to all the other bookstores in the area, inviting them to use it as a basis for their own plans and/or to plagiarize the entire document. Both pads are great promo devices that are easily designed and relatively cheaply printed.

Have you ever noticed that authors whose last names begin with A-M outsell those whose names are at the end of the alphabet? Barbara Grier reports that the Book Garden has had some success with "re-alphabetizing" the fiction section on a rotating basis so that different segments of the alphabet appear at the beginning of the section — and that readers are discovering authors they'd never noticed before.

Naiad has had book reviews posted electronically on GLIB (Washington DC) and SAPPHO's (NYC) BBS. Is any one else doing this? I'd like to "post" the list of feminist bookstores and the listing of new feminist press titles in the last issue. If you have suggestions for bulletin boards where they should be posted (plus phone numbers) — or better yet — know how to do it, give me a call.



On the bad news front: *Gay Community News* has suspended publication, I've *heard* (there's no *GCN* to turn to for accurate, up to the moment news!), until early next year, assuming they can successfully raise the funds they need to continue. I miss them enormously. If you know the fairy god-mother or financial wizard who can help them get back on their feet, get in touch now! *Outlook* was also not successful in

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raising the money they needed to continue. The Board voted to permanently discontinue publishing last week. There hasn't yet been any word of what this means for the annual Out/Write Writers Conference.



Word is that some of the new books on sexual harassment (Sexual Harassment on the Job, Sexual Harassment: Women Speak Out) are excellent — but that, in many cases, it's the cover that's most important. It seems that simply leaving a book with "Sexual Harassment" in big letters on the corner of one's desk can change the climate of in office overnight.

When my girlfriend goes traveling she has a hard time finding a little something to bring home to me since what I love best are women's books, but there's this myth that I already know about everything already. But did she ever some up with a winner this time! While hanging out in A Room of One's Own's superb card collection, she found a line of greeting cards that feature covers (front and back) from some of the lesbian pulp novels of the '50s and '60s with all their lurid colors and blurbs intact. Cards currently in print feature Claire Morgan/Patricia Highsmith's *The Price of Salt*, Ann Aldrich's *We Walk Alone*, Vin Packer's *Spring Fire* and such gems as *The Unashamed*, *Unnatural*, *Queer Beach* and *Satan Was a Lesbian*. Oh, be still my foolish heart! What gems! What a piece of history! I only want more! Published by Flaming Closets, 4954 Vegas Drive, Las Vegas NV 89108. Cards retail at \$1.50 with a 50% bookstore discount. Cards are blank inside and are printed on 100% recycled paper.

Only real trivia freaks are going to enjoy this one: Hyperion, the publishing arm of the Walt Disney empire, is tackling sexism with *How to Make the World A Better Place for Women* — *In Five Minutes a Day.* "With this book, any woman can become an activist, in five minutes a day." If I'd had this book twenty years ago, I could have done something else with the last twenty years.... Just goes to show that the mainstream can trivialize anything.

From Abortion Cartoons On Demand by Signe Wilkinson, Paul & Company. (See 15#3, page 103)



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New Stores

Cheryl Underhill will be opening Sappho's Garden in Beaumont, TX. She plans to stock new age, 12-step and lesbian titles. Her address for now is Cheryl Underhill, Sappho's Garden, c\o 8820 El Paso #222, Port Arthur TX 77640.

Joanne Bucci plans to open a lesbian-feminist bookstore, which she will call Basement Books, in Schwenksville PA. Contact her at PO Box 156, Schwenksville PA 19473.

In early 1993, Anne Moser and Robin Moneypenny will open Wittershins, a feminist bookstore at 200 Mill Pond Road in Easley SC 29642. They plan to stock feminist books as well as lesbian, gay and other titles. They'll also have a cafe serving coffees, teas and pastries. Wittershins, they say, means "to journey or go forth in a different direction."

Caryn Young Nelson would like to hear from other feminist booksellers as she plans to open a women's center/bookstore, sidelines shop in Portland OR. Write or call her at 11436 SE 90th Ave. #324, Portland OR 97266; 503-786-4157.



Marie Mocerino plans to open a bookstore to be called Avalon at 3715 East North, Greenville SC 29615; phone, 803-268-7331.

Iriph Dror has started a new gay mail order business, Rainbow Families. The address is 8623 Geren Road, Silver Springs MD 20901; 301-588-0426.

Look for a feminist bookstore/cafe/gallery/meeting space to open in late winter, early spring in the northwest suburbs of Chicago. Linda Mowry and friend can be reached at 560 Ida Court, Mt. Prospect IL 60056. It's official, Catherine Lundoff's Iowa City store, Grassroots Books, is up and running at 614 S. Dubuque St., Iowa City IA 52240. Mailing address PO Box 984, Iowa City IA 52244; 319-339- 4678.

Barbara Dobrinsky Holtzman, who's been running a mail-order book business in Middletown, NY for the past 18 months, will open a women's bookstore on Nov. 19. Her new address will be Route 302, PO Box 234, Circleville NY 10919; 914-361-1383. The store is "nice and small" with a reading/sitting/drinking tea area in the center.



White Rabbit Books and Things is opening a third store, this one in Charlotte, NC. The store will open sometime before Christmas at 314 Renselaer Ave. #1, Charlotte NC 28203; 704-377-4067.

Stores Move

Pandora Book Peddlers has moved from its 19th century grain warehouse in Englewood NJ to a 20th century mini-mall at 885 Belmont Ave., North Haledon NJ 07508. They also have a new phone number: 201-427-5733.

Sherry Butler says her Travellin' Pages mobile bookstore has a new California address: 1087 Running Springs, Chico CA 95926.

Gualala Books has moved to a new, twice-as-big location. One of the best aspects of the new site is that the women behind the sales counter, Lynn Gigy and Barb Tatum, now have a beautiful view of the ocean! Gualala Books, PO Box 765, 39175H Highway One South, Gualala CA 95445; 707-884-4255.

Grapevine Books has moved to a new Reno location. The store is now open at 1450 S. Wells Ave., Reno NV 89502.

And yet another feminist store has relocated. Clairelight has moved from Petaluma Hill Road in Santa Rosa to 519 Mendocino Ave. #101, Santa Rosa CA 95401. The phone number remains 707-575-8879.

The Washington Blade has moved to 1408 U Street NW, Second Floor, Washington DC 20009. Their phone number is 202-797-7000.

Third World Press has moved from its S. Cottage Grove Ave. home to 7822 S. Dobson St., Chicago IL 60619. Phone: 312-651-0700.



Poster Moves

Kitchen Table's poster commemorating the response of 1,603 African-American women to the Thomas confirmation hearings is now available through Inland. \$17. Ask for the AAWIDOO poster (African American Women in Defense of Ourselves) featuring Anita Hill and the signatures of the 1,603 women.

Mev Moves

In January, Mev Miller will be leaving her position as Sales Manager at Inland Book Company (after 8 years) and moving to Minneapolis to become the new marketing director at Spinsters Ink.

Titles Change

New Victoria Publishers has changed the title of one of its fall books. Idella Serna's novel, originally called Wickets, A Woman's Life in Prison, is now being promoted as Locked Down: A Lesbian Life in Prison.

The Disabled Wommin's Newsletter has changed its name and address. It is now published as Hikané: The Capable Womon. The address is PO Box 841, Great Barrington MA 01230.

Back to Press, continued from page 48

18th Annual Chicano/Latino Literary Competition sponsored by the University of California at Irvine. She receives \$2,000 and publication of her collection of short stories *Territories*.

Carla Trujillo won the first OutWrite Vanguard Award for her anthology Chicana Lesbians: The Girls Our Mothers Warned Us About, published by Third Woman Press. Calyx writes that their books and authors are receiving some well-deserved attention: Charlotte Watson Sherman, author of *Killing Color*, has been awarded the 1992 Greater Lakes College Association (GLCA) New Writer Fiction Award. Sherman will go on an author tour of the 12 colleges in the GLCA. Chitra Divakaruni received Honorable Mention in the 1992 Paterson Poetry Prize for *Black Candle* and has been nominated for the Los Angeles Times Notable Book Award. Kathleen Alcalá (*Mrs. Vargas and the Dead Naturalist*) recently read at the San Antonio Book Fair and Marianne Villanueva (*Ginseng and other Tales from Manila*) read at the San Francisco Book Fair.

Writing Wanted, continued from page 52

and SASpostcard to Rosemary Curb, Editor, International Research Associate, Women's Studies, 524 Homes Hall, Boston MA 02115.

Contributions by lesbian or gay K-12 educators or students are sought for an anthology on *Lesbians and Gays in Education*. Send notarized permission to print, whether you want your name used or not, and brief bio to Sue McConnell-Celi, PO Box 8932, Red Bank, NJ 07701.

Roz Warren, editor of Crossing Press' *Woman's Glib* and *Woman's Glibber*, is seeking hilarious material for the third *Glib* collection. Send to her at PO Box 259, Bala Cynwyd PA 19004.

Rivka Mason is seeking submissions for an anthology of bearded women. She welcomes contributions whether short sentences, stories, poems, photographs or comic strips "that portray how we can laugh with each other rather than be laughed at." She also encourages stories from women with menopausal hair and any type of body hair. Rivka Mason, 2325 B Carleton St., Berkeley CA 94704.



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SHORT RAVES

One Fine Day by Mollie Panter-Downes, Virago Modern Classics. It is a summer's day in 1946. The English village of Wealding is no longer troubled by distant sirens, yet the rusting coils of barbed wire are a reminder that something, some quality of life, has evaporated. Together again after years of separation, Laura and Stephen Marshall and their daughter Victoria have to adapt to the new world. Their rambling garden refuses to be tamed, the house seems perceptibly to crumble. But alone on a hillside, as evening falls, Laura comes to see what it would have meant if the war had been lost, and looks to the future with a new hope and optimism. This is a hypnotic and beautifully crafted novel which is a treat in store if you have not yet read it.

 From Silver Moon Book Shop's "The Ones You May Have Missed" column.

Lesbian Ethics (the magazine, not the book) in Volume 4 #3 presents some of the finest lesbian feminist thinking on the topic of child rape. It's tough, exciting, and very "right on."

- Mary Morell/Full Circle, Albuquerque

Have you seen Faith Ringgold's Tar Beach? (Crown, 1991.) It's too good to miss!

- Our Mother's Garden's, Mankato MN.

Suzanne's favorites are Mama by Terry McMillan and Mama Day by Gloria Naylor. These fiction works by Black authors are such rich and authentic portrayals of women's lives, I find myself thirsting for more. There is a truth in these books that I often find missing in other fiction. Another book, recently released in paper is **My Name is Carolyn** by Carolyn Miller. It is a genuine sharing of her life as a bulimic, starting as a young teen through her early twenties. I read this several years ago when it came out in cloth. It was personally helpful to me at a time when I was letting go of this behavior and since then I gave the book to my daughter to read and to share among her many bulimic peers in college. So if this might fit for you or someone you love, I highly recommend it!

- from Two Sisters Bookshop Newsletter.



Paula Clayton

I'm not known for falling in love with books with titles like **Despised and Rejected** written by women who publish under their initials rather than their names (A.T. Fitzroy). But I picked this one up off the lesbian shelf at Silver Moon during the few hours I managed to spend there this summer, and fell in love with the book all across the Atlantic. A.T. Fitzroy was the pseudonym of Rose Laure Allantini. An introduc-

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Now Available from New Victoria Publishers P O Box 27 Norwich VT 05055



LOCKED DOWN A LesbianLife in Prison \$8.95 ISBN 0-934678-40-5

The compelling story of a woman who came of age at a time when there was little support for women who didn't fit society's gender norms. Her arrest at sixteen for stealing a car to impress her lover began a thirty year career of rebellion and incarceration. Unable to fit the role of good girl, and experiencing confusion about her sexual identity, Lee lashed out at those around her.

This is a story of one woman's survival in the U.S. prison system.

New Victoria is distributed by Bookpeople, Inland and Bookslinger or order direct from the publisher.



tion details the search for information about her life and her writing (and I'll make you find the book to get the details!) Despised and Rejected is an anti-war novel published in London at the height of WWI. It very successfully conveys the brutal persecution of conscientious objectors in that war, and the particular difficulties faced by a young gay man who has fought against his love for specific men for years but who cannot find any value in the idea of going out and killing other boys, all as equally innocent of the real crimes as the young man he loves (also a conscientious objector.) The novel is written from the perspective of a young lesbian who, frustratingly enough for me, seems to fare less well in her romantic life than the young man. (Ah, well, you can't rewrite history only celebrate that it exists.) Out of print for over 70 years, this novel more clearly described my feelings and politics — as a young dyke in the anti-(Vietnam)war movement than anything I have read since. It reminded me, once again, what a threat to the established order gay love really is. It is hardly surprising that an anti-war book celebrating the efforts of CO's with its two main characters being a lesbian and a gay man met with such fierce opposition at that time. It was almost immediately banned following the "successful" prosecution of its publisher. It has remained out of print and nearly forgotten until republished by GMP (Gay Men's Press) in London. \$10.95 pb, 0-85449-063-9. Distributed in the U.S. by Inland.

— Carol Seajay/FBN

Maybe it's the covers or maybe it's just my experience that anything that's gotten by Sue and Jane is worth the read, but I've read several books in the Silver Moon Books imprint that I had skipped over in the U.S. editions. My latest Silver Moon find is A Third Story by Carole Taylor (originally published in the U.S. by Lace Publications in 1986 during Lace's presex crazed era.) A Third Story is a witty, gay tale of a peaceful, academic life in the university closet gone (seemingly) awry when one woman decides to sue the university for sex discrimination. None of the heroes fits feminist stereotypes and they all felt very true to me. It offers another, wider, vision of the women who really make history. The Silver Moon edition is £5.99 pb, 1-872642-07-1. - Carol Seajay/FBN

Rant

I'm sitting here, getting annoyed and enraged as I thumb through a book I ordered. So I thought I'd save other feminist bookstores the trouble involved in sending back a book that they may be misled into ordering. **The Empowered Woman**, by Riki Robbins Jones is a great example of a backlash book. Title of Chapter 10: "Realize that the Feminist Movement Does Not Empower Women." She tells us of the feminist movement's "disservice to women" and that it is "not society's limitations, but our own ingrained habits of thinking" that hold women back. Give me a break (and a little complexity of thought)!

— Trudy Mills/Antigone Books O

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GAY MEN'S LIT FOR FEMINIST BOOKSTORES

By Richard Labonte A Different Light Bookstore, San Francisco CA

By now, with the year-end holidays not too far away, we've all got full bookshelves waiting for expectant buyers... but with faith that there's always room for a few more titles, here are some subject-by-subject suggestions of worthwhile titles:

In drama: Heinemann is bringing us Terry Helbing's Gay and Lesbian Plays Today (\$15.95 pb, 0-435-08618-9), a solid selection of work; FSG offers Lanford Wilson's Redwood Curtain (\$8.95 pb, 0-374-52353-3), a new play from the author of *The Fifth of July*.

In essays: Random House has a new essay collection from the usefully curmudgeonly Gore Vidal, United States: Essays 1951-1991 (\$35 cl, 0-379-41489-4); and, less pricy, there is The Decline and Fall of the American Empire (Odinian Press, \$5 pb, 1-878825-00-3, PGW), six cutting essays on America today.

In gay fiction: From Carrol & Graf, there is The Collected Ghost Stories of E.F. Benson (\$10.95 pb, 0-88184-857-3), a must for every fan of the musty genre; from Penguin, the paper editions of Almost History (\$11 pb, 0-452-26966-0), Christopher Bram's rich tale of three decades in the life of a U.S. foreign service officer, and The Uncle from Rome (\$14 pb, 0-14-015707-7), Joseph Caldwell's seductive story of an opera performer's odd romances in Italy; and from FSG, Martin and John by Dale Peck (\$21 cl, 0-374-20311-3), an AIDS romance.



In History: Bisexuality in the Ancient World by Eva Cantarella (\$27.50 cl, 0-300-04844-0) is a timely tome from Yale, certainly suitable for the bisexual shelf of any store which has such. In poetry: The Jargon Society and the UC Santa Cruz Library have collaborated on the publication of a book of fun, wise poems by venerable elder composer, painter and poet Lou Harrison, Joys & Perplexities (\$20 pb, 0-912330-74-0); and from Writer's Block comes Rudy Kikel's Long Division (\$8.95 pb, 1-881555-04-6), ruminations on growing up and being gay.



In sociology/anthropology: The University of California has two paper editions of popular hardcovers, Gilbert Herdt's Ritualized Homosexuality in Melanesia (\$16 pb, 0-520-08096-3) and Bert Hinsch's Passions of the Cut Sleeve (\$14 pb, -07869-1), a study of homosexuality in China. The paperback edition of essays edited by Herdt, Gay Culture in America (\$14 pb, 0-8070-7915-4), is also soon available from Beacon; and Richard Mohr's controversial essay collection Gay Ideas (\$25 cl, -7920-0) — the book a dozen printers refused to touch — was due from Beacon in mid-November, if the printer actually delivered.

In mystery: St. Martin's has another of George Baxt's punny, funny novels featuring real folks in fictional settings, this time the **Noel Coward Murder Case** (\$17.95, cl, 0-312-08272-X); from the same publisher, the latest paper edition of Mark Richard Zubro's zesty sleuth series, **Sorry Now** (\$8.95 pb, -08299-1); from Signet, a mass market first novel, Steve Johnson's fast-paced **Final Atonement** (\$3.99 pb, 0-451-40332-0), and the mass edition of Hollywood writer Stan Cutler's amusing series featuring a crusty straight private eye and his accidental partner, a young gay man, **Best Performance by a Patsy** (\$4.50 pb, -40359-2).

In religion: Alamo Square Press has published a second edition of Antonio A. Feliz's Out of the

Bishop's Closet (\$12.95 pb, 0-9624751-7-3), a Mormon bishop's account of homosexuality within his church.

In relationships: Two new books, while written for general audiences, are carefully inclusive of lesbian and gay lives: Naomi Miller's Single Parents by Choice (Plenum, \$24.95 cl, 0-306-44321-X), and Elliot Samuelson's Unmarried Couples: A Guide to Your Legal Rights and Obligations (\$24.95 cl, -44322-8).



Gay Men of Color

Those are a few of the newer books for late fall; this column's look at backlist titles features writing by gay men of color. To start, I suggest that any interested store stock the magazines **BLK**, **BGM**, **Thing**, **Blackfire**, **Alternatives** and **Spade**, which come from the Black gay community; **Desde este lado**, from the Philaedelphia Latino/Latina community; **Lavender Godzilla**, from the Asian gay community; and **Kuumba**, which features writing by both Black gay men and Black lesbians. All but **Spade** (PO Box 91706, Washington DC 20090), **Alternatives** (1283 S. La Brea #235, Los Ageles CA 90019), **Lavender Godzilla** (PO Box 42184, San Francisco CA 94142) and **Desde este lado** (310 S. 10th St., Philadephia PA 19107) are available from Inland (IN).

Before singling out a couple of dozen writers and their work, I'll note that I've not included the books of such multi-text authors as James Baldwin, Langston Hughes, Yukio Mishima, Federico Garcia Lorca or Manuel Puig. Any as-complete-as-possible section should include them, of course — or at least Baldwin's **Giovanni's Room** or **Another Country**, Hughes' **The Langston Hughes Reader** or **Good Morning Revolution** (both collections of prose and poetry), Mishima's **Confessions of a Mask**, Lorca's **Poet in New York** (the bilingual edition from Noonday/FSG), and Puig's **The Kiss of the Spider Woman.** But my focus in what follows is mostly, though not entirely, on contemporary, younger, or specifically-gay books.

Francisco X. Alarcon is the author of three volumes of poetry; Chronicle Books has published **Body in Flames/Cuerpo en llamas** (\$8.95 pb, 0-87701-718-2) and **Snake Poems** (\$10.95 pb, 0-8118-0161-6), and he has also self-published **De amo oscuro/Of Dark Love** (\$10.95 pb, 0-939952-08-4), available from Small Press Distribution.

Reinaldo Arenas was a Cuban expatriate who settled in New York; before his death last year he had published a number of fine novels, most recently **The Doorman** (Grove, \$17.95 cl, 0-8021-1109-2) and **Old Rosa** (\$16.95 cl, -1092-4). The former is a surreal story about a New York doorman and his perceptions of the women and men he serves, a gay couple included; the latter is an enormously moving novel which, through twinned narratives, tells of a Cuban youth's coming out through first his eyes and then his mother's. Other Arenas novels include **The Palace of White Skunks** (Viking, \$21.95 cl, 0-670-81510-1), **Farewell to the Sea** (Penguin, \$7.95 pb, 0-14-006636-5), **Singing From the Well** (\$7.95 pb, -009444-X0) and **Ill-Fated Peregrinations** (Avon, \$7.95 pb, 0-380-75074-0).

Alfred Arteaga is the author of Cantos, published by Chusma House (\$7.95 pb, 0-9624536-2-5, BP), a collection of Chicano poetry; Young Sailor (Gay Sunshine Press, \$7.95 pb, 0-940567-01-6, BP/IN) collects the translated poetry of Luis Cernuda, a Spanish writer from early in the century; The Colors of Love by Leon del Ciervo (StarBooks, \$7.95 pb, 1-877978-31-0, BP/IN) is poetry in an erotic vein by a Cuban writer; Perversions by Roy Gonsalves (Renaissance Press, \$5.95 pb, 0-9625921-0-2, IN) is poetry about AIDS and love in the Black community; Black Markets/White Boyfriends by Ian Iqbal Rashid (Tsar Press, PO Box 6996, Station A, Toronto ONT M5W 1X7, Canada, \$9.95 pb, 0-920661-18-1) is by an Indian writer now living in Toronto; American Morning/Mourning (Whirlwind Press, \$9 pb, 0-922827-01-X, IN) by Lamont B. Steptoe is poetry by a Black Philadelphia writer; Tongues Untied (GMP, \$7.95 pb, 0-85449-053-1, IN), contains poems by Dirk Aaab-Richards, Craig G. Harris, Essex Hemphill, Isaac Jackson and Assotto Saint.



There are a number of collections to consider: In the Life edited by the late Joseph Beam (Alyson, \$8.95 pb, 0-932870-73-2, BP/IN) and Brother to Brother edited by Hemphill (Alyson, \$8.95 pb, 1-55583-146-x), both of which contain stories, poetry, interviews and essays by Black gay writers; and The Road Before Us (Galiens, \$10, 0-9621675-1-7, BP/IN) and Here To

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Dare (\$10 pb, -2-5, BP/IN), both edited by Saint, the former a collection of 100 Black poets, the latter collecting the work of 10 poets. Hemphill is also the author of a prose and poetry collection, **Ceremonies** (Plume, \$10 pb, 0-452-26817-6), and Saint's first volume of poetry is **Stations** (Galiens, \$7 pb, 0-9621675-0-9, IN).



And there is fiction: three novels by Larry Duplechan which sell steadily to customers looking for witty romantic writing from a Black perspective, Eight Days a Week (Alyson, \$6.95 pb, 0-932870-84-8. BP/IN), Blackbird (St. Martin's, \$7.95 pb, 0-312-00998-4, BP) and Tangled Up in Blue (\$8.95 pb, -05167-0, BP); two novels by Melvin Dixon are Trouble the Water (Vintage, \$8 pb, 0-671-74187-X) and Vanishing Rooms (Plume, \$9 pb, 0-452-26761-7), a powerful book about both interracial love and gay bashing; two books by Randal Kenan are the novel A Visitation of Spirits (Doubleday, \$8.95 pb, 0-385-41505-2) and the short story collection Let the Dead Bury Their Dead (HBJ, \$19.95 cl, 0-15-149886-5); two novels by the late Chicano writer Arturo Islas, The Rain God (Avon, \$8.95 pb, 0-380-76393-1) and Migrant Souls (\$8.95 pb, -71440-x), tell the story of an extended Mexican-American family which includes a gay son, featured most prominently in the second book; and there is Elias Miguel Munoz, whose second novel, The Greatest Performance (Arte Publico, \$9.50 pb, 1-55885-038-4), is a strong coming-out story. Cuban-American Munoz's two other books are the novel Crazy Love (Arte Publico, \$8.50 pb, 0-934770-83-2) and the poetry collection En estas tierras/In This Land (Bilingual Press, \$9 pb, 0-916950-92-1).

The mystery novels of Michael Nava have been mentioned in this column before: **The Little Death** (\$7.95 pb, 0-932870-96-1) and **Goldenboy** (\$8.95 pb, 1-55583-130-3) from Alyson, **How Town** (\$3.99 pb, 0345-36987-4) in Ballantine mass market, and **The Hidden Law** (\$19 cl, 0-06-016783-1), new this fall from HarperCollins in hardcover. His hero, Henry Rios, muses often on his heritage. Another genre writer of note is SF author Samuel Delany though much of his work is now out of print. In the coming-out genre, there is Canaan Parker's debut novel, **The Color of** **Trees** (Alyson, \$8.95 pb, 1-55583-207-5), which is set in a boys' prep school. And if cartoon art is a genre, there is the fabulous work in **B.B. and the Diva** by Rupert Kinnard (Alyson, \$6.95 pb, -134-6).

A Black-charactered novel with a bisexual bent is E. Lynn Harris' Invisible Life (CST, \$12.95 pb, 0-9631791-0-1, IN); a terrific Black coming-out biography is Mickey Fleming's About Courage (Holloway House, 8060 Melrose Ave., Los Angeles CA 90046, \$3.95 pb, 0-97067-349-1); another fine nonfiction work is Diary of a Young Soul Rebel by Isaac Julien and Colin MacCabe (BFI, \$18.95 pb, 0-85170-310-0), which includes the script of the British film, diaries by the filmmakers, and an interview by bell hooks with Julien; Ramon's Story by Rick Elston (Los Hombres Press, \$9.95 pb, 1-979603-07-1, BP/IN) is the real-life account of a young gay Mexican's illegal entry into the U.S., his alcoholism and his 12-step recovery; Vega's Vega Studio has published Men of Color (\$10 pb, no ISBN, IN), a photo-essay on Black gay couples, and A Warm December (\$9.95 pb, 1-880729-01-6, BP/IN), a collection of poetry.

Some classics include Wallace Thurman's Infants of the Spring (Northeastern University Press, \$12.95 pb, 1-55553-128-9), a potent satire set in the Harlem Renaissance, and one of the few novels to acknowledge the era's homosexuality (Thurman's other novel is The Blacker the Berry); Blair Niles' jail-set Strange Brother (GMP, \$12.95 pb, 0-85449-167-8), first published in 1935; Bom-Crioulo by Adolfo Caminha (Gay Sunshine Press, \$7.95 pb, 0-917342-88-7), by a 19th Century Brazilian writer, about the romance between a Black sailor and young shipmate; and, from the Arab Middle Ages, The Delight of Hearts by Ahmad al-Tifashi (Gay Sunshine Press, \$14.95 pb, 0-940567-09-1), a 12th Century Tunisian and Damascus scholar, whose homosexual writings were translated with verve by E.A. Lacey.



Two books to consider when their paper editions come out next year are Jaime Manrique's Latin Moon in Manhattan (the hardcover came from St. Martin's) and John Rechy's The Miraculous Day of Amelia Gomez (hardcover from Little Brown). All of Rechy's other books should be considered, of course, but Mi-

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raculous Day is a very moving, very intense fiction focusing on a Latina woman's Los Angeles life, including how she copes with her gay son.

Readers who have been attentive so far have detected a lack of writing by the Asian gay male community: there just isn't much in print. Gay Sunshine Press has published **Crystal Boys** by Chinese novelist Pai Hsien-yung (\$11.95 pb, 0-940567-11-5), about the gay scene in Taiwan; Alyson has an anthology of East Asian writing edited by Rakesh Rati, Lotus of Another Color (\$8.85 pb, 1-55583-171-0), due in early 1993; Indianborn Dinyar Godrej leads off the three-poet collection **Twentysomething** (GMP, \$8.95 pb, 0-85449-171-6, IN); and there is a Chinese-family coming-out story in the short story collection **Pangs of Love** by David Wong Louie (Plume, \$9 pb, 0-452-26888-5).

There is even less in print from the Native American community, though the anthology edited by Will Roscoe, **Living the Spirit** (St. Martin's, \$9.95 pb, 0-312-03475-X), includes poetry as well as non-fiction prose by Maurice Kenny, Randy Burns, Daniel Little Hawk and Lawrence William O'Connor and others. Some solo books by Kenny, a leading American poet, include **Tekomwatoni: Molly Brant 1735-1795** (White Pine, \$12 pb, 1-877727-20-2, BP/IN), **Between Two Rivers** (White Pine, \$10 pb, 0-934834-73-3, IN), **Rain** (\$8 pb, -98-9, IN) and **Wounds Beneath the Flesh** (\$8 pb, -38-5, IN).

Two new titles are Richard Rodriguez's essay collection **Days of Obligation: An Argument With Myself** (Viking, \$21 cl, 0-670-81396-6), which includes his take on being gay in San Francisco; and Jamake Highwater's novel **Killhole** (Grove, \$18.95 cl, 0-8021-1475-X), a powerful reflection on AIDS, race, class and rage.

That's much of what's available to stock a writers of color section, or to add to your regular sections. I'd be interested in hearing about any titles I've missed, by the way — I know there are some small-press or self-published books we'd all like to know about.



Gift Books

The other book suggestions I promised last issue were of gift titles men might be interested in, and which the women's bookstores could suggest to their customers looking for a good "boy" book. Here are five possibilities: The Cat Inside by William S. Burroughs, whose ferocity is ameliorated by his love for cats (Viking, \$12.95 cl, 0-670-84465-9); the Sex book by Madonna (Warner, \$49.95 cl, 0-446-51732-1, if you can get any; apparently the first printing of 750,000 was sold out before the book was shipped, with 600,000 backorders); Montgomery Clift: Beautiful Loser by Barney Hoskyns (Grove, \$30 cl, 0-8021-1512-8); 108 Portraits, a book of photos by film director Gus Van Sant (Twin Palms, \$50 cl, 0-944092-22-5, BP); and Notorious, photos by Herb Ritts (Little Brown, \$75 cl, 0-8212-1911-1). The prices are impossible, of course, but all are guaranteed high holiday sales.

Next issue: the bestsellers of 1992, a look at religion backlist, and of course, new books of interest. O



By Tee A. Corinne

Writing this column in Oregon shortly before the elections where homosexual behavior may be labeled — in the state constitution — as "abnormal, wrong, unnatural and perverse," I'm tempted to call it "notes from the war zone." Life here has been hectic, frightening, and in many ways quite wonderful. Support has come from unexpected quarters. Organizing has been fueled. Perhaps it will be a step forward instead of back.

FBN has been very generous. My column has been late for several issues. I'm grateful for the sanity FBN brings and for the privilege of reviewing these books and connecting with each of you.

Mother Earth Through the Eyes of Women Photographers and Writers, ed. by Judith Boice, is a gem of a gift book. Beautifully produced and moderately priced, it juxtaposes amazing color photos with texts by Alice Walker, Paula Gunn Allen, Anne Cameron, Anne Dillard, Ntozake Shange and many others. Sierra Club Books, distributed by Random House, \$20 pb, 0-87156-556-0.

Harriet Hosmer: American Sculptor 1830-1908 by Dolly Sherwood needs to be added to lesbian libraries. Hosmer, famous for her work in marble dealing with women and children as subjects, was part of a well documented lesbian circle in Rome. Actress Charlotte Cushman and Sculptor Emma Stebbins were at its center. Harriet Hosmer, rich with details, opens the artist's life and art to a wider audience. University of Missouri Press, \$29.95 cl, 0-8262-0766-9, 20% for 1-2, %40 for 3-9.

Gifted Woman by Howard Schatz is a gorgeous book. I wish it had been done by a woman, but this man's head and heart are in the right places. Each photo of the 50 women subjects is accompanied by their professional accomplishments and biographical information. These photos are *very* good. Subjects include Maxine Hong Kingston, Isabel Allende, Diana E. H. Russell, Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon (and yes, the L word is used), and many others: child psychiatrist, urban affairs consultant, banker, and disabled rights activist (Judith Heumann) shown speeding along in an electric wheelchair. This book is full of dignity and wonder. Pacific Photographic Press, distributed by Publishers Group West, \$24.95 cl, 1-881021-00-9.



Story Quilts, Telling Your Tale in Fabric by Mary Mashuta gives inspiration as well as detailed instruction about how to design and complete a personal story quilt. Empowering and charming at the same time, I feel good every time I look through this book. C&T Publishing, 5021 Blum St., Ste. 1, Martinez, CA 94553-4307, \$16.95 pb, 0-914881-47-7, 20% for 1-3, %40 for 4+.

Also by Mary Mashuta is Wearable Art for Real People, C&T, \$18.95 pb, 0-914881-24-8.

Vija Celmins with an interview by Chuck Close is an oddly lovely book accompanied by a rather prickly interview. Celmins, who was born in Latvia

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All use subject to https://about.jstor.org/terms

in 1939, does paintings that look like the night sky or the surface of the desert or paintings of disasters. One sculpture is a giant comb. A painting shows a hand holding a gun with smoke coming out of its insides. This is an honest book, neither fancy nor pretentious. Distributed by Art Publishers, 636 Broadway, Rm 2108, NYC 10012, 800/338-2665, \$25 pb, 0-923183-08-6.



Art Publishers also distribute Florence Henri: Artist Photographs of the Avant Garde which I reveiwed quite favorably some time ago: striking, dramatic images by a French artist (1893-1982). \$24.95 pb, 0-918471-17-6.

Higher ticket items that should interest librarians and might move during the holidays include **Photographs: Annie Leibovitz 1970-1990**, an extraordinary collection of her portraits of rock stars and other cultural celebrities: Whoopi Goldberg in a bathtub full of milk, Patti Smith in front of a row of burning buckets, Ella Fitzgerald in sunglasses, Bette Midler covered in red roses. Most of the photos are in color. Dynamite. HarperPerennial, \$35 pb, 0-06-092346-6.

Flesh & Blood: Photographers' Images of Their Own Families with essays by Ann Beattie and Andy Grundberg includes many images by women photographers and some by African Americans like Clarissa T. Sligh, Carrie M. Weems, and Pat Ward Williams. For the price they're charging I wish they had included an index. Given the care they took to include Blacks and women, I wish they could have spread their net a bit wider to include more racial and ethnic groups and lesbian and gay families. Still the book is better than anything else of its kind, and they have enlarged the art dialogue, if not quite as much as I might wish. If this sells well, there will be more. Picture Project, distributed by Publishers Group West, \$50 cl, 0-9632551-0-X.

Abby Williams Hill and the Lure of the West by Ronald Fields reclaims a talented landscape painter (1861-1943) who was commissioned by the railroads to paint celebrations of Western vistas. It is a moving, ultimately sad story of a woman who worked on despite the difficulties of caring for an increasingly unstable husband. The discussions of her working style and conditions are marvelous. Washington State Historical Society, \$29.95 cl, 0-917048-63-6, 20% for 1, %30 for 2-4, %40 for 5+.

Looking for the Light: The Hidden Life and Art of Marion Post Wolcott by Paul Hendrickson examines the life and work of Wolcott (1910-1990) who stopped taking pictures after she married in her early 30s. Her youngest child didn't know that his mother was famous as one of the Farm Security Administration photographers making images of poverty in this country during the 1930's. Knopf, \$35 cl, 0-394-57729-9.

Contemporary artist **Ida Applebroog**'s work has been described as "disquieting visions of domestic violence and the subtle terrors of everyday life." True. Distributed by Art Publishers, see above, \$45 cl, 3-89322-365-7.

More a course book than a gift book, **The Expanding Discourse: Feminism and Art History**, ed. by Norma Broude and Mary D. Garrard, includes 29 essays including one by James M. Saslow on "The Construction and Constriction of the Lesbian Body in Rosa Bonheur's Horse Fair." Other essays of particular interest include "Afrofemcentrism and its Fruition in the Art of Elizabeth Catlett and Faith Ringgold" by Freida High W. Tesfagiorgis, and "Culture, Politics, and Identity in the Paintings of Frida Kahlo" by Janice Helland. HarperCollins, \$50 cl, 0-06-430391-8.



Suzi Gablik's **The Reenchantment of Art** is now available in trade paperback. Gablik is a major critic and her tackling of life values is unusual in that context. "Patriarchal structures are especially strong in the art world. Becoming aware of how much they enslave us is the first step toward breaking the cultural trance." Thames and Hudson, dist by W. W. Norton, \$15.95 pb, 0-500-27689-7.

Still available is **Recognitions: Images of a Woman Artist**, a personal journey toward self-understanding using words, family photos and selfportraits. Zoland Books, distributed by IN, \$15.95 pb, 0-944072-03-8; \$25 cl, 0-944072-02-X.

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In a recent *Locus* interview, Suzy McKee Charnas talked about two of her works-in-progress: the longawaited third (**The Furies**) and fourth (possibly titled **Innocence**) books in the series that began with *Walk to the End of the World* and *Motherlines*. Writing them, she said, "It just scared me to death, because it's all about war. It's a war between men and women and women and men. It's about being very angry and being able to express your anger, not being told that it's not allowed. Not only to express it, but to overindulge it and having to find the barriers you wish to draw to contain your own rage. It draws on the history of slave revolts and how people behave when the restraints are lifted. It's a horror story in some ways, and I didn't want to write it, because it was very unpleasant to deal with."

Lois McMaster Bujold, author of the Miles Vorkosigan novels and the new fantasy **The Spirit**. **Ring**, and Kristine Kathryn Rusch, fast-rising fiction writer and acclaimed editor of *Pulphouse* and now *The Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction*, have been named guests of honor for WisCon next March. The second James Tiptree Jr. Memorial Award will be given then; Readercon, a book-oriented convention held annually in Worcester, MA, will host the award in 1994. For more info about WisCon, write SF3, Box 1624, Madison, WI 53701.

And while we're at it, if you want to recommend a fantasy or science fiction story or novel, published in 1992, for the 1992 Tiptree, send title and publisher info ASAP to Karen Joy Fowler, 3404 Monte Vista, Davis CA 95616. As Pat Murphy concisely phrased it, the judges are looking for "gender-busting stories that knocked your socks off."

Pat Cadigan won the Arthur C. Clarke Award, given for the best science fiction novel of the year published in Great Britain, for **Synners** (Harper-Collins in Britain; available in the U.S. in Bantam Spectra paperback, \$4.95, 0-553-28254-9). The newest from this hard-edged sf writer — one of the few women ever mentioned when the fast-passing term "cyberpunk" comes up —is **Fools**, due in November (\$5.99 pb, 0-553-29512-8).

Someone recently lent me the English edition of Jeanette Winterson's **The Passion**, a witty, wry, wonderfully poetic, and surprisingly poignant "slipstream" novel that combines the tale of a young Frenchman caught up in Bonaparte's advance (he skips the retreat) and the gambling daughter of a Venetian boatman. I commend it to you. (Published in the U.S. by Vintage's International Series, \$8.95 pb, 0-87113-350-4.)



BANTAM SPECTRA

Gleaned from the small print (meaning no prices, no ISBNs, and only a strong suspicion that they're all in mass-market paperback:

Elisabeth Vonarburg's In the Mothers' Land is due in its first U.S. paperback edition in December.

Could **The Further Adventures of Wonder Woman** (April 1993) —an anthology edited by the most prolific anthologist in this or any other field, Martin Greenberg — be anything but a sort of "shared character" collection about the comic book Amazon of my childhood? Bullets and bracelets!

CALYX BOOKS

Two collections I heartily recommend sight unseen, having read (and published) stories by both authors: **Mrs. Vargas and the Dead Naturalist** (\$9.95 tp, 0-934971-25-0), by Kathleen Alcala, and **Killing Color** (\$8.95 tp, 0-934971-17-X), by Charlotte Watson

Sherman. Both Alcala and Sherman, one Chicana, the other African-American, push and merge the boundaries of "real" and fantastic — and their writing is a treat. High accolades to Calyx for continuing to publish some of the best and most diverse women's literature around!



COLLIER NUCLEUS (Macmillan)

Evangeline Walton's four-book telling of the Welsh epic, the Mabinogion, has been out of print for most of a decade, but **The Song of Rhiannon** (book 3) was reprinted in trade paperback in September 1992 and **Island of the Mighty** (book 4) is scheduled for next spring. I assume that means that I slept through the rerelease of book 1, **Prince of Annwn**, and book 2, **The Children of Llyr.**

DAW BOOKS

Winds of Change, by Mercedes Lackey, is the second in the Mage Winds trilogy (to be completed by *Winds of Fury*), in which Elspeth, princess and herald, ventures out in order to learn how to use her mage powers. In the fantasy industry, Lackey's magnitude is approaching Marion Zimmer Bradley's, but this isn't the kind of stuff I'd buy in hardcover. (\$20 cl, 0-88677-534-5)

Speaking of which, Lackey is co-authoring Bradley's next Darkover novel, **Rediscovery**, due from DAW in April 1993.

Blood Lines, the third in Tanya Huff's thoroughly enjoyable series about Toronto private eye Vicki Nelson and her buddy, Henry Fitzroy, the romance-writing vampire son of Henry VIII, is due in January.

In February look for **Archangel Blues**, the third in Eluki bes Shahar's "Hellflower" series, and in June (a bit down the road —worry not, I'll mention it again) it's **Sword and Sorceress X**, edited by Marion Zimmer Bradley.

DEL REY/BALLANTINE

Del Rey is, I think, the only f/sf publisher that has refused and/or forgotten to send me any promo material whatsoever in the eight years I've been writing this column. In the last year or so, the company has shown an encouraging interest in new women writers who are prime candidates for feminist-bookstore shelves, as well as old standbys like C.J. Cherryh and Anne McCaffrey. The paperback edition of **Yvgenie**, which concludes Cherryh's grim Russian-flavored trilogy, is due in November. In coming months watch for the following:

December: All the Weyrs of Pern, by Anne Mc-Caffrey, paperback reprint of the best-reviewed Pern book in some time.

February: Ammonite, by Nicola Griffith. I've read several excellent stories by this British-born Georgia resident.

April: The Drylands, by Mary Rosenblum. Mary's "In Unison, Softly" appeared in Tales of Magic Realism by Women; some of her Drylands stories have been published in Isaac Asimov's Science Fiction Magazine, a major pro market.

May: Storm Caller, by Carol Severance, whose Reef Song and Demon Drums are also available from Del Rey.

EDGEWOOD PRESS

Venus Rising, by Carol Emshwiller (author of *Carmen Dog* and *The Start of the End of It All*, both from Mercury House), is a chapbook from a f/sf independent press (P.O. Box 264, Cambridge, MA 02238; trade terms not specified). Inspired by Elaine Morgan's *The Aquatic Ape* and *The Descent of Woman*, this is an epic, intimate, poignant, enraging tale of first contact: a tree-dwelling male from beyond the stars "discovers" a pacific shore- and sea-dwelling people, bringing rape, murder, and dreams of dynasty. Actors and storytellers, check it out as a performance piece. Highly recommended. (\$5, 0-9629066-0-3)



FIREBRAND BOOKS

Running Fiercely Toward a High Thin Sound, by Judith Katz. Another one to recommend highly sight unseen — well, not quite unseen, since I read an earlier draft three years ago and included an excerpt (previously published in *Sinister Wisdom*) in *Memories and Visions*. Protagonist Nadine Pagan is an epic figure, and hers a journey through strange landscapes, from lesbian community to transtemporal underground. Call it slipstream, call it magic realism; buy it, and thank Firebrand for publishing it. (\$9.95 tp, 1-56341-019-2)

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HARPERCOLLINS

Cherokee Bat and the Goat Guys, by Francesca Lia Block. Thanks to Karen Axness of Room of One's Own (Madison, WI) for first calling my attention to Block's wonderful YA novels *Weetzie Bat* and *Witch Baby* (which were scheduled for Harper Trophy reprint in September and October respectively). The third, again set in a fantastic Los Angeles that one reviewer calls "a mystical wonderland of strange sights and sounds and characters that you wish were real and living down the block from you," is about Witch Baby and Cherokee Bat, who is Weetzie Bat's daughter. (\$14 cl, 0-06-020269-6)

JOVE (Berkley)

Daughter of the Night, by Elaine Bergstrom, continues the fascinating tale of the Austra vampire family (*Shattered Glass, Blood Alone*, and *Blood Rites*), this time in late 15th and 16th century Europe. Bergstrom weaves into it her interpretation of the historical Countess Elizabeth Bathori of Hungary, a mass murderer of women. The book is very well done and, as might be guessed, intensely disturbing, not just for the bloody violence (of which there is enough) but also for its insight into passion, privilege, oppression, and the desire for power. As a fan of the Austras, I was shaken too by Bergstrom's courageous exploration of her vampires' alien aspects; even the creative, responsible Steffen is not simply a human with fangs. (\$4.99, 0-515-10951-7)

ROC/PENGUIN

Ladies, by Boris and Doris Vallejo. It isn't just the title that prompts me to advise caution with this collection of ten "retold tales of goddesses and heroines": Persephone, Eurydice, Pandora, Circe, Medusa, Medea, et al. Boris Vallejo's celebrated fantasy artwork is generally of the mighty-thewed men/ big-boobed women variety. (ISBN not available; trade paper and cl)

TOR

Two notable paperback reprints are due early in the new year. In January, watch for Maureen F. McHugh's excellent **China Mountain Zhang**, whose protagonist is a gay American-born Chinese man. In this fully realized future, socialist and xenophobic China is the world's foremost political, economic, and cultural power (a neat device for critiquing America First ideologies), and the penalties for being homosexual are draconian.

In February, Susan Shwartz's **The Grail of Hearts** comes out in paper. The protagonist is Kundry, once a goat- and sheep-herder in Judaea, whose millenniumlong wandering begins after she is raped and then ordered by her tribe's elders to marry the rapist. This well-researched epic draws on Christian Grail legends and those of the Wandering Jew. Recommended.

Xanadu, ed. by Jane Yolen. The first in a promised series of original fantasy anthologies includes work by Ursula K. Le Guin, Lisa Tuttle, Tanith Lee, Nebula Award winner Nancy Kress, Tiptree Award co-winner Eleanor Arnason, and Esther Friesner, not to mention several newer names (and a few guys as well). There's even a surprise appearance by feminist-press regular Leslea Newman. (\$21.95 cl, 0-312-85367-X) 1/93



Mutagenesis, by Helen Collins, in its early chapters looks like a broad-brush critique of patriarchal gender roles. A scientific team from Earth sets down in a society so intolerant of women that geneticist Mattie, one of two Earth women, must be interned before the society's "fathers" will speak with the team's men. Mattie subsequently escapes with several native "daughters," only to discover that the planet harbors an even more diabolical, and far more sophisticated threat to sexual autonomy. However, the writing was too pedestrian, the characterization too flimsy to hold my interest. (\$21.95 cl, ISBN n/a) 2/93

Strange Devices of the Sun and Moon, by Lisa Goldstein. This versatile and excellent author (*The Red Magician, Tourists*) turns to high fantasy in this one, which is set in Elizabethan times. The Faerie Queen invades London in search of her missing son, the reborn King Arthur; playwright Christopher Marlowe figures in the tale too. (\$19.95 cl, ISBN n/a) 2/93

The Door into Sunset, by Diane Duane. Veteran f/sf readers may recall that, in the early 1980s, Diane Duane published two fine fantasies, *The Door into Fire* and *The Door into Shadow*, with significant gay (male) content. The promised third and fourth in the tetralogy never appeared; Duane has occupied herself with Star Trek novels and YAs. This seems to be the third; sad to say, it's in hardcover — for now. 03/93 O



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Compiled by Carol Seajay

AUNT LUTE BOOKS

Bold, funny and on the cutting edge, Jyl Lynn Felman's **Hot Chicken Wings** is Jewish and lesbian to the core. These highly crafted stories break new ground as Felman writes fearlessly about family secrets, anti-Semitism, and sacred lesbian myths. The stories in **Hot Chicken Wings** are odd, passionate and revealing. Felman is not a safe writer — she treads close to the edge of her readers' comfort. Yet because she is not a didactic writer, her stories are often humorous in surprising ways. \$8.95 pb, 1-879960-21-4.

Melanie Kaye/Kantrowitz's latest collection, The Issue is Power: Essays on Women, Jews, Power and Resistance, documents 15 years of writing and organizing in civil rights, feminist, lesbian, Jewish, and peace movements throughout the United States. Never simple, but always clear, these diverse writings address a wide range of issues — lesbian culture, war, sexual power, identity politics, Israel, Palestine and the Middle East. Her passion for justice weaves these issues into a connected whole. Adrienne Rich says, "Melanie Kaye/Kantrowitz is passionate, strategic,

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. pithy, generous, realistic, controversial — unquenchable — like the best of our movements for change." \$9.95 pb, 1-879960-16-8.



Tee A. Corinne

We appreciate getting initial and/or larger orders. Aunt Lute Books, PO Box 410687, San Francisco CA 94141. 415-558-8116. Distributed by BP, IN, the distributors, Small Press Distribution.

- Aunt Lute Books





Banshee's Women, CAPSIZED in the Coral Sea by Jeannine Talley

Jeannine Talley, author of Women at the Helm, gives readers more gripping sea adventures with her latest book Banshee's Women Capsized in the Coral Sea. Jeannine and her partner, Joy Smith, in their 34-foot sailboat, Banshee, were capsized and dismasted in a terrible storm off the east coast of Australia. Joy's leg was hurt in the roll-over and they called for rescue. Jeannine and Joy, in spite of her injury, managed to get out on deck in incredible winds and seas to cut away the broken mast and rigging. After four days of being wildly tossed about, they were found and rescued first by a cargo ship and then by helicopters flown out from Australia, 450 miles away. The women were forced to abandon Banshee in mid-Pacific. But the story doesn't end there. Two intrepid Australians found and towed the Banshee back to Australia and generously returned the boat to her two owners. Welcoming Banshee back with joy, the women began the year-long painstaking task of rebuilding her to cruise again. ISBN 0-941300-24-2 \$21.95 hardcover

ISBN 0-941300-224-2 \$21.95 hardcover ISBN 0-941300-23-4 \$12.95 paperback (also by Jeannine Talley—*Women at the Helm* paperback ISBN 0-941300-15-3, \$11.95; hardcover ISBN 0-941300-16-1, \$19.95

Meditations & Blessings from a different dimension

by Dorothy "Mike" Brinkman

When Dorothy "Mike" Brinkman, a mature, practical somewhat skeptical social worker and a member of the women's community in a large, midwestern city, began to experiment with automatic writing (channeling), she was very surprised by the messages she received. The writings were simple and profound and ultimately, *simply profound*. After sharing these writings with women's groups for two years, Mike published *Welcome to the Home of Your Heart*.

Now, with this new publication, the meditations and blessings that were sprinkled throughout the first volume are collected into another special and useful book. The inspired and empowering meditations may be used by women's 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 (also by Dorothy "Mike" Brinkman—Welcome to the Home of Your Heart \$11.95 paperback ISBN 0-941300-17-X)



Mother Courage Press 1667 Douglas Avenue, Racine, WI 53404-2721 (414) 637-2227 FAX (414) 637-8242

Available from Inland, Bookpeople, Bookslinger, New Leaf, Moving Books

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CHERYL A. TRAENDLY PRODUCTIONS

The Women celebrates women athletes with 150 photographs taken at Gay Games III in Vancouver by sports photographer Cheryl A. Traendly. Wonderful action, active, alive photographs of women in motion - from the opening ceremonies and croquet through marathons, powerlifting, swimming, physically challenged racewalking and karate competitions, and team and individual sports - women celebrate their power, strength, and lesbianism. Also celebrated are photographs of competitors over fifty and images of family and community supporting lesbian athletes. "Exhilarating, inspiring, and just plain fun," says JEB. An essential addition to every lesbian and every womenand-sports section and a great holiday gift. \$19.95 pb, 0-9634389-9-9. Traendly also has a stock photo library with over 250,000 images. Cheryl Traendly Productions, 3008 Manning Ct., Santa Rosa CA 95403. IN & BP.

CHILDREN'S BOOK PRESS

Children's Book Press adds two new titles to their list this Fall. Leaving for America by Roslyn Bresnick-Perry, illustrated by Mira Reisberg recounts the storyteller's own tale of leaving her childhood in a small Jewish village in Western Russian and coming to America with her mother to start a new life. \$13.95 cl, 0-89239-105-7. Things I Like About Grandma is a loving tribute to grandmothers everywhere from African-American artist Francine Haskins, creator of last year's I Remember "121." Her books provide a positive look at the African-American community at a time when urban areas are troubled and many grandparents are bringing up their grandchildren. \$13.95 cl, 0-89239-107-3. Children's Book Press, 6400 Hollis #4, Emeryville CA 94608. BP, IN and most other distributors.

GYNERGY

Lesbians Ignited by Carolyn Gammon. In this impassioned first book of poetry, Carolyn Gammon writes from the fiery heart of of lesbian life and love. The rhythms vary from no-holds-barred torch songs to poems imbued with ironic slow burn, as Gammon investigates sexuality and politics with explicit, uncompromising and sometimes humorous language. \$8.95 pb, 0-921881-21-5.

Imprinting Our Image: An International Anthology by Women with Disabilities edited by Diane Driedger and Susan Gray. In this unprecedented collection, 18 disabled women from every region of the globe confront a world which has consistently sought to impose false and constricting images upon them. \$12.95 pb, 0-921881-22-3.



Friends I Never Knew by Tanya Lester is an eloquent testimony to the power and necessity of storytelling. Tara has exiled herself on a Greek island and has firmly resolved to write about the extraordinary women she has known through her work in the women's movement, but she finds herself telling another story — her own, between the lines of theirs. In the end, it is these women, speaking in the pages of her notebook, that bring Tara out of exile and allow her the freedom to act once again. \$10.95 pb, 0-921881-18-5.

gynergy books, PO Box 2023, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada C1A 7N7. gynergy/Ragweed titles are now distributed by General Publishing in Canada (30 Lesmill Road, Don Mills ONT M3B 2T6); BP, IN, and Bookslinger in the U.S., and Turnaround in the U.K.

HOT WIRE

Women's Music Plus: 1992 Directory of Resources in Women's Music & Culture is a 74-page (staplebound) directory listing 3,000 contacts — including musicians, record distributors, feminist bookstores, festivals, sign language interpreters, photographers, grants & financial aid, film/video &



TV, visual artists, composers & songwriters, cartoonists, craftswomen, artist representatives, libraries, archives, publishers, periodicals and, perhaps best of all, addresses of many feminist writers. \$12. No ISBN. 40% bookstore discount. Published by Hot Wire (put in a standing order for *Hot Wire: A Journal of Women's Music and Culture* while you're at it!), 5210 North Wayne, Chicago IL 60640.



NEW VICTORIA PRESS

Last minute title change: Locked Down: A Lesbian Life in Prison was previously announced as *Wickets: A Woman's Life in Prison*. \$8.95 pb, 0-934678-40-5. Price and ISBN remain the same. (See 15#3, page 81 for review.)

OUR POWER PRESS

Our Power Press is a new lesbian publisher with plans to publish two to five lesbian novels (or mysteries) per year. Our Power is actively soliciting manuscripts for 1993. A Safe Place to Sleep by Jennifer L. Jordan is Our Power's first release. This powerful novel, written with a light and often humorous touch, chronicles the journeys of two lesbians as they come to terms with what happened to them in their childhoods. One woman's story gently, yet accurately, portrays the process of uncovering memories of incest; the other's exposes the pain and joy a 29-year-old woman feels as she hunts for her biological parents. \$9.95 pb, 0-9634075-0-3. Our Power Press, PO Box 6680, Denver CO 80206. Bookstores please order from Bookpeople and Inland. — Our Power Press

PHOENIX GRAPHICS

Phoenix Graphics offers a line of bookplates for feminist bookstores: One reads "Wherever they burn books they will also, in the end, burn human beings," another features a sleeping cat. Others feature women standing against a mountain- night sky, a woman's symbol >= men, and my favorite, a tasteful silhouette of a woman reading a book in the bathroom. All read "from the library of...." 50 bookplates per package. \$3 retail with various deals for quantity bulk orders. 10 packages each of all 5 designs are \$1.35/package.

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Phoenix also sells memo pads in 12 different dykely and feminist designs. For complete listing write to Phoenix Graphics, 300 First St. South, Winter Haven FL 33880. Phone and fax: 813-294-3083.



PRESS GANG PUBLISHERS

sing me no more by Lynette Dueck is not an easy read but is certainly a transforming one. Tracing the path of a woman through the confusion of abuse and addiction to the painful air of sobriety, this novel engages the reader from the first sentence and carries you breathless to the end. Told in bold, unflinching language, this is fiction with an emotional punch. \$12.95 pb, 0-88974-046-1.

Paper, Scissors, Rock by Ann Decter is literature with a social conscience. In poetic prose that tumbles and sparkles, with a steady sense of the storyteller's art, Decter captures the tenderness, bitterness and grief of a daughter's fierce love for her slowly dying father. But' this is much more than a moving personal drama; the narrative interweaves a search for social justice amidst racism and anti-Semitism. \$12.95 pb, 0-88974-040- 2.

Collateral Damage: The Tragedy of Medea by Jackie Crossland is a feminist, modern-day reworking of the Medea myth which is at once hilarious, inspiring and tragic. A playscript intended to be played entirely by women, including such roles as Jason bighero-dick and big-buddy-king-guy, it is a witty and engaging tale. Shelve this under "Humor" as well as "Drama."\$9.95 pb, 0-88974-042-9.

Press Gang Publishers, 603 Powell St., Vancouver BC Canada V6A 1H2. BP, IN, Bookslinger, Moving Books, New Leaf, Pacific Pipeline, University of Toronto Press, Turnaround. — Press Gang Publishers

SAGA

Saga, the publishing company affiliated with the recently closed feminist bookstore in Argentina,

has published Feminismo: Ciencia Cultura Sociedad edited by bookstore women Nené Reynoso and Susana Sommer with Ana Sampaolesi, in conjunction with Editorial Hvmanitas. The anthology looks at the history of women and women in history, women and music in Argentina, the problems of women artists, the origin of "sacred submission" and discrimination of women in religion, and more. Published in Spanish. I include the book here in celebration of women succeeding at getting the



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word out despite against all odds in a country with enormous inflation and other economic problems. For more information contact Editorial Hvmanitas— Saga Ediciones, Carlos Calvo 644, (1102) Buenos Aires, Argentina. Fax (54-1) 362-0746.

SISTER VISION PRESS

The Colour of Resistance, an anthology of writing by Native Women edited by Connie Fife, is a potent response to five hundred years of colonization and genocide and is a tribute to "where we have been, where we stand, and the direction of our vision for the future." The Colour of Resistance is a powerful offering of pain and healing, and its words are the catalysts of radical change. \$17.95 pb, 0-920813-62-3. 40% bookstore discount. Sister Vision Black Women and Women of Colour Press, PO Box 217 Station E, Toronto ONT M6H 4E2, Canada. Distributed by BP, IN, and Bookslinger. —Sister Vision Press

VOLCANO PRESS

Save My Rainforest by Monica Zak, illustrated by Bengt-Arne Runnerström, translated by Nancy Schimmel, is a full-color children's picture book based on the true story of Omar Castillo, a child environmentalist who persuades his father to accompany him on a pilgrimage to save the Mexican rainforest. \$14.95 cl, 0- 912078-94-4. A Spanish language edition is available under the title *Salven Me Selva* from Iaconi Book Imports, 1110 Mariposa St., San Francisco CA 94107. Volcano Press, PO Box 270, Volcano CA 95689. BP, IN, etc.



WELL VERSED PUBLICATIONS

Nothing But a Hero by Lillian Allen, the tape, uses the dub form with its reggae roots and rhythms to create a contemporary upbeat sound that children of all ages will love. Whether it is a poem about Harriet Tubman, Nelson Mandela, Mother Earth, being different or a poem that is pure fun, these works vibrate with the issues and beat of today's world. Cassette packaged with 24-page book of poems and teachers guide. For children 7 and up. \$15, 0-895248-03-5.

Name Calling by Itah Sadu, illustrated by Kim McNeilly. The story begins with "Jennifer called Cindy a name and it hurt." As Cindy goes through the school looking for Jennifer to make her apologise, she gathers up a number of friends to accompany her on her mission. Each one of them wants to teach Jennifer a lesson with a unique remedy which is repeated as each new character joins the group. Itah Sadu uses a familiar storyteller's format to treat the problems of an interracial primary school with both humour and seriousness. This story with a surprise ending gives room for children to express their feelings of frustration and anger while learning that revenge is not the solution. 32 pages, 5.95 pb, 1-895248-04-3.



Earlier Well Versed titles include **Why Me** by Lillian Allen, illustrated by Sherry Guppy. Sevenyear-old Squiggy is exasperated with her diastrous day. She discovers how to make a fresh start the next morning. **Why Me?** is a first picture book for children written by Lillian Allen, an internationally know dub poet and recording artist. 24 pages, \$5.95 pb, 1-89548-02-7.

Well Versed Publications are distributed by The Women's Press/Canada, 517 College St., Suite 233, Toronto ONT, Canada M6G 4A2. BP & IN.

WOMEN, INK

Women, Ink is a project of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), to market and distribute women's and development resource materials and to circulate UNIFEM's 15 years of experience working on women and development issues. Their first two books are Freedom from Violence: Women's Strategies from Around the World and Legal Literacy: A Tool for Women's Empowerment. Twelve case studies in Freedom from Violence tell the stories of women organizing to combat the physical and psychological abuse of women in Sri Lanka, India, Pakistan, Malaysia, Thailand, Sudan, Zimbabwe, Mexico, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile and the US. Though the types of abuse vary from culture to culture, these inspiring accounts indicate common areas of agreement about what needs to be done to overcome the physical, economic, social, cultural and legal origins of the violence. \$24.00 pb, 354 pages. Legal Literacy explores legal literacy as a process of self and social

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Lesbian Fiction/Mystery — New Title

A SAFE PLACE TO SLEEP, by Jennifer L. Jordan

Destiny Greaves, a well-known activist and "the most famous lesbian in Denver," comes to Kristin Ashe with an unusual request. She asks the detective to find her childhood. Because Destiny has no memory of her parents (who died when she was four), she hires Kristin to reconstruct the early years of her life. This seeming simply task becomes increasingly complex as Kristin also begins hunting for the missing pieces of her own childhood, and as her feelings for Destiny deepen. A lively lesbian ex-nun shows up just in time to help the two women conclude their incredible search, which ends in a thought-provoking twist that will leave you gasping!

"Jennifer Jordan's rollercoaster debut is worth the price of the ticket. By twists and turns, Jordan reveals not one, but two intriguing pasts. She unravels a mystery, unveils a love story, and exposes the power of the human spirit."



Jane Troxell, Senior Editor, Lambda Book Report

\$9.95, 171 pages ISBN: 0-9634075-0-3

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empowerment and an essential component in a broader strategy to achieve social justice. It presents experiences and strategic approaches from Asia, Africa and Latin America. \$24, pb. No ISBNs. 20% bookstore discount, no minimum. Women, Ink is managed by the International Women's Tribune Center (IWTC) at 777 United Nations Plaza — Third Floor, NY NY 10017.

THE WOMEN'S PRESS/U.K.

Women's Press titles that have recently arrived on U.S. shores include:

The Women Artists Diary 1993, a spiral bound week-a-page calendar complete with full-page monthly planners, a menstrual calendar and an A-Z address section. \$11.95, spiral bound, 4 1/2" x 7", 0-7043-4303-7. 50% non-returnable, 40% returnable.

Changes: A Love Story by well-loved African writer Ama Ata Aidoo, a novel about an independent career woman who, unable to find male love and companionship on anything like acceptable terms, elects for being a "second wife" in a situation she hopes will provide her with both independence and intimacy. \$11.95 pb, 0-7043-4261-8.

Dead End Street: A Story of Wartime Germany by Helga Hagen focuses on the particular limbo of half-Jews in Nazi Germany and "the emotional cost of hiding amongst the enemy." This is Hagen's first novel. She lived in Germany throughout the War. She is now in her seventies and lives in New York. \$11.95 pb, 0-7043-4257-X.



American writer Judith Arcana's **Our Mother's Daughters** (0-7043-3864-5) and **Every Mother's Son: The Role of Mothers in the Making of Men** (0-7043-3916-1) are again available in the U.S. courtesy of the U.K. Women's Press editions. \$13.95 each.

Caeia March's **Three-Ply Yarn** is one of my alltime favorite lesbian novels and I'm delighted to find



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it available on American shores (at last!). It tells the tale of a white, working class lesbian from that prefeminist era mourning the death of her lover and raising her daughter, a Black child in a white village far from the more integrated cities. All of March's novels give time and history to a lesbian community that tends to exist only in the present. \$11.95 pb, 0-7043-4007-0. Fire! Fire!, a more recent novel by Caeia March, offers another tale of working class women/lesbians fighting for a place in the world. \$11.95 pb, 0-7043-4282-0.

The Incomer by Margaret Elphinstone offers "a beautifully imagined society" and a wandering fiddle player. "Her coming heralds music and festivity but also threatens to awake a violence long forgotten." \$8.95 pb, 0-7043-4070-4.

The Man Who Loved Presents: Seasonal Stories challenges the typical expectations of the season and was a surprise bestseller in England last Christmas. "From horror to humor, biting satire to the macabre and the fabulous, these tales examine the turbulence of family gatherings, the volatile meetings of generations and the tantalizing traumas of excessive eating, drinking and entertaining. \$11.95 pb, 0-7043-4289-8.

Waiting for the Morning by Kath McKay is Jo's story. "Jo, of all her mother's children, the one who 'got away' from her working class background to career success, must rethink her relationship with her mother and her family as she faces her mother's terminal illness." \$10.95 pb, 0-7043-4265-0.



What Lesbians Do in Books edited by Elaine Hobby and Chris White is "a major anthology of critical writing about lesbians as writers, readers and characters in literature. From Sappho to Virginia Woolf, from *The Well of Loneliness* to *Three-Ply Yarn*, from the Garden of Eden and Sanskrit myths to feminist thrillers and Black lesbian poetry, this innovative study reveals the richness and variety of lesbian history, culture and politics." \$16.95 pb, 0-7043-4288-X.

The Women's Press/U.K., 34 Great Sutton St., London EC1V ODX, U.K. Distributed in the US by InBook. O



By Ann Morse

In Silent Words, Ojibwa author Ruby Slipperjack (Honour the Sun) tells the story of Danny Lynx, a young boy living in northwestern Ontario in the 1960s. Beaten by his father and step-mother, bullied by the neighborhood kids, Lynx runs away. Hoping to find his mother, who left the family a year ago, Lynx travels through a number of Native communities along the CN mainline. Ultimately, his journey becomes one of self-discovery, as he learns about his own Native background. Fifth House describes the book as having the depth and richness of an adult novel while still being accessible to young adult readers. \$12.95 pb, 0-920079-93-8. Fifth House, 620 Duchess St., Saskatoon SAS Canada S7K 0R1. Bookslinger.

First Nation's writer Lee Maracle (Bobbi Lee: Indian Rebel, I Am Woman and Sojourner's Truth, has written her first novel, Sundogs. Sundogs follows the life of a Canadian First Nation's family during 1990, when Elijah Harper fought the Meech Lake Accord and the Mohawk Warrior Society took a stand in the Oka crisis. The events of this momentous year

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. prompt the book's heroine, Marianne, to rediscover her past and redirect her future. \$12.95 pb, 0-919441-41-6. Theytus Books, PO Box 20040, Penticton BC Canada V2A 8K3. Also published by Theytus are **Breath Tracks**, poems on Native life by Jeannette Armstrong, an Ikanagan Indian (\$12.95 pb, 0-919441-39-4); and **Voices in the Waterfall**, poems by Cree writer Beth Cuthand (\$11.95 pb, 0-919441-43-2). IN.



Claudia McGehee in My Walden: Tales from Dead Cow Gulch

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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.

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Karen Tei Yamashita's second novel, after her award-winning *Through the Arc of the Rain Forest*, is **Brazil-Maru**— the tale of three generations of a group of Japanese Christians who emigrate to Brazil hoping to carve a utopia out of the jungle. Five narrators testify to the dreams and development of the community in Esperança from 1925 to the present, and its eventual fall into bankruptcy and disillusion. \$19.95 cl, 1-56689-000-4.



Also from Coffee House is Anne Panning's collection of 10 short stories, **The Price of Eggs**, in which she homes in on the heartbreak, loss and brittleness of the lives of mostly workingclass women and men in rural America. \$11.95 pb, 0-918273-95-1. Coffee House Press, 27 North 4th St., Minneapolis MN 55401. BP, IN, Small Press Distribution and Consortium.

Gravwolf Press has reissued Somali novelist Nuruddin Farah's trilogy, Variations on the Theme of an African Dictatorship, which explores the devastation wrought by authoritarian government in contemporary Africa. Sardines, the second book in this series, might be of most interest to feminist booksellers as Farah focuses on the story of an editor who loses her job at a national newspaper. She finds her attempts to maintain personal safety and identity increasingly threatened by an oppressive government and the traditions of conservative Islam. Though written by a man, Sardines promotes feminist themes in an area where there are still too few books available by women. \$12 pb, 1-55597-161-X. Graywolf Press, 2402 University Ave., Suite 203, St. Paul MN 55114. BP, IN, Bookslinger.

As part of its Caribbean Writers Series, Heinemann has reissued **Between Two Worlds**, Simone Schwarz-Bart's mystical tale of Ti Jean and his fight against a monstrous beast threatening Guadeloupe: white domination. \$8.95 pb, 0-435-98929-4. Heinemann, 361 Hanover St., Portsmouth NH 03801. 20% for 1-4; 40% for 5+.

Another reissue is Kathryn Marshall's My Sister Gone, a portrait of childhood, the relationships

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between two sisters and the devastating effects of incest. The first half of the novel — a compelling, hilarious and deeply disturbing look at one girl's world — opens during a hot Texas summer in 1960: 10-year-old Helen spends much of her time under the buffet, thinking about life and hiding from her older sister Carrie, whose rage at men proves deadly. In the disappointing second half of the novel, Carrie reappears in Helen's life a decade later. Together, they float through a world of drugs and despair, until death — in the form of a kitchen-table abortion — claims Carrie. First published by Harper and Row in 1975. \$9.95 pb, 0-944439-49-7. Clark City Press, PO Box 1358, 109 West Callender St., Livingston MT 59047. Consortium.

Three by Three presents three stories each by three Quebecois writers: Anne Dandurand, Claire Dé and Hélène Rioux. The stories focus on life on the streets and in the bars of Montreal and on straight relationships that are never quite perfect. The book's editor and translator Luise von Flotow says that although feminist elements are present in the work, it is "geared to a wider public." \$10 pb, 0-920717-69-1. Guernica, PO Box 633, Station NDG, Montreal QUE Canada H4A 3R1. 40%. IN, Bookslinger, Small Press Distribution and University of Toronto Press.



Zephyr Press has become the US representative for a new literary quarterly from Russia called **Glas**: **New Russian Writing**. The Moscow-based journal is published, against great odds, by founder Natasha Perova, former English editor of *Soviet Literatures*, and Andrew Bromfield. (An article on **Glas** in the London *Observer* reported that Perova won a recent batch of paper "only by bartering a huge quantity of her favorite cheese, a sacrifice she still laments.") Issue #3, the first issue available in the US, is devoted to prose and poetry by 10 contemporary Russian women writers. Themes of upcoming issues include "Love and Fear," "Jews in Russia," "Life in the Army," and "Bulgakov and Tsvetaeva." 240 pages. Subscriptions available. \$9.95. Zephyr Press, 13 Robinson St., Somerville MA 02145. InBook, IN, BP, Bookslinger, Small Press Distribution, Baker & Taylor, Ingram.



From Serpent's Tail comes **Serious Hysterics**, edited by Alison Fell. "In an ironic critique of male definitions of female deviance, eight women writers create characters bedevilled by symptons" of hysteria: lumps in the throat, blindness, herpes, wandering wombs. Writers are Leslie Dick, Zoe Fairbairns, Alison Fell, Nicole Ward Jouve, Marsha Row, Gail Scott, Lynne Tillman and Marina Warner. \$12.99 pb, 1-85242-222-X. Serpent's Tail also has published Alison Fell's recent novel, **Mer de Glace**, a hard look at love triangles in a post-modern world as seen through the eyes of the male protagonist. \$12.99 pb, -267-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.

Dalkey Archive Press has published, in a twovolume set, Marguerite Young's 1198-page novel Miss MacIntosh, My Darling. Featuring a cast of ecletic characters, the tome "touches on many aspects of life — drug addiction, woman's suffrage, murder, suicide, pregnancy both real and imaginary, schizophrenia, many strange loves, the psychology of gambling, perfectionism..." Vol. 1: \$15 pb, 1-56478-013-9. Vol. 2: \$15 pb, -014-7. \$30 for the set, -015-5.

Ewa Kuryluk mixes genres and generations in her literary time machine **Century 21**, as she tells the story of two sisters: one a survivor and writer, the other a suicidal artist who dreams about escaping to the moon. Along the way, Kuryluk imagines Anna Karenina writing about Simone Weil, Joseph Conrad



meeting Malcolm Lowry in Mexico, Djuna Barnes dying of AIDS. This is a first novel for Kuryluk, a well-known Polish artist and writer who has been living in the US and writing in English since the early '80s. \$19.95 cl, -012-0. Dalkey Archive Press, Fairchild Hall, ISU, Normal IL 61761. IN.

In My Walden: Tales from Dead Cow Gulch, Susan Baumgartner writes of the quiet, solitary, extraordinary life she discovers when, inspired by Thoreau, she moves to a small cabin in the woods of northern Idaho. Her essays on nature and self-discovery are accompanied by black-and-white illustrations by Claudia McGehee. \$12.95 pb, 0-89594-552-5.

From Roz Warren, editor of Women's Glib and Kitty Glibber, comes Women's Glibber: State-of-the-Art Women's Humor, featuring cartoons, prose and poetry by 115 women. With 310 pages, and twice that many laughs, Women's Glibber takes on preoccupations with poultry, Madonna and shoes as well as race, war and sexuality. We're pleased to report that this collection is more inclusive than the previous Women's Glib. \$12.95 pb, 0-89594-548-7. Crossing Press, PO Box 1048, Freedom CA 95019. BP, IN, Bookslinger. "Direct, colloquial, inclusive, adventuresome." This is how Gwendolyn Brooks describes the musical poetry in Patricia Smith's **Big Town, Big Talk**. Smith's poems are often inspired by current events and issues, and her experiences as an urban Black woman. Smith is the undefeated champion of Chicago's Uptown Poetry Slam. \$9.95 pb, 0-944072-24-0. Zoland Books, 384 Huron Ave., Cambridge MA 02138. IN, BP.

From Alice James Books come two new books of poetry: Cheryl Savageau's **Home Country**, which draws on Savageau's French Canadian and Abenaki Indian heritage and her concerns with issues of identity, working class families and the mysteries of nature (\$8.95 pb, 0-914086-94-4); and **The River at Wolf**, in which Jean Valentine writes of life in the face of loss, AIDS, alcoholism, the homeless and nature (\$8.95 pb, -95-2). Alice James Books, 33 Richdale Ave., Cambridge MA 02140. Baker & Taylor, Bookslinger, Inland Books and Small Press Distribution.

Albert Gelpi says that many of Karen Fiser's poems in **Words Like Fate and Pain** explore "compellingly but without self-pity, a silenced area of experience: the lonely life of pain, day to day, with a physical handicap or disability." Denise Levertov calls this "outstanding first collection." \$9.95 pb, 0-944072-23-2. Zoland.

Poet Kathy Evans reflects on family relationships and life in Northern California in **Imagination Comes to Breakfast**. \$9.95 pb, 1-56085-031-0. Signature Books, 350 S. 400 East Suite G-4, Salt Lake City UT 84111. Ingram, Gordon's, Baker & Taylor.



Female sexuality and the needs of the body are the substance of Jane Dick's poems in **Conceptions**. \$6 pb, 0-920717-49-7. Guernica, PO Box 633, Station NDG, Montreal QUE Canada H4A 3R1. 40%. IN, Bookslinger, Small Press Distribution and University of Toronto Press.

The premise of Robert Rimer and Michael Connolly's book HIV+: Working the System is that no one cares as much about keeping you alive as you do,

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so make sure you understand all your options and the consequences of your decisions. Chapters address coping with ambiguity, understanding the HIV bureaucracy, monitoring your health, seeking treatment, obtaining experimental drugs and reordering priorities. \$12.95 pb, 1-55583-208-4. Alyson Publications.



From Alyson Wonderland is a follow-up to Johnny Valentine and Lynette Schmidt's Lammy Award-winning *The Duke Who Outlawed Jellybeans*. **The Day They Put a Tax on Rainbows** features three new fairy tales about the adventures of children who happen to have lesbian and gay parents. Full-color and black-and-white illustrations. \$12.95 cl, 1-55583-201-6. Alyson, 40 Plympton St., Boston MA 02118. InBook, IN, BP and others.

AIDS Vancouver Island has published a 36-page booklet, **Living With AIDS: Four Women Speak Out**, in which four Canadian women tell their stories. Illustrated with grainy photographs (which obscure the identities of the women pictured). \$3.50. No ISBN. 8 1/2" x 5 1/2". 36 pages. AIDS Vancouver Island, 304-733 Johnson St., Victoria BC Canada V8W 3C7.

Why Can't I Be The Leader grew out of a twoyear-old's questions about her parents' sadness during the Persian Gulf War. Through a struggle over a toy, she learns that she can indeed be a leader, but that to be a good leader requires sharing. Bold drawings. \$4.95 pb, 0-963-37052-9. Share Publishing, 3130 Alpine Road, Suite 200, Portola Valley CA 94028.

Two first-person accounts (by upper-class white women) of women in the military are A WAC's Story by Nancy Dammann and Navy Wave: Memories of World War II by Lt. Helen Clifford Gunter. In A WAC's Story, Dammann writes of working as a clerk typist in the Southwest Pacific Area during World War II: the long hours, poor conditions, diet of Spam and K-rations, wearing men's uniforms because their WAC clothing never caught up with them and, in their spare time, the "overactive social life partying with their GI dates and exploring their exotic surroundings." Includes photographs. \$8.95 pb. 0-9609376-1-7. Social Change Press, 11638 Rio Vista Drive, Sun City AZ 85351.



Jennifer Berman in Women's Glibber

Gunter's more reserved Navy Wave offers a very different look at military life, in which the uniforms are designed by "the famous Parisian couturier, Mainbocher" and her quarters have maid service. Gunter was one of the first WAVES (Women Appointed for Volunteer Emergency Service) enlisted after the branch was established in 1942. (With a doctorate in archaeology, Gunter joined the Navy after being denied permission to join an archaeological expedition because she was a woman.) She writes of her time in the WAVES between 1943 and 1944, particularly her work with the Photographic Science Laboratory. Includes photographs. \$14.95 pb, 1-879384-16-7. Cypress House, 155 Cypress St., Fort Bragg CA 95437.

Anne Topham, a suffragist, spent seven years, 1902-1909, as a governess at the Prussian Court of

Kaiser Wilhelm II. A Distant Thunder: Intimate Recollections of the Kaiser's Court is a compilation of the three memoirs she wrote between 1914-1916 recalling her experiences. \$22.95 cl, 0-942257-26-X. New Chapter Press, Centerville Road, Ferndale CA 95536.



bell hooks describes the 12 essays in her new title **Black Looks: Race and Representation** as "gestures of defiance." hooks takes on music, advertising, literature, television and film and "exposes the subtle and overt ways racist and sexist media representations impact black women, men and children and reinforce a racist imagination within white America." \$12 pb, 0-89608-433-7; \$30 cl, -434-5. South End Press, 116 St. Botolph St., Boston MA 02115.

Feminist essayist Suzanne Moore skewers postmodernism, post-feminism and Prince, and writes wicked circles around the films, icons and preoccupations of the '80s in Looking for Trouble: On Shopping, Gender and The Cinema. \$15.99 pb, 1-85242-242-4. 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.

Joyce Nelson dissects the interdependence and power of television and nuclear industries in **The Perfect Machine: Television and the Bomb**. New Society Publishers says, "Incorporating subjects as diverse as patriarchy, TV and nuclear colonialism, propaganda and news, ratings, radiation hazards, TV genres and the Manhattan project, Joyce Nelson homes in on the corporate control of the media — and so our minds — of nuclear power — and so our fate." \$12.95 pb, 0-86571-235-2; \$39.95 cl, -234-4. New Society Publishers, 4527 Springfield Ave., Philadelphia PA 19143.

Editor Jessie Carney Smith culled the biographies in Epic Lives: One Hundred Black Women Who Made A Difference from her "6 pound," award-winning reference work, Notable Black American Women. She wanted to compile a smaller, less expensive collection than Notable Black American Women that anyone could afford to have in her home. Black-and-white photo accompanies each biography. \$18.95 pb, 0-8103-9426-X. Visible Ink, 835 Penobscot Bldg., Detroit MI 48226.

In Uncursing the Dark: Treasures from the Underworld, Jungian analyst Betty DeShong Meador reclaims the concept of descent as a part of the human psyche that no one can avoid. She writes that the descent journey confers the gift of one's full individual, creative nature; that it places one firmly in the reality of our circumstance on the planet; and that reorienting one's attitude toward the descent myth (uncursing the dark), may help one to tolerate the suffering the process demands. Meador offers tellings and re-tellings of the Inanna and Thesmorphoria myths, (including Judy Grahn's Descent to the Butch of the Realm), the poetry of Enheduanna (the first signed poems in history), and also the Navajo Blessingway Sing as archetypal routes for exploring the lost initiations of women into the progress of their/our souls and the ways of the Goddess. Combines poetic, mythological, personal and psychological aspects in the finest feminist tradition. Highly recommended if you sell any Jungian titles and/or have a strong feminist spirituality section. \$15.95 pb, 0-933029-65-9. Chiron Publications, 400 Linden Ave., Wilmette IL 60091. BP, IN and the Atrium Publishers Group.



Sexual Harassment and Teens: A Program for Positive Change, by Susan Strauss and Pamela Espeland, is aimed at teachers and leaders of students in grades 7-12. It offers information on sexual harassment, three sections which can be used as 45-60 minute lessons and materials which can be photocopied and used as handouts. \$17.95 pb, 0-915793-44-X. Free Spirit Publishing, 400 First Ave. North, Suite 616, Minneapolis MN 55401. Baker & Taylor, Ingram, Quality Books and The Bookmen.

Also on sexual harassment is Susan Webb's Step Forward: Sexual Harassment in the Workplace. Webb talks about the problem, explores prevention, offers a six-step program for stopping sexual harassment, looks at how to conduct an investigation into an incident and more. \$9.95 pb, 0-942361-51-2. MasterMedia Limited, 17 East 89th St., New York NY 10128. BP, Ingram.

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In case you missed it, the ABFFE (American Booksellers Foundation for Free Expression) has published **Censorship and First Amendment Rights: A Primer**. Includes chapters on the Bill of Rights; *American Psycho*: A Case Study; working with lawyers, lobbyists and public officials; Banned Books Week and lists of organizations concerned with censorship. \$10 pb, 1-879556-05-7. Order through ABFFE at 560 White Plains Road, Tarrytown NY 10591. Phone: 1-800-637-0037, ext. 289.

Calendars and Day Books

Crossing Press has published a new edition of Diane Stein's **The Goddess Book of Days: A Perpetual 366 Day Engagement Calendar**, first published in 1988 by Llewellyn. The book offers Goddess dates, holidays, festivals and holy days, as well as information about the Goddess. Black-and-white illustrations. \$9.95 pb, 0- 89594-551-7.

Crossing also several desk calendars: The **Women's Glib Cartoon Calendar: 1993**, edited by Warren, features black-and-white cartoons and humorous quotes (including a number from Rosanne Arnold). 6" x 9". \$9.95 spiral bound, -542-8.

Celebrating Women's Spirituality: 1993, edited by Claudia L'Amoreaux, includes poetry, prose, affirmations, rituals and color and black-and-white drawings to celebrate women's spirituality. 6" x 9". \$11.95 spiral bound, -543-3. Crossing Press, PO Box 1048, Freedom CA 95019. BP, IN, Bookslinger.



The War Resisters League 1993 peace calendar is the powerful **Children of War, Children of Hope**. This multicultural work presents testimonies from children around the world who live amidst war and work for peace. It also contains striking art work by activist Mary Frank and contains directories of youth organizations, national and international peace groups, social justice periodicals and War Resisters League offices. 5 1/4" x 8 1/4". \$12.95 spiral bound, 0-86571-248-4. New Society Publishers, 4527 Spring-field Ave., Philadelphia PA 19143.



Coteau Books has released its 18th annual Herstory 1993: The Canadian Women's Calendar by the Saskatoon Calendar Collective. The calendar includes biographies and photographs of Canadian women, articles on women's organizations and history, a planner and address section, and weekly quotes. 5 1/2" x 8 1/2". \$10.95 spiral bound, 1-55050-035-X. Coteau Books, 401-2206 Dewdney Ave., Regina SAS Canada S4R 1H3. Bookslinger. O



Roz Chast in Women's Glib Cartoon Calenda

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author of The Fragile Bond

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Compiled by Sandi Torkildson, Carol Seajay, Ann Morse, and Mary Morell

DOUBLEDAY

In A Chorus of Stones: The Private Life of War, highly esteemed feminist writer Susan Griffin (Women and Nature and Pornography and Silence) looks at the way that the "private suffering" of alcoholism, rape, child abuse, homophobia, lies, denial, secrets, and shame shape history, elections, weapons systems, national identity and war. Griffin demands that we rethink gender, history and war if we wish to survive. \$22.50 cl, 0-385-41857-4. — Carol Seajay

FABER & FABER

Revenge, edited by Kate Saunders (\$12.95, 0571-129382) presents 20 short stories exploring women's acts of revenge from bloody violence to subtle and delicate acts. Includes Alcott, Gaskell, Gilchrist, and Alice Walker. Sounds like my kind of book.

- Mary Morell/Full Circle

HOUGHTON MIFFLIN CO.

Leaving Cold Sassy is the unfinished sequel to *Cold Sassy Tree* by Olive Ann Burns. Fifteen chapters of the sequel were completed at the time of Burns' death. Her editor, Katrina Kenison, has drawn on correspondence and conversations with the author to suggest Burns' intentions for the novel and tells the inspiring story of a woman who became a best-selling author at age 60. (\$21.95 cl,0899199089)

A new novel by Susan Minot, the author of Monkeys, Folly is the story of Lilian Eliot, a Bostonian girl in 1917 who knew her own mind and did the right things. No great misfortune had darkened her 18 years, so she saw no reason for her life not to be full and prosperous and happy. When her first love leaves her, she feels she will never marry, but years later she develops an interest in an old Bostonian like herself, only to find her first love reappear. This is the story of a conventional woman with unconventional stirrings and of the two men in her life who represent different possibilities. (\$19.95 cl, 0395603390)

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No Contest: The Case Against Competition by Alfie Kohn is a book my brother first gave me after a discussion we had on trying to raise kids today. First published in 1986, it debunks the sacred cow of competition and argues that it turns us all into losers. Kohn looks at how competition poisons our relationships, damages our self-esteem and holds us back from doing our best. He focuses on "cooperative learning" that values excellence and assesses shifts in American thinking that have happened since his book was first published. (\$10.95 pb, 0395631254)

Anne Morrow Lindbergh: A Gift For Life by Dorothy Herrmann is a sensitive, probing look at the storybook life of Lindbergh. This biography explores Lindbergh's life from her sheltered and privileged upbringing, her marriage to an American hero, the kidnapping of her baby and the ensuing years of self-imposed exile, to the bitter controversy of Lindbergh's political isolationism during WW II and the publication of A Gift From the Sea. (\$24.95 cl, 0395561140) — ST

KNOPF

Knopf has some real prizes on its winter list. Jeanette Winterson's Written on the Body (\$20, 0-679-42007X, 2/93) looks to be her usual exploration of

STRENGTH, SPIRIT, AND REBELLION. THAT'S WHAT CATHOLIC GIRLS ARE MADE OF.



Some of our finest writers-from Mary **McCarthy to Louise** Erdrich — have arown up female and Catholic. In this unique anthology of short stories, poems, and memoirs, they join 50 other women writers to capture the doubts and disappointments, innocence and anger, passions and sexuality of Catholic women. It is a collection as eloquent and outspoken as the women it celebrates.

"Musters rebellious feminist voices to comment upon the effects of the Church upon the lives of women...nostalgia, familial feelings, and even faith emerge from these writings." —Booklist

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This content downloaded from 70.126.145.227 on Sat, 19 Mar 2022 18:02:51 UTC All use subject to https://about.jstor.org/terms passion. I have yet to be disappointed in her very readable and very innovative novels.

P.D. James is branching out into spectacular fiction in **Children of Men** (\$22, 0-679-41873-3, 3/93). Her considerable talent is applied to the despair of a near future society where all males are infertile. Interesting notion!?! I expect great things for this one.

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If you have a poetry market, do consider Mona Van Duyn's **Firefall** (\$20, 0-679-41897-0, 1/93) and especially **If It Be Not I: Collected Poems 1959-1982** (\$25, 0-679-41902-0, 1/93). Her turn of phrase is an absolute delight.

I hate star books but if you don't, **Marlene Dietrich** by her daughter Maria Riva (\$27.50, 0-394-58692-1, 1/93) might be one of the better written samples of the genre.

Travel books can be a tough sell but Diana Johnson's **Natural Opium** (\$21, 0-679-41346-4, 1/93) is more essay than travelogue. And Joyce Ravid's **Here and There** (\$30, 0-679-40399-X, 1/93) is much more art than travel snapshots. The samples with the Knopf blurb appear to be both beautiful and imaginative.

- Mary Morell/Full Circle

MACMILLAN PUBLISHING GROUP

Staying Home Instead by Christine Davidson (\$19.95 cl, 0029069459) advises parents who are tired of juggling home, family and the job, of alternatives to the two-paycheck family. She acknowledges each woman's need to earn a living and use her education as well as participate in her children's upbringing. Davidson looks at the opportunities of part-time work, at-home businesses and entrepreneurial ventures. She also gives practical information on how to reenter the workforce. (\$19.95cl, 0029069459)

A comprehensive look at the problem of parental abduction of children, When Parents Kidnap by Geoffrey Greif and Rebecca Hegar looks at the experience of both the parents searching for their children and the abductors who have taken them. The authors identify five common patterns that characterize families at risk for abduction and point out how changes in custody and divorce laws could eliminate or help resolve this problem. (\$22.95, 0029129753)

A biography of Agatha Christie unravels the secrets of the mystery writer's own life. **Agatha Christie** by Gillian Gill presents a feminist portrait of the brilliant and passionate woman who used the rigid conventions of the detective genre as a cover for the expression of her true self. Christie's characters defied the conventions of gender and age of her time. (\$10.95 pb, 0029117038)

A Breath Of Life by Sylvia Barack Fishman looks at how feminism has challenged and rejuvenated American Jewish life. Drawing on interviews with Jewish women ages 18 to 80 across the United States, Fishman explores the struggles and conflicts that balancing community, family and individual needs has brought to Judaism. She demonstrates how these forces have rejuvenated American Judaism and provided a fresh wave of enthusiastic participation in Jewish life. (\$22.95 cl, 0029103428, 3/93) — ST



NORTON

The Word Of A Woman by Robin Morgan is a collection of her essays from 1968 to 1991. They cover such topics as the first Miss America Pageant protest in 1968, her divorce from the New Left, the first fights for abortion rights and the rise of a global feminist consciousness. Morgan is both intensely personal and theoretical and analytical, but above all she is passionate about the truth and the power of language. (\$19.95 cl, 0393034275)

A new collection of Adrienne Rich's poetry brings together more than 200 of her poems from her first six books. **Collected Early Poems 1950-1970** charts the growth of her own mind and mirrors the political



world of that time. Rich always intertwines the personal with the political and wrestles with the urgent questions of our age. (\$27.50 cl, 0393034186, 1/93)

The story of a middle-class American family from St. Louis in the 1950's is the subject of a memoir by Charlotte Nekola. **Dream House** is about a family on the verge of unraveling. Nekola deals with her mother's early death from cancer, her father's alcoholism and her sister's drift into homelessness. Her love for her family and her tough honesty and forgiveness will bring readers insights about their own families. (\$18.95 cl, 039303433x, 1/93)

Listen To Their Voices by Mickey Pearlman, the coauthor of *A Voice of One's Own*, includes 20 interviews with women writers of novels, short stories, poetry and nonfiction. Such authors as Grace Paley, Jane Smiley, Gish Jen and Connie Porter talk about their childhood, religion, why they chose to write and how it feels to be classified as "hyphenated writers" (i.e., Chinese- or African-American). (\$20.95 cl, 0393034429, 1/93)

A book that was published many years ago, **Winners And Losers** by Gloria Emerson, is still one of the best books on the Vietnam War I have read. After covering the war for the *New York Times*, Emerson came home with the desire to understand the meaning of the war and its effects on Americans. She traveled across the country interviewing people who had fought in the war and those who had fought against it. Emerson also writes about Vietnamese people with the same insight that characterized her reporting during the war. I am glad this book has been reissued. (\$12.95 pb, 0393309258)



Unequal Protection: Women, Children And The Elderly In Court by Lois Forer looks at the inherent injustices that abound in our legal system. A former judge, Forer draws on her own courtroom experience to show how the American legal system discriminates against women, children and the elderly. She also explains how the courts can redress the balance by recognizing needs as well as rights. (\$10.95 pb, 0393309541, 1/93)

A new look at multiple personality disorders (The Family Inside by Doris Bryant, Judy Kessler and

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Lynda Shirar) demystifies MPD and redefines it as a creative and sensible way of surviving a childhood of extreme trauma and absolute powerlessness. Judy Kessler was the victim of childhood abuse and her story weaves this book together. Her suffering, and her strength and recovery, make her a voice for other multiples who seek wholeness. The authors present a therapeutic map for working with MPD. (\$32.95 cl, 0393701425) — ST

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NORTON/ NEW DIRECTIONS

Brocade Valley by Wang Anyi is one of a trilogy of novellas that shocked China when it first appeared in 1987. This novella centers around a woman's extramarital affair that goes unpunished. In fact, the woman gains a new sense of self that enables her to author her own story, the story of a young married editor who is sent to cover a prestigious writers' conference and has a passing affair with a famous writer. Wang Anyi gives the reader an intimate view of China today. (17.95 cl, 0811212246) — ST

PENGUIN USA - PENGUIN & PLUME PA-PERBACKS

A first novel by a writer who has been compared to Alice Walker and Toni Morrison, **Copper Crown** by Lane von Herzen is the story of two young women, one Black and the other white, whose friendship will shape their future. Set in the divisive racism of rural Texas in 1913, this novel is the courageous tale of these two women's determination to live fulfilling lives. They stand against the hatred and violence that surrounds their world. When a murder leads to lynchings and riots, they flee and build a life for themselves that is a triumph of courage and love. (\$9 pb, 0452269164)

Raising Black Children by James Comer and Alvin Poussaint, two African-American psychiatrists, focuses on the special concerns of black parents. Black parents must combat the negative messages of racism while teaching their children to succeed in a white dominated culture. This book shows parents how to build self-esteem, how to help their children cope with the racism of white society and how to excel in schools where "standard" English can seem like a foreign language. (\$12 pb, 0452268397)

In December, Plume will reissue new editions of two Barbara Pym novels: **No Fond Return Of Love** (\$9 pb, 0452269202) and **Some Tame Gazelle** (\$9 pb, 0452269199).

Leslie Marmon Silko weaves together ideas and lives, fate and history, passion, oppression, conquest and return in her novel **Almanac Of The Dead**. This unforgettable story of the clash of two civilizations is a moral history of the Americas told, for once, from the point of view of the conquered rather than the conquerors. A contemporary Native American, Seese, who lives in the fast, high-risk world of drug dealing, is drawn back to the Southwest in search of her missing child. Seese encounters Lecha, a psychic, whose duty is to transcribe the ancient notebooks that contain the history of her own people, a Native American Almanac of the Dead. (\$13 pb, 0140173196, 12/92)

Love In The Time Of Victoria by Francoise Barret-Ducrocq chronicles the erotic desires and sexuality of London's working class in the 19th-century. She relies on firsthand documents, love letters and testimonies from working class women discussing love, sex, romance, rape and prostitution and the inevitability of facing pregnancy alone. These stories are filled with cynicism and tenderness, cruelty and generosity and reveal the truth behind our social and sexual history. (\$11 pb, 0140173269, 12/92)



Novelist Gayl Jones has written a book on the oral tradition in African-American literature. Liberating Voices traces the evolution of African-American literature and the influence of folk tales, riddles,

idiom, jazz, spirituals and the blues on it. She celebrates the oral heritage and the distinctive literary form that has come from this tradition. ($$12 ext{ pb}$, 0140166556) — ST

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PUTMAN

Wait A Minute, You Can Have It All by Shirley Sloan Fader shows women how to get their husbands to share responsibility for running a household. She has a step-by-step method of what to say and do to convince a partner of the benefits of sharing housework and child care. Fader shows how this relieves the working woman's overload and provides a better role model for children. This book may have to go in the "limits of credibility" bookshelf, since women have been trying this for years with very little success. (\$18.95 cl, 0874776961, 1/93)

A book that looks at strengthening self-esteem and self-reliance for people involved in 12-step recovery groups, **The Real Thirteenth Step** by Tina Tessina is a manual to move beyond the 12 steps. Tessina feels that many people involved in these programs trade their dependence on alcohol or drugs for a dependence on the group. She offers a program aimed at those who are already successfully in recovery to move toward self-reliance. (\$12.95 pb, 0874777135, 1/93) — ST

RANDOM HOUSE

Plain Jane by Eve Horowitz is a coming-of-age novel about Jane Singer, a nice Jewish girl from Cleveland who is not afraid to ask tough questions. She wonders why her promiscuous sister is suddenly abandoning her ways to marry a virginal doctor, why her mother would rather read the obituaries than talk to her family and why her brother lies. She also asks hard questions about herself. Why is she engaged to a systems analyst who calls her sexpot and why if she was the high school valedictorian, is she stuck in a secretarial job? **Plain Jane** shows us a young woman from a typical suburban family searching for answers. (\$20 cl, 0679412611)

The Choices We Made, edited by Angela Bonavoglia, consists of moving testimonials about abortion from 25 well-known writers, performers, and others. This powerful oral history reveals the intensely personal nature of a woman's decision to have an

History rediscovered.

PETTICOAT WHALERS Whaling Wives at Sea, 1820-1920 Joan Druett

The ships were cramped. The life was rough. Voyages could last five years or more. Yet many a whaling ship had a woman on board: the captain's wife. Joan Druett brings these forgotten heroines to life in a richly detailed book that offers a new perspective on a familiar era. \$25.00, 85 B&W photos and prints; 8 pgs of color plates 1-86950-043-1

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Joan Druett

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abortion and the harm that comes when that choice is restricted. Included are stories by Rita Moreno, Jill Clayburgh, Whoopi Goldberg, Grace Paley, Ursula K. LeGuin, and Linda Ellerbee. (\$10 pb, 0679742476)



A report on the gay and lesbian communities in 14 countries, **Out In The World** by Neil Miller uncovers the startling range of attitudes, conventions, lifestyles and behaviors around the world. Miller looks at same-sex marriages in Denmark, visits Japan where homosexuality is politely ignored, and finds one lesbian in Egypt where the Western notion of gay identity is an alien concept. He talks to a gay gold miner in South Africa, a lesbian Maori in New Zealand and many others in this portrait of gay and lesbian life around the globe. (22 cl, 0679402411) — ST

TIMES BOOKS/RANDOM HOUSE

Nobody Nowhere by Donna Willams is an autobiography of a young woman who was labeled spastic, retarded and insane as a girl. She lived in a world of her own and blocked out the outside world. Not until she was 25 was she labeled autistic and began her struggle to come to terms with her condition and survive the suffering enforced by an ignorant world. Williams offers insight into the workings of an autistic mind and sheds new lights on what it is and is not. Now she has dedicated herself to educating others about autism. (\$21 cl, 0812920422)

Women die needlessly of heart disease every year at a rate of 250,000 a year. In **Women And Heart Disease** Edward Diethrich M.D., a renowned heart care expert, and Carol Cohan, an award-winning medical writer, provide a course of action that can save women's lives. They examine the shocking medical bias in diagnosis and treatment of women's heart



History re-examined.

WHORES IN HISTORY Prostitution in Western Society Nickie Roberts

Blending social history and sexual politics, Nickie Roberts charts the hidden history of "Bad Girls," from Egyptian whore-priestesses to Renaissance courtesans to modern prostitutes. "An utterly riveting account of women who have defied male authority." —The New Statesman & Society \$28.00, 16 pgs of B&W photos 0-246-13234-5

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disease, present a self-diagnostic test, offer a specific program of treatment and prevention, and explain women's unique warning signs of heart disease. (\$22 cl, 0812919742) — ST

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TURTLE BAY BOOKS/RANDOM HOUSE

Private Property by Debra Jo Immergut is a debut collection of short stories about men and women who live among the complexities of modern life. In these stories a young woman bent on self-destruction allows herself to be seduced by a devious acquaintance of her father, in another a sister witnesses the humiliation of her brother and watches helplessly as he drives toward suicide and in "Tension" a middle-aged man strikes his wife for the first time and then must live with the consequences of domestic violence. (\$20 cl, 0394586247) — ST

VINTAGE/ RANDOM HOUSE

Martha: The Life And Work Of Martha Graham is the critically acclaimed biography by the renowned dancer and choreographer Agnes DeMille. Graham blocked every effort to write about her while she was alive. DeMille penetrates Graham's mask of privacy and captures a woman who would sacrifice everything for the sake of her art. DeMille writes out of love, awe, and passion in this work about the woman who in one lifetime virtually invented modern dance in America. (\$15 pb, 0679741763)

Molly Ivins's bestseller, Molly Ivins Can't Say That, Can She?, is out in paperback now. This collection of essays about redneck politics in her native Texas is funny and tough. Ann Richards called it "more fun than riding a mechanical bull and almost as dangerous." (\$11 pb, 0679741836)

Refuge by Terry Tempest Williams is the record of two tragedies. In 1983 the Utah-born naturalist learns that her mother is dying of cancer—possibly as a result of her exposure to atomic-bomb-test fallout in the 1950's. In addition, that year the Great Salt Lake rose to record heights and flooded the Bear River Migratory Bird Sanctuary and threatened dozens of bird species. Williams creates a document of renewal and spiritual grace around these tragedies. The book is bound to become a classic. (\$11 pb, 0679740244)

Hailed as a modern classic of African-American literature, **There After Johnnie** by Carolivia Herron is the story of a middle-class family that is at once torn apart and hideously fused by incest. This novel turns the tormented union between a father and daughter into a strand within a larger tapestry of abuse whose origins are as old as slavery and whose consequences engulf not just one Black family but an entire nation. (\$10 pb, 0679741887)

Shooting The Boh by Tracy Johnston is one woman's story of a rafting expedition down Borneo's Boh River. Johnston had no idea when she signed up for a rafting expedition that the river had never been fully navigated, that the local wildlife included swimming cobras and swarms of sweat-eating bees. She learns what it means to be an adventurer over 40 years old with a changing body in a world made for the young. (\$11 pb, 0679740104)



The Diary Of Latoya Hunter is the diary of a 12-year-old Black girl kept through her first year of junior high school in the Bronx. She recounts the murder of a neighbor, the pregnancy of her unmarried older sister, a trip to Jamaica, the country of her birth, and the universal ambivalence about school and boys, trying to do right and the temptation to do wrong. This shy, deeply feeling young girl will inspire her peers and inform parents of the turbulent lives of youth today. (\$16 cl, 051758511)

Near the end of her life Mary McCarthy granted Carol Brightman 18 unrestricted interviews. From these interviews and her access to McCarthy's letters

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CHRISTINE DOWNING WOMEN'S MYSTERIES Towards a Poetics of Gender

Downing argues that "it is time to move beyond a focus on the psychology of women to a psychology of the human. Her book is a marvelously humane mix "written from a female perspective...about and for all human beings." Illustrated. \$19.95 hardcover

SERINITY YOUNG, Editor SACRED WRITINGS BY AND ABOUT WOMEN A Universal Anthology

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and papers, Brightman has written a biography that puts McCarthy in perspective. Writing Dangerously covers her pampered childhood which ended when her parents died, her tempestuous marriage to Edmund Wilson, her relationships with left-wing intellectuals and her attacks on Lillian Hellman and Simone de Beauvoir. (\$30 cl, 0517564009)



Another biography of an American woman of letters, **Anne Sexton** by Diane Wood Middlebrook, caused much controversy for its revelations of infidelity and incest and for its use of tapes released by Anne Sexton's psychiatrist. Middlebrook looks at Sexton's gifts as a poet, her need to write as the only way she could keep from killing herself, her abused childhood and her abuse as a mother, and her destructive weaknesses. (\$14 pb, 0679741828)

The Invisible Woman: The Story Of Nelly Ternan And Charles Dickens by Claire Tomalin is the hidden story of Ternan and Dickens' relationship that was carefully expunged from history. Nelly, who was an actress 27 years younger than Charles, became an invisible woman who Tomalin rescues from the shadows of history in this feminist biography that adds to our understanding of the moral ambiguities facing women in Victorian society. (\$13 pb, 0679738193, 12/92)

Written By Herself edited by Jill Ker Conway is a powerful anthology of women's autobiographical

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writing from Jane Addams and Zora Neale Hurston to Gloria Steinem and Maxine Hong Kingston. From the writings of fugitive slave Harriet Jacobs to Southern novelist Ellen Glasgow and feminist reformer Margaret Sanger, this anthology gives us a look at women who not only invented their own lives but whose experience invites us to examine our own life stories. They both instruct and inspire. (\$15 pb, 0679736336)

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A novel and a collection of short stories by A. S. Byatt, the author of *Possession*, will be published in the States in November. **Sugar And Other Stories** are tightly written tales populated by witches, changelings and ghosts (\$10 pb, 0679742271). **The Game** is a novel about sibling rivalry and the uses and misuses of the imagination. Two sisters become dangerously involved in fantasy when a man they once both loved reenters their lives and draws them into a game whose rules are far more intricate and whose stakes are much higher than the games they played as children. (\$10 pb, 0679742565)

Eve's Tattoo by Emily Prager is the story of a women who gets a tattoo on her fortieth birthday. She copies the number 500123 that she has seen on a nameless woman in a photograph taken at Auschwitz in 1944. It becomes Eve's way of keeping another present and a way for her, a non-Jew, to decipher the reasons for the Holocaust. This is a story about power, collaboration and resistance. (\$10 pb, 0679740538)

The Colors Of Heaven edited by Trevor Carolan is a collection of short stories from the Pacific Rim. The characters in these 19 stories are New Zealand Maoris, Korean war refugees, an innocent Indonesian prostitute and a genteel schoolmistress from Singapore, among many others. They deal with the tension between freedom and constraint, between children and parents, and between individuals and repressive regimes. I do not know the list of authors included so I cannot say if women are well-represented. (\$11 pb, 0679738851)

Random House-Vintage will reissue a number of titles this fall season. The diaries, memoirs, letters and journals of 11 frontier women are gathered together with a gallery of haunting photographs in **Women Of The West** by Cathy Luchetti and Carol Olwell (\$22 pb, 0517591626). This title has not been available for several years. I believe it was first published by New Sage.

A new edition of Black Women In White America edited by Gerda Lerner (\$15 pb, 0679743146) in-





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cludes the writings of teachers, political activists, servants, and factory workers including Harriet Tubman, Sojourner Truth and Shirley Chisholm.

The five visionary novels in the Canopus series will be collected in one volume in **Canopus In Argos: Archives** by Doris Lessing. (\$20 pb, 0679741844, 12/92)

There will be Vintage Classic editions of O Pioneers! (\$9, 0679743626, 12/92) and Collected Stories Of Willa Cather (\$14 pb, 0679736484, 12/92). — ST



ST. MARTIN'S PRESS

In **Switching the Odds**, Phyllis Knight's detective Lil Ritchie is a hard-drinking, jazz-loving P.I. with a penchant for phrases such as, "Molly and I had known each other so long we were as comfortable as a shot and a beer." When Lil's called in on a missingperson case she quickly finds the lost teen, only to uncover a murder in a porno shop, dirty business deals, and ultimately, the horror of the snuff film trade. By the end of this "fast-paced tale, unpredictable tale" (Nisa Donnelly), Lil brings the evil men to justice. Oh, and Lil is, matter of factly, a lesbian. \$17.95 cl, 0-312-07865-X. — Ann Morse O

Answers to Feminist Funnies, continued from page 14

1. The Color Purple, Alice Walker

2. Touching Our Strength, Carter Heyward

3. The Crone, Barbara Walker

4. Daughters, Fathers and the Novel, Lynda Zwinger

5. Isabelle Allende

6. All God's Children Need Traveling Shoes, Maya Angelou

7. Journey to Zelindar, Diana Rivers

8. Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Cafe, Fanny Flagg

9. Bushfire, Karen Barber

10. The Ship That Sailed into the Living Room, Sonia Johnson

Send responses to Theresa Corrigan at Lioness Books, 2224 J Street, Sacramento, CA 95816



Margaret Mason in Word Play Word Power

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Newsletters, continued from page 54

Jewelers. After Suzanne Unger had the courage to write about shoplifting in the cover letter of her spring newsletter, she was rewarded not only with daily calls thanking her for the letter, but also with the return of stolen merchandise!

Gathering copy takes on new meaning every month when Mama Bear's in Oakland, CA publishes what is undoubtedly the largest women's bookstore newsletter in the country. In the past nine years, it has grown from a one-page flyer to a sixteen-page newspaper that now serves 9,000 women from Sacramento to Santa Cruz. Alice Molloy reports that each issue is primarily filled with book reviews and things related to books, as well as extensive community advertising that helps offset the cost of publishing it. Occasionally, she'll even include an article not related to books which she feels is "really important and might not get coverage in other press," the most recent example being a two-piece feature on multiple personality disorder.

Once all your copy is gathered, it's time to figure out how to typeset, paste-up, print and mail your newsletter. In the next issue of FBN, we'll explore ways to do this in the least amount of time for the least amount of money.

Jennifer S. Croft has produced newsletters for 300 small businesses and non-profit organizations. She has recently formed a new lesbian press, Our Power Press, to publish her own first novel, A Safe Place To Sleep, and other lesbian fiction/mysteries.

Bookfair Responses, *continued from page 9* of colour? Do we work to convince ourselves that we do not need to feel guilty or ashamed. We have to make an effort to connect if we ever hope to be truly revolutionary.

Being a politically active feminist is rewarding. There is so much to learn and to overcome. But it need not be an intense, depressing struggle. Not dealing with our own racism causes depression and anxiety within us. Looking for women who will comfort us and allow us to continually ignore the issues faced by women of color will kill the movement. If we are a white women's movement we have submitted to the mainstream and the word "progress" will be equated with empty materialism.

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Women's Recovery Network

We can begin to hear Native women and Black women by listening or by reading. Many women of colour have made their work public. Alice Walker, Lee Maracle, Toni Morrison, Marlene Nourbese Philip, Paula Gunn Allen, Tsitsi Dangarembga are only a few.

Opening ourselves up will greatly benefit the women's movement which we've all struggled to build, but to avoid or deny our failure to include the majority of the world's women will be our demise. O

CLASSIFIED ADS & LITERARY PERSONALS

BOOKSTORES FOR SALE

L'Androgyne, Montreal's gay/lesbian/feminist bookstore. Established 19 years, fully computerized, great location and lease. 1992 sales will top ¼ of a million, 25% over 1991. Reason for sale: wish to do reality check before second half of life is too far along. Lawrence Boyle, 3636 St. Laurent, Montreal QUE Canada H2X 2V4; 514-842-4765.

FOR SALE

At the Crossroads: The new magazine where feminism, spirituality & new science explore earthly & unearthly realities. Developing feminist theory that takes spirituality & the paranormal seriously. Preview Issue includes: interview with Pamela Colorado on indigenous science, forum on political vs. spiritual worldviews, articles on firewalking, masculine vs. feminine science & more. Pre-Publication Offer: Pre-pay 5+ copies at 40%, shipping free. (List \$6.50). Offer good until Dec. 7th. Regular terms: 2-4 copies 30%; 5+ 40%. 30 days. Bookstore pays shipping. Box 112, St. Paul AR 72760; 501-677-2235.

Books in Print Set '91-'92. \$50 + shipping. Call Margery at ClaireLight, 707-575-8879.

The Mighty Queer Pack. A wonderful deck of lesbian playing cards by New Zealander Paula Clayton. "No Jokers, Kings, Jacks, Toms, Dicks or Harrys in this lot! Just good old 100% lezzie fun." Distributed by Inland.

POSITIONS WANTED

Experienced editor offers editing, copy editing, proofreading and writing services. Reasonable rates. References available. Contact Ann at FBN, 415-626-1556.

BOOKS WANTED

Due to the destruction of all my books in a fire, I'm looking for copies of my books **Spray it Loud** and **Louder than Words** (both published by Pandora). Call me at 415-826-5729 or leave a message at FBN. — Jill Posener

BOOK SEARCH SERVICES

Huge selection of Rare and Out of Print feminist and lesbian books in stock. 20% discount to bookdealers and we pay shipping. We do free out of print searches. So, next time you say to a customer, "I'm sorry, it's out of print," be sure to add, "But we may be able to get you a used copy!" Call or write Lunaria, 90 King St., Northampton MA 01060; 413-586-7851.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

The Post-Apollo Press is looking for a woman for a part-time position in **marketing/promotion** at the press. Contact Simone Fattal, 35 Marie St., Sausalito CA 94965; 415-332-1458.

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LAUREN WRIGHT DOUGLAS **VICKI P. McCONNELL** 0

Love Stories by Naiad Press Authors

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