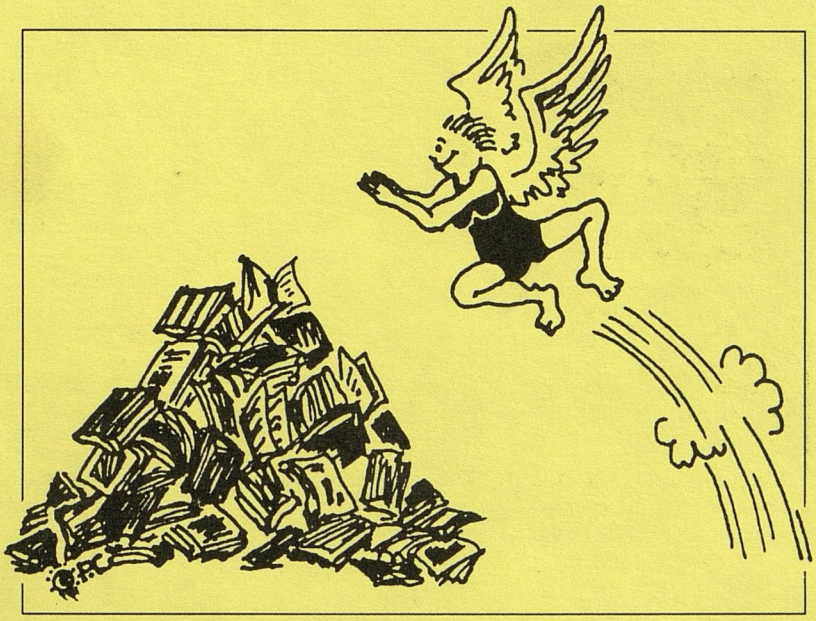
Feminist Bookstore News



Spring Announcements Issue

March/April 1993

Volume 15 Number 6

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The Spring 1993 Warming Trend Has Already Started . . .

TWO DOWN (February)

THE BLACK BACK-UPS, Poetry by Kate Rushin

Kate Rushin's long-anticipated first collection of poetry. The faces, voices, feelings, words, and stories of her African-American family.

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96 pages

STONE BUTCH BLUES, A Novel by Leslie Feinberg

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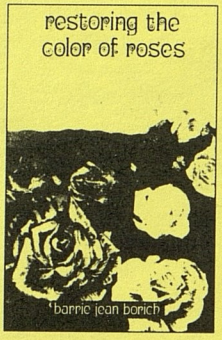
304 pages

TWO TO GO (April)



RESTORING THE COLOR OF ROSES

by Barrie Jean Borich

Restoring The Color Of Roses is a collection about getting better. Barrie Jean Borich's first book of creative nonfiction leads us down a winding trail of memories—some real, some imagined, some dreamt—all true. Sex, alcoholism, cultural identity, and the landscapes of a rebuilt life are boldly explored in these acute narratives.

The stench of Chicago's industrial corridor. A Polish mother. A Croatian nose. Guitar riffs trapped under a teenager's skin. The roaring of commuter trains. Blonde beauty queens and beaded yellow bras. Nipples the color of roses.

Shaped by the rich detail of storytelling and the lyricism of poetry, *Restoring The Color Of Roses* paints a vivid portrait of a lesbian from the south side of Chicago who fell out of her life and came back restored.

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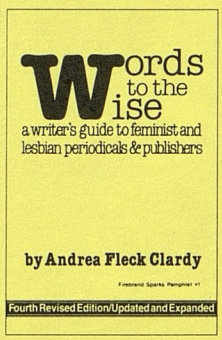

WORDS TO THE WISE

A Writer's Guide to Feminist and Lesbian Periodicals & Publishers
by Andrea Fleck Clardy

For every woman who wants to know where to send it after it's been written, *Words To The Wise* remains the most effective tool for connecting the feminist and lesbian writer to her potential audience.

Here in the revised and expanded FOURTH edition of this popular handbook (over 15,000 in print), is an annotated listing of more than 150 U.S. and Canadian book and periodical publishers, references for children's book and scholarly publishers, and details about submissions and royalties—all from places that actively solicit women's words.

Since 1986, *Words To The Wise* has been providing essential information to women who write, librarians, bookstore workers, and avid readers.

Firebrand Sparks Pamphlet #1. Look for the BRIGHT YELLOW cover.

$ 5.95 paper
5½ x 81/2

ISBN 1-56341-032-X
56 pages

Firebrand Books

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

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NOTES FROM THE COMPUTER TABLE

For all that FBN looks like a magazine, each issue is actually a compilation of phone calls, notes, letters and longer pieces. Some are formal, some are spur of the moment. FBN wouldn't exist without these communications and the commitments that stand behind them. As this issue goes to press, I'd like to thank everyone who contributed to the wealth of information in these pages — and I'd particularly like to thank everyone who helped with the Canada Customs stories.

In the last four months, feminist bookstores have (as *The Globe and Mail* put it) "joined gay bookstores as targets of Customs' seizures." Materials have been held, seized or blocked from three of the 12 feminist bookstores in Canada and from at least two "general" stores as well. This stepped-up activity is clearly a response to the Butler decision — a supposedly woman-friendly ruling that has been turned against lesbian, feminist and gay publications from *Hothead Paisan* to *Weenie-Toons* to two Andrea Dworkin titles.

All of the news isn't maddening: The Sixth International Feminist Book Fair will be held July 27-31, 1994... There *will* be a Feminist Bookstores & Publishers Contingent in the March on Washington... Three of the five people accused of bombing The Closet Bookstore have pled or been found guilty. The remaining two go on trial in the spring...

But the news isn't all good, either: ABA refuses to boycott Colorado. The Board chose to donate money "instead." Not good enough... Yes, Dorothy Allison was "banned" in Oklahoma... No, it's not true that ABA is kicking out all chain stores and turning into an advocacy group for independent bookstores. Too bad!

Turn to the News section for all the details.

Please welcome Karen Carnival, our new Office Manager and Editorial Assistant, to FBN's staff. Karen is fresh from Oregon's "No On 9" campaign. You'll find her contributions to this issue in Writing Wanted, Back to Press, That-A-Way, Small Presses, and News. FBN has a new Mysteries columnist at last! Welcome Now Voyager's Nan Cinnater to FBN's pages. Our heartfelt thanks, too, to Ann Morse who stayed on half-time to help us through one last production cycle.

More changes: Having put in two years summarizing, analyzing and annotating University Press publications for FBN, Ann Christophersen is ready to pass on the job. We're looking for a bookseller familiar with the range of university press publishing and a love of the books they publish. If that's you and you'd like to write this column, give me a call.

Yours in spreading the words,
Carol Seajay

FBN Deadlines

Special ABA Issue
May/June 1993
March 24

Sidelines Supplement
June 11

Summer Issue
June 25

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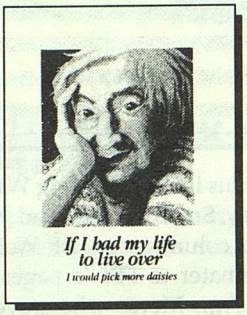
New Titles from Papier-Mache Press



If I Had My Life to Live Over I Would Pick More Daisies

Edited by Sandra Haldeman Martz

In this beautiful sequel to *When I Am an Old Woman I Shall Wear Purple*, editor Sandra Haldeman Martz presents the voices of women as they reflect upon decisive moments that have shaped their lives. With over 170,000 copies in print, *If I Had My Life to Live Over* appeals to the same mainstream readers who have embraced *When I Am an Old Woman*."Powerful and poignant." -Glenda Martin, *Minnesota Women's Press*; "The selections cut across a spectrum of age, race, and ways of life...an honorable and thought-provoking companion volume." -*Kirkus Reviews*. Available now.

0-918949-24-6 Paperback $10, -25-4 Hardcover $16

Blue Collar Goodbyes

Sue Doro

Sue Doro, for thirteen years the only female machinist at the former Milwaukee Road Railway, is one of countless victims of widespread American plant closings. This powerful collection of poetry and essays speaks to every woman who works. "The music of the working class...Sue Doro lives what she writes about..." -Nat Hentoff, *Village Voice*; "Blue Collar Goodbyes is working class poetry at its finest." -Nellie Wong; "Doro makes this world live and breath and sing." -*ALA Booklist*. Available now.

0-918949-22-X Paperback $8, 23-8 Hardcover $12

The Adventures of Stout Mama

Sibyl James

A collection of short essays about Stout Mama, an eclectic feminist in her forties and a "bewildered techno-peasant." Engaging and droll, Stout Mama is more interested in honesty and good times than in consumerism in the modern age. A traveler, a dreamer, a bird watcher, and a music lover, Stout Mama is a bohemian spirit who has never owned a television. Publication Date: July 1993

0-918949-33-5 Paperback $9, -34-3 Hardcover $14

Making Ourselves at Home: Women Builders and Designers

Janice Goldfrank

Based on interviews with women across the United States, Janice Goldfrank, a general contractor from upstate New York, presents an inspiring and useful survey of women who have designed and/or built their own houses. A testament to the lasting influence of the women's movement and the power of individual commitment. Publication Date: July 1993

0-918949-26-2 Paperback $18, -27-0 Hardcover $30

All books are available through Inland, Bookpeople, Baker & Taylor, and Ingram. Books and sidelines are available directly from Papier-Mache Press **(800) 927-5913.**

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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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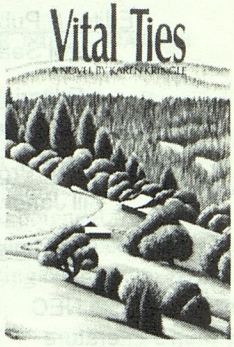
New from Spinsters Ink

Vital Ties
by Karen Kringle
ISBN 0-933216-90-4 $10.95



Clare and Lee are two independent women who both began working farms at a time when independence was suspect. *Vital Ties* traces their evolving relationship with each other and all the people touched by their lives -- farmers, townspeople, the local queers and the fundamentalist preacher's wife -- during three decades of change in rural Wisconsin.

"Kringle could become one of our community's finer writers of serious lesbian fiction."
– Paula Langguth, Lambda Book Report

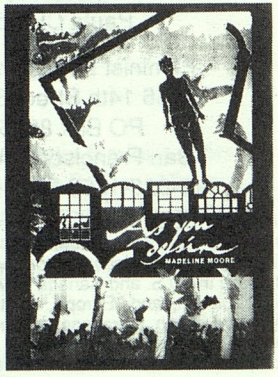
The Solitary Twist
by Elizabeth Pincus
ISBN 0-933216-93-9 $9.95

Ever the sucker for a damsel in distress, or in this case, the distressed damsel, Nell Fury is back, in a second book by Elizabeth Pincus.

Elizabeth Pincus is a former P.I. living in San Francisco. She is the author of *The Two-Bit Tango* and a film critic for the SF Weekly.

"San Francisco sleuth Nell Fury is fast, funny, and refreshing."
– Alix Madrigal, SF Chronicle.

As You Desire
by Madeline Moore
ISBN 0-933216-95-5 $9.95



This first novel by Madeline Moore was selected as this year's winner of Spinsters Lesbian Fiction Contest.

Madeline Moore is an Associate Professor of English Literature at UC Santa Cruz and the author of *The Short Season Between Two Silences: The Mystical and the Political in the Novels of Virginia Woolf* as well as numerous articles, essays, and poems.

"This beautiful novel... resonates with wisdom. Madeline Moore's prose never falters in its graceful, brave, poetic strength.... Rich with surprising imagery, rooted in irony, As You Desire recalls the best lesbian writing of Paris in the thirties." *– Judge Sandy Boucher*

Final Rest
by Mary Morell
ISBN 0-933216-94-7 $9.95

This much awaited mystery from Mary Morell is even better than the first!

This time we find detective Lucia Ramos engaged in some off-duty sleuthing with her lover, Amy Traeger. Amy's Aunt Meg has been arrested for murder. Can they get her off the hook?

Mary Morell runs a bookstore in Albuquerque. She won the 1990 Lesbian Fiction Contest sponsored by Spinsters for her book, *Final Session.*

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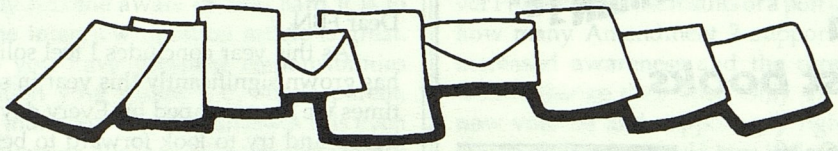
LETTERS



Crazy Ladies Bookstore
4039 Hamilton Ave
Cincinnati, OH 45223

Dear FBN,

Thanks to everyone at FBN. You are wonderful.

Crazy Ladies has had an excellent year. November was ahead of last November by 16% and December over the previous by 18%; the whole year up 8%. It has been most gratifying.

We have the good fortune of having added another full time staff person — Jeri Burns. Jeri is very creative and has increased our poster, jewelry & children's books sales already even though she has been on staff only since August.

The feeling we all have right now is that Crazy Ladies is in a growth cycle and it is very exciting to be part of it. Thank you.

Colleen Ernst

Everywoman's Books
641 Johnson St.
Victoria BC V8W 1M7 Canada

Dear FBN,

Canada Customs strikes again! I was interested to note in your last issue (Jan/Feb '93) that Canada Customs had seized 40 copies of *Hothead Paisan* bound for Toronto Women's Bookstore (and other bookstores??) A similar incident happened to us at Everywoman's Books. In late November of 1992 we had 35 copies of Issues # 1-7 of *Hothead* seized and sent back to the Inland Book Company. To date we have not received any official notification from Canada Customs regarding this seizure, so we don't know why they were seized. Since we have had no formal explanation, we have not yet filed a complaint.

We also wondered whether this was a random act as we have been ordering this great comic 'zine for several months without any problems. After reading Stacy Sheehan's letter in the previous issue of FBN, it does not appear to be a fluke. The question is, is Canada customs now going after women's bookstores or is it pissed off at *Hothead's* violent actions toward males and going after Giant Ass Publishing? Men have no sense of humor!

Maybe they're out to get both of us. Have any other women's bookstores in Canada had recent seizures of *Hothead Paisan* or any other books, 'zines, magazines? Have the boys gotten tired of fighting the queers at Little Sisters because they refused to lie down and fought back instead? Maybe they think that, because we're women, we are an easier target. They probably don't know that us queers are the backbone of a lot of women's bookstores.

Jahnet Hewsick

Wild Seeds Bookstore and Cafe, Inc.
704 University Avenue
Rochester, NY 14607

Dear FBN,

After four years of much joy and struggle, Wild Seeds Bookstore & Cafe has closed. We have: a copy of titles/authors Books in Print '90 - '91 free to anyone who'll pay postage; a less than one-year-old microfiche machine, MR-Z Micron purchased from Inland, for sale for $50; a four year-old cash register available for $75 or best offer.

It's time to move on — we love Wild Seeds and it's tough to let go — but it's been a wonderful journey. Many thanks for helping illuminate the road.

In sisterhood,

Marge

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$10.95 paper • ISBN 0-906500-45-1 • 256 pages

INBOOK Order today: 1-800-243-0138

Women's Bookstop
333 Main Street West
Hamilton, Ontario
416-525-2970

Dear FBN,

As this year concludes I feel solid. The business has grown significantly this year in spite of the hard times we are swamped by. Every day we pull up our hearts and try to look forward to better times. Each day we hear about more unemployment, more violent crimes and more environmental disasters. In Hamilton, women attached to feminism have experienced divisions and hard feelings. Many of us have turned against each other when our aim was to work for the good of each other. There have been bitter winds blowing.

Recently three of us arranged for a Women's Liberation Night in an effort to reclaim this movement for the Liberation of Women. Crafts women were encouraged to sell for no charge (tables were provided) and entertainment was loosely woven throughout the evening. Theatre and music and poetry kept us all amused. This was held at a not too churchy church and we did relax and enjoy.

From this look-out point it would appear that we have identified many short falls or missing pieces in our revolution. It has been very hard for us to accept criticism constructively. I've felt like throwing in the towel to all this political intelligence. But, after taking stock, a new breeze is in the air. Time out is part of the new breeze. Along with the recognition of the need for rest periods comes a new confidence. We women living feminism are very bright and sensitive. There is no way we are going back to the kitchen. Looking around I see a store that has blossomed over the past eight years. This is one of those news items which never make it to the dailies or nightly news. If we could see the steps each of us are taking we'd all feel lighter, more optimistic. Sure, there is death. We mourn Audre Lorde's death. But, look at all of the women and men she has encouraged. And yes, it's economically harsh, but look at the resourcefulness in our community.

Renee Albrecht

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Cathy Cade
2934 Ford St. #28
Oakland, CA 94601

Dear FBN,

I've recently become aware of how hard it is to hire people. The interview question article is great. However, "Do you have personal responsibilities which may inhibit your duties (i.e., single parent, etc.)" is off the mark. For many businesses it is even illegal to ask a question like that. Isn't the point rather "how do you handle it when personal responsibilities conflict with your job duties?" I will spare both you and me a rage that the former question elicits in me, but it might be interesting to hear others discuss how they handle issues of job duties vs. personal responsibilities in bookstores. What works when conflict comes up? What doesn't work?

Cathy

Our Power Press
P.O. Box 6680
Denver, CO 80206

Thoughts from a Colorado lesbian:

Yes, Colorado is a hate-filled state. On both sides. They've always hated us, and now we hate them. I still consider it a miracle that no violence erupted on November 4th — a cold night after the election when 7,000 angry and depressed lesbians and gays gathered for a vigil on the Capitol steps.

No lesbian or gay outside of Colorado (except perhaps for our Oregon counterparts) can possibly understand the extent of emotional damage this community has suffered — collectively and individually — due to the passage of Amendment 2. I have heard story after story of personal betrayal and, for the sake of my own sanity, have stopped polling people. An extremely complex issue (the degree of acceptance of our homosexual lifestyles) came down to an incredibly simple, yet telling, vote. And thousands of friends, family, and colleagues went into the booth and one by one cast their judgement.

Many Coloradoans have denied the scope of damage by explaining that many voters misunderstood the issue, believing it to be one of "special rights." This is a lie.

Before the election, we spent $700,000 explaining the issue. Perhaps that wasn't enough, but it was all we had. Still, I'm left to wonder what would be enough. In November and December, the passage of Amendment 2 received millions of dollars worth of press coverage. For sixty days, the issue was explained and explored in every way imaginable. On January 3, 1993, the Denver Post released the results of a poll taken to determine how many Amendment 2 supporters — in light of increased awareness and the threat of boycott — would change their vote. Only 4% said they would now vote no and support gay rights. Perhaps for a billion dollars, we could buy 10%. Or maybe not.

Another popular myth is that coming out is a cure-all. I, and many lesbians I've talked to, are out! Still, we know countless people who voted against us. My lover's co-worker, who is allegedly pro-gay, went into the booth and voted against us. Why? Because a gay friend had offended her the week before, so she "showed him." As sickened as I am by this tale, I am more disgusted still that the fate of our lives was ever allowed to rest in the hands of imbeciles. That the voters in Colorado were given the right to vote on our rights, as if we were second-class citizens begging for a crumb.

In mid-December, I realized with a start that I'd been mildly depressed for about six weeks. When I connected it to election night, I tried to figure out why the results affected me so much. After hours of journal writing, I came to see it's because I felt the accumulation of quiet hatred that's been directed at me since the age of ten, when my lesbianism surfaced. And it was overwhelming. Beginning with my parents and extending into every sphere of my adult life, the sum of hatred is too much to absorb all at once. I try to take it one day at a time, but it's hard to avoid the bleak, big picture.

I am a third-generation Denver native — a rarity in this beautiful city that sits in the shadow of the Rocky Mountains. I've never considered moving anywhere else. Until now. But where would I go?

Kasha Songer, owner of the Book Garden (the lesbian bookstore in Denver) recently told me that she had received three letters from vendors stating they had considered boycotting the Book Garden but decided against it. I was dumbfounded to hear they had even considered it. Kasha has spent eight years carving out a safe place for not only the women of Colorado, but also those in six nearby states. How dare these other lesbian and gay businesses begin to judge

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us, too. Where will it all end?

Boycott Colorado, but use discretion, and as you do it, please send positive energy to the lesbians and gays who still live here, for we are hurting beyond belief.

Sincerely,
Jennifer S. Croft

FBN, as they say, received for publication a copy of the following letter to *Publishers Weekly*.

Publishers Weekly
249 West 17 Street
New York NY 10011
To the Editor,

I have lain awake nights over Clarissa Pinkola Estés *My Say* (*PW*, December 14, 1992) and the Tattered Cover's fervently expressed hope (*PW*, November 6) that writers not participate in the nationwide boycott of Colorado that protests the passage of Amendment 2, the initiative that nullified gay rights laws in three communities and prohibits the passage of any gay rights laws in the entire state. If the people of Colorado can pass a law repealing the civil rights of one group, they can "repeal" the civil rights of any minority. Who will be the next target? And who will be the next after that?

In her essay *Singing over the Bones: The Colorado Boycott*, Estés eloquently mis-focuses the question with her "strengthening story" about singing over the bones of the dead.

But Estés missed the point: The lesbian and gay community is not dead, nor is the fight against Amendment Two and against other insidious attempts to legitimize discrimination against gay people and other minority groups.

Estés *is* right that the lesbian and gay community knows what death looks like. We have seen tremendous death in recent years:

• Our AIDS death has been enormous. There is not a bookseller in this country whose shelves are not haunted by the ghosts of books unwritten due to the much-too-early deaths of their authors.

• We all know that teen suicide is epidemic in this country. Fewer know that one-third of the teens who attempt suicide are grappling with issues of lesbian or gay identity. Take a moment to contemplate the chilling effect of Amendment Two on these children. There is *nothing* in Colorado's sanction of discrimination against lesbians and gay men in housing, employment, "fringe" benefits, and in every other aspect of their (potential) lives to help them choose life.

• We also know death from gay-bashing. In the height of the fight against Proposition 9 in Oregon Hattie Mae Cohens and Brian Mock, a Black lesbian and a white gay man, were burned to death when their home was fire-bombed by "neighbors" who felt that "queers" had no right to live in "their" neighborhood. Laws like Colorado's are taken by many as sanction for gay-bashing. The documented cases of gay-bashing have skyrocketed by as much as 80% in some parts of Colorado since the introduction of Amendment Two. It's "open seaon" on gays — and on straight men and women who "look" gay.

Estés' offer to sing for the lesbian and gay dead is very much appreciated. We have many dead to grieve and, no thanks to laws like Colorado's Amendment 2 and the many other such initiatives it will spawn, we will have many more.

It would be nice if the Colorado law could be someone else's problem. But similar propositions have already been or will soon be introduced in eleven additional states. If we don't stop it now, here, as we did in Oregon, be assured that it will come to your state. It will come to your front door. It will be in your bookstore. And it will be even harder to fight then.

We know that boycotts are effective. We've seen their success from Arizona to South Africa.

Do boycotts hurt the innocent? Of course they do. So does bigotry. When asked if economic sanctions would hurt Black South Africans Nelson Mandela responded, "Yes — and the only thing that will hurt us more is if you *don't* boycott." Or as Mother Jones, a tireless union organizer during the Colorado Miners' Strikes put it, "Pray for the dead — and fight like hell for the living!"

Do the right thing: Boycott Colorado. Don't spend your money there. Boycott intelligently, boycott thoughtfully, but boycott. For the sake of the lives you may save — or better yet, for the sake of your own human dignity.

Carol Seajay
Editor & Publisher
Feminist Bookstore News

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— Letter to the ABA —

Sasha Alyson
Alyson Publications
40 Plympton St.
Boston MA 02118

Dear Bernie,

I write this with some reluctance, because I have long admired the ABA, as well as the energy you are putting into it. But I wonder if you are aware of the amount of bad feeling that the ever-increasing ABA convention fees are generating among many small and medium-sized publishers.

I was told in Las Vegas (1990), by a member of the ABA staff, that rates went up substantially that year to acclimatize us for the even higher rates that would be charged in New York.

But by that logic, rates should have come back down after New York (1991). Instead, they actually went up slightly for Anaheim (1992). For Miami (1993), I believe rates stayed the same, but payment was due earlier, which is merely a veiled rate increase. (We sent you a 50 percent deposit on our $1950 booth back in August. Surely that establishes our commitment, and protects you in case we change our mind. Why must the balance be due "upon receipt" for an invoice mailed in October?)

By comparison, booths in our area were going for $550 to $600 in 1987. Our booth location may have improved slightly since then, but not nearly that much.

I don't mind if a moderate part of my ABA fees goes toward other programs that directly benefit bookstores. But when a substantial amount (how much? I've no way of knowing) goes toward an ill-conceived attempt for the ABA to enter the publishing field, and to compete with the companies that are subsidizing it, then something is very wrong.

Already some smaller and more innovative presses (i.e., those that make their publishing decisions based on ideas and talent, not on the most profitable fads) have decided they can't afford to exhibit. Will future conventions be increasingly dominated by sidelines and nonbooks, instead of by these publishers?

Yes, I realize that ABA effectively has a monopoly on national book trade shows, and that since you can sell all your booths at higher prices, there's not much pressure to lower them. But you should realize that a great deal of loyalty that I once felt to the ABA is dissolving as I come to feel like one more cash cow in a herd that is being milked for a number of new projects, some of which don't seem to be doing anyone any good. Nor am I the only one feeling this way.

Sincerely,
Sasha Alyson

— ABA Responds —

Bernie Rath
American Booksellers Association
560 White Plains Road
Tarrytown NY 10591

Dear Sasha,

Thanks for your letter of December 3, 1992 wherein you take me and ABA to task for our policies vis a vis the ABA tradeshow, specifically the timing of the payments and the price of the booths. I have already had a long talk with Deacon McCubbin on the subject and am copying him in on this response, but I do not know who else was on your "interested parties" distribution list. I would appreciate a copy of the list so that I can provide these people with this response.

By way of background you should be aware that your views had already been conveyed to me by the members of our publisher relations team who visited with you in Boston this past April. I was in Boston at the time, though part of a different team. As a direct result of that input, you can claim a great deal of the credit for there not having been a booth price increase this year. There were some members of our finance committee who thought that we should not set a precedent by not taking a reasonable price increase each year. I am a great believer in having prices of all of our products reflect fair market value and to be factored for inflation, which in this area runs between five percent and six percent annually. If inflation is not taken into account when one is pricing one's products over a five-year period, you lose a quarter of your purchasing power with the same money.

According to our records, beginning in 1990 in Las

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Vegas booth prices have risen no more than 20 percent cumulatively over four shows, just keeping pace with a five percent inflation rate. A low-end booth has gone from $1,000 to $1,200, a mid-range booth from $1,300 to $1,575 and a high-end booth from $1,600 to $1,975. I began with 1990, because that is the year in which we implemented our three-tier booth pricing policy and we hope eventually to have exhibit centers where we are confident enough about the quality of the space and the traffic in each area to charge one price for all. Prior to 1989, we sometimes had as many as a dozen or more booth prices, often increasing by $25 or $50 increments depending on where they were located in the hall or in an aisle. When you compared your booth price in 1987, the top-end booth was going for $1,300 and comparing an entry level booth in 1987 to a top-line booth in 1993, is not an accurate representation of what has transpired. Indeed, a more accurate comparison would be the one from $1,300 to $1,975, which is $675 or 50 percent over seven shows, an approximate seven percent annual increase over time. Bottom-end booths were $500 in 1987, but there were only a handful of them, with some as you have noted at $550, $600, $650, $700, $750 etc. The existence of this type of entry level booth has been phased out, as a result of the growth of the show and supply and demand. Seven years of successive sell-out shows would tend to indicate to anyone that giving away prime exhibit space at less than market for new exhibitors and wannabee's is not good business. At an average per sq. ft. rate of about $17, our tradeshow — which is among the 50 largest tradeshows in the country — is very much in the middle of the market, which is where I think it ought to be positioned. Many national industry shows charge well into the $20 range and some such as high-tech shows well into the $30 range.

As to the other issues, I agree with you that perhaps the October statements should not have required payment due on receipt but just like booksellers (or so I hear) publishers often take 60 or 90 days to pay that last bill. We will not receive the last of those payments due on receipt in November until March. Most of the money is expected in January and February. Having two 50 percent deposits rather than three 33 percenter's, or some combination of 10 percent, 60 percent, 30 percent was felt to be more efficient for both ABA and publishers. Of the publishers that I spoke with, few thought there was much to be gained other than administrative headaches from having 10 percent due in August (received in September); then billing 40 percent in October (received in January) and then billing 50 percent in December (received in February). While the cash flow is nice for us to have, it was not the major reason we made the change. The primary reason

was a marketing change wherein we hope to be able to be in a position in one or two years time to market and assign exhibit space for the following year's convention at the current convention which is a very common practice. When we reach that stage, whether or not we will still require 50 percent down is not known at this time. Frankly, yours is the only "official" complaint I have had, though of course I did read about two or three exhibitors in *Publishers Weekly*. For your general information, the 1993 tradeshow is completely sold out and there is now a waiting list of six publishers who would like to exhibit there. Precedent indicates that between now and then we will probably buildup to a list of more than 50 exhibitors who would like to have the opportunity to exhibit at the ABA in May.

Sasha, some day we will sit down for two hours and I will tell you everything that went into the decision to publish the encyclopedia. Competing with our exhibitors was the furthest thing from our minds and in fact we created a unique product so as not to. The cash operating loss of the encyclopedia was covered out of existing unrestricted reserves even while we continued to have a restricted strategic reserve of more than $1 million on deposit and an operating line of $2 million available. Throughout the two-year period of the "making and breaking" of the encyclopedia project, we spent more than $1.2 million on public radio underwriting in support of bookstores. I regret as much as the next person that the encyclopedia did not become a new source of annual income as I feel that the organization is far too dependent on its tradeshow income.

I hope this answers at least some or all of your concerns about what's going on here. Please fell free to call on me anytime to explore this further if you wish. Best wishes for a happy and successful holiday season.

Sincerely,

Bernard E. Rath ○

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News News News

Suspects Found Guilty in The Closet Bombing

Three teenage boys arrested in connection with the bombing of a lesbian/gay bookstore in Lancaster, PA have been found guilty. Two adults also charged in the bombing are expected to go to trial this spring.

Daniel J. VanAulen, 48, Linda A. Ward, 30, two 17-year-old boys and a 15-year-old boy were charged with arson and various counts of criminal conspiracy in the bombing of The Closet Bookstore. Bookstore owner Nancy Helm decided to close the store in May of 1992, after one year of operation. Two explosions at the store (in June and August 1991), three bomb threats and anticipated harassment from a local anti-pornography group forced the store's closure.

The District Attorney of Lancaster has found that there is enough evidence to bring VanAulen and Ward to trial. Although a court date has not yet been set, the DA will probably review the case in either March or May, according to Detective E.J. Able. Of the juveniles, one has been found guilty and the other two have pled guilty. All three are likely to participate in an "in-home services" program that includes community service and counseling, Able said.

Although the Lancaster-based *Intelligencer Journal* reported that police refused to speculate on the motives or call them gay bashing, VanAulen reportedly admitted that he had been "offended" by the material he saw in the window of the bookstore. In addition, he reportedly admitted owning the explosives used in the bombings: M-1000's, also known as "quarter sticks." In connection with the bombing investigation, police seized 30 cases of Class B and C fireworks and illegal explosives found in VanAulen's garage, and more than 150 cases of explosives stored in a van.

— Karen Carnival

Women In Print Contingent at March on Washington Be there!

Yes! There will be a Feminist Bookstores and Feminist Publishers contingent in the March on Washington (April 25, 1993) and a chance to get together on Saturday thanks to Pokey Anderson (Inklings/Houston) and some timely organizing on her part.

We're setting up two "events": a dinner for feminist bookstores and publishers and a contingent celebrating feminist bookstores and publishing and our contribution to the lesbian and gay movement. Pokey has reserved us a place in the march and is organizing the dinner and the signs. FBN will do PR, registration, and act as treasurer.

The dinner/meeting (which, FBN is told, makes your trip to Washington a tax deductible business

See **March**, *page 19.*

Canada Customs Hits Feminist Stores and Others

Canada Customs, who have long harassed gay bookstores, have recently seized magazines going into two feminist bookstores and seized books and magazines going into two general bookstores.

Thirty-five copies of *Hothead Paisan* (#1-7) were seized from a shipment to Everywoman's Books (Victoria, British Columbia) in November and were sent back to Inland. Everywoman's learned of the seizure only from Inland and, despite many phone calls, have yet to receive official notification that the magazines have been seized. Notification from Customs is required before an appeal can be filed. This is the first seizure in Everywoman's' 18-year history.

See **Customs**, *page 21.*

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Lesbian/Gay Booksellers Call For Colorado Boycott

To: The Board of Directors of the American Booksellers Association and the American Library Association

With the approach of winter came the even more chilling news of the adoption of Amendment 2 by the voters of Colorado. This amendment, titled the "No Special Privileges" amendment on the ballot, actually confers special privileges on the heterosexual population of Colorado and strips gays, lesbians and bisexuals of their equal rights under the state constitution. This affront to human dignity cannot be allowed to stand.

Efforts to overturn or repeal the amendment are underway and, as booksellers with a particular commitment to individual freedom of expression, we support those efforts. Among efforts is a concerted plan to bring economic pressure on the citizens of Colorado through a boycott of that state's industries and companies. Tourism and convention travel make up a large part of Colorado's income. Therefore, we join Boycott Colorado in urging that all citizens from around the country cancel their plans to visit Colorado for vacation or business purposes.

The American Booksellers Association and the American Library Association both have planned activities for the month of January, 1993 in Colorado. The ALA is holding their mid-winter meeting in Denver, and the ABA plans to hold a children's bookselling school at the same time. We feel that if those meetings are held as planned, they will undermine the effort to penalize Colorado for its stand against equal rights and be a slap in the face of those lesbians, gays, bisexuals and supportive heterosexuals who are seeking to overturn this repressive amendment.

We therefore call upon the boards of directors of the ABA and the ALA to immediately cancel those sessions or to relocate them to an area outside of the state of Colorado, and to put themselves publicly on record with a statement that no other activities or events will be scheduled or held in the state of Colorado until Amendment 2 is repealed or overturned. We also ask that these boards publicize their disapproval of Amendment 2 to the widest possible audience, both within and outside their membership.

Harvey Hertz
A Brother's Touch
Minneapolis, MN

Deacon Maccubbin &
Jim Bennett
Lambda Rising
Washington, DC

Jack Garman
Lambda Rising
Baltimore MD

Babo Jensen
Lambda Rising
Rehoboth Beach, DE

Rob Schlegel
Bright Pink Literature
Las Vegas, NV

Richard Labonte
A Different Light
San Francisco, CA

Norman Laurila &
Josy Catogio
A Different Light
West Hollywood, CA

Roz Parr
A Different Light
New York, NY

Jim Schneider
Category Six
Denver, CO

Alan Robinson
Faubourg Marginy
New Orleans, LA

John Mitchell
Glad Day Bookstore
Boston, MA

Jerry Sprouse
Lambda Passages
Miami, FL

Ryan Morrison
Lavendar Jade's
Glen Falls, NY

Toby Johnson
Liberty Books
Austin, TX

Kevin Gray
Lobo Book Store
Dallas, TX

Jim Todd
Max Images
Norfolk, VA

Rex Mitchell
Phoenix Rising
Richmond, VA

Beth Gundersen &
Sally Engler
Lodestar Books
Birmingham, AL

Nan Cinnater &
Diane Johnson
Now Voyager
Provincetown, MA

Craig Rodwell
Oscar Wilde
New York, NY

Bruce Ground
Out and About Books
Orlando, FL

Earl Jones
Out Right Books
Virginia Beach, VA

Carrie Barnett &
Brett Shingledecker
People Like Us
Chicago, IL

Bill Kanouff
Tomes & Treasures
Tampa, FL

John L. Parks
Unicorn Bookstore
West Hollywood, CA

John Neal
White Rabbit Books
Greensboro, NC

Jim Baxter
White Rabbit Books
Raleigh, NC

James Funderburk
White Rabbit Books
Charlotte, NC

Dennis Komac &
Jeff Swanson
Sons & Daughters
Grand Rapids &
Southfield, MI

Bill Cordes
Our World Too
St. Louis, MO

Ed Hermance
Giovanni's Room
Philadelphia, PA

Ed Devereaux
Unabridged Books
Chicago, IL

(The above statement was dated December 4, 1992.)

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ABA Declines Colorado Boycott Donates Funds Instead

Thirty-three gay bookstores joined together to petition the ABA Board of Directors to support the Colorado boycott by either canceling the Booksellers School (held after the ALA Mid-Winter meetings) or by moving it out of state, to go on record publicly with statements that no other activities or events will be scheduled or held in Colorado until Amendment Two is repealed, and to publicize its disapproval of Amendment 2 to the widest possible audience both within and outside its membership. (See opposite page.)

The ABA Board considered the proposal in a telephone conference meeting and a task force was formed to consider the issues. In the end the Board decided not to honor the boycott but to take other measures including adding a special session with Sasha Alyson to the Children's Booksellers school, publishing and circulating a statement that ABA "deplores discrimination of any kind and strongly encourages its 8,000 members to speak out strongly against discrimination in all its forms," and committing a sum of $10,000 (one estimate of how much it would cost to move the Booksellers School) to counter Amendment Two. (See Resolution, this page.) Details of how ABA would raise these issues to its membership have not yet been revealed. ABA's vice president Avin Domnitz told FBN that the recipient of the funds has not yet been designated as the legal challenge to the amendment is being filed by the City of Denver — an organization that is presumably capable of financing the legal costs. The Board has, however, authorized ABA President Chuck Robinson and Executive Director Bernie Rath to assign the funds should they be needed between Board meetings.

It would be an understatement to say that many ABA members, while understanding the difficulty of moving a long-scheduled meeting at short notice, were deeply disappointed that the ABA would not commit to not refusing to hold future meetings in Colorado until Amendment Two is repealed. Despite receiving a petition from 33 booksellers asking that ABA honor the boycott, ABA reports that it received only five phone calls after the resolution was passed — all in support of the resolution — a situation that would seem to speak more to a communication gap than its members' views on the matter.

The American Library Association, unable to move its Mid-Winter meetings in such a short period of time, has resolved not to return to Colorado or hold any meetings in Colorado until Amendment Two is repealed.

There has been some talk of bringing the issue directly to the ABA membership for a vote at the ABA membership meeting during the convention in May. — *CS*

ABA Board "Defeats" (?!) Resolution to Protect Independent Bookselling

At the January 24 meeting, the ABA Board "defeated" (sic) a resolution submitted by independent bookstore advocate and board member Bill Petrocelli that asked ABA to establish a five-point program to protect independent bookselling. The resolution maintained that, just as a free press depends on a large, diverse group of authors and publishers, the concept of a free press also depends upon a diverse group of independent booksellers.

All of the resolution's five points seem, to FBN, to fall well within ABA's statement of purpose. While asking around for opinions as to why this proposal was addressed with such apparent hostility, FBN was told that two chains had threatened ABA with lawsuits if the proposal passed — a situation that, if true, needs to be publicized and confronted. The resolution calls for:

- Committing the ABA to preserving the present system of diverse, independent bookselling and giving that effort highest priority;
- Directing ABA staff to research and investigate a specific list of issues related to preserving the system of independent bookselling;
- Directing ABA to undertake a public relations campaign explaining the threat to the system of independent bookselling and its significance for the right of free expression;
- Giving the ABA's support and cooperation to

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the FTC and to other law enforcement efforts to end discriminatory pricing and unfair practices in the book business;

• Undertaking to persuade Congress to investigate the current crisis, evaluate the effectiveness of existing laws to deal with it and, if necessary, to enact new laws to protect the system of independent bookselling.

The Board rejected the proposal and chose instead to establish a taskforce (composed of the executive board plus Andy Ross and Bill Petrocelli) to implement portions of ABA's new strategic plan (adopted at the same meeting) that deal with "helping to promote a legal and nondiscriminatory bookselling environment."

The as-yet-unaddressed question is whether ABA *can* fulfill the new stated mission — to promote the success of (all of) its member stores — or whether it is impossible to work to both the success of independent stores and of chain stores and superstores, since the success of the latter seems to be contingent on the downfall of many of the former.

Petrocelli has raised important and provocative questions about whether it is appropriate for ABA to try to serve both kinds of bookstores and whether legislation is needed to preserve a democratic means of distribution of ideas and books in the current environment.

We look forward to seeing ABA address these essential issues in depth and with all due speed in *American Bookseller* and elsewhere. — *CS*

IFBF-6: July 27-31, 1994 Focus will be Indigenous, Pacific and Asian Writing and Publishing

The Sixth International Feminist Book Fair (IFBF-6) will be held in Melbourne, Australia July 27-31, 1994. Dates are confirmed — as is the receipt of the $120,000 grant that the IFBF-6 had been awarded before the new (very conservative) state government took power. The new government cut the funding of almost every organization that has a social consciousness or any tinge of radicalness. But even the conservatives recognized that a couple thousand women flying to Australia for a feminist book fair creates a significant influx of currency and so, ironically, the global recession (and the economic argument) won the day for feminists.

The focus to the Fair will be Indigenous, Pacific and Asian writing and publishing. This is the first time that the Fair has been held in the southern hemisphere. Fair organizers will be attending the American Booksellers Association Convention to promote the Fair and to meet with publishers and others who are interested in attending or exhibiting at the Fair. (Booth 0612, with Feminist Bookstore News.)

Several other women's studies and feminist conferences are being scheduled in coordination with the Fair to enable participants to attend two or more events for the same air fare.

ABA RESOLUTION REGARDING COLORADO'S MEASURE 2

WHEREAS, The passage of Amendment Two in Colorado inhibits the civil rights of homosexuals and facilitates discrimination against them; and

WHEREAS, books are instruments for the dissemination of knowledge and knowledge fosters tolerance; and

WHEREAS, The American Bookseller's Association deplores discrimination of any kind and strongly encourages its 8,000 members to speak out against discrimination in all its forms; and

WHEREAS, ABA has scheduled an educational seminar in the city of Denver, whose citizens have rejected Amendment Two by a substantial majority and the mayor of which has initiated legal action to stay the implementation of Measure Two;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that rather than boycott Denver, the ABA has chosen to proceed with the Children's Bookselling School in Denver and added one of the nation's leading publishers of gay and lesbian children's books to the faculty for a special presentation, while committing a sum of $10,000 to counter Amendment Two or similar actions. ○

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The Fair in Melbourne will mark the tenth anniversary of the first IFBF held in London in 1984. Previous fairs have been held in London, 1984; Oslo, 1986, Montreal, 1988; Barcelona, 1990; and Amsterdam, 1992.

The program of the recent Fair in Amsterdam included 182 writers from 52 countries, over 200 publishers from every continent and thousands of visitors. Over 100 media organizations from twenty countries sent journalists.

The Fair will have a huge impact on Australian writing and publishing and promises to be the major cultural event of 1994. The Fair has a budget of $1.5 million and organizers estimate that the fair will bring over $2 million into the country. It will be held at the Royal Exhibition Buildings, Carlton.

To get on the mailing list for the IFBF-6, send your name and address to IFBF-6, PO Box 212, North Melbourne, Victoria 3051, Australia or fax 011613-329-9238 or stop by Booth 0612 at ABA. Book Fair organizers will find it helpful if you identify yourself as a bookseller, publisher, writer, distributor, librarian, arts networker, etc., woman of color (Black, Native, Indigenous, Asian, Pacific, and/or particular ethnicity), and/or lesbian, so that you receive all of the appropriate mailings.

New Newsletter for Independent Bookstores

Independent Bookselling Today! is a new, monthly newsletter for independent bookstore owners and workers. It was founded by Donna Paz, former manager of the Davis-Kidd Booksellers store in Nashville and the owner of Paz & Associates, bookstore consultants. Paz described the newsletter to *Publishers Weekly* as "an offshoot of my consulting work. I want it to be a real nuts-and-bolts thing." She also notes that with "the proliferation of chain superstores, independent bookstores must fine-tune their operations and differentiate their stores."

The newsletter will focus on business management. Subscriptions are $65/year with membership available only to independent bookstores. Those who subscribe before March 1 will receive a free copy of a report entitled "Successfully Handling Difficult Customers." *Independent Bookselling Today!*, 212 Sloan Rd., Nashville TN 37209; 615-298-2303. — *CS*

1992 Pandora & New Venture Awards

Women in Publishing (U.K.)'s much coveted Pandora and New Venture Awards were presented at WIP's annual holiday party in December. The Pandora Award, which is given for personal achievement and promoting the status of women in publishing, was presented to Ros de Lanerolle. The New Venture Award went to Scarlet Press.

Of Ros de Lanerolle, Jane Hindle, emcee for the evening said:

"As many of you will know, Ros' contribution to feminist publishing in the UK has been truly significant. As managing director at The Women's Press for over eight years, she published a vast range of material and is particularly renowned for having brought many Black woman authors into the public eye. Some of her most famous 'names' include Ellen Kuzwayo, Titse Dangaremba (winner of the Commonwealth Prize for Literature), Merle Collins, Joan Riley and Rosalie Birtell — women whose books have enriched many of our lives."

"Scarlet Press," Jane continued, "represents one of the highlights of 1992 in women's publishing: a brand new press formed by five women with backgrounds in academia, publishing and journalism. Having perceived a need for a specifically non-fiction press which is issue-oriented, provocative and feminist, they see their main areas of publishing in cultural studies, Europe, health, lesbian and gay. Two of its launch titles, *Superwomen and the Double Burden* and *The European Women's Almanac* have a European perspective — both have been sold for publication in the USA and Canada. Their third title, *Women Talk Sex*, is an anthology of new autobiographical writing. In addition, they have launched a pamphlet series, "Lesbians Talk" which kicked off with a title by Cherry Smyth, *Lesbians Talk Queer Notions*.

A record number of nominations were received for this year's awards. The short-list for the Pandora Awards also included Janice Price, Managing Director at Routledge, and Elsbeth Lindner, for her work at Methuen, for her contributions to the Minerva imprint and for her own, new imprint, Lime Tree. The short list for the New Venture Award also included

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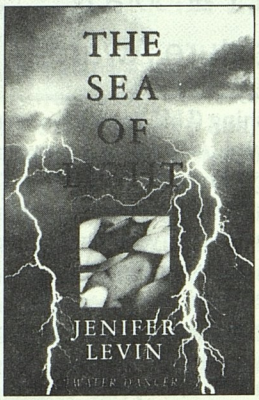
women writing in a different light



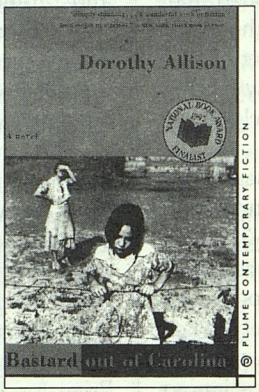
THE SEA OF LIGHT

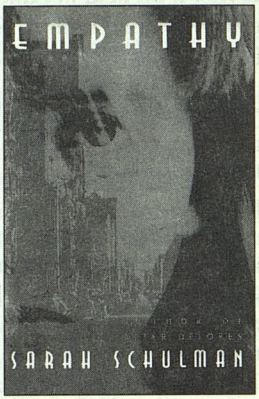
"Levin might be the female counterpart of Paul Monette; her novel reverberates in the imagination long after the reader has turned the final pages."
—*Publishers Weekly*

BASTARD OUT OF CAROLINA

"Simply stunning...as flawless as any reader could ask for."
—*New York Times Book Review*

"Bastard's success is in its emotional precision and irrepressible lyricism, forcefully combined."
—*San Francisco Review of Books*





EMPATHY

"Schulman's story is a triumph. It's as hot as it is clever, as scared as it is brave."
—*Neil Bartlett*

"Empathy is a genuine pleasure... Nobody describes countercultural New York more convincingly—or more endearingly—than Schulman." —*Entertainment Weekly*

DUTTON

At your favorite bookstore now

PLUME

African Woman, a bi-annual magazine launched in March 1988 in London; The Women Artists Slide Library, for their bi-monthly *Women's Art Magazine* and (with Open Letters) the tri-lingual International Women's Art Diary; and the Bloomsbury Guide to Women's Literature.

HarperSanFrancisco Employees Unionizing

Over 75% of the nonmanagement employees of HarperCollins San Francisco (HCSF) have signed petitions stating that they wish to be represented in collective bargaining by the Communications Workers of America (CWA). CWA has entered into a National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) hearing with HCSF management to determine an appropriate bargaining unit for a union representation election.

HCSF nonmanagement employees announced their decision to be represented by CWA in December and asked HarperCollins to voluntarily recognize the union. This request was denied. CWA filed a petition for a secret ballot election with the NLRB the same day. FBN readers have been invited to write or call the publisher (Clayton Carlson, Senior Vice President, HarperCollins, 1160 Battery St., San Francisco CA 94111; 415-477-4400) and to send a copy to CWA (240 Second Street, San Francisco CA 94105) as a way to offer their support for the union and a speedy election.

The decision to unionize followed three years of efforts by nonmanagement employees to resolve workplace issues. In March of 1990, HarperSF employees formed a group to address issues of compensation, grievance, and overtime. Editorial staff, in this context, are considered to be managerial.

Although unions are unusual in the publishing industry in the U.S., HCSF employees believe their action will send a strong message to industry colleagues who work under similar conditions. 82% of the employees in the nonmanagement group are women in their mid- to late-twenties.

This is the first time HarperSF employees have filed a petition with the NLRB. HarperCollins New York joined the United Auto Workers in 1974, follow-

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ing independent union representation which began soon after World War II.

HarperCollins San Francisco is comprised of 150+ employees working in six divisions: Harper San Francisco, Collins Publishers San Francisco (the *Day in the Life* series); The Understanding Business; Access Productions (Access travel guides), HarperCollins Direct (a new division set up to develop techniques for selling the group's high-end gift books into nontraditional markets), and HarperCollins West, a new general trade venture.

HarperCollins San Francisco is a division of HarperCollins, which is a subsidiary of NewsCorp, a public company in which Rupert Murdoch and his family have the controlling interest.

In an unrelated effort, staff at Cody's Bookstore unionized last fall.

ABA Sells Convention Rights for $17.5M

The American Booksellers Association entered into an agreement with Reed Exhibition Companies (owned by Reed Publishing, owners of *Publishers Weekly*, *Library Journal* and *School Library Journal*) to form a joint venture that will own and operate the annual ABA convention. Under the agreement Reed will acquire a 49% interest in the convention for approximately $17,500,000 which will be paid to ABA in 1993. The 1994 convention (Los Angeles) will be the first to be produced under the new program. Bernie Rath, according to *PW*, states that the proceeds of the sale will be place in an endowment fund, the proceeds of which will be used to subsidize operations allowing "the association to pursue greater opportunities for the book industry and our bookseller members" and "will enhance the financial stability of the association instead of us being dependent on the vagaries of the trade show [income]." Rath assumes that the convention will continue to grown and "our 51% ultimately will be essentially the same amount of money as our 100% now."

PW also reported that the ABA had closed on the Tarrytown property that it had been pursing for the last two years.

Reed, the world's largest exhibition organizer, operates 287 shows in 25 countries. It organizes the London International Book Fair and Book PubWorld in NY. Reed will encourage international interest in the ABA, will incorporate Book PubWorld (a supplier show) into ABA and "expect[s] to keep the associated conference and seminar program."

Featured Publisher Program Debuts at Bookpeople

Bookpeople sales and promotion director David Humphrey has announced that bookstores can now purchase all titles from selected independent publishers at a 45% discount. The publishers participating in this effort are Papier-Mache Press, The Crossing Press, Heyday Books, The Book Publishing Company and Sounds True Audio. The discount is automatically applied to every Featured Publisher title for all orders that meet Bookpeople's standard minimum requirement (10 or more assorted items or 5 copies of a single title) and is automatically assigned to all electronic orders.

Dorothy Allison: Banned in Oklahoma?

The Oklahoma State Center for the Book has canceled a three-day residency by out lesbian writer Dorothy Allison (*Bastard Out of Carolina; Trash*). The residency was scheduled as part of a National Book Foundation series which is, in turn, co-sponsored by the Library of Congress' Center for the Book. The National Book Foundation sends National Book Award winners and finalists throughout the nation via a program supported by a grant from the Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Fund. Initial reports indicated that Allison's program had been canceled because she is a(n out) lesbian and/or because of objections to Allison's 1983 poetry collection *Women Who Hate Me* (Firebrand). Later reports from Oklahoma denied both of those possibilities but offered only that they had not asked for Allison. Meanwhile some officials in Oklahoma, at the National Book Foundations, at Dutton, and Allison herself are looking into ways to send her to Oklahoma.

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Lambda Literary Award Finalists

CHILDREN'S & YOUNG ADULT BOOKS

The Daddy Machine by Johnny Valentine; illustrated by Lynette Schmidt (Alyson Wonderland)
A Boy's Best Friend by Joan Alden; illustrated by Catherine Hopkins (Alyson Wonderland)
When Heroes Die by Penny Raife Durant (Atheneum)
Drowning of Stephen Jones by Bette Greene (Bantam)
The Day They Put a Tax on Rainbows by Johnny Valentine; illustrated by Lynette Schmidt (Alyson Wonderland)

GAY MEN'S FICTION

Winter Eyes by Lev Raphael (St. Martin's)
Almost History by Christopher Bram (Donald I. Fine)
Latin Moon in Manhattan by Jaime Manrique (St. Martin's)
Let the Dead Bury the Dead by Randall Kenan (Harcourt Brace)
Dream Life by Bo Huston (St. Martin's)

GAY MEN'S ANTHOLOGIES

Men on Men 4 edited by George Stambolian (Plume)
Member of the Family edited by John Preston (E.P. Dutton)
Discontents edited by Dennis Cooper (Amethyst)
Flesh and the Word edited by John Preston (E.P. Dutton)
Here to Dare edited by Assotto Saint (Galiens)

GAY MEN'S MYSTERY

The Hidden Law by Michael Nava (HarperCollins)
Final Atonement by Steve Johnson (Onyx)
Third Man Out by Richard Stevenson (St. Martin's)
Love You to Death by Grant Michaels (St. Martin's)
One for the Master, Two for the Fool by Larry Townsend (Alyson)

GAY MEN'S NONFICTION

Becoming a Man by Paul Monette (Harcourt Brace)
Homoerotic Photograph by Allen Ellenzweig (Columbia U.)
Making History by Eric Marcus (HarperCollins)
Making Trouble by John D'Emilio (Routledge)
Heartlands by Darrell Yates Rist (E.P. Dutton)

GAY MEN'S POETRY

The Man with the Night Sweats by Thom Gunn (Farrar Straus)
Ceremonies by Essex Hemphill (Plume)
Strong Place by Tim Dlugos (Amethyst)
Counting Myself Lucky by Edward Field (Black Sparrow)
Long Division by Rudy Kikel (Writers Block)

GAY MEN'S SCIENCE FICTION/FANTASY

China Mountain Zhang by Maureen McHugh (TOR)
Lost Souls by Poppy Z. Brite (Abyss/Delacourt)
The Living One by Lewis Gannett (Random House)
Cry Gender by Thomas T. Thomas (Baen)
Tales of the Body Thief by Anne Rice (Knopf)

GAY AND LESBIAN HUMOR

The Mostly Unfabulous Social Life of Ethan Green by Eric Omer (St. Martin's)
Dykes to Watch Out For: The Sequel by Alison Bechdel (Firebrand)
The Night Audrey's Vibrator Spoke by Andrea Natalie (Cleis)
BB and the Diva by Rupert Kinnard (Alyson)
That's *Ms.* Bulldyke to You, Charlie by Jane Caminos (Madwoman)

LESBIAN ANTHOLOGIES

Persistent Desire edited by Joan Nestle (Alyson)
Write from the Heart edited by Anita L. Pace (Baby Steps)
Erotic Naiad edited by Katherine V. Forrest and Barbara Grier (Naiad)
Wolf Girls at Vassar edited by Anne McKay (Ten Percent)
Poetry of Sex by Tee Corinne (Banned Books)

LESBIAN FICTION

Running Fiercely Toward a High Thin Sound by Judith Katz (Firebrand)
Empathy by Sarah Schulman (E.P. Dutton)
Aquamarine by Carol Anshaw (Houghton Mifflin)
Terrible Girls by Rebecca Brown (City Lights)
On Ships at Sea by Madelyn Arnold (St. Martin's)

LESBIAN MYSTERY

Death of Jocasta by J.M. Redman (New Victoria)
Crazy for Loving by Jaye Maiman (Naiad)
Lavender House Murder by Nikki Baker (Naiad)
Two-Bit Tango by Elizabeth Pincus (Spinsters)
Stage Fright by Ellen Hart (Seal)

LESBIAN NONFICTION

Persistent Desire edited by Joan Nestle (Alyson)
The Earth House by Jeanne DuPrau (New Chapter)
Practicing Eternity by Carol Givens and L. Diane Fortier (Paradigm)
Shattered Applause by Robert A. Schanke (Southern Illinois U.)
Eleanor Roosevelt by Blanche Cook (Viking)

LESBIAN POETRY

Black Slip by Terry Wolverton (Clothespin Fever)
Cultivating Excess by Lori Anderson (Eighth Mountain)
According to Her Contours by Nancy Boutilier (Black Sparrow)
Undersong by Audre Lorde (Norton)
Lady Sun, Lady Moon by Diane Stein (Crossing)

LESBIAN SCIENCE FICTION/FANTASY

Return to Isis by Jean Stewart (Rising Tide)
Speaking Dreams by Severna Park (Firebrand)
Ammonite by Nicola Griffith (Del Rey)
Dreamships by Melissa Scott (TOR)
Running Fiercely Toward a High Thin Sound by Judith Katz (Firebrand)

LESBIAN AND GAY SMALL PRESS BOOK AWARD

A Perilous Advantage by Natalie Barney (New Victoria)
Here to Dare edited by Assotto Saint (Galiens)
To Kill a Cardinal by Michael Rumaker (Arthur Mann Kaye)
Hot Chicken Wings by Jyl Lynn Felman (Aunt Lute)
Memories That Smell Like Gasoline by David Wojnarowicz (Serpent's Tail)

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New Victoria Presents *Locked Down* at Tennessee Women's Prison

Tennessee Women's Prison authorities bent prison regulations to allow Beth Dingman, Claudia Lamperti and Deborah Dudley of New Victoria Publishers and Frank Ritter, a newspaper reporter for *The Nashville Tennessean*, to visit Lee Dortch and Idella Serna in the prison and to present them with copies of their recently published book *Locked Down: A Woman's Life in Prison, The Story of Lee Dortch as told to Idella Serna*. Lee and Idella are both inmates at the prison. The group was allowed to meet in the maximum security wing where Lee is currently being held.

The New Victorians write: "Lee and Idella were thrilled that the manuscript they had spent so many years toiling over was actually in book form. We were also excited to meet the women with whom we had been corresponding and speaking on the phone for the past 18 months. Lee expressed the hope that this book would show other lesbians that violence is not the answer to their anger and frustrations. Idella told us of her sympathy for all the women who come to prison, unable to read and write, victims of abuse most of their lives. She spends much of her time tutoring those who wish to learn.

"We feel that not only have we published a book which may help readers understand how the homophobia of the 1950s and '60s could incite a woman to violence, but we have personally gotten to know two very strong-willed and caring people, and helped to give meaning to their lives. The book is, we believe, a pertinent and timely addition to the 'family values' debate."

Locked Down is the true and tragic story of one woman's response to the homophobia of American society. Unable to fit the role of good girl, and experiencing confusion about her sexual identity, Lee lashed out at those around her. At 16, Lee stole a car together with her girlfriend, and then took the rap so her lover could go free. What followed was a series of attempted escapes, hostage holding of prison officials, and other acts of violence, including murder.

Lee Dortch receiving a copy of *Locked Down: A Woman's Life in Prison* from publisher Beth Dingman (photo by Claudia Lamperti)

March, *continued from page 11.*

expense) will be Saturday, April 24 at 5:30 (early enough so that you can get to whatever evening commitments and pleasures await you) at a location that will be disclosed only when you pre-register! (Which is to say that we're still negotiating space as FBN goes to press.)

Check-in and socializing time will run until 6:00. Dinner will be served at 6:15. There will be time during dinner for short presentations, speeches, announcements, and yes, even jokes. If you have something you want say, a topic you want to see on the agenda or other program ideas call Pokey Anderson at 713-521-3369. The proposed theme is "Healthy feminist bookstores and publishers: What do they look like? How do we get there from here? How do we help each other?" Because space is limited, the dinner and meeting will be limited to feminist bookstore staff, feminist publishers (and staff) and a maximum of one guest per person. (The contingent, of course, is open to everyone who identifies as a feminist bookseller or publisher and all of their friends.)

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BOOKS FOR OUR TIME

Made From This Earth
American Women & Nature
by Vera Norwood

"Puts ecofeminist critiques into historical perspective and gives them new authority."
—Annette Kolodny, author of *The Lay of the Land* and *The Land Before Her*
396 pp., 55 illus., $37.50 cloth, $17.95 paper
Gender and American Culture

American Dreams, Rural Realities
Family Farms in Crisis
by Peggy F. Barlett

"The definitive word on the social and economic dynamics of the farm crisis in the 1980s."
—Gary P. Green, University of Georgia
332 pp., $45 cloth, $18.95 paper
Studies in Rural Culture

at bookstores or by toll-free order
The University of North Carolina Press
Chapel Hill
Phone (800) 848-6224
Fax (800) 272-6817

Feminist Bookstores and Publishers are Contingent #68 in the Women's Organizations section of the march. Naiad Press and Rising Tide have also registered as contingents. All three contingents will be next to one another.

To reserve tickets for the dinner, send $40 for each ticket to FBN, 456 14th St. #6, San Francisco CA 94103. Make checks payable to Feminist Bookstores Network. Please include the names of the people coming, if you want vegetarian or non-veg meals, and a SASE for the tickets and the location of the dinner. The ticket price includes dinner and a small amount for accessories (see "signs" below.) If you aren't coming to the dinner but want a sign and/or want to contribute to the cost of the banner, see below.

A contingent is not a visible contingent without signs — and lots of them! We're planning a big identifying banner and with a sea of 50-100 smaller signs behind it that identify each bookstore and publisher represented. And, of course, stores that have their own banners and/or t-shirts will carry and/or wear them, too.

If you don't already have a banner or sign for your store or publishing company (or even if you do and you want to be part of this sea of signs) send a copy of your logo (preferably black ink on white paper) with your city and state to Pokey Anderson, c/o Inklings, 1846 Richmond Ave., Houston TX 77098. Be sure to include your color preference. All logos must arrive by April 8 for guaranteed delivery at the march.

There's no charge for the first sign if you're attending the dinner. If you're not attending the dinner or if you want more than one sign, enclose a check for $3. Logos will be blown up onto 11 X 14 poster board and political-sign stakes will be provided. If you aren't going, but someone from your town is and they want to carry a sign for your store, send in your sign order. We will (somehow) get all the signs to the meeting place for the contingent and your representatives will be able to pick them up there.

We also need one (or several!) official photographers for the contingent. We'll need both black and white photos and color slides to go out with press releases (want to see ourselves in the Bookselling sections of *American Bookseller* and *Publishers Weekly*?). If you have suggestions for where else these press releases should go — or if you're a publication and want to be sure to get one — or better yet, if you can be our official photographer, call Carol or Karen at FBN (415-626-1556).

If you aren't already on the mailing list for the March on Washington, call 800-832-2889. Everyone who is marching is asked to send a $15 donation to help with expenses. (If a million people march and pay up, that's $15M, enough, as Pokey put it, to buy our own senator. Maybe we could start with a replacement for Jesse Helms?) Donations to the march are tax deductible. Make checks payable to the March on Washington and send to PO Box 34607, Washington DC 20043.

If you need to change or confirm last minute details during the weekend of the march call Pokey in the DC area at 703-524-4649.

Remember: Dinner tickets must be reserved by April 8. Logos for signs must be in Pokey's hands by the same time. See you there! O

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Customs, *continued from page 11.*

The Toronto Women's Bookstore has, in three separate seizures, lost copies of *Bad Attitude*, *Hothead Paisan* #7, and *Quim*, a new lesbian sex mag from England. Prior to the TWB collective's decision to stock *Bad Attitude*, TWB had not been hassled by Customs.

Copies of Roz Warren's *Weenie-Toons! Women Artists Mock Cocks*, (published by Laugh Lines Press, see FBN Vol. 15 #3, pg. 79), bound for Womansline Books (London, Ontario) were "held-up" at customs for a week last October. Because the books were released, Customs was not obligated to specify why the books were detained. But Customs officials, during telephone conversations while the book was being held, commented that the concern was "degradation of the male penis" — proving once and for all that men have no sense of humor.

Hothead #7, which portrays no sexual activity whatsoever, is also on Customs' banned list, according to FBN's sources, for being "sexually degrading to men" under the Butler decision (see below). *Hothead* #8 has been received in stores without incident. *Quim* was seized for portraying anal penetration.

In seemingly related moves, Customs seized 27 titles bound for Le Dernier Mot (The Last Word) — including two books by Andrea Dworkin, *Woman Hating* and *Pornography: Men Possessing Women*, as well as a number of magazines and other items addressed to Pages, a left-leaning alternative bookstore.

The seizure at Le Dernier Mot occurred directly after LDM published and began to sell transcripts of a telephone conversation that the government had attempted to ban from publication. The telephone conversation, needless to say, was very embarrassing to the current government. The seizure of stock addressed to Pages occurred a week after Pages mounted a provocative and passionate anti-censorship window display.

Customs apparently didn't take into account that LDM counts many journalists among its best customers. Major articles reporting the seizure were published in *The Montreal Gazette* and other mainstream media. All of the titles addressed to LDM were released after the news stories hit the media and an apology of sorts, indicating that the seizure was a "mistake" has been issued by Customs. Customs officials, FBN was told, went so far as to tell Pages that there was a distinction between gay and non-gay bookstores and that any seizures of titles going to non-gay bookstores were "a mistake." Pages response to the harassment has been to test Customs by intentionally ordering magazines (such as *Bad Attitude*) that are being seized in gay stores.

CensorStop, a coalition of anti-censorship people who monitor Customs' activities, notes that both of these seizures were purely punitive in nature and that Customs is now doing seizures to control dissent, rather than to control content. CensorStop spokespeople noted that internal mail (mail posted and delivered within Canada) addressed to CensorStop activists has been opened by Canada Post and that both Customs and Canada Post are acting in concert with political forces in the government to inhibit dissent.

The recent seizures have helped mainstream media to understand that censorship in Canada is everyone's issue and that it can no longer be written off as "a gay issue." It is hoped that increased mainstream media attention will outrage enough Canadians that changes in Customs procedures and regulations will be initiated.

Much of Customs' new boldness and much of Customs' new attack on women's and general bookstores seems to be based on the Butler Decision, a ruling that was affirmed by Canada's Supreme Court. Butler holds that pornography, in addition to being defined by "community standards," can also be defined by whether the material can be construed to "do harm" (to women) and/or to be degrading. Laws based on similar premises have been passed in the U.S. but have been, without exception, overturned in the courts.

The Butler decision has been used, as far as FBN has been able to determine, only to seize lesbian, gay, and feminist material, despite the fact that it is intended to stop portrayal of eroticized violence against women. To date it has been used against: *Hothead Paisan; Bad Attitude* (almost immediately after the decision was handed down); and various gay men's magazines on the grounds that anonymous sex is *always* degrading.

These actions underscore fears that the enforcement branches of governments will always direct these laws against feminist erotica and lesbian and gay material, rather than against violent pornography marketed to straight men. The seizure of even Andrea

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Dworkin's adamantly anti-pornography books confirms the worst of those fears. (Dworkin co-authored similar laws in the states with Catherine McKinnon.)

The Hayes decision, which is a first-level court decision that was handed down after the Butler decision, is being appealed by Glad Day. According to the Hayes decision, casual gay sex is always degrading and is therefore obscene and portrayals thereof are to be banned. Glad Day is arguing for a different standard for gay material as it has a different audience and that anal sex is normal in a gay context.

Canada Customs supposedly takes direction from the court decisions.

Meanwhile, Customs has seized no (none, *nada*, zero, zip) books addressed to Little Sisters and has even been relatively restrained in seizing periodicals. Little Sisters has, in the last few months, received titles that they have not been able to get through customs for years (although many of these same titles have gone into mainstream bookstores with no problem during the same period.) Titles received in recent months include *Hothead* #7 (!), *Bad Attitude*, *DPN* , all of the John Preston titles, *G.Q.*, and *The Big Ad*.

Customs' failure to seize books going to Little Sisters while stepping up seizures at feminist and general bookstores *may* be coincidence but most Customs watchers assume that Customs is laying off Little Sisters in an effort to weaken LS's legal challenge to Customs.

In a last-minute move when Little Sisters' case was to go to trial last fall, CC moved that the case be dismissed. The Crown refused to dismiss the case but, given the difficulty of rescheduling such a lengthy and complex trial, the Crown effectively gained a year's delay as the trial has been (tentatively) rescheduled for October 1993. The assumption is that if Customs seizes few titles from Little Sisters during that time, but increases seizures at other kinds of stores, they may be able to weaken Little Sisters' argument that Customs is discriminating against gays and gay stores — a strong argument in a country whose courts have recently ruled that gays many not be discriminated against in the military and that conjugal rights apply to gay couples as well as straight couples.

Canada Customs has previously evaded Little Sisters' court challenges. After several years of seizures of *The Advocate*, Little Sisters appealed the title and spent $30,000 preparing for the trial, only to have Customs drop *The Advocate* from the banned list the week before the trial was to have begun. Customs' move to dismiss the current case is seen as another evasive measure. Meanwhile Little Sisters believes that relief from Customs' harassment will be obtained only by keeping constant pressure on Customs and by creating more cases than Customs can weasel out of. LS's next challenge to Customs is built around Customs' seizures of *OG* (*Oriental Guy*) a gay men's magazine that is published in Hong Kong in accordance with Hong Kong's very stringent guidelines. *GQ* is understood to fall well within Canada's guidelines but is being seized nonetheless.

Is there any progress in all this? Possibly. There are the various appeals in process, with more to come, and Customs' agents reportedly advised Pages that (despite Customs' denial that any kind of banned list exists) Customs will soon begin publishing a list of prohibited titles every three months and that individual customs agents will no longer be empowered to make on-the-spot decisions to seize titles.

The number of titles banned in Canada has grown from one title in 1986 to a reported 5,000 titles by the end of 1992. ○

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NEWS FROM THE BOOKSTORES

Compiled by Carol Seajay

New Words has two wonderful new books coming from two (ex-) staff members: Kate Rushin's long-awaited collection of poems *The Black Back-Ups* (Firebrand) and Joni Seager's *Earth Follies: Coming to Terms with the Global Environmental Crisis* from Routledge Chapman Hall. I'd love to be at New Words for those two book parties! I've waited so long for Kate's book... Joni's offers another version of women-naming-the-unnamable — and getting on with the problem solving. It was fun just opening the RCH catalog to Joni's jean-jacketed portrait on the very first page.

Charis Books (Atlanta) has been collecting books to send to feminist bookstores in India, Bangladesh and Brazil and to the gay/lesbian library is Russia. The books are packed and ready to go. Linda noted that India and Bangladesh's "feminist but not lesbian" specifications made the books a bit harder to collect.

Charis just had Sarah Shulman with her new book *Empathy* and her video of the Lesbian Avengers. In February Charis hosted Johnetta Cole, the president of Spelman College, reading from *Conversations*. In March Charis will sell books at the National Association for Women in Psychology meetings; Robin Morgan will be the keynote speaker.

The word from The Book Garden is that Amendment Two and the Colorado boycott are having their effects on both the store and the state. In the store she's seeing a broader customer base and a lot of new customers: "feminist type" straight couples, the "rich and famous" in the gay set that never bothered to come in before, a lot more straight people who come in to offer and find solidarity. Some people are coming in as a result of the boycott: A cabby who was quite uncomfortable but knew he needed a pink triangle bumpersticker to improve his business — and knew where to find one. A straight man wearing a very expensive suit who had just narrowly averted being beaten up by some young men who (mistakenly) thought he was a faggot and whose response was that he was going to wear a pink triangle every day, everywhere, until it wasn't an issue any more.

Kasha and The Book Garden especially want to thank all the publishers and authors who have sent letters or have called offering support during these times.

Paula Clayton

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Feminist Bookstore Financial Survey

Now is the time for all good feminist booksellers to start *thinking* about contributing to the 1992 Feminist Bookstore Financial Survey. You don't have to *do* anything yet. We'll send you a questionnaire at the end of tax season — that's when we figure it will be easiest for everyone to put their hands on the numbers.

Seven stores contributed to the 1991 Survey. I'd like to see 107 stores respond to this one. The information will be useful for all of us and it won't exist unless we create it. Kathy Sharp, from Amazon, compiled last year's survey and is willing to do it again this year. Having someone with the expertise and the willingness creates an opportunity that we really shouldn't miss.

It's pretty easy to participate. All you need to do is to send in a copy of your year-end balance sheet and your year-end income statement. (A copy of the business tax forms you sent to the IRS will do the trick just fine if you don't do any other kinds of balance sheets or income statements. We'll also provide a chance to include some simple (but very useful) information about store size (to get that lovely sales-per-square feet figure), the number of people who work in your store, and how many years the store has been open.

If there are other things you'd like to see covered in the survey, please call Carol at FBN or Kathy at Amazon (612-338-6560). ○

In many respects the post-election coverage and consciousness raising (and the boycott) are being far more effective than the pre-election campaigning. Pre-election, Kasha reports selling about 5 pink triangle buttons a week. Post election, 500 a week. Now, still about 50 a week. Straight people who have been mistaken for being gay and have been beaten up suddenly "get it" that it's not OK for anyone to be beaten up for being gay. (Gay bashing is up by as much as 80% in some parts of Colorado since Amendment Two was introduced. It's "open season" not only on lesbians and gay men, but also on people who hire us and people who *look* like lesbians or gay men — or like what the batterers *think* gay people look like...)

The Mountains and Plains Booksellers Association wouldn't come out against Amendment Two before it was passed. The day after it passed, The Tattered Cover, Denver's largest independent bookstore, was closed down by a bomb threat. The telephone call announcing that a bomb had been planted in the store was quite specific that it was "because you hire so many fags and queers." FBN hopes that Mountains and Plains now sees Amendment Two as a bookstore issue, not "someone else's" issue.

Thirty new gay and/or anti-Amendment Two organizations have been organized since it passed. And, as a result of the economic boycott, a few of the conservatives who voted for Amendment Two are rethinking their stand. It's a slow process, but apparently a necessary one.

Crank Calls

Kasha Songer, from the Book Garden (Denver), called with what I think is the best-ever strategy for dealing with crank, threatening, and obscene phone calls (of which they've had many, during and since the Amendment Two campaign). "Basically, they want a response," Kasha says. "So we don't give them any. Hanging up on them is a response so we don't give them that satisfaction. Instead we set the phone down very gently. Then we get very quiet. The guy rants on for awhile, but inevitably, he realizes that he's not getting *any* response at all. After a while you can hear them going 'Hello? Hello? Is anyone there?' And of course there's no answer. When they get that no one's paying any attention to them they hang up. *Then* we all laugh long and loud. It works every time. And we end up feeling solid and powerful and they feel small and silly. It's only fair."

"Did the Book Garden get bomb threats the day after Amendment Two passed?" I asked Kasha.

"I don't know," she replied. "We got a lot of crank calls that day but we didn't listen to any of them."

Milestones

Full Circle Books (Albuquerque) and Lammas (Washington DC) both celebrate 20th anniversaries this year. Both will celebrate throughout the year. We'll cover the events as we hear about them!

Olivia Records, the once irrepressible woman's record company that now runs lesbian vacation

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cruises, turns 20 this year. Celebrations include a 20th anniversary concert in San Francisco, a dance party co-hosted by Bay Area Career Women, and a float in the San Francisco Gay Pride Parade. Prices range from $15 for the t-shirt, to $25, $35, and $75 for the concert, and $40 for the dance. Kinda makes you miss the old sliding-scale days....

Herland Sister Resources (Oklahoma City) met with their mortgage holder to pay off their $31,000 balloon payment on January 5. Over $20,000 was donated to the building fund and a community member was able to loan Herland the balance needed to make the payment. By August $7,000 had been donated. In the last four months $13,000 was raised — most of it in $200 pledges. "When the Herland Board decided five years ago that it was time Herland had a place of our own where no landlord could say what we could or couldn't do, it was a difficult and somewhat intimidating decision. When the only financing available had a large final balloon payment, we had doubts about our ability to meet that payment. However, with faith in our community's support for Herland, the building was purchased. Today it is apparent that faith was justified. The many women of Herland and our male friends have rallied to the challenge. The contributions, large and small, have come from all over Oklahoma and around the United States making it clear that Herland is important to many people. The balloon payment which once seemed impossible will be paid." (From the *Herland Voice*.)

Janice McAlpine and Donna Vittorio have decided to close Mrs. Dalloway's (Kingston, Ontario). Their decision was a result of a combination of having to work harder for smaller returns in the current economy and a persistent desire, after six years of bookselling, to pursue other dreams. Another feminist bookstore is expected to open in Kingston soon (see They Went That-A-Way), but their community will certainly miss their unique and wonderful presence.

Lee Boojamra (Woman Kind, Huntington Station, NY) writes, "We are sad to report that a former staff member and long-time supporter and friend, Marie Harrison, died November 19th. Marie was a disabled woman who, after she could no longer drive to work, continued to work from her home editing and proofing for Rising Tide Press. The staff at Womankind Books and Rising Tide Press will miss Marie. It is woman like her who make feminist bookstores and publishers what they are today."

Finances

Once again, financial reports are all over the place. Where the recession is hitting hardest and lasting longest, it's definitely still dragging on sales. New stores (feminist or stores with strong lesbian and feminist sections) opening in the same community also have an impact. A second store opening in a community that's feeling the recession is probably not a good idea for either the new store or the original store.

Patty Callaghan (Brigit Books, St. Petersburg) writes, "My sales were up 25% in 1992 over 1991 so I'm happy."

Inklings in Houston reports that all of their customers seemed to do their shopping in the last six days before Christmas and that many shoppers commented on how many new things had been added to the inventory since the last time they had come in. Sales were up at Inkings for the fourth year in a row and the store showed a profit for the second year in a row.

Mary Ellen Kavanaugh (My Sisters' Words, Syracuse) writes, "Our sales for '92 were *so* impressive that I want to share the information with others who would appreciate it. After five years, sales finally broke $100,000 (they came in at $112,000) for an in-

Wild Ideas

My nomination for "the best weird idea that actually worked:" Last year, we bought some nifty little free-form clay goddesses about four inches high (from Red Hot Pots...) Unfortunately, one day, the shelf they were all sitting on broke and all the goddesses broke into many pieces. This fall, a friend who is good with puzzles sat down and put them all back together. Then we covered their glue seams with a tube of glitter decorations to make the goddesses more festive. We then cut the price and advertised the pieces as "Differently Abled Goddesses" who serve as the special protectresses of those of us who have lived through some of life's bumps and tumbles. They sold like hotcakes! Maybe we should break things more often.

— Audrey J. May/Meristem
Memphis, TN ○

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Promo Tour

An unsolicited rave for a not-yet-published book: Through some grace of fate, I was sent a galley of *The Fifth Sacred Thing*, Starhawk's new novel, to be released by Bantam in June ($20 cl). I loved this book. Even more, we need this book. I am so enthusiastic about it, I could have hand sold ten copies already if it were available. Set in the not-too-distant future, this book has the emotional resonance of Margaret Atwood, the full-bodied characters of Marge Piercy and the spiritual quest of Jean Auel's works. I am hoping we can get the publisher to send Starhawk on a promotional tour to women's stores, especially in the South—anybody else want to try? Call me at 901-276-0282. — *Audrey J. May/Meristem Memphis/TN* ○

crease of 31%. That along with seeing the store listed in the fabulous *Ms* article helped me to recognize my store as a viable retail business."

Full Circle (Albuquerque) reports that sales were up 8-9% for the year despite a consistent 5-7% drop in their daily sales figures since the day a new superstore opened in their part of town. ("20% off on hardcovers and 25% off on trade paperbacks is mighty tempting in these times, even for our most loyal customers.") Full Circle expects the drop to hold for the first six months and then to trail off as the opening (inflated) stock level at the superstore settles down a bit and customers realize that the selection that was available initially isn't being maintained. "In the thinking of superstores, we're more of a boutique. We're not the stores they're out to complete with; it's the general independents they're after."

Amazon (Minneapolis) reports that sales for the year were excellent — up 10% beyond projections for a total of 15% over 1991. This despite a new Borders store in their neighborhood. "Borders took over the old Odegards store and then did a mega expansion. It's affecting the other chain stores, but doesn't seem to be pulling customers away from us. It seems to be mostly people who used to shop at Odegards and it's drawing people from the other chain stores — the ones that aren't as good or as well stocked," is the word from Amazon.

Best news last? Why not? The Book Garden (Denver) reports "A fine year." Although Christmas sales were "only" up 34%, sales for the year were up a whopping 51%. "We decided we could kick butt and we did it! We revamped the newsletter. We mail it out out twice a year as a teaser and we make it so good that our customers *come into the store* the rest of the time to get it. We changed our advertising. We got more playful and less tasteful. Our ads are more 'out and proud.' They're feisty and they make people laugh. People *look* for our ads because they want the laugh. We're doing a lot more book signings. We used to do only the A-list authors. Now we're telling people who want to read but might not draw a big audience 'If you'll risk it, so will we' and it's paying off. Our windows are great and we spend a lot of time making them interest-grabbing. We love sidelines. A third of our sales are in sidelines. A couple of us stayed three extra hours to spiff up the jewelry case for Valentine's day. Sidelines are an easy way to play with the mood and atmosphere in the store."

To expand selling space, The Book Garden is moving the office into an apartment that's 20 feet from the bookstore.

"We're just getting ready to grow!" Kasha concludes.

Promotion

Bookwoman (Austin, TX) continues to take the prize for outrageous promo events designed to appeal to the punk set. The most recent is Virgin Day. Postcards invited "you and yours" to a special Virgin Day reception on December 8 (is that the Feast of the Immaculate Conception or is my Catholic childhood miseducation failing me?) from 5-8pm. "Many gifts of the

My Sisters' Words
304 N. McBride St.
Syracuse, NY 13203

Dear FBN,

I never see many references to actual sales for feminist bookstores, but my sales for '92 were so impressive that I want to share the information with others who would appreciate it. After 5 years, sales finally broke $100,000 (came in at $112,000) for an increase of 31 percent. That, along with seeing the store listed in the fabulous *Ms.* article by Carol, are helping me to recognize my store as a viable retail business.

MaryEllen Kavanaugh ○

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virginal and angelic kind available for your delectation including Virgin of Guadalupe T-shirts and pendants, Madonna buttons, angel cards, goddess books, pocket altars and much much more. Worship Her at Bookwoman."

My Sisters' Words (Syracuse, NY) runs an annual January Progressive Sale to dispose of damaged books, mis-shipments, mistakes, would-be returns and other labor-intensive returns. Everything on the table is 20% off the first week in January, 40% off the second week, 60% off the third week, and 80% off the last week. "It's a gamble of sorts, but it is rather fun." Customers are invited to stop in "— if only to watch people make decisions about whether to 'buy now' or 'wait for a better deal.'" In addition to offering a free newsletter, bookmarks, special ordering service, wish lists, gift certificates, credit card payments, and a community information center, My Sisters' Words now offers parking (!) and mail order services.

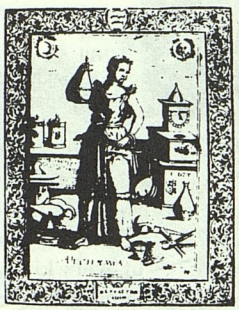
I don't know if Inklings did anything to plant it, but the *Houston Chronicle* did a nice story on lesbian detective stories that ran on the front page of the Lifestyle and Entertainment section the last Wednesday in December. It featured a color photo of Seal Press' *Hallowed Murder* and brought "a nice handful of customers" into the bookstore.

Inklings is also co-sponsoring a women's film festival that celebrates the 20th anniversary of Women Make Movies.

As I'm typing this, Inkling's is in the midst of one of its ever-popular "Scratch and Dent" sales. Used and "dented" books sell for half price. Also, people bring in their used books — lesbian or gay, feminist, or other "Inklings-type topics" and trade them. Two books are worth one of similar value in exchange. This environmentally-friendly event happens in the space above Inklings. In the past, Inklings has donated a portion of Scratch & Dent proceeds to tree-planting projects and to area women's centers and gay service groups. This time Inklings will send part of the proceeds to help AWE, the first women's expedition to attempt to cross Antarctica.

Claire of the Moon is coming to town. In what looks like a brilliant scheme to reach new customers, Paradigm (San Diego) is sponsoring a *Claire* CD, cassette, poster and t-shirt giveaway. Moviegoers sign up for the drawing at the theatre when they see the move, and the drawing will be held at Paradigm at the end of the run. There is, of course, a sign that tells participants that they can shop for their own Claire items at Paradigm. Free posters with $50 purchase while supplies last!

How to bring in the art crowd? Paradigm is sponsoring the First Annual Women's Juried Art Exhibition in honor of Women's History Month. Applications available at Paradigm and a reception for jurors (during which the final selections will be made) at — where else? — Paradigm, of course. Want to increase your Friday night trade? Flying Solo, a Lesbian Singles Social Group, meets at Paradigm every Friday from 7:00 - 8:30.... How to appreciate and keep volunteers? Para-



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In the Garden of Dead Cars

by Sybil Claiborne

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In the Garden of Dead Cars is a post-AIDS novel set in the not-so-distant future. A plague has ravaged the world, leaving the survivors terrified of human contact. New York has become a third world city, beset by scarcities of every kind, a place of burnt-out buildings, abandoned streets and junk yards. Sex is a capital crime.

The novel centers around a feminist physician who longs for the past, and her daughter, Emma, who dreams of real butter and rebuilt Subarus and is sick of hearing about life before the plague... *In the Garden of Dead Cars* is about the impulse to love, the triumph of sensuality over fear which takes Emma on a journey both dangerously criminal and filled with self-discovery.

Only Lawyers Dancing

by Jan McKemmish

fiction
MARCH
ISBN: 0-939416-69-7
$9.95 paper

Hardly your usual detective story, *Only Lawyers Dancing* tells the tale of two women friends and their obsessive relationship to crime: Anne Stevens, a policeman's daughter who abandons her career as a psychoanalyst to become a criminal attorney, and Frances smith, lesbian, photographer, café artist, and daughter of a crime boss.

"This novel of crime, punishment and postcards has intriguing style and substance."
— *Vogue*

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digm runs a monthly "volunteer corner" in the newsletter that recognizes and describes the work of one of the bookstore's volunteers.

February was Naiad month at Sons & Daughters in Grand Rapids and Southfield (Detroit). Sons & Daughters put all 184 Naiad titles on sale. 20% off 1-4 books, 25% off for customers buying 5 or more. In addition, customers with purchases over $50 received a free copy of *Lesbian Nuns* or *Lesbian Queries*. The promotion honored Naiad's 20th anniversary and was launched with a Robbi Sommers (woman only) performance and book signing at each store. Supporting materials included a 4 page (11x17, folded in half) flier that lists all of Naiads titles (taken from Naiad promotion fliers), announced the sale terms, included mail order and telephone ordering forms and announced the booksignings and performances on the front. How did they afford to give away free books? See Naiad's free books offer on going-out-of-print titles in this issue's Announcements column.

In addition to the Adams Avenue Women's Fair that Paradigm created around their Gloria Steinem reading mentioned in last issue's News from the Bookstores column, Paradigm will also hold a fundraising reception to benefit "Paradigm Women's Projects." Steinem will be the guest of honor. Food will be catered, tickets are $50.

Mormon feminism and Mormon women's feminist heritage were the themes of an evening of readings at A Woman's Place Bookstore in Salt Lake City. The program featured Kathy Evans, the winner of the Best Poetry Award by the Association for Mormon Letters, whose book *Imagination Comes to Breakfast*, reflects her Mormon background, her feminist sensibilities, and a definite erotic sensibility. Her reading was followed by Maxine Hanks and two contributors to Hank's anthology *Women and Authority: Re-emerging Mormon Feminism*, a book that celebrates the long-lost feminism of Mormon women from the 1870s through the 1920s. Both books were published by Signature Books.

Reminder: help wanted and "want to exchange jobs" ads run at no-charge in FBN's classified section. See "FBN Production Schedule" for due dates. ○

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Bookstore Profile:

Martha Cabrera, owner of Textures. Photo by Tara McParland.

— Textures —

By Elda Silva
San Antonio Light

"I was driving home in my Jeep one day and I heard a voice that said, 'Build it and they will come,'" deadpans Martha Cabrera, sole owner and employee of Textures, the new woman's bookstore in The Yard strip center on McCullough.

The small, intimate store is the first woman's bookstore in San Antonio since the non-profit, volunteer-run Las Mujeres closed its doors more than a decade ago. Until Textures opened December 5, women's bookstore aficionados had to make the trek to Austin's BookWoman.

Textures' shelves are stocked with books by, for and about women including general fiction, lesbian literature, multicultural literature, mystery novels, health books, self-help books and cook books.

"My dad said, 'Why aren't you carrying books for men?' Men have been represented for years and years. It's time to give women an advantage. He said, 'That's sexist." I said, 'Yeah, it is'" the 33-year-old Cabrera says, laughing.

It's also a business strategy. Cabrera says she is reaching out to a market underserved by chain and general bookstores. A large chunk of the inventory is dedicated to books by small presses that aren't readily available in chain bookstores.

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Women, Race, and Ethnicity

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Linda Pritchard, an American history professor specializing in women's history, says there is a need and market for women's books.

"The diversity of women's experience is not represented in mainstream bookstores," says Pritchard. "There's been an explosion of writing on women and women of color that forms the backbone of many college courses. A women's bookstore brings together those resources."

Cabrera expects lesbian literature in particular to be her "bread and butter." Though chains like Bookstop stock lesbian and gay literature, the selection is still limited. Currently, Cabrera is also working with distributors to stock more mainstream female authors as well.

A bona fide book junkie who has logged countless hours in bookstores — sometimes standing in aisles until her feet fell asleep — Cabrera believes bookstores have "socially redeeming value."

"It has the potential of being the hub of the community," Cabrera says. "It should be a safe place for women to talk."

The word "safe" comes up again in an interview with a former Las Mujeres volunteer.

"Safe in the sense that hopefully there's not going to be any gay-bashing," she explained. "You're not going to be harassed. You're accepted for who you are...Biases are left outside," she says. "It should be a place to meet and be with friends."

Cabrera is already cultivating a comfortable atmosphere. The store, scented in cinnamon, bayberry and vanilla for the holidays, is flooded with natural light from tall, arched windows. Chairs are placed around the room for patrons to review books at their leisure.

Cabrera envisions expanding to include a place where patrons can sit, drink coffee and talk.

Men are welcomed in the store. But Cabrera wants Textures to be a place especially for women to meet and socialize.

The store is a leap of faith on Cabrera's part.

She cleaned out her savings, took out two loans and refinanced her Jeep for capital to open the store. She is interested in getting investors to give the store a better shot at success.

Friends warned Cabrera she was taking a big risk. San Antonio has a reputation for not having a large enough literary population or the money to support an independent bookstore. Cabrera takes exception to the former. She points out there are five colleges and three junior colleges here.

Cabrera, who has a masters degree in environmental science from UTSA, got the idea for the store in September after a fruitless search for a job in her degree area. Three months later she opened Textures for business.

Though Cabrera jokes about it, opening Textures was something of a mission for her.

"There wasn't one in the city. (I thought) 'You know what this town needs?' The idea just took over. Things just started falling into place." ○

From *Celebrating Women's Spirituality 1993*, Crossing.

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Enterprising Women

Women In Publishing Conference A Success

LONDON: The 1992 Women in Publishing Conference took place on Saturday, October 24 in London. A wonderful success, the conference brought together a host of women from all aspects of publishing to talk about setting up book-related businesses. The panelists offered practical information and advice, good news and bad, and much inspiration to the 80-odd attendees. The following are excerpts from two of the sessions.

Independent Presses and Publishers

Five speakers in the Independent Presses and Publishers session described their tentative beginnings, obstacles and current successes. Avis Lewallen from Scarlet Press spoke on behalf of a small group of women who set out to break new ground in publishing. A great deal of their success, she reported, derived from the sale of rights at the Frankfurt Book Fair. They also received a 50% discount on their stand through the Department of Trade and Industry.

The final speaker was Roisin Conroy from Attic Press in Ireland. Attic employs six women full-time, preferring a specialist staff to a co-operative. The latter she views as de-skilling and an opportunity to escape from financial responsibility. She emphasised the importance of having a controlling interest in your own company, and where possible, ensuring that other shareholders share your political ethos. Discussing major changes in the publishing world she stressed the need to keep up with modern technology.

The general feeling from the speakers was that the creative freedom of running your own company was worth the initial frustrations and loneliness. They thought it worthwhile to seek advice from other women in the profession and to keep lists and names of editors up to date. Women should not be afraid of handling money and should set about learning how to do so. Above all, the message was to have fun, don't despair, be flexible, and give yourself time to step back from worry and commitment. At the end of the day market forces will prevail, but have confidence in your own ideas.

— Brenda Walker

Feminist Business Practice

Feminist business practice was the stimulating subject of the last session of a hectic day. Paula Kahn, Chief Executive of the Longman Group, was the invited speaker. She began by acknowledging the difficulty of defining feminist business practice.

She offered four feminist concepts for consideration in discussion of the subject:

1. "The personal is political"; in other words an individual's actions have political impact.
2. A feminist act requires feminist means.

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3. Taking feminist decisions is unpopular because it disturbs the status quo and, lastly,
4. Every issue is a gender issue.

Any analysis of feminism requires a consideration of gender; this delegate would have liked to have heard more of her views on this point.

She posed four questions before opening the discussion to the floor. In an attempt to shape a very wide-ranging debate I shall report the issues in relation to these questions.

"It doesn't pay to be meek," said feminist Paula Kahn. "I was loud and got promoted."

Is there a difference between good business practice and feminist business practice?

No consensus was reached on what constituted feminist business practice. Some argued that the term was anachronistic and applied only to white middle class women. It was agreed that women were limited in discussion of business practice, good or bad, because they were poorly trained in this regard. Training and personnel management were undervalued functions within present business practice.

What do you think about women working outside the main company organisation who do not have the full employee benefits?

Freelancers wanted to be considered integral to the publishing business. There was a growing demand and part-time work was needed. One proposal was for a permanent contract for freelancers allowing flexible part-time work but with the benefits of full-time employment. Roisin Conroy voiced Attic's opposition to voluntary work. She felt it was fundamental for a business to make a profit and create jobs.

How do we monitor feminist business practice?

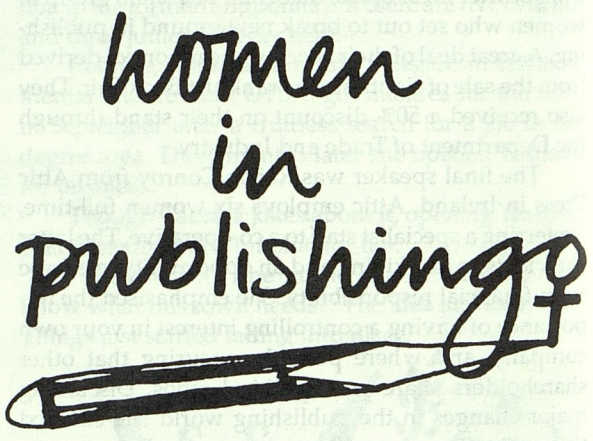
At Longman, Paula said, they were only at the first stage of feminist business practice. In her role she looks at work patterns in her organisation which can be changed. For example, Longman is currently introducing a new software system which can track people's careers and training through the company thus allowing analysis of individual progress. Other areas for monitoring were contract drafting and the male to female ratio of freelancers and authors.

How does the practice of feminism differ from other systems? Are women's houses more favourable to women?

In opposition to the usual acquisitiveness of business Roisen Conroy expressed her philosophy as "profit making not profit taking." She believes in investing profits back into the business. She also highlighted the pressure on feminist businesswomen to appear to satisfy "politically correct" ideals.

Common to all business practices is company culture which some suggested should embrace all staff and be less hierarchical — not everyone can or wants to be a director! It was argued that a significant number of women in senior positions in a company might bring about change. However, not all women are feminists and those who are often fear for their jobs. It might also be that feminist practice is limited in its power to bring about radical change.

On a personal note Paula Kahn explained her own success despite the perceived drawback of being a feminist. "It doesn't pay to be meek," she said. "I was loud and got promoted." — *Oonagh O'Farrell*



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— Excerpted from *Wiplash*, the WIP newsletter. To join WIP send a cheque (£ sterling cheques only) or International Money Order for £20 (includes overseas postage) made out to Women in Publishing to: Membership Secretary, Women in Publishing, c/o 12 Dyott St., London WC1A 1DG, UK. O

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Publishers' Column:

Re-Thinking the ABA

By Ruth Gundle
Eighth Mountain Press

I've begun to seriously doubt that the ABA is cost-effective for small presses. After proposing this topic to Carol last summer (in the wake of deciding not to exhibit at the ABA this year) Eighth Mountain joined Consortium Book Sales and Distribution in the fall and our ABA options changed. Now Consortium will be displaying our books and I will be attending (but without a booth). Although this is a wonderful solution for us — it relieved us of the choice between staffing a booth and not being there at all — I felt that it made me a less credible ABA-basher. Carol, however, persuaded me to share my thinking with *FBN* readers in the hopes that it will spur an interesting discussion of the issues.

I was told by many when I started out that "you have to be at the ABA or no one will know you exist" and once you're existence is known that "you have to be at the ABA or folks will forget about you." I've exhibited at three consecutive ABAs now, and all of them have been fascinating and beneficial in many ways (even fun at times, although exhausting) but I wonder if the cost is worth it and if there might be some better, saner, way to achieve at least some of the benefits.

Although the prevalent view is definitely that a publisher *must* be there, not all presses subscribe to this "keeping up appearances" point of view. Some are small presses that philosophically disagree with the method of selling books which permeates the ABA, which is much like selling anything at any trade show, whether it's shoes or plumbing supplies (I believe Black Sparrow, for example, has consistently refused to participate). Some are large presses that simply think it's too expensive (St. Martin's refused to participate one year citing the ridiculous cost which they estimated to be about $40,000 if I remember correctly). So each year as I throw myself into the whirlwind of preparing for it, doing it and recovering from it, I have asked myself if it really made sense for a small publisher like Eighth Mountain.

? BA AMERICAN BOOKSELLERS ASSOCIATION ?

Everyone agrees that the ABA is designed for the really big publishers. It's very expensive (when you consider the cost of booth(s), displays, drayage, airfare, lodging, meals, salary for staff, shipping of display materials, books and catalogs, rental of booth furniture, etc.). It's expensive even if done on a very modest scale, which is how I would characterize the feminist and other small press displays. (My rough estimate for Miami — for one booth staffed by two women flying cross-country and sharing a hotel room and including the items mentioned above — is $7,000 to $8,000.)

While doing things on a modest scale is fine for many of our undertakings, at the ABA it's hard to

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compete with the superglitz of the major publishers with their exact replicas of the Sistine Chapel, cushion-soft carpeting and couches, champagne, superstar autographings and mega-buck back-lit displays. This overshadowing is nowhere as apparent as at the ABA. We can produce books that are as good if not better and as handsome if not more so; we can get publicity at high levels; we can have sales reps present our books to stores nationwide. But at the ABA — as with anything that requires more money than ingenuity — we are at a distinct disadvantage. We can't afford (and perhaps wouldn't choose to spend anyway) $35,000 to $100,000 to grab the attention of the 25,000 to 40,000 attendees. The dramatic increase in booth fees — as Sasha Alyson's excellent letter to the ABA points out — along with the revelation last year that the American Bookseller's Association is financed primarily by the booth fees from the ABA trade show, made this high cost a bit hard for us small fry to swallow.

I'm not saying that no one pays attention to the feminist press displays (certainly there is a hard core of folks who seek out the feminist press row and there are sundry others who happen to walk down it and are drawn to something), or that the only way to attract attention for new books at the ABA is to have a Madison Avenue display (quality publishers will always attract their admirers). And, I will admit, I have made some great connections that I wouldn't otherwise have made. But I think the issue deserves to be looked at honestly.

? AMERICAN BOOKSELLERS ASSOCIATION ?

Many feminist booksellers spend a lot of time in the feminist row because it's a friendly and feminist environment in the midst of merchandising mania. But I've heard many say that they feel that they must give priority to other areas since they know they won't miss any of the feminist press books (thanks largely to *FBN*, and of course press catalog mailings, Womensource, and Bookpeople's "Women's Studies" catalog sections). This is not a criticism. It makes perfect sense to me. Why trudge down on extra aisle when it's not necessary? Feminist booksellers will be looking for feminist and multi-cultural books from other small presses and even large ones that may not be so easy to find out about.

What percentage of the ABA sales would have happened anyway?

I've noticed also that buying patterns have changed in the last few years. Probably for very good reasons, booksellers are buying much more cautiously (i.e. smaller quantities and then re-ordering more often) even though most publishers offer special ABA deals. This reduces the income a publisher can realize to offset the costs. But perhaps a more important question is this: what percentage of those sales would not have happened *but for* the ABA exhibit? I suspect it is fairly small.

Alternatives to Exhibiting

Well, what are the alternatives? I see the purpose of the ABA as two-fold: in the short term, to sell the new titles and encourage interest in backlist titles; in long term, to maintain important relationships with booksellers, other publishers, reviewers, distributors, etc. Here are some ideas about how to achieve those goals in new ways.

1. Convince the ABA to allow small presses to take a whole aisle in the small press section (where you can now reserve only two booths, I believe) and have "Feminist Row" there. I've suggested this to other publishers and mostly I've gotten the response that it's important to be on the main floor with the "big boys." The reasons given for this are that there is more traffic there and we are treated more seriously there. I'm not convinced on either of these points. My first year at the ABA (Las Vegas) I exhibited in the small press section and there was more traffic there than there has ever been in the two years I've been on "Feminist Row" in the main section. Also, there was a wider spectrum of booksellers who stopped to look at the books. All the really good independent booksellers combed the small press section for "finds" and certainly if the entire feminist press section was there, as well as other rows of specialty small presses, it would attract attention.

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The small press section is significantly cheaper: last year it was about $450 per booth (which included carpet, a table and chair) as compared with the main floor booths that were close to $2,000 (and carpet and furniture rental are extra).

2. Have a joint exhibit using, say, four booths. Give out catalog packets that contain all the catalogs, have only one person per publisher staffing it at any one time. This would have to be a good-looking booth with professional lighting, etc., and would have possibilities for attracting attention that single or even double booths don't have. It would also be much cheaper. The need for each press to maintain a "high profile" — which in fact is what the ABA is about at rock bottom — would not have to be sacrificed. However, it would take some cooperative planning which takes time, which is always hard for us to come up with.

3. Have a joint exhibit that is conceived mainly as a place for seeing people and renewing relationships rather than selling books on the spot. This would mean having an area with couches, tables, etc. where publishers could talk with booksellers, reviewers, etc. There is no other place that so many publishing business folks gather, and the personal connections forged through contact at the ABA are hard to replace with any alternative method of doing business. I imagine this also as a four booth area, with publishers sharing back and side wall display space.

If I had put the money I put into the ABA into getting publicity for the book, I would have reaped far more for the money.

The money saved in not having one's own booth, extra staff, etc. could be used in selling books in a more cost effective way. I now have a phenomenally fast-selling book on my hands, *A Journey of One's Own: Uncommon Advice for the Independent Woman Traveler* by Thalia Zepatos. I've found that getting publicity (feature stories in major dailies, major reviews, radio and TV interviews, readings at major independent booksellers and travel bookstores as well as feminist bookstores, etc.) has been easy because the book has such a strong appeal. We did a first printing of 10,000 and they look like they'll be gone within the space of a few months. And yet, at last year's ABA, despite a giveaway that ranked with the best at the show — a trip for two to Costa Rica which included airfare as well as accommodation — we took only a small number of orders. It is clear to me that the phenomenal success of the book is only very dimly related to ABA-related exposure. (On the other hand, it was there that Helaine Harris of Daedalus saw the book and snapped it up for their fall and winter catalog and so far they have bought 800 non-returnable.) So it's not cut and dried. Still, I have a sense that if I had put the money I put into the ABA into getting publicity for the book (which would have included contacting Helaine), I would have reaped far more for the money.

? AMERICAN BOOKSELLERS ASSOCIATION ?

4. Skip it altogether. Use the money saved on telemarketing to stores, good-looking four-color mailings to stores, author tours, publicity campaigns, etc.

We feminist publishers who are running real businesses must operate in a world that is not of our creation. That means that we must do *some* things just because "that's what's done." But clearly there is a lot of room to operate differently than the big fellas or none of us would exist. We have discovered that we will be taken seriously if we publish quality work in a professional manner. But the more successful we are, the more tempting it is to do things as the big boys do them. In the case of the ABA I think it's worth at least considering whether it's wise to play the boys' game (but without their budgets) just because it's there to do.

In private discussions about this I've had responses everywhere from "for any publisher to ignore the ABA is tantamount to jumping off the Empire State Building" to "I think you're on to something." What do you think? What do publishers think about the time, money and energy that goes into the ABA? How important is it to booksellers to have the feminist presses exhibit? I hope lots of you will write to FBN with your responses and ideas.

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Ed. note: If you get responses to us by April 5 we'll run them in the ABA issue. ○

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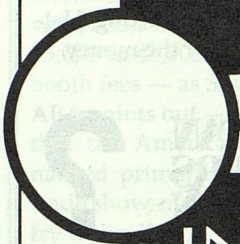

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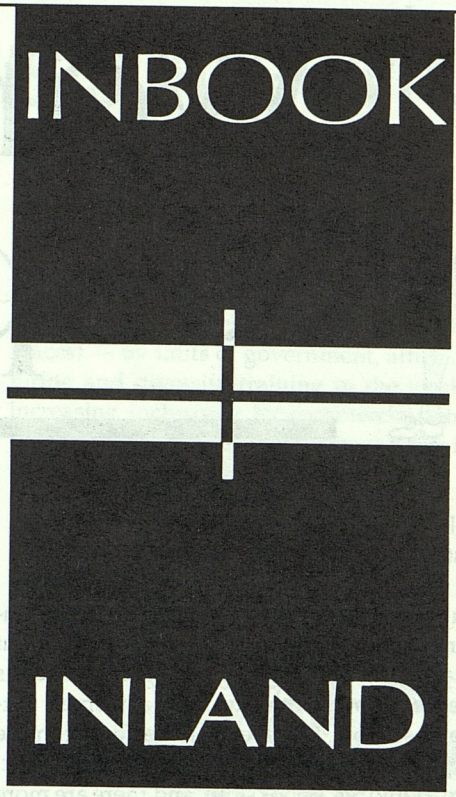

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New Section:

Women & Sports

By Jennie Boyd Bull
Thirty-first Street Bookstore, Baltimore MD

A couple of years ago we initiated an ecofeminism section in our store, which has a few titles about women in wilderness. But a long-term goal for me has been to gather enough titles to have a women outdoors/sports section. The silence is deafening in the publishing world on women and athletics, sports, etc. We also are a children's bookstore, and there are more children's books about girls and sports, including biographies of women athletes than there are adult books. Fortunately, a few titles have come out recently, so this fall we hopefully inaugurate a "Women Outdoors/Sports" section.

1. **Are We Winning Yet? How Women Are Changing Sports and Sports are Changing Women**, Mariah Burton Nelson, Random House, $20 cl.

2. **Out Of Bounds: Women, Sport and Sexuality**, Helen Lenskyj, Women's Press/Canada, $12.95 pb.

3. **Girls Of Summer: In Their Own League**, Lois Browne, HarperCollins, $19 cl. (The book on which the movie was based.)

4. **At The Rim: A Celebration of Women's Collegiate Basketball**, Professional Photography Division, Eastman Kodak Company & Thomasson - Grant, $35 cl. (Large-format picture book.)

5. **Water's Edge: Women Who Push the Limits in Rowing, Kayaking and Canoeing**, Linda Lewis, Seal Press, $14.95 pb. See also **Uncommon Waters** and **Rivers Running Free** from this series.

6. **Women In The Martial Arts**, Carol A. Wiley, ed., North Atlantic Books, $12.95 pb.

7. **The Triathletes: A Season in the Lives of Four Women in the Toughest Sport Of All**, Jeff Cook, St. Martins Press, $19.95 cl.

8. **Women Climbing: 200 Years of Achievement**, Bill Birkett and Bill Peascod, The Mountaineers, $14.95 pb.

9. **Banshees' Women Capsized In The Coral Sea**, Jeannine Talley, Mother Courage Press, $12.95. (See also **Women At The Helm.**)

10. **Weight Training For Women**, Thomas D. Fahey and Gayle Hutchinson, Mayfield Publishing, $12.95 pb.

11. **Guts, Tears and Glory: Champion New Zealand Sportswomen** talk to Trish Stratford, New Women's Press/New Zealand, $11.95 pb.

12. **Coaching Evelyn: Fast, Faster, Fastest Woman in the World**, Pat Connolly, Harper, $15.95.

13. **Leading Out: Women Climbers Reaching for the Top**, edited by Rachel da Silva, Seal Press, $16.95 pb.

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If you have any additions for this section, send FBN a note and we'll run an update next issue. ○

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But Can She Type?

When Feminists Are Wrong

By Nett Hart

Is a bad day with feminists better than a good day with non-feminists?

I have always found solace in my community of friends, feminists all, Lesbians for the most part, when the inanities of life under heteropatriarchy get to me. For every slight, affront, and outright assault there is comfort in knowing I am not a cognitive minority of one, but a member of a community of women who "get it." In fact, the extent to which someone "gets it" is the criterion by which I open my life to another.

But "getting it" gets harder all the time. I expect an increasing depth of sensitivity from my associates. Criteria that used to be enough, i.e., agreement on some political point, is not an "open sesame" anymore. Once you know, you have to act. Period.

There is more and more knowing in the pool of feminist consciousness. It's not that every woman can be expected to know, without the process of coming to know, but what is known in a general way in the feminist community is available knowledge. If we inform our community interactions by our knowing, not every feminist needs to have read every mold-breaking book, attended every ground-shaking conference, or gone through every heart- breaking confrontation to benefit from this collective knowing. The words are out there. Can't say you didn't know.

Ever since the first consciousness-raising groups we've witnessed that feminists tell the truth as we tell *our* truths. We take it on faith that by uncovering the lies, reversing the reversals, and exposing the oppressions that hide the truth of our lives, we will come to know a way of peace and compassion, of truth and justice.

Feminist truthtelling has evolved other truths and increased critical awareness in every community where feminists work and play. It has inspired and been inspired by other communities that experience oppression. Our naming has been an effective force for change. We have human rights protections against racism, sexism, ableism and heterosexism (in some places) — by units of government, affirmative action hiring and diversity training in the workplace, and increasing inclusivity by commercial interests. It is because of this legacy that I expect feminists to be in the vanguard of justice making.

Courtesy of the *ILIS Newsletter.*

In a time when men use protections that women have won to defeat women and call affirmative action programs "reverse discrimination," I am wary of charges against feminists. Yet there are times when feminists are wrong. We have arrived at the day when feminist organizations have been called to accountability by non-feminist organizations and governmental units. Apart from harassment from men wanting in on woman-only space, these charges must be taken very seriously. Members of oppressed groups have good reason to meet in exclusive gatherings

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without the presence of their oppressors. The ability to name this space is irrefutable. Any other exclusion must be treated as oppressive.

Courtesy of ILIS Newsletter

When white feminists fail to deal with our racism we fail our sisters, we disappoint ourselves, we disavow our anti-oppression agenda, and we violate human rights protections guaranteed by law. Whereas it was once cool, hip, and rad to have a multicultural staff or board, such gestures are an inadequate first step upon which we have sat so long it has sagged under the cynicism of tokenism. We have the words, faith and analysis of our sisters of color to make our mission statements true. Nowhere else have such resources and patience been heaped upon a movement. To embody feminism, we are called to create mutually enriched lives and critical awareness from our diverse experiences. We are called not only to name oppression, but to end it, beginning in our midst. If members of our community need the resources of non-feminist organizations to gain access to their own community, then they are not wrong to employ such actions. Of course, it is far preferable that feminists call one another to account because when we do so it is to strengthen the community, not to undermine feminism. The charge of political correctness does much less harm to our community than the charge of oppression.

We have to stop naming ourselves as victims only, because until we can cop to our roles as oppressors we cannot undo the injustices that plague our community. When oppression within undermines the work of our organizations it must be named and ended. To believe ourselves an embattled group without the resources to take on anti-oppression work and strategies is to shortchange our power. We are right to insist that government and big business be held accountable as well, but this cannot replace active anti-oppression work in our own feminist communities. Feminists are change makers and to accomplish our goals to end dominations of all kinds we must celebrate the gains our agendas have made in the mainstream and keep on pushing ahead with our vision. To do this the feminist community needs to model critical awareness made active. Few of our organizations do this.

There used to be a lot of self-righteousness in the feminist community about issues of oppression. When we challenge one another it is not from vindictiveness or hollow ideology, but because inclusion is a baseline value. If racism, sexism, ageism, ableism, heterosexism are now recognized as wrong in the public sector, it is because of the truthtelling unleashed by the civil rights and feminist movements. Our communities have lead the shout for freedom, but unless we are content to retire as precocious upstarts, the first naming/shouting will not suffice.

Oppression is wrong and any tolerance or excuses for racism, ageism, sexism (yes, that too), ableism, heterosexism in our midst is also wrong. The lies have been uncovered, the reversals reversed, the oppressions exposed. Once you know, you have to act. Period. ○

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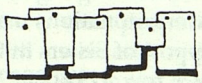
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Compiled by Carol Seajay

Oasis: Espacio Cultural Para Mujeres is a feminist library and information center in Guadalajara that also offers hostel service to traveling women for $9-$15/night during the months of September to June. For more information telephone Guadalajara 614-5755 between 9 pm and 12 pm or write to Oasis, Apartado Postal 1-833, CP 44100 Guadalajara JAL, Mexico.

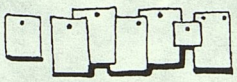
An *Incarcerated Peoples Yellow Pages* is being compiled and is looking for information on publications available to people in prison as well as AIDS/HIV support information and education; multi-cultural resources; gay, lesbian and transsexual resources and support groups; media resources and contact people, women's rights and feminist resources and much more. The people working on this project have access to computers and to printing. What they need is information and resources to list. Please send address, phone, a conact person if possible, and a brief description of the resource or service to Clyde (Rusty) Hazelton #78003-8, c/o CMHIP, 1600 West 24th St., Pueblo CO 81003.

Plans for the next Feminist Book Fortnight (UK-June) are now well underway. If you interested in helping on a volunteer basis (and live near enough to be helpful) contact Chris George, c/o Everywoman, 34 Islington Green, London N1 8DU, UK. Telephone: 071-359-5496.



The Schlesinger Library on the History of Women in America, as part of the celebration of its 50th anniversary, is planning an international women's library conference for mid-June 1994. If you would like to be on the mailing list for conference information, send your name and address (and fax number if you have one) to: International Women's Library Conference, Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe College, 10 Garden St., Cambridge MA 02138.

The Women's Center Library for Russia welcomes contributions in the form of books, periodicals and, especially, current subscriptions to periodicals. Their address is 18 Sadovaya Kudrinskaya, 103001 Moscow k1, Russia.



An organization of "traditional" women's magazines in Prague would also welcome copies of, or gift subscriptions to, both feminist magazines and mainstream women's magazines. They are just beginning to address issues such as battered wives, equal rights, working mothers and even abortion. Send to Dr. Rajka Tognerova, MONA, Jidrisska 5, 110 00 Prague 1, Czechoslovakia.

Sarah Schulman has joined the Gail Leondar Public Relations firm as a consultant. She will read, critique and evaluate unpublished fiction. Until now, Gail Leondar Public Relations has focused on obtaining post-publication publicity for authors. (62 Bay St., Springfield MA 01109. 413-733-2106.

Uncommon Hands, a subsidiary of Woman in the Moon Publications, has been founded to aid writers in self-publishing their work. For further information, contact Woman in the Moon Publications, 2215 R Market St., Box 137, San Francisco CA 94114.

Lesbian Writers Fund Applications Due

The Lesbian Writers Fund is accepting submissions for the 1993 awards. Now in its third year, the Lesbian Writers Fund was established by the Astraea National Lesbian Action Foundation to support the work of emerging lesbian writers of fiction and poetry.

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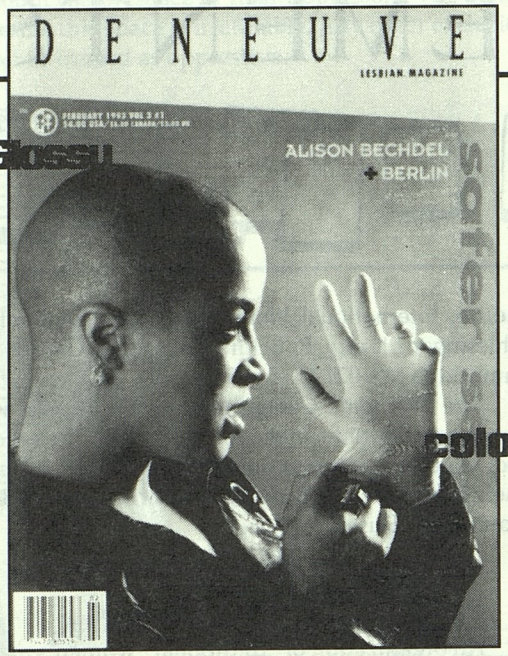

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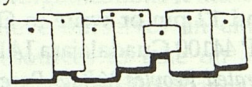
Applicants must have published at least one piece of work in a magazine, newspaper, literary journal or anthology. Deadline for applications is March 31, 1993. Write to the Lesbian Writers Fund, c/o Astraea, 666 Broadway #520, New York NY 10012 for guidelines, eligibility criteria and application forms.

Astraea is the first nationwide lesbian foundation. Astraea was begun in 1977 by a multi-racial, multi-cultural group of feminist activists to empower women through financial and organizational support. In recognition of the contributions and needs of lesbians, Astraea became the National Lesbian Action Foundation in 1990. The Lesbian Writers Fund has been made possible by the generous support of its founding donor, Joan Drury, a lesbian feminist philanthropist from Minneapolis MN. The Fund is seeking additional contributions to expand the number and kinds of awards to be made in future years.



Honoring Audre Lorde

The Feminist Bookstores Network sponsored a page in the program for the Audre Lorde Memorial at St. John's in New York City. The ad read "'Poetry is the way we help give a name to the nameless so it can be thought.' Feminist bookstores worldwide celebrate Audre Lorde's life, work and words."

Several funds have been established to remember and honor Audre Lorde:

The Audre Lorde Memorial Fund is being established in Audre Lorde's name for two purposes: to commission a sculpture of a bust of Audre Lorde and to establish a scholarship fund for Black women writers. The Astraea Foundation will accept donations on behalf of the Fund. Make checks payable to The Astraea Foundation/Audre Lorde Memorial Fund. Mail donations to Astraea Foundation, 666 Broadway #520, New York NY 10012.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to SISA (Sisterhood in Support of Sisters in South Africa), PO Box 24966 GBS, St. Croix, USVI 00824-0966.

Woman in the Moon Publications is inviting feminist publishers and bookstores to join WIM in establishing an Audre Lorde Memorial Writing Fund for lesbian-feminist writers, especially those of color or of invisible ethnicity, needing assistance. WIM hopes that each publisher and bookstore will be willing to

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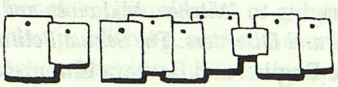
donate $25-$100/year toward the establishment and maintenance of the fund. For further information, contact SDiane Bogus, WIM Publications, 2215R Market St., Box 137, San Francisco CA 94114. 408-253-3329; fax 408-257-5683.

Women's History Month

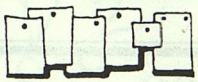
Women's History Month display materials are available from the National Women's History Project (7738 Bell Rd., Windsor CA 95492. 707-838-6000) and the Organization for Equal Education of the Sexes (PO Box 438, Blue Hill ME 04614. 207-374-2489). The theme for this year is "Discover a New World: Women's History."

NWHP offers a full color 1993 commemorative poster (17" x 25") for $6, a colorful headliner announcing the 1993 theme (in two sections, each 34" x 11") for $3.50; 9" balloons that proclaim "March is Women's History Month" in vivid colors at $2.75/dozen and, if you want to do a freebee give-away, women's history bookmarks. $6.95 per package of 200 bookmarks. The bookmarks are full color, are printed on both sides, and feature eight women: Louisa May Alcott, Eleanor Roosevelt, Harriet Tubman, Clara Barton, Amelia Earhart, Mary Church Terrell, Elizabeth Blackwell, and "Babe" Didrikson Zaharias.

OEES offers a free poster with each order of 8+ posters postmarked before March 31 from their 97-poster Great Women series that supports multi-cultural education and features women of many races and ethnic groups and women with disabilities; and/or from their Women of Achievement, Women at Work, and Stay in School series. Write for bookstore catalog.



In its next mailing, Naiad Press will detail a new program that offers booksellers free case lots of titles that Naiad is allowing to go out of print. Booksellers will be able to order one case per month of any of the following titles with a wholesale order of $300 or more (postage will be charged on the free case only). Titles available include: *Lesbian Nuns, Remembering Who We Are, Heartscape, Lesbian Queries, Last September, Heavy Gilt, The Amazon Trail, Sue Slate: Private Eye, Priorities, Berrigan, Searching for Spring, We Walk the Back of the Tiger, Surviving Sister, Zoe's Book, Rose Penski, The Pears, Surplus, A Studio of One's Own, Slow Dancing at Miss Polly's, Prism, Journey to Fulfillment, Return to Lesbos,* and *World Without Men*. Offer good while quantities last. Bookstores are free to use the books for special promotions, to sell, or any other bit of genius they come up with. For more information, contact Naiad Press, PO Box 10543, Tallahassee FL 32302. 904-539-9322.



Africa Books Collective

The Africa Books Collective is a major self-help initiative established in 1990 by a group of African publishers to distribute their books in Europe, North America and in Commonwealth countries outside of Africa. 800+ titles from 33 publishers in 12 countries are stocked. 150-200 new titles are added each year. For the time being, ABC stocks only English-language material with an emphasis on creative writing by African authors, critical works on African literature, scholarly and academic books, certain general interest items and exciting children's books.

Some of the interesting books in the African Women Writers section of ABC's catalog include: *One Never Knows: An Anthology of Black South African Women in Exile*, $7.95; *Garden House* which addresses the theme of women's emancipation, $18; *The Bride Price*, translated from Dholuo, by Kenya's best know woman novelist, $7.95; *Legacies*, a prize winning play about an African-American woman's rediscovery of her roots, $7.50; *In Search of Rainbows* poetry addressing sexism and patriarchy in South African society, $7.95; and Miriam Tlali's *Mihloti*, $7.95. Women's Studies titles include *The Emancipation of Women: An African Perspective* which looks at bride-wealth, child marriage, polygamy, purdah, inheritance, fertility and female circumcision in the African cultural context, $13.75; *Independence is Not Only for One Sex*, the stories and hopes of 34 Zimbabwean women, $8.50,and more.

Publishers range from Heinemann-Kenya to university presses to single-title publishers. Bookstore terms are 35% for 6+ books with a handful of books at short (20%) discount, 90 days net for US and Canadian orders. Prepaid orders are sent carriage-free. Catalog prices listed in both dollars and pounds.

To receive a copy of the ABC catalog or to be added to the Collective's mailing list write or fax African Books Collective, The Jam Factory, 27 Park End St., Oxford OX1 1HU, England; fax: 011-44-865-793298. ○

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BACK TO PRESS

AND OTHER GOOD NEWS

Back to Press

Cleis Press has sent *The Wall* by Marlen Haushofer back to press for a second printing of 2,500 copies, bringing the total to 6,000 in print.

Susun Weed's *Wise Woman Ways for Menopausal Years* has been sent back to press by Ash Tree Publishing for 13,000. The first print run last September was 12,000.

Word Weavers has sent the "100 Simple Things You Can Do to End Patriarchy" poster back to press for the sixth time for a total of 4,500.

ILR Press at Cornell University announces these back to press items: *In the Way of Women: Men's Resistance to Sex Equality in Organizations* by Cynthia Cockburn is now in its second printing and has 3,000 copies in print. *Holding the Line: Women in the Great Arizona Mine Strike of 1983* by Barbara Kingsolver will be back at press for a fourth printing, bringing the total to more than 7,000.

Lesbian Ethics has just gone into its fourth printing of 5,000 copies.

Rights

Naiad Press announces the sale of *The Erotic Naiad* to Silvermoon Books in England. Naiad has also sold the rights to Claire McNab's *Dead Certain* to Silvermoon and Frauenoffensive. Frauenoffensive has bought the rights to *Tiger's Heart* by Lauren W. Douglas. Annama Forlag has bought *Murder at the Nightwood Bar* and has optioned future rights to all of Katherine V. Forrest's work. Movie rights for Penny Hayes' *Yellowthroat* have been sold and an option has been taken by Darvon Productions for Camarin Grae's *Soul Snatcher*.

The Women's Press in London has just bought the British rights to Jess Wells' *Aftershocks* (Third Side Press).

South Asian rights to both volumes of *Women Writing in India: 600 B.C. to the Twentieth Century* have now been sold to Oxford University Press/India and British rights have gone to Pandora, now owned by HarperCollins.

German rights to *Allegra Maud Goldman* by Edith Konecky have been sold to Alibaba. Campusverlag in Munich has bought *Get Smart!* by Montana Katz and Veronica Vieland. Donna Vita has bought *The Mer-Child: A Legend for Children and Other Adults* by Robin Morgan. Lubbe Verlag will bring out *Now in November* by Josephine Johnson.

Japanese rights to *Tatterhood and Other Tales* by Ethel Johnston Phelps have been sold to Gakuyo Shobo. Hosei Daigaku Shuppankyoku has bought the Japanese rights to *Witches, Midwives and Nurses* and *Complaints and Disorders: The Sexual Politics of Sickness* by Deirdre English and Barbara Ehrenreich.

Spanish rights to *Getting Free* by Ginny NiCarthy were sold through Seal's Spanish agent, Julio Yanez, to Sistemas Technicos de Edicion in Mexico. Italian rights to *The Dog Collar Murders* by Barbara Wilson were sold through Seal's Italian agent, Roberta Oliva, to Estro, a feminist press in Florence.

Scarlet Press has sold the German rights for *The European Women's Almanac* to Deutscher Taschenbuch Verlag, who will print 8,000 copies. They have also sold the Australian/New Zealand rights to Allen & Unwin for *Because You Want to Write* by Pearlie McNeill.

See **Back to Press**, *page 48*

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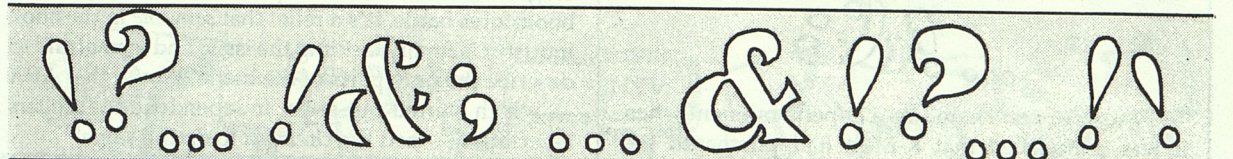


By Carol Seajay

Donna Ferrato's *Living with the Enemy* (Aperture) (FBN Vol. 14 #5, pg. 73) got a nice PR boost recently — a photo of Hillary Rodham Clinton holding the book. One of Clinton's many commitments is reducing domestic violence. Yes!

30,000 copies of *Ms* hit the British newsstands in November while rave reviews touted the magazine as "Hillary Clinton's favorite. Australia and New Zealand are next. *Ms* is reported to have run in the black for the last two years.

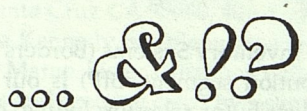
In related magazine publishing news, the International Data Group (*Computerworld* and *PCWorld*, etc.) have extended health care benefits to include unmarried partners — whether gay or straight. IDG's health plan is underwritten by San Francisco's Transamerican Occidental Life Insurance Company. Coverage begins April 1.

Alyson Publications is no longer for sale — none of the interested parties offered the right combination of financial benefits, commitment to groundbreaking gay and lesbian publishing, and community responsibility — such as keeping the "controversial" books for children of gay and lesbian parents in print. Instead, Alyson is now looking for someone to run the company on a day-to- day level.

Children's Book Council Updates: As we go to press, the CBC board of directors is meeting to discuss changing membership and participation requirements, presumably with an eye to integrating independent and small publishers into CBC-sponsored programs. Hopefully we'll have good news from that meeting in the next issue of FBN and at ABA. (See "Independent Presses and the CBC" in the last issue of FBN.)

It's also a pleasure to note that Volcano Press's *Save My Rainforest* (V15 #4, pg. 88) has been nominated for the Notable 1992 Children's Trade Books in the Field of Social Studies list, one of the many lists prepared under the auspices of the CBC.

Fighting Amendment Two: Columbia University Press staff found a constructive way to address their conflicts about attending the ALA in post-Amendment Two Colorado — they went (there was not time to move the huge ALA convention out of Colorado after the election) but also arranged for 60+ books in their lesbian and gay studies series Between Men — Between Women to be sent to libraries across the state of Colorado.



Opening a bookstore? ABA has just announced an "opening a Bookstore Module" that includes "a wealth of bottom-line information." Yours for $12.50 — unless you're an ABA member, in which case it's free. Send a check to ABA, Dept. ISC, 560 White Plains Rd, Tarrytown NY 10591.

Books for Life is a grassroots, non-profit organization in the formative stage that wishes to distribute new books to economically disadvantaged children on an ongoing basis. For more information or to make donations, write to Books for life, RR2 Box 2678 Plains Rd., Pittsford VT 05763.

The Multicultural Publishers Exchange has decided to hold its next three annual conferences in San Francisco. The fourth conference is scheduled for Nov. 4-7, 1993. MPE is reviewing books for inclusion in their annual MPE/Highsmith catalog, one of the best available sources for authentic multicultural books. For applications write to MPE, 2215 Atwood Ave.,

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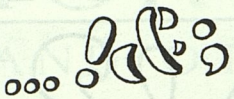
Madison WI 55704. Booksellers that don't already receive the catalog may request a copy from MPE, PO Box 9869, Madison WI 53715.



Superstores: There was a hopeful moment when it was announced that K-Mart had purchased the Borders chain. But rather than downgrading the strong and successful Borders stores to their blue-light- special mentality, KMart has decided to place its Basset stores under Borders management and to turn them into Borders stores. Borders is by far the best and most successful of the chains doing "superstores" — a concept that is both encouraging for book lovers and discouraging in that Borders does the best job of stocking feminist, lesbian, gay, and small/independent press titles. While many Borders stores and staffers are committed to building good working relationships with feminist and gay stores, some of the community stores' sales have been hurt when a Borders moves into their neighborhood.

How important is Borders in the overall scheme of things? Barbara Grier, of Naiad Press offers these figures:

"Book Inventory Systems (Borders' book buying and distribution segment, BIP) is our third largest source of distributor sales (excluding, of course, our sales directly to bookstores and our sales to our retail, mail-order customers) — right after Inland and Bookpeople. In 1992 44% of our distributor sales came from Inland, 22% from Bookpeople, 11% from BIP/Borders, a tad less from Airlift, 9% from Ingram, and 3% from Stilone (Australia)...."

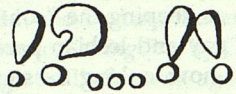
(Naiad also reports that, despite mid-summer concerns, overall sales in 1992 were down, "only about $60,000" from 1991. Naiad had originally projected a $120,000 drop in total sales. Sales picked up during the fall and holiday months and Naiad projects that "January '93 will be our biggest January in history" and that 1993 sales will outpace both 1992 and 1991. In 1992 Naiad decided to stop reprinting and warehousing 31 titles.)

Addressing the superstore issue at the New England Booksellers Association trade show this fall, New Victoria's Beth Dingman noted that the superstore question "is a dilemma for everybody. It's been the small, independent feminist bookstores that have kept us in business all these years."

Publishers Weekly has been offering exciting coverage of the chain-based superstores vs. independent bookstores battle. It's a relief that *someone* in the book industry is finally tackling the issue and is unafraid to describe the ugly parts of the battle. Would that ABA — which started out as an independent booksellers association — had the *chutzpah* to do the same!

Movie Tie-ins: *Claire of the Moon* is opening in various cities around the country. Claire "paraphernalia includes a video of out-takes, CD, t-shirts and posters." Watch, too, for the release of *Like Water for Chocolate*, a very wonderful and womanist (though not lesbian) movie based on the novel by the same name. It will hit the screens in April — unless it's shortlisted in the Academy Awards Best Foreign Film category and is released in February.

Much acclaimed "new" British feminist publisher Open Letters went into voluntary liquidation in early December. Open Letters was a wonderful dream that couldn't be fulfilled during recession. All along the way cash that was promised never materialized. Support from the local government fell through when Labour lost the general election and budgets for small business programs were slashed. Private investors were unable to fulfill commitments due to losing money in other enterprises, lay-offs, and/or inability to sell property. The final blow came with "Black Wednesday" (the day sterling was forced out of the EEC Exchange Rate Mechanism and the pound suffered a 17% devaluation) and previously interested institutional investors ran for high ground. There are hopes that the Open Letters Book Club and the backlist will be sold and kept intact and in print.



At the same time that the financial difficulties were coming to a head, Open Letter's founder Ros de Lanerolle was diagnosed with inoperable lung cancer and was forced to take leave to devote her time and considerable energies to regaining her health. One bit of encouraging news has come our way: In December, when Women In Publishing chose Ros as the recipient of the Pandora Award for service to feminist publishing, Ros was well enough to attend the party and receive the award. O

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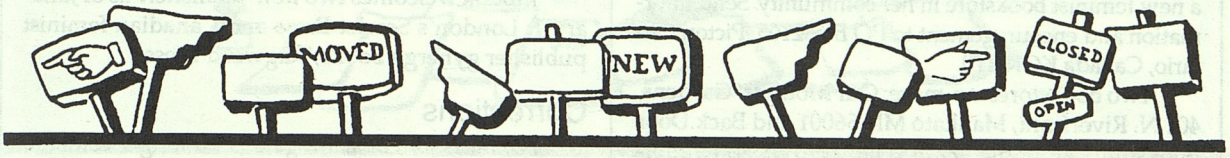
THEY WENT THAT-A-WAY



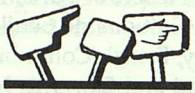
New Stores

Licia Fields and Jennie Mignone are pleased to announce the opening of Significant Sisters, a lesbianfeminist bookstore focusing on women and art, lesbian fiction and small press titles not otherwise available in their area. You can extend a greeting to them at 253 E. Main St., Ashland OR 97520.

Sylvia Mann and Cyndi Chamlee have opened PLU Books & Gifts, an 800 square feet lesbian/gay bookstore. Welcome! 109 East Kings Hwy, Shreveport LA 71104; 318-861-4223.

Weaved Words: Mysteries by Mail, featuring mysteries by women authors, is busy getting their catalog together. To receive a catalog or offer information, contact Albertha Moses and Terry Ames c/o Weaved Words, 2411 Walnut St., Everett WA 98201; 206-259-4193.

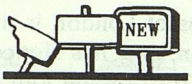
Another mail-order business, this one focusing on women's health and spirituality, has opened recently. Teri F. Dowling of Midwifery Book Service is particularly interested in stocking books on lay midwifery and menstrual health that reflect women's diversity. Anyone with information on books in these areas can reach Teri at 5920 Armstrong Pkwy., Dallas TX 75205.



Mail-order is booming these days! Rebecca Mann is slated to open a lesbian/gay mail-order business in Spring 1993. Contact her at PO Box 253, East Waterboro ME 04030; 207-247-4496, 207-775-4800.

Outbooks has been open for over three months now. Robert Sonnekson's 1200 square foot bookstore has a lesbian/gay focus and is located at 1239 E. Las Olas Blvd., Ft. Lauderdale FL 33301; 305-764-4333.

Thinking of opening a mail-order feminist bookservice out of rural Ontario, Maureen Hair would appreciate helpful information and insights. 610-1 Phillip St. E., Gravenhurst ONT. Canada P1P 1M3; 705-687-8772, fax 705-687-0592.



Herland Inc., a multi-cultural women's resource center, is planning to open a bookstore in May, with the ultimate goal of creating a network for craftswomen, writers, publishers, artists, and healers. For information exchange, write or call Kayla Rose at PO Box 3482, Santa Cruz CA 95060; 408-42-WOMEN.

Lucinda Kennedy has plans for a women's store in Freeport, Maine. Sister Creations will carry books, music, crafts and greeting cards by sisters, and will be opening by April 1. Contact Lucinda at 202 US Rt #1 Suite 114, Falmouth ME 04105.

Linda Mowry is hoping to open Prairie Moon, a woman-friendly bookstore in Arlington Heights, Illinois by April. Call her at 708-427-8464.

The Jagori center in New Delhi is planning to open a feminist bookshop. B-5, Housing Co-op Society, South Extension Part-1, New Delhi-110049.

Avalon Women's Book Center will soon be opening in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Information about distributors, grants and stock can be sent to Rebecca Stroup, 3212 N. Bartlett Ave., Milwaukee WI 53211.

Sue Miller is considering creating a women's bookstore. She would greatly appreciate any information. Send to 334 7th Ave., Bethlehem PA 18018.

Hoping to start a lesbian/gay book and novelty store in Peoria, Illinois, Wendy Gibson is also putting out a call for information about books and sidelines. 1309 S. Laramie, Peoria IL 61605; 309-637-1822.

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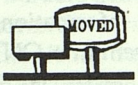
Bookstore Closings

Pamela Slik is "taking up the torch" passed on by Mrs. Dalloway's in Kingston, Ontario. Mrs. Dalloway's closed on January 30 of this year, so Pamela plans to open a new feminist bookstore in her community. Send information and encouragement to PO Box 2105, Picton Ontario, Canada KOK 2T0.

Two bookstores-no-more: Our Mothers' Gardens, 401 N. Riverfront, Mankato MN 56001 and Back Door Bookstore, South Inc., 2219 Wilton Drive, Ft. Lauderdale FL 33305 have closed their doors. The Back Door Bookstore in West Palm Beach continues to thrive.



Books Move

Scarlet Press of London is moving forward on U.S. distribution, and has signed up with Inland. InBook will be distributing four of their 1992 titles: Lesbians Talk pamphlet series: *Queer Notions* by Cherry Smyth and *Safer Sex* by Sue O'Sullivan and Prathiba Parmar; *Women Talk Sex*, edited by Pearlie McNeill, Bea Freeman and Jenny Newman; and *Because You Want to Write* by Pearlie McNeill.

InBook is also distributing *Skid*, a novel by Maud Farrell, published by The Women's Press, Ltd.(UK). Inland is now distributing the lesbian quarterly *Esto no Tiene Nombre: Revista de Lesbianas Latinas* (reviewed in FBN 15#4, pp 57-58).

Down the Wild River North by Constance Helmericks, originally published by Bergamot Books, will be published by Seal Press in April.

The Riverhouse Stories by Andrea Carlisle, originally published by Calyx Books, is now available from The Eighth Mountain Press under a new ISBN: 0-933377-24-X (same price, $8.95). Since *The Riverhouse Stories* has been unavailable for quite some time, stores will be pleased to know that it's now available as an Eighth Mountain book through normal channels.

Publishers Move

Conari Press is moving. As of June 15th, their new address will be: 1144 65th St. Suite B, Emeryville CA 94608. Phone and fax numbers will remain the same: 510-596-4040, fax 510-654-7259.

Consortium has moved! As of January 1, Consortium Book Sales & Distribution is located in their new home: 1045 Westgate Drive, St. Paul MN 55114. Their phone numbers remain: 800-283-3572 for toll-free orders; fax 612-221-1024; and business telephone 612-221-9035. Their SAN is 2006049.

InBook welcomes two new publishers as of January 1: London's Scarlet Press and Canadian feminist publisher gynergy books/Ragweed Press.

Corrections

Feminists for Animal Rights is no longer centered in Berkeley, CA. Their new address is PO Box 694, Cathedral Station, New York NY 10025. Membership is now $15 - 25 (sliding scale). Bookstore terms and prices: The cover price is $3 (20 pages). It is being distributed by both Inland and Bookpeople and is subject to their terms. If you order directly from FAR, it is 50% discount with a minimum of 10 issues, plus $3 to help defray postal costs. Canadian and foreign orders, $5 postal costs. When ordering directly from FAR, they are non-returnable, but they are returnable when ordering from distributors.

Carol from Lady Iris bookstore called in with an address correction (oops!): 10 Ladd St., Portsmouth NH 03801; 603-431-3320. ○

Back to Press, *continued from page 44*

Awards and Other Good News

Next of Kin (Zephyr Press) by Marianne Langner Zeitlin won a Toronto Book Award last May.

Some of the winners of the 1992 Governor General's Literary Awards of the Canada Council: Fiction — Anne Hebert of Paris, France, for *L'enfant charge de songes* (Editions de Seuil); Poetry — Lorna Crozier of Sidney, British Columbia, for *Inventing the Hawk* (McClelland and Stewart); Nonfiction — Maggie Siggins of Regina, for *Revenge of the Land: A Century of Greed, Tragedy and Murder on a Saskatchewan Farm* (McClelland and Stewart).

Save My Rainforest by Monica Zak (Volcano Press) has been selected for the "Notable 1992 Children's Trade Books in the Field of Social Studies" by the National Council for the Social Studies, in conjunction with the Children's Book Council. ○

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WRITING WANTED

Press Gang Publishers is calling for unpublished work (short stories, biographical writing, black-and-white artwork and other creative submissions) for a Canadian/New Zealand anthology of post-colonial lesbian writing to be edited by Beth Brant and Cathie Dunsford. Canadian contributors send SASE along with your work. Press Gang Publishers, 603 Powell St., Vancouver B.C. Canada V6A 1H2; 604-253-2537. Deadline: March 31, 1993.

The Multi-cultural Jewish Dyke Network Newsletter is inviting Jewish lesbians to send in writing, artwork, photos, cartoons, poems and ideas. Financial advice and donations welcomed. Leah Astarte, PO Box 1006, Huntington NY 11743.

Tough Dove Books is looking for lesbian adventure stories for an upcoming anthology: stories about wild women, eccentric characters, sexual exploits, travel, science fiction, fiction and non-fiction. Write to: Mikaya, 11101 Eastside Road, Ukiah CA 95482. Deadline: January 1994.

Woman in the Moon Publications is currently accepting submissions focusing on any experience of enlightenment, hope, peace, joy and trust. Manuscripts will be accepted from January 1 until April 30, with a $7 fee.

Poems for the Woman in the Moon Poetry Prize will be accepted from January 1 to March 31. Submission fee is $5.

Submissions for the Pat Parker Memorial Poetry Award will be accepted from May 1 to July 31. Submission fee is $10.

Send work to T. Nelson Gilbert or SDiane Bogus, 10203 Parkwood Drive #7, Cupertino CA 95014; 408-253-3329.

Anthology by lesbians who have raised or are currently raising adolescent and teenage boys seeks fiction, non-fiction, poems, oral tapes, graphics, plays and music. Include a 50-word biography, SASE and send to Leah Moussaioff, 836 South Dakota, Seattle WA 98108.

Teri Dowling of Midwifery Book Service is searching for materials for an upcoming book on women's menstrual rituals. Contributions and related book suggestions may be sent to her at: 5920 Armstrong Parkway, Dallas TX 75205.

The editors of *Catholic Girls* are seeking stories and poems for the anthology *Catholic Girls and Boys*, to be published by Plume. Topics for consideration include: sexuality, spirituality, humor/horror, repression, family, healing and outrageous stories. Previously published work will be considered. Please send manuscripts with SASE to: Vecchione/Sumrall, PO Box 61, Capitola CA 95010. Deadline: May 31, 1993.

Two new publications — *New Moon: The Magazine for Girls and Their Dreams* and *New Moon Parenting: For Adults Who Care About Girls* — are seeking submissions from adult writers and artists as well as from girls ages 8-14 years old. The premiere issue of *New Moon* will focus on cats and personal herstory; the deadline is April 1, 1993. Send letters, writing, artwork and ideas to: 424 Lakeview Avenue, Duluth MN 55812; 218-728-5507. Bi-monthly publishing will begin in Sept. 1993.

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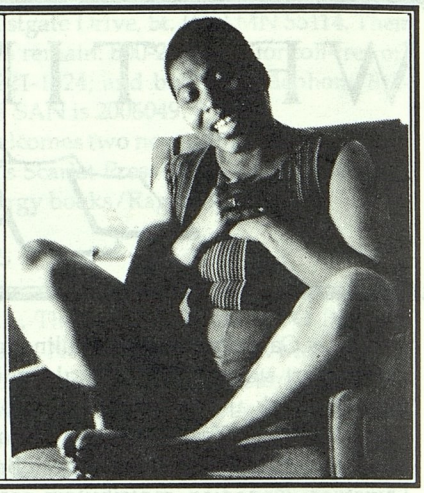
Dykehands & Sutras Erotic & Lyric

A vibrant reprint of the erotic poetry and social-personal essays of SDiane Bogus. A Women In The Moon bestseller.

Includes "Making Whoopi," "Michael Jackson," "After the Kiss," and "Miss Agatha" with a revised version of the autobiographical essay entitled "To My Mother's Vision." Called a "lesbian classic" by Small Press Review. *Also available: S.E.X., the companion audio cassette of selected erotic poems($10).*

Buy two, get one free! ($12, 0-934-172-18)
Free catalog upon request.

WIM Publications, 2215-R Market Street, San Francisco CA 94114. Phone/fax: 408-253-3329.



Writing Workshops

Flight of the Mind announces Summer Writing Workshops for Women for 1993, two six-day workshops that take place on the McKenzie River in the Oregon Cascades. Workshops during July 11-17 will be led by Ursula K. LeGuin, Grace Paley, Naomi Shihab Nye, Andrea Carlisle, Evelyn C. White, and Judith Barrington. For the week of July 19-25, the program will include Ursula LeGuin, Becky Birtha, Judith Barrington, Barbara Wilson, and Elizabeth Woody. Cost ranges from $500 on up, depending on accommodations chosen, and includes tuition, lodging and all meals. Scholarships and credit are available. For a brochure and details on how to apply, send a first class stamp (no envelope) to: 622 S.E. 29th Avenue, Portland OR 97214. Application deadline for both workshops is May 10th.

The 19th Annual Feminist Women's Writing Workshops will be held July 11-18 at Hobart and William Smith Colleges in Geneva, NY. Nancy K. Bereano, founder and publisher of Firebrand Books, will be guest editor; resident artist will be Kwelismith. Participants will share an on-campus house near the shore of beautiful Seneca Lake. Cost is $450; partial scholarships are available. Send SASE to: PO Box 6583, Ithaca NY 14851. ○

Rave

Living in Secret by Cristina Salat is one of the first books to be published for middle-grade readers about having a lesbian parent. It examines the dilemma of eleven-year-old Amelia who is not allowed — by her father and by the court — to live with her mother simply because her mother is a lesbian. But Amelia misses living with her mom and isn't getting the parenting she wants — and needs — from her corporate-identified father and his girlfriend. Allowed no other real options by the custody system, Amelia, her mother, and her mother's lover, Janey runaway together to start new lives, choosing to live in secret rather than to continue to be separated. Being a family with her mom and Janey is exactly what Amelia wants but living in secret isn't as easy as she'd thought it would be. It means having to change her name and her age and her hair color — and worst of all, it means never telling the truth to her new friend who assumes that racism is the reason that Julie/Amelai won't invite her home...

It's a YA novel, so don't look for a low-drama ending. But it does look at having a lesbian parent and court-ordered restrictions from a kid's perspective. Expect strong sales from the lesbian fiction section as well.

Living In Secret by Cristina Salat, $15 cl, Bantam trade, 0-553-08670-7. —*CS* ○

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BESTSELLERS

Northern Woman's Bookstore

Thunder Bay, Ontario
December 1992

1. **Changing Patterns: Women in Canada** ed. by Sandra Burt, L. Code, L. Dorney, McClelland & Stewart
2. **The Raging Grannies Songbook** ed. by Jean McLaren & Heide Brown, New Society
3. **Good Bones** by Margaret Atwood, Coach House
4. **Edible Woman** by Margaret Atwood, Seal Books
5. **A Whole Brass Band** by Anne Cameron, Harbour
6. **Chalice & the Blade** by Riane Eisler, HarperCollins
7. **New Our Bodies/Ourselves** by the Boston Women's Health Collective
8. **You Can Be Free** by Ginny NiCarthy, Seal Press
9. **When I am an Old Woman** ed. by Martz, Papier Mache
10. **If I Had My Life to Live Over** ed. by Martz, Papier Mache
11. **Issumatuq: Learning from the Traditional Healing Wisdom of the Canadian Inuit*** by Kit Minor, Fernwood

*Local author

ClaireLight

Santa Rosa, CA
December 1992

1. **Women Who Run With the Wolves**, Clarissa Estes, PhD, Ballantine Books, $23.
2. **Angel Book**, Karen Goldman, Simon & Schuster, $17.
3. **The Erotic Naiad**, Katherine Forrest & Barbara Grier, eds., Naiad Press, $12.95.
4. **Warming The Stone Child**, (cassette) Clarissa Estes, PhD, Sounds True Recordings, $10.95.
5. **Murder By Tradition**, Katherine Forrest, Naiad Press, $9.95.
6. **Old Turtle**, Douglas Wood, Pfeifer-Hamilton Publishers, $17.95.
7. **The Woman's Comfort Book**, Jennifer Louden, HarperCollins, $13.
8. **Dead Certain**, Claire McNab, Naiad Press, $9.95.
9. **No Rooms of Their Own**, Ida Rae Egli, Heyday Books, $14.95.
10. **Our Wildest Dreams**, Joline Godfrey, HarperCollins, $20.
11. **Wild Woman Archetype**, (cassette) Clarissa Estes, PhD, Sounds True Recordings, $10.95.

Courtesy of A Room of One's Own.

Silvermoon

London, England
1992 Ten Bestsellers by Sue Butterworth

1. **Wise Children** by Angela Carter, £5.99. The last novel from the late Angela Carter. Bawdy, witty and populated with as many sets of twins and mistaken identities as any Shakespeare comedy, this magnificent novel celebrates the magic of over a century of showbusiness.
2. **Birth Marks** by Sarah Dunant, £4.99. When talented dancer Carolyn Hamilton is found dead at the bottom of the Thames with an eight-month-old foetus in her womb and stones in her pockets Hannah Wolfe tries to find out what really happened. The trail leads to super-rich war hero Jules Belmont and produces a tooth-rattling thriller that keeps you hooked until the very last full stop.
3. **Backlash: The Undeclared War Against Women** by Susan Faludi, £9.99. What has made women unhappy in the last decade according to Susan Faludi is not their equality — which they don't

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yet have — but the rising pressure to halt, and even reverse, women's quest for that equality. Caused a big fuss when it first came out and is still selling and selling.

4. **Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Cafe** by Fannie Flagg, £5.99. A truly funny and touching novel which is streets ahead of the film adaptation. If you have not read it — don't miss it!
5. **Cop Out** by Claire McNab, £6.99. This one is a Silver Moon Books title and I'm proud to say it *really* is one of this year's best sellers. A Detective Inspector Ashton nail-biting thriller from bestseller Claire McNab. Watch this space for a new romance from her next year.
6. **Side by Side** by Isabel Miller, £4.99. The story of two courageous young women determined to live as they must, no matter what the consequences. Exciting and funny, this bears many parallels to the legendary *Patience and Sarah*.

Courtesy of A Room of One's Own.

7. **Jazz** by Toni Morrison, £14.99. A spellbinding story memorable for the haunting passion of its profound love story and for the bittersweet lyricism and refined sensuality of its powerful and elegant style.
8. **You Just Don't Understand** by Deborah Tannen, £5.99. Obviously filling a real need, I have lost count of how many we have sold of this book. It strikes resounding chords of recognition and shows how, once we understand the differences in how men and women communicate, we can really begin talking to each other.
9. **Possessing the Secret of Joy** by Alice Walker, £13.99. This powerful and painful novel from Alice Walker has shot to the top of our bestseller list this year. Walker gives us a shattering account of a young girl whose decision to go through the female initiation ceremony has terrible and tragic consequences.
10. **Written on the Body** by Jeanette Winterson, £13.99. I really enjoyed this novel — Winterson has great wit and writes marvellous books. It has been enormously popular with our customers and I feel sure that it is on a lot of Christmas lists.

Women & Children First

Chicago, IL

1992 Bestsellers

1. **Revolution From Within**
2. **Final Session**
3. **Bean Trees**
4. **Beauty Myth**
5. **Backlash** (pb)
6. **Women Who Run With the Wolves**
7. **Women Respond to the Men's Movement**
8. **Sexual Healing Journey**
9. **Possessing the Secret of Joy**
10. **Allies in Healing**
11. **Animal Dreams**
12. **Their Eyes Were Watching God**
13. **Sister Outsider**
14. **Courage to Heal Workbook**
15. **Woman's Comfort Book**
16. **Lakota Woman**
17. **Lesbian Erotic Dance: Butch, Femme, Androgyny**
18. **Chicana Lesbians**
19. **Medicine Cards**
20. **Odd Girls & Twilight Lovers**
21. **Places For Women: 12th Edition 1992**
22. **Backlash** (cl)
23. **Woman Hollering Creek**
24. **Courage to Heal: New Edition**
25. **Incest & Sexuality**
26. **Kitchen God's Wife**
27. **Ritual Abuse Definitions: Mind Control**
28. **Alchemy of Race & Rights**
29. **Breaking the Cycle of Satanic Ritual Abuse**
30. **Under the Southern Cross**
31. **Daisy Fay & the Miracle Man**
32. **Secret Survivors**
33. **Chalice & The Blade**
34. **Sexual Healing Journey**
35. **Dykes To Watch Out For: The Sequel**
36. **Bushfire**
37. **Mean Spirit**
38. **Dance of Anger**
39. **Gossamer Axe**

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Northern Woman's Bookstore

Thunder Bay, Ontario
1992 Bestsellers

Non-Fiction[1]

1. **Courage to Heal** by Bass & Davis, HarperCollins
2. **Courage to Heal Workbook** by Laura Davis, HarperCollins
3. **You Can Be Free** by Ginny NiCarthy, Seal Press
4. **Allies in Healing** by Laura Davis, HarperCollins
5. **Changing Patterns: Women in Canada** ed. by Sandra Burt, L. Code, L. Dorney, McClelland & Stewart
6. **When I am an Old Woman** ed. by Martz, Papier-Mache
7. **Ending the Violence** by Lee Bowker, Learning
8. **Meditations for Women Who Do Too Much** by Anne Wilson Schaef, HarperCollins
9. **Learning to Live Without Violence** by Daniel Sonkin & Michael Durphy, Volcano
10. **Life's Companion** by Christian Baldwin, Bantam Books
11. **Getting Free** by Ginny NiCarthy, Seal Press
12. **Women & Self-Esteem** by Sanford & Donovan, Penguin
13. **The Beauty Myth** by Naomi Wolf, Vintage
14. **Halfbreed** by Maria Campbell, Goodread
15. **Shakti Woman** by Vicki Noble, HarperCollins

Fiction

1. **Edible Woman** by Margaret Atwood, Seal Books
2. **Amazon** by Barbara Walker, HarperCollins
3. **Cat's Eye** by Margaret Atwood, Seal Books
4. **Fried Green Tomatoes** by Fannie Flagg, McGraw Hill
5. **People You'd Trust Your Life To**[2] by Bronwen Wallace, McClelland & Stewart
6. **Chill Rain in January** by L.R. Wright, Seal Books
7. **A Whole Brass Band**[2] by Anne Cameron, Harbour
8. **Women, Kids & Huckleberry Wine** by A. Cameron, Harbour
9. **Good Bones** by Margaret Atwood, Coach House
10. **Jane Eyre** by Charlotte Bronte, Penguin
11. **Child of Her People** by Anne Cameron, Spinsters
12. **Fever**[3] by Sharon Butala, HarperCollins
13. **Obasan** by Joy Kogawa, Penguin
14. **Wilderness Tips** by Margaret Atwood, Seal Books

Full Circle Books

Albuquerque, NM
1992 Bestsellers

1. **Final Session** by Mary Morell, Spinsters Books
2. **Lesbian Erotic Dance** by JoAnn Loulan, Spinsters
3. **Chicana Lesbians** by Carla Trujillo, Third Woman Press
4. **Odd Girls & Twilight Lovers** by Lillian Faderman, Penguin

5. **Places for Women 1992** by Marianne Ferrari, Ferrari Pubs Inc.
6. **Under the Southern Cross** by Claire McNab, Naiad
7. **Dykes to Watch Out For, The Sequel** by Alison Bechdel, Firebrand Books
8. **Bushfire** ed. by Karen Barber, Alyson Publications
9. **Inversions** by B. Warland, Press Gang Publishers
10. **Women's Traveller** by WomensTraveller, Damron
11. **Lesbian Sex** by JoAnn Loulan, Spinsters Books
12. **Morton River Valley** by Lee Lynch, Naiad Press
13. **Wish You Were Here** by Rita Mae Brown, Bantam Books
14. **Beverly Malibu** by Kathryn Forrest, Naiad Press
15. **Lesbian Passion** by JoAnn Loulan, Spinsters
16. **Persistent Desire** ed. by Joan Nestle, Alyson
17. **Shadows of Aggar** by Chris Wolfe, New Victoria Publishers
18. **Just Say Yes** by Judith McDaniel, Firebrand
19. **Leave a Light on for Me** by Jean Swallow, Alyson
20. **Side by Side** by Isabel Miller, Naiad Press ○

1. As you can see, violence issues still dominate.
2. Wonderful!!
3. Butala is a Saskatchewan writer whose last two books have been published by HC. I really like **Fever** *(short stories).*

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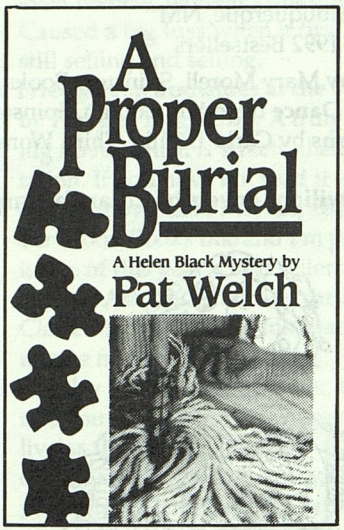

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Pat Welch

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Cecily Bennett, her newest client, has been brought to Helen by her ex, Frieda. But to Helen's consternation, young Cecily is Frieda's lover.

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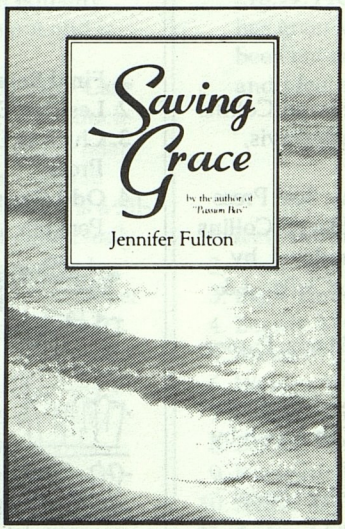

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Champion swimmer and Olympic-hopeful Dawn Beaumont has been injured in an auto crash she herself has caused. Haunted by guilt, her career in ruins, her body damaged and scarred, Dawn flees her parents and the media.

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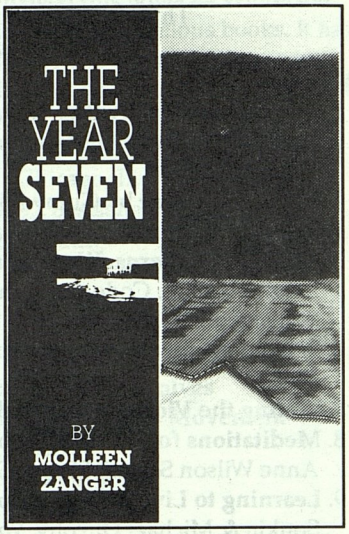

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Molleen Zanger

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A power shortage, Vic is sure. But when she awakens the next morning, the world of human and animal life as she knows it has come to an end.

Stunned, grieving, incredulous, she locates a survivor. Nancy is determined to continue living by the strait-laced rules she has always known. Vic discovers other female survivors, among them BJ, confident that she can provide order and leadership, and willing to wait for Vic...

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MYSTERIES

By Nan Cinnater
Now Voyager, Provincetown, MA

I'm terrifically pleased to be contributing something to *FBN*, since it has contributed so much to my (mental) health and well-being as a bookseller. I'm a long-time mystery reader who got her first bookstore experience at Foul Play, the mystery bookstore in New York City. Now I'm the co-owner, with Diane Johnson, of Now Voyager, a bookstore in Provincetown, MA. Our store is three years old, with a dual specialty in both lesbian/gay books and mysteries. We sell lots of women's mysteries to feminist customers, so it seemed natural and appropriate for me to take up this column.

Hardcover mysteries are a very hard sell, so I'll be concentrating mostly on paperbacks. Also it's easier for us feminist booksellers to keep track of lesbian and small press releases than mainstream books. So I'll concentrate on mainstream releases which will be, perforce, mostly not lesbian (though I'll certainly point out any that are). This is an eclectic, verging on accidental, survey of forthcoming books and recent releases which you may have missed. I'd sure like to hear from you all about what you need and want in a mystery column. Do write me with comments at Now Voyager, 357 Commercial St., P.O Box 551, Provincetown, MA 02657.

It's old news now, but be sure not to miss **Blanche on the Lam** by Barbara Neely ($4.95, 0-14-017439-7, Penguin, Feb.)! This is a strong shot of African-American, feminist consciousness wrapped in a nifty, twisted mystery. Great characters, especially the wonderful heroine, Blanche, who's a domestic worker. Really, this belongs in every feminist bookstore!

And, as everyone knows by now, the new P.D. James mystery isn't a mystery, but a futuristic thriller! **The Children of Men** ($22, 0-0679-41873-3, Knopf, March) sounds very interesting. In the year 2021, all males are infertile and humans will soon die out, unless an Oxford historian and "an unlikely group of revolutionaries" can effect great change. Hmmm....

Sing a Song of Death by Catherine Dain ($3.99, 0-515-11057-4, Jove, March). Even though catalogue copy calls her a "gun-toting, keno-playing, cat-loving P.I.," this new woman sleuth is more than just a collection of gimmicks. Prickly loner Freddie O'Neal is a real contender in the Not-Just-a-Kinsey-Millhone-Clone sweepstakes. Don't be put off by the Nevada setting, either. Dain eschews mob-connected casino cliches. *Lay It On the Line*, first in the series, was an engrossing regional private eye novel with strong characters. This sequel should be good.

Zombies of the Gene Pool by Sharyn McCrumb ($4.99, 0-345-37914-4, Ballantine, March). Edgar-winning **Bimbos of the Death Sun** was a riotous parody of SF/fantasy cons and fen in the form of a whodunit. **Zombies** has the same characters and formula, and will be very funny if it's even half as good. The only problem is where to shelve it, as it will appeal the most to folks who know the SF scene. In April, Sharyn McCrumb will have something completely different and of much wider appeal—the paper release of **The Hangman's Beautiful Daughter** ($5.50, 0-451-40370-3, Onyx), a novel of psychological suspense set in Appalachia. The hardcover reviews were spectacular, indicating a strong feel for

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an erotic mystery
which probes
the dark, dangerous
world of
counterfeit passions

SMOKESCREEN

a novel by
lynette prucha

An erotic Lesbian mystery probing the dangers of counterfeit passions and the hard-boiled women who thrive on them. Mercedes Martini is lured into an intricate web of deception from downtown taxi-dancing joints to underground lesbian bars as she searches for her actress friend, Mona Lisa who has disappeared or perhaps been murdered.

Pages: 256
ISBN: 1-878533-01-0
Price: $10.95

Clothespin Fever Press

the region, the culture, and especially Appalachian women. This should cross over to non-mystey readers, if the cover blurb by Mary Higgins Clark doesn't turn them off.

Murder on the Iditarod Trail by Sue Henry ($4.99, 0-380-71758-1, Avon, March). Although it features a male Alaskan state trooper as hero, this is notable for its unique setting (the world's most famous dog-sled race) and great hardcover reviews. The New York Times Book Review called it "Dazzling....An adrenaline-pumping debut." While in Alaska, be sure to pick up on recent releases **A Fatal Thaw** ($4.99, 0-425-13577-2, Berkley) and **A Cold Day for Murder** by Dana Stabenow, which introduced Aleut Kate Shugak, a former lawyer with the Anchorage D.A.'s office, now a freelance investigator. Daily life in the Alaskan bush seems authentically detailed, and Kate is a unique, truly tough heroine surrounded by interesting characters. **A Fatal Thaw** opens with a long, excruciating description of a shooting spree which might be hard on your most squeamish customers (like myself), but both are highly recommended.

Following Jane by Shelley Singer ($4.50, 0-451-17523-9, Signet). Some years ago, Shelley Singer wrote a series of four or five genial mysteries about an amateur male private eye named Jake Sampson and his sidekick, a lesbian carpenter. Here she begins a new series about a female sleuth/schoolteacher named Barrett Lake and her sidekick, a "gruff," professional, male private eye. With a paperback original you never know, but it's likely to be likeable.

Death and Taxes by Susan Dunlap ($4.99, 0-440-21406-8, Dell, April) features Berkley policewoman Jill Smith in a mystery about the murder of an I.R.S. agent. Dunlap usually displays a certain tolerance and inclusiveness in her Berkeley settings. This is the more popular of her two series; they sell pretty well in our store.

Backhand ($4.99, 0-553-29627-2, Banta), which came out in Jan., is Liza Cody's best ever, and that's saying a lot! English operative Anna Lee was an

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early entry among professional women investigators and remains one of the best. In **Backhand**, she crosses the Atlantic to track a kidnapper in the Florida keys, but nothing is ever as it seems. Further good news is that Bantam is re-issuing all the Anna Lee novels, **Dupe, Bad Company, Stalker, and Under Contract**. (**Rift** by Liza Cody is not part of the Anna Lee series.) If you have serious mystery fans who will buy hardcovers, consider Cody's newest, **Bucket Nut** ($18.50, 0-385-46776-1, Doubleday), in which she introduces Eva Wylie, female wrestler cum security guard.

Some other recent releases which you may have missed:

It would be easy to miss **A Grave Talent** by Laurie R. King in hardcover ($19.95, 0-312-08804-3, St. Martin's Press), which came out in February. The catalogue and jacket copy alluded to a "secret" in the life of homicide detective Casey Martinelli, but it won't be a secret for long to your customers. Yes, folks, this San Francisco policewoman is a (gasp) lesbian. Aside from the unfortunate device of keeping the heroine's gayness "secret" through half the book, this is a smart, gripping police procedural about tracking down a child killer. It also has a lot to say about women artists, genius and madness — worth recommending to lesbian detective fans.

Death and the Delinquent by B.J. Oliphant ($3.99, 0-449-14718-5, Fawcett) features the increasingly curmudgeonly, middle-aged rancher Shirley McClintock. This is the fourth in a well-written, well-plotted series with a thoroughly competent, independent heroine over 50 (and over 6 feet tall). The others are **Dead in the Scrub, The Unexpected Corpse**, and **Deservedly Dead**. By the third in the series, her rugged individualism was getting a little tiresome and sometimes uncomfortably conservative, but she's still a strong, believable heroine.

For "Murder She Wrote" fans, you might want to pick up **Murder Observed** by Eleanor Boylan ($3.99, 0-8041-0812-9, Ivy) and its predecessor **Working Murder**, both featuring 68-year-old widow Clara Gamadge in elegant but fast-paced, intricately plotted, contemporary cozies. Back in the '40s and '50s, Elizabeth Daly wrote a series of classic mysteries about publisher Henry Gamadge and his wife Clara. Boylan is Daly's niece and she has picked up the family torch without stumbling.

Lastly, be sure to get in your orders for **J is for Judgement** by Sue Grafton ($21.95, 0-8050-1935-9, Henry Holt). Publication date is May 5, but it may ship earlier. And of course Grafton's I will be coming in paperback.

• • •

Illustrations by Yani Batteau from The Dyke Detector, *Paradigm Publishing.* ○

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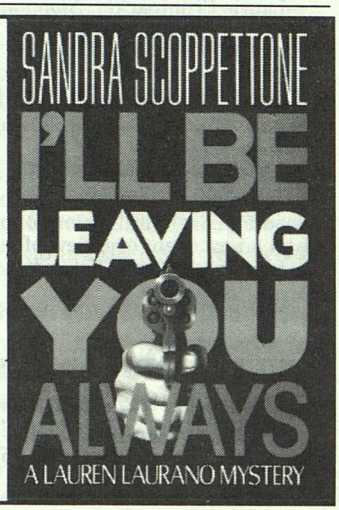

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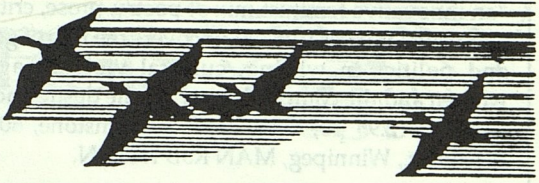

By Penny Goldsmith

Vancouver: There's a new anthology published by Red Deer College Press called **Kitchen Talk: Contemporary Women's Prose and Poetry,** edited by Edna Alford and Claire Harris. It's an interesting theme, and collects such notables as the Margarets (Laurence and Atwood), Emily Carr, Maria Campbell, and Joy Kogawa, among others. $15.95 (US); $18.95 (Can) pb, 0-88995-091-1. Red Deer College Press (56 Ave. & 32 St., Box 5005, Red Deer, ALTA Canada T4N 5H5). IN, Bookslinger, BookWorld.

Still centered around the kitchen table is Barbara Sapergia's play, **Roundup.** The setting is Saskatchewan in the mid-eighties, a land battered by several years of drought and poor prices. The play revolves around a family who is trying to cope with their own and their neighbours' situation: the very real threat to the family farm. $7.95 pb, 1-55050-041-4. Coteau. IN.

Sheila Watson is a respected Canadian writer, and the author of the Canadian classic *The Double Hook.* McClelland & Stewart has just published **Deep Hollow Creek,** written in the 1930s and published for the first time. It's the story of a teacher in the Caribou country of British Columbia and is a powerful portrait of a time, place and community in the poverty-stricken 1930s. $14.99 pb, 0-7710-8823-X. McClelland & Stewart, 481 University Ave., Toronto, ONT M5G 2E9.

Penny Goldsmith has been involved in the Canadian publishing world for almost 20 years. She has worked for various small publishers in both Ontario and, now, in British Columbia, which has been her home for the past 15 years. She is the owner of Lazara Press, a literary publishing house in Vancouver, British Columbia which has been operating since 1982.

Cynthia Flood's latest collection of short stories, **My Father Took a Cake to France,** is as intriguing as its title. The title story won the prestigious Journey Prize for Fiction last year, and the rest of the collection lives up to the honour. Flood, a feminist and a political activist, has a sense of compassion and a strength of character development that makes the stories hit home in the heart. $13.95 pb, 0-88922-310-6. Talonbooks, 201-1019 E. Cordova, Vancouver, BC V6A 1M8. Distributed by University of Toronto Press.

Talon has also reissued Audrey Thomas' first novel **Mrs. Blood,** of which the author has said, "Women are at last beginning to talk about their bodies, not only among themselves, but in print. When I began writing *Mrs. Blood,* this was not the case. So many women have come up to me and said, 'Yes, I've been through that too—a messy miscarriage, a still birth, a bad abortion, but I never really talked about it...'" $15.95 pb, 0-88922-319-X.

Also of interest from Talon is Jovette Marchessault's play **The Magnificent Voyage of Emily Carr** ($11.95 pb, 0-88922-314-9) and a triptych of three novellas by Mary Burns called **Centre/Center. Centre** spans two generations a decade apart as seen from the perspectives of different characters of the three novellas. Throughout, there is a gradual movement of characters from America to what is perceived as the unspoiled neighbour to the north, Canada. $15.95 pb, 0-88922-309-2.

A few more collections of interesting looking fiction: **Tell Tale Signs** by Janice Williamson, and published by Turnstone is described by the publisher as

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"an innovative feminist mix of poetry, prose, criticism and visual images [which] uncovers the role of gender and politics in writing, cultural violence against women and the complexities of female desire and sexuality." $12.95 pb, 0-88801-159-8. Turnstone, 607-100 Arthur St., Winnipeg, MAN R3B 1H3. IN.

Jancis M. Andrews' stories are called **Rapunzel, Rapunzel, Let Down Your Hair**; the book is described by Cacanadadada Press as "allowing us to glimpse the extraordinary pains and passions that simmer beneath the surface of so-called ordinary men and women." $12.95 pb, 0-921870-13-2. Cacanadadada Press, 3350 W. 21st Ave., Vancouver, BC V6S 1G7. IN.

How to Saw Wood with an Angel by Gertrude Story is the author's latest collection of "observations, philosophical musings and uproarious anecdotes [proving] once again that she is part angel, part lumberjack and a very fine writer." $12 pb, 1-895449-02-2. Thistledown Press, 633 Main Street, Saskatoon SASK S7H 0J8. IN.

I went to a reading last week sponsored by **Rungh**, a new "South Asian Quarterly of Culture, Comment and Criticism." Issue #3 has several articles specifically of interest to women readers, including an article on Women in Video and an interview with Akesh Gill, the female protagonist in *The Burning Season*, who talks, among other things, about the stereotypes that white interviewers generally have about South Asian families and women's role in them. $5. (US and Canada), ISSN 1188-9950. Rungh Cultural Society, Station F, Box 66011, Vancouver, BC V5N 5L4, (604) 876-2086. The magazine is distributed in the States through Ubiquity, 607 Degraw St., Brooklyn NY 11217; 718-875-5491 and Fine Print, 6448 Highway 290 E., Ste. #B104, Austin TX 78723-1038; 512-452-8709.

The reading included the work of South Asian women writer Yasmin Ladha. **Lion's Granddaughter and Other Stories** is a sophisticated and sometimes very funny collection of writing drawing on the author's experiences as a child growing up in Tanzania and as an Indian-Muslim immigrant to Canada. She explores how women who are nomads, half-castes, immigrants or in love create and define space, place, and identity on their own terms and not the terms set out by culture or prejudice. And she is clear about who her reader is: "I shan't call you reader. One who reads, hah! That's so undeclared. Blank as a daft blue form: 'Resident of?' 'In the Dominion of?' 'Port of Embarkation/Disembarkation?' 'Destitute-Festitute?' Blue muscle of power. Generic. Between you and me, there is no glint of a badge. Badges are razor sharp. Between you and me, the ink quivers." $10.95 pb, 0-920897-25-8. NeWest Press (#310, 10359-82 Ave., Edmonton, ALTA T6# 1Z9), IN, Bookslinger.

(Another magazine of interest to South Asian readers and published in Vancouver is *Ankur*, which I first talked about in this column a year ago. The magazine describes itself as "A quarterly magazine about art, literature, culture, social and political issues....". $3, PO Box 67681 Stn. O, Vancouver, BC V5W 3V2.)

Himani Bannerji, a well-known Toronto poet, critic and lecturer has a new collection of essays out called **Writing on the Wall: Essays on Culture and Politics**. They examine the manifestations of resistance, revolution and change (including feminism) in theatre and poetry. The cultures examined in detail are India (through its theatre) and Canada (through its new poetry). $14.95 pb, 0-920661-30-0. Tsar Publications, PO Box 6996 Stn. A, Toronto, ONT M5W 1X7. IN. But for the reading Bannerji read a powerful poem about her mother from an unpublished manuscript. The author's poetry is available from SisterVision Press: *Doing Time*, $9.95 pb, 0-920813-01-1. IN, BP, Bookslinger. Bannerji's poetry is also featured, along with Suniti Namjoshi and others, in **The Geography of Voice: An Anthology of South Asian Canadian Literature**, $19.95 pb, 0-920661-27-0. Tsar Publications.

Another reading the same weekend featured Yvonne Vera, whose book of short stories, **Why Don't You Carve Other Animals**, is also published by Tsar Publications. The stories are set in white-ruled Rhodesia of the seventies and tell the struggle to survive of

See **Canadian Books**, *page 127.*

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SUSANNA STURGIS ON SCIENCE FICTION

By the next issue, we'll have the winner of the second annual James Tiptree Memorial Award, for gender-bending f and sf published in 1992. Good news is that a U.S. edition of the 1991 co-winner, Gwyneth Jones's **White Queen,** will be published in June by Tor Books (in hardcover).

ACE

Damia ($5.99 pb, 0-441-13556-0) and **Damia's Children** ($22.95 cl, 0-399-13817-X, Ace/Putnam), both by Anne McCaffrey. The sequels to McCaffrey's popular *The Rowan* (Damia is the Rowan's daughter, whose telepathic powers surpass her mother's) these combine romance with space-operatic adventure. McCaffrey isn't breaking any new ground, but she tells a good story.

The Castle of the Silver Wheel, by Teresa Edgerton ($4.99 pb, 0-441-09275-6). This begins a new high-fantasy trilogy, set on the same world as her Green Lion trilogy, a retelling of Arthurian legends. The protagonist (surprise!) is a young nobly born and wed woman with a talent for Wild Magic.

BAEN BOOKS

Taminy, by Maya Kaathryn Bohnhoff ($4.99 pb, 0-671-72174-7). I was disappointed by the resolution of Bohnhoff's first novel, *The Meri* ($4.99 pb, 0-671-72115-1, Baen), in which Meredydd, who had fought every step of the way for the right to study magic, was for her reward assumed into goddess-head. That assumption, though, released Taminy, Meredydd's long-ago predecessor, to walk the earth again in human form and redress a number of wrongs, including the subjugation of women. Promising! 06/93

Changeweaver, by Margaret Ball ($4.99 pb, 0-671-72173-9). This continues the story, begun in the well-done *Flameweaver* ($4.99 pb, 0-671-72095-3, Baen), of Tamai, from a hidden city high in the Hindu Kush, who is sent by the city's wisewomen into the British Raj in search of rifles. Estranged from her clan both by her inability to bear children and by her contact with the outside, she again finds herself in English company, trying to fathom the mysteries of the Chin Empire. 06/93

Hunting Party, by Elizabeth Moon ($5.99 pb, 0-671-72176-3). The author of the much-praised fantasy trilogy beginning with *Sheepfarmer's Daughter* turns to space with this one, in which a career military starship captain, drummed out of the service, finds herself in a not-so-cushy position as a rich lady's interstellar chauffeur. 07/93

BALLANTINE/DEL REY

Ammonite, by Nicola Griffith ($3.99 pb, 0-345-37891-1). Missed connections delayed this one's arrival in my mailbox, and now I'm tearing through it. More next issue, but for now: carry it! As a result of a virus that kills all the men but only 20 percent of the women who contract it, all the residents of Grenchstom's Planet ("Jeep" in interstellar slang) are women. An earth anthropologist risks her life and safety to be assigned there. The writing is fine, the vision thoughtful, the novel one of the very few that uses the vast potential of the genre to explore essential lesbian and feminist experience.

CARROLL & GRAF

The Lifted Veil: The Book of Fantastic Literature by Women, Vol. 1, ed. by A. Susan Williams ($28 cl, 0-88184-913-8). With Vol. 2, scheduled for fall/win-

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ter 1993, this was originally conceived as a single anthology. The hefty (almost 600 pages) first part is heavy on ghost stories. As a whole, wrote reviewer Gary K. Wolfe in *Locus*, it's "an important point of reference for anyone seeking to trace the history of women's literature," though limited by some of the editor's choices: minority writers are poorly represented, all works had to be written in English, and fairy tales were virtually ignored.

DAW BOOKS

Eluki bes Shahar's Hellflower trilogy concludes with **Archangel Blues** ($4.50 pb, 0-88677-543-4). In April we'll see about Mercedes Lackey's influence on Marion Zimmer Bradley's prose in their collaborative Darkover novel, **Rediscovery** (price not available, but it's in hardcover). MZB's tenth **Sword and Sorceress** anthology is due in June (no price there either, but it's mass-market).

THE MINERVA CENTER

Baptism of Fire, by Linda Grant De Pauw ($14.95 tp, 0-9634895-0-X). The author, a professor of history at George Washington University, is the founder of the Minerva Center, a nonprofit clearinghouse for information on women and the military. The novel translates Navy tradition into a space-faring future less than a century hence, where gender discrimination is unknown but the all-earth government is monarchical and a tiny cross-class and -cultural "meritocracy" embodies all the known virtues. In the style of sf's Golden Age, this one seems longer on technical details than character or plot but may appeal to readers interested in military matters. (The Minerva Center, 20 Granda Rd., Pasadena, MD 21122; 410-437-5379.) 05/93

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY PRESS

Two titles in this press's Women's Classics series are of interest to readers and students of utopian fiction. **New Blazing World and Other Writings** (price n/a, cl, 0-8147-1475-7) is by 17th century English noblewoman Margaret Cavendish, duchess of Newcastle. The introduction by editor Kate Lilley provides a feminist perspective on Cavendish's historical and literary significance.

Author Delarivier Manley (1663-1724) was arrested after **The New Atalantis** (price n/a, cl, 0-8147-5478-3) was first published in 1709; the work is a powerful allegory satirizing the sexual and political intrigues of the English court. She counted Jonathan Swift among her friends. Rosalind Ballaster edited and provided the introduction.

OVERLOOK PRESS

Correspondence, by Sue Thomas ($19.95 cl, 0-87951-480-9). I'm not a big "experimental fiction" fan, but I'm engrossed in this challenging, nonlinear, but comprehensible novel. The narrator creates characters and scenarios for customers to experience, rather like a high-tech vacation. One character gradually takes on a life and realism that her creator is losing.

PANDORA (HarperSanFrancisco)

Naomi Mitchison: A Biography, by Jill Benton ($12 tp, 0-04-440862-5). Known to sf readers primarily as the author of *Memoirs of a Spacewoman* (1962), Scots-born writer Naomi Haldane Mitchison has led a politically engaged cutting-edge life, and was still going strong at 94 when this book came out last year. Particularly interesting for its exploration of women's roles and choices in Britain's leftist intelligentsia through the 20th century.

PENGUIN/ROC

Maze of Moonlight, by Gael Baudino ($4.99 pb, 0-451-45230-5). Most excellent news is the release of this, which follows *Strands of Starlight*, Baudino's tale of Miriam, a young woman tortured by the Inquisition and seeking revenge for rape in Albia, which is like and unlike late-medieval England and France. The main characters here are a young woman and a nobleman, both with elven heritage. Baudino also wrote *Gossamer Axe*, winner of the 1990 Lammy for f/sf. Count on her work to be refreshingly feminist and pagan in outlook.

The Architecture of Desire, by Mary Gentle ($19 cl, 0-451-45234-8). Already acclaimed in Great Britain, this joins Gentle's *Rats and Gargoyles* ($5.99 pb, 0-451-45173-2, Roc) on U.S. shelves. She's an excellent writer whose sophisticated, wildly imagined fantasies, set in an alternate-historical England, have earned a strong following in non-f/sf circles as well.

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TOR

Cup of Clay, by Carole Nelson Douglas ($4.99 pb, 0-812-51248-0). I liked many of the ingredients of this, the first book of The Taliswoman series, especially the contemporary Minnesota journalist who finds herself playing a major role in a strange fantasy world, and the band of children cast off for their imperfections and left to fend for themselves. The writing, however, is distractingly uninspired, and the plucky journalist and the arrogant local (male) aristocrat are evidently headed for compulsory romance. So far, Douglas contents herself with criticizing the other world's sexism, rather than using it to critique or otherwise yield new insight into our own society. The Taliswoman trilogy continues in the December 1992 release **Seed upon the Wind** ($19.95 cl, 0-312-85147-2).

Strange Devices of the Sun and Moon, by Lisa Goldstein ($19.95 cl, 0-312-85460-9). The two factions of the Fair Folk battle for supremacy in and around plague-prone Elizabethan London; Christopher Marlowe and his literary peers play an important role, as does one Alice, a middle-aged widow who has carried on her late husband's bookselling business. The author leaves vague one intriguing relationship, between a powerful healer and her midwife assistant. An enjoyable read.

The Door into Sunset, by Diane Duane ($21.95 cl, 0-312-85184-7). More than a decade ago, early in her career, Duane began a projected tetralogy, The Tale of the Five, with *The Door into Fire* and *The Door into Shadow*. She then took a detour and became a highly successful author of Star Trek novels, not to mention a fine YA trilogy (*So You Want to Be a Wizard*, etc.). Not only does **Sunset,** book 3, meet expectations, it is of special interest for the relationships among and between the Five: the two princes are lovers; one is also bonded with a fire elemental who can adopt numerous forms, human and not; and the warrior woman is psychically mated with a dragon. A nongeneric fantasy adventure, and a fine read.

Tor offers several good reasons to be impatient for spring, starting with Melissa Scott's newest, **Burning Bright** ($21.95 cl, 0-312-85502-8), which, like her previous work, probes the ever-shifting terrain of interstellar intrigue, virtual reality, and the politics of sex and power. It's due in May.

Due in July is the paperback reprint of Scott's most recent, the excellent **Dreamships** (price and ISBN n/a). How often do you get gay/lesbian protagonists without sacrificing depth of imagination, political sophistication, or literary quality? Not very, so don't pass this one up.

Fans of the vampire Count St. Germain (among whom I number myself, though his adventures are inclined to be long-winded) will welcome Chelsea Quinn Yarbro's **Darker Jewels** ($19.95 cl, 0-312-85296-7) in April. Here the versatile Count is the king of Poland's envoy to the court of Ivan the Terrible, czar of all the Russias.

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS (Distrib.)

Briefly but favorably noted in a recent issue of *Locus* were two books, neither of them new. **Haunting the House of Fiction: Feminist Perspectives on Ghost Stories by American Women,** edited by Lynette Carpenter and Wendy Kolmar ($28.50 cl, 0-87049-688-3, University of Tennessee Press), is a collection of essays exploring ghost/supernatural themes in the work of 19th and 20th century writers, from Sarah Orne Jewett to Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Toni Morrison.

The 11 stories in **Forbidden Journeys: Fairy Tales and Fantasies by Victorian Women Writers,** edited by Nina Auerbach and U.C. Knoepflmacher ($27.50 cl, 0-226-03203-5, University of Chicago Press), according to reviewer Gary K. Wolfe, "suggest a whole underexplored area of fantasy by women, and make a strong case for the proposition that women writers used the fairy tale form in a significantly different way from their male counterparts."

WOMEN'S PRESS/U.K.

The Incomer, by Margaret Elphinstone ($8.95 tp, 0-7043-4070-4), was first published in 1987 and is now available through InBook. Long after a vaguely sketched but drastic ecological and political reckoning decimated the world's population, an itinerant musician, Naomi, winters over in a tiny crossroads village. In spare, eloquent language that can evoke both epic and the details of rural life, the novel describes the challenges and realignments that the visitor and her music bring to a cautious people deeply and justifiably suspicious of change. Recommended, and very accessible to those who don't usually read f or sf. ○

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New! Spring Books from The Crossing Press

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What Women Need to Know Now

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Vital consumer reading for women considering implants and those who already have them. Dr. Vasey has served as an advisor to Congress and the FDA. He has also served as expert medical witness in numerous silicone implant suits, including the $7.3 million dollar lawsuit against Dow Corning.

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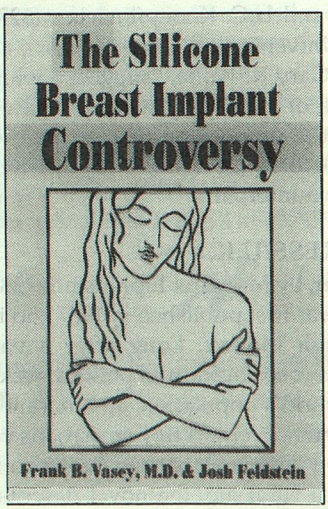

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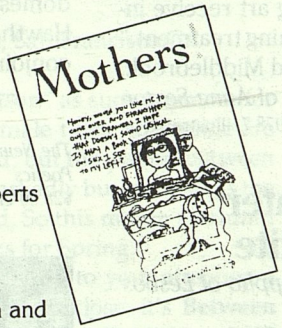
Mothers!

Cartoons by Women

Edited by Roz Warren



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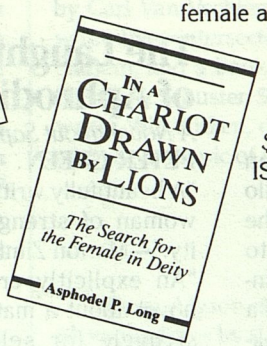
by Asphodel P. Long



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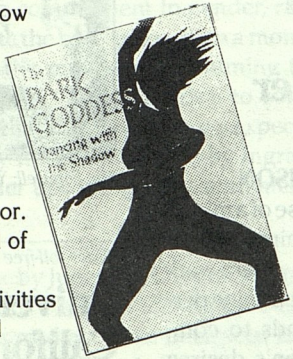

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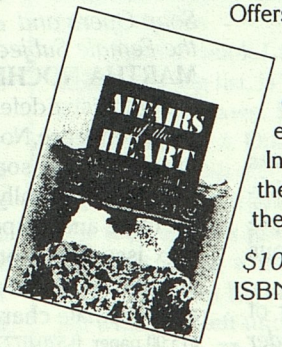
Interviews by Virginia Lee



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GAY MEN'S LIT
FOR FEMINIST BOOKSTORES

By Richard Labonte
A Different Light Bookstore, San Francisco CA

There isn't really a "season" as such anymore for lesbian, women's and gay male titles, so prolific are our own presses year-round; but the period between year-start and the ABA is markedly busier as far as the major presses are concerned. So this month's column theme matches FBN's: books for Spring.

First, though, I want to bring to your attention a book to which I am particularly close: it's **Between Little Rock & A Hard Place** (Williams Publishing, 3487 Northwest Yeon Ave, Portland OR 97210, $9.95 pb, 0-9635289-3-9) by Tommi Avicolli Mecca, a short but potent analysis of the relationhip between the lesbian/gay communities and the Clinton administration. Tommi, a former editor of the *Philadelphia Gay News*, works full-time at A Different Light, writes for the *Bay Times* in San Francisco, and brings to his political perspective a strong commitment to gender, race and class issues. He wrote the book in less than a month after the election, since the publisher was aiming for late February publication — so in addition to some emphatic thoughts on what Clinton owes us, expect a book which is unusually fresh. Distributed by Ingram and Baker & Taylor. Other upcoming titles with merit:

Gay Fiction

Either just out or due by June: **The Dreyfuss Affair** (HarperCollins, $12 pb, 0-06-097559-8) by Peter Lefcourt, a light summer read about an interracial love affair between two big-league baseball players; **The Mother's Glass** ($13 pb, 0-00-647399-7) by Vancouver author David Watmough, an insightful novel about family relationships; **The Liar** (FSG, $22 cl, 0-939149-82-6) by Stephen Fry; **A Year of Rhymes** (Viking, $20 cl, 0-570-84732-1) by Bernard Cooper, another novel of family (and a book so beautifully written you'll ache) from the writer of the award-winning *Maps to Anywhere*; **Separate Rooms** (Serpent's Tail, $13.99 pb, 1-85242-223-8, IN/BP) by the late Italian writer Pier Vittorio Tondelli, about the memory of love, or, in a more classical vein, **Parties** (Serpent's Tail, $13.99 pb, 0-947757-29-5, BP/IN) by Carl Van Vechten, who chronicled the point where white lives intersected with the Black world of 1930s Harlem; and a book already available, **A Visit Home** (Simon & Schuster, $20 cl, 0-671-74707-X) by Canadian writer Will Aitken, one of the first gay male novels to address the topic of incest and family abuse.

From Alyson, for seekers of breezy fare, there is **Silver Saddles** by Cap Iverson ($7.95 pb, 1-55583-213-X, BP/IN), second in a gay western series (sales of the first book, *Arson!*, took me by surprise); **Without Sanction** ($8.95 pb, -218-0, BP/IN) by J.R. Roberts, a 19th Century romance; and a more serious novel, about interracial romance and the pressures of race hatred, **Fragments That Remain** ($19.95 cl, -218-0, IN/BP) by Steven Corbin.

Another book I am especially close to, from the Alyson Spring list, is **The Unfinished** ($9.95 pb, -217-2) by Jay B. Laws. Jay won the first-novel contest which staff of A Different Light judged a couple of years ago (with his suspense novel *Steam*) and he became a good friend of many on staff. He finished this second book just weeks before he died, late last year; it's about a man, knowing he's facing death, arranging from beyond the grave for someone to finish what he's left undone.

And also: **The Night G.A.A. Died** (St. Martin's, $8.95 pb, 0-312-09353-5) is an historical mystery set in the early days of New York gay lib, by Jack Ricardo; and **Show Me the Way to Go Home** (8.95 pb, -09387-

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X), described by editor Michael Denneny as an Auntie Mame kind of delight.

Some New Nonfiction:

Esther Newton has broken new historical ground with the upcoming **Cherry Grove & Fire Island** (Beacon, $24 cl, 0-8070-7926-X), a study of 60 years of gay and (yes) lesbian life among the dunes; and, in the same geographical location, **Dark Wind: A True Account of Hurricane Gloria's Assault on Fire Island** (St. Martin's, $21.95 cl, 0-312-09311-X), which is more than a windy tale — it's described as a John McPee-ish blend of history, sociology, anthropology and personal narrative.

Also look for the paperback of Eric Marcus's highly readable oral history **Making History** (HarperCollins, $14 pb, 0-06-092222-2). It's due in June; that's also the month for a paper edition of Paul Monette's National Book Award-winning **Becoming a Man** ($12 pb, -250724-9), his autobiography about the years before coming out. A social study worth shelving, too, is Richard Parker's **Bodies, Pleasures, and Passions: Sexual Culture in Contemporary Brazil** (FSG, $15 pb, 0-8070-4103-3), which deals extensively with homosexuality. Among the many new AIDS titles, the practical diet and treatment book **Immune Power** (St. Martin's, $18.95 cl, 0-312-09312-8) is pricey but worthwhile.

There are two books in a military vein, particularly timely as Bill Clinton wrestles with the military leaders of the country: the long-awaited **Conduct Unbecoming** (St. Martin's, $26.95 cl, 0-312-09261-X) a lengthy, engaging look at instances of military homophobia and discrimination from the Second World War up through Desert Storm by Randy Shilts, the author of *The Mayor of Castro Street* and *And the Band Played On*; and **Torn Allegiances: Story of a Gay Cadet** (Alyson, $9.95 pb, 1-55583-216-4, IN/BP) by Jim Holobaugh with Keith Hale, his account of how he was asked to return his ROTC scholarship money and was booted out of the ROTC for coming out.

There aren't many books these days that are truly original. One such is **The Corporate Closet** (Free Press, $22.95 cl, 0-02-935603-2) by James D. Woods with Jay H. Lucas, subtitled "The Professional Lives of Gay Men in America" (obviously, there are no lesbian businesswomen . . .).

Poetry

Two poetry offerings, new in paper this spring: **Unending Dialogue: Voices From an AIDS Poetry Workshop** (Faber & Faber, $9.95 pb, 0-571-19804-X), edited by Rachel Hadas; and **The Man With Night Sweats** (FSG, $9 pb, 0-374-52381-9) by Thom Gunn, an unsentimental, inspirational work on friends and death by one of the finest gay male poets.

Theater

A theater book being widely anticipated — it's awfully rare for people to order a playscript before seeing a play, but it's happened with this one — is Tony Kushner's **Angels in America: A Gay Fantasia on National Themes** (Theatre Communication Group, $12.95 pb, 1-55936-061-5/ $24.95 cl, -060-7). This is just part one of Kushner's epic seven-hour work, by the way; "Perestroika" will probably appear next season. Two other titles to consider are Larry Kramer's **The Destiny of Me** (Plume, $9 pb, 0-452-27016-2), his follow-up to *The Normal Heart* (see below), and *Falsettos* ($10 pb, -27072-3), William Finn's Broadway success about two gay men, their son, and family.

Plays don't normally turn big, or even small, profits, but stores looking to set up a core gay male drama section with any sales potential should consider these titles: **Making Out: Plays by Gay Men** (Coach House, $16.95 pb, 0-88910-34-4, IN/BP), edited by Robert Wallace, containing the work of Canadian writers; **The Normal Heart** (Plume, $8 pb, 0-452-25798-0) by Larry Kramer; **Bent** (Samuel French, $4.95 pb, 0-573-64031-9) by Martin Sherman, always asked for by anyone interested in Nazi treatment of gays; **Torch Song Trilogy** (Signet, $4.99 pb, 0-451-15130-5 or Gay Presses New York, $7.95 pb, 0-9604724-0-1, IN); and **Untold Decades** (St. Martin's, $7.95 pb, 0-312-03447-4) by Robert Patrick, a marvelous seven-decade look at gay life. After that, a collection of Oscar Wilde plays (Random House and Heinemann have editions), a smattering of Tennessee Williams, and the **Gay Plays** series from Methuen, edited by Michael Wilcox, will all form the basis for a solid small collection. ○

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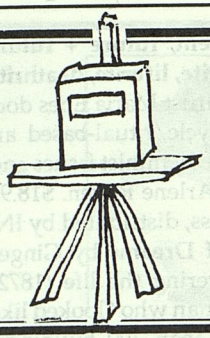

ART BOOKS

By Tee A. Corinne

In my rush to get ready for the Women's Caucus For Art and the College Art Association Conferences (I'm delivering a paper on "Self-Portraits by Lesbian Artists"), I've been thinking about how fragile books about women artists still are. Although more are being published than five or ten years ago, they still fall far short of parity, are often poorly distributed, go and stay out of print, and are hard to find in used bookstores (small print runs?). Yet, with the rising interest in academic books about Lesbian and Gay Studies, I have hopes for an expanded market and more small, reasonably priced books, perfect for sales in women's bookstores.

The current interest in diversity is redefining the parameters of art publishing and Betty LaDuke, who has long been involved with these issues, has a new study out: **Women Artists: Multi-Cultural Visions**, with a preface by Native American artist Charleen Touchette. Using material gathered over a period of ten years, LaDuke combines research and artwork about others with her own painted and drawn responses to the different cultures she visited. Areas discussed include India, Borneo, Mexico, and Yugoslavia. Native-American, Chicana, Japanese-American, African-American and Yugoslav artists are profiled. The book is rich with ideas and illustrations. $16.95 pb, 0-932415-78-4; $49.95 cl, -77-6. The Red Sea Press, 15 Industry Court, Trenton NJ 08638. Look for it at IN & BP.

New from Caffyn Kelley (who deserves a medal for service to women artists), **Give Back: First Nations Perspectives on Cultural Practice** shares the work of six artists/writers/thinkers: Maria Campbell, Doreen Jensen, Joy Asham Fedoric, Jaune Quick-to-See Smith, Jeannette Armstrong and Lee Maracle. Especially interesting is Doreen Jensen's comments on art history: "In my language, there is no word for 'Art.' This is not because we are devoid of Art, but because Art is so powerfully integrated with all aspects of life, we are replete with it." $6.95 pb, 1-895640-02-4. Galerie, distributed by IN and BP.

Lariane Fonseca, *If Passion were a Flower*

If Passion were a Flower by Lariane Fonseca may be the lesbian gift book of choice for anniversaries or very special friends. Produced in Australia, Fonseca's close-ups of flowers remind me of O'Keeffe's but with the sexuality and passion acknowledged. Photographer Fonseca was born in Bombay, as were Conchita Fonseca and Suniti Namjoshi whose poems frame the work. All reproductions are in luscious color. Perhaps this will be the first art book to win a Lambda Literary Award. $59.95 cl, 1-875559-06-X. Spinifex Press, distributed by the US by IN & BP.

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What You See, by Gail Geltner, is a book of wildly humorous, provocative, sometimes heart-wrenching drawings about contemporary life. One of my favorites, called "Double Time," shows a black slash of ink dividing into two women's torsos, one does the dishes while the other (using three hands) works on a computer and answers a telephone. Some of the images deal with molestation and family violence, others with world political and financial issues. $12.95 pb, 0-929005-29-5. Second Story Press, 760 Bathurst St, Toronto, Ontario M5S 2R6, Canada. IN & BP.

Presswork: The Art of Women Printmakers is a finely produced and ethnically/racially diverse selection of work by 70 contemporary women artists with essays which place the images in an historical context and explain the processes used. Many illustrations are in color. $12.95 pb, 1-56466-011-7. Lang Communications, distributed by D.A.P./Distributed Art Publishers, 636 Broadway, RM 1208, NYC 10012.

D.A.P.'s extensive catalog has an impressive selection of reasonably priced books about women artists such as **Alice Neel: Exterior/Interior**, $17.50 pb, 1-880593-00-9; **Lee Krasner: Paintings from the Late 50s**, $10 pb, 0-944680-15-1; **Louise Bourgeois and the Nature of Abstraction**, $9.95 pb, 0-944680-27-5.

We'll Understand It Better By and By: Pioneering African American Gospel Composers, ed. by Bernice Johnson Reagon is definitive and includes music and photographs along with a compelling narrative. Highly recommended. $19.95 pb, 1-56098-167-9; $49.95 cl, -166-0. Smithsonian Institute Press.

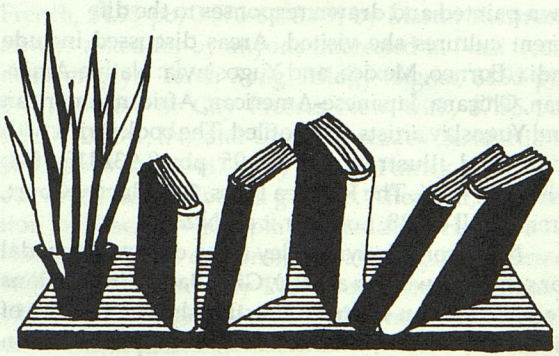
I know that all the feminist bookstores are already carrying **Dykes to Watch Out For: The Sequel** by the brilliant and hilarious cartoonist, Alison Bechdel, but I can't resist mentioning it for the sake of other bookstores who haven't yet learned what a hot item any book by her becomes. Although she lovingly satirizes the politically active lesbian community, the compelling characterizations and life-based plots make this book interesting to a wide range of buyers. $8.95 pb, 1-56341-008-7; $18.95 cl, -009-5. Firebrand. Distributed by IN.

Wimmin x 1 = past, present, future + future perfect/Wimmin x 1 + 2 = birthrite, liferite, deathrite + rebirthrite by contemporary artist Maria Epes documents eight elegant, nature/cycle/ritual-based art installations in which she explores feminist issues and future visions. Introduction by Arlene Raven. $18.95 pb, 0-9634350-0-0. Poythress Press, distributed by IN.

Julia Morgan: Architect of Dreams by Ginger Wadsworth is a biography covering the life (1872-1957) and 47-year career of a woman who "looked like a nobody" but designed more than 700 buildings, allowing her clients to determine what the building would look like. This is a delightful and highly readable story with many photos, some in color. Although recommended as juvenile literature, its serves adults as a good introduction to Morgan's work. $14.95 cl, 0-8225-4903-4. Lerner Publications.

Two Lives: a Conversation in Paintings and Photographs pairs the artwork of Georgia O'Keeffe with photographs by her husband and dealer, Alfred Stieglitz. Three essays (two by women) give divergent views of their relationship. Although expensive, this is an elegantly designed and produced book. $40 cl, 0-06-016895-1. HarperCollins/Callaway Editions.

Consuelo Kanaga: An American Photographer by Barbara Head Millstein and Sarah M. Lowe is a long needed study of Kanaga's (1894-1978) life and work. She is known for sensitive studies of African-Americans including Langston Hughes and Countee Cullen, portraits of artists including other women photographers, and images of the poor and disenfranchised. She was a friend of lesbian writer Barbara Deming and photographed members of the Quebec-Washington-Guantnamo Walk for Peace in 1964. The many photos are beautifully reproduced. $35 pb, 0-295-97228-9. University of Washington Press. ○



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SPRING AND SUMMER TITLES AT

ALYSON

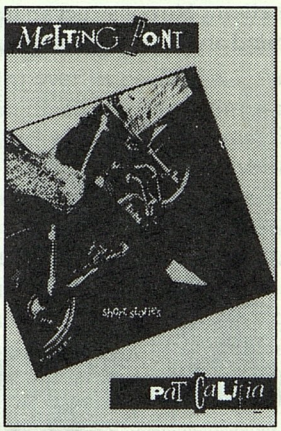
AFTERGLOW

More stories of lesbian desire

edited by Karen Barber

With the excitement of new love, the remembrances of past lovers, *Afterglow* offers more well-crafted, imaginative, sexy stories of lesbian desire in the best-selling tradition of *Bushfire.*

$8.95, trade paper • about 200 pages • ISBN 1-55583-315-2 • (July)



MELTING POINT

by Pat Califia

No other writer matches Pat Califia's ability to break through the walls that would limit lesbian sexuality. With her crisp prose, Califia uses these stories to flirt with taboos and to create images that will linger long in the imagination.

$9.95, trade paper • about 220 pages • ISBN 1-55583-162-1 • (May)

THE LESBIAN SEX BOOK

A guide for women who love women

by Wendy Caster

Informative, entertaining, and attractively illustrated, here is the lesbian sex guide for the nineties. Dealing not only with sex practices but also with related topics such as intimacy, nonmonogamy, health, and political correctness, *The Lesbian Sex Book* offers helpful advice for both the newly out and the eternally curious.

$14.95, large format trade paper • about 200 pages; illustrated • ISBN 1-55583-211-3 • (May)

Order from InBook/Inland, Bookpeople, or direct from the publisher. Selected Alyson titles are available from Ingram and Golden-Lee.

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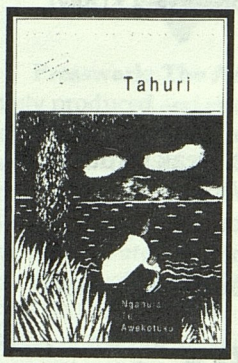
Spring Titles from Women's Press (Canada)

TAHURI

Ngahuia Te Awekotuku

Tahuri is a moving collection of short stories by Maori writer Ngahuia Te Awekotuku depicting the title character — Tahuri — and other young Maori girls coming of age in New Zealand. Tahuri is not interested in going with the boys, Tahuri likes watching the big girls, she likes watching the women dressed in men's clothes, and finally Tahuri likes Mirimiri, a young woman like herself.



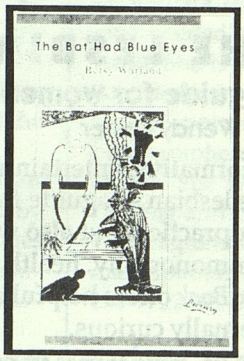
$11.95 pb
0-88961-183-1
Release Date:
March 1993

From the
International Connections Series

THE BAT HADBLUE EYES

Betsy Warland

In *The Bat Had Blue Eyes* poet Betsy Warland mines her memory for the secrets of her early years, the stories behind the one she knows. Her incisive skills delve beneath the surface of meaning, piercing the web of language which has buried a history of incest and sexual abuse deep in her psyche. This is a journey rich in sense, smell and texture, a poetic excavation where the writer's voice dominates the telling, probing and prodding the language that has constrained her, until it sets her free.



$11.95 pb
0-88961-184-X
Release date: May 1993

AND STILL WE RISE
Canadian Feminists Organizing For Change

Linda Carty

An incisive anthology of essays honouring women's organizing in Canada, with perspectives from both theoretical and activist levels. This collection is unique in its attempt to construct an integrated analysis of gender, race,

class and sexuality, as they are manifested in Canadian feminist organizing. Though this collection focuses primarily on Canada, its conclusions span many borders.

$17.95 pb 0-88961-177-7
Release date: May 1993

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FROM OUR OWN PRESSES

Compiled by Carol Seajay with the feminist presses

ASTARTE SHELL PRESS

Keep Simple Ceremonies, edited by Diane Eiker and Sapphire. This book is a collection of rituals created by the women of the Feminist Spiritual Community of Portland ME (of which Astarte Shell Press is an outgrowth) over its twelve year history. These rituals draw from the lives of the women of the Community and acknowledge the sacredness of their experiences. They tell our stories, break down our walls and encourage us to reach out to others to strengthen our lives and our world. $12.95 pb, 0-9624626-0204, April.

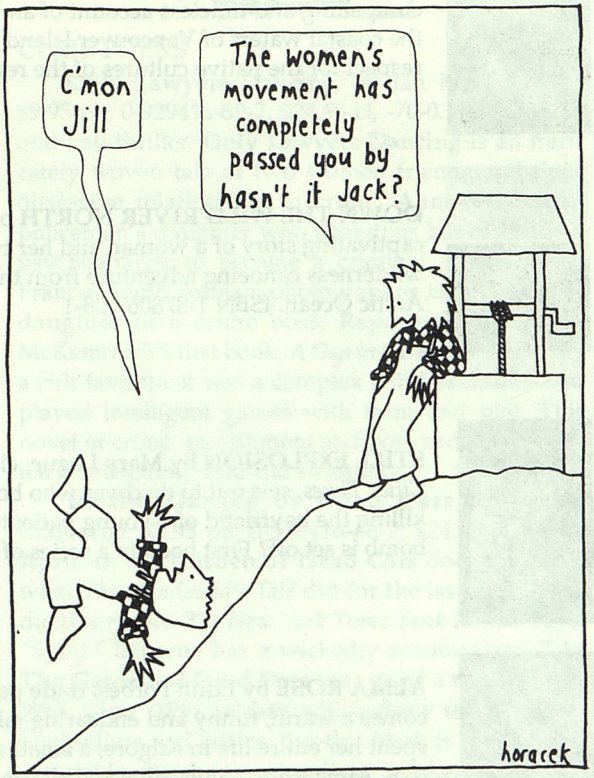
Death by Crystal by Agnes Bushell. The second in the series featuring the Maine-based lesbian feminist private detective team of Wilder and Wilson. A man has been killed with a large amethyst crystal in the studio of a gay artist and activist. Wilder and Wilson are hired to find evidence that will exonerate the studio owner. Their search leads them over southern Maine, unraveling the deceptions knit by drug cartels, drug enforcement agencies and Maine fishing people. A light, deftly written and well-plotted mystery set in the fog and rocks of the Maine coast. $8.95 pb, 0-9624626-5-9, May. Astarte Shell Press, P.O. Box 10453, Portland ME 04104. From Inland, Bookpeople, and New Leaf or by direct mail from Astarte Shell.

— *Astarte Shell*

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.



Judy Horacek, *Life On The Edge*, Spinifex.

AUNT LUTE BOOKS

The Unforgetting Heart: An Anthology of Short Stories by African American Women, 1859-1992, edited by Asha Kanwar, $9.95 pb, May, 1-879960-30-3. Aunt Lute is excited to be publishing a unique collec-

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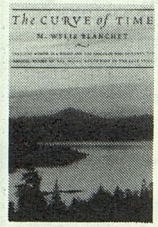
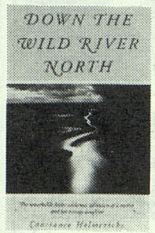
NEW THIS SPRING FROM SEAL PRESS

IN LOVE AND IN DANGER: A Teen's Guide to Breaking Free of Abusive Relationships by Barrie Levy, trade paperback, $8.95. Barrie Levy, editor of **Dating Violence**, speaks directly to teens on what constitutes abusive relationships — emotional, physical, and sexual — and how to break free of them. ISBN 1-878067-26-5



THE CURVE OF TIME by M. Wylie Blanchet, trade paperback, $12.95. This is a compelling and timeless account of an independent woman, who in the 1920's explored the coastal waters of Vancouver Island with her children and instilled in them a deep respect for the native cultures of the region and the natural world. ISBN 1-878067-27-3



DOWN THE WILD RIVER NORTH by Constance Helmericks, trade paperback, $12.95. A captivating story of a woman and her two teenage daughters who set off on a wilderness canoeing adventure from the rivers of the Canadian Rockies all the way to the Arctic Ocean. ISBN 1-878067-28-1

STILL EXPLOSION by Mary Logue, cloth, $18.95. Laura Malloy, a reporter for the *Twin Cities Times*, sets out to discover who bombed the Lakeview Family Planning Clinic — killing the boyfriend of a young patient. Can she discover the culprit before another deadly bomb is set off? First book in a series of Laura Malloy mysteries. ISBN 1-878067-29-X

ALMA ROSE by Edith Forbes, trade paperback, $10.95. From a gifted new storyteller comes a warm, funny and endearing tale of lesbian love off the beaten track. Pat Lloyd has spent her entire life in Kilgore, a small western town right off the interstate. When one day, Alma Rose, a vivacious and charming trucker, rumbles off the highway and into Pat's life, changing it forever. ISBN 1-878067-33-8

Seal Press 3131 Western Ave., Suite 410, Seattle WA 98121 (206) 283-7844. To order call *Publishers Group West* at (800) 788-3123 or order through *Inland, Bookpeople, Ingram* and *Baker and Taylor.*

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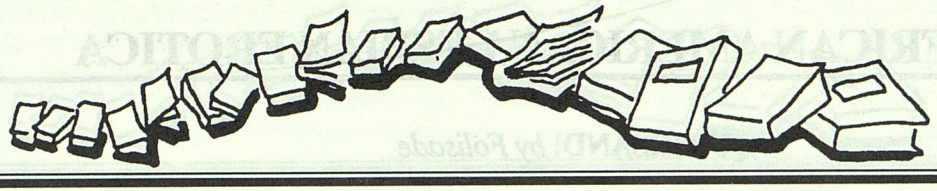


tion of beautifully crafted short stories by women that span a century and a half of African American literary tradition. Editor Asha Kanwar's introduction provides the historical background and context for the selection of stories by authors as varied as Alice Dunbar Nelson, Zora Neale Hurston, Toni Cade Bambara and Wanda Coleman. The famous and less well-known writers included celebrate the rich diversity of African-American women's writing across class, culture and time. The anthology includes stories that have long been unavailable as well as the strikingly contemporary. The breadth and quality of its contents make it a perfect crossover text valuable for classroom use, for pleasure reading, or for gift-giving. 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, and Small Press Distribution. — *Aunt Lute Books*

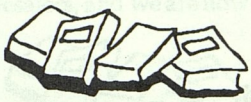
BLACK ANGELS PRESS

Quicksand!: African American Lesbian Erotica, poetry by Folisade, is the third book from this relatively new press. Their first book was a collection of poetry by African-American writer Abimbola Adama, Black Angels' publisher and editor. The second book was the *1992 Directory of African American Poets and Writers.*

Black Angels will focus on African-American poetry and there will definitely be more lesbian and lesbian erotic poetry in its future. Current plans include an anthology of African-American lesbian erotica, a *1993 Directory of African-American Poets, Writers, and Artists,* and a cassette tape of **Quicksand**. Watch FBN for details!

Quicksand! is a book of celebrations. Erotic, spiritual, loving celebrations written for lesbians who know they are blessed, as well as for those women who are struggling through uncertainty, fear, and denial to determine their identity. Delicious erotic poetry, celebrating the ways of a thrice-blessed African-American lesbian woman. $8. 64 pgs., perfect bound, 0-9629532-4-5. 40% discount. No distributors (yet!) Black Angels Press, PO Box 14785, Oakland CA 94614. We're working on a West Coast tour and would like to hear from stores that might be interested.

— *Black Angels Press*



CLEIS PRESS

Only Lawyers Dancing, by Jan McKemmish, $9.95 pb, 0-929416-69-7; $24.95 cl, -70-0. Both thriller and anti-thriller, **Only Lawyers Dancing** is an intricately woven tale of two women friends and their obsessive relationship to crime: Anne Stevens, a policeman's daughter who abandons her career as a psychoanalyst to become a criminal attorney, and Frances Smith, lesbian, photographer, café artist, and daughter of a crime boss. Reported *Vogue*: "Jan McKemmish's first book, *A Gap in the Records*, became a cult favorite: it was a complex political thriller that played intelligent games with form and plot. This novel of crime, punishment and postcards has a similarly intriguing style and substance.

In the Garden of Dead Cars, by Sybil Claiborne, $9.95 pb, 0-939416-66-2; $24.95 cl, -65-4, April. **In the Garden of Dead Cars** does for AIDS what *The Handmaid's Tale* did for the issue of reproductive rights. *The New York Times Book Review* says: "Sybil Claiborne has a wickedly accurate ear..." **In The Garden of Dead Cars** is as good a novel as *The Wall*, Cleis' 1991 release which drew the praise of booksellers and critics. But this book is much more accessible, much easier reading, quicker paced, etc. We expect it to be very easy for bookstore workers to sell. **In the Garden of Dead Cars** is a post-AIDS novel set in futuristic New York, a city beset by scarcities of every kind, a place of burnt-out buildings, abandoned streets and junk yards. A sexual plague has left all survivors terrified of human contact. Sex is a capital crime. In this postmodern Eden

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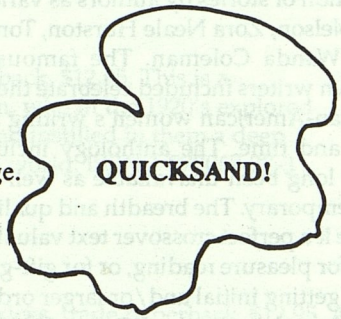
AFRICAN AMERICAN LESBIAN EROTICA

QUICKSAND! *by Folisade*

Finally, a new voice romances the Lesbian Erotic circle. Folisade, an African American lesbian, has written **QUICKSAND!** A hot, sassy collection of poetry that is guaranteed to rub you the right way in all the right places. She has sauteed each poem with love, lust, humor, and affection while garnishing them with respect. Treat yourself to this collection which celebrates and honors women.

Quicksand!
ISBN 0-9629532-4-5
64 pp 5 1/4 x 8 1/4 $ 8.00 list. 40 % store discount. Stores pay postage.



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510 536-0131

we meet a feminist physician who speaks of nothing but the past and her daughter, Emma, who dreams of real butter and rebuilt Subarus and is sick of hearing about life before the plague. **In The Garden of Dead Cars** is about the triumph of sensuality over fear which takes Emma on a journey both dangerously criminal and filled with self-discovery.

Madonnarama: Essays on Sex and Popular Culture, edited by Lisa Frank and Paul Smith, $9.95 pb, 0-939416-71-9; $24.95 cl, -72-7, May. **Madonnarama** is the hip, progressive, critically incisive version of the book everyone else is trying to do on Madonna, the most visible sexual icon in North America. Her exploitation of her own sexuality and that of gays, lesbians and bisexuals sparks ongoing controversy in both mainstream and alternative media. Everyone's got something to say about Madonna—both for and against—especially the stellar collections of critics, activists and artists who offer new assessments of the Madonna phenomenon in American culture. Susie Bright, Pat Califia, bellhooks, Douglas Crimp, Carol Queen, Michael Warner, Cathay Che, Andrew Ross and more! Lisa Frank is publicity director of Cleis Press and teaches multiculturalism and the politics of literacy. Paul Smith co-edited *Men in Feminism*. (You can count on Lisa Frank to do an especially good job of publicizing this title!)

Distributed by InBook. Booksellers may also order from Bookpeople, Ingram, Baker & Taylor, Bookslinger, and other wholesalers. Galleys and Reading copies are available from Felice Newman.

Cleis Press, PO Box 8933, Pittsburgh PA 15221. 412-937-1555; Fax 412-937-1567.

— Cleis Press

CLOTHESPIN FEVER PRESS

Gooseflesh, by Emma Morgan. $7.95 pb, 1-878533-06-1. This is the first book of poetry for this lesbian/feminist poet whose work has appeared in the journal *Bay Windows* and various anthologies. Her poems create a kind of mood that creeps in suddenly and unexpectedly.

Love Me Like You Mean It, by Leslea Newman. $8.95 pb, 1-878533-14-2. Reprint of a 1987 book of poetry originally published by Herbooks.

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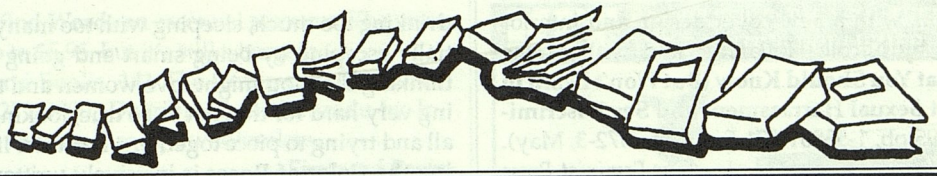

Smokescreen: A Mystery, by Lynette Prucha. $10.95 pb, 1-878533-01-0, May. An erotic lesbian mystery probing the dangers of counterfeit passions and the hard-boiled women who thrive on them. Mercedes Martini is lured into an intricate web of deception from downtown taxi-dancing joints to underground lesbian bars as she searches for her actress friend, Mona Lisa who has disappeared or perhaps been murdered.

Dirty Money, by Pele Plante. $9.95 pb, 1-878533-04-5, May. CC Scott turns her vacation into a murder investigation after discovering a dead body while beachcombing with her lover Barbara. This time it's not just murder but dirty money—an entire money-laundering operation and CC is in the middle of it.

Clothespin Fever Press, 655 Fourth Ave. Suite 34, San Diego CA 92101. 619-234-2656. Distributed by BP, IN and Bookslinger. — *Clothespin Fever Press*

EIGHTH MOUNTAIN PRESS

Between the Sea and Home: Winner of the 1992 Eighth Mountain Poetry Prize, by Almitra David. $10.95 pb, 0-933377-22-3, June. Linda Hogan selected this year's winner from amongst over 500 entries. She said: "This is a book that is vital and spare, intuitive. There is great momentum here; one line flows over into the next, one page is drawn further by the other. But what is beneath the language is even stronger, as if the words themselves are superimposed over a deep and mysterious reality. The poems are wide-ranging, crossing through different voices, times, places, and histories, and each one touches on something urgent." The Eighth Mountain Press, 624 SE 29th Avenue, Portland OR 97214. 503-233-3936. Distributed to the trade by Consortium Book Sales and Distribution; available also from Bookpeople, Bookslinger, Inland, Small Press Distribution, Pacific Pipeline, Airlift (UK and Europe) and Bulldog Books (Australia and New Zealand). — *Ruth Gundle*

THE FEMINIST PRESS AT CUNY

In case you haven't already heard, we're pleased to announce that we've moved to Consortium (1045 Westgate Drive, St. Paul MN 55114). Consortium is on PUBNET. We continue to be at Bookpeople, Ingram, and other wholesalers, and we are now back at Inland.

Our Spring books begin with two in our Cross-Cultural Memoir Series that follow the very successful *I Dwell in Possibility* by Toni McNaron and *Lion Woman's Legacy* by Arlene Voski Avakian. First, the silence-breaking memoir of Jo Sinclair (*The Changelings* and *Anna Teller*). **The Seasons: Death and Transfiguration** ($12.95 pb, 1-55861-057-X; $35 cl, -056-1, April) is the moving story of Sinclair's life-changing friendship with Helen Buchman, who, at a critical moment in Sinclair's life provided the young woman with a room of her own — and a farm in which to garden — that made it possible for her to write four novels in the next 15 years. Another memoir about the making of a writer, **Fault Lines** ($12.95 pb, 1-55861-059-6; $35 cl, -058-8), by poet and novelist Meena Alexander (*Nampally Road*) moves from India to Africa to Britain and the United States. The color line is as important as the sea of languages and cultures that the child and woman learn to navigate. Writing saves Alexander's life.

Many of you have praised the first volume of *Women Writing in India: 600 B.C. to the Early Twentieth Century*, edited by Susie Tharu and K. Lalita. "Only" two years later, and 112 pages larger, the second volume is now ready. **Women Writing in India: The Twentieth Century** ($29.95 pb, 1-55861-029-4; $59.95 cl, -028-6) contains a brilliant pantheon of fiction, poetry, memoir, and drama, none originally in English, from over 70 award-winning Indian writers.

Another book with a following, **Get Smart!** by Montana Katz and Veronica Vieland, will be issued in

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a new edition, with a new cover design and interior illustrations by Nicole Hollander, and with a new subtitle: **What You Should Know (But Won't Learn in Class) about Sexual Harrassment and Sex Discrimination** ($12.95 pb, 1-55861-071-5; $35 cl, -072-3, May).

— The Feminist Press

FIREBRAND BOOKS

The Black Back-Ups, poetry by Kate Rushin. $8.95 pb, 1-56341-025-7. Kate Rushin is one of women's bookstores' own. A collective member at New Words in Boston for many years, her poetry has been read and heard widely. **The Black Back-Ups** is her first book, however, and is long overdue. It is straightforward, accessible, idiomatic—in the author's African American storytelling tradition.

Restoring the Color of Roses, by Barrie Jean Borich. $9.95 pb, 1-56341-027-3, April. A book of creative nonfiction that is difficult to categorize but great to read. So here you are, an ordinary lower middle-class Catholic in a dysfunctional family in the '60s, drinking too much, sleeping with too many men, partially escaping by being smart and going to college, thinking that you might love women and then working very hard for that not to be true, looking back at it all and trying to piece together a healthier life. **Restoring the Color of Roses** is incisively written—no sentimentality, but great tenderness.

Stone Butch Blues, A novel by Leslie Feinborg. $10.95 pb, 1-56341-029-X. The best parts of editing books are to experience someone else's world intensely, to expand the limits of what you know, to be surprised. Working on **Stone Butch Blues** has been powerful in this way for me. As a lesbian who came out of a feminist community, the questions surrounding transgender people have always felt remote. Even grappling with butch-femme didn't prepare me. It's a gripping read, a sexy book, an eye-opener. I think it will sell big, and should.

Words to the Wise: A Writer's Guide to Feminist and Lesbian Periodicals & Publishers, by Andrea Fleck Clardy. $5.95 staplebound, 1-56341-032-X, April. **Words to the Wise** hardly needs an introduction. I'm delighted to be issuing the 4th edition (yellow cover this time). How exciting that there are so many women who

Madwoman Press

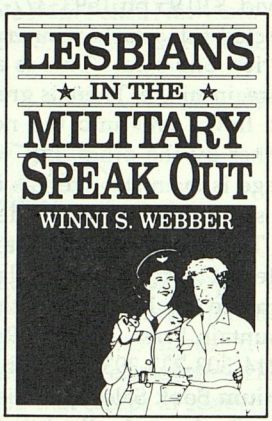
P.O. Box 690 • Northboro, MA 01532 • Phone: (508) 393-3447 • Fax: (508) 393-8305

BECKY BOHAN

Britt Evans, professor of classical studies, is visiting the remote Greek island of Santorini to do research at its archaeological excavation. But when a young photographer dies, powerful Greek and American authorities enlist Britt to find out what's going on. As the investigation intensifies, so do Britt's feelings for Cassie Burkhardt, a computer programmer at the dig. Britt and Cassie are drawn into a spiral of danger and intrigue...

ISBN 0-9630822-2-1 $9.95

WINNI S. WEBBER



More than thirty service women, representing all branches, talk about their experience as women and especially as lesbians in the military. They tell about living with the fear of discovery, the pain of being discharged because they were gay, the witch-hunts. Why they joined, why they stayed in, what they love and what they find intolerable about the military. Timely, personal stories.

ISBN 0-9630822-3-X $9.95

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continue to find **Words** an essential resource. The price has gone up to $5.95, but it's still a bargain.

Firebrand Books, 141 The Commons, Ithaca NY 14850. 607-272-0000. Distributed to the trade by In-Book and available through wholesalers.

— *Firebrand Books*

GYNERGY BOOKS

Gynergy will be releasing six titles for Fall '93 but is not publishing any titles for Spring '93.

HERBOOKS

Unleashing Feminism: Critiquing Lesbian Sadomasochism in the Gay Nineties; A Collection of Radical Feminist Writings. The argument over sadomasochism seems to have stalemated into "for" and "against," and the vast number of women who don't think it's worth all the fuss one way or the other anyway. These essays, poems, and short stories expand the scope of the discussion, and place it in the contemporary context of capitalism and consumerism, environmental degradation, and racist and sexist violence. They critique the very framing of the argument, and reach backwards into history and memory, to challenge and reaffirm feminism itself. Includes Irene Reti's "Remember the Fire: Lesbian Sadomasochism in a Post Nazi Holocaust World," out of print since 1990, and work by Pat Parker, Anna Livia, D.A. Clarke, Jamie Lee Evans and others. $9.95 pb, 0-939821-04-4, May.

40% discount 1-9 copies; 42% 10-24; 45% 25 or more. Okay to mix titles. HerBooks, PO Box 7467, Santa Cruz CA 95061. HerBooks are also available from Inland, Bookpeople, Bookslinger, Alamo Square, and the distributors.

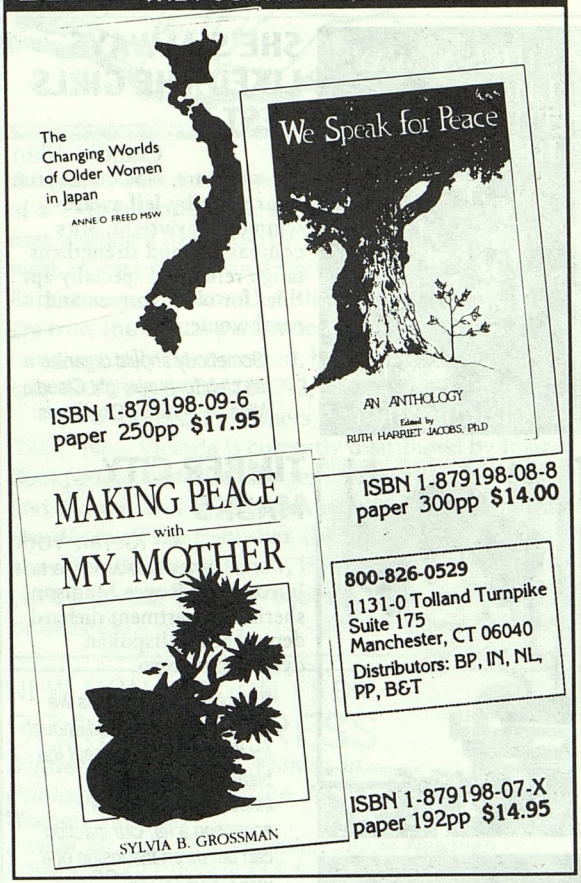
— *HerBooks*

MADWOMAN PRESS

Sinister Paradise by Becky Bohan is suspense/romance by a talented new writer. Britt Evans, professor of classical studies, is visiting the remote Greek island of Santorini to do research at its archaeological excavation. But when a young photographer dies, powerful Greek and American authorities enlist Britt to find out what's going on. As the investigation intensifies, so do Britt's feelings for Cassie Burkhardt, a computer programmer at the dig. Britt and Cassie are drawn into a spiral of danger and intrigue. $9.95 pb, 0-9630822-2-1, mid-March.

Lesbians in the Military Speak Out, written by an active-duty Army major under a pseudonym, is a timely collection of stories from more than thirty servicewomen who represent all branches: Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, and Coast Guard. They share their experiences as women and as lesbians in the military—the fear of discovery, the pain of being discharged because of sexual orientation, the witch-hunts, and the harassment, juxtaposed against their pride in serving their country. They tell readers why they joined, what they love and what they find intolerable. These are relevant, personal conversations. $9.95 pb, 0-9630822- 3-X, late March.

KiT KNOWLEDGE, IDEAS & TRENDS, INC.
THE POSITIVE PUBLISHER



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Lesbian ▲ Literature ▲ Lesbian

SHE'S ALWAYS LIKED THE GIRLS BEST

Claudia Allen

1-879427-11-7 FEBRUARY 1993 $11.95

Four plays by Jeff award-winning playwright. Stirs compassion and strengthens laugh reflexes. Especially apt roles for older women and rural women.

"Somebody should organize a fan club for playwright Claudia Allen." —Windy City Times

TIMBER CITY MASKS

Kieran York

1-879427-13-3 APRIL1993 $9.95

Introducing Royce Madison, sheriff's department diehard deputy and softspoken dyke-about-town.

"Unsolved crime means we haven't struggled hard enough for the truth. If we accept the blank page and tag an innocent person,we're accepting a lie. Our inaction can put us on the inside of a mask, looking out."
—Royce Madison

NEW BOOKS FOR SPRING!

***Confronting* CANCER, *Constructing* CHANGE**

Midge Stocker, editor

1-879427-09-5 MAY 1993 $11.95

Powerful essays confront myth about cancer, describing ways women are releasing fear and taking power from cancer.

Third Side Press

2250 W. Farragut, Chicago, IL 60625 312/271-3029

Madwoman Press, PO Box 690, Northboro MA 01532. 508-393-3447; Fax 508-393-8305. Madwoman titles are available through Inland, Bookpeople and Alamo Square Distributors. Order Direct: 40% 11- 25 books, 45% prepaid; 45% 26+ books, 50% prepaid. New bookstores: prepayment on first order, then net 30 days. — *Diane Benison*

NAIAD PRESS

On April 13 Naiad will release a tenth anniversary edition of **Curious Wine**. The new edition will sport a new cover by Catherine Hopkins that's a take-off on the old cover that features trees on the ski slopes above Lake Tahoe where the novel is set. Naiad will do a press run of 25,000 copies of the new edition for a total of 125,000 copies in print. Interestingly enough, **Curious Wine**'s sales have held steady at about 10,000 copies per year. It has been on Naiad's top ten list every year since it was published. Note new price and ISBN: $9.95 pb, 1-56280-053-1.

Your customers will cheer spring when they see three outstanding entries from authors of proven popularity, plus a most unusual first novel. Catherine Ennis' audience appeal will soar with the return of crime lab expert Bernie Hebert (*Clearwater*), an authentic lesbian in a believable suspenseful tale set in the atmospheric cajun country of Louisiana. Bernie's investigation into a deadly cholera contamination in the state's fishing industry, along with long-time partner Vi's indecision about their relationship, plus an alluring woman who is more than willing to distract Bernie from her anxieties, makes **Chautauqua!** entertaining reading. $9.95 pb, 1-56280-032-9.

Pat Welch's celebrated Berkeley private eye Helen Black finds herself in a veritable jar full of pickles in this fourth entry in a highly successful series that gets better with each book. Among other complications, Helen's client, brought to Helen by ex-partner Frieda, is Frieda's new young lover...And the homicide victim's family, led by a fierce matriarch, is using its powerful political connections to muzzle publicity and Helen's investigation. **A Proper Burial** is a sure bestseller. $9.95 pb, 1-56280-033-7.

And speaking of best sellers, Claire McNab's *Under the Southern Cross* and Jennifer Fulton's *Passion Bay* were

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our two biggest sellers of last year. We expect no less for Fulton's **Saving Grace**, with the same spectacular south seas as the setting for corporate skullduggery, a plane crash, and torrid romance. Stock up—word of mouth will send this super-charged erotic adventure flying off your shelves. $9.95 pb, 1-56280-051-1.

"One minute Connie Chung was smiling her elegant understated smile and promising to be back in a moment, and then the TV went out..." No novel in the science fiction category crosses over to all audiences like one set in a post-holocaust-world, and Molleen Zanger's highly unusual tale of a small band of female survivors will be no exception. You can recommend this distinctive and absorbing tale of life in **The Year Seven** to readers of any persuasion. $9.95 pb, 1-56280-034-5.

Naiad Press, PO Box 10543, Tallahassee, FL 32302, IN, BP, et al. — *Naiad Press*

NEW VICTORIA PUBLISHERS

Tell Me What You Like represents a new and rather controversial area for New Victoria. Being pretty vanilla women ourselves, we realized that we held certain prejudices against the leather scene. We found the manuscript interesting because it challenged some of these prejudices. We were particularly judgmental about women who sold sex for a living and and yet found Stacy, the dominatrix in the book, a sympathetic character. We felt that this would be a stimulating addition to the debate about S&M. We also felt to be quite honest, that hot sex sells, and are not above giving the lesbian public what it likes. $9.95 pb, 0-934678-48-0, April.

The decision to publish **Hers Was the Sky** was not too difficult because the author works for New Victoria and has written two earlier books, *Runway at Eland Springs*, and *In Unlikely Places*. Her writing is intelligent and always introduces the reader to times and places not often covered in lesbian fiction. All of them are based on real events in history. This one tells of a long-forgotten, yet at the time major event, the first women's flying derby in 1929. The women flew west to east from San Diego to Cleveland (Amelia Earhart came in second). Although many of the events are true, the sexual preference of the participants was never actually documented, but we can enjoy the fantasy. $8.95 pb, 0-934678-47-2, May.

New Victoria Publishers, PO Box 27, Norwich VT 05055. New Victoria is currently distributed by Inland, Bookpeople and Bookslinger, Airlift in Great Britain and Europe, and Stilone in Australia, or you can order directly from the publisher. (NOTE: New Victoria will be with InBook as of June 1, 1993) Terms: 25% 2-5 books (40% prepaid); 40% 6-25 books (45% prepaid); 45% 26 or more (50% prepaid). — *New Victoria Publishers*

NEW NON-FICTION FROM
SCARLET PRESS
Winner of the 1992 Women in Publishing New Venture Award

Women Talk Sex
Pearlie McNeill, Bea Freeman, Jenny Newman
ISBN 1 86727 000 2 $15.50
"Sheer pleasure. I'm glad to have this book as a companion." *Shere Hite*

Because You Want To Write
Pearlie McNeill
ISBN 1 85727 030 4 $17.95
"An illuminating mix of textbook and common-sense approach to creative writing." *Pink Paper*

Lesbians Talk Queer Notions
Cherry Smyth
ISBN 1 85727 025 8 $8.50
"Something for everyone to ponder... a lively start to what promises to be a lively series." *Time Out*

Lesbians Talk (Safer) Sex
Sue O'Sullivan and Pratibha Parmar
ISBN 1 85727 020 7 $8.50
"A thoughtful and thorough contribution." *Time Out*

"One of the highlights of 1992 in women's publishing." *The Bookseller*

Available through Inland Books

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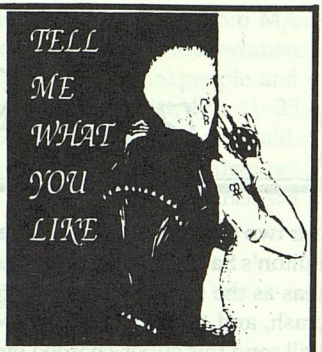
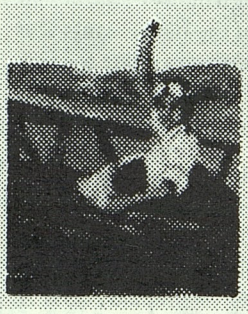
NEW TITLES from NEW VICTORIA

TELL ME WHAT YOU LIKE by Kate Allen



Alison Kaine, a lesbian cop, enters the world of leather-dykes after a woman is murdered outside a Denver women's bar. Alison is fascinated by but wary of her attraction to one of the prime suspects, a domanatrix who sells sex for a living. How can she be falling for a woman whose sex games may have led to murder?
Kate Allen doesn't back down from the sensitive issues of S&M, queer-bashers and women-identified sex workers. **$9.95** ISBN0-934678-48-0



HERS WAS THE SKY by ReBecca Béguin

This blend of historical fiction and mystery is based on the first women's flying Derby in 1929. Hazel Preston, her lover Jo and other top women pilots of the day battle engine troubles, mysterious accidents, and even death as they race across country, determined to earn their place as pioneers in the field of aviation. To further complicate matters, Hazel falls for the mysterious photographer,Vera, who may be involved in a dangerous scheme that threatens the very race itself **$8.95** ISBN 0-934678-47-2

New Victoria Publishers PO Box 27, Norwich, VT 05055 (802)649-5297 – Inland, Bookpeople, Bookslinger

PARADIGM PUBLISHING

Empath, by Michael B. Holloway. This is Paradigm's first gay male fiction release. We are excited about the opportunity to release a book that deals with AIDS and has a happy ending. The main character, Bradley Halloran, who possesses a unique genetic gift is dropped into a turbulent chain of events revealing cover-up and industrial politics by a huge pharmaceutical corporation. Brad channels his supernatural abilities in the fight against AIDS, supported by a host of unique characters including his best friend, a wonderful lesbian protagonist. If you enjoy suspense, murder mysteries, political thrillers, or science fiction, **Empath** will keep you intrigued and entertained. Booksellers will appreciate that the cover alone will sell this book, but don't miss the incredible story inside. $10.95 pb, 0-9628595-7-5, May.

Storm Shelter, by Linda Kay Silva. This is the one you have all been asking about...Officer Delta Stevens is back in the long awaited sequel to *Taken By Storm*. The author and her character need no introduction to those of you who have sold so many of her books. In **Storm Shelter** Delta uses every bit of her courage and determination to capture one of the most intelligent and insane criminal minds in the country. Delta and her best friend Connie Rivera once again join together in a deadly race against time. Only now, they must enter the complex world of computer games in order to solve the mystery before their antagonist can strike again, with Connie slated as the final victim. Linda Kay Silva's *Taken By Storm* received rave reviews with the *East Bay Alternative* proclaiming it a book "not to be missed!" In **Storm Shelter**, she has done it again! $10.95 pb, 0-9628595-8-3, May.

Paradigm Publishing Company, PO Box 3877, San Diego CA 92163. 619-234-7115; Fax 619-234-2607. Direct orders welcome (contact us for discount schedule). Also available from Inland, Bookpeople, Bookslinger, and New Leaf. — *Paradigm Publishing*

RISING TIDE

Rising Tide Press will have five new fiction titles published in time for ABA. **Love Spell** by Karen Williams, who mixes the romance and magical realism genres very well and **Corners of the Heart** by Leslie Gray who mixes romance and mystery su-

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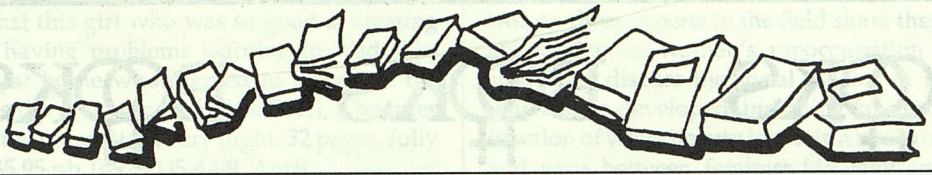

perbly should be out by the time you read this. **Isis Rising**, Jean Stewart's sequel to *Return to Isis*, which has received wonderful reviews, will be off press by May 1. The other two books I'm going to keep a secret for the time being. We are looking for writers with good manuscripts. We would like to publish 10-15 books a year. All that stops us is the lack of good manuscripts.

Rising Tide Press, 5 Kivy St., Huntington Station NY 11746. — *Rising Tide*

SEAL PRESS

In Love and In Danger by Barrie Levy. Seal is proud to publish the second book by Barrie Levy, editor of *Dating Violence: Young Women in Danger*. Levy speaks directly to teens on what constitutes abusive relationships — emotional, physical, and sexual — and how to break free of them. Interwoven with stories from teens are helpful advice and checklists that will give teens the courage to end the cycle of abuse and forge healthy relationships. $8.95pb, 1-878067-26-5.

The Curve of Time by M. Wylie Blanchet. First published in Canada in 1961, we are delighted to bring this classic book to readers in the U.S. **The Curve of Time** is a lyrical and timeless account of an independent woman who, in the 1920's, packed her five children onto a 25-foot boat and explored the coastal waters of Vancouver Island. Acting single-handedly as skipper, navigator, engineer, and of course, mother, Muriel Wylie Blanchet instilled in her children a deep respect for the Native cultures of the region and the rhythms of nature. $12.95 pb, 1-878067-27-3, April.

Down the Wild River North by Constance Helmericks. As part of our series on women in sports and the outdoors, we are releasing a new edition of **Down the Wild River North**, first published by Bergamot Books in 1989. This is the unforgettable account of a single mother who took her two teenage daughters on a canoe trip from the Canadian Rockies to the Arctic Ocean in the 1960s. In remote wilderness they navigated rapids and floating tree jams on the often flooded rivers, all with high spirits and a great sense of adventure. $12.95 pb, 1-878067-28-1, April.

Still Explosion by Mary Logue. The first in a series of mysteries featuring savvy journalist Laura Malloy, this gripping tale of murder is right out of today's headlines. When Malloy, a reporter for the *Twin Cities Times*, sets out to write a story on abortion, she doesn't stop to think about the consequences. But when the Lakeview Family Planning Clinic is bombed the morning of her meeting with the director, she realizes she has more than a routine story on her hands. Can she discover the culprit before another deadly bomb is set off? $18.95 cl, 1-878067-29-X, May.

Alma Rose by Edith Forbes. This debut novel is one of our favorites — a funny and endearing tale of lesbian love off the beaten track. Ursula LeGuin says this about Edith Forbes's enchanting first book: "Barbara Kingsolver, Judith Freeman, Deirdre McNamer, now Edith Forbes; the little lonesome towns of the Far West are finding their chroniclers at last...In a beautifully dry, laconic voice Pat Lloyd, the grocer of Kilgore, tells us about herself and her town and her true love, the trucker Alma Rose." $10.95 pb, 1-878067-33-8, June.

Seal Press Feminist Publishers, 3131 Western Ave. Suite 410, Seattle WA 98121; 206-283-7844. Distributed by Publishers Group West, Inland and Bookpeople; in Canada by Raincoast Book Distribution and in Europe by Airlift Book Co. — *Seal Press*

SECOND STORY PRESS

Hattie Pearl Click Click, by Emily Hearn, illustrated by Yvonne Cathcart. This is a wonderful story told in flashback for any child, ages 6-9 who has a problem with reading. Today, Janey is an adult writer who uses a computer to help children who also like to write. As a child she made up wonderful fantasies that carried her on a magic carpet to anywhere her imagination would allow. But what most people didn't

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BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS

Mega by B. L. Holmes. Charged with saving the Earth from further destruction, a group of psychics and scientists enlist the aid of lesbian Kerek Leight to help them in their task. This science fiction novel is set against a future of giant cities and vast pollution. (Finalist in 1992 Lambda Literary Awards science fiction category.) ISBN 0-941300-19-6 Paper $8.95

Hodag Winter by Deborah Wiese. A first grade teacher is fired because she is a lesbian. She and her lover and friends fight back. ISBN 0-941300-18-8 Paper $8.95

Singin' the Sun Up by Ocala Wings. Communicating with dolphins gives this lesbian love story a New Age twist. ISBN 0-941300-20-X Paper $8.95

NEWS by Heather Conrad is a gripping novel of a women's computer takeover to make the empire builders and the money makers stop destroying the people and the earth. ISBN 0-941300-04-8 Paper $9.95

Night Lights by Bonnie Shrewsbury Arthur. More than your traditional lesbian romance, this novel tackles various issues—with a light touch that will make you laugh out loud. ISBN 0-941300-05-6 Paper $8.95

Rowdy & Laughing by B. L. Holmes. She's not gay, she's rowdy and laughing. Poems encompass the joy of life and being in love. ISBN 0-941300-06-4 Paper $4.95

Senior Citizen by B. L. Holmes. A musical comedy, this funny and touching play explores the dual themes of rejection of the aged and gays/lesbians. ISBN 0-941300-22-6 Paper $8.95

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know was that this girl who was so good at creating stories was having problems learning to read. The only person at home who seemed to recognize the problem was the effervescent Hattie Pearl, a boarder who helped the youngster every night. 32 pages, fully illustrated. $5.95 pb, 0-929005-44-9, April.

The Woman's Daybook 1994, featuring photographs by women on the theme "Sister/s." According to a major wholesaler of calendars **The Women's Daybook** is one of the very few whose sales are increasing significantly. We are also very pleased to note that *Ms. Magazine* looks like it will be featuring it as a premium this fall so it will be advertised there throughout the buying season. The fifth edition of the **Women's Daybook** celebrates "Sister/s." Contemporary women photographers introduce each month of the year with a photograph and text that explores the many diverse and wonderful ways women sister each other. Double page weekly spreads follow, including hour by hour schedules and extra notations space. A telephone and address directory is also included in this large format daybook which elegantly organizes the lives of all busy women. $14.95 pb, spiral bound, 0-929005-43-0, July.

Adoption Reunions: A Book for Adoptees, Birth Parents and Adoptive Families, by Michelle McColm. In this positive and practical guide, McColm who has written extensively about all aspects of adoption reunions, takes the adoptee and birth parent carefully through the process from the initial search decision to coping with post-reunion letdown. She draws on extensive interviews with adoptees, birth parents, and adoptive parents, as well as the experience of her own reunion. The words of those who have been there reveal the dizzying array of emotions that come with reunions and offer insights into coping with them. Through each step of the process McColm provides cogent advice on what to expect, how to prepare for it, and how to move forward. $15.95 pb, 0-929005-41-4, April.

Consuming Passions: Feminist Approaches To Eating Disorders and Weight Preoccupation, edited by Catrina Brown and Karin Jasper. This is the first practical book on the subject. In this collection, twenty-three experts in the field share their extensive knowledge on women's preoccupation with body size. They discuss the social context in which these issues have developed, including fat oppression, the function of white beauty ideals in a multiracial society, and gaps between feminist ideology and personal experience. They discuss strategies for family, group, and individual work, as well as work in institutional settings and community education initiatives. $16.95 pb, 0-929005-42-2, May.

The Y Chromosome, by Leona Gom. Taut and gripping—a highly acclaimed futuristic novel—**The Y Chromosome** examines the relations and value system of a society of women. This is a world where the few men still alive are in hiding, socialized early in life to regard themselves as inferior. The critics have said it's "sheer dynamite" with a "brilliant narrative," "compellingly written" and "deserves to be as widely discussed as Margaret Atwood's *Handmaid's Tale*." $14.95 pb, 0-929005-16-3.

Second Story Press, 760 Bathurst Street, Toronto M5S 2R6, is represented by InBook. — *Second Story*

SPINIFEX PRESS

If Passion Were a Flower, photographs by Lariane Fonseca. $59.95 cl, 1-875559-06-X. **If Passion Were a Flower**, photographs by Lariane Fonseca is a book that will take your breath away. If you can imagine what Georgia O'Keefe would see standing with her nose to a flower, or what Virginia Woolfe saw when writing the first paragraph of her short story, "Kew Gardens," then you'll have an idea what Lariane Fonseca sees through her camera lens. If you can't imagine it, then order it and open it with a group of women friends (or customers)—you'll hear their responses. We oversaw the printing of the book in Hong Kong so that we could ensure the colours would come up right. Reviewers have responded well to the book, and some have called it a bargain.

Life on the Edge, cartoons by Judy Horacek, introduced by Dale Spender. $12.95 pb, 1-875559-11-6. Judy Horacek has made thousands of people laugh over Christmas in Australia. That's because thousands bought it for their friends. Our best seller, the

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humor in Judy's cartoons span continents, cultures and ages. She will make you laugh as a feminist about issues around race, ecology, capitalism, postmodernism, power dressing, menopause and much else besides. Dale Spender's insightful introduction gets you thinking, Judy Horacek's cartoons get you laughing.

Perverse Serenity, poems by Robyn Rowland. $12.95 pb, 1-875559-13-2. What happens when a feminist falls in love with an Irish monk? Robyn Rowland, well known for her critical work on reproductive technologies, has written an extraordinary collection of poems, that is at once riveting story and exceptionally fine poetry. She writes about love, loss, about the complexities of distance and desire.

The Spinfex Quiz Book: A Book of Women's Answer's, Susan Hawthorne. $11.95 pb, 1-875559-15-9, May. Have you ever wanted to know who invented the wheel? the computer? or hieroglyphics? Have you been frustrated by not knowing the names of outstanding women and what they achieved? A book that's been recommended highly in the US, Germany and Australia for high schools, **The Spinfex Quiz Book** gives lots of information on women from around the world. Now in its second edition, it also has an extensive index.

Spinifex Press, 504 Queensberry Street, PO Box 212, North Melbourne Vic 3051, Australia. Tel: 61-3-329-6088; Note new fax no. 61-3-329-9238. Spinifex Press titles are distributed in the U.S. by Inland and Bookpeople. — *Susan Hawthorne*

SPINSTERS INK

Final Rest by Mary Morell (you know, she and Anne Frost run Full Circle Bookstore in Albuquerque) is the second much awaited mystery with detective Lucia Ramos. This time we find Lucia flying to Alabama with her lover Amy Traeger. She's engaged in some off-duty sleuthing because Amy's Aunt Meg has been arrested for murder in the poisoning death of a neighbor. It soon develops that just about everybody in Aunt Meg's retirement community could have had a motive for doing away with the unlamented Loretta Millett. But it's up to Lucia and Amy to uncover the truth because the local sheriff is convinced that Aunt Meg had the motive, the means and the opportunity. We think if you liked *Final Session* (Mary's first novel which also won Spinster's 1990 Lesbian Fiction Contest) then you'll like this book even more. $9.95 pb, 0-933216-94-7, April.

Nell Fury is back in **The Solitary Twist** by Elizabeth Pincus. Nell meets Christa Lovett on a flight back to San Francisco. Christa is concerned about the impending marriage of her ex-lover, Ellen Norway, and asks Nell to do a background check on the prospective bridegroom to assure her that he's on the up and up. Ever the sucker for a damsel in distress, or in this case, the distressed damsel, Nell agrees. When Ellen is kidnapped, and Christa subsequently disappears, it be-

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comes obvious that nobody is quite who they seem. Nell's love interest Tammie Rae, best friend Phoebe, and daughter Pinky all give Nell a hand in untangling the twisted threads of this plot. We especially like Nell because Elizabeth Pincus' past experience as a former private investigator offers authenticity and believability to Nell's daring antics. $9.95 pb, 0-933216-93-9, May.

Madeline Moore's first novel, **As You Desire**, was selected as this year's winner of Spinsters' Lesbian Fiction Contest. Judge Sandy Boucher said, "This beautiful novel...resonates with wisdom. Madeline Moore's prose never falters in its graceful, brave poetic strength...Rich with surprising imagery, rooted in irony, **As You Desire** recalls the best lesbian writing of Paris in the Thirties." This story of personal healing set in Paris during the student revolutions of the late 60's is courageous and thoughtful. We found it to be stunning as an intimate revelation of one woman's journey from pain to peace. $9.95 pb, 0-933216-95-5, April.

Spinsters Ink, PO Box 300170, Minneapolis MN 55403. 612-377-0287; Fax 612-377-1759. Distributed by InBook. Also available from Inland, BP, Ingram, B&T.

— Mev Miller

THIRD SIDE PRESS

Timber City Masks: A Royce Madison Mystery, by Kieran York ($9.95 pb, 1-879427-13-3) features a few dykes who aren't about to leave Colorado! Royce Madison, deputy sheriff, explores the limits of racism, family loyalty, and sexuality as she tries to find her father's murderer.

Confronting Cancer, Constructing Change: New Perspectives on Women and Cancer ($10.95 pb, 1-879427-09-5; $24.95 cl, -17-6), Volume 2 of the Women/Cancer/Fear/Power series, edited by Midge Stocker, with an introduction by Sandra Butler, confront myths about cancer and describe how women are releasing fear and taking power from cancer, exploring alternative therapies and approaches to traditional therapies, and establishing grassroots women's cancer activist organizations.

Enter Password: Recovery, by Elly Bulkin. $7.95 pb, 1-879427-10-9. This book originally issued by Turtle Press is hard to sell and very important. If you shelve it in Recovery, it gets lost because childhood sexual abuse is only one topic among many. Try it with Autobiography, Journals (or Writing), Jewish Studies, or Sexual Abuse. And remember it the next time you hear trashing going on in your community—it's a good antidote, or balm.

She's Always Liked the Girls Best: Lesbian Plays, by Claudia Allen. $11.95 pb, 1-879427-11-7. An entertaining, easy-to-read, funny, and meaningful collection of plays. Playwright Claudia Allen is the only woman (so far) to win a Joseph Jefferson Award (Chicago theater's equivalent of an Oscar) and she's won two!

Third Side Press, 2250 W. Farragut, Chicago IL 60625. 312-271-3029; Fax 312-271-0459. Please order quantities of 20+ directly (40% discount & free freight; 43% on 60+; mixed titles OK). Otherwise, please use our distributors: Bookpeople, Bookslinger, Inland, New Leaf.

— Third Side Press

WELL VERSED PUBLICATIONS

Only Mountains Never Meet, short fiction by Nancy Chong, Martha Kofie, Kwanza Msingwana. 1-895248-05-1, June. Toronto in the 1990s is a meeting place for writers from all over the world. **Only Mountains Never Meet** is the result of a collaboration of three talented just-starting-to-be-published authors. In reading this collection of short "creative non-fiction," the reader is ricocheted from urban and rural

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FEMINISTS FOR ANIMAL RIGHTS NEWSLETTER

Articles making the connections between women and animals in patriarchal society: Abortion Rights and Animal Rights; AIDS and Animal Research; Pornography and Hunting; Women Workers in the Poultry Industry; Women, Food and the Vegetarian Connection; Snake Oppression; etc., plus poetry, reviews, direct action news, resources and much, much more.

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— Maureen Fitzgerald

WOMAN IN THE MOON PUBLICATIONS

Dykehands and Sutras Erotic and Lyric, is a vibrant reprint of the erotic poetry and social-personal essays of SDiane Bogus. A WIM bestseller. Includes "Making Whoopi," "Michael Jackson," "After the Kiss," and "Miss Agatha" with a revised version of the autobiographical essay entitled "To My Mother's Vision." Called "a lesbian classic" by *Small Press Review*. $12 pb, 0-934-172-01-3. Also available: *S.E.X.*, the companion audio cassette ($10) of selected erotic poems. ($3 off with mention of FBN or our ad.)

Eye of the Wind is the third collection of political and social poems by Oregon poet MaryJane Brewster. The collection continues Brewster's strident attack on racism and the American government. She pleads for love, compassion, and action by the ordinary citizen. Readable and passionate, it reveals the poet's true commitment to human dignity and integrity in this country and in the world. $8 pb, 0-934-172-27-7.

The Book of Lives introduces New York poet Sherrilyn Posey's first published collection of work. It features themes common to the street and to the academy. This is living poetry written about the lives of women, workers, children, AIDS victims, and the homeless. The work has the flavor of a speech by Sojourner Truth, the down-home insight of Gwendolyn Brooks, and the quickness of a Nikki Giovanni piece. Welcome her to your library. $8 pb, 0-934-172-26-9.

Buddhism for My Friends by SDiane Bogus offers a candid, satiric, and useful look at Sokka Buddhism (formerly Nicherin Shoshu of America) via a lesbian-feminist and Black perspective. Includes personal essays on such topics as reincarnation, homo-

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sexuality, Christianity versus Buddhism, and patriarchal rule in a diary of the practice, selected critical reviews with commentary on other sects and contemporary ideas. A common sense and pleasantly biased practicum for chanting to get what one wants out of life and to heal the soul while building the self. $20, 0-934-172-25-0, June.

Woman in the Moon, is an expanded reprint of the second of the seven-book Bogus Canon. A must have. Includes "Lady Godiva," "Miss Brown" and other favorite poems from her performance readings. $8 pb, 0-934-172-01-3. Also available in a case edition, $12.

All WIM titles are on sale through August 22. $2.50 off with mention of FBN or ad from this issue of FBN. Women in the Moon Publications, 10203 Parkwood Dr. #7, Cupertino CA 95014. Distributed by Inland and Bookslinger. — *Woman in the Moon*

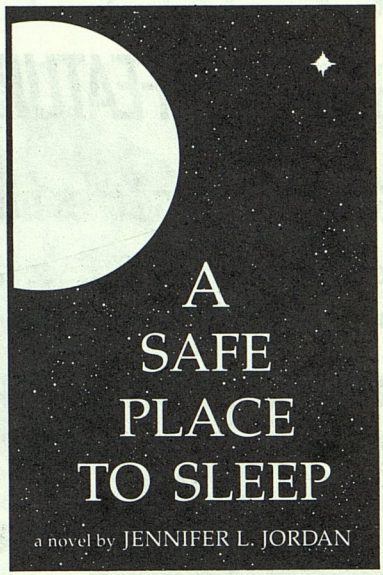
THE WOMEN'S PRESS/CANADA

Tahuri is a moving collection of short stories by Maori writer Ngahuia Te Awekotuku depicting the title character—Tahuri—and other young Maori girls coming of age in New Zealand. These young women move from the security of childhood with their Kuia (grandmothers) and their Aunties into encounters with cousins, brothers, neighbors and *pakehas* from school. For Tahuri herself, there is another journey. Tahuri is not interested in going with the boys. Tahuri likes watching the big girls, she likes watching the women dressed in men's clothes, and finally Tahuri likes Mirimiri, a young woman like herself. $11.95 pb, 0-88961-183-1.

The best-selling children's picturebook **Come Sit By Me** is now available in a full-colour poster. Heather Collins' lively illustrations provide children, parents, and educators with important information on how you cannot get HIV and AIDS. This poster will go a long way to dispel the myths around HIV and AIDS. $5, 23 X 15 1/2, 0-88961-185.

Women's Press, 517 College Street, # 233, Toronto ONT, M6G 4A2. Distributors: University of Toronto Press (Canada); Inland, Bookpeople, Bookslinger (USA); Turnaround Distribution (Europe and U.K.) ○

Lesbian Fiction/Mystery



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Clarissa Pinkola Estes, $18.95, 2 cass., 1-56455-082-6

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FROM THE SMALL PRESSES

By Ann Morse and Karen Carnival

The Berkeley, CA-based Ulysses Press has joined with Virago to launch the inspiring Virago Woman's Travel Guides series, which includes **New York: The Virago Woman's Travel Guide** by Josie Barnard ($13.95 pb, 0-915233-88-6), **Paris...** by Catherine Cullen ($13.95 pb, -89-4) and **Rome...** by Ros Belford ($13.95 pb, -90-8). Each woman-centered guide includes a wealth of information on hotels, restaurants, entertainment, sightseeing, day trips, safety, health, language, feminism, history and much more. Written with a sense of humor, lots of specifics and joyously free of much of the patronizing jargon of many women's travel books (there's not one suggestion on how to pack your suitcase or how many pairs of high heel shoes to take). The guides are easy to use and include plenty of maps. Aimed at women traveling alone, women traveling with other women or children, and at businesswomen. Lesbian inclusive. Ulysses Press, PO Box 3440, Berkeley CA 94703. Publisher's Group West along with BP, IN, Ingram, Baker & Taylor, Brodar, Quality Books, Pacific Pipeline and in Canada, Raincoast.

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.

Boat of Stone by Maureen Earl is a Holocaust novel based on the true story of the passengers aboard the *SS Atlantic* in 1940 — Jewish refugees seeking a safe haven from the horrors of their Nazi-occupied home. Hanna Sommerfield, the "plucky, cantankerous, septugenarian widow" who is the fictional narrator, is described as "a Tel Aviv grandmother who remembers." Sentimental but illuminating. $21.95 pb, 1-877946-21-4. Permanent Press, Noyac Road, Sag Harbor NY 11963. 40% 5 - 24; 50% 25+. BP, IN.

Paula Clayton

We were delighted to come across **Kitchen Talk: Contemporary Women's Prose and Poetry**, an engrossing collection of writings from and about the kitchen by a wide variety of Canadian women. As Edna Alford comments in the introduction, kitchens — too often devalued and trivialized — are the "sites of significant human experience — celebration, damnation and everything in between....All of them alive with the heat of the words of women." Edited by Edna Alford and Claire Harris. $15.95 pb, 0-88995-091-1. Red Deer College Press, 56 Ave. & 32 St., Box 5005, Red Deer ALB Canada T4N 5H5. Distributed by Raincoast Books.

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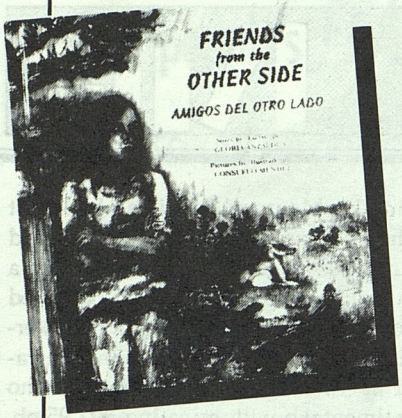

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FBN's review of Georgia Savage's *The House Tibet* began, "If you have time to read, order or buy only one of the books mentioned in this column, make it [this one]." So it was with great enthusiasm that we approached **The Estuary**, the second of the Australian writer's novels to be published in the U.S. We wanted to like it, and indeed, there is much to like. **The Estuary** gives us another engaging heroine — adult this time — who hasn't had an easy childhood and who loses the peace (and identity) she's found as an adult when her husband dies unexpectedly and then, for all practical purposes, loses her relationship with her daughter while still consumed with grief. As readers, we followed Vinnie's search for an independent identity with interest and a familiar sympathy. But Savage tosses that sympathy to the wind in the last few chapters, first by turning the feminist character into a scapegoat and then with an unnecessary trivialization of the heroine's sexual experience with another woman (with a line that undoubtedly scores big with male reviewers). Ultimately the novel fails by "resolving" Vinnie's identity quest by giving her relationships with — you guessed it — a man and a child. If identity and relationship were the same thing, *The Feminine Mystique* would never have been written and the women's movement probably wouldn't have happened. Perhaps these problems would be less troubling had the feminist in *The House Tibet* not also been a write-off. $20 cl, 1-55597-172-5, April. Graywolf.

The Body in Four Parts is Janet Kauffman's allegorical, non-linear exploration of nature, humanity, language and women reclaiming their lives. Graywolf describes the plot as following a "woman two-thirds water, the rest clay" as she embarks on a mythic journey in search of sustenance for her "water-dwelling sister-self." $18 cl, 1-55597-179-2. Graywolf Press, 2402 University Ave., Suite 203, St. Paul NM 55114. BP, IN, Bookslinger.

Blue Sky, Green Sea & Other Stories by Chinese author Liu Sola is now available in English through a translation by Martha Cheung. The publishers say Liu "frequently portrays young city-dwellers, adrift in a

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society in flux, wanting somehow — almost in spite of themselves — to play a role in creating a modern culture in China. In her apparent refusal to deal with serious subjects seriously, the author reveals a spirit of rebelliousness which has made her work particularly appealing to young Chinese." $10.95 pb, 962-7255-12-1. Renditions Paperbacks, Research Centre for Translation, Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shatin NT Hong Kong. Distributed by Cheng & Tsui, IN, Bookslinger and Small Press Distribution.

Available in English is **The Nine Guardians** by Rosario Castellanos, described by the publishers as Mexico's finest woman novelist of the century. Set in a remote village in Mexico between 1934 and 1940, **The Nine Guardians** follows a seven-year-old girl as she watches the old order break down. Written in 1957. $11.95 pb, 0-930523-90-3. Readers International, PO Box 959, Columbia LA 71418. Consortium, BP, IN.

Written and published in Wales, Glenda Beagan's collection of short stories entitled **The Medlar Tree** touches on universal themes of convention, commitment and desire. Deep emotions are present in these stories, combining anxiety with humor and depression with observation; in her characters we may find reflections of ourselves. Simply written, true to life. $18.95 pb, 1-85411-068-3. Published in Wales by Seren Books; distributed in the U.S. by Dufour Editions, PO Box 449, Chester Springs PA, 19425.

Thirteen years after its original publication, Ursule Molinaro's **The Autobiography of Cassandra, Princess & Prophetess of Troy** has been re-released, this time in paperback with original artwork by the author appearing on the cover. Peculiar in form, this novel explores the relationship that myth plays in contemporary consciousness. Molinaro has been called an "experimental" novelist and, based on **The Autobiography of Cassandra**, that description seems fitting. $9 pb, 0-929701-24-0. McPherson & Company, PO Box 1126, Kingston NY 12401. IN.

Black Sparrow Press has published **According to Her Contours**, the first book of poetry and stories by San Francisco's self-described lesbian tomboy poet Nancy Boutilier. In this accessible collection, Boutilier (who jokes that she officiates basketball games and writes during half-time) confronts the realities of growing up female in a male-dominated world. $12.50 pb, 0-87685-884-1. Black Sparrow Press, 24 Tenth St., Santa Rosa CA 95401. IN.

Selected Poems of Jenny Joseph (author of the classic poem "Warning" which begins, "When I am an old woman I shall wear purple") includes works culled

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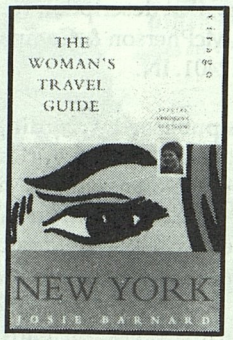

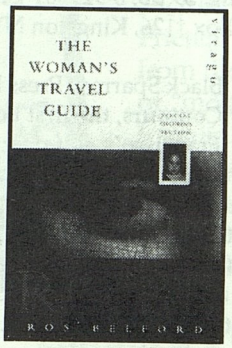

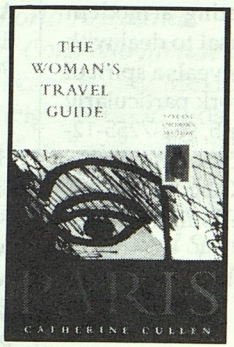

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from four of Joseph's poetry books: *The Unlooked-for Season, Rose in the Afternoon, Secker: The Thinking Heart* and *Beyond Descartes*. $18.95 pb, 1-85224-095-4. Published in England by Bloodaxe Books and distributed in the U.S. by Dufour Editions, PO Box 449, Chester Springs PA 19425.

Zephyr Press has released an updated and expanded edition of **The Complete Poems of Anna Akhmatova**, translated by Judith Hemschemeyer and edited by Roberta Reeder. 960 pages in all, the revised paperback edition contains more than 750 poems, including 80 poems not included in the cloth edition. A 60-page "Photo Biography" consists of portraits of the poet as artist's muse. Akhmatova's poetry is simple yet lyrical; through her voice we come to know a woman and a country, both survivors in troubled times. At $24.95, the paperback edition is much more affordable than the cloth. 0-939010-27-5. Zephyr Press, 13 Robinson St., Somerville MA 02145. BP, IN.

If you carry young adult books you might want to consider the "NEATE" series from Just Us Books, featuring five African- American teenagers. In Debbie Chocolate's **NEATE: To The Rescue**, the five friends (Naimah, Elizabeth, Anthony, Tayesha and Eddie) work together to help Naimah's mother fight a racist opponent and win re-election to city council. Coming soon: *NEATE #2: Elizabeth's Wish*. Great for ages 10 and up. $3.95 pb, 0-940975-42-4. Just Us Books, 301 Main St., Suite 22-24, Orange NJ 07050. BP.

Gloria Anzaldúa (*Borderlands/La Frontera*; ed. *This Bridge Called my Back* and *Making Face, Making Soul*) has written her first book for children, **Friends from the Other Side**. This story is a wonderfully written tale (in both English and Spanish) of friendship formed despite cultural tensions. Prietita, a young Mexican-American girl, befriends Joaquín, a Mexican boy from "across the river," protecting him from the neighborhood bullies and the Border Patrol. With beautiful illustrations by Consuelo Méndez, this book is a must for any store with a children's section. $13.95 pb, 0-89239-113-8. Children's Book Press, 6400 Hollis St. Suite 4, Emeryville CA 94608. BP.

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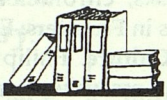
Alaska

Tender Darkness is the first collection of works by Mary MacLane, a pioneering feminist whose frank expression of lesbian feelings (among other things) in her book *The Story of Mary MacLane* (1902) caused a sensation. **Tender Darkness** includes an introduction to her work and life, *The Story of Mary MacLane*, a selection of MacLane's newspaper articles and a 1902 interview with the author. $14.95 pb, no ISBN yet. Abernathy and Brown Publishers, 951-2 Old Country Road, Suite 339, Belmont CA 94002. 40% for 5+.



Amazon Dream is Roberta Allen's tale of her journey into the Peruvian Amazon. Traveling alone, she learns about jungle life, relates encounters with Peruvians and exiles alike, describes the ways rapid change has affected the region, and "confronts her ambivalence about coming from a dominant Western Culture and, at the same time, looks for personal truths through the lens of this compelling wilderness." Illustrated with Allen's black-and-white photographs. $9.95 pb, 0-87286-270-4. City Lights Books, 261 Columbus Ave., San Francisco, CA 94133. BP, IN.

"Painfully bored" with school, 17-year-old Karen Connelly successfully applied to the Calgary Rotary Exchange Program and set off for Northern Thailand as an exchange student. **Touch the Dragon: A Thai Journal** is her chronicle of the awakening she experienced while living in rural Thailand. Now twenty-three, Connelly recognizes Thailand as the place where she came alive, and even goes so far as to call it the "country of her birth." $12.95 pb, 0-88801-162-8. Turnstone Press, 607-100 Arthur St., Winnipeg MB R3B 1H3. General Distribution Services.

German-born Anna DeGraf was 86 when she started writing her memoir **Pioneering on the Yukon: 1892-1917**. She begins her tale in 1892 when, at the age of 53, she headed to Alaska to search for her missing son. Walking with a crutch, she crossed mountain trails not even mules could climb. Though she never found her son, she stayed in Alaska for 25 years, supporting herself by sewing and running stores, watching the frenzies of the gold rush and befriending showgirls, native peoples, miners, lawmen and even outlaws. Upon returning to California, she worked as the wardrobe lady at the Pantages Theater until she was 90. $19.50 cl, 0-208-02362-3. Shoe String Press, 925 Sherman Ave., Hamden CT 06514. 40% 2-50.

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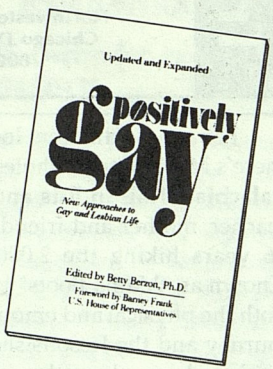

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For a quite different look at women adventurers, there's Mary Sands' wholesome tale of doing the **Appalachian Trail in Bits and Pieces**. Sands, a "leader, teacher, mother and friend to 135 Girl Scouts" spent 16 years hiking the 2,000-mile Appalachian Trail. Known as "Mama Boots" by the hikers, Sands shares both the physical and emotional highs and lows of the journey and the lessons she and her Girl Scout companions learn along the way. Illustrated with black-and-white drawings by the author. Sands concludes her adventure by listing all the girls she hiked with, when, where and for how many miles. $15.95 cl, 0-8059-3274-7. Dorrance Publishing Co., 643 Smithfield St., Pittsburgh, PA 15222. 5+ copies 40%.

Paragon House has recently released more of **The Autobiography of Simone de Beauvoir**. Originally published in 1963, the 1992 editions each contain a new introduction by Toril Moi. **The Autobiography of Simone de Beauvoir: After the War; Force of Circumstance, 1** covers de Beauvoir's life from 1944 to 1952. **Hard Times; Force of Circumstance, 2** picks up where book 1 left off, and continues on for another decade. Both books are full of the names and places that influenced this legendary feminist and are riveting reading for historical enthusiasts, although a bit cumbersome as one-volume-in-two-books. In addition, Paragon House has published the first and second volumes of this autobiographical series, respectively entitled *Memoir of a Dutiful Daughter* and *The Prime of Life*, with plans to publish the last as well, *All Said and Done*. **After the War; Force of Circumstance, 1**, $14.95 pb, 1-55778-523-6. **Hard Times; Force of Circumstance, 2**, $16.95 pb, -524-4. Athena Books/Paragon House, 90 Fifth Ave., New York NY 10011.

M. Nourbese Philip, author of *Looking for Livingstone, Harriet's Daughter* and *She Tries Her Tongue: Her Silence Softly Breaks*, chronicles the struggles of African-Canadians in **Frontiers: Essays and Writings on Racism and Culture**. Philip combines articles, journals, letters and essays written between 1984 and 1992 to create a text Mercury Press calls "destined to become a vital document for any discussion of racism in Canada." $15.95 pb, 0-920544-90-8.

In **The Deconstruction of Wesley Smithson**, author Sarah Murphy presents three short fictions. The title story follows the life of Wesley Smithson, a journalist perhaps dead, perhaps held by the CIA in a sanatorium for the insane. In "Cassie, Cassie," a girl mourns her lost sister and fears for her own safety, while "Paramilitary Parafictions," presented as "a set of footnotes in search of their text," is a disturbing collection of first-person reports of torture and analytical summaries of Native beliefs in El Salvador. $12.95 pb, 0-920544-94-0.

The seven short stories in **Consider the Hollyhocks** mark the debut of Toronto writer Marg Wilson. Wilson writes of a young girl, raised in the city, who discovers a world of beauty during a brief visit to the country; an executive on vacation in Cuba tries to find her place among fellow tourists; a teenaged boy resents his mother's new boyfriend. $11.95 pb, 0-920544-95-9. Mercury Press, 137 Birmingham St., Stratford ONT N5A 2T1 Canada. IN.

In **The Finest Kind: Voices of Newfoundland and Labrador Women**, Marian Frances White has

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assembled a compilation of biographical sketches from six previous editions of *A Woman's Almanac*. The profiles are longer, updated versions of interviews that appeared in the Almanac. Herstorically appealing, **The Finest Kind** is a good read as well. $14.95 pb (+ 7% GST), 1-895387-10-8. Creative Publishers, Robinson-Blackmore Printing & Publishing Ltd., PO Box 8660, St. John's Newfoundland A1B 3T7. Bookslinger, IN.

In **Gathering Rage: The Failure of 20th Century Revolutions to Develop a Feminist Agenda**, activist and writer Margaret Randall examines how revolutions in Nicaragua and Cuba failed to address a feminist agenda. "Combining anecdotes with analysis, she shows how distorted visions of liberation and shortcomings in practice left a legacy that not only shortchanged women but undermined the revolutionary project itself." $12 pb, 0-85345-861-8; $28 cl, -860-X. Monthly Review Press, 122 West 27th St., New York NY 10001. BP, IN.

Sound Off! American Military Women Speak Out by Dorothy and Carl J. Schneider should be more aptly titled "American Military **Straight** Women Speak Out." Lesbian voices are silent here; few of the interviewees deigned to speak about lesbianism, and most references to lesbians are made in a negative context. Perhaps we are supposed to be grateful that in the two pages specifically dealing with lesbians, a concession is made that "usually lesbianism does not interfere with efficiency or professionalism." The discussion of feminism here is short and centers around the ERA; the issue of families, to have or have not, is three times as long. Still, there are few books out on women and the military, and this one might have appeal to women with few alternatives to choose from. $14.95 pb, 1-55778-505-8. Paragon House/Athena Books, 90 Fifth Ave., New York NY 10011. IN.

Seeking Common Ground: Multidisciplinary Studies of Immigrant Women in the United States, edited by Donna Gabaccia, is divided into three parts: the first presents three chapters by an historian, a sociologist and an anthropologist summarizing the

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development of research on immigrant women; the second looks at "Immigrant Women of the Past" while the third examines "Immigrant Women Since 1920." Focuses on immigrant women from Europe, Latin America and Asia. $17.05 pb, 0-275-94387-9. Praeger Publishers, One Madison Ave., New York NY 10010, an imprint of Greenwood Press, PO Box 5007, Westport CT 06881.

Amazon Bookstore in Minneapolis and Oscar Wilde Memorial Bookshop in New York City have the distinction of being the first lesbian-feminist and lesbian and gay bookstores in the U.S. The Chicago-based Women and Children First is the largest feminist store in the U.S. in annual volume and Lambda Rising takes that category as the largest lesbian and gay store. These are just a few of the entries in Alyson Publication's **The First Gay Pope and Other Records**, a book which describes its editor Lynne Yamaguchi Fletcher as "the first lesbian to compile a book of gay and lesbian firsts and records." This volume collects firsts in subjects ranging from the arts and the media to law, politics, religion, education and history. $7.95 pb, 1-55583-206-7. Alyson Publications, 40 Plympton St., Boston MA 02118. InBook, IN, BP and others.

Authors Kerry McGinn and Pamela Haylock set out to review not a few, but *all* treatment, prevention and self-help options for breast, pelvic, uterine, ovarian and even rare gynecologic cancers in **Women's Cancers: How to Prevent Them, How to Treat Them, How to Beat Them**. McGinn and Haylock, both registered nurses, hope their upfront, comprehensive guide will "be a book that empowers women and encourages them to be knowledgeable and assertive healthcare consumers." They also encourage women to take their fight into the political arena. $14.95 pb, 0-89793-102-5; $24.95 cl, -103-3. Hunter House, 2200 Central Ave., Suite 202, Alameda CA 94501-4451. BP, IN.

Psychotherapist Betty McLellan takes a feminist look at the causes of anxiety in women and ways in which to relieve that anxiety in her down-to-earth guide **Overcoming Anxiety: A Positive Approach to Dealing with Severe Anxiety in Your Life**. $16.95 pb, 1-86373-07808. Published by Allen & Unwin/Australia and distributed in the U.S. by Paul and Company Publishers Consortium, c/o PCS Data Processing, 360 W. 31st St., New York NY 10001.

Lorraine Hepburn examines the impact of new reproductive technology (primarily in vitro fertilization) on the lives of Australian women in **Ova-Dose?** In looking at the moral, ethical, political and commercial aspects of the issue, she argues that new technology erodes, rather than enhances, the existing level of Australian women's reproductive self-determination $16.95 pb, 1-86373-056-7. Published by Allen & Unwin/Australia and distributed in the U.S. by Paul and Company Publishers Consortium, c/o PCS Data Processing, 360 W. 31st St., New York NY 10001.

For those considering childbirth options, **Birth Stories: Mystery, Power, and Creation** by Jane Dwinell, R.N., is a wonderful read. Written as a series of anecdotes about Dwinell's former patients, **Birth Stories** is an informative, comfortable, and educational book about childbearing, giving women back the power that the medical establishment has tried to take away. $12.95 pb, 0-89789-304-2; $39.95 cl, -296-8. Bergin & Garvey/Greenwood Publishing, 88 Post Road West, Westport CT 06881. National Book Network, Inc.

AIDS: Four Men Speak Out is more pamphlet than book, companion to the previously reviewed *AIDS: Four Women Speak Out*. Both look at AIDS and HIV status from a personal vantage point. This booklet also includes a one-page definition of AIDS and a page of safer sex/safer injection tips. Even if you don't have a gay men's section, consider having a few copies of this available in your store. $3.50 pb (terms: 40% for 5 or more). AIDS Vancouver Island, 304 - 733 Johnson St., Victoria BC, Canada V8W 3C7.

If you have a religion section, consider **Changing Women, Changing Church** a tribute to Patricia Brennan, foundation president of the Movement for the Ordination of Women. Edited by Marie Louise Uhr, **Changing Women, Changing Church** presents some

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of the best-known names in Christian feminist thought debating the roles of women in the church. $8.95 pb, 0-85574-909-1. Millennium Books, an imprint of E.J. Dwyer, 3\32-72 Alice St., Newtown NSW 2042 Australia. Distributed by Morehouse Publishing, 871 Ethan Allen Hwy., Suite 204, Ridgefield CT 06877.

In another religious offering, Denise Carmody explores the intersection of Christianity and feminism in **Virtuous Woman: Reflections on Christian Feminist Ethics**. $16.95 pb, 0-88344-817-3. Orbis Books, Maryknoll NY 10545. IN.

Women's relationship with spirituality ranges over a wide variety of principles and doctrines, with beliefs being as varied as women themselves. **The Spiral Path: Explorations in Women's Spirituality** is a new edition of an anthology edited by Theresa King that documents this diversity. Here 22 writers (20 women, two men) share their personal perspectives on women and spirituality. The book is a little full of Judeo- Christian-based religion, but is not exclusively focused on religion per se. Titles include "Self-Image and Spirituality: Coming Home to Our Bodies" by Louise M. Pare and "Sex and Spirituality: Sexuality as Holiness" by Joan Timmerman. $15.95 pb, 0-93663-07-3. Yes International Publishers, 1317 Summit Ave., St. Paul MN 55105. Atrium Publishers Group.

Women's Rights in Old Testament Times by James Baker is an academic text that helps to illuminate the role of women in ancient times. $17.95 pb, 1-56085-029-9. Signature Books, 350 South 400 East Suite G-4, Salt Lake City UT 84111. IN.

Maxine Hanks has edited **Women and Authority: Re-emerging Mormon Feminism**, an anthology exploring the history and present state of Mormon feminism. 460 pages. $19.95 pb, 1-56085-014-0. Signature Books, 350 S. 400 East , Suite 4, Salt Lake City UT 84111. Ingram, Gordon's, Baker & Taylor.

The Wisdom of Women, edited by Carol Spenard LaRusso, collects quotes and very short excerpts from the writings of 75 prominent women from around the world. $11.95 cl, 1-880032-09-0. New World Library, 58 Paul Drive, San Rafael CA 94903. IN. ○

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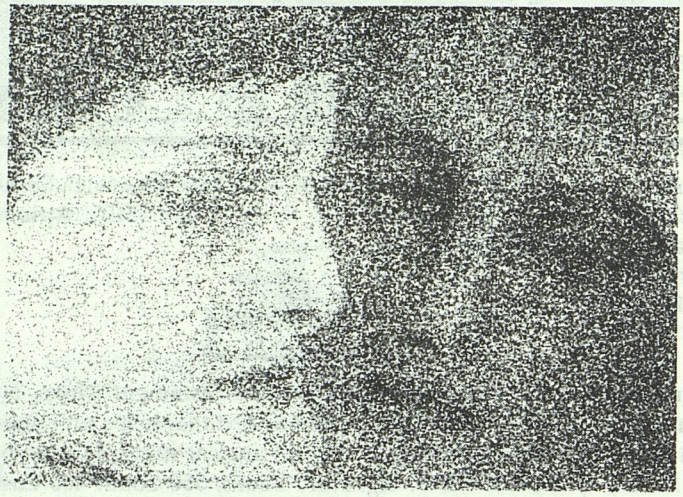

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An exploration of the power of psychosexual differences to attract and bond women to each other. "Regardless of one's sexual orientation, there is much to learn here about the nature of love and its unconscious determinants." — *Publishers Weekly.* Cl: $27.50

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A workshop-in-print on the biographical construction of modern American women's lives. Ten contributors uncover the tools appropriate to writing women's biography and reveal how feminist scholarship led them to approach women's lives in nontraditional ways. Illus. Cl: $44.95; Pb: $14.95

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FROM THE UNIVERSITY PRESSES

By Ann Christophersen

The lead title on the Spring lists comes from Oxford University Press. It is Gerda Lerner's **The Creation of Feminist Consciousness: From the Middle Ages to 1870** ($25 cl, 0195066049). The long-awaited second volume in her magnum opus, *Women in History*, it follows the publication in 1986 of *The Creation of Patriarchy*, one of the most important books in women's history and theory published in the last two decades and one of the all-time bestselling books in the area of women's studies. In the new book, Lerner documents the 1,200-year struggle of women to free their minds from patriarchal thought, create women's history ,and achieve a feminist consciousness. One of the pre-eminent scholars in women's history, Gerda Lerner is also an inspiring teacher and speaker. She will be touring with this book; contact Oxford for details.

Another history from Oxford is **New Women of the New South: The Leaders of the Woman Suffrage Movement in Southern States** ($18.95 pb, 0-195082451). Written by Marjorie Spull Wheeler, it focuses on 11 prominent leaders from the region of the country that had the hardest fight and least success in trying to get the vote, the latter due in large part to a strategy that tried to capitalize on a fear of the voting strength of newly enfranchised African-Americans.

In literary criticism, Jane Tompkins has written a new book for critics interested in popular culture and the literary canon. In **West of Everything: The Inner Life of Westerns** ($10.95 pb, 0195082680), she argues that "Westerns originated as a reaction against the female-dominated popular fiction of the mid-19th century and the invasion of the public sphere by women which followed it. The Western countered the inwardness, spirituality, and domesticity of these works with a rough-and-tumble secular world — anti-Christian, anti-emotional, and, most of all, anti-woman." A plausible-sounding thesis.

The literary offerings of Oxford include a useful "biographical dictionary" of women in Greek and Roman myth — **Women of Classical Mythology**, by Robert E. Bell ($12.95 pb, 0192831305); Dorothy Wordsworth's personal memoirs, **The Grasmere Journals**, edited by Pamela Woof ($12.95 pb, 0192831305, April); three volumes of poems in the "Women Writers in English 1350-1850" series, including **The Poems and Prose of Mary, Lady Chudleigh** ($18.95 pb, 0195083601, April), **The Poems of Charlotte Smith** ($16.95 pb, 019508358X, April) and **The Poems of Aeemilia Lanyer** ($16.95 pb, 019508351X, April).

For the general politics and health shelves, there are two books feminist bookstores might consider. The most recent from the indefatigable Henry Louis Gates, **Loose Canons: Notes on the Culture Wars**, is coming in paper ($9.95 pb, 0195083504, May). It's about multiculturalism, specifically the necessity of fostering cultural understanding as the only means of reducing the tensions of nationalism, racism and sexism. **Enemies of Patients: How Doctors Are Losing Their Power... Patients Are Losing Their Rights** ($25 cl, 0195072006, April), by Ruth Macklin (a professor of bioethics) contributes to the growing awareness that the ethical treatment and rights of patients are increasingly threatened by the rapid technological developments in medicine and the economic crisis of health care.

Finally, two books for the fairy tale section and one to put next to Vivian Paley in child development.

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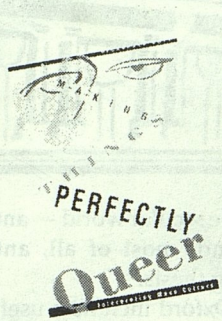

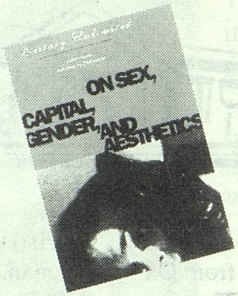

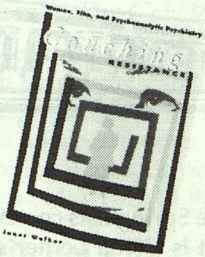

Alexander Doty
Making Things Perfectly Queer
Interpreting Mass Culture
Doty argues that films, television, and other forms of mass culture consistently elicit a wide range of queer (sexually liminal) responses, and suggests an interpretive framework for understanding mass culture that stands as a corrective to many standard cultural approaches.
$15.95 paper $39.95 cloth

Constance Penley and
Sharon Willis, editors
Male Trouble
In detailed and provocative examinations of contemporary images of masculinity, the contributors provide a thought-provoking, comprehensive study of masculinity in American culture today. "A significant intervention. . . . Bold, innovative, and sophisticated." *Judith Mayne*
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On Sex, Capital, Gender, and Aesthetics
Foreword by Paul Smith
A unique collection of essays on popular culture, politics, aesthetics, feminism, and postmodernism, along with complete scripts from three of Kipnis' videotapes.
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Janet Walker
Couching Resistance
Women, Film, and Psychoanalytic Psychiatry
Explores how American psychoanalytic psychiatry and Hollywood cinema between World War II and the mid-1960s negotiated women's psychosexuality and life experience. "Exciting and rich."
Dana Polan
$16.95 paper $44.95 cloth

Maria Damon
The Dark End of the Street
Margins in American Vanguard Poetry
Damon foregrounds a number of modern American poets work and lives in order to argue that the American avant-garde is located in the experimental literary works of social "outsiders." Discussed is the work of Black/Jewish surrealist street poet Bob Kaufman, Boston-Brahmin Robert Lowell and three teenaged women writing from a South Boston housing project, pre-Stonewall gay poets Jack Spicer and Robert Duncan, and Jewish lesbian-in-exile Gertrude Stein.
$17.95 paper $44.95 cloth

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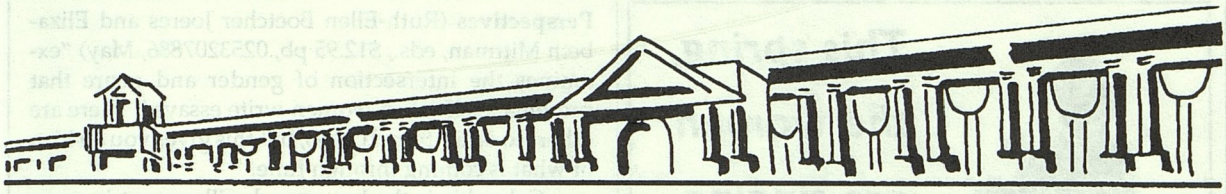

Alison Lurie has edited what sounds like a wonderful collection, **The Oxford Book of Modern Fairy Tales** ($25 cl, 0192142186, June). I don't have a complete list of the 40 contributors, but it includes Ursula LeGuin and Louise Erdrich and claims to include work by "experimental, Native American and feminist writers." As long as Louise Erdrich isn't the sole author filling all those slots, it looks promising. Howard Schwartz adds to his three previous collections of Jewish folktales with **Gabriel's Palace: Jewish Mystical Tales** ($25, 0195062922, May). Both are available only in cloth, as is Iona Opie's **The People in the Playground**, a description of life as it is lived by children at play.

Turning now to Indiana University Press, there are, as usual, several titles to point out. IU's lead title is for feminist bookstores that — understanding the inextricable link between sexism and racism — carry key titles exposing either form of oppression. In **Unequal Justice: A Question of Color** ($14.95 pb, 0253207835), Coramae Richey Mann demonstrates in convincing academic terms what we already know in lay terms: minorities in the US do not receive equal treatment from the criminal justice system.

A special issue of *Hypatia* that will do well in the lesbian section is **Lesbian Philosophy**, edited by Claudia Card (Vol. 7#4, $12.95 pb, 0253300053). It includes 15 essays with provocative titles such as "In Praise of Blame," "Mother: The Legal Domestication of Lesbian Existence" and "The Male Lesbian and the Postmodernist Body."

Continuing its commitment to books by and about women of color, the press is making another contribution to the growing literature available on Arab women. **Arab Women: Old Boundaries, New Frontiers**, edited by Judith Tucker ($14.95 pb, 0253207762, June) is a collection of 13 essays focusing on Arab women's changing lives. **Written By Herself: Literary Production by African American Women 1746-1892** by Frances Smith Foster ($12.95 pb, 025320786X, June) is the first comprehensive cultural history of literature by African-American women before the 20th century. **The Mexican Corrido: A Feminist Analysis**, by Maria Herrera-Sobeck ($10.95 pb, 0253207959) looks at more than a thousand ballads depicting women's roles in Mexican society.

A few more miscellaneous titles from IU: **Women of Science: Righting the Record** (G. Kass-Simon and Patricia Farnes, eds., $14.95 pb, 0253207975) is about the many contributions women have made to science, not only to the field as it is traditionally known but also by opening new areas of inquiry. **Voices of American Homemakers**, edited by Eleanor Arnold ($10.95 pb, 0253207991) is the transcription of an oral history capturing the experiences and viewpoints of homemakers as children, wives, and mothers. It also contains 98 black-and-white photos. Arnold's words about the project are touching: "The basic tenet...has been to prove, both to the world and to these women themselves, that their lives have value, dignity and worth." A worthy undertaking, indeed.

Because there is still so little written about feminist aesthetics, any contribution to the field would be welcome. **Aesthetics in Feminist Perspective**, edited by Hilde Heir and Carolyn Korsmeyer ($14.95 pb, 0253207746, June) looks very solid, with essays by Marilyn French, Michele Wallace, and Josephine Donovan, among others. Another anthology, **Mothers' First-Born Daughters: Early Shaker Writings on Women and Religion** (Jean M. Humez, ed., $17.50 pb, 0253207444, May) focuses the continuing interest in this celibate religious community on the contributions women made during its first 70 years. Finally, the essays in **The Politics of the Essay: Feminist**

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This spring, the women are singing in Arizona.

Sáanii Dahataał / The Women Are Singing

Poems and Stories by Luci Tapahonso

Navajo writer Luci Tapahonso shares memories of her home in Shiprock, New Mexico, and of the places and people there. "It is the work of a woman aware of her relationships to stars and cliffs—playful and strong enough to make her own decisions, and yet warm and loving enough to share what she feels." —Roberta Hill Whiteman *$9.95 paper*

Mother's Letters

Essays by Elizabeth Hampsten

This series of autobiographical essays focuses on one woman's relationships to members of her family over several generations—in which her late mother's letters provide an important link to her past. *$14.95 paper*

Infinite Divisions

An Anthology of Chicana Literature

edited by Tey Diana Rebolledo & Eliana S. Rivero

This first major anthology devoted to the genre is organized by themes that highlight the concerns of Mexican American women from 1848 to the present and reflect the modern Chicana's struggle for identity. *$19.95 paper*

A Full Life in a Small Place

and Other Essays from a Desert Garden

by Janice Emily Bowers

Sixteen eloquent essays show how backyard gardening opens up a broader appreciation of both life and living. "As irresistible as a seed catalog in winter. People who garden—and people who never will—are sure to recognize their own private thirst for miracles, asked and answered, in this book." —Barbara Kingsolver, author of *Another America* *$13.95 paper*

The University of Arizona Press

1230 N. Park Ave., Tucson AZ 85719 / 1-800-426-3797

Perspectives (Ruth-Ellen Boetcher Joeres and Elizabeth Mittman, eds., $12.95 pb, 0253207886, May) "examines the intersection of gender and genre that presents itself when women write essays." There are others to order from IU, too, but this gives you an idea of what is coming through June.

Columbia is the last press I will present in some detail before mentioning a few titles from five other presses. Four of the five titles that I ordered most heavily from Columbia's Spring list are written by French feminist theorists. **Shifting Scenes: Interviews on Women, Writing, and Politics in Post-'68 France** is edited by Alice Jardine and Ann Menke ($14 pb, 0231067739, May). It contains interviews with 15 of the most important French fiction writers, critics and theorists, including Helene Cixous, Luce Irigaray, Julia Kristeva, Marguerite Duras, and Monique Wittig. Luce Irigaray has a new book, a collection of lectures, **Sexes and Geneologies** ($14 pb, 0231070330, April). In these she examines the continued neglect by psychoanalysts of the sexual and gender dimensions of therapy, the urgency of a female divinity for feminist movements, and a reconsideration of women's relation to the market economy. Julia Kristeva also has a new book, **Nations without Nationalism** ($18.50 cl, 0231081049, April). Like the Henry Louis Gates book mentioned earlier, Kristeva's takes up the argument that otherness must be understood and accepted if we are to move beyond oppression and the chaos too often induced in our response to difference. Finally, Helen Cixous has a new book on writing, **Three Steps on the Ladder of Writing** ($19.95 cl, 0231076584, June).

In its "Gay and Lesbian Studies" series Columbia is publishing a paper edition of **A Lure of Knowledge: Lesbian Sexuality and Theory**, by Judith Roof ($14.50 pb, 0231074875). She argues that "attempts to depict lesbian sexuality spur anxieties about knowledge and identity and that lesbian sexuality is thus represented as foreplay, simulated heterosexuality, erotic excess, joking inauthenticity, or artful compromise." Also, there is a new edition of Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick's **Between Men: English Literature and Male Homosexual Desire** ($15.50 pb, 0231082738). There are other titles from Columbia in literary and film criticism and

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history, but I will leave those for you to discover when you are ordering.

Now for one or two titles each from publishers with enough backlist that 40 percent discount will be easy to get. University of New Mexico is publishing a biography of Frida Kahlo, **Frida Kahlo: An Open Life** ($18.95 cl, 082631418X, April). It is written by Mexican art critic and historian Raquel Tibol who, after befriending Diego Rivera, went to Mexico City and then met and lived with Kahlo. I don't know what the various relationships were here, but it will be interesting to find out and to get this insider's view of Kahlo. The biography is not new, but this is a new English translation by Elinor Randall.

A unique collection is coming from the University of Massachusetts Press, **Working-Class Women in the Academy: Laboring in the Knowledge Factory** (Michelle M. Tokarczyk and Elizabeth A. Fay, eds., $18.95 pb, 0870238353, May). The 20 essays address the following questions: What are the issues — pedagogical, theoretical, and personal — that affect the professional and private lives of these women? How do they resolve tensions between their roles as middle-class professionals and their roots in working-class families? How do class and gender intersect in the academy? Interesting questions, I would say. Also from UMass is **Unbroken Thread: An Anthology of Plays by Asian American Women** (Roberta Uno, ed., $18.95 pb, 0870238566, August).

University of Chicago has several titles of interest this time, the most important of which is **Beyond Economic Man: Feminist Theory and Economics**, edited by Marianne A. Ferber and Julie A. Nelson ($12.95, 0226242013, June). This sounds like a very provocative collection of essays, the main argument of which is that "the discipline of economics could be improved by freeing itself from masculine biases." I particularly like the twist that the problem with traditional economics is not that it is too objective but that it is not objective enough, limited by a too narrow frame of reference. **Lives on the Edge: Single Mothers and Their Children in the Other America** by Valerie Polakow ($22.50 0226671836) forces the point that the feminization and "infantilization" of poverty requires solution at the level of public policy. In May, Chicago will also publish trade editions of Margaret Laurence's **The Stone Angel** ($10.95, 0226469360), **The Diviners** ($9.95, 0226469344), and **Bird in the House** ($9.95, 0226469433). I have only read one of this Canadian novelist's fictions, but based on that one I highly recommend feminist stores carry these.

SHATTERED APPLAUSE
The Lives of Eva Le Gallienne

Robert A. Schanke. Foreword by May Sarton. "The actress who wouldn't pretend.... Schanke's thesis is that LeG's stature as an actress was seriously hurt by her frank lesbianism." —Barbara Gelb, *New York Times Book Review* (1820-2) $39.95

SILENCE AND POWER
A Reevaluation of Djuna Barnes

Edited by Mary Lynn Broe with an Afterword by Catharine Stimpson. "The most important book on this important writer."
—Review of Contemporary Fiction
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The Basic ACLU Guide to a Gay Person's Rights
Third Edition

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A HISTORY OF WOMEN IN THE WEST

Georges Duby and Michelle Perrot, General Editors

VOLUME II

Silences of the Middle Ages

EDITED BY CHRISTIANE KLAPISCH-ZUBER

Drawing on myriad sources—from the faint traces left by the rocking of a cradle at the site of an early medieval home to an antique illustration of Eve's fall from grace—this second volume in the celebrated series offers new perspectives on women of the past. Twelve distinguished historians from many countries examine the image of women in the masculine mind, their social condition, and their daily experience from the demise of the Roman Empire to the genesis of the Italian Renaissance.

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Harvard University Press

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University of Illinois Press is doing a few really interesting books. **Feminist Messages: Coding in Women's Folk Culture**, edited by Joan Newlon Radner ($18.95 pb, 0252062671, May, 23 photographs) sounds just fascinating. "Coding" is covertly expressing subversive or disturbing ideas in either a deliberate or unconscious way. This volume looks at these expressions as revealed in mediums such as quilts, crafts, stories, and the daily routines of women. **Grace Paley's Life Stories: A Literary Biography** (0252062671) was written by a former Chicagoan of wit, perception, and devotion to her subject, Judith Arcana. Though only in cloth and therefore expensive ($26.95), it will be of interest to Grace Paley fans and anyone interested enough in the connections between peace, justice and art to lay out the bucks to read about this woman, mother, activist, and Jew. The other Illinois title I want to mention is **A New Species: Gender and Science in Science Fiction** ($12.95 pb, 0252062841, August). Robin Roberts "explores the legacy of male SF writers, utopia as a feminist response to patriarchy, and science fiction and postmodernism."

Harvard is bringing out the third volume in its *A History of Women in the West*. This volume is **Renaissance and Enlightment Paradoxes**, edited by Natalie Zernon Davis and Arlette Farge ($29.95 cl, 067440372X, May). This series has proven to be very impressive, and we have had respectable sales even though it is somewhat expensive. A very provocative title from Harvard this season, in cloth, is **The Hunger Artist: Starving, Writing, and Imprisonment**, by Maud Ellmann ($19.95, 067442705X). She asks — and answers — questions I suspect many of us have thought about: how has the act of eating become the metaphor for compliance, starvation the language of protest? How does the rejection of food become the rejection of intolerable social constraints? What is achieved at the culmination of such a protest, that is, at the moment of death?

There were more books I planned to write about — from California, Temple, Yale, New York University Presses — but this has gone on long enough. I will pick up these and others in the next edition of FBN. ○

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Edited, with critical commentary, by Ellen Carol DuBois
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Karin Calvert is particularly attentive to notions of gender in this 300-year survey of American conceptions of early childhood. She argues persuasively that childhood is primarily a social invention that provides much more information about adults than about children.

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Some Feminist Questions
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Fourteen essays situated in the context of what feminism's critics have referred to as the current "family crisis." Contributors from a wide variety of disciplines analyze issues such as abortion access and the divorce rate, and interpret the forces behind this supposed "crisis" in new and provocative ways.
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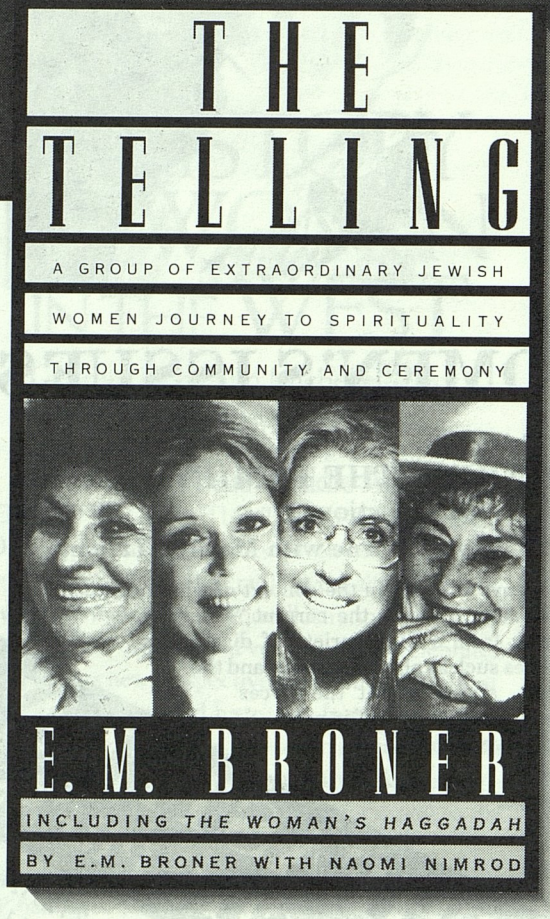
"I discovered for the first time the purpose of ritual." —Gloria Steinem



For over fifteen years an impressive group of feminists has gathered to celebrate a more inclusive Passover, affirm the presence of women in Jewish history, and explore their matrilineage. *The Telling* is their story—lyrical, evocative, and politically charged, it interweaves the powerful stories of the participants and culminates with a visionary feminist Haggadah. *The Telling* is a unique testament to the power of women reclaiming their spirituality and creating community in the process.

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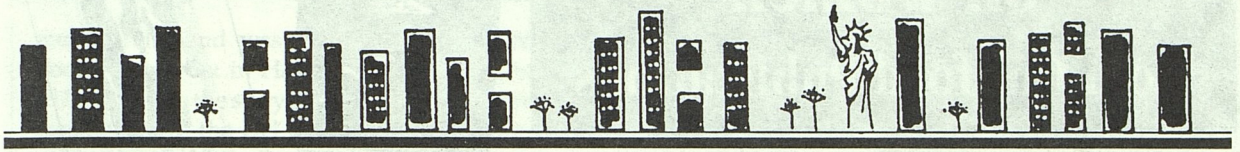

Compiled by Karen Axness, Linda Bryant, Patty Callaghan, ME Kavanuagh, Audrey May & Sandi Torkildson

ATLANTIC MONTHLY

The Tyranny Of Kindness by Theresa Funiciello is an indictment of America's welfare system by a woman who was a welfare mother and whose endless nightmare with the system led her to become an advocate and organizer of other welfare mothers. Funiciello tells us the hard day-to-day realities of living on welfare and surviving poverty and the impossible choices between food, clothing, health care and shelter. She shows how the social service sector has become a self-serving, ever-expanding business in which the poor become lost. She details how money for the poor fattens the bureaucracy and why so little is accomplished with more and more money. She favors bypassing the bureaucracy to give monetary assistance directly to the poor as a guaranteed income. ($22 cl, 0871135434, June) — *Sandi Torkildson*

BANTAM Trade

Long Quiet Highway by Natalie Goldberg ($20 cl, 0-553-07245-5) is subtitled "Waking Up in America" and focuses on moments of illumination in her life as well as the daily work of being a student of Zen and a teacher of writing.

New Life, New Friends: Making and Keeping Relationships in Recovery by Christine Baldwin and Cynthia Orange ($11 pb, 0-553-35463-9, April) provides guidance in transforming old relationships and developing new ones, creating boundaries and taking risks. Baldwin is known for her work in using journal writing in recovery.

Venus Envy by Rita Mae Brown ($22.50 cl, 0-553-91020-5, May) is Brown's long-awaited return to fiction with a lesbian protagonist. Described by the publisher as "by turns funny, poignant, and shocking," the story is about what happens when Mary Frazier Armstrong is told she is dying and decides to come out to everyone who doesn't know she's a lesbian and then finds out she's not dying after all.

BALLANTINE AND FAWCETT COLUMBINE Trade

Court of Appeal ed. by Robert Chrisman and Robert Allen ($9 pb, 0-345-38136-X, Ballantine) was published last fall but deserves mention as an important book detailing the reaction of the African American community to the Clarence Thomas hearings and Anita Hill's testimony, combining analysis and opinion. Among the contributors are a great many women writers, including Barbara Smith, Gloria T. Hull, June Jordon, and Maya Angelou.

Here All Dwell Free: Short Stories to Heal the Wounded Feminine by Gertrude Mueller Nelson ($12 pb, 0-449-90789-9, Fawcett) uses two classic Grimm's fairy tales and Jungian analysis to attempt to show how the Feminine is most often wounded and how to restore the rightful power and passion of the archetype.

The War Against Women by Marilyn French makes its first appearance in trade paperback. It is a well documented, frightening and infuriating indictment of the repression of women ($10 pb, 0-345-38248-X, Ballantine). Appearing simultaneously will be the first trade paperback edition of her novel *The Women's Room* ($10 pb, 0-345-38181-5).

Dreaming in Cuban by Cristina Garcia ($10 pb, 0-345-38143-2, Ballantine), a first novel, received

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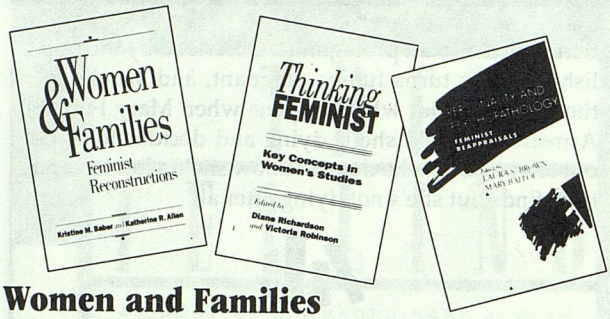
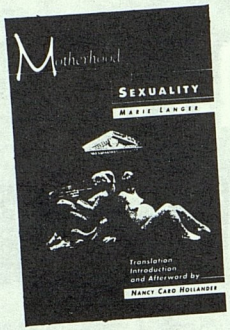
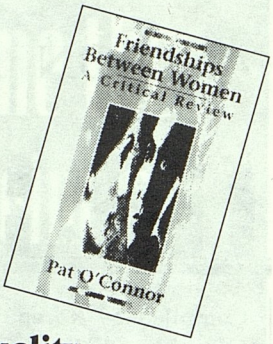
Important New Works on Women from Guilford Publications







Women and Families

Feminist Reconstructions

Kristine M. Baber and Katherine R. Allen

"A wise and daring book....Its strength is its unflinching recognition of the diversity of women's experiences in family. At last we have a book that embraces lesbians as women and family....This is an essential resource for anyone concerned with women and family."

—Linda Thompson, Ph.D.

276 Pages, 1992, Paperback, ISBN 0-89862-208-3, $18.95

Thinking Feminist

Key Concepts in Women's Studies

Edited by Diane Richardson and Victoria Robinson

"An excellent and comprehensive reader....The chapters reveal the transformative impact of feminist thinking and activism....This book gives fair and serious coverage to the radical feminist perspective at the same time that it is informed by a postmodern critique and attention to differences among women." —Carla Golden, Ph.D.

368 Pages, 1992, Paperback, ISBN 0-89862-160-7, $18.95

Personality and Psychopathology

Feminist Reappraisals

Edited by Laura S. Brown and Mary Ballou

"Brown and Ballou use feminist theory to push us to the front edges once more. Here they challenge the very notion of how healthy personalities develop, carefully pointing out the need to keep any theory of personality relevant to women's lives..."

—From the Foreword by Lenore E. A. Walker

272 Pages, 1992, Hardcover, ISBN 0-89862-774-5, $30.00

Motherhood and Sexuality

Marie Langer

Translation, Introduction, and Afterword by Nancy Caro Hollander

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—Susie Orbach, author of *Hunger Strike*

305 Pages, 1992, Hardcover, ISBN 0-89862-093-7, $35.00

Friendships Between Women

A Critical Review

Pat O'Connor

"O'Connor's integration of psychological, sociological, and feminist perspectives presents the reader with a bold new synthesis of the nature of friendship....The comprehensive analysis O'Connor provides expands our conceptions not only about the nature of women's relationships, but about how friendships operate in general."

—Suzanna Rose, Ph.D.

228 Pages, 1992, Paperback, ISBN 0-89862-981-0, $17.95

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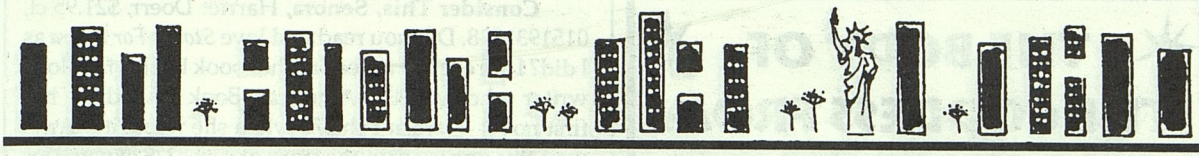

much praise and was nominated for the National Book Award. Set in Havana and Brooklyn between 1972 and 1980, the story concerns four women of three generations of the Del Piño family, all of whom are spiritual and political exiles.

You're in Charge: A Teenage Girl's Guide to Sex and Her Body by Niels H. Lauersen, M.D. and Eileen Stakane ($8 pb, 0-449-90464-4, Fawcett) was written for young women aged 11 to 17. It answers questions about puberty, safe sex, birth control, AIDS, STDs, alcohol, drugs, eating disorders and stress.

Partners in Recovery by Beverly Engel ($8 pb, 0-449-90675-2, April, Fawcett) is a guide for friends, family and supporters of adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse, encouraging understanding, belief and acceptance. Engel is a survivor herself as well as a therapist. She offers support for partners who may feel helpless and angry.

The Floating World, Cynthia Kadonata ($8 pb, 0-345-38162-9, April, Ballantine) has been available in a mass market edition for sometime. Now this novel about a Japanese-American family traveling through the Pacific Northwest in the 1950s will be available in trade paper as well.

— *Karen Axness/A Room of One's Own*

CHRONICLE BOOKS

Chronicle has two photography books of interest to feminist bookstores this season. The first is **Intimate Visions: The Photographs of Dorothy Newman**, ed. by Miles Barth, $17.95 pb, 0-81180364-3; $27.5 cl,-0399-6, April. Newman was a student of Alfred Stieglitz; she has a retrospective this spring in New York at the International Center of Photography. Her photos are of artists, writers, and political figures. The next is **Imogen Cunningham: Ideas Without End, a Life in Photographs**, with text by Richard Lorenz, $22.95 pb, 0-81180357-0; $35 cl, -0390-2, June. Cunningham was one of the first women to do professional photography. This book includes 100 of her black-and-white photos, many of which are published here for the first time.

A miniature book (5"x6") which should do well is **Gifts of Age**, $4.95 pb, 0-8118-03848. It consists of 24 pages with 10 black- and-white photos (Julia Child appears on the cover) taken from the original $16.95 paperback (90,000 plus in print). It comes with an envelope and will make a great Mother's Day gift. An order of 24 of these "BookCards" gets a 47% discount with free freight. The minimum order is 6 copies (43%). They are non-returnable and don't combine with other books for discount.

— *Patty Callaghan, Brigit Books*

HARCOURT BRACE JOVANOVICH

Before I write these annotations, I want to include my sadness at the passing of our wonderful HBJ rep. Jim Chandley was wonderful to us at Charis, helping us to get Alice Walker to the store for events three different times, and Gloria Naylor once. He was unfailingly attentive, kind, and respectful and his death was a shock and a loss to us. Today, when the new rep came to call, she said that she had read through Jim's notes and that he had always spoken so fondly of us and of our store.

Sister Aimee: The Life of Aimee Semple Mcpherson, Daniel Mark Epstein, $27.95 cl, 0151826889. Looks like a fascinating bio of a woman who lived a full life before she became a minister, preaching and healing across the country in the 20s and 30s.

What a thrill to have another book by Tina McElroy Ansa! We had a great evening with Ansa when *Baby of the Family* came out and hope to have her again. **Ugly Ways**, $19.95 cl, 01519225534, takes place in Mulberry, Georgia, and is about a mother's death and a time of reckoning for her three daughters.

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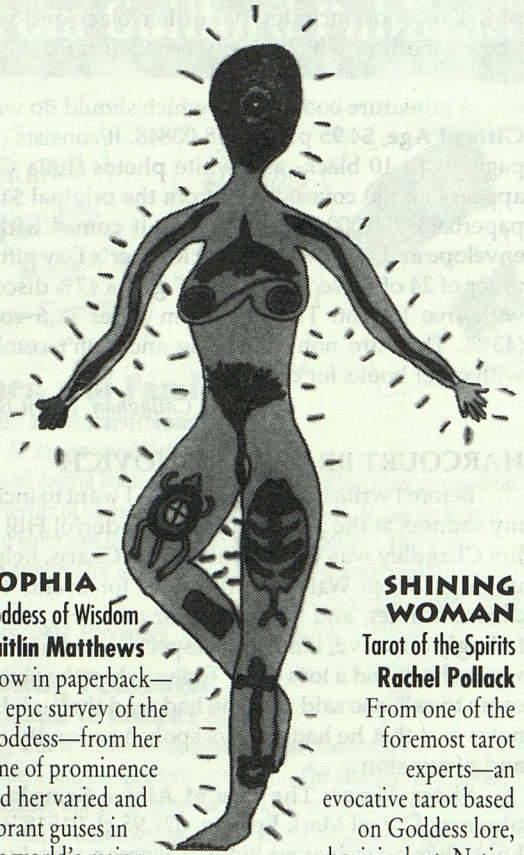
THE BODY OF THE GODDESS FROM WHOM LIFE FLOWS



SOPHIA
Goddess of Wisdom
Caitlín Matthews
Now in paperback—an epic survey of the Goddess—from her time of prominence and her varied and vibrant guises in the world's major religions to her celebrated modern-day resurgence. "A passport to a journey of self-discovery from which there can be no turning back."—*Gnosis*
Paperback • $15.00
ISBN 1-85538-275-X

SHINING WOMAN
Tarot of the Spirits
Rachel Pollack
From one of the foremost tarot experts—an evocative tarot based on Goddess lore, aboriginal art, Native American legend, and other spiritual traditions—a beautiful tool for intuitive self-knowledge.
Boxed set with 78 cards and a companion paperback
$33.00 • ISBN 1-85538-098-6

HarperSanFrancisco
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Consider This, Senora, Harriet Doerr, $21.95 cl, 0151931038. Did you read and love *Stones For Ibarra* as I did? I am excited to see another book by this fabulous writer who won the American Book Award for her first novel — wasn't she 70 when she wrote it?? Anyway, this one is again the story of some US expatriates living in Mexico; this time a 79-year-old widow and her 40-year-old daughter are the main characters.

Women At Play: The Story of Women in Baseball, Barbara Gregorich, $14.95 cl, pb, 0156982978. Photographs, interviews, and the history of women and baseball — including — but not limited to — the women featured in "A League of Their Own."

HBJ: CHILDREN'S DIVISION

Real Heroes, Marilyn Kaye, $13.95 cl, 0152005633. I almost never buy young adult in cloth, but this looks like a hand sell to certain teachers. Kevin's gym teacher is HIV positive and is being run out by a group of parents that includes Kevin's beloved father. Mr. Logan is the only adult Kevin has been able to talk to for a long time and how Kevin deals with his father on this is the heart of the story.

— Linda Bryant/Charis

HARPERCOLLINS

Hank & Chloe, a first novel by Jo-Ann Mapson, is a contemporary Western romance set in the dwindling rural canyonlands of Southern California. This novel's heroine, Chloe Morgan, is a 33-year-old part-time waitress and small-time horse trainer who loves her German Shepherd and horse more than any person. That is until Henry Oliver, a laid-back professor of folklore at the local college, crosses her path. This is a novel of love, courage, and survival amid an ever-shifting landscape. ($20, 0060169435)

Set in an imaginary country in north Africa, Penelope Lively's new novel, **Cleopatra's Sister**, follows the fate of two lovers and the events that shape their destinies. Paleontologist Howard Beamish and journalist Lucy Faulkner's plane is forced to land in Callimbia and the British passengers on board are held hostage. This tale illustrates the randomness of events that shape both history and human life. ($20 cl, 0060166673, April)

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Public Life, Ellen Akins's new novel, tells the story of Ann Matter, a former filmmaker who has been recruited to market Governor John Anderson in his bid for the presidency. After he wins, she is kept on as his media advisor. Ann herself, however, is won over by the president's popular image and unwittingly sets illusion and reality on a collision course. Akins looks at how images have come to rule contemporary society. ($20 cl, 006016753x, April)

The Fifties by Brett Harvey is a collection of oral histories of all kinds of women from all over the United States. These women remember what they were thinking then, what their parents told them, and what society expected of them. They talk of the penalties for straying from the straight and narrow, the dangers of illegal abortion, having to leave college to get married, and having to lie to a doctor to get birth control. ($20 cl, 0060162791, April)

The Dance Of Deception by Harriet Goldhor Lerner is an exploration of the significance and role of pretending and truth-telling in women's lives. Lerner shows how pretending is what culture teaches women to do and truth-telling is the foundation of authenticity, self-regard, intimacy, integrity and joy. She looks at why women are often compelled to pretend to protect themselves and their relationships and discusses the ramifications of pretending and truth-telling in our most intimate relationships and in society as a whole. She provides honest and perceptive guidance for changing behavior patterns that stand in the way of intimacy. ($22 cl, 0060168161, April)

HARPERPERENNIAL (paperbacks)

When Love Goes Wrong by Ann Jones & Susan Schechter is a self-help book for every woman with a controlling and abusive partner. Drawn from the authors' 15 years of experience working with women in abusive relationships, this book is full of first-person stories and a step-by-step guide to awareness and reclaiming one's life. The authors provide women with practical options, guidance on finding safety and support for themselves and their children, along with a list of resources. ($11 pb, 0060923695)

Fathers And Babies by Jean Marzollo is a comforting and perceptive guide for new fathers who want to participate in the development of their child's earliest months. Marzollo, the author of many books on child development, covers all aspects of maturation from intellectual and social to creative and physical in an accessible format with many drawings. ($10 pb, 0060553227)

A first book for survivors of child sexual abuse, **Beginning To Heal**, by Ellen Bass and Laura Davis is a clear and simplified guide based on *The Courage to Heal*. They have targeted this new guide to survivors who may not be ready for the scope and intensity of their first book and to younger readers or those survivors with lower literacy skills. It also serves as a portable companion to their earlier book. They cover the stages of the healing journey with selected suggestions on healing and brief first-person stories. ($8 pb, 006096927X, April)

For the nearly two million women living with the risk of breast cancer, **Challenging The Breast Cancer Legacy**, by Renee Royak-Schaler and Beryl Lieff-Benderly provides emotional support and up-to-date medical information. The authors outline a systematic program of self-care that helps women cope with the illness and often the loss of a close relative to breast cancer. It also tells women how to determine their own risk level, find good medical care and what questions to ask. ($10 pb, 0060923733, April)

Little Woman by Ellen Akins is a tough, sassy account of a female utopia in the form of a fraudulent home for fallen women in the wilds of Wisconsin. This reissue of her first novel accompanies the publication

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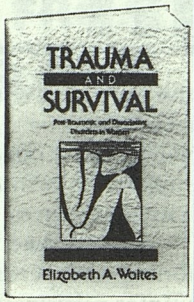
Books That Live

Trauma and Survival

Post-Traumatic and Dissociative Disorders in Women

Elizabeth A. Waites



In this groundbreaking work, Elizabeth Waites proposes a new concept of female psychology, supported by research, that challenges the notion of the pathological or "hysterical" woman. Integrating psychological, legal, sociological, and historical research findings, as well as the psychology of women that has evolved over the last two decades, she offers a new model of mental health that considers dissociation and post-traumatic syndromes as normal reactions to trauma and victimization, both within the family and in the wider cultural context.

0-393-70150-6 March 1993 280 pages $32.95

Getting Through the Day

Strategies for Adults Hurt as Children

Nancy J. Napier

This book will enable adults who were hurt as children to learn new strategies to meet the demands of adult living—strategies that can make this moment, right now, more manageable. While focusing on the effects of dissociation, these strategies will be helpful to anyone who finds that unresolved childhood feelings are blocking life's path; even those with healthy backgrounds who have merely hit a rough spot in the road will benefit greatly from Nancy Napier's wisdom.

0-393-03518-2 June 1993 288 pages $22.95

W.W. Norton & Company

500 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York 10110

of her new novel, *Public Life*, due out in April 1993 fromHarperCollins. ($10 pb, 0060923237, April)

Great Short Works Of Willa Cather edited by Robert Miller includes 10 of Cather's works (written from 1900 to 1920) covering her coming of age in the West during the last years of the frontier, her developing love for the beauty of the grassland and her interest in her Old World neighbors who came to inhabit her fiction. Included in this collection are notes, a chronology and a bibliography of her work. ($9 pb, 0060923768)

From Basic Books is a full-length scientific exploration of children of alcoholics, in **The Alcoholic Family** by Peter Steinglass. This portrait of the effects that life in an alcoholic family has on all family members challenges many of the commonly held notions of an alcoholic family. Steinglass shows that a family's alcoholic identity often holds it together as well as tears it apart. ($15 pb, 0465001122, April) — *Sandi Torkildson*

HARPERSANFRANCISCO

An autobiography by Mary Daly? Yup, folks, it's here: **Outercourse: The Be-Dazzling Voyage Containing Recollections from My Logbook of a Radical Feminist Philosopher (Be-ing an Account of my Time/Space Travels and Ideas - Then, Again, Now, and How** by Mary Daly ($24 cl, 0-06-250194-1) is now available. According to the publisher, Daly's "Voyage through Four Spiral Galaxies involves leaping beyond the mental, physical, emotional, and spiritual walls of patriarchy and, through the process of Re-membering, coming into the fullness of the Expanding Now." Whew. Jacket blurbs by both Harvey Cox and Andrea Dworkin—what a duo. Illustrations by the incredible Sudie Rakusin. Also, the Daly classic **Pure Lust** ($16 pb, 0-06-250208-5) is back in print with Harper SF.

Another "spiritual autobiography" now available is E.M. Broner's **The Telling: A Group of Extraordinary Jewish Women Journey to Spirituality Through Community and Ceremony** ($18 cl, 0-06-060871-4). This is the story of contemporary Jewish feminists (including Grace Paley, Bella Abzug, Gloria Steinem, Letty Cottin Pogrebin and others) who have gathered for more than fifteen years to affirm and develop their

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own sense of what it means to be a Jewish feminist today. The book includes their story as well as songs, poetry, a visionary feminist Haggadah and a glossary. A somewhat more historical book (also due in March) is Brenda Meehan's **Holy Women of Russia** ($17 cl, 0-06-065472-4), which chronicles the lives of five nineteenth-century Russian women who "craved and created environments that combined monastic solitude with a community of like-minded women." Good for stores with strong women's studies sections.

Jamie Sams, author of the *Sacred Path Cards* et al., has another book coming out in April: **The 13 Original Clan Mothers: Your Sacred Path to Discovering the Gifts, Talents, and Abilities of the Feminine Through the Ancient Teachings of the Sisterhood** ($20 cl, 0-06-250759-1). Sams, a member of the Wolf Clan Teaching Lodge, was told by her teachers that she would manifest and share the vision of the thirteenth Clan Mother, "Becomes Her Truth" (what a great name!). Sounds like another very popular and useful book by Sams.

Another hot seller should be Zsuzsanna Budapest's new book, **The Goddess in the Office: A Personal Energy Guide for the Spiritual Warrior at Work** ($10 pb, 0-06-250087-2), which is dedicated to Anita Hill (won my heart right there). Organized by day of the week (so you can coordinate it with your daytimer, I suppose), this resource guide is designed to help working women use their psychic as well as intellectual powers to survive and thrive in the world of work. As a practicing goddess-type myself, I find this whole idea both hysterically funny and very sensible. The only problem will be deciding where to shelve this book.

Vickie Noble, creator of the Motherpeace tarot, also has a new book that we will all want to have: **Uncoiling the Snake: Ancient Patterns in Contemporary Women's Lives - A Snake Power Reader** ($14 pb, 0-06-250549-1, April). The collection is described as a multicultural collection of essays, stories, pictures, and poems that focus of shamanic healing. I wonder if this is what happened to Noble's *Snake Power* magazine?

Her Blood is Gold: Celebrating the Power of Menstruation (13 pb, 0-06-250641-2) by Lara Owen includes personal story, history and ritual. Rachel Pollack's **Shining Woman Tarot: The Tarot of the Spirits** ($33 cl, 1-85538-098-6) is an eclectic tarot deck based on goddess lore, aboriginal art, Native American and other traditions. The four suits she uses are: trees, river, birds and stones.

Malcolm Boyd, the famous gay priest, has a new book, **Take Off the Masks: The Classic Spiritual Autobiography, Revised with a New Epilogue** ($12 pb, 0-06-060863-3). Another book for stores that stock gay male writers is **Wonderfully, Fearfully Made: Letters on Living with Hope, Teaching Understanding, and Ministering with Love, from a Gay Catholic Priest with AIDS** ($10 pb 0-06-060075-6) by Fr. Robert L. Arpin.

New out in paper is Diana Souhami's acclaimed bio, **Gertrude and Alice** ($14 pb, 0-06-250915-2). Promo blurbs include praise from May Sarton and Perdita Shaffner, daughter of H.D. The book was nominated for a Lambda Literary Award last year. A 16 x 22 poster (presumably with the cover photo of the dynamic duo) is available from the publisher. Also out in paper is Charlene Spretnak's **States of Grace: The Recovery of Meaning in the Post Modern Age** ($12 pb, 0-06-250697-8).

Marcia Falk has done a new feminist translation of **The Song of Songs** ($12 pb, 0-06-250306-5) with illustrations by Barry Moser. Marcia Falk is a widely published translator of Hebrew and Yiddish poetry. Promotional blurbs are by Adrienne Rich and Isaac Bashevis Singer. Another ritual book with an interest-

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NEW DIRECTIONS IN FEMINIST PSYCHOLOGY
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199 2 272pp 0-8261-7540-6 hc $34.95 (outside US $38.80)

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F. L. Cohen, PhD, FAAN, and **J. D. Durham,** RN, PhD
Comprehensive resource detailing the effects of HIV/AIDS as they affect women, children, and society.
1993 328pp 0-8261-7880-4 hc $37.95 (outside US $41.80)

EMPOWERING AND HEALING THE BATTERED WOMAN: A Model for Assessment and Intervention
M. A. Dutton, PhD
"...integrates psychological theory with detailed information on the real-life dimensions of abuse and threat in interpersonal relationships."—**Angela Browne,** PhD
1992 224pp 0-8261-7130-3 hc $28.95 (outside US $32.80)

EMPLOYED MOTHERS AND THE FAMILY CONTEXT NEW
J. Frankel, PhD
Springer Series: Focus on Women, Vol. 14
1993 304pp 0-8261-7950-9 $38.95 (prepub)

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ing combo of reviewers (Carolyn Heilbrun and Harvey Cox) is Tom Driver's **The Magic of Ritual** ($12 pb, 0-06-061897-3).

Other spiritually-oriented books include **Sophia: Goddess of Wisdom** by Caitlin Matthews ($15 pb, 0-06-8-5538-275-X), and **The Way of the Orisha: Empowering Your Life Through the Ancient African Religion of Ifa** by Philip John Neimark ($12 pb, 0-06-250557-2). Bishop John Shelby Spong (author of *Born of a Woman* et al.) also had a March release that may be of interest to stores that do a lot of theology. Harper SF has other Jesus-related releases this spring, but I've included the Spong book because of his history as a pro-feminist and gay-friendly theologian who sells fairly well among our mainstream-but-questioning-the-church customers. Spong's new book is **The Hebrew Lord: A Bishop's Search for the Authentic Jesus** ($12 pb, 0-06-067520-9).

In recovery, there are a few offerings of note: **Affirmations, Meditations, and Encouragements for Women Living with Breast Cancer** by Linda Dackman ($11 pb, 0-06-250209-3) is available now. Given the fact that one in nine of us will develop breast cancer in our lifetimes and more women die each year of breast cancer than people die of AIDS, this book is long overdue. Might shelve well with *Cancer in Two Voices* or *Cancer as a Woman's Issue* as well as with the recovery/affirmation books. **Walking on Alligators: A Book of Meditations for Women** by Susan Shaughnessy ($10 pb, 0-06-250758-3) looks like a fun and useful book. Tagged as a "daily motivator" for women who write, the book contains 200 short and quirky essays. Sounds like a great gift for a writer or wannabe. Melody Beattie's **Codependent No More: How to Stop Controlling Others and Start Caring for Yourself** has a new preface, a new cover and a new price ($10 pb, 0-06-255446-8).

— Audrey J. May/Meristem

HOUGHTON MIFFLIN

Dakota by poet Kathleen Norris takes the reader to the geographical heart of the country, America's so-called empty quarter, a land devoid of human presence but rich in natural life. For almost twenty years Kathleen Norris has lived in the isolated town built by her grandparents on the border between North and South Dakota. From a town "so small that the poets and ministers have to hang out together," Norris weaves together the lives of farmers, townsfolk, Native Americans and a community of Benedictine monks. ($19.95 cl, 0395633206)

A novel about the contemporary South, **In Troubled Waters** by Beverly Coyle, explores race, family and community and tackles the latent racism that lies beneath the veneer of polite society. When 92-year-old Tom Glover hires two black boys to take his son-in-law, who suffers from Alzheimer's, to the local fishing hole each day, he unleashes the festering racism of his small Florida community. Tom is forced to confront his own history and the changing nature of racial conflict in the South. ($19.95 cl, 0395574374)

MACMILLAN

Sacred Country by Rose Tremain is a new novel that starts on a snowy day in rural England in 1952 at the Ward family gathering to mourn the death of King George VI. On this day, at the age of six, Mary Ward realizes that she is really a boy and her destiny in life is to be a man. For the next thirty years the reader

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watches with amusement and sadness as Mary, who becomes Martin, pursues her/his identity. This is also the story of Mary/Martin's mother who periodically checks into the local asylum, her brother with his own particular vision and the neighborhood kid who is enchanted with the music of Jimmie Rodgers. ($21 cl, 0689121709, April)

A new recovery book for men looks at the factors that make men vulnerable to addiction. **Hungry Hearts**, by Joseph Nowinski, reveals that all addiction is the result of emotional desperation. Nowinski examines the psychological processes of addiction, why men in particular are so vulnerable and what they can do to overcome addiction and the addictive tendencies within themselves. ($22.95, 0029232252, May)

Healing The Hurt Places by Barbara Bean and Shari Bennett is a recovery guide for teens who have been sexually abused. All adolescents experience tremendous change and concerns about sexuality, independence and self-image, but for teens that are victims of sexual abuse these problems are exacerbated. They often have trouble distinguishing between a typical concern and one that results from sexual abuse and the ensuing shame. The author of this book offers concrete advice for reporting an incident and seeking counseling, and validates the conflicting emotions teens feel. ($9.95 pb, 0029020158, April)

E. Annie Proulx's debut novel, **Postcard**, spins the tale of Loyal Blood, who abandons his Vermont farm when he commits the most terrible of crimes. This is the beginning of an American odyssey that stretches from New England to the coast of California. Loyal mines gold, prospects for uranium, grows beans, ranches, traps and hunts for fossils in this wonderful tale rich in historical detail of hard scrabble lives. ($10 pb, 0020811853, April)

Summer Rain by Marguerite Duras is an unsentimental, profoundly evocative tale of love, loss and the essence of human identity. It centers around a large and rootless immigrant family bound together by powerful intimacy in the no-man's land of suburban Paris. ($9 pb, 0020730403, May)

W. W. NORTON

Portrait Of The Artist's Wife by Barbara Anderson is an intelligent and unsentimental look at the complex marriage between Sarah Tandy, a painter, and Jack Macalister, a struggling and eventually highly acclaimed writer. This novel has been called a novelistic "A Room of One's Own." Sarah struggles to nurture her talent amid the obstacles created by a stormy marriage, the pressures of bringing up two children and the social demands and expectations put on all women. ($21.95 cl, 0393034895, April)

Collected Poems 1930-1993 by May Sarton is a comprehensive collection that celebrates six decades of her bold imagination and 13 books of poetry. This collection is arranged chronologically and shows Sarton's development as a poet as well as her ease in both traditional forms and free verse. ($27.50 cl, 0393034933, May)

A rich portrait of five women in a fantastical Southwestern family, **So Far From God** by Ana Castillo is a new novel by the author of *The Mixquiahuala Letters*. The small town of Tome in central New Mexico is a place crowded with life: the past and the present, the real with the supernatural, the Native American with the Hispanic with the Anglo, the men with the women. Castillo weaves the story of Sofia and her daughters Fe, Esperanza, Caridad and la Loca with the hands of a magician and the spirit of an unrepentant feminist. ($19.95 cl, 0393034909, May)

The Balkan Express by Croatian journalist and novelist Slavenka Drakulic looks at the violent conflict in Yugoslavia. Drakulic describes how ordinary people respond to that gruesome situation in this collection of essays. She wonders if she and people like her are responsible for allowing this war to start and shows how it has destroyed everyday life, disrupted relationships and turned close friends into bitter ene-

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mies. Her book is an important work about this tragedy. ($19.95 cl, 0393034968, May)

Barbara Katz Rothman looks at the effects of amniocentesis on the experience of motherhood in her new book **The Tentative Pregnancy**. She shows how this simple procedure has radically altered the way we think about childbirth and parenthood and has forced us to confront agonizing dilemmas: What do you do if there is a problem with the fetus? What kind of support is available to raise a handicapped child? How do you decide to end a wanted pregnancy? She draws on the experience of over 120 women in this passionate, sympathetic and informative book for anyone thinking of having a child. ($9.95 pb, 0393309983, April)

Not The End Of The World by Rebecca Stowe is a tour de force about the tomboy daughter of the owner of a successful candy factory. After an explosive incident at school, Maggie, the spirited, funny and troubled adolescent daughter is just trying to make it through a long summer at home while harboring an old family secret. ($8.95 pb, 039331006X, May)

Another novel with an adolescent heroine, **Sweet Days Of Discipline** by Fleur Jaeggy, marks this Italian author's American debut. Set in postwar Switzerland, this is the story of fourteen-year-old Eve who charts her constricted boarding-school friendship with the apparently perfect new girl, Frederique. Eve's obsession with death and madness grow in the splendid isolation of a small Swiss garden until it obscures every perspective. ($8.95 pb, 0811212351, May, New Directions)

Norton will be doing new editions of three May Sarton titles in April. You may want to note these as they may be unavailable until the new editions are out: **Mrs. Stevens Hears The Mermaids Singing** ($8.95 pb, 0393309290), **The Education Of Harriet Hatfield** ($8.95 pb, 0393310299) and **At Seventy** ($9.95 pb, 0393310302).

Also Norton will reissue two new trade paperback editions of Adrienne Rich's **Dream Of A Common Language** ($8.95 pb, 0393310337,April) and **A Wild Patience Has Taken Me This Far** ($8.95 pb, 039331037X, July).

PENGUIN BOOKS/ PLUME (paperbacks)

Blanche Wiesen Cook's biography of Eleanor Roosevelt will be published in paperback in March, women's history month. **Eleanor Roosevelt, Volume One, 1884-1932** shows Roosevelt as a woman of power and influence who struggled for social justice but also for her own self-realization. Born into a Southern aristocratic family that was ravaged by alcoholism, she overcame the prejudices of her roots and fought against racism and injustice and for the rights of women. In her private life she formed lasting intimate friendships with both men and women. ($15 pb, 0140094601)

Ordinary Women, Extraordinary Lives by Marcia Chellis introduces a process of personal transformation that can change a woman's life. Looking at the lives of eight women that have made profound changes, Chellis shows how self-empowerment is a five-stage process involving accepting, networking, choosing, shifting and mentoring. From the story of Marie who beat alcoholism and founded a halfway house to Joni who recovered from a crippling accident to set world triathalon records, these extraordinary women transcended their dire circumstances to become what they wanted to be. ($10 pb, 0140147411, April)

Rebecca Goldstein's new novel, **The Dark Sister**, tells the story of Hedda, a writer of feminist novels, and her sister Stella, who has married and divorced several times. Between these sisters there is much mutual anger and disdain but also shared childhood traumas and secrets. As Hedda writes her novel of two Victorian sisters, the lives of her characters overlap the lives of her and her sister. ($11 pb, 0140172475) Penguin will also re-issue Goldstein's first novel **The Mind-Body Problem** ($11 pb, 0140172459)

Danger And Beauty by Jessica Hagedorn (the author of *Dogeaters*) is a collection of poetry and prose. Hagedorn takes her life from her childhood in the Philippines to her confrontation with the strange new worlds of New York and San Francisco and transforms it into stories, poems and autobiographical pieces that show the heartbeat and heartbreaks of the immigrant experience. ($13 pb, 0140173404)

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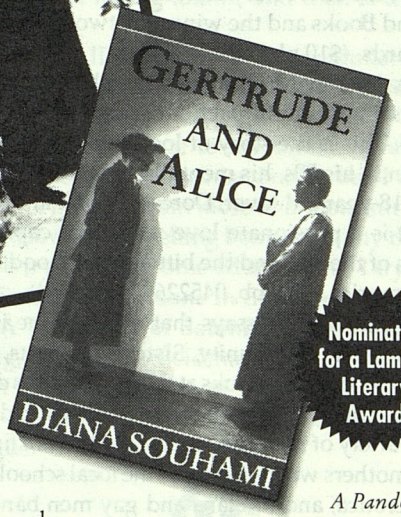
—Perdita Schaffner, daughter of H.D., in *New Directions for Women*



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A sophisticated novel of modern romance, **The Republic Of Love** by Carol Shields, is a story of love at first sight. Fay, a folklorist with a passion for mermaids wonders if she is using the past to escape the present, forsaking spontaneity for security. Tom is a late-night disc jockey, who has married and divorced three times by the age of 40. When Fay and Tom meet they fall in love with exuberance. But complications beset them in this funny, touching, and serious novel. ($10 pb, 0140149902, April)

The best novel I read last year, **Bastard Out Of Carolina** by Dorothy Allison, is a tender but disturbing story of the harsh realities of poor white "trash" in South Carolina. This is the story of Ruth Anne Boatwright and her family of hard-drinking men and indomitable women who marry young and age quickly. Ruth Anne, called Bone by her family, loves her family with a passion, but would do anything to escape from her life and her mean stepfather Daddy Glen, who pits her mother's love for Bone against her love for him. Please read this book and sell it. Dorothy Allison is the author of the short story collection *Trash* published by Firebrand Books and the winner of two Lambda Literary Awards. ($10 pb, 0452269571)

Jazz by Toni Morrison is a novel about obsession and music and the impact of slavery on the Harlem jazz age. This is the story of Joe Trace, a door-to-door salesman in his 50s, his mentally unstable wife, Violet and his 18-year old lover, Dorcas. Set in Harlem in the 1920s, it is a passionate love story that captures the rhythms of the city and the bittersweet mood of Black life in America. ($10 pb, 0452269652, April)

A collection of essays that explores the issues of today's lesbian community, **Sisters, Sexperts, Queers** edited by Arlene Stein looks at the tremendous diversity of lesbian culture. The essays in this collection deal with a wide variety of subjects—including but not limited to lesbian mothers worrying about the local school system, lesbian erotica, and lesbians and gay men banding together to fight AIDS. Dorothy Allison's essays on class difference in the lesbian community and editor Arlene Stein's look at lesbian pop music stars are included along with essays by Alisa Solomon, Jackie Goldsby and Lourdes Arguelles. ($10 pb, 0452268877, April)

The Four Of Us by Elizabeth Swados is the memoir of her seemingly blessed family. Her father was a successful lawyer and her mother was gifted and attractive but her older bother was eventually diagnosed as a schizophrenic and her mother suffered from anxiety and depression. Swados creates a complex and resonant picture of the four sides of a family rectangle and of her own efforts not to succumb to the tragedy. A spellbinding narrative. ($10 pb, 0452269601, April)

RANDOM HOUSE

New York Times' columnist Anna Quindlen ruminates about the public and private issues of our time in her syndicated column. **Thinking Out Loud** collects columns that reveal what is on her mind and in her heart as she illuminates the clash between the private the public. She addresses such issues as war, political campaigns, the right to die, abortion, sexual harassment, and rape. She has a sharp eye, a sense of humor and compassion. ($22 cl, 0679407111, April)

Left To Themselves by Mary Grimm is a novel about repression, loss and love in ordinary lives: Harry has been in and out of jobs, bars, and women's beds; his cousin married Cynthia who spends her days waiting for him; and Lucette, a distant, passionate, passive woman who becomes a catalyst for change in their lives. The aimlessness and carelessness with which these characters live their lives stem from complexities they are determined to ignore and repress. ($21 cl, 0679401016, April)

Bloodlines: Odyssey Of A Native Daughter is a collection of essays on writing, on reservation life, and on being a woman by Janet Campbell Hale, the author of *The Jailing of Cecelia Capture*. This rich tapestry of history and storytelling interweaves Hale's own experiences with portraits of relatives both living and dead. Hale writes about her determination to write as a four-year-old, even before she knew the alphabet. Her portrait of her half-brother's mother's life in poverty parallels her own experiences as a single mother on welfare. She also remembers her proud grandmother who was a participant in the tragic Great Flight of 1877. ($18 cl, 0679415270, April)

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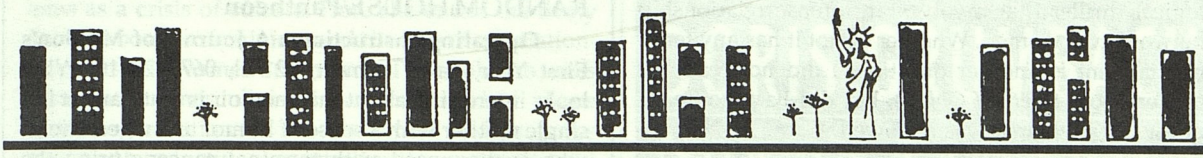

RANDOM\Villard

My Mother Worked And I Turned Out Okay by Katherine Goldman is a positive, reinforcing book for working mothers. Goldman, the daughter of a working mother, interviewed adult children of working women to support her case of the twelve principles of working motherhood. This upbeat, first-person reminiscence covers a wide range of subjects. Her mother, Lois Wyse, supplied the Afterword. ($16 cl, 0679415440, April)

RANDOM\Vintage

Passions Of The Mind is a collection of criticism by A. S. Byatt, the author of *Possession*. She covers such topics as Victorian spirituality, the mythic strands in the novels of Iris Murdoch, and the politics behind the popularity of Barbara Pym. She also looks at the writings of George Eliot, Sylvia Plath, and Toni Morrison. ($12 pb, 0679736786, April). Turtle Bay Books, (distributed by Random House) will publish two of her novellas, **Angels & Insects** this Spring. *The Conjugal Angel* is a philosophical ghost story that explores the contemporary preoccupation with God and life after death and *Morpho Eugenia* is a Gothic fable about the Earthly Paradise, Darwinian Theories and the parallels between insect and human societies. ($21 cl, 0679405127, April)

Sleepwalker In A Fog is a collection of short stories by Russian writer Tatyana Tolstaya. Set in contemporary Russia these stories transform seemingly ordinary lives into something magical and strange. ($10 pb, 067973063, April)

Wendy Kaminer looks at the recovery movement and other self-help movements in **I'm Dysfunctional, You're Dysfunctional**. This outspoken social criticism of a national movement that is also a multi-million dollar industry may help us question how we are led astray with the best intentions. Whether she is infiltrating a codependency workshop or evaluating the claims of the likes of Shirley MacLaine or M. Scott Peck, Kaminer finds a tendency toward authoritarianism and religiosity in many of these self-help group. ($10 pb, 0679745858, April) — *Sandi Torkildson*

RANDOM HOUSE/Crown

Ladies of the Court: Grace and Disgrace on the Women's Tennis Circuit, Michael Mewshaw, $22 cl, 0517587580. Here is one man's view of women's tennis, so who knows? But there are those women (some of our customers!) who love tennis and want to know everything possible about the fascinating women who win on the court.

We have both an AIDS section and a small section of fiction and poetry by men at our store and I think this book fits both categories. **A Rock and A Hard Place: One Boy's Triumphant Story**, $22 cl, 051759501X, is the memoir of a 14-year-old boy who survives abuse at home, leaves to find his way on the streets, finds a loving family, and then is diagnosed with AIDS.

Another AIDS book — they have updated **When Someone You Know Has AIDS: A Practical Guide**, $16 pb, 0517880393.

I never know what to say until I have actually looked at these satanic abuse books, but I do know that we are hearing from more and more survivors of such abuse and also selling books to many therapists who are trying to become educated, so I try most of them. This one is **Lessons in Evil, Lessons From the Light: A True Story of Satanic Abuse and Spiritual Healing**, Gail Carr Feldman, $21 cl, 0517588773. Written by the therapist of the survivor, this book details the abuse and the healing, according to the catalogue.

RANDOM HOUSE/Knopf

In a Country of Mothers, $22 cl, 0679415688, by A.M. Homes (*Jack*) sounds like a well-written psycho-

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logical thriller that involves an intense relationship between two women. Whether or not it has any feminist content is another question. I did not read her earlier book, *Safety of Objects*, but did have some requests for it when it was reviewed.

Do you sell much Alice Adams? I don't, but there seems to be a following for her in paper. Anyway, I should mention that she has a new novel, **Almost Perfect**, $23 cl, 0679423982, that seems to be about love and madness.

For all the women who dream of flying (a plane!), Mariana Gosnell has written **Zero Three Bravo: Solo Across America in a Small Plane**, $25 cl, 0679400257. As she flies from one small airport to another, Mariana tells not only her own experiences, but the tales of the other pilots of small planes whom she meets along the way. — *Linda Bryant/Charis*

RANDOM\Knopf

Susan Fromberg Schaeffer's new novel, **First Nights**, involves us with two remarkable women: Anna Asta, a legendary Swedish actress and Ivy Cook, her maid. Anna, a child of poverty and a star of Hollywood's glory days, is now a recluse living in New York. Ivy is a child of the warm and vibrant world of Green Island in the West Indies, whose adult life merges with her memories of the tales of love and betrayal she heard as a child. This 600+ page novel is packed with fabulous characters such as Miss Blue, the "story tailor,", so called because she can change the ending of your story to suit. ($25 cl, 0394588207, April)

Theory Of War is a novel by Joan Brady narrated by the granddaughter of a white man sold into slavery just after the Civil War. This was common practice of poor, destitute families. This "boughten boy" of four was sold for fifteen dollars and thus began his six decades of humiliation and determination to revenge himself on his tormentors. He escapes with the railroad and we follow his career as a brakeman, his days as a fundamentalist preacher, his loss of faith, his marriage and the rage that is always there, just under the surface and often breaking through. ($21, 0679419667, April) — *Sandi Torkildson*

RANDOM HOUSE/Pantheon

Operating Instructions: A Journal of My Son's First Year, Anne Lamott, $21 cl, 0679420916. What looks interesting about this memoir is that Lamott is a single mother with a sense of humor and a best friend who is diagnosed with terminal cancer during the same year that the two of them are going through the experience of birth together. The catalogue says that, "Her complex vision, inspired by joy, makes us laugh out loud."

In the Eye of the Sun, Ahdaf Soueif, $25 cl, 0679409483. In our constant attempt to understand more of the world and the experiences of women all over the world, I usually order novels that seem authentic. This one is described as "a brilliant novel of cultural collision that reveals, with startling precision, the hidden life of contemporary Arab women." It is written about (and by) an Egyptian woman living in London.

RANDOM HOUSE/Shambala

Lifting the Veil: The Feminine Face of Science, Linda Jean Shepherd, $14 pb, 0877736561. This book does not seem to be about women in science, but about the feminine principle as it emerges in the new physics, the new biology, etc.

Psychotherapy, Marie-Louise Von Franz, $16 pb, 0877738793. Essays for your Jungians.

RANDOM HOUSE/Turtle Bay

Angels and Insects, A.S. Byatt, $21 cl, 0679405127. Two novellas set in the mid-nineteenth century questioning whether in fact nature (human or otherwise) can be tamed.

Girl, Interrupted, Susanna Kaysen, $19 cl, 0679423664. The memoir of an 18-year-old girl who was hospitalized in a psychiatric hospital (after a 20 minute session with a doctor) for two years.

— *Linda Bryant/Charis*

ROUTLEDGE CHAPMAN HALL

Earth Follies: Coming to Terms with the Global Environmental Crisis, Joni Seager, $27.50 cl, 0-415-90720-9, April. Seager, a geography and women's studies teacher, sees our current environmental prob-

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lems as a crisis of culture. Here she enters the lively debate about ecofeminism and the historical relationship between women and nature. The book also takes a look at the masculinist presumptions which shape many organizations in the movement and proposes new and productive priorities for the environmental agenda.

Boots of Leather, Slippers of Gold: The History of a Lesbian Community, Elizabeth Lapovsky Kennedy and Madeline D. Davis, $29.95 cl, 0-415-90293-2. This is the *long* awaited herstory of the lesbian community in Buffalo, NY from the mid-1930's to the early 1960's. Excerpts from the study and articles about it have been floating around for years, so many women will be eagerly awaiting this title.

Perversions: Deviant Readings, Mandy Merck, $13.95 pb, 0-415-90792-6; $49.95 cl, -90791-8, April. This series of provocative essays on culture, art, and film explores the paradoxes of sexual representation. Merck looks at Andrea Dworkin's *Intercourse*, lesbian "self-portraits," Amazons and Radclyffe Hall, as well as the feminist ethics of lesbian s/m.

The Lesbian and Gay Studies Reader, edited by Henry Abelove, Michele Aina Barale and David Halperin ($24.95 pb, 0-415-90519-2; $59.50 cl, -90518-4) claims to be the biggest and most comprehensive multi-disciplinary anthology of critical work in lesbian/gay studies. The 42 groundbreaking essays are followed by an extensive bibliographical essay which will provide readers with an invaluable guide to further readings. Essayists include, among others: Marilyn Frye, Gloria Hull, Audre Lorde, Adrianne Rich, Barbara Smith, and Monique Wittig.

Gender Politics and Post-Communism: Reflections from Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union, Nanette Funk and Magda Mueller, eds, $17.95 pb, 0-415-90478-1; $55 cl, -90477-3, April. A study of gender politics during the turbulent transition and crises of post-communism, this book aims to provoke discourse on many issues facing women in the East.

Engenderings: Constructions of Knowledge, Authority and Privilege, Naomi Scheman, $15.95 pb, 0-415-90740-3; $49.95 cl, -90739-X, June. Scheman, a professor of philosophy and women's studies, looks

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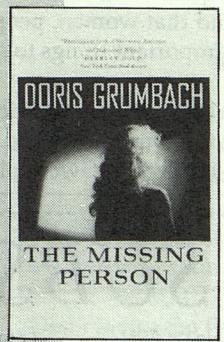

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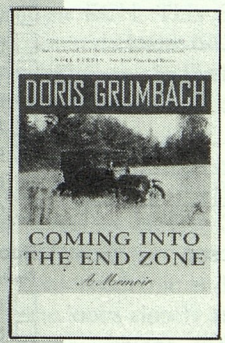

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at philosophy as emerging not from the universal human condition but from conditions of privilege. Acknowledging the challenges posed by those who have been marginalized by the academy, the author examines the difficulties of theorizing responsibility from a privileged perspective.

Feminist Theory and the Classics ($16.95 pb, 0-415-90646-6; $49.95 cl, -90645-8, June) edited by Nancy Sorkin Rabinowitz and Amy Richlin, challenges the traditional picture of the ancient world put forth by conservatives and scholars such as Camille Paglia who assert that feminist theories have no relevance to ancient societies. The book demonstrates that the ancient world was always multi-cultural and varied; that women played an important role in classical societies; that ancient people expressed homoerotic as well as heterosexual desire; and that women, people of color, and gays today have important things to say about ancient cultures.

My Soul is My Own: Oral Narratives of African American Women in the Professions ($14.95 pb, 0-415-90560-5; $49.95 cl, -90559-1, May) by Gwendolyn Etter-Lewis presents the lives of early twentieth century African-American women in their own words. This looks like a real treasure for those interested in oral histories, as it presents not only each woman's own words but also a critical examination of the interviewer/interviewee relationship and other questions associated with the process of putting together oral histories.

Spirit, Space and Survival: African American Women in (White) Academe ($15.95 pb, 0-415-90637-7; $49.95 cl, -90636-9, May) is edited by Joy James and Ruth Farmer and has a preface by Angela Davis. Organized in three sections, the collected essays cover spiritual and intellectual sources of inspiration, critiques of certain academic traditions, and the future needs of African-American women in academia.

The Compulsion to Create: A Psychoanalytic Study of Women Artists, Susan Kavaler-Adler, $17.95 pb, 0-415-90711-X; $55 cl, - 90710-1, June. This is an exploration of the psychological nature of creativity with an evocative portrayal of its dark side. The book maintains a balance in which the reparative use of the creative process can be appreciated, while also revealing the unconscious forces of opposition that sabotage such healthy strivings. In addition to looking at writ-

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ers such as the Bronte sisters, Emily Dickinson, and Sylvia Plath, the author presents a case study of a living female artist and suggests how her theory plays itself out in this artist's work and life.

Transformations: Recollective Imagination and Sexual Difference ($15.95 pb, 0-415-90747-0; $49.95 cl, -90746-2, April) by Druscilla Cornell argues for a new understanding of social change that focuses on the tie between political and individual transformation. She claims that we cannot even begin to understand racism and the connection between race and gender unless we begin to grapple with the role unconscious motivation plays in public life.

The History of Doing: The Women's Movement in India ($19.95 pb, 0-86091-665-0; $64.95 cl, -455-0, Verso) by Radha Kumar presents a herstory of the women's movement in India which covers the period from the nineteenth century to the present day.

Queer Looks: Perspectives on Lesbian and Gay Film and Video, edited by Martha Gever, Prathiba Parmar, and John Greyson looks at the queer place lesbian and gay media artists find themselves in right now. Caught in the struggle between being the hot new commodity on one hand and backlash on the other, queer video artists, filmmakers and critics have much to say. $17.95 pb, 0-415-90742-X; $49.95 cl, -90741-1, May.

Cinema and Spectatorship by Judith Mayne focuses on the history and role of the spectator in contemporary film studies. She evaluates 1970s film theory from a feminist analysis of female spectatorship and looks at how the film-spectator relationship is shaped by particular cultural factors. $16.95 pb, 0-415-03416-7; $49.95 cl, -03415-9, May.

Changing Subjects: The Making of Feminist Literary Criticism, edited by Gayle Greene and Coppelia Kahn, is a collection of autobiographical essays by eminent feminist literary critics exploring the process by which women scholars became feminist scholars. $15.95 pb, 0-415-08686-8; $49.95 cl, -08685-X.

If you have a section on "men and feminism" this might sell, although the cover is not highly attractive and the book seems a bit academic. David Porter's **Between Men and Feminism** explores how two decades of feminism have affected the way men define their own masculinities and how they have responded in their social, sexual, and political lives to the challenges posed by the evolving feminist critiques of patriarchy and maleness itself. $15.95 pb, 0-415-06988-2; $52.50 cl, -06987-4.

For those bookstores with a notable Italian-American audience, **The Lonely Mirror: Italian Perspectives on Feminist Theory**, edited by Sandra Kemp and Paola Bono will be of interest. This collection of essays sets out to contextualize Italian feminist theory within the international debate. $16.95 pb, 0-415-03778-6; $59.95 cl, -03777-8, April.

Don't forget the **Feminist Review**, the UK's leading socialist feminist journal. It is available in the US through RCH. This Spring's offerings: Issue #41: Women and Health ($12.95 pb, 0- 415-08025-8, March); Issue #42: Feminist Fictions ($12.95 pb, - 08026-6, May); Issue #43: Issues for Feminism ($12.95 pb, -09606- 5, July.)

Contemporary Feminist Theatres: To Each Her Own, $16.95 pb, 0-415-07306-5; $49.95 cl, -07305-7, April. Author Lizbeth Goodman offers part social history of feminism and part exploration of the links between academic and practical approaches to theatre. She looks closely at the representation of women, feminists, lesbians, and Black women engaged in the act of representing "self" in both theatre and everyday life.

Women in Foreign Policy: The Insiders by Nancy McGlen and Meredith Reid Sarkees provides

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Mass Market Paperbacks

By Karen Axness
March

He, She and It by Marge Piercy, $5.99, 0-449-22060-5, Fawcett. Piercy's latest novel is set in an intentional community in an environmentally-devastated twenty-first century. Recommended.

Set for Life by Judith Freeman, $4.99, 0-345-37947-0, Ballantine. Freeman's latest novel is about a sixteen-year-old runaway from a neo-Nazi stepfather and a retired widower with a transplanted heart. The hardcover received good reviews.

At Weddings and Wakes by Alice McDermott, $5.99, 0-440-21523-4, Dell. The story of one Irish-Catholic family, McDermott's third novel got rave reviews.

Sarah Canary by Karen Joy Fowler, $5.99, 0-8217-4088-1, Zebra. Don't miss this splendid first novel, Ingram and Baker and Taylor will have it. They're using the hard cover dust jacket art on the cover, so it will look good, too.

Wilderness Tips by Margaret Atwood, $6.99, 0-553-56046-8, Bantam. Atwood's latest collection of stories in paper at last.

Dancing Girls by Margaret Atwood, $5.99, 0-553-56169-3, Bantam. First mass market edition of this story collection. ○

insight into the challenges faced by the women who have shaped US foreign policy. Highlighted by interviews with 10 leading women in the field, the book is a look at the making of foreign policy during the Reagan years. $15.95 pb, 0-415-90512-5; $49.95 cl, -90511-7.

If you number teachers/teachers-to-be among your customers, you may want to stock **Freedom's Plow: Teaching in the Multicultural Classroom**, edited by Theresa Perry and James Fraser. It sounds as if this is to be the first in a series of volumes. This volume contains a discussion by the editors which contextualizes the current multicultural debate and reflective essays and accounts of efforts to implement anti-racist curricula and development of new curricula. Bibliographies, discographies, sample math and writing exercises round out the volume. $16.95 pb, 0-415-90700-4; $55 cl, -90699-7.

Again, for the teachers: **I Answer With My Life: Life Histories of Women Teachers Working for Social Change**. This collection of oral histories by Kathleen Casey focuses on the narratives of three sets of teachers: Catholic nuns, Jewish women and Black women, all of whom combine their classroom work with personal work for social change. $15.95 pb, 0-415-90403-X; $49.95 cl, -90402-1.

Gendered Fields: Women, Men, and Ethnography edited by Diane Bell, Pat Caplan, and Wazir Jahan Karim examines and explores the progress of feminist anthropology. The contributors show how gender issues affect international and group dynamics in the field. $16.95 pb, 0-415-06252-7; $59.95 cl, -06251-9.

Gendered Anthropology edited by Teresa del Valle looks at the progress made in the last three decades in the study of gender as an analytical category within the field of anthropology. Why am I not surprised to learn that anthropologists have had to rethink major theories as a result of factoring in this "category" called gender? $17.95 pb, 0-415-06127-X; $59.95 cl, -06126-1, May.

A new series...International Studies of Women and Place describes the diversity and complexity of women's experiences around the world. The titles in the series will work across different geographies to explore the processes behind the construction of gender and the life worlds of women. Series editors are Janet Momson (*Women and Development in the Third World*) and Janice Monk. The first three titles are: **Viva: Women and Popular Protest in Latin America** by Sarah Radcliffe and Sallie Westwood ($16.95 pb, 0-415-07313-8; $55 cl, -07312-X), **Different Places, Different Voices: Gender and Development in Africa, Asia and Latin America** edited by Janet Momson and Vivian Kinnaird ($16.95 pb, 0-415-07563-7; $55 cl, -07358-6), and **Full Circles: Geographies of Women Over the Life Course** edited by Janice Monk and Cindi Katz ($16.95 pb, 0-415-07562-9; $55 cl, -07552-1.)

— *ME Kavanuagh/My Sister's Words* ○

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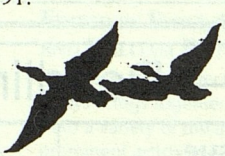
Canadian Books, *continued from page 60.*

those who stayed behind. Yvonne Vera was born in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe and now lives in Toronto. $11.95 pb, 0-920661-24-6.

I come to the end of the column once more with two Canadian women mystery writers who have new books out. **The Wandering Soul Murders** is Gail Bowen's third Joanne Kilbourn mystery (the first two are *Deadly Appearances* and *Murder at the Mendel*). Kilbourn's search for a murderer takes her from the temporary homes of street kids to the upper class dwellings of highly placed political advisors, powerful businesspeople and television officials. As with the first two mysteries, Bowen creates the tension of the murder mystery in an environment that is comfortable and homey. $24.95 cl, 1-55054-069-6. Douglas & McIntyre, 1615 Venables Street, Vancouver, BC V5L 2H1. 604-254-7191.



And finally, Sechelt, a small town on the Sunshine Coast in British Columbia, is again the scene for the new L.R. Wright, **Fall from Grace**. This one features a wonderful old woman with innumerable cats, as well as the regular inhabitants of the town. $5.99 pb, 0-7704-2522-4. Seal Books (McClelland Bantam, Inc.) 105 Bond Street, Toronto, ONT M5B 1Y3. ○

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Fall Announcements	Aug. 13	Aug. 12	Sept. 2
University Press	Oct. 5	Oct. 5	Oct. 21

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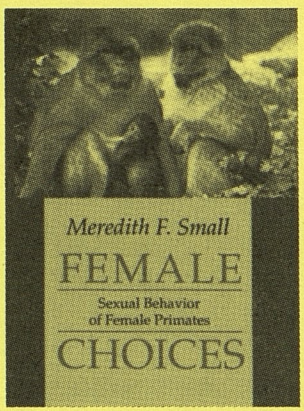

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