# Feminist Bookstore News I: NIIII



Fall Announcements

Volume 16 Number 3

Feminia Serial am F32978

October 1993

## Vital and provocative new books from Press Gang Publishers...



Out on Main Street

Shani Mootoo

From a talented new lesbian writer come these nine alluring stories infused with humour and desire.

ISBN 0-88974-052-6 Paper, \$12.95



In Her I Am

Chrystos

An electrifying collection of lesbian erotic writing – outrageous, risky and original.

ISBN 0-88974-033-X

Paper, \$10.95



Ravensong
Lee Maracle

A passionate coming-ofage novel about a young Aboriginal woman bridging the gulf between Native and white cultures.

ISBN 0-88974-044-5 Paper, \$12.95



Her Head a Village
Makeda Silvera

Compelling stories about "outsiders" – immigrants, Black women, lesbians – claiming their place in contemporary North America.

ISBN 0-88974-056-9 Paper, \$12.95

#### Unruly Women: Essays on Confinement and Resistance

Karlene Faith

A powerful investigation of unruly women resisting society's discipline, it challenges misconceptions about "deviant" criminalized women.

ISBN 0-88974-050-X Paper, \$16.95



#### PRESS GANG PUBLISHERS

603 Powell Street, Vancouver, BC V6A I H2 Canada 604-253-2537

Distributed to the trade by Inland, Bookpeople, and Pacific Pipeline.

### NOTES FROM COMPUTER TABLE



FBN moved at the end of September. Our new street addresss is 2358 Market St. (Third Floor - Rear), SF 94114. Our PO Box number and our telephone and fax numbers stay the same.

Our new digs are at the corner of Market and Castro — a great and gay neighborhood that will be a pleasure to work in. The new office has room for four women to work comfortably, a tiny deck and back yard(!), and looks out on two trees. We're just a few doors from our new desktop-publishing service bureau and around the corner from A Different Light.

If you've been using our PO Box, please continue to do so. Our new place has a very tiny mailbox and the PO box feels more stable and dependable. Please use the street address to come and visit and for UPS, etc.

This is another rich and exciting issue: As we go to press, Little Sisters is in court with Canada Customs trying to overturn the whole system (see

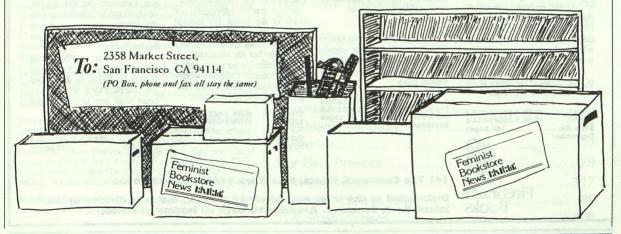
page 13-17); Ingram is suing Bantam/Doubleday/Dell; feminist and other independent publishers of children's books will at last have a place at the table at ABA; NCBA is changing its name to NCIndependentBA; and Kay Hagan has resolved to visit 100 feminist bookstores in the next year. See News for all the details. We also have a report from the feminist bookstores/feminist publishers conversation at ABA, another look at the Lammys, reports from the feminist bookstores in Alaska and Bangladesh and, of course, all new books being published this Fall.

Deadline for November/University Press Issue was October 5. Deadline for the January issue is November 22 (the Monday before Thanksgiving). Deadline for the Spring Announcements Issue (March) is January 27.

Have a wonderful Fall season!

Yours in spreading the words, Carol Seajay

#### Feminist Bookstore News has MOVED!



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### Four from Firebrand for Fall 1993



#### BEFORE OUR EYES A Novel by Joan Alden

Bern Rundle is a photographic journalist, a good one. Although she is never as sure of what she sees—what she knows—as when she is behind the lens of a camera or working in her darkroom, she is learning to live her life with her eyes wide open.

A quiet, strong book, startling at times, Before Our Eyes captures Bern in unwinding footage and freeze-frame shots as she moves from being a grownup to becoming fully adult. The daughter of an idealized All-American family whose secrets lie just below the genteel surface, Bern has a great deal to bring into sharper focus her father's alcoholism, her brother's disabling accident, her mother's middle-aged lesbianism.

As she dedicates her self to showing the human face of her family through photographs, Bern discovers new strengths—and what she has in common with her mother.

Joan Alden, under the name of Joan Lindau, is the author of the novel *Letting In The Night*.

\$ 8.95 \$18.95 5½ x 8½ September ISBN 1-56341-038-8 ISBN 1-56341-034-6 144 pages



Firebrand Books



#### EXPERIMENTAL LOVE Poetry by Cheryl Clarke

Cheryl Clarke is, perhaps, the preeminent African-American lesbian poet writing today. With a heady command of the language, the ability to work in a variety of forms, and an uncompromising Black and queer stance, she continues her thematic explorations of love objects and death subjects in Experimental Love.

**Future Orientation** 

I always start naked, supine or prone. Desperate stumbling for passion makes me panicky.

I can do witbout perspiration.
No cold fish, nor kinetic
mammal. I risk the beretical stance of future orientation
witbout guilt, apology, or ingratiation.
I will not look foolish for sex.
I plan.

Experimental Love is Cheryl Clarke's fourth book of poetry, following in the tradition of Narratives, Living As A Lesbian, and Humid Pitch.

\$ 8.85 ISBN 1-56341-035-4 \$18.95 ISBN 1-56341-036-2 5½ x 8½ 96 pages September



#### FORTY-THREE SEPTEMBERS Essays by Jewelle Gomez

Jewelle Gomez's essays in *Forty-Three Septembers* weave together the varied strands of experience that contribute to a writing life.

Exploring her relationships to her grandmother and other women in her family, to her father and to gay men, to coming out, and to the contemporary political and literary climate, the author conveys her sense of the mythic heroism of ordinary people. The possibility of that courageousness shapes her expectations for herself and others.

Black, lesbian, Native American, raised poor, ex-Catholic, fantasy-fiction writer—all are blended in Forty-Three Septembers. She honors the "nontraditional" qualities that her upbringing, her view of the world, her cultural referents have given her, helping to foster the resilience and ingenuity that make her life imaginable.

Jewelle Gomez is the author of the double Lambda Literary Award-winning Black lesbian vampire novel, *The Gilda Stories*.

\$10.95 | ISBN 1-56341-037-0 \$20.95 | ISBN 1-56341-038-9 5½ x 8½ | 208 pages October



#### SPAWN OF DYKES TO WATCH OUT FOR Cartoons by Alison Bechdel

Toni and Clarice are having a baby, and Alison Bechdel—the lesbian community's premier visual archivist/gossip columist—is right there to record the blessed event.

Spawn Of Dykes To Watch Out For, the fifth cartoon collection by the well-loved chronicler of contemporary lesbian life and times, takes us from talking about doing it to the stork's eventual arrival. As the members of Mo's extended family celebrate, they give new meaning to such timehonored rituals as the baby shower. From Freedom Teething Rings (in rainbow colors) and junior-size Doc Martens, to a Past-Life Reading Gift Certificate for the not-yetnewborn and Mo's fascination with the Mammo Pump, nothing is sacred enough to escape Alison Bechdel's pen.

Of particular note is the long sequence created just for readers of Spaum Of Dykes To Watch Out For—the birth itself. Where babies come from may never look the same again.

\$ 8.95 \$18.95 8½ x 5½ October ISBN 1-56341-039-7 ISBN 1-56341-040-0 128 pages

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

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MELISSA KWASNY

Mary Saracino



Distributed by InBook 800-243-0138



Trees Call for What They Need is a beautiful new novel with a warm regional flavor by Melissa Kwasny. It's the story of three women born at the turn of the century and their lives in Town of Pines: Nettie, a woolen mill worker and tenant farmer; Aunt Till, a Spiritualist medium and lesbian; and Marie, a Polish immigrant who owns the Poletown bar. Narrated in Nettie's inimitable voice, this novel explores family and belonging, farming and caring for the land, the roots you put down and leave behind. It's the story of one woman's life that leaves echoes of her wisdom trembling in your memory.

0-933216-96-3 \$9.95

The Other Side of Silence introduces sleuth Tyler Jones, newspaper columnist and feminist lesbian activist. Each morning, Tyler walks her dog in the park—a quiet, uneventful amble until the morning the dog, appropriately named Agatha Christie, discovers a body. Tyler assumes she's an innocent bystander until she's informed that the victim was a man who once threatened her life. Now the San Francisco Police Department thinks she's a prime suspect. Tyler enlists the aid of a good friend, her newspaper contacts, and her own investigating abilities to solve the murder. But soon she finds herself facing a possible moral dilemma: will she reveal the killer that she feels might have been justified? In the end, Tyler alone faces "that roar which is the other side of silence."

0-933216-92-0 \$9.95

"Unflinching, insightful, beautifully written, Mary Saracino's **No Matter What** is a terrible fable told from the child's perspective. 'God is busy tonight,' Peanut tells us near the end of the novel. But the truth is, in [her] world...God is always busy, and Peanut's love for her mother has become a steel trap closed tight around her. *No Matter What* reminds me of Kathryn Harrison's marvelous *Thicker Than Water* (Random House). Mary Saracino has the same sure grasp of a child's willingness to give over everything she is to save her mother, and the slow remorseless way that love can turn like a blade in the soul of a child."

—Dorothy Allison, author of *Bastard Out of Carolina* 0-933216-91-2 \$9.95

October 1993

JOANM DRURY

Volume 16 Number 3

## LETTERS

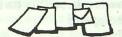
Brigit Books 3434 4th St. N. #5 St. Petersburg FL 33704

Dear Carol and FBN,

Sorry you had to remind me about my annotations. I was pretending I'd have time to put them on a disk in Windows Write that I have now, but like all you who have computers warned me, they do take time. We got up and running on Booklog in early July and I like it a lot. Once all the purchase orders are on it's a cinch to receive books. And I'm doing electronic orders to Baker & Taylor, Inland and New Leaf. I love that part of it. Anyway, I haven't had time to play around with Windows (except to play a little solitaire). Software, 486 IBM clone, electronic receipt printer, wand, Epson printer, modem, mouse and a woman expert to hook it up all cost close to \$6,000.00. I think it's well worth it for the image of the store as well as the efficiency.

A new sideline that's doing very well for me is candles from Coyote Found Candles, PO Box 632, Port Townsend WA 98368. 800- 788-4142. I got the Prisma Tapers, 10" candles, which are bright multicolors for \$1.69 pair wholesale.

Patty Callaghan



Antigone Books 600 N. 4th Ave. Tucson AZ 85705

Dear FBN,

Help! We're wondering if anyone out there has experience dealing with a university challenging professors who place textbook orders outside the university bookstore. The head of women's studies here has been told that she must direct "her faculty"

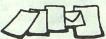
to place orders at the university store. They are willing, they say, to share orders with us but don't want us to have the order exclusively. Our questions:

1. Has anyone successfully defended themselves against a university making this demand?

2. Does anyone actually share text orders with the university bookstore? Our feeling is that this is unworkable (since students go to the univ. bookstore first, we feel we will get stuck). If it's worked somewhere, we'd love to know!

Please write or call us (collect) with your ideas. Thanks!

Trudy Mills & Kate Randall



Now Voyager 357 Commercial St. PO Box 551 Provincetown, MA 02657

Hi, FBN!

I love having this new connection to FBN (writing the Mysteries column), and I'm really bummed that I missed out on all the big activities of the spring. Since we didn't make it to the March or to ABA, I thought I'd let you know that we're still alive and actually doing very well as a bookstore.

Now Voyager passed its third anniversary in April of '93. The strong gay community here (both year-round residents and visitors) has been incredibly supportive. We've been very successful, with sales increasing every year. Every summer we've hired a part-time staff person for the season, and this year we hired *two* staff people, one full-time and one part-time. We also have our first volunteer staff person, so I guess we've arrived!

Because we're in the gay vacation capital of the Northeast (if not the world), it seems like every gay



## And Still We Rise: Feminist Political Mobilizing in Contemporary Canada

**Edited by Linda Carty** 

An incisive anthology of nineteen essays honouring the last decade of women's organizing in Canada. Linda Carty has compiled the first Canadian collection which posits an integrated analysis of gender, race, class and sexuality.

Linda Carty's brilliant and well-argued paper on the position of Black women in academe displays both her passion for learning and her fierce commitment to social justice.

-Books in Canada

450 pages

\$24.95 pb

0-88961-177-7

#### Out Rage: Lesbian Stories and Poems Celebrating Resistance

Edited by Mona Oikawa, Dionne Falconer, Rosamund Elwin and Ann Decter

Homophobia, lesbophobia, heterosexism — words for hatred that permeates contemporary society. Hatred lesbians encounter on a daily basis, intruding on our loves and our joys, portraying us as isolated oddities while a hostile world parades itself as healthy. **Out Rage** is a meeting point of resistance, a coming together out of strength, shouting our courage, whispering our sorrows, holding a mirror to the hatred we face and throwing it back on its perpetrators.

From the classics of Pat Parker to new work by emerging writers, this collection embodies the essential lesbian tradition of resistance.

240 pages

\$14.95 pb

0-88961-188-2

#### **Throw It To The River**

#### Nice Rodriguez

This debut collection of short stories introduces Nice Rodriguez as a writer whose style is fresh and clean. Set in The Philippines and in Canada, these stories sparkle with self-contained pleasure in life, even at their most poignant moments. In **Throw It To The River**, Nice Rodriguez shines a bright lesbian light on a fascinating world.

120 pages

\$11.95 pb

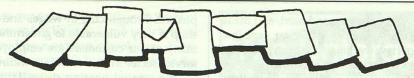
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S17 COLLEGE ST. SUITE 233 TORONTO, ONTARIO CANADA M6G 4A2

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or lesbian writer in print has passed through our store. We've been lucky enough to have readings and signings by lots of visiting authors, notably Dorothy Allison, Blanche McCrary Boyd, and Sarah Schulman. However, we did institute a policy of no in-store events during July and August, which is like the Christmas rush period in a regular bookstore.

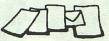
Our most recent women's events were last fall, in October '92, during Provincetown's phenomenal Women's Week, which draws literally thousands of women to town. Now Voyager sponsored three readings on three consecutive nights, which took place at the bookstore after regular hours. All were by Provincetown women writers: Louise Rafkin, author of *Queer and Pleasant Danger*; Melanie Braverman and Sarah Randolph, poets and publishers of Cosmos Press, a small literary/arts press that produces handmade books; and Jacqueline Woodson, author of *Maizon at Blue Hill, The Dear One*, and other books for young adults.

In addition, my partner Diane Johnson, and I with incredible chutzpah and possibly delusional optimism — offered a three-hour workshop on Opening a Bookstore. It's amazing how many women out there dream of opening a feminist or gay/lesbian bookstore. So many women asked us how we did it, or discussed their plans with us, that we thought there might be an audience for a workshop. Nineteen women from as far away as Louisiana and Kentucky (as well as New Jersey, New York, Connecticut and New Hampshire) came to the workshop, held at the store early on a Sunday morning. We tried to cover the rudiments of store location and layout, finances, book ordering, sidelines, etc. Of course we told them to subscribe to FBN immediately. One of these women has already opened a store: Caroline Haneisen of Lady Iris in Portsmouth, NH!

Now we're looking forward to Women's Week '93 (Oct. 12-17). We've already scheduled a reading by Delia Sherman (author of *The Porcelain Dove*), and we're putting together an evening of women's

writing about sex, again featuring some local Provincetown writers.

Nan Cinnater



Sisterwrite A Women's Co-operative Bookshop 190 Upper St. London N1

Dear FBN,

After 15 years of selling feminist books to the women's community, Sisterwrite is closing the doors at 190 Upper St.

Sisterwrite was the first women's bookshop in this country. It began as a space for women to meet and exchange ideas. 190 Upper St. housed a reading room, an information and research centre, a cafe and the Feminist library; we have continued to provide a contact address and box number for many women's organizations. As women's and feminist writing became increasingly prolific Sisterwrite focused on its role as a bookshop providing women's text from across the world.

Many will attempt to read the closure of Sisterwrite as a political indicator of the failure of any but the most commercial aspects of feminism. However, in 1991 Sisterwrite had a turnover more than three times as high as that of the mid 80's. This indicates that there is a demand for feminist literature. Despite a loyal customer base, women who consciously chose to shop in a radical, collective women's bookshop, we can no longer continue to trade effectively.

For the past four years Sisterwrite has struggled to survive a seemingly never ending recession. High interest rates, council tax, mainstream competition, an increasing number of burglaries, and a red route outside our front door, have all combined to force our small co-operatively run bookshop out of business. As a small bookshop, smaller discounts from publishers took their toll also.

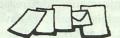
Sisterwrite staff fought long and hard, and made many sacrifices; a six-year pay freeze on very low wages, cuts in holiday, working for no pay, utilizing volunteers, outreach work and publicity drives.

As a part of the feminist movement, Sisterwrite has reflected the fluidity and debates of the Women's Movement. Both in stocking policy and working practices Sisterwrite has striven to be an anti-sexist, anti-racist platform for ideas that engage in struggle against inequality. We realize the closing of Sisterwrite means one less outlet for the ideas, aspirations and ambitions of women. This was not an easy decision.

Sisterwrite shut up shop for the last time on August 7th. But the collective is determined. There is a need and a desire for the service we provided and the ideology Sisterwrite maintained. If there is a light at the end of the tunnel, Sisterwrite will find it.

The Sisterwrite Collective

Ed. note: London feminists continue to be served by Silver Moon Bookshop (68 Charing Cross Rd., London WC2 HOBB, phone 071-836-7906).



Women's Bookstop 333 Main Street West Hamilton Ontario

Dear FBN,

I've attached our latest Newsletter. The store newsletter has a rather organic printing schedule. That is, when we have time. Usually it gets done three times a year. Fall/Winter (November), Spring (March) and Summer or Fall. Usually about 600 are printed. Some go in the mail and the rest are handed out to customers from the shop or when we do a book table. Over the past year the newsletter has become less a list of titles and now includes creative writing and editorials.

Women's Bookstop has just weathered through a very slow summer. Sales have been down about 25% from last year (conservative estimate). We are looking forward to an increase in September as folks recover from the excellent weather we've had and get back to work.

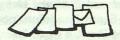
In Ontario there has been great uncertainty among civil service employees as the government

pushed through cuts in wages and positions. This shop is very vulnerable to government trends since many of our customers are employed in the social service sector in some direct or indirect way.

We started hosting dyke dances to see how much money could be raised for the trip to Australia next July. Even dances are lightly attended. But we are plugging along. Even feminists need down time to regroup and strategize for the future.

I'm excited by the fall list from Canadian Women's Press. Titles like And Still We Rise: Feminists Mobilizing In Contemporary Canada, which includes issues like Oka and the views of Arab women in North American, spousal benefits: all this with an integrated analysis of gender, race, class and sexuality. Also recent and Canadian is Returning the Gaze: Essays On Racism, Feminism and Politics (Sister Vision).

Glad you're there! Keep up the great work!
—Reneé



Mama Bears 6536 Telegraph Ave. Oakland CA 94609

Dear FBN.

We're celebrating Mama Bears' tenth birthday in October, on Sunday, October 17. Basically we're throwing a party for everyone — our customers and friends and well wishers. It's a way to thank and celebrate our entire community, to acknowledge that it's their energy all year, every year, that keeps Mama Bears going, commitment to the quality of their own lives, other women's lives, and the life of the planet. (While still finding time to read mysteries!!)

Every 10 years or so someone or other declares the women's movement dead or no longer necessary: the (now) older-women's activities are declining, the younger women don't need it, they're already moving, and it doesn't matter to them whether they buy women's books at a women's bookstore or a mainstream chain store. Such entities misread what the women's movement is: The women's movement flows and ebbs, and flows again, and each flow is wider and deeper than the one before it. And each woman is moving in her own way.

That has been our experience, in our 25 years of women's movement activism, 23 of which have been spent providing a women's bookstore. From the start we felt that women's bookstores made the best women's centers.

The fact is, the women's movement hasn't hit the bottom line yet, the place of real woman power. While it's quite OK to be a lesbian in some circles — for the first time in our lives — it's still not okay to be a dyke anywhere except in women's bookstores and festivals. We all know what is meant when someone says, "you're acting like a dyke."

What's more, you don't have to be a lesbian to be told, 'you're acting like a dyke.' I've heard this phrase have the power to discredit and disempower and humiliate straight women for 40 of my 57 years, in social gatherings and in the workplace. It's how one stops a strong woman dead in her tracks.

That's one of the reasons for a place like Mama Bears: it's a place for strong woman energy to flourish and be seen, public and visible; and, equally, a place for a woman to be in when she's feeling vulnerable.

Another reason for a place like Mama Bears is that we intend for "women's way" to be in the foreground, not the background. At a women's bookstore you get the whole picture — including the kind of information that isn't in books. We are about promoting a whole new culture, not infiltrating patriarchy.

A third reason for a place like Mama Bears is that when you enter the door, you are connected — immediately — to a whole random network of feminist activism. This is a major function served by 125 women's bookstores around the country. It's the web we weave.

As Bell Telephone Labs put it some years ago, "a random network, richly redundant, is the most efficient form of communication there is." In a random, yet purposeful network such as the women's movement, the women's bookstores are major connective nodes.

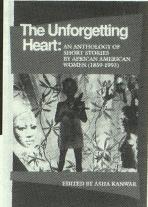
And the bookstores are part of a web of womenidentified women's businesses, whose customers are very conscious of the fact that keeping our bucks going towards women is a major element in the expansion of women's way culture. It's activism.

## The Unforgetting Heart

An Anthology of Short Stories by African American Women (1859-1993)

#### edited by Asha Kanwar

320 pp, 6 x 9, perfectbound, \$9.95, 1-879960-30-3



Spanning a wide spectrum of culture, history and style, this collection marks the first time that a hundred and fifty years of African American women's short stories have appeared in a single volume. From Civil War period stories by Alice Dunbar Nelson and Francis Watkins Harper to contemporary stories by Terry McMillan and J. California Cooper, *The Unforgetting Heart* testifies to the rich tradition of African American womens' voices and vision.

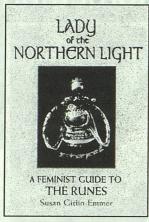
Indeed, these are hard times economically, especially here in the Bay Area. We're being cautious, to ensure survival, as you probably are too, in your life and your projects.

One of our major tenets is that money is not the only form of profit: that's why we encourage our customers to read here when they can't afford all the books they want (our only admonition: "Don't crack the spine"). That's a major reason we provide tables and chairs, and a modest coffeehouse. There's a great deal of profit comes when a woman sits and reads, and ponders. We have seen, over the years, that the interaction between women's activities, women's books, and women's bookstores can be magic. And the journey's only begun.

Alice Molloy

October 1993

#### FALL BOOKS • FALL BOOKS • FALL BOOKS



160pp • \$10.95 ISBN 0-89594-629-7

#### Lady of the Northern Light: A Feminist Guide to the Runes by Susan Gitlin-Emmer

The runes stand with the tarot and I Ching as symbol systems that offer new resources for self-knowledge, empowerment, and healing. This book strips away layers of patriarchal interpretation and returns the runes to their Goddess origins.

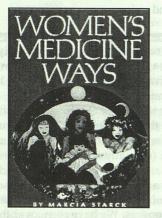
"Susan Gitlin-Emmer has revealed a new possibility of runic origins... she has uncovered an important connection with our pre-patriarchal roots."

> -Marija Gimbutas, Author of The Language of the Goddess and The Civilization of the Goddess

#### Love's Shadow: Writings by Women **Edited by Amber Coverdale Sumrall**

This collection of 65 stories and poems gives voice to the complexities of relationship—the secrets, the disappointments, the betrayals, the fantasies, the losses, the obsessions and the violence.

380pp • \$14.95 • ISBN: 0-89594-583-5



#### Women's Medicine Ways: Cross Cultural Rites of Passage by Marcia Starck

Provides a wealth of information from many cultures, inspiring us to create ceremonies to honor major life events and celebrate the earth's rhythms.

"A wonderful guide for an entire lifetime."

—Hallie Iglehart Austen, Author of Womanspirit and The Heart of the Goddess

160pp • \$10.95 ISBN 0-89594-596-7



(800) 777-1048 • The Crossing Press

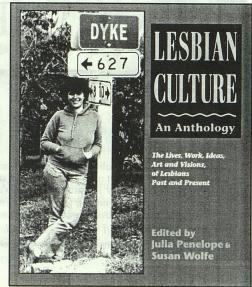
Volume 16 Number 3

## Announcing An Important Publishing Event!

#### **LESBIAN CULTURE:** An Anthology

Edited by Julia Penelope and Susan J. Wolfe Prefaces by Sarah Dreher and Elana Dykewomon

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# LITTLE SISTERS CHALLENGES CANADA CUSTOMS ON PRIOR RESTRAINT & DISCRIMINATION

Little Sisters Book & Art Emporium, a gay and lesbian bookstore in Vancouver, and the British Columbia Civil Liberties Association (BC/CLA) take on Canada Customs and The Crown in what promises to be a protracted, expensive, exciting, fascinating and widely reported court battle due to open on October 4.

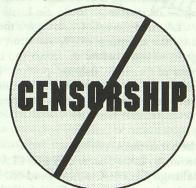
The bookstore and the BC/CLA are asking the federal court to declare the sections of the Customs' Act which allow Canada Customs to seize books before they have been determined to be unacceptable (prior restraint) to be unconstitutional.

If the case is won, the effects will be substantial: Canada Customs will no longer be able to detain books and magazines it deems to be "obscene" until after the issue of admissibility is entirely settled. Whether Canada Customs would have any censorship powers left is unclear. The obscenity provision of the *Criminal Code* would still be in effect and might be the only venue for settling obscenity issues.

Little Sisters and the BC/CLA will also be asking the court to declare that the administration of Canada Customs' censorship power has been blatantly and unfairly discriminatory towards lesbian and gay material. It is generally believed that lesbian and gay erotica have been specifically targeted by Customs officials.

The history of this particular case begins in 1988, when Little Sisters, which has been open for ten years, first approached BC/CLA for assistance in

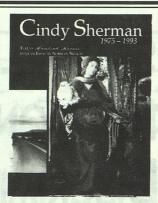
1986 after a large shipment of books and magazines from the U.S. was detained by Canada Customs and a large number of the titles were prohibited from entry because they had been ruled "obscene" under Canada Customs Tariff Code 9956. Appeals of these rulings were begun at that time.



Subsequently, more shipments of books and magazines were detained and more titles ruled "obscene." Some of these included books that were readily available at other bookstores and in public libraries, and works of literature such as Oscar Wilde's *Teleny*, Jean Genet's *Querelle*, Gelsey Kirkland's *Dancing On My Grave* and Anne Cameron's *Dzelharon*.

Little Sisters and BC/CLA responded by launching a Federal Court challenge to the ruling that two issues of *The Advocate* were obscene. The goal was to have the court scrutinize Canada Customs' exercise of its censorship powers. However, in 1988, a few weeks before the trial, the

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government conceded that the material in question was not, after all, obscene.

Little Sisters and BC/CLA then requested that the copies of *The Advocate* (very dated by then) be returned — something that Canada Customs was unwilling — or unable — to do. So Little Sisters and BC/CLA sued Canada Customs for the losses incurred by the detention of *The Advocate*, hoping (once again) to raise before the court the issue of the exercise of Canada Customs' powers. But the government paid up before the trial — and in so doing prevented these issues from being raised in court.

But the harassment continued.

Accordingly, Little Sisters and BC/CLA decided to challenge Canada Customs head-on. In 1990 they filed a lawsuit in the British Columbia Supreme Court which, hopefully, will finally be heard in court this October — three years after filing. The original suit asked the Court to declare:

- that Canada Customs' power under Tariff Code 9956 to prohibit the importation of books and magazines solely on the basis that they are obscene infringes on the right to freedom of expression as guaranteed by Section 2(b) of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms;
- that Canada Customs' power of prior restraint (to detain material prior to its being finally determined that the material is obscene) infringes section 2(b) of the *Charter*; and

• that the administration of its powers by Canada Customs has been unfairly discriminatory to writers, readers and distributors of gay and lesbian erotica, contrary to Section 15 of the *Charter* — the right to equality under the law.

A trial date was set for September, 1991.

Before the trial could take place, the Supreme Court of Canada decided to hear *R. v Butler*, an appeal of a conviction under s.163(8) of the *Criminal Code*, the "obscenity provision." Since the B.C. Supreme Court would not hear the case before *R. v Butler* was decided, the trial date was canceled. The Supreme Court of Canada ruled in February, 1992, that s.163(8) did violate s.2(b) of the *Charter*, but that it was justified under Section 1.

After the *Butler* decision Little Sisters and BC/CLA decided to amend their Statement of Claim by dropping the first part, the direct challenge to Canada Customs' censorship powers, and rely instead on the second and third parts. A new trial date was set for September, 1992.

However, shortly before the trial was to begin, the Crown, jointly with the B.C. provincial government, brought forward a motion to dismiss the claim entirely. The trial was postponed until the motion to dismiss could be heard.

The motion was defeated, in part by arguments that Little Sisters could not have faith in due process of the law if their claims were continually settled or thrown out of court after lengthy (and expensive) preparation without ever being heard.

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Yet another trial date was set. Because the trial is expected to be extremely lengthy — it is currently scheduled for 20 court days — The Crown was able to lobby for postponing the court date for nearly a year, until October 4, 1993.

Expert witnesses scheduled to testify at the trial — many of whom will participate in fund-raising activities while they are in Vancouver — include Jane Rule, Pat Califia, John Preson, Carol Vance, Pierre Berton, Nino Ricci, and Becki Ross.

This case is important because of the terrible impact of Canada Customs' current practices on booksellers and retailers. Titles which are detained may be kept for many months before a determination is made as to whether or not they are obscene. Even if they are eventually released, they may be unsaleable because they are time-sensitive or damaged. If the books are ruled inadmissible, the bookseller must bear the cost of returning them to the distributor or publisher. During the entire period the publications are held, the bookseller is out of pocket for the cost of the material.

Coupled with the fact that it is often not clear whether or not a title will be judged by Canada Customs to be obscene and that titles may be deemed admissible by one official at one point of entry on one occasion and then deemed inadmissible by another official at another time and/or place, this state of affairs has produced a "chilling" effect on the importation of sexually explicit material, especially that which contains gay or lesbian content. Due to financial constraints, many booksellers are erring on the side of caution, and are not ordering gay and lesbian erotica even thought it might well be admissible. It simply costs too much to find out. And so Canadian readers are being denied access to perfectly legal erotica.

This is the first time in Canada that such a broad-based court challenge to Canada Customs censorship powers has been brought forward. The costs of this protracted lawsuit have drained Little Sisters' and BC/CLA's resources despite extensive and ongoing fundraising activities. The J. Roderick MacArthur Foundation has contributed generously to this effort through the American Booksellers Foundation for Free Expression.

Little Sisters will be doing extensive fundraising

before and during the trial, but need help to raise the \$50,000 that this part of the trial will cost—including transportation for expert witnesses. Donations may be made via check or Visa/MasterCard. (Call today! BC/CLA staff are standing by, waiting to take your call! Dial 604-687-2919 now!) Checks should be made out to BCCLA and sent to Little Sisters Defence Fund, c/o B.C. Civil Liberties Association, 518-119 West Pender St., Vancouver BC V6B 1S5. Donations over \$25 are tax deductible in Canada. U.S. readers need not feel left out—checks in U.S. currency drawn on U.S. banks are just as welcome as Canadian checks.

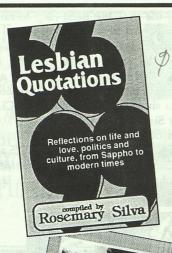


CensorStop, a Canadian organization that has been very active in fighting Canada Customs prohibitions of gay and lesbian material, has declared October 6 to be a Day of Action. Gay, feminist, alternative and general bookstores across Canada and the U.S. are invited to do anti-censorship windows and displays, fundraisers, and consciousness raising about the impact of this kind of censorship on booksellers, distributors, and the reading public. Stores may wish to dedicate a portion of their sales on their Day of Action to The Little Sisters Defence Fund.

Late breaking news: As FBN goes to press, The Crown has filed (another!) motion for adjournment, claiming they need more time to prepare their defense. Little Sisters and BC/CLA will, of course, argue that the case be heard as scheduled. Each delay and rescheduling costs at least \$30,000 as airline tickets for all of the expert witnesses must be re-purchased.

Stop the press: The trial has been postponed again, this time on the grounds that the trial would go to 40 days (rather than the 20 scheduled) and that the judge would also have to read all the evidence and that (he) would need more time.

—CS O



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The 1993 March on Washington for lesbian, gay, and bi equal right

Volume 16 Number 3

# CANADA CUSTOMS GOES BERSERK

Last spring, while many of us were preparing for ABA, Canada Customs was detaining the largest number of books in its history — all of them books from Inland Book Company.

On April 16, 23, and May 4, Canada Customs at Fort Erie detained a total of four skids of books in three consolidated shipments from Inland destined for a total of 46 Canadian bookstores and libraries. Over a thousand books with a combined weight of 1,043 pounds, valued at an estimated \$8,200 were held for three to four weeks while *every* book in the shipments was examined.

"The scope of this detention by Canada Customs is the broadest in our history, and the most widespread," said Les Fowlie, chair of the Book and Periodical Council's Freedom of Expression Committee in a letter that expressed the Canadian book industry's outrage to the Minister of Revenue, Otto Jelinek. "Never before have they [Canada Customs] detained books destined for such a wide range of stores." Outraged representatives of the Canadian Booksellers Association, the Canadian Library Association, CensorStop, and the Book and Periodical Council called on Jelinek to stop Customs' book detentions immediately — to no apparent effect.

Fifty-eight titles were taken from the consolidated shipments for review. Fourteen titles were found not to be obscene and were released following on-site review. Seven titles were prohibited outright. Thirty-seven titles were removed from the shipment and were forwarded to the Prohibited Importations Unit in Ottawa for further review. Of these titles, several had been cleared previously by the Unit. (Statistics from *The Canadian Bookseller*.)



Among the titles that were prohibited outright at the point of entry were: *Lovers* by Tee Corinne, that most vanilla of lesbian erotica titles (on the grounds that it is pornographic and degrading to women), *Bushfire* edited by Karen Barber, *FagRag* #127, *Black Men/White Men* by Michael J. Smith, and *Taste of Latex* #8.

Books forwarded to Ottawa for determination by Customs staff there that were determined to be "obscene" and so were prohibited included every issue of Hothead Paisan, Herotica, Quim, Doc and Fluff, The Melting Point, Provincetown Summer, RFD, Leather Woman, The Arena, Entertainment for Master, Taste of Latex, Leathermen Speak Out Vol. 2, Tom of Finland Retrospective Vol. 1 & 2, and My Deep Dark Pain is Love.

Possibly even more disturbing than the books that have been determined to be obscene and illegal to import are those that Customs' officials at the port-of-entry considered and thought likely enough

to be "obscene" to send to Ottawa for further consideration: Jane Rule's Contract with the World (which is detained and released again and again, as are several other titles by this well known and deeply respected Canadian author), Lesbians Talk Queer Notions, Lesbian Bedtime Stories V. 2, Leave a Light on for Me, Stonewall Riots, Happy Endings Are All Alike, Love Bites, Olga Broumas' Beginning With O (which Canada Customs seems to have difficulty distinguishing from The Story of O), The Lesbian and Gay Studies Reader, Gay Ideas, Wimmin's Comix, The Swimming Pool Library, City of Night, Crush, Memories that Smell Like Gasoline, The James White Review, and Caught Looking.

While Canada Customs maintains that all three of these sequential detentions are "routine" it is clear that these detentions are extraordinary — even for Canada Customs. Feedback from the 46 bookstores whose books were detained indicates that no shipments from other U.S. distributors are being examined or detained and that many of the same titles that are being detained from Inland shipments are being imported from other distributors with no difficulty. According to the Toronto Star, "straight" bookstores that import the same books and magazines don't get the same treatment that gay and now feminist bookstores are accorded. Many in the industry see the seizures and detentions as direct harassment of gay and lesbian and now feminist bookstores and of the U.S. distributor that is most likely to supply gay and lesbian. Others see it as part of a larger right-wing governmental crackdown on dissenting voices.

While it may be tempting for Canadian stores whose orders have been detained to order as many of their books as possible from other distributors it's a temptation that must be resisted in every form. It's vital that these stores and others continue to order from Inland — in quantity — to show both political and financial support to Inland for taking up the expensive and labor-intensive job of dealing with Canada Customs' abuse and for standing by the entire range of books being called into question and to stand firmly against the idea that Canada Customs has any right to inflict their perverse standards of "obscenity" on Canadian booksellers and their customers.

Unfortunately, holding a half ton of books for 3-4 weeks this spring wasn't enough even for Canada

Customs. Nine additional titles were detained from Inland shipments on July 26 and July 29 and, according to the *Globe and Mail*, 130 books were detained from a shipment in mid-July — including John Rechy's *City of Night*, published 30 years ago, Alan Hollinghurst's *The Swimming Pool Library* (which was detained and released earlier in the year), Christopher Bram's *Surprising Myself* and Mickey Fleming's *About Courage*.

Changing Men, a magazine for men interested in the feminist movement bound for Womansline Books in London was also held. It was later released.

In a separate event, several issues of *Hothead Paisan* which were bound for Everywoman's Bookstore in Victoria, B.C. and entered the country by mail in March were sent to the Customs Assessment Division in Vancouver for a determination as to obscenity. This time the magazines were released by an inspector who, when questioned by Everywoman's, said he saw "no linkage of sex and violence" and that he saw the publication as political commentary. Unfortunately, the written report only said "no sexual contact." Clearly obscenity is in the eye of the Customs agent and there is no predicting what will be deemed obscene and what will be determined to be acceptable.

Other Canada Customs activity this year includes the detention of 1,500 copies of bell hooks' Black Looks: race and representation, co-published in Canada by Between the Lines. The books were sent to Ottawa's Prohibited Importations Unit to determine if they were "hate literature" and should therefore be prohibited. Two days after the detention was reported in the Globe and Mail, all 1,500 copies were released — a procedure that normally takes weeks. Because the book was being used in so many university courses, the Canadian publisher had sold out and ordered additional copies from the U.S. printer — hence the 1,500-copy shipment.

Canada Customs also once detained Salman Rushdie's *Satanic Verses* for a weekend while it determined that it was not, in fact, hate literature — which is also outlawed under the Criminal Code and is banned at the border.

And in other censorship stories, Constable Pat McVicar of the Toronto Police Department's Project "P" stopped by Glad Day Books in July "to keep

Continued on page 31

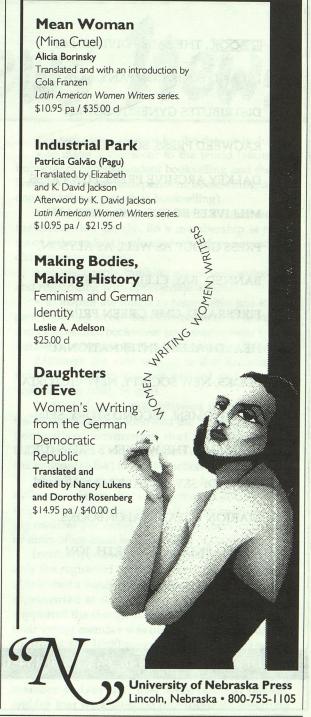
## ANNOUNCEMENTS O TO TO THE PROPERTY OF THE PRO

NWSA Journal Conference on Publishing Feminist Scholarship will be held on October 30, 1993 between 9am and 6pm at The University of New Hampshire, Memorial Union Building, Durham. The conference is for editors, editorial board members, and others who have particular interest in feminist and Women's Studies journals. The organizers call the conference a "working conference," designed to maximize discussion and exchange. For further information contact Patsy Schweickart at 603-742-4937 or 603-862-3976; Lili Ellison at 603-742-7675 or 603-862-0019.



A call for entries for The Fourth LMP Awards: 1993 has been announced by R.R. Bowker, a Reed Reference Publishing company. There is no entry fee and no limit to the number of entries which can be submitted. Deadline is November 15, 1993. Call 1-800-526-9537 for entry forms or additional information.

The Women's Review of Books Conference "Women Reviewing/Reviewing Women" will be held at Wellesley College, November 6-7. The conference marks Women's Review of Books' 10th anniversary and will concentrate on the "connections between feminism and book reviewing." Among the many esteemed participants will be author Margaret Atwood, Sarah Pettit (Books editor of OUT magazine), critic/author Carolyn Heilbrun, Carol Anshaw (Village Voice), Clara Villarosa (owner of The Hue-Man Experience Bookstore, Denver CO), and FBN's own publisher/editor Carol Seajay. For more information contact The Center for Research on Women, Wellesley College, Wellesley MA 02181; 617-283-2087.



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#### Women's Presses 1991 Sales Estimated at \$8.5 mil.

At the 1992 Feminist Publishers' Conference, the publishers decided to survey feminist publishers as the first step toward generating some industry statistics. Results from the first survey are in.

With ten of the 50 feminist publishers queried responding to the initial survey, total 1991 sales for feminist presses have been estimated at \$8.5 million with an estimated four presses grossing over \$1 million annually.

The ten presses that responded (only 20% of the publishers queried) reported a total of 419 books in print including 42 titles published in 1991. Print orders for the 1991 titles totaled 7555 unique pages.

The questionnaires for fiscal year 1992 have gone out and a much higher response is expected for the 1992 survey. If you're a feminist publisher and didn't receive it, call Midge Stocker at Third Side Press (312-271-3029; fax 312-271-0459). The publishers who completed the 1991 survey found it very satisfying (and often useful) to have the information they compiled at their fingertips. One of the primary goals of the study is to verify that women's presses are a substantial part of the publishing industry.

## NCBA Changes Name To N•C•INDEPENDENT•B•A

The Northern California Booksellers Association, at its annual Fall Trade Show membership meeting, took the first steps to becoming the Northern California Independent Booksellers Association.

The articulated reasons for the change included:

- to make a statement to the world (about the importance of independent bookselling and the differences between independent bookselling and a commodities approach to bookselling).
- to more accurately reflect who the members of the association are (NCBA's membership is made up of independent booksellers and does not include chain or super-stores).
- to get people thinking about *independents* and responding with appropriate actions.
- to inspire the media to responsible and intelligent reporting about the differences between chain and independent bookstores (and maybe even to stop turning coverage into puff pieces for the mega chains).

Although the vote was 26 to 0 in favor of the motion, a quorum was not present and a second vote must be taken by mail.

In the discussion that followed the motion and the discussions that followed the meetings, several booksellers commented that they hoped that NC(I)BA's move would inspire other regional and the national (ABA) to similar action.

NC(I)BA's change in name is facilitated by the by-law provisions that specify that NCBA membership is made up of individuals (with only one voting member per store) and that members' corporate or main office must be in the state of California.

Ironically, however, the strict provision that only the registered voting member for each store be able to cast a vote meant that many stores that were represented at the meeting and enthusiastically supported the change were not able to cast a vote if their voting member was out of town or was unable to attend the 10:00 meeting. Several booksellers were unpleasantly surprised to find, on arriving at the meeting, that there was a designated voting member and/or that they were not that person, and/or that were were no provisions for assigning



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proxies. Had proxy voting been possible, a quorum would have been achieved and the motion passed at the meeting, rather than requiring a vote by mail.

In other related business, the NC(I)BA Board announced that four pages of advertising had been added to this year's holiday catalog due to publishers' enthusiasm for both this kind of promotional vehicle and for the Northern California market and that the catalog was expected to generate an \$80,000 surplus this year — funds that can be channeled into promoting and supporting independent bookselling.

#### Sister Vision Robbed: Serious Setbacks for Fall Titles

On Saturday, August 7, the office of Sister Vision Press in Toronto was broken into. Computer equipment which held vital records, information and book text was stolen. Other equipment, backup disks, and money was also taken.

This means a terrible setback for the organization and its publishing schedule since edited copy from Fall titles was stored in the stolen computers. The loss of records — both financial and other — will ultimately result in lost revenue for the press. But nothing will be able to replace the hundreds of woman-hours and the invaluable contribution of volunteers over the years.

With only one computer in the office, the women at Sister Vision, with the help of a few vol-

unteers, have begun the long process of re-entering the Fall titles from hard copy.

On August 20th the press held a fundraising benefit. With a week's notice, women from the community, including some of Sister Vision's authors who volunteered to read, came out in support of the press' recovery. Approximately 100 women attended. \$500 was raised. They've also received an additional \$200 to \$300 in small contributions from other donors.

The small, independent women of colour press has been publishing and supporting writers of colour since the organization was founded eight years ago. Despite the traumatic loss, Sister Vision has vowed to continue its publishing mandate, working hard to regain the ground lost. Support from community groups, individuals and organizations will be greatly appreciated. Send donations to: Sister Vision, PO Box 217 Station E, Toronto, Ontario Canada M6H 4E2 or call 416-533-2184.

#### Feminist Hothead Tours 100 Feminist Bookstores

Feminist writer and former feminist bookstore worker Kay Hagan has set out on a quest that will be the envy of many a feminist bookseller and is certainly the envy of the *Feminist Bookstore New's* editor: to visit 100 feminist bookstores in 1993 and 1994.

"I want to combine my promotional efforts for Fugitive Information with a special focus on the role

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of our bookstores in preserving feminist voices," Kay writes. "Throughout the rest of 1993 and in 1994, I plan to tour the country, visiting as many feminist bookstores as possible — with a goal of reaching all 100 bookstores on FBN's (then) current list. I figure the only suitable name for such a tour is 'The Hothead Express.'

"As you may know, I was a partner at Charis Books & More in Atlanta for four years until 1984. I left to pursue writing and teaching, but my commitment to the feminist bookstore network only deepened after independently publishing and distributing my first book, Internal Affairs: A Journalkeeping Workbook for Self-Intimacy, and forging a cautious relationship with HarperSanFrancisco for the reprint of Internal Affairs and the publication of Prayers to the Moon: Exercises in Self-Reflection, Women Respond to the Men's Movement and, now, Fugitive Information: Essays from a Feminist Hothead. My experiences with self-publishing, working with 'the boys,' and pondering the mystery of what makes a book sell has convinced me that what I intuitively understood fifteen years ago is absolutely true: feminist bookstores are the essential core of our movement's grassroots outreach and education."

The tour will be supported by press kits, as much media attention as feminist booksellers can help Kay obtain, and ready-to-go press releases titled "Feminist Hothead Tours Country to Celebrate Women's Bookstores; (Your Town) One of 100 Stops."

In Grand Rapids, for example, the local newspaper devoted the front page of the Sunday feature section to color photos of the new store and a review of *Fugitive Information*. That publicity, combined with radio and other press, generated an audience of 150 women — at least one of whom had never bought a feminist book before, many of whom had never been to the bookstore before.

Harper is providing no financial backing for this tour, so Kay is looking for other kinds of sponsorship for this tour to celebrate women's bookstores as well as opportunities to book workshops and additional lectures, and will likely "pass the hat" after readings.

As a part of her celebration of feminist bookstores Kay will be sending "dispatches from the road" back to FBN with comments, ideas and inspirations from the feminist bookstores she visits.

"Energy is high out there," she says, "in both the older, established feminist bookstores and in the new ones popping up all over." Look for the first dispatch in the November issue.

If you haven't yet booked a date with Kay for this tour, or if you're a new store that might not have been on her original list, give her a call at 505-983-5955 or write to her at 4 Cerrado Ct., Santa Fe NM 87505.

#### Independent Children's Book Publishers Organize

On the Friday before the ABA convention, Ruth Gottstein of Volcano Press and Sasha Alyson of Alyson Press organized a meeting of children's book publishers about concerns related to the Children's Book Council and the ways that CBC activities function as a barrier to the distribution and promotion of books published by the smaller and independent presses.

The publishers who attended the meeting prepared the following statement. As we go to press it has been signed by 38 independent publishers. There is hope that ABA will soon announce a fair and equitable policy.

As smaller and independent children's book publishers, we have often found ourselves excluded from the recommended lists, bibliographies, exhibits, and other mechanisms by which children's books are publicized and marketed. Many of these activities are controlled by the Children's Book Council, an organization often seen as representing the full spectrum of children's book publishing, but which in fact is a marketing organization whose members primarily represent the country's largest children's book publishers.

But it is independent publishers who have often taken the lead in publishing children's books that address real-world concerns, including racism, children with gay and lesbian parents, children with disabilities, the environment, and anti-violence issues. Parents, teachers, and librarians who rely on CBC-generated lists never hear about some of the most innovative children's books being published.

We have therefore come together to make the following statements:

#### INNERTRADITIONS

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"Come, sisters, dance your way through Virgin Mother Crone with Donna Wilshire. You'll be amazed, enraptured, and held in spiraling mystery. You'll be crooned to, lullabyed, and made privy to many secrets." Susun Weed

Actress and playwright Donna Wilshire provides dramatic portraits of the Goddess's three sacred aspects: the virgin—woman responsible for herself; the mother—nurturing woman in the fullness of her life; and the crone—the wise, old healing woman. In this engaging narrative, Wilshire skillfully weaves history and poetic myth into a rich tapestry of traditions that honor the sacred Female in all women, and she describes ways to create new and original rituals that combine voice and movement in performance of the Goddess myths.

#### WOMEN IN CELTIC MYTH

Volume 16 Number 3

Tales of Extraordinary Women from Ancient Celtic Tradition
Moyra Caldecott • 0-89281-357-1 • \$12.95 pb

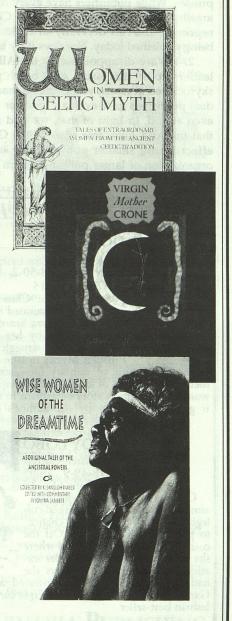
Intriguing stories—some more than 3,000 years old—focus on the women of ancient Celtic mythology, from formidable women warriors to the gentle women who guided others to intuitive knowledge and spiritual wisdom. Caldecott, a widely respected author and lecturer on Celtic myth, provides insightful commentary, placing each myth into the cultural context in which it originated. "Delightful"—Parabola

#### WISE WOMEN OF THE DREAMTIME

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Collected by K. Langloh Parker • Edited with commentary by Johanna Lambert
0-89281-477-2 • \$12.95 PB

Women's stories from the world's oldest tradition, this collection of Australian Aboriginal myths was compiled at the turn of the century by K. Langloh Parker, one of the first Europeans to recognize their significance. Here, women tell of their own ceremonies, relationships, and behavioral codes, bringing into focus the Aboriginal world view, in which humanity and nature exist in balance and harmony.



October 1993

Inner Traditions, Box 388, Rochester, VT 05767 (802) 767-3174 Fax (802) 767-3726 Titles available from all major wholesalers

1. The CBC, through its membership policy and dues structure, has discouraged and effectively prohibited membership by innovative smaller presses. While publishers have every right to band together for marketing purposes, the CBC does not represent the full diversity of children's books being published today. Nor does it try to do so.

2. We are disappointed by the ABA's lack of leadership on this issue. ABA booth prices have skyrocketed in recent years, forcing many independent publishers to re-evaluate whether they should even attend. In light of that, we find it appalling that the ABA gives free space to the CBC, thus in effect asking smaller publishers to subsidize an organization of larger publishers from which they are excluded.



DOG TAGS
A Novel by
A LEXIS JUDE

DOG TAGS
By Alexis Jude

ISBN 0-934678-50-2 \$9.95

Pub date: Oct. 15

Sergeant First Class Tory Barrett, recently stationed in Korea, is attracted to Myra Sturdivan, aloof and ostracized by her fellow soldiers. In her struggle to break through Myra's isolation Tory fac-

es the darker side of military life—sexual harassment, witch hunts of lesbians, exploitation of local women. This timely story of lesbians in the military is given authenticity by the author's experiences

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by Kristen Garrett ISBN 0-934678-49-9 \$9.95 Pub Date: Oct. 15

Casey, a brash young dyke jock, aims for a spot on a top-ranked college basketball team and a chance to play ball with the best. Off the court, she likes sex when and where she can get it, until an older exathlete challenges her in ways she hadn't thought possible. Fast-paced action from

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NEW VICTORIA PUBLISHERS

Garrett whose first novel, You Light the Fire, was a

Distributed by InBook

3. We call on the CBC to re-evaluate its membership policy and dues structure, in discussions with smaller presses, so that it is genuinely open to children's book publishers of all sizes. With a sliding membership fee based on size — comparable to that of many similar organizations — we believe the CBC can ensure that every member pays its way, but that membership is accessible to more diverse publishers than is presently the case.

4. We call on the ABA to stop providing space for exhibits that favor larger and better-financed publishers. Many of us will re-evaluate whether we want to continue exhibiting at the ABA, if some of our fees are subsidizing free exhibit space for larger

publishers.

5. We call on the professional and educational organizations that publish recommended lists in conjunction with CBC to take steps to ensure that *all* eligible books are fairly considered for these listings, so that they will list the *best* books available, not merely selected titles published by CBC members.

We are ready to discuss these concerns with the ABA and the CBC. Up to now, our efforts have been rebuffed and treated as a request for philanthropy. We hope that will change.

Signed: African American Images, Alyson Publications, Arte Público Press, Biddle Publishing Company, Black Butterfly Children's Books, Charill Publishers, The Children's Small Press Collection/Children First Press, China Books & Periodicals, Council for Indian Education, Dharma Publishing, Discovery Enterprises, Dog-Eared Publications, Down There Press, Dream Tree Press, Evanston Publishing, The Feminist Press at the City University of New York, Five Corners, Free Spirit Publishing, JACP, Kar-Ben Copies, KIP Children's Books/Kasan ImPrints, H.J. Kramer, Latin American Literary Review Press, Nags Head Art, NBM Publishing, New Victoria Publishers, Open Hand Publishing, Oyate, Perspectives Press, Press Pacifica, Science & Art Publishing, Tilbury House, Verbal Images Press, Volcano Press, Ward Hill Press, Wisdom Publications, The Women's Press, Zach Press/Stiles-Bishop Productions.

Late breaking news: FBN learned today that, in a meeting between Reed Exhibitions and the CBC held at

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the behest of the ABA, the CBC agreed to open the ABA exhibit and catalog to other publishers of children's books. Look for more information in the next issue of FBN.

#### Closet Bookstore Bombers Get Lax Sentences

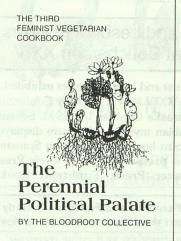
Daniel J. Van Aulen and Linda Ward, the two adults charged with various counts of criminal conspiracy and arson in the bombing of The Closet Bookstore in Lancaster, Pennsylvania pled guilty and were handed sentences inappropriate for the crimes they committed. Van Aulen was sentenced to one year in prison and seven years probation; Ward will serve five years probation only. The three youths involved in the bombings were found guilty and sentenced to "in-home services" programs that include community service and counseling. The virtual hand-slaps send a clear message that the courts in Lancaster don't consider attacks on lesbians and gays to be a serious issue.

The Closet Bookstore was bombed twice in 1991. The first time was on the morning of June 24. Although no one was injured in the blast the explosion shattered the two large windows at the front of the store and books displayed in the windows were damaged. On Thursday, August 15, a similar incident occurred when the bookstore was bombed again. This time the bomb used was a little larger and was taped to the front door of the bookstore. Although the local police dismissed any hate crime analysis, anti-gay graffiti was found on a nearby doorway; epithets like "all fags must die" and other death threats were hurled at store owner Nancy Helm; and at the time of the bombings there was increased Klan activity in the area. Also, similar bombing attacks on other gay people were occurring.

On May 29, 1992, in connection with the bombing investigation, police seized 30 cases of Class B and C fireworks and illegal explosives that a spokesperson from the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms said were "very, very dangerous." Despite the fact that these explosives were found in Van Aulen's garage, there is no indication that he will be charged by the federal gov-

The Newest from Bloodroot's Feminist Vegetarian Kitchen

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the evolving consciousness of the Bloodroot collective is reflected in the third cookbook of their highly acclaimed series. The recipe collection is 85% vegan and, once again, takes you through the seasons. Personal insights are offered by collective members and the entire

collection is spiced with quotes from Bloodroot's favorite feminist authors.

Great restaurants are a mix of extraordinary skill, use of the best ingredients and an inviting ambience for dining. My favorite restaurant brings these elements together in a unique setting: a feminist vegetarian restaurant and bookstore. Though uncommon, the combination is not as unlikely as it may first appear. Vegetarian and feminist ethics share a consciousness of our connections with other species and with the survival of the Earth. The women of Bloodroot collective cherish the act of creating — with the Earth and with each other.

Mariclare Barrett, Food Editor, Vegetarian Times

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ernment. A van-load of 150 other cases of fireworks was also seized by police. Detective Able of the Lancaster City Police Department said as far as he knows the case is closed.

#### Feminist and Lesbian Presses Exhibit at Bouchercon XXIV

Eleven feminist and lesbian presses exhibited at the Bouchercon XXIV World Mystery Conference in Omaha, Nebraska October 1-3, 1993. Seventy feminist and lesbian mystery titles were displayed and sold in a joint booth organized by Spinsters Ink. The eleven presses included: Cleis Press, Clothespin Fever Press, Firebrand Books,



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Madwoman Press, Naiad Press, New Victoria Publishers, Seal Press, Second Story Press, Spinsters Ink, Third Side Press and Women in Translation.

This is the first time in the history of Bouchercon that titles published by independent feminist/lesbian presses have been displayed as a cohesive group. Publisher catalogues and title-lists were also available.

#### Ingram & Joseph-Beth Booksellers Sue Bantam Doubleday Dell

Ingram Book Company, one of the primary distributors of mainstream press books, and Joseph-Beth Books, a Tennessee bookseller that is a test store for a new merchandising program in which Ingram manages its inventory and selects and buys 90+% of its inventory, filed suit against the Bantam Doubleday Dell Publishing Group (BDD) on August 26. The suit charges BDD with violating the Clayton Act as amended by the Robinson-Patman Act, and was filed in the U.S. District Court in Nashville.

The suit alleges that BDD places Ingram and booksellers who order from Ingram at a competitive disadvantage by arbitrarily dividing retailers who sell books into two categories, "bookstores" and "mass merchandisers," and that "bookstores" who order through distributors receive fewer advertising money from BDD. It also alleges that distributors which sell to "bookstores" receive less compensation for the services they provide.

Key allegations of the suit include:

- Compensation of distributors. Distributors who sell to retailers classified by BDD as "bookstores" receive a significantly lower level of compensation for the services they provide than distributors who provide similar services to "mass merchandisers" even when the distributor provides equivalent or greater services in connection with the resale of BDD mass market books to these "bookstores."
- Event Marketing Funds. "Bookstores" who purchase BDD titles from distributors are disqualified from receiving any "event marketing funds" from BDD on purchases made through distributors.

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 Cooperative Advertising Funds. "Bookstores" who purchase BDD titles both directly from BDD and via distributors are disqualified from receiving cooperative advertising allowances from BDD on purchases made via distributors.

• Direct Purchase from BDD. Many "bookstores" are unable to purchase mass market titles directly because of BDD's impediments to purchasing directly, such as minimum purchase requirements and because BDD does not offer next-day or "just-in-time" delivery of BDD titles for most orders.

• Supporting Order/Promotional Funds. Large warehouse club chains and discount store chains purchasing indirectly from competing distributors receive supporting order and other promotional funds, while many of Ingram's "bookstore" customers are disqualified from receiving such funds.

While BDD spokespersons implied that Ingram's suit was primarily a "face-saving" device, (NewsWire, 9/6/93), industry observers on the other extreme are pleasantly surprised to see Ingram taking this aggressive action and a few hope that it indicates a shift in perception on the part of major distributors that perhaps the future of bookselling — or at least their own financial survival — might be more closely tied to the future of independent bookselling than to the chains.

Ingram says that the companies filed the suit "because BDD's policies harm Ingram and 'bookstores' by providing an unfair competitive advantage to 'mass merchandisers' such as wholesale clubs, supermarkets, drug stores, discount stores, convenience stores and their distributors." Joseph-Beth Booksellers said they joined Ingram in the lawsuit because they believe BDD's polices are unfair and illegal under federal law.

It is significant that long-standing (though likely illegal) trade policies are being challenged in this venue. Some of these same practices by other publishers were also challenged in the FTC suit alleging illegal discrimination in favor of chain stores and against independent booksellers. It is hoped that the FTC decisions will be handed down later this fall.

Ingram Book Company, a part of the Ingram Distribution Group Inc., is the world's largest distributor of trade books, pre-recorded video cassettes, microcomputer hardware, software, and



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## A Community is Generous to Valerie Taylor

In FBN's May/June 1993 issue, an open letter to our community communicated the precarious financial position of much-loved lesbian novelist Valerie Taylor. We were told that at 79 Valerie was

## NATIONAL DIRECTORY OF WOMEN OF COLOR ORGANIZATIONS & PROJECTS

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experiencing a variety of medical problems from a debilitating fall and that she could not walk, write or care for herself. The response from friends, supporters and fans was enormously generous. Thousands of dollars have been raised.

"I wish the women [and men] who have/are still sending me money could know what is happening to it," writes Valerie. "Their notes and their thoughts mean more than the checks, except that the checks are necessary to my physical survival in health and decency." The spiritual and emotional support (along with the monetary assistance) has helped lift Valerie into a remarkable recovery. According to columnist Lee Lynch, who was a part of the original fund raising effort, "Donations have given her back a future. [Valerie] had doubted that she would ever walk again," but because of the community who loves her, she was able to continue physical therapy for her injured leg and become "mobile and independent."

Other necessities the money has allowed include "people to temporarily help her cook and clean, bring her groceries, and to transport her to therapy and medical appointments." Valerie is particularly excited about her "transition shower bench." "For the first time in four months," she says, "I can wallow in being clean."

Valerie's neighbors, Kate Randall and Trudy Mills at Antigone Books (600 N. 4th, Tuscon AZ 85705) continue to receive, record and deliver checks for her "with large dollops of caring attention and loaned books." Valerie, now a venerable 80, sends her thanks to all.

## Beating Amendment Two in Colorado

Colorado's progressive forces are successfully fighting the state's Amendment Two which, in effect, legalized discrimination and voided lesbian and gay civil rights laws in several cities in the state. Put to the people in a ballot measure, Amendment Two passed with an appalling 53 percent of the state's vote last November, and set off a wave of violent gay bashing.

Gay rights activists celebrated a victory when Judge Bayless, who presides over the District Court

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in Denver, issued an injunction in February to prevent the enactment of Amendment Two. In his decision Bayless said that the state has the right to not sanction people's private biases.

On July 19, the Colorado Supreme Court upheld the injunction with a 6-1 majority saying that the amendment cannot be put into effect pending a full examination of constitutionality issues in a Denver state court scheduled to begin this October. In an unexpected move, State Supreme Court justices conveyed that if the Amendment itself was brought before them, they would rule it unconstitutional.

Colorado State Attorney Gale Norton is appealing the injunction to the U.S. Supreme Court and has asked Judge Bayless to postpone the trial on the constitutionality of Amendment Two while the U.S. Supreme Court considers the injunction. The filing would be in mid-September with a ruling possible in July, 1994. If Bayless refuses to postpone his trial, the state will likely appeal that refusal to the Colorado Supreme Court. Some legal experts believe that the U.S. Supreme Court will be inclined to avoid the case until it's gone through the state courts.

The current injunction is nonetheless a big boost for lesbians, gays and our supporters. In order to implement and enforce Amendment Two, the state must prove "compelling government interest" in discriminating against lesbians and gays. Legal experts believe this will be overwhelmingly difficult.

#### Daddy's Roommate Censored Again

Five library systems nationwide have censored a gay-themed children's book, says Alyson Publications — but a far greater number have withstood challenges to the controversial *Daddy's Roommate*.

The most recent censorship came in Mercer County, New Jersey. In March, a patron asked the Lawrence Library to remove the book from their children's section. The library decided against such action. Opponents then took the unusual step of asking the County Library Commission to review the book's placement. At a summer meeting, the commission unanimously recommended that both Daddy's Roommate and Heather Has Two Mommies be

removed from the children's section and put with adult non-fiction. It was the first time the library had taken such a step.

"[Reclassification] is a degree of censorship," emphasized Judith Krug of the American Library Association. "When a book is no longer easily available to constituents, it is a degree of censorship."

Four other libraries have engaged in similar censorship. In Bladen County, North Carolina, libraries carrying these two books or *The Duke Who Outlawed Jelly Beans*, which also portrays gay parents, are required by the county to put them on the top shelf of the adult section. *Daddy's Roommate* was also reclassified as adult non-fiction at libraries in Moss Point, Mississippi and Martinsville, Virginia.

In Gwinnett County, Georgia, the library board took a different approach when *Daddy's Roommate* became the focus of protests. They voted to take the book off the open shelf and make it available only by special request. It was the first time in anyone's memory that such an action had been taken.

Daddy's Roommate has just been named Most Banned Book of the Year by the American Library Association.

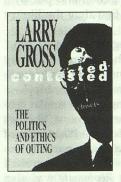
Discouraging as these reports are, 28 other libraries that came under attack for carrying *Daddy's Roommate* refused to censor it in any way. Libraries from all over the country have resisted political pressure, petitions, and even pickets, to defend the right of all children to see their families represented in books.

Canada Customs ... continued from page 18 tabs on us and pick up some newspapers." Constable McVicar's earlier visit and purchase of Bad Attitude led to charges against Glad Day for selling pomographic material, a court case, extensive legal expenses, a \$200 fine, and a court declaration that On Our Backs is obscene. (See FBN, Vol. 16 #1, pg. 13 for story.)

Meanwhile, in Toronto, LEAF (the Women's Legal Education and Action Fund) that was instrumental in the forming of the *Butler* decision, joined anti-censorship activists in condemning the use of *Butler* to justify the discriminatory use of the law to harass and intimidate lesbians and gays and sex trade workers.

—CS

(See also FBN, Vol. 15 #6.)





#### Larry Gross CONTESTED CLOSETS

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#### Genevieve Lloyd

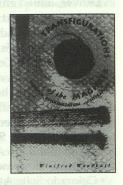
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#### Lisa Bloom GENDER ON ICE

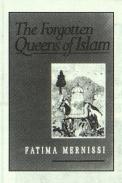
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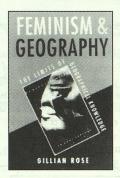
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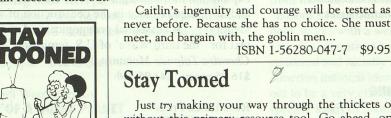
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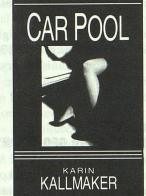
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October 1993 34 Volume 16 Number 3

# NEWS FROM THE BOOKSTORES

## Compiled by Carol Seajay

Two great ideas from Michigan booksellers: A Woman's Prerogative (Detroit) includes the words "Member of the Feminist Bookstore Network" in all of their display ads.... Common Language (Ann Arbor) photocopies Susanna Sturgis' FBN column on science fiction titles and posts it in their science fiction section. Would be a great thing to do with the art, mysteries, humor or any of the other "topical" columns.... And a great way to hand-sell books to customers too shy to ask for suggestions.



ClaireLight (Santa Rosa) is now renting audio tapes as well as videos. "Our Audio Tape Rental Department is now up and running! We've had so many requests for books on tape that we researched sources to bring in books and lectures from all over the world. The tapes rent for \$3.00 for a two night rental. Tapes available for rent include works by Ram Dass, Harriet Lerner, Cheri Huber, Marion Woodman, Maya Angelou, Clarissa Estes, and Marriane Williamson."

Old Wives Tales (San Francisco) sent a letter to their community (via their newsletter) early this summer stating that they are "standing again near the brink of bankruptcy" and asking their community, rhetorically, if OWT is a needed and necessary institution. In 1991 OWT faced a similar situtation and was saved by fundraising and reorganizing operations, cutting expenses (including salaries), creating a non-profit organization to oversee its cultural events series, and working out payment plans with publishers. Although the debt was managed successfully for two years, the progress made in reducing the debt (from \$74,000 to \$60,000) was lost this spring when sales fell. "1993 has been, frankly, financially disastrous. Our level of sales has

dropped suddenly and significantly. Our best efforts to reduce expenses even further have been no match for this huge shortfall," says the letter signed by Darlene Pagano and Elissa Mondschein. As we go to press, OWT is in a decision-making mode. Elissa will be leaving OWT at the end of September and, since OWT's bylaws (OWT is a California not-for profit mutual benefits corporation) require a minimum of two worker-officers. OWT will be hiring either a full-time collective member to re-energize and revitalize the store, or will be hiring a full-time collective member to work through the holiday season and to help close the store with dignity. Among the deciding factors will be sales, the level of response to the newsletter article, and the development and success of a program to raise \$25,000 by the end of September. If this drive is successful, OWT will likely launch a \$125,000 fund-raising program aimed at restoring the ailing organization to financial health.



Charis Books and More (Atlanta) just bought the building across the street from their location of nearly 20 years. "It was a total of two weeks between when we noticed that the building was for sale and closing!" Linda Bryant told FBN. "We weren't looking to buy a building but we were facing rent increases of 9% for each of the next five years (to bring our rent up to market value), so this is a much better deal for us." Charis got a loan for the down payment "from a guardian angel" and another "angel" co-signed on the mortgage. The new space is 2000 square feet, nearly twice the size of the current store, and has two small offices in the back that will be rented to cover the payments on the loan for the down payment. The mortgage payment itself will be almost the same as what Charis is currently paying for rent - pre-raises. Charis is

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Westchester Publishing Company Los Altos, CA • (415) 941-5784 now engaged in raising money for renovations. They'll move in January, at the beginning of their 20th anniversary year.

Amazon (Minneapolis) holds two PMS sales each year (Pretty Magnificent Sale) during the low-cash-flow seasons (August and February). The sales offer "20% off almost everything in the store." Exceptions: CDs, already sale-priced merchandise, some consignment items and special orders. No additional discounts with memberships.

Amazon is also hosting an international fiction study group. The reading group is led by a local woman and meets on alternate Mondays over 10 weeks. The cost is \$25 for all five sessions which includes a 10% discount on books purchased for the group.

Customers to the rescue: Everyone pitched in to move books when a water heater pipe broke in an office above Amazon and water started pouring through the ceiling and onto the bookshelves. Fastmoving customers kept damage to a minimum.

Visions and Dreams, Renee and Ray Ann Tucker-Fletcher's new bookstore in Wichita, reports selling "four times as much as we need to pay the rent" after being open only two months.

The Women's Bookstop (Hamilton, Ontario) has taken on the sponsorship of a 15-year-old slow-pitch softball team. "We're in fourth place — in a

# Naiad's Canadian Bookstores List

Naiad Press is preparing a "Canadian edition" of the list of bookstores that they send to their mail order customers. You're eligible to be on the list if your store regularly stocks 75% or more of the Naiad Press titles. To get on the list: Call Naiad or send a postcard stating that your store stocks 75% (or more) of Naiad's titles with your store's name, address, and phone number before November 15. Naiad will compile the list from your postcards and then send it with their next mailing to Canadian (retail) book buyers. Naiad has sent similar bookstore lists to mail order customers in the U.S. in a program that has been very effective in bringing new customers into the bookstores.

# Mainstream Movie Production Benefits Feminist Businesses

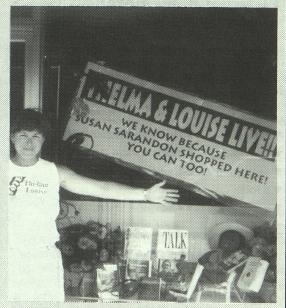
Yes! It's true! Movie fave Susan Sarandon shopped at Meristem in Memphis in July! Sarandon was in town for the filming of mainstream mystery "The Client" ("The Firm" was filmed in Memphis earlier this year to much local hoopla and publicity). This may not be a big deal to you California gals, but it was a BIG THRILL for us! Sarandon stars as attorney Reggie Love, who specializes in working for abused and neglected kids. Rumors are that Sarandon's mother is made more of a feminist in the film than in the book, and her secretary, Clint, acquires a gay consciousness.

Staffer Robin Marvel had the presence of mind to ask Ms. Sarandon for her autograph on a couple "Vote Thelma and Louise" bumper stickers. Robin and the autographed bumper sticker appear in the photo with our new "Thelma and Louise live!" window sign.

In addition, the woman who was the set decorator for "The Client" rented about 200 books from Meristem and the owner's personal library for use in Reggie Love's office set. She also bought a terrific commemorative poster by a wonderful local artist; the poster was a fund-raiser for a local peace and justice organization. We arranged for the artist to sign the poster (to Reggie, of course) and for a local lesbian feminist art gallery to do the matting and framing for the piece. We also loaned our bulletin board with buttons and political paraphernalia. Feminist

friends who own a nearby plant and herb shop tell us that "Client" folks have purchased plants from them as well. We also served as a source of information for other local resources.

We heard via colleagues at another local bookstore that the reason "Client" staff sought out the local feminist bookstore is because Susan asked them to...However it happened, it's been fun, we met some great folks, made a few bucks and learned a little about the movie business. Watch to see if Sarandon wears her new Meristem t-shirt in the casual scenes!



Meristem staffer Robin Marvel with "Vote Thelma & Louise" bumper sticker signed by Susan Sarandon

six team division — and will be in the play-offs since *all* the teams participate!"

Prairie Moon (Arlington Heights, Illinois) sponsors TGIF! parties, "Drop in at Prairie Moon the first Friday of any month to unwind and celebrate feminist space" from 6 to 8 pm, a Feminist Forum discussion group for women who want to pursue feminist ideas in a non-academic setting (topics selected by participants) once a month on Sundays, and Read Out!, an "open mike" for local feminist writers to share their poems, stories, novels and works-in-progress, a local storyteller who tells sto-

ries for grown-ups, as well as other topical and book-related events. Prairie Moon's calendar offers 12 events that give women twelve good reasons to drop by the store.

American Bookseller would like to hear from member bookstores about special events, parties, author visits, new marketing approaches, store openings, anniversaries, expansions, participation in community events and other news for AB's Bookseller News features. Call or fax Dana Sergenian at 800-637-0037 ext. 204, fax 914-631-8391. Photos are welcome.

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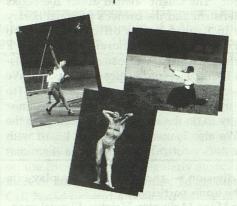
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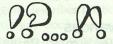
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# 2 ... P3 ... P3 ...

By Carol Seajay

Congratulations to Kasha Songer (The Book Garden, Denver), the new vice-president of the Mountains and Plains Booksellers Association, and to Mountains and Plains on an excellent choice! Kasha, who chaired this year's Feminist Bookstores Conference, has been active in Mountains and Plains for some time and has most recently been working on M & P's holiday catalog project. As far as FBN knows, this is the first time any regional booksellers association has selected an "out" lesbian or gay man as an officer and is certainly the first time a feminist bookstore owner has been elected to this post. Kasha will become president of the association after fulfilling her term as vice-president. It is also significant because ABA, which has never even nominated a feminist bookseller to their board, draws heavily from the regionals for board nominees.

It's also significant for the Feminist Bookstore Conference. Kasha had offered to organize the program for our 1994 Conference but has had to withdraw that offer in light of these new responsibilities. So that position is still wide open and needs to be filled. If you've been thinking about it, now is the moment to make the phone call! It's much easier to volunteer than to be recruited!



# SBA - Write Now

The Small Business Association is re-considering it's "Opinion Molder Rule" which disqualifies any business that might have an effect on shaping public opinion from all SBA programs including

start-up loans. This regulation has been used to disqualify feminist, gay, lesbian and other specialty bookstores (including travel bookstores) as well as general bookstores in some times and places, as well as theatres, record companies, etc. The Bush administration declined to review this policy, but the Clinton Administration is much more open to changing it. Send letters to support dropping the rule to Mr. Erskine Bowles, Administrator, U.S. Small Business Administration, 409 3rd St. SW, Washington DC 20416.



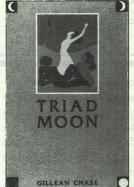
# Elsewhere in Print...

If you haven't already seen "Packing Boxes and Editing Manuscripts: Women of Color in Feminist Publishing" in the August issue of Sojourner, dig it out and read it. Martha Ayim and Deborah Barretto of the Women's Press/Canada, Jamie Lee Evans of Aunt Lute Books, and Lillien Waller, Barbara Smith and Mattie Richardson of Kitchen Table: Women of Color Press discuss their experiences with racism, classism and silencing at ABA and at the pre-ABA Feminist Publishers Conference and the experiences of women of color working in the feminist publishing movement.

The ABA issue (June 7, 1993) of *The Nation* carried an article that was highly critical of the ABA and the roles and functions it does and does not play and fulfill. Thousands of copies were handed out at ABA. It's nice not to be the only one looking at ABA this way....

Victoria Brownworth has an excellent article in the September Lambda Book Report entitled "Desexing the Story" that looks at the non-main-

# Coming in October . . .



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eet Lila, Brook and Helen, three women whose bonds of love, and sexuality take them beyond conventional relationships. Incest and survival, healing and the strength of the heart: these themes are explored in a novel that is at once an

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streaming of lesbians in the literary world and at what happens to lesbian characters, lesbian authors and lesbian sex scenes as they appear in mainstream published novels — and why. Her conclusions aren't surprising: very few lesbian novels written by lesbians for mainstream houses include lesbian sex of any kind. Novels that do include sex offer one of two stereotypes: the acceptable "cuddling" or prototypical obsessive, evil lesbian who preys on innocent victims. Stunningly well-crafted novels by lesbians tend not to be about lesbians at all. Many lesbian writers admit that "being in the mainstream de-lesbianizes one's work." Lesbian characters that do exist in mainstream-published literature often fail to identify with other women and/or as lesbians or exhibit deep ambivalence about their lesbianism — which tends to be an operating assumption for the characters rather than an issue to be explored. Brownworth contrasts the mainstream's lack of vital lesbian characters and sexuality with the vast range of male queer experience published by mainstream presses by writers from James Baldwin and John Rechy (published 30 years ago) to Paul Monette, from the raunch of David Feinberg and Robert Rodi to the subtle sexuality of William Henderson to the eternal conflicts of David Leavitt. Why? None of the reasons are surprising — or even new. It's the same old story male publishers aren't interested in anything that isn't about men; lesbianism — women without men - are still the ultimate threat to patriarchy; lesbianism is "still very scary for non-queers and... to gay men as well." If you want lesbians and lesbian novels, even here in the 90s, you still have to turn to lesbian and feminist publishers. None of it is news, but it's a pleasure to see the issues well articulated.



# Lesbian Advances

But hey! Who's complaining? PW recently reported that six major New York houses plunked down six-figure advances for seven gay- and lesbian-themed nonfiction titles. One of them is actually primarily about lesbians: Lindsy Van Gelder and Pamela Robin Brandt's The Girls in the Band promises

"a big overarching look at the lesbian world." Look for it in mid-1994 from Simon & Schuster. Does this title sound a bit familiar? Why do I think that lesbians are only perceivable to mainstream publishers if seen in a gay-male mirror — or if the lesbians relate to men — politically if not sexually? Not to be picky, but Van Gelder and Brandt's previous (and strong selling) book *Are You Two....Together* was a gay and lesbian travel guide. It's exciting that they actually get to do a book that's "just" about lesbians.

Urvashi Vaid is reported to have received a six-figure advance for *Margin to Center*, a book about "the mainstreaming of gay and lesbian liberation" due out from Anchor in 1995. Note that "gay" comes in the description ahead of lesbian — and that Vaid's national reputation is based on her years with the NGLTF. I have a tremendous respect for Vaid and I'll undoubtedly be the first on my block to read her book — but I have to wonder if Anchor would have a six-figure interest if Vaid had spent the last few years working for the Michigan Women's Music Festival, *Lesbian Connection* or *any* other all-woman organization....

Simon and Schuster also recently paid a \$267,000 advance for *The Awakening*, a narrative history of the gay movement from Stonewall to the present, co-written by *USA Today* and (ex-) *New York Times* journalists Adam Nagourney and Dudley Clendinen. Van Gelder and Brandt's S&S advance is believed to be in the same ballpark.

Gay scholar John Boswell (Christianity, Social Tolerance and Homosexuality) earned a reported \$225,000 advance on a hard/soft deal from Villard and Vintage for a book on same-sex marriage in the Middle Ages. Look for it next spring.

HarperCollins paid \$185,000 for *Homosexuality* and *Biology* (make that male biology) by Chandler Burr based on the March 1993 *Atlantic* story.

Here's a twist: Columnist Meredith Maran's What It's Like to Live Now went to Bantam for \$135,000. Her agent describes the book as "perhaps a next-generation gay book, because being gay is not what it focuses on; she sees that as simply one facet of her life." Right! Lesbians have never really even made it into mainstream literature (see Victoria Brownworth, above) and already we're over. Now there's a contemporary portrait of the lesbian in (mainstream) literature for you.

And here's an even bigger twist: former Spinsters Book Company publisher Sherry Thomas and her co-author Eric Marcus (*Making History: The Struggle for Gay and Lesbian Equal Rights*) sold their forthcoming gay and lesbian almanac to Warner for an estimated \$250,000. You figure the politics of an (ex-) lesbian-feminist-publisher taking her first book in ten years to a mainstream press... on a topic that some will no doubt remember has already been done — (*The Alyson Almanac*) by an independent gay press.

# 02 M

# Lesbian Cooperation Still Fashionable....

The recent AWMAC (Association of Women's Music And Culture) Newsletter carried an article about the formation of a national/international database that would include an calendar of performer itineraries, AWMAC and mainstream, to prevent expensive scheduling conflicts, and an upto-date resource guide of producers, clubs/coffeehouses, media allies in radio/press/tv, technicians in various cities, distributors, etc. at the recent AWMAC conference. Nearly \$900 was collected to fund the project at the initial meeting. As committee member Margie Adam wrote in the "how it works" section of her report, "I belong to the camp in our women's cultural network which holds that our growth and success as a movement/industry is contingent on our willingness to share our resources and contacts. If I share my resources with you, then you are one more woman who is supporting the very people and businesses I need to keep my work out there. As usual, we do have within us the tools to build and maintain a feminist and transformative women's culture: they are the simple feminist principles of reciprocity and cooperation."

And there you have it in a nutshell. For more information, contact AWMAC, 2124 Kittridge St. #104, Berkeley CA 94704.



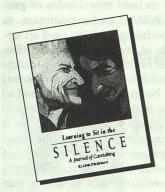
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October 1993 42 Volume 16 Number 3



Compiled by Audrey May with notes and encouragement from Kasha Songer and Laura Zimmerman.

World leaders at the G-7 economic summit may have a hard time working together, but when feminist Booksellers (Bs) and Publishers (Ps) get together, things happen! Everyone involved with the meeting of feminist Bs and Ps at this year's ABA agreed that our "mini-conference" was overdue, urgently needed, and useful for all concerned. And besides, it was fun! Bookseller delegates Kasha (The Book Garden), Laura (New Words) and Audrey (Meristem) pooled our notes to bring you the following highlights.

- Feminist Booksellers (Bs) and Publishers (Ps) need each other! All agreed that we were doing different parts of the same work as Seajay would say, "spreading women's words."
- Communication: both Bs and Ps need to work on it.
- Bs feel that feminist Ps are "playing it safe," perhaps due to lack of funds. Example: NYT best-seller list in May had three African American women authors, but spring releases from feminist Ps that featured African American authors, particularly those of lesbian fiction, were sparse to nil.
- Both Ps and Bs are guilty of the "if it's familiar, we do it; if it's unusual, we don't" syndrome. Example: Bs push a known author more than a new



Siné Anahita

book we don't know how to shelve or sell. Ps need to really work with us on those unusual ones that we'd like to know how to market better. Bs suggest that Ps give us more information or galley proofs so we can get a handle on how to market an unusual work. (Some Ps have already done this, and it really helps!)

- For a new generation, Bs want more contemporary lesbian fiction 90s dykes dealing with contemporary issues.
- Bs really want Ps to be conscious of covers. Remember that it is often the cover which sells (or doesn't sell) the book, and the small press covers are competing with the major press covers they're shelved next to. Many good books get lost because of mediocre covers. Use photos, good colors; ask

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yourself — does the cover sell the book from 20 feet away? Bs also ask Ps to be conscious about ageism in covers and content.

- Bs also urge Ps to work more closely with women and lesbian writers support groups like ASTREA and Womonwriters.
- Bs note that Ps have to be vigilant about editing and proofreading. We are losing our authors and readers to mainstream presses because of bad editing.
- Partnership: We talked a good bit about how we as feminist Bs and Ps can work more in partnership. Bs need to know whether Ps are really interested in recommendations from us on new manuscripts. If so, what is the best way for Bs to let Ps know about these?
- Bs want to help Ps be able to take more risks,
   e.g., print books more than 200 pages. Booksellers

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suggest that Ps ask us what subjects/types of books customers are asking for.

- In many cases, it is useful for feminist Ps to send Bs extra copies of catalogs so we can pass them along to customers. Ps need to know which Bs want extra copies and in what quantities. Bs should also give catalogs to local professors and urge adoption of feminist press books for college courses. Would Ps like names and addresses of local women's studies professors who should be sent review copies?
- We are all struggling with the fact that gay men's stores and Ps (as well as superstores and mainstream Ps) are vampirizing the market we've been building for twenty years. This was a common theme of discussion throughout our time in Miami.
- Because of the intense competition, Bs strongly urge Ps and feminist authors to let other stores know that the authors will make appearances at our stores, also. In fact, we'd really prefer feminist authors do the feminist stores *first*. (Feminist Bs in the southeast are about to begin work on a proposed "author tour itinerary"!)
- Bs need coop ad money from Ps for newsletters, fliers advertising author appearances, etc. Also, some bookstores would like bookmarks to promote upcoming releases.
- Again, review copies really help Bs with ordering and marketing. Bs need to let Ps know if they want review copies. Specify what types of books.
- Bs suggest Ps work on the timing of new releases. For example, there were very few new releases this year from feminist presses in February for Black History Month or in March for Women's History Month.
- Bs say, give us 50% discount and we'll order directly from the Ps. However, some Ps don't want direct orders and prefer to work through distributors.
- Bs and Ps really need to work together more closely to promote author readings and appearances. Would it help Ps if Bs supplied lists of media contacts in our towns? Bs need help from Ps in getting authors to do radio interviews, etc. to promote upcoming readings or appearances.

Would it help Ps to have a sort of regional guide to the towns our stores are in — general demographics, media outlets, organizations, universities, fun things for authors to do while they're here, etc.?



By Barbe Szlavko Womansline Books London, Ontario

Last May, I had the good fortune to be able to attend this year's ABA convention and trade fair and most especially, the two days of the Feminist Bookstore Conference. For many reasons, it was excellent professional development and a wonderful experience. One of the most important and exciting accomplishments of those two days was the creation and formalization of a new professional organization, The Feminist Bookstores Network. The Network represents 125 feminist bookstores in the United States and Canada with collective annual sales of over \$35,000,000.



The purpose of the Feminist Bookstores Network is to support feminist bookstores, to increase our visibility in the bookselling and publishing industries and to promote feminist bookstores worldwide. The network will serve to encourage publishers to increase their selection of feminist books by and about lesbians, women of color, old women, and all women who are inadequately represented. We will be a lobbying force with the publishers in relation to author tours, coop advertising, and discount policies. The Network will also organize educational programs, conferences, increase communication among the bookstores, share resources and information and create publicity and promotional materials. We will be an advocate for independent bookselling in the 90s as we continue to promote feminist bookstores.

The steering committee formed consists of Barb Weiser, Amazon Bookstore, Minneapolis, Minnesota; Alison Cunningham, Golden Thread, New Haven, Connecticut; Theresa Corrigan, Lioness Books, Sacramento, California; Linda Bryant, Charis: Books and More, Atlanta, Georgia: and myself, Barbe Szlavko, Womansline Books, London, Ontario, Canada.

Needless to say, I was very excited about the concept, and readily agreed to serve on the committee as the Canadian representative. One of the concerns of my American colleagues was "would the Canadian feminist bookstores feel that this organization be both relevant and useful to them and therefore participate?" My immediate response was a hearty "absolutely" but I guess that might not necessarily be the case. One of my main goals as a member of the committee is to both help convince my sister Canadian feminist booksellers to support the Network and to help the organization be truly relevant to us and that the service offered apply to Canadian stores.

I firmly believe that The Feminist Bookstores Network will be a useful tool to us as Canadian feminist bookstores in our struggles with publishers on the various fronts listed above. I feel it would



serve as a means for us to connect with each other in a more formal and meaningful way and also enlist the creativity and support of our American counterparts. Just as institutions such as *Feminist Bookstore News* strive to serve bookstores on both sides of the border and, while not always entirely successful, the connection seems to strengthen all of



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the bookstores. So too, I believe, will the Network. Besides, as it has been pointed out, that border has never been a dividing line that does women any good and I believe that this is an opportunity to further erase it.

Many ideas and projects for The Network were put forth both before and after the meeting that I feel would be useful to Canadian feminist bookstores. One of the ideas, which has already been implemented for the past two years, is the joint "support your local independent feminist bookstore" ad. Once again, it will run in major U.S. and Canadian publications and all of the participating bookstores' names will appear in the copy. Other ideas include a logo, visible on jointly-created bookbags, business cards, stationery, t-shirts, brochures, etc., which promote the idea of supporting feminist bookstores; camera-ready "blurbs" for newsletters and press releases; coordinated promotion and visibility programs; special projects to lobby publishers on the various issues we feel need to be addressed in light of our concerns. These are just a few and I know Canadian feminist booksellers can identify with all of them.



As I review this piece so far, it seems a long way from the impassioned plea I had envisioned I would successfully make, the one that would make all my sisters in bookselling say, "Yes, this is an organization that we wish to belong to and support." But, like all of our endeavors, starting points are small and slow. In these times, when I feel that I, as a Canadian lesbian feminist bookseller, seem to spend more and more of my time, money and energy fighting the likes of Canada Customs censorship and defending my right to sell books, I took comfort in my American sisters' words of support and could envision how an organization such as The Feminist Bookstores Network could be enlisted to help in this and the other unforeseen challenges that will rise up to meet us. It's time for us to unite. Canadian feminist bookstores support The Feminist Bookstores Network and join up.

October 1993

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# Time Management

# IDEAS FROM EXPERIENCE

By Dawn L. Martin

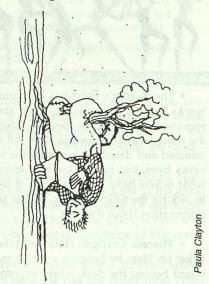
It's Thursday morning, the first of two Feminist Bookstore Days at this year's ABA. The Miami sun had been up for a few hours already and the humidity was beginning to set in. A room of about 50 feminist booksellers sat steadfastly around a makeshift circle ready (despite the ensuing heat) to get down to business. The first topic on the agenda was time management. Most booksellers feel that there aren't enough hours in a day to do all the things it takes to manage an effective store. One proposal was more like advice to live by, and was put to the group by Sue Butterworth of Silver Moon Bookshop (U.K.): "Remember that urgent things are not necessarily the most important." Certainly, if one can remember that, our harried work environments take on less significance. The following is a list of suggestions generated during an intense and productive brainstorming session.

# Staff Management

From small bookstores where you most often work alone, to large stores that have more staff members, staff management was cited as a constant time-consumer.

• Jennie Boyd-Bull (31st Street) makes sure she takes a half hour lunch break, daily — a time when she can simply reflect. She pulls the door (a sliding bookcase) to her office closed, and notifies everyone that she's out to lunch. She says she tries to be nice

to herself in this way, understanding that her work is important, but it will get done.



- See what jobs you can hire out. Joan Denman (Rubyfruit) puts a sign up in her store whenever there's a job (like inventory) that needs to get done and her time needs to be focused elsewhere. She pays workers with store credit. It's such a success, workers often ask when she'll need help again.
- Women and Children First hires out entire public relations/promotional projects every time they do a program. Ann Christophersen agrees that one of the hardest things to do is pay someone to do

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something that you know you could do yourself if you had the time. But it's spending money to make money, and for her it really cuts down on the stress.

- Recruit volunteers. Linda Bryant (Charis) posts a list for volunteer sign-up on the table by the cash register. It helps them develop a list of dependable people that they can choose from when they need help getting a project done.
- Tollie Miller (The Reader's Feast) finds it useful for the two managers (who are also the owners) to meet for two hours each week outside the store. Without the distraction of store activity the meeting is more focused.



- The Reader's Feast has also found staff notebooks to be a great asset. Each staff person is required to make notes about her shift and to read the notes from the previous shift. All new notes are initialed and dated. At hospitals the staff notebook saves lives, but for booksellers, entries pertain to what tickets have been sold out, if someone called in sick for the following day, or just any interesting information about the shift.
- Theresa Corrigan (Lioness) takes care of the ticket problem by hanging a magic marker bulletin board behind the desk where everyone can see it; the board displays all information about what tickets are available.
- Vicki Mariner and the staff at Rubyfruit Books intercept telephone calls. It's more productive if the person who answers the phone responds with, "She's not in at the moment, but can I help you?" instead of taking a message. This way, time and money won't be wasted by someone having to return a customer's call and the customer often gets the information she needs immediately.

- Take one hour a day to make time for yourself a quiet hour. Kasha Songer (The Book Garden) finds this an irreplaceable method for relaxation. Although it can take a bit of re-scheduling to create time, it helps her to get "centered."
- At A Room of One's Own, Sandi Torkildson meets with the staff at the beginning of each day. On Monday they discuss the week's goals and arrange schedules. On the other days they discuss what the short-term immediate agenda is. This helps with staff communication.
- Make a list (and post it where all staff and volunteers can see!) of things that need to get done. Each staff member can choose what she would like to accomplish for the week. Experience at Lioness shows that crossing items off the list gives staff members a feeling of accomplishment.

# Managing Yourself

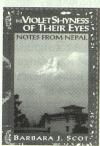
A lot of booksellers demand much more from themselves than they do from their employees — more time, more commitment and dedication, more accuracy, and the list goes on. Consequently, when it comes to taking time out for yourselves many booksellers admit that it's difficult.

- One way you can take a lot of stress off your work load is to trust your staff enough to give them more responsibility. Silver Moon in London (U.K.) requires everyone on staff to do some ordering. One person isn't required to bear the entire ordering burden and they also get a multi-representative stock of books.
- Another Silver Moon strategy is making lists. The crucial aspect that makes this tactic successful is not putting too much on your list. Sue Butterworth says she makes a list with everything she thinks she can accomplish, then she adds one more item. Dross items are put into a box for dead time when there's not enough time or concentration to do something bigger.
- Spend some time in the store when it's closed. The store is quiet, then, without interruptions or distracting noise. Laura Zimmerman (New Words) says it's worth twice the in-store time!

# NEW TITLES CALYX



# LITERATURE BY WOMEN



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• Opening mail can be a full-time job. Patty Callaghan (Brigit Books) handles each piece of mail only once. She separates mail by level of importance. Irrelevant stuff goes in the trash. She even has a "won't do it" box for those things she'll never get to.

# Do computers save time?

 Computers! Many feminist bookstores are now computerized. Some booksellers said that for them computers have made life a lot easier for ordering, bill paying, checking to see if you have a title, and just general organization. Pubnet was referenced as a good electronic ordering system — you need an IBM (or clone) and a modem. The program costs about \$125 (one-time fee). For check-writing, Quicken and Peachtree were suggested. Peachtree is a more complete accounting program, but even Quicken writes checks a lot faster than doing it by hand!

# What about sales reps?

· After repeated interruptions during inappropriate times, Theresa Corrigan (Lioness) made a hard-core decision not to see anyone who doesn't have an appointment.

- Ann Christophersen takes a more flexible attitude with reps. It's important for her establish contacts and cultivate relationships with selected reps. But, she agrees, you don't have to let them call all the shots.
- Schmoozing with reps works for Donna Niles (Amazon). She says she stays in control of the game by putting an end time on the meeting. Or she'll notify a staff person to pull her out at a certain time with an emergency phone call or something of that sort.
- Linda Bryant (Charis) uses a different strategy. She makes sure she has the order form completely filled out when the rep arrives. She then has the rep look over the order and asks, "Did I miss anything?"

# Consignment

A lot of discussion went on about the pros and cons of consignment sidelines sales. In fact, an entire article could be written on the subject. Presented below are two opposite experiences with consignment sales, just so you can get an idea of the diversity of ideas.

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# "Bold and promiscuous"

-The Nation



"A shining star": Pulitzer Prize-winner Maxine Kumin. "Not an assemblage, but a force": poet Arthur Sze. Madonna? No-

the Kenyon Review which, under the editorship of Marilyn Hacker, "does not simply use the buzzword 'multicultural,' it embodies it": the Lannan Foundation.

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# Kenyon Review

- Izzy Harbaugh (Mother Kali's) says that consignment sales haven't worked really well at her store. It's time consuming for staff people and didn't really bring in much money. Now they either buy up front or take 30 day terms.
- Audrey May at Meristem says that consignment works wonders in her store. She has a broad range of craft and art work that she might not otherwise afford. As a result, sidelines are at least 40% of sales.

# **Customer Service**

- How much time should you dedicate to being a resource for the community if that service interferes with selling books?
- Put together a list of gay/lesbian hotels, cafes, etc., and create a resource area that doesn't require much staff attention. Make a Newcomers Guide for women new to your area or on vacation. Booksellers noted that this reduced questions about where to eat and where to stay.

Posting all the information in the world won't, however, deter people from wanting special assistance. Most booksellers agreed that customer service is what distinguishes feminist bookstores from the bookstore giants. So when customers call or stop by with questions, there *are* some solutions that may benefit busy booksellers.

- Barb Wieser and Theresa Corrigan (Amazon and Lioness) say that it's a good idea to answer as many questions as you can. It really pays off for them because it helps foster customer loyalty. Their policy is to give out as much information as possible.
- If you are too busy when the question is asked, tell the customer you'll get back to her with the information. Take down her phone number and actually call her back. Experience with this method at Amazon by Donna Niles shows that customers really appreciate that you've taken the time to get back to them. Superstores won't do it, says Barb Wieser; we can get an edge on them this way.
- Make a division of staff responsibilities one or a couple of staff people could take on the task of

(in addition to her other duties) being concierge of sorts. Charis furthered this idea by suggesting that one person could be in charge of consignment sales, another ticket sales, and another book orders.

• With the universities nearby, Women and Children First gets a lot of calls from students who want the store's staff to do term paper research. Kathie Bergquist will tease people through a bibliography look-up by saying, "Hey, I'll give you information on the first three books, but you'll have to come into the store or go to the library for the rest."

One of the most grounding suggestions among the bunch seemed crucial to forging a remembrance of why we're doing this feminist work in the first place. It was put to the group by Sue Henry (Rising Moon) and drew many nodding heads from the crowd. She simply tells her staff she's "taking the day off" and enjoys some time in the store like everyone else.



Suggested Reading:

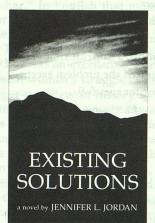
Finding Time: Survival Tips for Women Who Do Too Much. Paula Peisner. \$7.95 pb, 0-942061-33-0.

The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People. (See Chapter 3 on Quadrant II time management). Stephen R. Corey. \$9.95 pb, 0-671-70863-5. Fireside.

Connection: Quadrant II Time Management 2nd rev., ed. A. Roger Merrill and Rebecca R. Merrill. \$16.95, 0-9622363-0. Institute for Principle-Centered Leadership.

The Art of the Possible: A Compassionate Approach to Understanding the Way People Think, Learn and Communicate. Dawna Markova. \$12.95 pb, 0-943233-12-7. Conari Press.

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# BENGALI BOOKSTORE CELEBRATES 100 YEARS OF WOMEN'S WORK

By Farida Akhter and the Naragrantha Prabartana Collective.

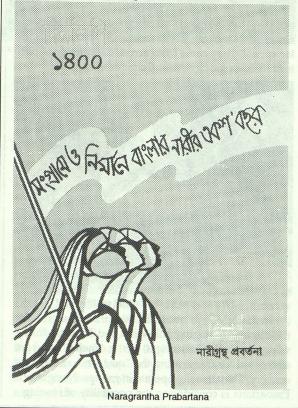
BANGLADESH: Naragrantha Prabartana, the feminist bookstore in Dhaka, is getting along very well.

Recently we produced a five-day programme and exhibition to celebrate 100 years of Bengali women as the (Bengali) century ended and the new year, 1400, began. The theme of our programme was "Sangrame Nirmane Banglar Narir Ekshaw Bochar." In English that means "Living Through Our Struggles and Reconstructing New Realities: One Hundred Years of Bengali Women."

The events ran for a week, 13 April to 20 April, 1993. It was an excellent opportunity to ground the present women's struggle of Bangladesh within the longer overview of history to bring into relief the elements of its continuity as well as discontinuity. It was also an opportunity to address developmental issues in the context of the women of Bangladesh. The programme included publications of diaries, printing posters and calendars, discussions, cultural performances and an exhibition.

On the inaugural day, guests, women and men alike, who had contributions in our life were greeted with flowers and songs by young children. About 70 women from different walks of life and from different parts of the country took part in the discussion meeting. They were mostly from the older generation. Some were close to 100. They talked about their lives, the hurdles they had to cross and, finally, their contribution toward the emancipation of women over the century.

These autobiographical presentations were extraordinary. It was an attempt to reconstruct the history of women's struggle orally. Narigrantha Prabartana will eventually publish these stories in a book form. What emerged from the oral narrative and through follow up discussion is that there is



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nothing called abstract, ahistorical, decontextualized general history of women. The struggles of women have varied local and concrete forms: they were historically and socially determined according to the nature of the localized struggle. There are significant experiential and existential difference among women coming from different class and culture. The same idea had different effect and manifested differently in different historical conditions.

As the celebration was for all women living in Bangladesh, special care was taken to include representatives from the different cultural communities. We listened to Chakma women from Rangamati, Garos from Mymensingh and Santhals from Rajshahi. They gave us tremendous insight into their lives as we the Bengalees' gave them. And of couse there were many other representatives from all across the Bangladesh.

The discussion session was followed by a cultural programme of women composers and performers. These were not city women, nor did they represent the middle-class urban cultures. They compose and perform for the poor, disempowered and marginalised section of our population and command popular appeal. They came from across the country to perform folk songs, dances, and drama.



Woman making clay dolls at exhibition

In Bangladesh about 5,000 rural women earn their living by singing folk songs and dancing during village festivals – marriages, births, "melas" –and are also noted for frequenting the "mazaars" all over the country. They usually operate in groups. Narigrantha Prabartana is considering the possibility of hosting a

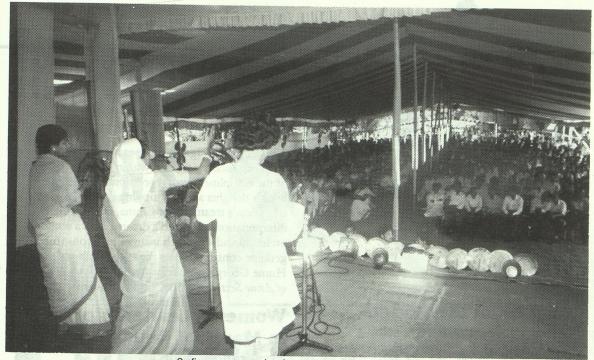
festival of such women singers and promoting their songs by helping them to bring out cassettes.

Kangalini Sufia, the brilliant woman baul singer, composed a song for the occasion as a tribute to Narigrantha Prabartana. In the song she called masculine ideology and the Judeo-Christian-Islamic theory of genesis (woman came from Adam's rib) into question. Other women composers sang songs that celebrate the essence of humanity rather than the theological belief of Hinduism and addressed women's issues from various theological contexts. The reason is understandable: The rise of the rightist religious forces in the subcontinent has become a major threat to the gains of the women's movement over the last 100 years. The popular folk story "Behula" was also dramatized through songs and poetry.

One group of women presented songs sung by women in the marriage ceremony and dramatized the event. The songs conceptualize the way women view marriage. It was an extremely valuable presentation.

Two women, Eklima and Aleya presented a form of songs know as "maljora." The form of this song is a debate through poetry and music. One argued that the last century was best, the other argued that the coming century will surpass the past. It is an excellent form of women's poetry and music that demands preservation. Such debates are established as belonging to the male domain. Women are increasingly demonstrating that they are absolutely competent to engage in this difficult form of art.

Lathi Khela (fighting with sticks) is also known as a masculine art. One of the ways patriarchy retains control over society is by excluding women from certain domains of art and culture. Our festival featured a group of women "lathial." They were greeted with amazement and cheers and really did attract the masses! It was something quite new for the people of Dhaka and also for those who came from different parts of the country. The whole programme was covered by the National Television and we have learned that the lathials got a grand reception on their arrival back home. People of that area are bringing their young daughters to hear all that they did during the festival in Dhaka. The girls are eager to join the group and be trained as lathials. The women "lathial" have demystified the privilege and monopoly of men by simply demonstrating that they are quite capable to present lathi khela.



Surfia, composer and performer, at the opening ceremony

The exhibition part of the programme traced the evolution of many aspects of Bengali women's lives over the last 100 years and included various objects ranging from everyday wear to historical objects to interesting things like elbow-rest pillows. Descriptions of the exhibits conveyed history, stories and other information. Many women loaned personal possessions to the exhibit. We've been asked to create a permanent exhibit and gallery out of this exhibit.

Our goal was not just to welcome the new century and bid farewell to the old, it was to build a bridge between the old and the new. We are publishing a book to commemorate this occasion and this event. It will document the contributions of Bengali women who have worked hard over the years to provide our generation a political and cultural space to continue the struggle with new vigour and energy.

The event, as it was organized by the Narigrantha Prabartana, opened up new ways, horizons, and methods to advance the cause of women. The innovative initiative has expanded our contacts enormously. In addition to being an event, it was also an organizing tool for development and

cultural education to enhance the capacity of our society to address the issue of women and our struggle.

In conjunction with the event, Narigrantha Prabartana, published a new edition of its annual diary/calendar. This feminist calendar is based on the Bengali calendar for 1993-1994, which starts in the spring. Women and/or bookstores can order the diary directly from the bookstore in Bangladesh. The selling price in the U.S. and Canada is \$10. Bookstore discount is 30% and the price includes the shipping cost. To order calendars, send an order to Naragrantha Prabartana and wire funds directly to their account. Their account name is Narigrantha Prabartana, Account # CD-1082. Bank Name: Janata Bank, Shaymoli Branch, Dhaka 1207, Bangladesh. Send your order directly to Narigrantha Prabartana (The Feminist Bookstore) 2/8 Sir Syed Road, Mohommadpur, Dhaka 1207, Bangladesh. Fax: 88-02-813065. Naragrantha Prabartana will also send you a detailed list of other books that they publish that are available for international distribution.



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# THE ALASKA WOMEN'S BOOKSTORE:



Joann and Mariah: Proud of their accomplishments ... and still working hard.

# A SUCCESS STORY

By Trudy Tasker

Begun in 1976, The Alaska Women's Bookstore has survived several transitions from a profit to non-profit enterprise, and back again. The current owners, Joann Contini and Mariah Redwood, purchased the shop and its stock from an all volunteer Board of Directors in 1989. Both women had been involved in the business through its many incarnations, learning the basics of management and customer services along the way. Their decision to buy in was the beginning of a great adventure.

The bookstore, such as it was, consisted of approximately \$5,000 worth of stock, the books bare-

Reprinted with permission from Our World: The International Gay Travel Magazine. \$4.95/issue, \$44 for 12 issues. 1104 N. Nova Rd. #251, Daytona Beach FL 32117. Distributed to bookstores by Inland and Ingram.

ly covering the shelves even when turned face out. Their inventory also included a few wire racks for paperbacks and a couch. All of the inventory, accounting and ordering systems were accomplished by hand. Many must have said, "What's the point?"

Now, four years later, the bookstore's stock stands at over 6,000 books estimated at over \$66,000 in value, plus new book shelf units. Additionally, seven new displays showcase over 500 items of clothing, sculpture, pottery, glassware, incense, oils, crystals and other gift items. Racks have been introduced presenting cards by women artists plus an entire rack devoted to lesbian and gay card themes. A large jewelry cabinet features over 500 women-crafted pieces from around the country, while an island display provides space for 2,000 tapes and CDs.

A Macintosh computer and inventory database holds over 5,000 titles. All ordering and accounting

is computerized, daily business is conducted utilizing fax transmittals and an electronic credit card system has been installed.

How was this "impossible" task accomplished? Joann and Mariah advise that the main ingredient was, and is, hard work. For the first three years they kept the store open seven days a week, closing only for a few major holidays like Christmas and the Fourth of July. Joann remained working at her full time job from 8am to 5pm, taking the evening shift at the shop, 7 days a week. Both women worked 14 to 16 hour days and, for the first three years, lived off savings and Joann's salary. All earnings were turned back into increasing the inventory, expanding not only the quantity but the diversity of items stocked. They decorated and



updated equipment and displays, and purchased their electronic equipment. The hardest part, they report, was discovering that, even though they had put every cent back into the store to increase the inventory, they still had to pay income tax on the inventory growth. Watching their savings dwindle to pay off Uncle Sam hurt — the savings had been budgeted elsewhere.

Joann and Mariah also credit community support for much of their success. Loyal customers who shop there first and regularly have made a difference. Their clientele special order their books and tapes through the bookstore instead of purchasing them through a catalogue. Word-of-mouth "advertising" (customers telling friends and co-workers of the excellent titles and wonderful variety of books, tapes and gifts the store carries) has also been essential in launching the new direction Joann and Mariah decided on when they purchased the business.

Before pooling their talents, Joann and Mariah were involved separately in a number of people-related jobs. Before moving to Alaska, Joann lived on the Hopi Indian reservation in Arizona where she worked as Head Start teacher and federal programs administrator. Later she worked as Chief Financial Officer for a non-profit corporation in Anchorage. Previous to that she held a series of administrative positions with the Federal Head Start Program, the Alaska Federation of Natives, and Easter Seals.

Mariah spent her early years in Queens, New York. She worked as a psychiatric nurse in California, later moving to Arizona where she and a Marilyn Anderson established and operated Aradia, the Flagstaff women's bookstore. Later she became store manager for the Goodwill Corporation. Before opening the bookstore with Joann, Mariah worked with the Food Bank of Alaska and then held a position as Nutrition Supervisor for the Anchorage Senior Center Programs. As can be seen by their previous jobs, both women have a great deal of training in dealing with people.

The bookstore reflects the owners' interests and background. Joann and Mariah both possess a strong feminist consciousness and their business is part of the national Feminist Bookstore Network. The store features selections on feminist theory, women's biography, autobiography and fiction. They also carry a large selection of publications on

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healing and recovery from battering, rape and incest, and a well stocked Native American section. Also, interest and practice in women's spirituality by Joann and Mariah is reflected in the wide variety of information on the goddess and the Wiccan and pagan belief systems.

Other well stocked sections include the excellent selection of children's books as well as multi-ethnic, multi-racial and gender-fair publications, and a collection of books regarding children's self-esteem and parenting skills.

Joann and Mariah both feel that the main business of their bookstore is providing books and materials that are not readily available elsewhere to the women's, feminist, gay, lesbian, recovery and spiritual

books by women's presses, lesbian and gay presses, feminist presses and other alternative publishers as well as opening a market for crafts and art-

communities. Additionally, they provide a market for

One of the realities of the store is that it provides much more than "just" books. It serves as a

work by women.

resource center, a non-profit agency and a community center, all rolled into one. It acts as a support and referral agency for the Alaska women's community, and the lesbian and gay community. Such extra services as bulletin boards, event information, job advertisements, housing information, phone contacts, women in business, lesbians and gays in business, bed and breakfast referrals, tourist activities and ticket sales take time and energy, adding to the financial strain and use of resources. The bookstore does not charge for any of these functions, but is currently looking at a fundraising campaign to help absorb some of the costs.

Although the business has grown tremendously, it does not yet create a comfortable living for the

two women. Joann and Mariah dream of being able to increase advertising, expand mail order services and add to the size of the store so there is room for activities such as a coffeehouse, book groups, music events, video showings and discussion groups.

Besides having just celebrated their tenth year together as life partners, both Joann and Mariah are active in support of lesbian and gay rights, evidenced by the large selection of lesbian/gay history, theory and research as well as fiction available at



The Alaska Women's Bookstore: From a handful of periodicals to a booming book and gift shop serving the lesbian, feminist, and gay communities.

their store. Both women have also been active in their own recovery and personal growth, so a main part of the store is devoted to helping those in recovery from addictions plus those exploring new ways of thinking and being.

Joann and Mariah don't believe there is time to sit back and relax, but they do take the time to enjoy their well deserved success. Their entrepreneurship in Anchorage is an inspiration to others who dream of a similar bookstore and community gathering place in their town.

The Alaska's Women's Bookstore, 2440 Tudor Road, #304; Anchorage, Alaska 99507; 907-562-4716; Fax: 907-562-4325.

# 1993 Fifth Annual Lambda Literary Awards

Lesbian Fiction, Running Fiercely Toward A High Thin Sound, Judith Katz, Firebrand Books

Gay Men's Fiction, Let The Dead Bury Their Dead, Randall Kenan, Harcourt Brace Jovanovich

**Lesbian Nonfiction**, *Eleanor Roosevelt*, Blanche Wiesen Cook, Viking

**Gay Men's Nonfiction**, *Becoming A Man*, Paul Monette, Harcourt Brace Jovanovich

Lesbian Poetry, Undersong, Audre Lorde, W.W. Norton

**Gay Men's Poetry**, Counting Myself Lucky, Edward Field, Black Sparrow Press

Lesbian Mystery (tie), Two Bit Tango, Elizabeth Pincus, Spinsters Book Company

Crazy For Loving, Jaye Maiman, Naiad Press

Gay Men's Mystery, The Hidden Law, Michael Nava, HarperCollins

Lesbian Science Fiction/Fantasy, Ammonite, Nicola Griffith, Del Ray

Gay Men's Science Fiction/Fantasy, China Mountain Zhang, Maureen F. McHugh, TOR Books

Gay Men's Anthologies, A Member of the Family, John Preston, editor, E.P. Dutton

Lesbian Anthologies, The Persistent Desire, Joan Nestle, editor, Alyson Publications

Lesbian/Gay Small Press Book Award, Memories that Smell Like Gasoline, David Wojnarowicz, Artspace Books

Gay and Lesbian Humor, Dykes to Watch Out For (The Sequel), Alison Bechdel, Firebrand Books

Children's/Young Adult Literature, When Heroes Die, Penny Raife Durant, Atheneum

Editors' Choice, Gay Ideas, Richard Mohr, Beacon Press Publisher's Service Award, Craig Rodwell, Founder, Oscar Wilde Memorial Bookshop

## Bill Whitehead Award

Science Fiction writer Samuel Delany was awarded the Fifth Annual Bill Whitehead Award for Lifetime Achievement in Lesbian and Gay Literature. The award is presented each year by the Publishing Triangle in honor of the late editor Bill Whitehead. As recipient, Delany delivered the annual Whitehead Lecture on the state of gay and lesbian publishing and writing.

# Ferro-Grumley Awards

Dorothy Allison and Randall Kenan were presented with the 1992 Ferro-Grumley Awards for Best Lesbian Fiction and Best Gay Male Fiction. These awards are sponsored by the Ferro-Grumley Foundation in honor of the late authors and lovers Robert Ferro and Michael Grumley. Award founder Steve Greco presented the recipients with their cash awards for \$1000 each. Allison won for her first novel, Bastard Out of Carolina (Dutton); Kenan won for his first short story collection, Let The Dead Bury the Dead (Harcourt Brace Jovanovich).

# Kolovakos Award

The finalists for the 1993 Gregory Kolovakos Award for AIDS writing are poet Thom Gunn, for The Man with Night Sweats (Farrar Straus Giroux), poet Essex Hemphill, for his collection, Ceremonies (Plume), and the late novelist Peter McGehee for Sweethearts (St. Martin's Press).

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# Latina Lesbians Do The Lammys

By Vanessa Cruz

On Friday May 28, three of us who do everything in esto, got all decked out and attended the Fifth Annual Lambda Literary Awards at the Hotel Intercontinental in Miami. This event is sponsored by the Lambda Book Report and is THE literary event of the lesbian and gay community. The Lammys, as the awards are known, are given to gay and lesbian books in fifteen categories ranging from children's books to science fiction.

We arrived in full Latina color: Margarita wore a plaid pantsuit with pink shirt; Patri wore her streetdyke attire (black pants, white shirt and colorful vest, although she would have been much happier in jeans); I wore a modified writer-femme (black palazzo pants and suede platforms); and Margarita's date, a poet who has contributed several times to *esto*, wore full Latina femme regalia (peach pleated dress with organza flower appliqués). We were psyched; we were ready to meet exciting literary lesbians from all over the US. We wondered if any of the Latinas whose work we know would be there, placed some quarters in the meter outside and trekked upstairs.

What we found among the champagne and raw oysters was a true reflection of the state of gay and

This article was reprinted from esto no tiene nombre, a bilingual creative forum for the Latina lesbian experience. Subscriptions are \$15 for individuals, \$20 for institutions and individuals outside the United States. Published quarterly. No bookstore should be without it! Send to esto, 4700 NW 7th Street #463, Miami FL 33126.



lesbian publishing in the US: a room full of white gay men and lesbians and a few Black people. We would look at women and place bets as to who might be Latina. Margarita would say: "Esa" and I, after scrutinizing the woman, would say: "Jewish." "Esa?" she would try again. I would shake my head and say: "No, Italian." Finally, the only other Latina we could find there was Elsa our waitress.

For us the event was somewhat anticlimactic since we knew no awards would be given to Latinas. Unlike last year when *Chicana Lesbians: The Girls Our Mothers Warned Us About*, edited by Carla Trujillo, won the Lammy for Best Lesbian Anthology, there were no Latinas nominated this year. Patri and I enjoyed Kate Clinton's emceeing, while Margarita and her date, after giving up on

the jokes, proceeded to chat all night in Spanish, much to the chagrin of the other people at our table.



The following day, courtesy of Nancy Bereano of Firebrand Press, we attended the American Booksellers Association Convention and Trade Show in Miami Beach and had a chance to meet a number of editors of feminist and lesbian presses. We felt this would be a great opportunity to see if anything new by Latina lesbians had been published. One by one, we asked the feminist and lesbian publishers if they had published anything by

Latina lesbians lately. The answers did not surprise us. For the most part the response was no; a few times it was "No, but such and such book has a Latina character in it." The publishing house Aunt Lute is remarkable, having published Cantando Bajito/Singing Softly, The Two Mujeres, Send My Roots Rain and Daughter of the Mountain.

What is wrong with this picture? Where are our books? Why are we letting Anglo writers use us as characters instead of Latinas writing about ourselves? Part of the problem is that when women begin to write, they are more likely to write a poem or maybe a short story, and publishers are generally interested in novels. Although the number of books by Latina lesbians is increasing, very few are published every year, and it does not appear that this will change in the near future. We need more publishers willing to work with emerging writers and more Latina lesbian writers willing to submit their work for publication. Only then will the Lammys not look (as Barbara Smith remarked) suspiciously like the Republican convention, but like a fabulously queer, multicultural feast.



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<ul><li>☐ + \$19 for other international postage.</li><li>☐ 1/2 year - \$33.</li><li>☐ Sample copy - \$6.</li></ul>	☐ Lesbian & Gay ☐ Gay ☐ Alternative/political ☐ General independent	

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# WRITING WANTED

Compiled by Dawn L. Martin

The award winning editor of *Out From Under:* Sober Dykes and Our Friends is seeking "old-timers" in recovery for a new anthology, The Next Step: Out From Under, Volume Two. Material is sought from lesbians in recovery from any of a variety of addictions with a focus on later stage (eight years or more) recovery. Any style/format and recovery program considered. Send SASE for guidelines to: Jean Swallow, OFU2 Editor, 2404 California Street #27, San Francisco CA 94115. Deadline: November 1, 1993.

Woman in the Moon Publications has just announced its first annual Audre Lorde Memorial Prose Prize. They are looking for prose submissions, both fiction and non-fiction, that take up any topic of discourse found in Lorde's work or illustrate a condition, idea, or ideal inherent to her prose writings. A \$500 prize will be divided between two winners, one for each genre. Submissions accepted between September 1 and November 17. For details contact SDiane Bogus, WIM, PO Box 2087, Cupertino CA 95015; 408-253-3329.

The Cleveland State University Poetry Center has received a \$5635 grant from the Women's Community Foundation for the publication of a book of poetry by a lesbian woman of color. Manuscripts should be 50-100 pages. For more information contact Prof. Nuala Archer at CSU Poetry Center, Department of English, Rhodes Tower, Room 1815, Cleveland OH 44115, Attn: WCF Competition; 216-687-3986. Deadline: November 1, 1993.

New Rivers Press is considering manuscripts for two anthologies to be published in 1995. The first project is a collection of prose poetry by writers from the United States and Canada. The second project is an anthology of prose travel writing by North American women who have lived or traveled abroad. Short fiction, essays, and memoirs are all eligible. Preference will be given to previously unpublished work. Deadline for both projects: March 1, 1994. For guidelines write New River sPress, 420 North 5th Street #910, Minneapolis MN 55401.

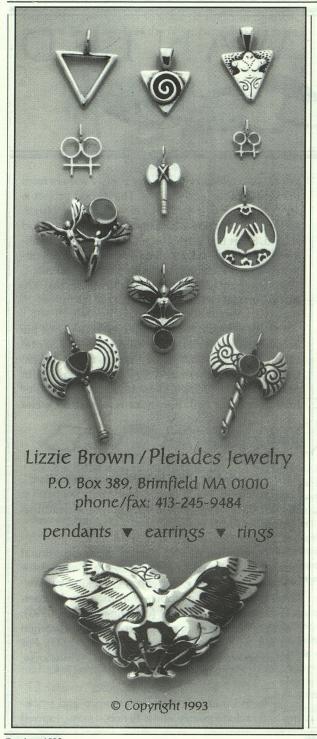
Kalliope: A Journal of Women's Art will honor the accomplishments of acclaimed poet Sue Saniel Elkind with a \$1,000 poetry contest for women. Carolyn Forché will serve as judge. Maximum poem length is 40 lines. Entry fee is \$3 per poem or four poems for \$10. For more information write



Kalliope, Contest, FCCJ, 3939 Roosevelt Blvd., Jacksonville FL 32205 or call Mary Sue Koeppel at 904-381-3511 or 904-646-2346. Postmark deadline: November 1, 1993.

Future issues of SHE Travels, an international magazine designed to give women a place where we can share travel experiences, is seeking submissions on a variety of topics that include: Women and adventure/eco-travel (deadline Oct. 15, 1993); Volunteer/work abroad opportunities for women and feminist activists (deadline Feb. 15, 1994). For guidelines write SHE Travels, Box 6142, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 5L7 Canada.

A forthcoming anthology on women and smoking will include poetry, short fiction, essays, journal



entries. First cigarette, relationship to cigarettes, attempts to quit, success stories, etc. Send short bio to Gwynne Garfinkle, 1731 Pacific Coast Hwy. #8, Hermosa Beach CA 90254. Deadline: February 1.

Daughters of the Sisterhood, an anthology of feminist/womanist writings by women under 30 wants non-fiction articles, analyses, poetry, documentation of events and photos for publication. For submission guidelines write to Rebecca Kaplan, PO Box 441460, West Somerville MA 02144. First draft deadline: December 31, 1993.

The Femme Mystique is a lesbian anthology to be published by Alyson Publication that will explore all aspects of being femme. Essays, stories, poems, and black and white photos are being sought from femmes, former femmes, future femmes, femme wanna-bes and admirers of femmes. Contact Lesléa Newman, The Femme Mystique, Box 815, Northampton MA 01061. Deadline: January 30, 1994.



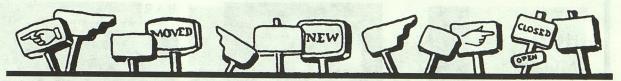
First-person narratives are wanted for an anthology compiling the life stories of ritual abuse survivors and their supporters. The editors will include authors of both genders and different sexual orientations, ages, and cultural heritages. For information about safety precautions and how to submit material write to RA Speak Out, 4104 24th Street No. 127, San Francisco CA 94114. Deadline: December 31, 1994.

Gay male poets who have started publishing their work within the last five years are being sought for a forthcoming anthology. Send SASE to New Poetry Guidelines, Alyson Publications, 40 Plympton St., Boston MA 02118. Deadline: October 15, 1993.

Writings and visual art pieces by women are wanted for an anthology about brother-sister incest — pieces which "publicly tell of our pain, healing, and strength, of our nightmares, risks and knowledge, and of the uses of power." Pseudonyms accepted. Send submissions to Risa Shaw, PO Box 5723, Takoma MD 20913.

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# THEY WENT THAT-A-WAY



Compiled by Dawn L. Martin

### **New Stores**

Censorship hasn't stopped Louise Hager and Carol Dale! They opened Women in Print: Books & Other Media in Vancouver, Canada. Instead of having an "opening celebration," Women in Print made a donation to Little Sister's Defense Fund. Little Sister's Bookstore in Vancouver has been harassed by Canada Customs for ten years. You can find Women in Print at 3566 West 4th Avenue, Vancouver BC V6R 1N8 Canada; 604-732-4128.

Featuring feminist and women's studies literature, Athena's Palace Bookstore is open in Hawaii. Anyone with useful information to share can reach Vicki Wisner at Athena's Palace Bookstore, PO Box 562, Captain Cook, HI 96704.

# **Bookstores Move**

Arbor Moon Bookstore has moved from a back room at The Gathering Place (a lunch kitchen and work space) into a main street apartment. Their new address is 2017 O Street, Lincoln NE 68510; 402-477-5666.



# **Publishers Move**

Woman In The Moon Publications (WIM) has a new mailing address. They can now be reached at PO Box 2087-NR, Cupertino CA 95015.

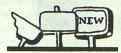
# **Publishers Sold**

Seattle-based Bay Press, publisher of cultural criticism, has been sold to the publishing partnership of Kimberly Barnett and Sally Brunsman. The sale, which is effective immediately, will not affect

Bay Press' ongoing publishing program, distribution or administrative operations.

### **Publicists Move**

Gail Leondar Public Relations, which publicizes feminist, gay, and lesbian books, has moved. The new address is: 18 Linwood Street, Arlington MA 02174. New phone number: 617-648-1658.



## Video Distribution

The Lily Tomlin (Video) Collection will now be exclusively available for sales and rental through Wolfe Video, in association with Tomlin Wagner Theatracalz. Other titles available from Wolfe are Ciciley, Daughters of the Dust, Claire of the Moon, Framing Lesbian Fashion and Prelude to Victory. Contact Wolfe Video at PO Box 64, New Almaden CA 95042; 408-268-6782.

# Anniversaries — The Roaring Twenties!

Bookstores age gracefully in the Southwest. Happy 20th anniversary to Antigone Books in Tucson, Arizona and to Full Circle bookstore in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

# Green Card Successes

Naiad Press is pleased to announce that Claire McNab, Australia's wildly popular creator of the Detective Inspector Carol Ashton series (*Lessons in Murder, Fatal Reunion, Death Down Under,* and *Cop Out*) and erotic romances (including the newly released *Silent Heart*) has obtained her green card. She will be moving to the United States in the fall of 1993.

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# NEW FALL TITLES FROM



A Compelling Second Novel from the Author of Out of Time

# **Home Movies**

Paula Martinac

Set against the vibrant background of New York's gay and lesbian community, this is a timely and evocative story that illuminates the bittersweet aftermath of loss and the deeply felt bonds of friends and family in the age of AIDS. "From the devastating opening chapter to the satisfying conclusion, she touches our hearts and souls." - David Feinberg, author of Spontaneous Combustion "Life-affirming...Martinac is a keenly observant writer." - Publishers Weekly

Paper **\$** ISBN 1-878067-32-X **\$** \$10.95 **\$** Available September 15th

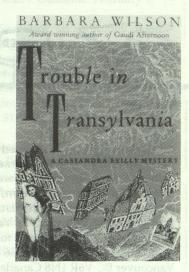


The Newest Thriller in the Jane Lawless Series

# A Killing Cure Ellen Hart

Minneapolis restaurateur and part-time detective Jane Lawless is back in a riveting new mystery that revolves around the inner circle of a powerful and prestigious women's club. "Hart's latest Jane Lawless thriller is a banquet for mystery lovers who are hungry for the real thing: a great yarn exceptionally well-told, full of wit, passion, suspense, and a menu of strong, believable characters." – Alfred Hitchcock Mystery Magazine

Cloth **\*** ISBN 1-878067-36-2 **\*** \$19.95 **\*** Available September 24th



Murder and Intrigue Romanian Style!

# Trouble in Transylvania Barbara Wilson

From the award-winning author of *Gaudí Afternoon* comes a dazzling new mystery set in the Balkans of Eastern Europe and featuring globetrotting sleuth Cassandra Reilly. "Barbara Wilson has done it again! A marvelous blend of travel writing, feminism, wit, and mystery." – *Ursula K. Le Guin* 

Cloth **\$** ISBN 1-878067-34-6 **\$** \$18.95 **\$** Available October 8th

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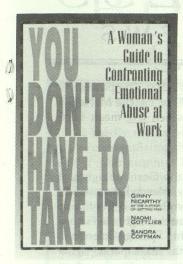
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CELEBRATING SEVENTEEN YEAR

# FROM SEAL PRESS \$



A Woman's Guide to Confronting Emotional Abuse at Work

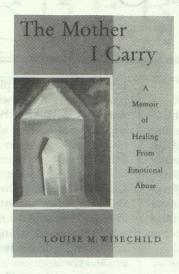
# You Don't Have To Take It!

Ginny NiCarthy, Naomi Gottlieb & Sandra Coffman

Are you fed up with overly demanding bosses, coercive co-workers, or a hostile and demoralizing workplace? This comprehensive new book tells how to recognize and deal with emotionally abusive employers and co-workers. Written in a direct and accessible style, it will be extremely valuable to women in all types of jobs.

Paper \* ISBN 1-878067-35-4 \* \$14.95

\* Available October 24th



A Powerful Memoir from the Author of The Obsidian Mirror

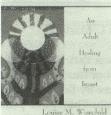
# The Mother I Carry

A Memoir of Healing From Emotional Abuse Louise M. Wisechild

Stunningly honest and beautifully written, The Mother I Carry is a moving testament of recovery from childhood emotional abuse. "A must for becoming whole and selfaffirming." - Z Budapest, author of Grandmother Moon "Realistic, inspiring and lifeaffirming." - Ellen Bass, co-author of The Courage to Heal

Paper \* ISBN 1-878067-38-9 \* \$12.95 \* Available November 5th

Obsidian Mirror



Over 21,000 Copies Sold!

# The Obsidian Mirror

An Adult Healing From Incest Louise M. Wisechild

"The tale is compelling, frightening and powerful... Wisechild's graphic, biting, funny, painful chronicle of her journey to health and self-love is also a singular literary achievement." - Publishers Weekly

Paper \* ISBN 1-878067-39-7 \* \$12.95 \* Available November 5th



Over 32,000 Copies Sold!

# Lesbian Couples

Creating Healthy Relationships for the 90s D. Merilee Clunis & G. Dorsey Green

"Extremely readable, informative, and nonjudgemental.... A significant contribution to psychological literature."

- Library Journal

Paper \* ISBN 1-878067-37-0 \* \$12.95 \* Available November 12th

# EARS OF FEMINIST PUBLISHING!

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# BACK TO PRESS AND OTHER GOOD NEWS

Compiled by Dawn L. Martin

Seal Press reports that because of the enthusiasm and support from feminist booksellers the first printing of *Alma Rose* by Edith Forbes has sold out in less than a month. They have printed another 6,000 copies bringing the total number to 12,500.

Cleis Press sent three titles back to press: Different Mothers: Sons and Daughters of Lesbians Talk about Their Lives ed. by Louise Rafkin went back for a third printing of 3,500 copies bringing the total number to



13,000. Susie Sexpert's Lesbian Sex World by Susie Bright was sent back to press in September for a fifth printing of 5,000 copies for a total of 26,000 in print. More Serious Pleasure: Lesbian Erotic Stories and Poetry edited by the Sheba Collective went back to press in August for a second printing of 3,500 which brings the total number in print to 10,500.

Claire of the Moon by Nicole Conn went back to press a third time August 27th for a run of 5,000. Naiad plans another printing of 6,000 this month bringing the total number in print to 29,000 copies. Naiad reports that Claire is their fastest selling book ever.

Sue Elkind's If I Had My Life to Live Over I Would Pick More Daisies published by Papier-Mache has gone into its fourth printing and has sold 100,000 copies to date. Also by Elkind, a collection of poetry entitled Another Language, has gone into its third printing.

Women Talk Sex, published by Scarlet Press, edited by Pearlie McNeill, Jenny Newman and Bea Freeman has gone for a second printing of 1,500

bringing the total in print to 3,500. The publishers plan to reprint another 2,000 of Pearlie McNeill's *Because You Want to Write* which will mean 4,000 copies in print.

# Rights

New Victoria has sold the German rights to *OtherWorld* by Sarah Dreher to Orlanda Frauenverlag. Orlanda, who bought the rights to *A Captive in Time*, in 1990, sold the mass market rights to Fischer who will be publishing it this Spring. Orlanda is contracting with Fischer for the mass market rights to *OtherWorld*.

German rights to *Margins* by Terri de la Pena were sold through Seal Press' German agent, Mohrbooks, to Krug & Schadenberg in Berlin. German rights to *She's a Rebel: The History of Women in Rock & Roll* by Gillian G. Gaar were also sold through Mohrbooks to Argument Verlag in Hamburg.

# Other Good News

Tennis star Martina Navratilova, according to *Publisher's Weekly*, "has joined the growing ranks of female mystery authors." She has been signed by Villard Books to write three novels with co-author Liz Nickles. The books are scheduled to be released in 1995, 1996 and 1997. Ballentine will reissue the books in paperback approximately one year after their hardcover release.

The winners of Woman in the Moon Publications' Pat Parker Memorial Prize are, for 1993, Ekua Omosupe "Tribute to Pat Parker," and for 1992, Donna Allegra "Saving Her Life From Drowning" and Diane Williams "Kaleidoscopes of Sisterhood." The winners of the Woman in the Moon Poetry Contest are Ioanna-Veronika Warwick for "The Dancer," 1993 and Pamela Gray for "3 out of 4 (or more): a lament for 3 out of 4 (or more) voices," 1992.

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Books in Canada:

# BORDER CROSSING

By Jana Williams and Dorothy Seaton

It hardly seems possible that it's August and we're contemplating the fall reading/selling season again. Our summer in Vancouver has only just begun, after a rainy June/July but I have to confess I already have several books picked out for fall reading. Here's a list of Canadian titles that might pique your (or your customers') interest for the coming months.

Arsenal-pulp Press has a new title of first fiction by Jean Smith, a singer with the rock band Mecca Normal. The book is titled, I Can Hear Me Fine. \$9.95, 0-9697112-0-4. IN.

Beachholme Publishers has a work of historical/feminist fiction by a Victoria writer, Ellen Arrand. Set in both the past and the present it is an inter-generational tale of family relations. \$14.95, 0-88878-344-2. IN.

Mercury Press has three new novels for the fall. If I Knew I'd Tell You by Carol Malyon is set in Toronto and details a woman's coping with the untimely death of her husband (\$14.50, 1-55128-0033-5). Wisteria is a new novel by Victoria Stoett in which dreamy, beautiful prose interweaves the lives of the inhabitants of a small community (\$14.50, 1-55128-000-0). IN. Saints and Runners, by Libby Schier is a novella and seven short stories about city life with children, friends, and lovers (\$14.50, 1-15528-0004-3). IN.

Cormorant Books has a new novel by Roberta Morris called **No Words For Love and Famine**. Two writers' lives are depicted: one in Montreal is slowly starving himself to death while his wife gorges herself — the other in Toronto who faces writer's block is trying to compose the text for a coffee table book on African famine. \$13.95, 0-920953-53-0. IN.

Brick Books publishes poetry, exclusively. There is a fine new book of lesbian poetry available from them entitled **Steam-Cleaning Love**. It was written by Jena Hamilton, a Vancouver woman who has been nominated for, and the winner of, numerous prizes for her writing. \$11.95, 0-919626-68-8. IN.



Goose Lane Editions has published a biography of Adéle Hugo (Victor's daughter) entitled, **Adéle Hugo: Les Misérable.** \$16.95, 0-86492-168-3. IN.

Porcupine's Quill has a collection of short stories by another Vancouver writer, Caroline Adderson. **Bad Imaginings** is a passionate and mature collection. \$12.95, 0-88984-172-1. IN.

Pottersfield Press has a new book of poetry by Maxine Tynes, a Black Canadian woman who is creating a larger and larger readership for her own work and Canadian poets in general. This fourth book is entitled **The Door of My Heart**. \$9.95, 0-919001-81-5. IN.

Dorothy Seaton is a former international-calibre fencer. She is currently finishing her PhD in Literary Criticism at the University of British Columbia, having received her Masters at the University of Queensland in Brisbane, Australia. She has a collaborative collection of stories tentatively scheduled for Fall 1993 publication from Paradigm Press.

Jana Williams has just finished work on her third novel, Diamond Runners. Her second, Waves, will be published by Paradigm Press, along with a collection of sex stories called Spontaneous Combustion: Lively Lesbian Lust, written in collaboration with Dorothy Seaton. Her first novel, Scuttlebutt, was published in 1990 by Press Gang in Canada and Firebrand Books in the U.S.

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—Karla Jay, Pace University, co-editor of Lesbian Texts and Contexts and Out of the Closets

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October 1993

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Volume 16 Number 3

# GAY MEN'S LIT FOR FEMINIST BOOKSTORES

By Richard Labonte A Different Light Bookstore, San Francisco

Last issue: lots of new titles; this issue, many more. These are the books for late summer, fall and early winter which should find a place on any good gay bookshelf — and some of them might be suitable for your store as well.

Titles are organized loosely under topic headings; I haven't listed a source except for smaller-press titles; and when I know it, the date of publication is listed. Again, titles with more relevance to women's stores are starred. And, again, books studying gays, lesbians, queers and others are in abundance.

### **ART & PHOTOGRAPHY**

The Russians Are Coming by Andreas Fux is a first: a collection of male-image photos from the streets of Moscow, circa 1992 (Janssen Verlag, \$39.95 pb, 3-925443-23-1). IN and BP.

A History of Men's Fashion by Farid Chenoume demonstrates, in 300 illustratons, that men have in fact shown fashion flair through the ages (Flammarion, \$75 cl, 2-08013-536-8, Nov.).

George Platt Lynes: Photographs from the Kinsey Institute ed. by James Crump with a Bruce Weber introduction. This is an oddity: 80 photos by the famed fashion and arts photographer, culled from an archive of 60 prints collected by Kinsey (Bulfinch, 34 Beacon St., Boston MA 02108; \$60 cl, 0-8212-1996-0).

\*Extraordinary Friends by Tom Bianchi is probably the single-bestseller for the holiday season among gay men who buy tasteful male-erotic photo books (St. Martin's, \$50 cl, 0-312-09804-9). BP.

### QUEER THEORY OR GAY STUDIES

\*Homosexual Desire by Guy Hocquenghem is a long-overdue re-issue of this French thinker's 1972 landmark exploration of theories of gay liberation; it's a male-rooted study, but of major historical significance (Duke University Press, \$13.95 pb, 0-8223-1384-7, Nov.).

\*The Book of Sodom by Paul Hallam, co-author of the acclaimed British film "Young Soul Rebels," studies the myth of Sodom through textual analysis. Traces obsession, prejudice and desire through writing inspired by the myth, and celebrates the endurance of sodomitic societies (Verso, \$24.95 cl, 0-86091-476-3, Nov.).

\*Queering the Pitch: The New Gay & Lesbian Musicology ed. by Philip Brett, Elizabeth Wood & Gary Thomas is another first: collected essays on lesbian and gay influences on, readings of and listenings to primarily classical music (Routledge, \$16.95 pb, 0-415-90753-5). BP.

Homographesis: Essays in Gay Literary & Cultural Theory by Lee Edelman presents the concept of the title: the production of gay male sexuality as a condition of legibility. You queer theorists will get it (Routledge, \$15.95 pb, 0-415-90259-2, Dec.). BP.

\*Proust, Cole Porter, Michelangelo, Marc Almond & Me is the clever title of a collection of essays by more than 60 British gay men writing on what "gay" means to them; the stories are drawn from the archives of the National Lesbian and Gay Survey (Routledge, \$15.95 pb, 0-415-08914-X). BP.

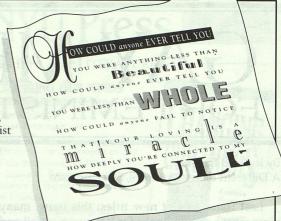
The Seduction of the Mediterranean: Homosexual Writing, Art & Fantasy by Robert Aldrich argues, from sound academic reasoning, that the Mediterranean was the central theme in homoerotic writing from the 1750s through the 1950s, because the 40-plus writers and artists stud-

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# Libby Roderick's beloved, internationally acclaimed song "How Could Anyone" from the album *If You See A Dream* is now available on 100% cotton t-shirts!

A fabulous gift for those you love, including (and especially) yourself! Sizes M - XXXL. Libby's T-shirts, recordings and songbook are available through feminist distributors or:

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ied could get away with it (Routledge, \$16.95 pb, 0-415-09312-0, Nov.). BP.

\*Crossing the Stage: Controversies on Cross-Dressing ed. by Lesley Ferris contains essays on historical and contemporary use of primarily male-to-female costuming (Routledge, \$15.95 pb, 0-415-06269-1). BP.

\*The Politics & Poetics of Camp ed. by Morris Meyer deconstructs and reconstructs camp to consider its dramatic use by ACT UP as well as its more historical (though no less political) function as a form of frivolity (Routledge, \$15.95 pb, 0-415-08248-X, Jan.). BP.

The Third Pink Book: A Global View of Lesbian & Gay Liberation ed. by Rob Tielman, Aart Hendricks & Evert van der Veen is a 15-country overview, by the International Lesbian and Gay Association, of conditions for gays and lesbians (Prometheus, 700 E. Amherst St., Buffalo NY 14215; \$29.95 cl, 0-87975-831-7). Distributed by Inland.



A Place At The Table: The Gay Individual in American Society by Bruce Bawer is a neo-conservative's need (may I quote the publisher?) "for mainstream gays to resist the confining stereotypes of both homophobes and the extreme gay subculture" (Simon & Schuster, \$21 cl, 0-671-79533-3).

Activating Theory: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Politics ed. by Joseph Bristow & Angie Wilson collects 14 essays focusing on the inter- and intra-com-

munity debates on a spectrum of sexual interests, with a discussion of the birth of bisexual politics (Lawrence & Wisehart, \$19.95 pb, 0-85315-790-1).

\*In the Name of National Security: Hitc hcock, Homophobia and the Political Construction of Gender in Postwar America by Robert J. Corber considers how the popular American culture of Eisenhower's America fostered homophobia — and even alleged liberals were to blame (Duke University Press, \$16.95 pb, 0-8223-1386-3, Dec.).

\*Third Sex, Third Gender: Beyond Sexual Dimorphism in Culture & History ed. by Gilbert Herdt covers, from the eunuchs of Byzantine to contemporary American transsexuality, a fascinating range of sexual practices and possibilities (MIT/Zone, \$24.95 pb, 0-942299-81-7, Jan.).

\*Beyond Our Ghettos: Gay Theology in Ecological Perspective by J. Michael Clark borrows from the work in ecofeminism and builds on liberation theology to link gay liberation and a cleaner greener world (Pilgrim Press, \$9.95 pb, 0-8298-0959-7, Nov.).

\*Dual Attraction: Bisexuality in the Age of AIDS by Martin Weinberg, Colin Williams & Douglas Pryor, based on fieldwork among 800 San Francisco residents over a decade, is a landmark study of the hows, whys and desires of bisexual women and men (Oxford, \$25 cl, 0-19-508482-9, Jan.).

\*Growing Up Gay ed. by Barnett Singer is a must-shelve for any store frequented by anyone looking to come out. Editor Singer has culled more than 60 excerpts from dozens of books, creating a powerful collection of role-model voices for lesbian

or gay teens (New Press, 450 W. 41 St., New York NY 10036; \$21.95 cl, 1-56584-102-6). IN.

\*Gay Issues in the Workplace by Brian McNaught is described as a manager's guide to maximizing productivity by minimizing prejudice. Sounds dry, except that McNaught, author of *On Being Gay*, writes both from the heart and as a business consultant (St. Martin's, \$17.95 cl, 0-312-09808-1, Nov.). BP.

### **FICTION & POETRY**

\*Spirits In The Dark by H. Nigel Thomas comes from a Caribbean native now teacing in Quebec, and tells the story of a young man who must deal with discovering his African heritage, dealing with his homosexuality and struggling with class oppression. It's published by House of Anansi in Canada (\$14.95 pb, 0-88784-535-5) and by Heinemann in England (no ISBN available).

\*Labour of Love by Doug Wilson, based on characters created by Peter McGehee. When McGehee died of AIDS, he left behind two witty, wise contributions to the AIDS canon, *Boys Like Us* and *Sweethearts*, and notes for the intended end to

the trilogy. His lover Wilson took over the book, finishing the story of Zero MacNoo just weeks before his own death — yet the humour is all the more eloquent (St. Martin's, \$18.95 cl, 0-312- 09839-1, Nov.). BP.

Beyond Happiness: The Intimate Memoirs of Billy Lee Belle by Peter McGehee is a re-issue of the first, wryly comic writing of McGehee: it's a tender monologue on gayness, family ties and love (Coteau Books, \$12.95 pb, 1-55050-050-3, IN).

Even Cowgirls Get the Blues/My Own Private Idaho by Gus Van Sant contains a lengthy interview with the gay director, as well as two of his screenplays (Faber, \$13.95 pb, 9-571-16920-1).

A Table of Green Fields by Guy Davenport includes 10 stories about people real and imagined by a truly original, luminous American writer: a fine book for an American Fiction section (Norton, \$21.95 cl, 0-8112-1251-3). BP.

Song of My Self: Walt Whitman ed. by Stephen Mitchell is a new edition of Whitman's best-known poems from "Leaves of Grass" (Shambhala, \$6 pb, 0-87773-950-1). IN and BP.

Whores of Lost Atlantis by Charles Busch is a

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first novel by the witty author of the play "Vampire Lesbians of Sodom", a legendary off-Broadway success; it's the touchingly hilarious tale of a boy and his theatre (Hyperion, 114 Fifth Ave., New York NY 10011; \$21.95 cl, 1-56282-780-4, Nov.).

The Face on the Cutting-Room Floor by Stan Cutler is the paperback edition of a Hollywood-set mystery pairing a straight curmudgeon of an investigator with his feyer gayer buddy-in-sleuthing (Signet, \$4.50 pb, 0-451-40394-0).

**Dead On Your Feet** by Grant Michaels, third in an ever-improving series, finds our gay hairdresser investigating a ballet-based murder while figuring out how to love his ballet-dancer boyfriend (St. Martin's, \$19.95 cl, 0-312-09781-6). BP.

Live From Golgotha by Gore Vidal is the paper-back edition of a sassy new Gospel in which network TV, the origins of Christianity and commercial advertising are all targets for Vidal's well-aimed satirical and intellectual darts (Penguin, \$11 pb, 0-14-023119-6).

A Jean Toomer Reader: Selected Unpublished Writings ed. by Frederik L. Rusch brings together previously unavailable work by the author of *Cane* (Oxford, \$19.95 pb, 0-19-508329-6).



\*Popo and Fifina: Children of Haiti by Arna Bontemps & Langston Hughes, illustrated by E. Simms Campbell, is a 1932 children's book collaboration by two of the finest Harlem Renaissance writers (Oxford, \$15.95 pb, 0-19-508765-8).

The Principal Cause of Death by Mark Richard Zubro is the paperback edition of a light-read mystery series featuring a gay school-teacher-sleuth and his baseball-star boyfriend (St. Martin's, \$8.95 pb, 0-312-09896-0). BP.

The Dream Life by Bo Huston is the paperback edition of the late SF writer's compelling novel of the odd odyssey of a young gay man and his idiosyncratic tutor (St. Martin's, \$8.95 pb, 0-312-09788-4). BP.

The Listener: A Novella and Four Stories by Bo Huston, published after his death, contains a 100-page novella about a straight woman and a gay man who come together in a time of craziness (St. Martin's, \$17.95 cl, 0-312-09931-2). BP.

Catalina's Riddle by Steven Saylor, the author of *Roman Blood* and *Arms of Nemesis*, continues a splendid series of historical novels combining compelling plotting and entertaining history: he's threatening to become the new Mary Renault (St. Martin's, \$21.95 cl, 0-312-09763-8). BP.

### **BIOGRAPHY/AUTOBIOGRAPHY/LETTERS**

The Dark Side of Genius: The Life of Alfred Hitchcock by Donald Soto is a fine study for film buffs. The author's gay; the subject's sexuality is considered (Little, Brown, \$14.95 pb, 0-316-80815-6).

\*Jeb & Dash: A Diary of Gay Life, 1918-1945 ed. by Ina D. Russell chronicles the life of a gay man from age 19, providing a rich, detailed look at gay life in the first half of the century; it's drawn from 50 volumes of writing bequeathed to the editor when Jeb Alexander died in 1965 (Faber, \$24.95 cl, 0-571-19817-1, Feb.). Distributed by IN.

Langston Hughes: Critical Perspectives Past & Present ed. by Henry Louis Gates & K.A. Appiah collects new and old critical looks at a great Black American poet and writer (Amistad, \$24.95 cl, 1-56743-016-3). By the way, other authors assessed include *Toni Morrison* (-012-0), *Alice Walker* (-013-9), *Gloria Naylor* (-030-9) and *Zora Neale Hurston* (-028-7).

A Different Person: A Memoir by James Merrill is swell prose from a great poet, one of those memoirs which in no way tries to give an exhaustive account of a life lived; instead, Merrill focuses on a 30-month stay in Europe, tracing the life-long career and connections started there (Knopf, \$25 cl, 0-679-43217-6). And, in conjunction with the memoir, Knopf is reissuing two of Merrill's poetry collections, Selected Poems, 1946-1985 (\$14 pb, -74731-1) and The Changing Light at Sandover (\$16 pb, -74736-2).

**Genet:** A Biography by Edmund White is a hefty, highly readable — and the first — biography of Jean Genet, one of France's greatest, most scandalous men of letters (Knopf, \$35 cl, 0-394-57171-1).

\*Straight From the Heart: A Love Story by Bob and Rod Jackson-Paris is the autobiographyof a champion bodybuilder and a top model, two men married in a Unitarian Church in 1989, who have since become leading spokesmen for the right to marriage and the power of coming out. (Warner, \$21.95 cl, 0-446-51748-8, Feb.). BP.

Days of Obligation: An Argument With My Mexican Father by Richard Rodriguez is the paper-back edition of a spritual autobiography which in its odyssey considers not just the links between Mexico and America, but also American Indians, evangelical Protestants, gay men, and much more (Penguin, \$11 pb, 0-14-009622-1, Nov.).



Heartlands: A Gay Man's Odyssey Across America by Darrell Yates Rist is the paperback edition of Rist's poetic travels through the seldom-explored cityscape and countryside of America (Plume, \$12 pb, 0-452-27037-5, Nov.).

\*Travels With Lizbeth by Lars Eighner is a story of homeless life, gay life, survival, passion and friendship with a dog, Lizbeth: a completely unique tale (St. Martin's, \$19.95 cl, 0-312-09926-6). BP.

### AIDS & HEALTH, ETC

\*AIDS, Drugs, and Prostitution ed. by Martin A. Plant is the paperback edition of an international collection by AIDS researchers on the interrelations of AIDS and sex work (Routledge, \$16.95 pb, 0-415-04109-0). BP.

\*Practice Issues in Sexuality and Learning Disabilities ed. by Ann Craft: I mention this one because so little has been written on the topic of teaching those with learning disabilities about the range available to them of fulfilling and safe sexual behaviours (Routledge, 0-415-05736-1, \$16.95, Jan.). BP.

\*Voices That Care by Neal Hitchens is the paperback edition of a collection of encouragement for people with AIDS/HIV and their friends, families and caretakers (Lowell House, \$12.95 pb, 1-56565-085-9).

Drawing the Line Against AIDS by the American Foundation for AIDS Research brings together the work of about 150 artists from several countries, women and men (Rizzoli, \$29.95 pb, 0-8478-1776-8).

AIDS & Ethics ed. by Frederic Reamer is the paperback edition of a book which draws together ethics specialists from the fields of law, medicine, philosophy, political science, religion and social work to consider the ethical context for AIDS (Columbia University Press, \$15 pb, 0-231-07359-3). IN.

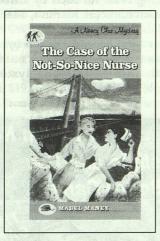
\*A Gospel of Shame: Children, Sexual Abuse & the Catholic Church by Elinor Burkett & Frank Bruni brings the investigative skills of two veteran reporters to the issue of the molestation of children by priests (Simon & Schuster, \$22.50 cl, 0-670-84828-X). BP.

\*El Sida: Verdades En Lugar De Miedo is a welcome Spanish-language edition of the best-selling AIDS: Trading Fears for Facts by Karen Hein, Theresa Foy DiGeronimo (St. Martin's, \$4.95 pb, 0-89043-664-9). BP.

\*Immune For Life: Second Edition by Arnold Fox & Barry Fox is a thoughtful book on the link between health and the immune system (St. Martin's, \$9.95 pb, 1-55958-014-3). BP.



# Queer things are happening at Cleis Press this Fall...



# The Case of the Not-So-Nice Nurse

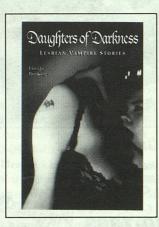
A NANCY CLUE MYSTERY by Mabel Maney

When nurse Cherry Aimless lands in San Francisco in search of Nancy Clue and a flock of missing nuns, the earnestly whitegirl 50s meet the oh-so-queer 90s in a delightful parody of both girl detective novels and lesbian romantic fiction.

Lesbian Studies/Humor/Popular Culture

September. 188 pages.

ISBN: 0-939416-76-X \$9.95 paper ISBN: 0-939416-75-1 \$24.95 cloth



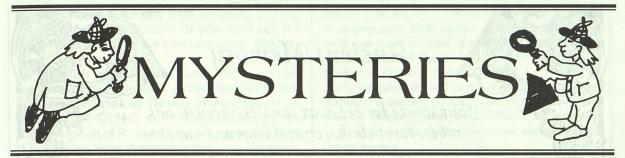
### **Daughters of Darkness**

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By Nan Cinnater Now Voyager, Provincetown, Mass.

I had the great good fortune recently to hear gay mystery novelist Michael Nava (The Hidden Law, How Town, et al.) read from the manuscript of his new novel, which is so good superlatives fail me. He also read from an unpublished essay on mystery fiction, written in part in response to the question, "Why do you write mysteries?" (Implication: you're such a good writer, you could write real books.) Nava made a case for mysteries as the literature of outsiders; certainly the traditional detective hero is a loner and an outsider. But, as he pointed out, it is increasingly hard to believe in an educated, straight white man (such as Chandler's Phillip Marlowe) as an outsider thereby leaving the field to women, people of color, and gay people! We feminist booksellers have known for some time that the most interesting mysteries are being written by women, people of color, and gay people. Now it seems as if the mainstream publishing industry may be catching on to this trend.

Big news about Ellen Hart! She writes the good-humored, Agatha Christie-style whodunits about amateur sleuths Jane Lawless and Cordelia Thorn published by Seal Press. Like Nancy Drew and George grown up, Jane and Cordelia — both lesbians — are "chums" not lovers, and theatrical Cordelia is a great comic foil for sensible Jane. The first in the series, Hallowed Murder, in which Jane investigates a murder at her old sorority house, was just published as a mass-market paperback by Ballantine (0-345-38140-B, \$4.99). In September, Seal Press published a Hart hardcover, A Killing Cure, (1-878067-36-2, \$19.95). In A Killing Cure, the now-

familiar duo get embroiled in the politics and secrets surrounding the mysterious deaths of two members of a powerful Minneapolis women's club.

Seal Press has published another noteworthy lesbian mystery in hardcover in September: Trouble in Transylvania by Barbara Wilson (1-878067-34-6, \$18.95). This sequel to Gaudi Afternoon features globetrotting translator Cassandra Reilly. Cassandra is on her way to Budapest when she is sidetracked to a weird health spa where she encounters murder among the mud baths, as well as ethnic rivalries, vampires, the Romanian police, and the religion of the Great Goddess. We trust it will have Wilson's sophisticated wit and, like its predecessor, play fast and loose with the conventions of the genre.



The Secret History by Donna Tartt (Ivy, 0-8041-1135-9, \$6.99, Oct.) was a sensation in hard-cover, spending some weeks on the *N.Y. Times* bestseller list. A first novel by a young writer fresh out of college, it concerns a group of undergraduates who try to live by the tenets of classical Greek philosophy, but their aesthetic experiment leads to murder. Part "Dead Poets Society," part "Mazes and Monsters," it's page-turning psychological suspense, though not a mystery per se.

Cecil Dawkins, fondly remembered for the very literary lesbian novel called *Charleyhorse*, will have a paperback original mystery, **Santa Fe** 

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Rembrandt (Ivy, 0-8041-1101-4, \$4.50, Oct.), in which the young assistant director of a prestigious museum discovers forgery and possibly murder. Actual lesbian content is probably too much to hope for, but we can expect good writing.

Long-time mystery writer Joan Hess has hit pay dirt with her "Maggody" series about the female police chief of a small town in Arkansas. Hess actually lives in Arkansas, so it's hard to accuse her of phony Hee-Haw-ism, but I think she comes awfully close. However, her main character, Sheriff Arly Hanks, is smart and sophisticated, and the series has a following. In Maggody in Manhattan (Onyx, 0-451-40376-2, \$4.50, Oct.), half the town seems to be embroiled in a murder investigation in New York. Hess's new hardcover, O Little Town of Maggody (Dutton, 0-525-93654-8, Nov.), is obviously Christmas-themed.

A somewhat more realistic, and more feminist, Southern series is being written by Sarah Shankman about Atlanta journalist Samantha Adams. Similar in its New South attitude to "Designing Women," though with fewer punch lines, this series features some of the best titles in recent memory, notably First Kill All the Lawyers, the series' debut, and She Walks in Beauty, about the Miss America pageant. In **The King is Dead** (Pocket, 0-671-73460-1, \$4.99), Samantha is covering an international barbecue cook-off in Elvis' birthplace, Tupelo, Mississippi, when murder strikes.

Witches' Bane by Susan Wittig Albert

(Scribner's, 0-684-19636-0, \$20.00, Oct.) is the second in an interesting new series about an herbalist in a small Texas town. The first in the series, Thyme of Death, will be coming in paper from Berkley (sorry no ISBN or price). China Bayles is a lawyer who left the fast track to open an herb shop and now solves murders with the help of her best friend (and fellow New Age shopkeeper), Ruby, and her ex-cop boyfriend, McQuaid. The romance is low-key; the women are the heroes; and the plots turn on interesting herbal lore. Plus, there's serious talk about such matters as wicca and ACOA's — what's not to like?



Even with this crop of new "American cozies" coming out, we still don't want to neglect fans of the traditional British mystery. Other than a few top names like P.D. James and Ruth Rendell, nobody is writing traditional village mysteries better than Dorothy Simpson. Simpson's new hard-cover, **No Laughing Matter** (Scribner's, 0-684-19626-3, \$20, Nov.) will be her twelfth novel featuring Inspector Luke Thanet, who has a far less tortured inner life than Dalgleish, and a somewhat less complicated domestic life than Wexford. Plot

prevails over personality with Simpson, and she concocts excellent puzzles. If you can't sell the hardcover, watch for her previous novel, Wake the

Dead, to appear in paper.

A British up-and-comer, Kate Charles, got nice reviews for the American publication of her first mystery; A Drink of Deadly Wine (Mysterious Press, 0-446-40194-3, \$4.99, Dec.) centers on the London parish of St. Anne's, where a priest receives a poison pen letter threatening to expose a past sin. Amateur sleuth David Middleton-Brown steps in to help, but not in time to prevent murder. Charles' new hardcover, The Snares of Death, apparently another ecclesiastical mystery, will be published by Mysterious Press in December.

Why is it that the best British mysteries are by women, but the detectives are almost always men? The big exception is Liza Cody, and she now may have company in Lesley Grant-Adamson, whose recent novel **Too Many Questions** (Fawcett, 0-449-22104-0, \$4.50) features savvy London private investigator Laura Flynn. Laura is getting anonymous phone threats and so is her client, a fashion designer who hired Laura to investigate the clothing company interested in buying her line. Meanwhile, at the request of her grandmother, Laura is also looking for her father, who left home when she was four. Strong Cody influence, which isn't a bad thing; in fact, Laura's best friend is named after Cody's detective, Anna Lee.

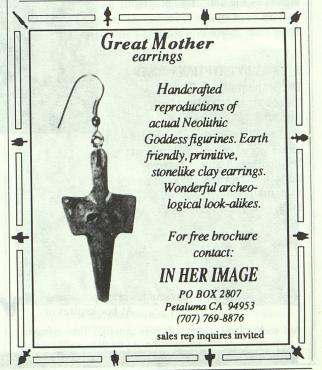
I'm partial to Lee Harris's series about an exnun sleuth, the third of which is coming in October: **The Christening Day Murder** (Fawcett, 0-449-14871-8, \$4.50).

You might also want to take a chance on these two unknowns about midwestern women. The Winter Widow by Charlene Weir (Worldwide, 0-373-26128-4, \$3.99) introduces Kansas sheriff Susan Wren, whose first job is to solve the murder of her late husband, the former sheriff. Dead in the Water by Connie Feddersen (one of at least a dozen mysteries with this same title, so use ISBN, Zebra, 0-8217-4267-1, \$3.99, Oct.) features an Oklahoma CPA who gets involved in the murder of a farmer with tax troubles.

Farther west, Judith Van Gieson is writing an interesting series about (female) Albuquerque lawyer Neil Hamel. In **The Wolf Path** (Harper, 0-06-

109139-1, \$4.50), an environmentalist who is trying to re-populate New Mexico with an endangered wolf species is accused of murder. The first in the series, North of the Border, will be reissued by Pocket in October (0-671-76967-7, \$4.99). As so rarely happens, the rest of the series is also in print: Raptor (Pocket, 0-671-73243-9, \$3.95) and The Other Side of Death (Pocket, 0-671-74565-4, \$4.50). Nice writing about the desert landscape and good ecoconsciousness.

Another Westerner, Abigail Padgett, takes on a ton of issues in her first novel, **Child of Silence** (Mysterious Press, 0-89296-488-X, \$17.95): Native American cultures, mental illness, child abuse and deafness. I only just discovered this hardcover published last winter, and I loved it! Padgett's lucid prose style and convincing command of detail really make it work. The heroine, a San Diego child abuse investigator, has the distinction of being the only manic-depressive detective in the literature. She discovers an apparently abused child on an Indian reservation — a deaf child who has been mis-diagnosed as retarded. Certainly off the beaten track.



Volume 16 Number

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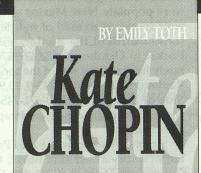
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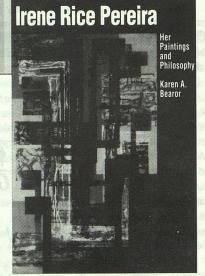
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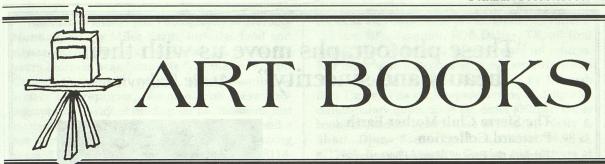
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October 1993 80 Volume 16 Number 3



By Tee Corinne

Midmarch Arts Press has been bringing out books about women artists and feminist arts issues since 1979, a remarkable achievement which now totals 21 books. Like Calyx, Midmarch Arts started by publishing a magazine, Women Artists' News, then added books because, according to publisher Cynthia Navaretta, "they have a longer shelf life. It's cheaper to do a book because you get a bigger return for your dollar. It becomes a permanent record, documentation of women artists."

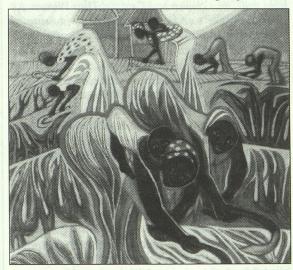
They have expanded their regional studies with the recent release of Modernism & Beyond: Women Artists of the Pacific Northwest, ed. by Laura Brunsman and Ruth Askey. Structured like No Bluebonnets, No Yellow Roses: Essays on Texas Women in the Arts and Pilgrims & Pioneers: New England Women in the Arts, Modernism & Beyond is a collection of loosely interconnected essays focusing primarily on Seattle and Portland with some coverage of Vancouver, B.C. and other areas. Some of the artists, like Emily Carr, have international reputations. Clay, glass, fiber and photography are discussed as well as the more traditional fine arts and methods women have used to organize for support and power. \$15 pb, 1-877-675-13-X, Midmarch Arts, dist. by IN.

In Parallels: Artists/Poets, three artists, Oriole Farb Feshbach, Claire Heimarck, and Lucy D. Rosenfeld create visual art parallels or responses to the work of 47 women poets. Each artist chooses poems which speak to or challenge her experience. The images are multi-layered and work well as poetic equivalents. \$12 pb, 1-877675-14-8, Midmarch Arts, dist. by IN.

A new book about Betty La Duke's (b. 1933) paintings, **Multi-Cultural Celebrations** by Gloria

Feman Orenstein, is a beautiful and moving collection reproduced in full color. Many of you are familiar with La Duke's paintings from notecard reproductions. Here, the large format and engaging text enhance the transformative images made after travels to different cultures. \$25 pb, 1-56640-452-5; \$34 cl, 8-56640-600-5, Pomegranate, dist by Ingram.

Desires and Disguises: Five Latin American Photographers edited by Amanda Hopkinson is a riveting collection of images by contemporary women making pictures in Panama, Chile, Guatemala, Argentina, and Mexico. Each photographer is introduced by an extensive interview and the images reproduced are riveting, especially those by Graciela Iturbide of Mexican street gangs in Los



Africa: Millet Rhythms by Betty LaDuke

Angeles and Tijuana, and the character studies by Sandra Eleta. \$19.99 pb, 1-85242-280-7, Serpent's Tail, 401 West Broadway #1, NYC 10012, dist. Consortium.

# "These photographs move us with their beauty and sincerity." —Annie Leibovitz

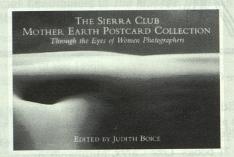
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Horses and Their Women by Barbara Cohen and Louise Taylor is a follow-up to the popular Dogs and Their Women and Cats and Their Women. As with the other two books, a one page photo of a woman or girl with horse is paired with a page of text by the owner or caretaker of the animal. These are stories to tug at the heart strings. One starts out, "When my daughter Cortney was seven years old she tried to commit suicide." Another begins, "September 23, 1991, was the day I began my training to become a certified mounted police officer." Most of the women are white. Some of the horses are mules. I cry and laugh every time I read it. \$10.95 pb, 0-316-15051-7, Little, Brown.

Hope and Dignity: Older Black Women of the South, narratives by Emily Herring Wilson, photographs by Susan Mullally, preface by Maya Angelou, is a testament of good will between the subjects and the white reporter and photographer. The stories and pictures are warm, engaging, and inspiring. As Maya Angelou says, "These women are teachers comprehensively. Their accounts inform us that while life...has been hard...it can be borne with dignity, and it can be changed by hope."

\$14.95 pb, 1-56639-017-6, Temple University Press.

For My People with photographs by Roland L. Freeman is subtitled "A Tribute" and is built around the African American poet Margaret Walker's "For My People" which won the Yale Younger Poets Award in 1942. The text includes the poem, an interview, and thirty-two black and white photographs of African Americans in a variety of settings. \$19.95 cl, 0-87805-613-0, University Press of Mississippi.

Visions: Stories About Women Artists by Leslie Sills is designed for the young reader. Using clear language, Sills tells the life stories of impressionist Mary Cassatt (1844-1926), African-American collage artist Betye Saar (b. 1926), British-born Surrealist Leonora Carrington (b. 1917) who lived much of her life in Mexico, and sculptor Mary Frank (b. 1933) whose work helped bring her out of a severe depression. Photographs of the artists as children introduce each section. The art work is well chosen and beautifully reproduced. Sills is also author of *Inspirations: Stories about Women Artists* (\$16.95 from the same publisher). \$18.95 cl, 0-8075-8491-6, Albert Whitman & Co., dist. by Ingram, Baker & Taylor and others.

Intimate Visions: The Photography of Dorothy Norman, ed. by Miles Barth, includes land and cityscapes, still-lifes, and many portraits. For twenty years Norman was "intimate," as they say, with Georgia O'Keeffe's husband, Alfred Stieglitz. A writer and reporter, Norman took these photographs as a way of holding on to "moments that mattered." Many famous men are pictured, and a few women: Indira Gandhi, Ingrid Bergman among them. \$17.95 pb, 0-8118-0364-3; \$27.50 cl, 0-8118-0339-6, Chronicle Books.

Goddess and Polis, The Panathenaic Festival in Ancient Athens by Jenifer Neils deals with a festival devoted to Athena, the patron goddess of Athens. It is lavishly illustrated with an extensive, scholarly text. \$19.95 pb, 0-691-00223-1; \$27.50 cl, 0-691-03612-8, Princeton University Press.

Rizzoli now has four books about women artists in its large format, moderately priced Art Series: Artemisia Gentileschi by Mary D. Garrard, 0-8478-1652-4, Georgia O'Keeffe by Barbara Buhler Lynes, 0-8478-1650-8, Mary Cassatt by Nancy Mowll Mathews, 0-8478-1611-7, and Frida Kahlo by Hayden Herrera, 0-8478-1517-X. Frida Kahlo (1907-1954), whose father was a German Jew and mother was Mexican, is familiar to most of you from the other popular books about her life and work. Reproduced here in poster-sized images are many of her most famous self-portraits. Impressionist Mary Cassatt (1844-1926) made lovely, soft colored images of women and children. Georgia O'Keeffe (1887-1986) reproduces images from many periods and styles. Artemisia Gentileschi (1593c.1652) was one of the first women artist to gain international fame. Her images are dramatic commentaries which reveal a great deal about her inner life as she reinterpreted biblical and mythological female characters. Each is \$7.95 pb.

Ransacked by Nancy Holt is the story in words and pictures of an elderly woman, the artist's aunt, whose house was ransacked by a woman who was supposed to be her caretaker, but instead victimized and terrorized her. It is a sad and cautionary tale with sad and moving photos of the vandalized house and of the aunt both before her victimization and in her coffin. \$10 pb, 0-930378-11-3, dist. by Visual Studies Workshop, 31 Prince St., Rochester, NY 14607.

The Texas Bookman: Trade & Scholarly Remainders offers a wonderful variety of art-related

books at very reasonable prices. Minimum order is \$50 net, 50% discount, FOB Dallas, TX, all first orders must be prepaid and there are no returns. The book which first caught my attention was Visions: Quilts of a New Decade, ed. by Deborah Bird Timby, with color reproductions of delightful contemporary quilts, \$5.98 pb, order #302081. Other books of interest include Life Is Painful, Nasty & Short...Djuna Barnes by Hank O'Neal, \$6.98 cl, #211050; Sexual Anarchy: Gender and Culture at the Fin De Siecle by Elaine Showalter compares 1890s and 1990s, \$4.98 cl, #301084; Naked by the Window: The Fatal Marriage of Carl Andre and Ana Mendieta by Robert Katz, \$4.98 cl, #203015; Anita Loos: A Biography by Gary Carey about the author of Gentlemen Prefer Blonds, \$7.98 cl, #108154.



The Texas Bookman also distributes the German publisher Taschen (to U.S. booksellers only) at a 40% discount: **De Lempicka**, posterbook about the colorful Art Deco portrait painter, \$8.99, #988410; **Kahlo**, posterbook about the Mexican painter of dramatic self-portraits, \$8.99, #988412; **De Lempicka**, small art series, \$8.99, #988307; **Kahlo**, small art series, \$8.99, #988316; and a postcard book, **Kahlo**, \$4.99, #988506. The Texas Bookman, 8650 Denton Dr, Dallas TX 75235.

To those who say art books are too expensive, please note that all of the above are under \$20.

There are, though, books that are more than \$20 which have a chance of selling in women's bookstores or are of special interest to librarians wanting to add to their collections. Three books with significant lesbian content are Alias Olympia by Eunice Lipton, Cut with the Kitchen Knife by Maud Lavin, and Shattered Applause, by Robert A. Schanke. I continue to hope that art book publishers will learn what other publishers have already figured out: lesbian content sells, especially if prices are targeted for women's bookstore sales.

Alias Olympia: A Woman's Search for Manet's Notorious Model & Her Own Desire by Eunice Lipton is one of those books which doesn't fit neatly into a given type. Part biography, part autobiography,

part art historical study, it traces the author's personal response to the female subject of two of Edouard Manet's (1832-1883) famous paintings. The model has what photographer JEB describes as *the look* and indeed she turns out to be a lesbian and an artist, herself. The story is beautifully, excitingly written. I couldn't put it down. \$20 cl, 0-684-19417-1, Scribners.

This next book is really expensive and difficult to read as well, but if I were buying books in your bookstore and you called the lesbian content to my attention, there is no question I would pay the full price, and I am not alone. Cut With the Kitchen Knife: The Weimar Photomontages of Hannah Hoch by Maud Lavin is about a German artist (1889-1978) who came to prominence with collage work as part of the anti-art Berlin Dada movement. Over the course of a long life she had two relationships with men and a longer one with a Dutch woman writer, Til Brugman. The pictures are enigmatic and the cost high, but the life presented is fascinating. \$40 cl, 0-300-04766-5, Yale.

Shattered Applause: The Lives of Eva Le Gallienne by Robert A. Schanke is a fascinating

biography of the famous actress and founder of the first civic repertory theatre in the U.S. (1899-1991). Le Gallienne's writer father was part of Oscar Wilde's circle and she was a lesbian who struggled to maintain a private life. May Sarton, Alla Nazimova and Mercedes de Acosta were part of her circle. The personal and public figures are artfully interwoven. \$39.95 cl, 0-8093-1820-2, Southern Illinois University Press.

Angelica Kauffman: A Continental Artist in Georgian England, ed. by Wendy Wassyng Roworth, discusses the work of a Swiss portrait and history painter (1741-1807) who was very popular and successful in England and Italy during her lifetime. Kauffman, daughter of an artist, was recognized early for her artistic and musical talent, but it was her ambition and good business sense that determined the shape of her career. \$22.50 pb, 0-948462-41-8, dist. by University of Washington Press

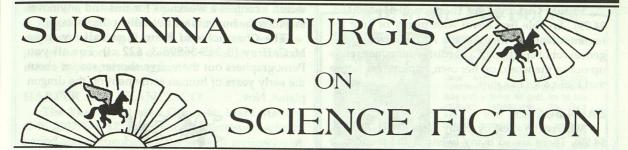
Six Contemporary Chinese Women Artists by Lucy Lim features the work of women who studied traditional Chinese ink-and-brush methods, then proceeded on more personal artistic journeys: abstract, symbolic, and narrative. There are many illustrations and a useful introductory text. \$24.95, 0-9609784-1-0 pb, dist. by the University of Washington Press.

Astonishment & Power by Wyatt Macgaffey and Michael D. Harris combines beautiful photographs with two essays, one on a Kongo visual art form called minkisi and another on the way Kongo art and beliefs are reflected in the work of a contemporary African-American woman artist, Renee Stout. \$34.95 pb, 1-56098-274-8, dist. by Smithsonian Institution Press.

Hungry for Light: The Journal of Ethel Schwabacher, ed. by Brenda S. Webster and Judith Emilyn Johnson, tells of a woman who for a time was recognized by the mainstream, but who was dropped when her work took an unfashionable direction. Jewish, privileged, married, widowed, Schwabacher used Freudian analysis as a lifeline and as a lens through which to understand herself and her art. This effectively annotated journal is an interesting exploration of creativity. \$29.95 cl, 0-253-36367-5, Indiana University Press, dist. by Ingram and Baker & Taylor.



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Hot (well, warm) on the heels of the news that a two-volume Women of Wonder series will be forthcoming from Pamela Sargent (volume one will reprint the three landmark anthologies of the 1970s and early '80s, and volume two will bring it up to the 1990s) comes the word that Suzy McKee Charnas has sold **The Furies** and an untitled sequel to Tor. For those of us who've been wondering for as long as 15 years what happened after *Walk to the End of the World* and *Motherlines*, not to mention fearing that no publisher would touch it, this is one of the Big 10 literary stories of 1993.

When I started working at Lammas Bookstore (D.C.) in 1981, the inventory card (you remember inventory cards? dog-eared, dirty, and all but illegible?) for **Motherlines** carried a note at the bottom that read something like "Customer says don't stock: too violent." We have come a long way since then, yes?



Other harbingers of promising books to come: Lammy and Tiptree award winner (for *China Mountain Zhang*) Maureen McHugh turned in her second novel, **Half the Day Is Night**, to Tor; also in the hopper at Tor are Judith Tarr's new historical fantasy **Throne of Isis** and Rebecca Ore's new sf novel **Slow Funeral**; Nichelle Nichols (Lt. Uhura of Star Trek, for those of you who just warped in from another time zone) sold an untitled sf novel about a woman of color in an interstellar civilization to Ace — for \$175,000; Lois McMaster Bujold has completed a new Miles Vorkosigan novel, **Mirror Dance**, for Baen.

Mea culpa dept.: Carol Severance's **Storm** Caller (Del Rey) follows *Demon Drums*, not *Shark Killer*. "Shark-Killer" was the title of Carol's short

story, an excerpt from *Demon Drums*, that appeared in *The Women Who Walk Through Fire*. All clear?

### **ACADEMY CHICAGO**

Jamie and Other Stories, by Marion Zimmer Bradley (0-89733-358-6, \$25 cl). MZB can be a frustrating writer, but this selection of her stories from 1954 to 1990 is always enjoyable and sometimes impressive. There are several Darkover and proto-Darkover tales, an elegant story of Middle Earth 14 generations before The Lord of the Rings, "Centaurus Changeling" — which in 1954 was far, far ahead of its time in exploring pregnancy and childbirth from women's perspectives — and the recent, very moving, non-f/sf title story, about a mother's feelings for her severely disabled newborn.

### **ACE BOOKS**

Crashcourse, by Wilhelmina Baird (0-441-12163-2, \$4.99). What can you say about a first novelist about whom Pat Cadigan (*Mindplayers, Synners*) says is "wicked, wild, and kicks butt"? This just arrived worth a chance; tempted by big bucks, three friends, all of whom have been surviving on the shady side of law and society, sign up as cybercinema actors — which means that their every move is filmed, and they don't know the script.

The Cygnet and the Firebird, by Patricia A. McKillip (0-441-12628-6, \$17.95 cl). This is set in the anything-can-happen sorcerous world of *The Sorceress and the Cygnet*, about which Delia Sherman wrote, "Finishing a Patricia A. McKillip novel is like waking from a dream. There are the same lingering images, the same sense of having been other-where and bringing back insights beyond waking capacity."

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Virtual Girl, by Amy Thomson (0-441-86500-3, \$4.99). An able first novel with plenty of grist for feminist readers. Maggie, the AI (artificial intelligence) robot creation of a nerdish young man, ends up out in the world on her own, exploring a future that looks a lot like now.

### **BAEN BOOKS**

Minerva Wakes, by Holly Lisle (0-671-72202-6, \$4.99). There are so many twists in the premise of this fantasy novel — singing dragons, an alternate universe, kidnapped children, and a magic ring with lethal conditions attached — that one might hesitate, but Lisle has received mostly favorable attention for her first two novels, *Fire in the Mist* and *Bones of the Past*. Jan. 94.

### **BALLANTINE/DEL REY**

**Storm Runner**, by Tara K. Harper (0-345-37162-3, \$5.99). Book three of *Tales of the Wolves*; this should intrigue readers who can't get enough of womenpsychically-bonded-with-animal-books. Books one and two were *Wolf Walker* and *Shadow Leader*.

Time, Like an Ever-Rolling Stream, by Judith Moffett (0-345-38275-7, \$5.50). A New York Times Notable Book and short-listed for the 1992 James Tiptree Award, this sequel to The Ragged World follows a young man and a young woman greatly privileged by the occupying Hefn because of their brilliance in math. Among the themes explored are bigotry, appropriate technology, and (rather coyly)

incest. I confess a weakness for this and any novel in which the humans are not calling the shots.

The Chronicles of Pern: First Fall, by Anne McCaffrey (0-345-36898-3, \$22 cl). For all you Pernographers out there, five shorter stories about the early years of human settlement on the dragon planet. Nov.



### BANTAM/SPECTRA

Doomsday Book, by Connie Willis (0-553-56273-8, \$5.99). This excellent, quite possibly great, novel is cleaning up the awards this year, and deservedly so. A history grad student of mid-21st century Oxford, where a quarantine for influenza has hobbled the Christmas season, is stranded doing research in 1348 — the year the plague reached England. The result explores the tragedy, heroism, and even comedy of people in crisis, always on a profoundly human level.

The Further Adventures of Wonder Woman, ed. by Martin Greenberg (0-553-28624-2, \$5.99). Eight new tales about the Amazon princess of DC Comics fame; the four female contributors include Elizabeth Ann Scarborough and Pamela Sargent.

### DELACORTE

Alien Secrets, by Annette Curtis Klause (0-385-30928-7, \$14.95). In this well-paced YA space

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adventure, an almost 13-year-old being sent home in disgrace plays a crucial role in saving the starship and restoring a sacred object to an alien people; in the process she discovers her adult ambition, to be a hyperspace navigator.

### HARPER SAN FRANCISCO

The Year the Horses Came, by Mary Mackey (0-06-250735-4, \$22 cl). Set in the European neolithic period and influenced by the work of archaeologist Marija Gimbutas, this traces the travels of Marrah, a priestess of matriarchal Brittany, as nomads from the east bring male gods, horses, and war to a oncepeaceful Europe. Looks like a must.

### **SCHOLASTIC**

Winter of Fire, by Sherryl Jordan (0-590-45288-6, \$13.95 cl). Elsha, a young woman of the oppressed Quelled, is elevated by her rare ability to find firestone and learns to use her position to challenge the privileges of the Chosen. In this New Zealand writer's capable hands, the task is not simplified or romanticized, and even Elsha's unusual talents do not guarantee success. A thoughtful, well-written YA novel.

### TOR BOOKS

Alien Bootlegger and Other Stories, by Rebecca Ore (0-312-85518-4, \$19.95 cl). Eight stories from a writer heralded for her exploration of the alien, a major theme in sf and one that should be of particular interest to communities grappling with the challenges of diversity and difference.

Two feminist essentials recently released in paperback: **Flying in Place**, by Susan Palwick (0-812-52334-7, \$4.99), is a tale of incest and psychological resistance, told by Emma, the 12-year-old who survived it. It's also a ghost story about two sisters, one who died before the other was born.

Long out of print was Pat Murphy's Nebula Award-winning **The Falling Woman** (0-312-85406-4, \$8.95), which uses both sf and fantasy to explore major themes: aging, mother-daughter relationships, the nature and uses of "craziness." Archaeologist Elizabeth Butler, in the Yucatan studying the ancient Maya, encounters both her estranged adult daughter and a Mayan priestess dead 1,000 years.

### New from DAW Books!-



WINDS OF FURY (Mage Winds #3) by Mercedes Lackey Lambda Award Winner

Once again, Ancar of Hardorn threatens Valdemar, and this time he may well achieve his goal, for he has captured Falconsbane, the Dark Adept. With Valdemar's ancient magical protection finally breaking down, Valdemar appears defenseless against an enemy armed with irresistible spells. (Hardcover)

0-88677-562-0 Fantasy/Original \$20.00 (\$25.99 in Canada) Aug. '93



HEALER (The Ardellans #3) by Kris Jensen

With plague decimating the native population, Terran Dr. Sinykin Inda answers a plea for help from the Ardellans, only to find himself thrust into a conflict between two Ardellan factions--those ready for the changes which humans offer, and those determined to drive every last human off Ardel, even if they must use long-forbidden and deadly powers to do so....

0-88677-570-1 SF/Original \$4.99 (\$5.99 in Canada) Oct. '93

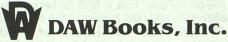


BLOOD PACT (Victory Nelson #4) by Tanya Huff 1992 Gaylaxicon Guest Of Honor

It began with the call no daughter ever wants to get, the call that told private investigator Vicki Nelson her mother had died from "natural causes." But Vicki and her fellow investigators were about to discover that strange things were happening at the hospital where Vicki's mother had worked, and someone there seemed determined to keep Mrs. Nelson on the job--alive or dead!

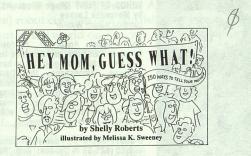
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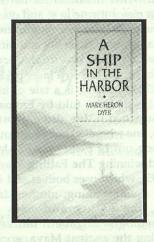
### A Ship In The Harbor

Meg Blake's life is at a crossroads: her 17-year marriage is no longer tenable since she's come out as a lesbian, her work within the Catholic Church has lost its meaning, and her first relationship with a woman has come to an end. In an effort to gain control over her life, she leaves her family and moves to the Oregon coast, where she meets Jody at a women's gathering.

Jody and her lover, Susan, are involved in a suspicious car accident in which Susan drowns. The police immediately suspect Jody, but Meg knows they're wrong and searches for the facts. At the same time, Meg is discovering how to live on her own, how to fight for herself and what she believes in, and how to release the past and love again.

New author, Mary Heron Dyer, unfolds this romance/mystery in Oregon and captures that area's recent climate of increasing homophobia and anti-choice fervor.

ISBN 1-882587-00-6 \$8.95



October 1993 88 Volume 16 Number 3

### FROM OUR OWN PRESSES



This fall we continue with our series of (short!) articles from feminist publishers describing their Fall titles. We created this forum as a place for feminist publishers to write directly to feminist booksellers about the books they've chosen to publish — to tell what is most important about each book and/or why they chose to publish these particular books, to tell feminist booksellers what we need to know to get each book to its intended audience and anything else that will help us get the books into the hands of the women who want them. Sixty-some books from twenty-two publishers — and more to come in the next issue! — CS

### **AUNT LUTE BOOKS**

Nike Airs and the Barrio Stories by Kleya Forté-Escamilla. As surreal and down-to-earth as the Nike shoes of the title, the stories of Escamilla's collection exist on the borders of magic and harsh reality. The tales reflect a variety of experiences and viewpoints of the barrio's inhabitants, young and old, well-established and on the fringe. Almost cinematic in the style of its multiple viewpoints, this collection of short stories reveals the unexpected that underlines the mundane. \$8.95 pb, 1-879960-34-6; \$18.95 cl, -35-4.

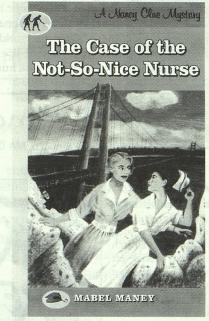
Our Feet Walk the Sky: Women of the South Asian Diaspora edited by Women of South Asian Descent Collective. Weaving together images of family, sexuality, economic exploitation and homelands, these writings by women of South Asian descent explore a rich and colorful tapestry of traditional and post-colonial identities. Crossing religious, geographic and sexual boundaries, the anthology is the first of its kind, an invaluable resource that contains work as varied as South Asia itself. \$12.95 pb, 1-879960-32-X; \$22.95 cl, -33-8.

Aunt Lute Books, PO Box 410687, San Francisco CA 94141. Distributed by BP, IN and Small Press Distribution.

— Aunt Lute Books

#### **CALYX BOOKS**

The Violet Shyness of Their Eyes: Notes from Nepal by Barbara J. Scot is a transformative account of a woman's mid-life experience while living and teaching in Nepal. Barbara Scot draws compelling parallels between the lives of western women and Nepali women. She also describes climbing the Mardi Himal, trekking the Himalayas with a llama,



and with a naturalist's eye paints pictures of the flora and fauna of Nepal. Her experiences became the gateway to finding her own power and her belief in the possibility of change. "Barbara Scot gives us the Nepal she saw, touched, visited, with a feminist's respect for difference.... The constant connections Scot makes between her world and the world of her explorations constitute the most useful sort of literary

activism." Margaret Randall. Includes: 48 photographs, three maps, and a Nepali glossary. \$12.95 pb, 0-934971-35-8; \$22.95 cl, -36-6, Nov.

In **Open Heart** by Judith Mickel Somberger, the experience of growing up on the plains of Nebraska informs the language of the poetry. Delving into a rich past the author conducts "a kind of archaeology — a search for meaning in my own life..." "What an openness to life and its teachings... A caring poetheart struggling to illuminate for us the tangled bonds of family and love...," Tillie Olsen. "...This warmly loving book is hard to put down and hard to forget. Sornberger is a poet to watch," Library Journal. \$9.95 pb, 0-934971-31-5; \$19.95 cl, -32-3.

In Raising the Tents Frances Payne Adler's poetry tracks a woman's retrieval of her voice. She explores the silencing of women and reveals the empowering effects of finding and claiming our voices. In remembering pogroms and the Holocaust, and her childhood in an alcoholic home, Adler builds connections between the personal and the political, bearing witness "against a world malnourished by dominance as a way of life." "A Jewish pulse with feminist vision and wise humor,"

Bettina Aptheker. "Fran Adler is a brave woman, a brave and strong poet," Alicia Ostriker. \$9.95 pb, 0-934971-33-1; \$19.95 cl, -34-X.

CALYX Books, PO Box B, Corvallis OR 97339. Distributed by Consortium, Airlift, BP, the distributors, IN, Pacific Pipeline, and Small Press Distribution.

— Calyx Books



### **CLEIS PRESS**

Hothead Paisan: Homicidal Lesbian Terrorist by Diane DiMassa. Hothead Paisan — the "raging city dyke with scary hair and a fetish for guns, grenades, mallets and sharp objects" — is the hottest new comic book sensation to hit the world of zines, pulling in fans like "metal shavings before a magnet." Alison Bechdel calls Hothead Paisan "the backlash to the backlash." The zine has sold over 25,000 copies. Cleis Press expects the book to reach even wider audiences. Diane DiMassa's November bi-coastal tour will include a party sponsored by *Out Magazine* at New York's Clit Club, where November will be Hothead Paisan Month. The



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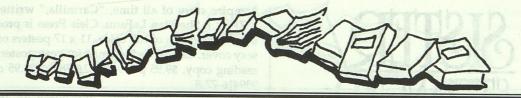
why libraries across the country are ordering it.

ISBN 0-9630822-3-X

\$9.95

WINNI S. WEBBEF

October 1993 90



Clit Club festivities will include a fundraiser for The Lesbian Avengers. \$12.95 pb, 0-939416-73-5, Nov.

Rubyfruit Mountain is the latest from Andrea Natalie whose Stonewall Riots cartoons are syndicated in gay, lesbian and feminist newspapers and magazines. Natalie's previous collection, *The Night Audrey's Vibrator Spoke* (Cleis Press 1992), was a Lambda Book Award nominee. Says Cleis' Felice Newman: "I just *devoured* the galleys of Rubyfruit Mountain. This is Andrea's funniest collection yet! My best publishers' marketing copy is this: Call me for a reading copy (or galleys), and I promise you will be transported to another dimension where outrageousness and irreverence rule...." Kate Clinton, Kris Kovick, Alison Bechdel, and Roz Warren are loyal Andrea Natalie fans — look for their back cover blurbs. \$9.95 pb, 0-939416-74-3, Nov.

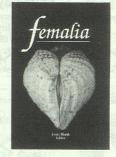


The Case of the Not-So-Nice Nurse by Mabel Maney, a Nancy Clue Mystery, has booksellers buzzing. Cleis Press reported exceptional ABA interest in this title. Says Felice Newman of Cleis' lesbian parody of the famous girl sleuth: "I've received calls from booksellers who get on the phone and start giggling when I tell them about Nancy Clue seducing nurse Cherry Aimless in the Castro — where the earnestly whitegirl 50s meet the oh-so-queer 90s." This is the first of a series of Not-So-Nice books from Cleis Press. Bi-coastal author tour in November. Cleis Press is producing a limited run of full color, 11 x 17 posters of the soon-to-be-famous cover (Nancy and Cherry set against the Golden Gate Bridge). Call Felice Newman for your poster and reading copy. \$9.95 pb, 0-939416-76-X; \$24.95 cl, 0-939416-75-1.

Daughters of Darkness: Lesbian Vampire Stories edited by Pam Kesey. In stores in time for Halloween, Daughters of Darkness is Cleis' lesbian erotica offering for 1993. Says Felice Newman: "Lesbians love lesbian vampire stories. Like other memorable lesbian characters in literature, these lesbian vampires are sexual and seductive, creatures of great appetites, the quintessential bad girls..." Daughters of Darkness collects the most popular authors of lesbian erotica writing today — Pat Califia, Katherine V. Forrest, Jewelle Gomez, Robbi Sommers, Anna Livia, Karen Marie Christa Minns, zana — along with the most famous lesbian

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"In these photographs of the vulva the hidden is revealed — as a reality and as an art form."

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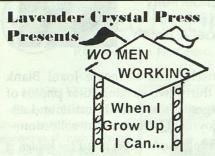




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vampire story of all time, "Carmilla," written in 1871 by J. Sheridan LeFanu. Cleis Press is producing a limited run of full color, 11 x 17 posters of the sexy cover. Call Felice Newman for your poster and reading copy. \$9.95 pb, 0-939416-78-6; \$24.95 cl, 0-939416-77-8.

Cleis Press, PO Box 8933, Pittsburgh PA 15221. 412-937-1555; fax 412-937-1567. Distributed by IN, BP, Ingram and Baker and Taylor. —Cleis Press



### DOWN THERE PRESS/YES PRESS

Femalia is sex educator Ioani Blank's answer to women who believe their bodies aren't quite "normal" let alone attractive or beautiful. This groundbreaking collection of thirty-two full-color close-up photographs of women's genitals encourages women to reclaim images of their own bodies. The photographs, by Tee Corinne, Michael Perry, Jill Posener and Michael Rosen are of women diverse in age, race and ethnicity and present the usually hidden vulva in a straightforward manner. Femalia is fascinating and edifying. \$14.50 pb,0-940208-15-6, Nov.

Down There Press/Yes Press, 938 Howard St., San Francisco CA 94103. Distributed by BP, IN and —Down There Press/Yes Press others.

### EIGHTH MOUNTAIN PRESS

Everyday Acts & Small Subversions: Women Reinventing Family, Community and Home by Anndee Hochman. These lively and unusual essays explore the legacy of the second wave's central belief, "the personal is political." They focus on everyday life — relationships and living arrangements, celebrating yearly cycles and personal developmental stages, coping with illness and death — and chart, through the details of women's lives, how feminists are "reinventing family, community and home." Woven throughout is Hochman's own story, artfully told, of a young woman confronted with crucial decisions in a landscape changed forever by the last two and a half decades of feminism. \$11.95 pb, 0-933377-25-8, Feb. 15 (Susan B. Anthony's Birthday).

Eighth Mountain Press, 624 SE 29th Avenue, Portland OR 97214. Distributed by Consortium, IN, BP, Small Press Distribution, Airlift (UK and



Europe) and Bulldog Books (Australia & New Zealand). —Eighth Mountain Press

### **GYNERGY BOOKS/RAGWEED PRESS**

Triad Moon by Gillean Chase. In this first novel by poet Gillean Chase, we meet Lila, Brook and Helen, three women whose bonds of love, passion and sexuality take them beyond conventional relationships. Past and present lives, incest and survival, healing and the strength of the heart — these themes are explored in this novel that is at once an unusual coming-out story and a passionate affirmation of mature love. Part romance, part mystical journey, Triad Moon is entirely a good read. \$9.95 pb, 0-921881-28-2.



Without Wings by Jackie Manthorne. Following hot on the heels of the popular gynergy title Fascination and Other Bar Stories, Manthorne continues her exposé of lesbian love and seduction in this collection of interwoven stories. As the long Montreal winter succumbs to spring, Manthorne's characters cope as best they can with the personal consequences of issues that divide and unite the lesbian community: AIDS and illness, abusive partners, and the plain pigheaded vagaries of love. \$9.95 pb, 0-921881-29-0.

Miss Autobody: A Play by Les Folles Alliées, translated by Linda Gaboriau. This is the English translation of a play that was very successful in Quebec where it was written and performed by the feminist theatre troupe Les Folles Alliées. In this celebrated and hilarious play, the women of Anytown, led by the outspoken grandmother Pheda and a savvy group of feminist mechanics, thwart a scheme to show porn videos at a local bar. \$10.95/\$9.95 US pb, 0-921881-25-8.

Woman in the Rock by Claudia Gahlinger. In these highly literary and beautifully written stories,

Gahlinger writes about remembering and forgetting incest in a powerful and haunting way that resembles prose poetry. She doesn't flinch from entering the claustrophobic, terrifying world of incest memories but she also breaks out of the basement where those memories live. Her characters are consoled by living near the sea and above all, by fishing, an act that allows for the eventual, triumphant emergence of the woman in the rock. \$10.95/\$9.95 US pb, 0-921881-26-6.

Where Once Our Mothers Stood We Stand: Women's Suffrage in Newfoundland, 1890-1925 by Margot I. Duley. In this historically important and lively book, Duley uncovers the neglected history of the women's suffrage movement in Newfoundland. Linked with the International Alliance of Women and

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supported by suffragists like Carrie Chapman Catt, the Newfoundland leaders shaped the suffrage message and tactics to their own daunting circumstances: 10,900 miles of coastline, with few roads or direct means of communication; widespread poverty; wily political opponents; and age old antagonisms between Catholic and Protestant. By slow and steady means but with a fervent sense that the work of all women really mattered, they captured the support of their generation. \$12.95, 0-921881-24-X, Nov.



Research edited by Marilyn Assheton-Smith and Barbara Spronk. Here are the selected proceedings of the 1991 conference of the Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women (CRIAW) held in Edmonton, Alberta. CRIAW is Canada's foremost feminist research association, and its annual conference plays the important role of bringing together academics and researchers from a broad political and social spectrum. The 1991 conference theme: Women and Social Location: Our Lives, Our Research posed many important questions about the current direction of Canadian feminism. \$12.95 pb, 0-921881-27-4, Nov.

gynergy books/Ragweed Press, PO Box 2023, Charlottetown PEI Canada C1A 7N7. Distributed by IN, General Publishing (Canada), and Turnaround (UK). Please note, Where Once Our Mothers Stood and Women and Social Location are available only through General Publishing.

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### **NAIAD PRESS**

Well-timed to arrive on your shelves — six endof-the-year bestsellers, including new mysteries from two Lambda Award winners and one absolute blockbuster that will set fire to your Christmas sales.

Lammy winner Lauren Wright Douglas (*Ninth Life*) returns with an atmospheric fifth entry in her superb and distinctive series. Caitlin Reece's newest assignment — to learn who is sending Laura Neal photos from her past that have been cut and pasted into a gruesome jigsaw puzzle— will lead her down a menacing, suspenseful pathway to **Goblin Market**. \$9.95 pb, 1-56280-047-7.

Lammy winner Jaye Maiman (*Crazu For Loving*) is arguably the most arresting contemporary voice in mystery fiction today. In **Under My Skin**, the third entry in this acclaimed, highly charged mystery series, Robin Miller is vacationing in the Poconos, only to find herself dragged into an everwidening homicide investigation, complicated by the re-entry into her life of paradoxical K.T. Bellflower. \$9.95 pb,1-56280-049-3.

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Signposts of lesbian life in the nineties, captured by one of the sharpest, funniest observers of the lesbian scene today, are compiled in the marvelous new cartoons of **Stay Tooned**. \$9.95 pb, 1-56280-045-0.

One of our most popular writers spins another captivating, erotic tale as romance combines with industrial skullduggery in **Car Pool**. Anthea, successful and closeted in her comfortable white world, meets geologist Asian-American Shay Sumoto with most entertaining results. Karen Kallmaker's romantic story-telling has won her a wide and loyal audience and her name alone will sell this book. \$9.95 pb, 1-56280-048-5.

A book for all audiences is the fine, sophisticated new work **Not Telling Mother: Stories From a Life** by acclaimed novelist Diane Salvatore, the author of *Benediction* and the sensational international bestseller, *Love, Zena Beth.* Episodes from the contemporary lives of lesbian couple Renee and Celia, from one of the very best lesbian writers working today, illuminate the range of lesbian life. \$9.95 pb, 1-56280-044-2.

Now for the blockbuster: Place The Romantic Naiad: Love Stories by Naiad Press Authors, edited by Katherine V. Forrest and Barbara Grier, on prominent display and watch it sell itself. We speak with certainty because Naiad's top seller of 1993 far and away has been the Erotic Naiad, and the same editors bring your customers more more more of the same, by even more Naiad Press authors. Trust us — you don't want to run out of stock on this one. \$14.95 pb, 1-56280-054-X.

The Naiad Press, Inc., PO Box 10543, Tallahassee FL 32302. Distributed by IN, BP, Ingram, et al.

-Naiad Press

### **NEW VICTORIA**

Lady Lobo by Kristen Garrett, the author of the best-selling *You Light the Fire*, is about women's collegiate basketball with all the sweat and pressure the players feel. It tracks one fresh upstart, Casey, a rookie starter. We like it because she is an unapolo-

getic, unself-conscious jock-dyke, eagerly experimenting with life, and looking to strong role models in her coach and an older Black ex-tennis pro. A coming-of-age story, we are hoping it appeals especially to women under thirty and anyone longing for fast-paced women's basketball in book form. \$9.95 pb, 0-934678-49-9.

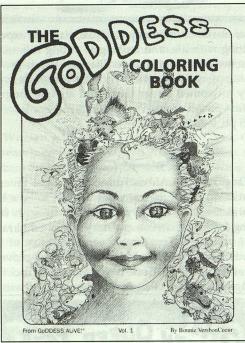


Dog Tags by Alexis Jude. This novel gives a blunt and painful look at what it's like to be a lesbian in the U.S. military. Set in Korea with two strong leading characters, a story of sexual harassment unfolds as Tory slowly earns the trust of the withdrawn and isolated Myra. A thought-provoking story of how these two women found the strength to confront violence and oppression within



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#### **OUR POWER PRESS**

The story begun in *A Safe Place To Sleep* continues in Jennifer L. Jordan's latest novel, Existing Solutions, when lesbian activist Destiny Greaves asks Kristin Ashe to find her biological father — the man who raped her mother. Full of more twists, turns, and suspense than most traditional mysteries, Existing Solutions also contains some of the most realistic lesbian love scenes ever written. Jordan's writing style is addictive — read one page (anywhere in the book), and you're hooked. \$9.95 pb, 0-9634075-1-1.

Our Power Press, PO Box 6680, Denver CO 80206. Bookstores, please order from BP or IN.

—Our Power Press



#### PAPIER-MACHE

Wetlands by Patti Tana. A collection of poems and stories infused with spirit and energy that carry you along with them. With oceans and rivers running throughout, this collection is in tune with the natural order of things, creating a peaceful, accepting feeling. Serene endless line drawings by Alfred Van Loen complement these pieces, flowing like the waters of life Tana shares with us. \$8.00 pb, 0-918949-35-1; \$12.00 cl, 0-918949-36-X.

Learning to Sit in the Silence: A Journal of Caretaking by Elaine Marcus Starkman. How do we handle the stress of caring for a disabled elderly parent? Elaine Starkman shares her experience in diary form — baring the day-to-day challenges of caring for an aging family member. With a surprisingly unselfish, blameless voice, Ms. Starkman tell of decisions that we will face as we and our loved ones grow older. \$9.00 pb, 0-918949-43-2; \$14.00 cl, 0-918949-44-0.

Making Ourselves at Home: Women Builders & Designers by Janice Goldfrank. Based on interviews with women across the United States, Janice

October 1993 96 Volume 16 Number 3



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. Bibliography. Index. \$18.00 pb, 0-918949-26-2.



Why Flowers Bloom by Janet Carncross Chandler. A collection of poems sharing moments from a long and full life. Ms. Chandler writes of both daily and lifelong milestones — moving into a retirement home, starting a writer's workshop for women, and turning eighty. There is never a dull moment in this lively story. \$8.00 pb, 0-918949-37-8; \$12.00 cl, 0-918949-38-6, Nov.

Papier-Mache Press, PO Box 1304, Freedom CA 95019, 800-927-5913; fax 408-763-1422. Distributed by BP, IN, the distributors, and Moving Books.

-Papier-Mache

### **PARADIGM**

Hey, Mom, Guess What ...? (150 Ways To Tell Your Mother) by Shelly Roberts, illustrated by Melissa Sweeney. The Dyke Detecto does it again! This time best-selling humor author Shelly Roberts trains her razor-sharp wit on another favorite pastime for all gays and lesbians: coming out to Mom. Whether. When. Where. What. And how! "Not," Roberts strongly suggests in her newest book "at any time when she might be carrying a can of mace. Or at your grandparents' 75th wedding anniversary celebration, during the toast. Or at a KKK rally." As to how, Roberts makes hilarious suggestions for dealing with every kind of mother from Mommy Dearest ("Tell her long distance.") to The Jewish Mother ("Just don't tell her you married a goy. Oy.") and dozens more. When Roberts writes, we all laugh at ourselves. Her previous book sold the first print run (5,000 copies) in 5 months. We

couldn't wait to put out this book. Don't you wait, order now! \$8.95 pb, 0-9628595-9-1, Nov.

Paradigm chose A Ship In The Harbor because new Oregon author, Mary Heron Dyer, beautifully unfolds this romance/mystery and captures that area's recent climate of increasing homophobia and anti-choice fervor. Meg Blake's life is at a crossroads. In an effort to gain control over her life, she leaves her family and moves to the Oregon coast. Meg meets Jody, whose lover dies in a suspicious car accident. Meg knows the police are wrong to suspect Jody and searches for the facts. In the process she is discovering how to live on her own, how to fight for herself and what she believes in, and how to release the past and love again. \$8.95 pb, 1-882587-00-6, Nov.

Paradigm Publishing Company, PO Box 3877, San Diego CA 92163. Available direct or through IN and BP.

Some women have to learn the hard way—in the game of love, there are no rules.

Snakes and Ladders by Kathryn Ann

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look at the perils and pleasures of lesbian relationships.

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### PRESS GANG

At the top of our super fall list is **In Her I Am**, an electrifying collection of erotic writing by Chrystos. In an advance review Joan Nestle writes, "Her poems are both acts of courage and shards of natural beauty." These poems and prose pieces are meant to arouse, and they do, but they also explore the complex emotional geography of lesbian desire. **In Her I Am** will be out in time for OutWrite, where Chrystos is a keynote speaker. Her first book, *Not Vanishing*, is in its third printing. Stock up — this book is going to sell! \$10.95 pb, 0-88974-033-X.

Out On Main Street is a thoroughly entertaining collection of stories by lesbian writer Shani Mootoo, who had self-published several chapbooks before her writing came to our attention. When we heard her read "Wake Up," one of the emotionally charged stories in this collection, we immediately offered her a contract for this book. Mootoo's Indo-Trinidadian cultural heritage and her lesbian identity are reflected in these compelling stories. "A fine talent to be rejoiced in," says Jane Rule. \$12.95 pb, 0-88974-052-6.

We're also excited to be publishing Her Head A Village and Other Stories, Makeda Silvera's second collection of short fiction. Best known as copublisher of Sister Vision Press and editor of the lesbian anthology *A Piece of My Heart*, Silvera uses the vivid, colloquial speech of Jamaica to great effect in these stories about "outsiders" — workingclass immigrants, Black women and lesbians. Shelve this in Black literature as well as lesbian fiction. \$12.95 pb, 0-88974-056-9, Dec.

Unruly Women: Essays on Confinement and Resistance by Karlene Faith is a fascinating book about women in prison, suitable for a general feminist readership and for Women's Studies, Sociology and Criminology courses. Not written in academese! Faith was one of the organizers in the mid-1970s who brought political activists, musicians and cultural workers into the California women's prison.

**Unruly Women** documents that experience, as well as Hollywood's portrayal of women in prison films, and topics ranging from witch hunts to PMS as a mitigating defense. Includes comprehensive bibliography and index. \$16.95 pb, 0-88974-050-X, Nov.

In Conflict With The Law: Women and the Canadian Justice System edited by Ellen Adelberg and Claudia Currie is a staunchly feminist critique of the roots of women's conflicts with the law. Dealing primarily with the Canadian context, it highlights recent statistical and analytical work on federally sentenced women. This sequel to *Too Few to Count* (1987) includes important new chapters on prostitution, Battered Women's Syndrome and more. \$18.95 pb, 0-88974-054-2, Nov.

Press Gang Publishers, 603 Powell St., Vancouver B.C. Canada V6A 1H2. Distributed in Canada by University of Toronto and in the U.S. by IN, BP and Pacific Pipeline.

—Press Gang



#### SCARLET PRESS

In Women and Bisexuality Sue George combines a historical account of theories developed about bisexuality and first hand accounts of women's experience gathered from a survey of 150 women from all ages and backgrounds. She discusses the fraught relationship between bisexuality and feminism, confronts stereotypical attitudes about bisexuality in an attempt to break down barriers, and looks forward to how bisexuality as a political and social identity might be constructed in the future. It's an important contribution to the debate. \$16.95 pb, 1-85727-066-5; \$49.95 cl, -071-1.

The Midwife's Tale provides an authentic account of the way the role of the working-class handywoman — the 'woman you called for' — was usurped by the middle-class, professional midwife. From hundreds of hours of interviews with handywomen, midwives and mothers, the authors Nicky

October 1993 98 Volume 16 Number 3

Leap and Billie Hunter have created a book that challenges assumptions about home birth and the midwifery profession and details the experiences of our mothers, grandmothers and great-grandmothers in the areas of sex, contraception, abortion, work and motherhood. It's a riveting read! \$20.95 pb, 1-85727-041-X; \$55.95 cl, -036-3.

Scarlet Press. 5 Montague Road, London E8 2HN. Distributed by IN. —Scarlet Press



### SEAL PRESS

Home Movies by Paula Martinac. We are delighted to publish this timely second novel by Lammy award winning author (*Out of Time*, 1990) Paula Martinac. Home Movies is the story of Teresa Keenan, a lesbian writer living in New York City who loses her favorite uncle, Jamie, to AIDS. As she sifts through her memories of life with Jamie, she is reminded of her older sister Alison, who died of leukemia at age eleven. A hopeful and affirming book, Home Movies illuminates the bittersweet aftermath of loss and the deeply felt bonds of friends and family. \$10.95 pb, 1-878067-32-X.

A Killing Cure by Ellen Hart. The fourth book in the popular Jane Lawless series, this tightly woven thriller revolves around the inner circle of the powerful Amelia Gower Women's Club in Minneapolis. Charlotte Fortnum, chairwoman of the board and prominent community leader, is murdered on the eve of a crucial announcement. Then Rose Gower, granddaughter of the club's founder, dies mysteriously in the club's private chamber. With their usual wit and charm, lesbian restaurateur and part-time detective Jane Lawless and her side-kick, Cordelia Thorn, unravel the baffling and dangerous series of events. \$19.95 cl, 1-878067-36-2.

Trouble in Transylvania by Barbara Wilson. This is a fascinating new mystery set in the Balkans of Eastern Europe and featuring globetrotting sleuth Cassandra Reilly who first appeared in award winning *Gaudi Afternoon*. Cassandra is on her way to China by way of Budapest via the Trans Mongolian Express when a chance encounter on the train leads her to a crumbling health spa in the Carpathian Mountains. When murder strikes, Cassandra investigates with her usual humor and

### **NEW FROM SPINIFEX**

### The Spinifex Quiz Book A Book of Women's Answers

### Susan Hawthorne

The second edition of this very successful quiz book with a new cover and comprehensive index.

1-875559-15-9 112pp US\$12.95 pbk March '93

# Poems from the Madhouse Sandy Jeffs

Now Millenium
Deborah Staines

A joint volume of poetry by two lesbian poets. Sandy writes powerfully about schizophrenia; Deborah about the architecture of love and cities.



1-875559-20-5 144pp US\$13.95 pbk May '93

# The Menopause Industry: A Guide to Medicine's 'Discovery' of the Mid-Life Woman Sandra Coney

A groundbreaking book in which the author argues that healthy mid-life women are being targeted by vested interests with products to sell. 1-875559-14-0 308pp US\$19.95 pbk June '93

### The Lesbian Heresy Sheila Jeffreys

Jeffreys looks at the roots of radicalism in the women's movement and the challenges that face lesbian feminists in the 1990s.

1-875559-17-5 384pp US\$21.95 pbk June '93

Distributed by: Inland Book Company, PO Box 129261, East Haven CT 06512 Tel: 203-467

Spinifex Press PO Box 212, North Melbourne, Victoria, Australia Tel: 03 329 6088 Fax: 329 9238 aplomb, tackling mud baths, ethnic rivalries, vampires and much more in her hilarious search for truth, love and eternal life. \$18.95 cl, 1-878067-34-6.

You Don't Have To Take It: A Woman's Guide to Confronting Emotional Abuse at Work by Ginny NiCarthy, Naomi Gottlieb and Sandra Coffman. This groundbreaking book will provoke discussion and open a productive and positive dialogue about the pervasive yet little acknowledged problem of emotional abuse in the workplace. Addressed to women in all kinds of jobs— from the construction worker dealing with harassment from her all male crew to the corporate lawyer struggling with a sexist boss or co-worker — You Don't Have To Take It! provides practical advice and exercises to help women recognize abusive situations and respond with constructive action. \$14.95 pb, 1-878067-35-4.



The Mother I Carry: A Memoir of Healing From Emotional Abuse by Louise M. Wisechild. From the widely acclaimed author of The Obsidian Mirror: An Adult Healing From Incest and the editor of She Who Was Lost Is Remembered: Healing From Incest Through Creativity comes this moving testament of recovery from childhood emotional abuse. This beautiful memoir explores the author's relationship with her emotionally abusive mother. Wisechild tells her story using memory, movement, visualization, dreamwork and other various meth-

ods of self awareness and healing. The result is a powerful and moving account of one woman's journey toward self-love and wholeness. \$12.95 pb, 1-878067-38-9, Nov.

Seal Press, 3131 Western Ave. Suite 410, Seattle WA 98121; 206-283-7844. Distributed by PGW, IN, Ingram, BP and Baker & Taylor; in Canada by Raincoast Book Distribution and in Europe by Airlift Book Company.

—Seal Press

#### SPINIFEX PRESS

The Lesbian Heresy by renowned author Sheila Jeffreys is our newest non-fiction title. Jeffreys confronts head-on the backlash against lesbian feminism of sado-masochism, the lesbian sex industry and post-modernism. We published this book because fragmentation in all its forms is decimating the women's movement. A controversial book, it's a must for activists, lesbian and heterosexual, women's studies courses and even those who disagree with Jeffrey's arguments. This is a book that your customers will want to talk about. \$17.95 pb, 1-875559-17-5.

Sandra Coney's **The Menopause Industry** takes up another important issue — namely the *industry* that has grown up around menopausal women in the last few years. Having read just about every book on the subject, this is the one that really analyzes the forces at work from a feminist perspective. Every menopausal feminist should read this book *before* she considers hormone replacement therapy. Women are being duped once again into taking

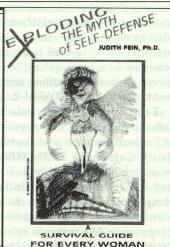
### **EXPLODING THE MYTH of SELF-DEFENSE**

A Survival Guide for Every Women by Judith Fein, Ph.D

Discrediting the myth of self-defense—that the enemy is external—Fein, with over 19 experience in the field, breaks new ground in the philosophy behind—and tactics for—self-defense for women. EX-PLODING THE MYTH...revolutionizes subjects such as sexual harassment, the psychology of empowerment and rape resistance.

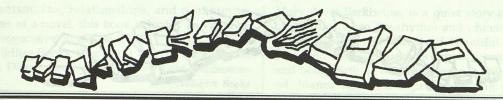
"EXPLODING THE MYTH... provides important information for all women on how to live safely in an unsafe world. National Action Against Rape would like to commend your effort in writing this book." Susan Mooney, Board of Directors National Action Against Rape

0-929523-01-6, 184 pages, \$15.95, Sept. 1993, Torrance Pub. Co., Distributor: INBOOK, The Sales Division of Inland: 1-800-243-0138



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drugs that have serious long and short-term consequences for their health. \$17.95 pb, 1-875559-14-0.

Poems from the Madhouse by Sandy Jeffs and Now Millennium by Deborah Staines are two new poets' work published jointly in one volume. 'Poems from the Madhouse' is a personal journey through the experience of schizophrenia by a poet who reclaims the madness of Virginia and Lucia di Lammermore and declares us "the curators of our own psyches." This is a deeply moving collection. Award-winning twenty-four- year-old poet Deborah Staines has an assured poetic voice in her journey into the future. The "Venus Port" sequence which opens Now Millenium describes a future that is at once full of despair, and yet in the midst of it love flourishes. "Video Imago" and the title poem, "Now Millennium," describe a much more palpable and plastic future, visible in video clips and the high rise walkways of some cities now. These are new lesbian poets with exciting and imaginative insights into our world. \$12.95 pb, 1-875559-20-5.

Spinifex Press, 504 Queensberry St., PO Box 212, North Melbourne Vic 3051 Australia. Distributed by in the U.S. by IN. —Spinifex Press



### THIRD SIDE PRESS

Jess Wells' classic collections of short stories — Two Willow Chairs and The Dress/The Sharda Stories — will go out of print in December 1993. To encourage Feminist Bookstore Network stores to stock up on the books before they're gone, Third Side Press makes the following offer: 70% discount on any quantity of either or both titles (i.e., \$2.69 each to bookstores under this deal/\$8.95 retail). Books bought under these special terms must be ordered directly from the publisher, prepaid, and are non-returnable. Free freight on orders of 10 or more. Wells' novel *Aftershocks* remains in print and

available either from Third Side Press or your favorite wholesaler.

Third Side Press, 2250 W. Farragut, Chicago IL 60625. —Third Side Press

#### VIOLET INK

How To...: Short-Short Stories By Women, edited by Irene Zahava. This mini-anthology may just prove to be the ultimate how-to book, with stories about How To Drive Someone Crazy, How To Find A Therapist, How To Avoid Being Picked Up In A Cowboy Bar, How To Give Advice That No One Wants, How To Have A Satisfying Lesbian Seder (In 3 Easy Steps), and many more. There's humor, there's pathos...we think there's something here for everyone! Contributors include Julie Blackwomon, Binnie Kirshenbaum, Leslea Newman,

### Steam Cleaning Love

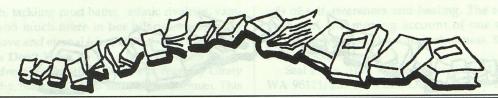
by J.A. Hamilton

Biting, funny, randy poems that celebrate lesbian love and friendship



0-919626-68-8 96 pages \$11.95 paper

BRICK BOOKS Box 38, Station B London, Ontario N6A 4V3 Canada Available in the U.S. through Inland and in Canada through General



Ellen Orleans, Judith Stein, Julia Willis, Irene Zahava and 36 other women. This Violet Ink pamphlet is printed in purple ink, of course. \$7.00 0-9631656-2-3.

Violet Ink, 307 W. State St. Ithaca NY 14850. Distributed exclusively by IN —Violet Ink



#### **VOLCANO PRESS**

Random Kindness & Senseless Acts of Beauty by Anne Herbert and Margaret M. Pavel. Artist: Mayumi Oda. The ultimate holiday gift... A book for all ages. In 1982 Anne Herbert wrote "Practice Random Kindness and Senseless Acts of Beauty." Today she is joined with Margaret Pavel and artist Mayumi Oda to expand her statement into a powerful message for our times and for all ages. \$14.95

SLIPPERY WHEN V ... new breed of sex zine, appealing to almost anyone who is curious and open...fiction ranges from hot to hilarious... Whole Earth Review "You cannot be disappointed with [Slippery When Wet]!" -Factsheet Five Statement of legal age required. Ask your distributor or .....by mail: More! Productions / PO Box 3101-fbn / Berkeley, CA 94703 by phone or fax ...... 510-548-2502 Don't sweat the petty things; pet the sweaty things. cl, 0-912078-89-8. 36 pages, 18 panels (accordion fold) 6" x 6" square. Red and black. Dec. Will be available for holiday sales.

African Animal Tales by Rogerio Andrade Barbosa, illustrated by Cica Fittipaldi, translated by Feliz Guthrie. These ten traditional folk tales, derived from the African oral tradition, possess great power and worth. The lively and humorous stories about animals' virtues and defects mirror those of human beings. \$17.95 cl, 0-912078-96-0. Full color art.

Source Book For Working With Battered Women by Nancy Kilgore is a unique, valuable resource to help counselors, therapists and group leaders give battered women a sense of involvement in their own recovery, as well as new information, ideas and hope. This manual contains lesson plans that are adaptable to the individual or group setting. A counselor from Nevada exclaimed, "This is exactly what I've been searching for to use in my groups!" \$17.95 pb, 0-912078-97-9.

Domestic Violence by Nancy Kilgore is her authentic and passionate account of her quest to understand her involvement in domestic violence. Designed to be given directly to the abused woman, Every Eighteen Seconds is a cathartic book that has helped women move on to better lives. \$8.95 pb, 0-912078-99-5, Nov.

Volcano Press, PO Box 270, Volcano CA 95689. Distributed by IN, BP, Ingram, et al.

-Volcano Press

### **WILDFIRE BOOKS**

Out Of This World: A Fictionalized True-Life Adventure by Sonia Johnson and Jade DeForest. Sonia Johnson has done it again, this time with a friend. Tackling the question: if women don't do sex and relationships, then what do they do?, Johnson and DeForest go into great detail, describing their attempts to find out with humor and sensitivity. This book leaves virtually no stone unturned, as it takes on all the current 'issues': racism, sexism, ageism,

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lesbianism, sex, relationships, and community. Written as a novel, this book is highly entertaining and provocative! \$14.95 pb, 1-877617-10-5.

Wildfire Books, Star Rte. 1 Box 55, Estancia NM 87016. Distributed by IN, BP, New Leaf, the distributors

— Wildfire Books

#### WOMAN IN THE MOON PUBLICATIONS

Kwanza Handbook. The African-American reference book for everybody sick and tired of the commercialism of Christmas. Now 30 years old and founded by Ron Karenga in Los Angeles, this cultural and ritual celebration has nuances and exchanges suited to everyone. How to celebrate Kwanza? It's in our book: Nguzo Saba, how to prepare the table, the special days, dress, and song. A handy economical reference and history book. Believe in multiculturalism? This is your chance to submerge yourself in a joy-filled and meaningful celebration. \$15.00 pb, 0-934-172-35-8, Dec.

Eye of the Wind and The Book of Lives, both previously announced titles, were delayed and will be available in October.

WIM Publications, PO Box 2087, Cupertino CA 95015. Distributed by IN and Bookslinger.

— Woman in the Moon



#### WOMEN'S PRESS/CANADA

Out Rage: Lesbian Stories & Poems Celebrating Resistance edited by Mona Oikawa, Dionne Falconer, Rosamund Elwin and Ann Decter. Out Rage is a chorus of lesbian voices — working class and middle class, Black, Asian, First Nation, Jewish and white — raised in anger and celebration. From the classics of Pat Parker to new work by emerging writers, this collection embodies the essential lesbian tradition of resistance. \$14.95 pb, 0-88961-188-2.

Throw It To The River by Nice Rodriguez. The third selection in the International Connections series from Women's Press, this debut collection of short stories introduces Nice Rodriguez as a writer whose style is fresh and clean. Set in the Philippines and in Canada, these stories sparkle with self-contained pleasure in life, even at their most poignant moments. \$11.95 pb, 0-88961-187-4.

Ma MacDonald by Joanne Arnott, illustrated by

Mary Anne Barkhouse, is a quiet story of natural childbirth told in the rhythm and phrasing of the children's song, *Old MacDonald*. Beautiful color and black and white illustrations depict Native farm life and home birth as warm, loving, natural and rooted. Joanne Arnott is a prize-winning poet and author. She was born in Manitoba and raised in various urban and rural communities. Mary Anne Barkhouse is a multi-media artist who specializes in metal, illustration and photography. She lives in Toronto and is currently at Harbourfront Craft Studios and is a teaching assistant at the Ontario College of Art. \$6.95 pb, 0-88961-180-7.

Everywoman's Almanac 1994: Women Against the State is still one of the most popular women's calendars. In 1994 the Almanac features women like Mary Pitawanakwat and the West Coast Domestic Workers who have, with dignity and courage, withstood tremendous government pressure. The striking, full-color cover features the artwork of Winsom, a well-known Toronto artist. A free counterpack is available with orders of twelve or more. \$10.95 sewn bound, 0-88961-178-5; \$11.95 spiral, -179-3.

Women's Press, 517 College St. #233, Toronto ONT MG 4A2. Distributed by University of Toronto Press (Canada), IN, BP, and Turnaround Distribution (Europe & UK).

- Women's Press/Canada

### **WOMEN'S TRAVELLER**

Women's Traveller 1993 edited by Gina M. Gatta. This 4th edition has been selling out in bookstores all over the country since early spring. The 1993 Women's Traveller covers the United States, Canada and the Caribbean. This comprehensive lesbian travel guide points out accommodations, bars and restaurants which are accessible to physically challenged travelers. Distinguished by intelligently written city overviews that give reader an "inside scoop" on local lesbian lifestyles, as well as general tourist information. The Traveller also has over 56 maps for popular resort areas and metropolitan cities. \$10.00 pb, 0- 929435-11-7. Published by the Damron Company.

Women's Traveller, PO Box 422458, San Francisco CA 94142. Distributed by BP, IN, Ingram, Golden Lee and Publishing Distributing Co.

— Women's Traveller O

### Make A Difference With Conari Press

### When Women Work Together

Using Our Strengths to Overcome Our Challenges
Carolyn S. Duff
0-943233-53-4, \$12.95

While there is much women enjoy about working with one another, problems can and do arise. After surveying over 500 women, Carolyn Duff found that the very attributes that give us advantages at work can also cause difficulties. When Women Work Together identifies these factors and suggests how to make work not only productive but personally satisfying.

"Excellent, informative and very readable. . . ."
—Sally Hegelson, author of The Female
Advantage: Women's Ways of Leadership

### Love, Judy

Letters of Hope and Healing for Women with Breast Cancer Judy Hart 0-943233-52-6, \$10.95

Judy Hart uses humor and a never-ending enthusiasm for life to bring the reader gently into the world of a woman battling breast cancer. This book is a collection of Judy's instructive and inspirational letters: letters she wrote to her friends as she went through her treatment for breast cancer; and letters addressed to the reader which offer a wide variety of healing attitudes and techniques, including hypnotic writing, affirmations, dream work, humor and breathing.

### The First Time

Women Speak Out about Losing their Virginity
Karen Bouris 0-943233-50-X, Cloth, \$18.95

Drawing upon a collection of compelling and intimate stories, *The First Time* presents a broad range of sexual awakenings from over 150 women of all ages, sexual orientations and walks of life. The experiences range from the rare beauty of romantic love, to the much more common "just get it over with" and the frighteningly frequent violation.

"It doesn't just tabulate and analyze, it opens an emotional window."

—Louanne Cole, Ph.D., the "Sex Matters"

21. (amed.

"I don't have time every day to put on makeup. I need that time to clean my rifle."

—Henriette Mantel

### **Untamed Tongues**

Wild Words from Wild Women Autumn Stephens 0-943233-51-8, \$8.95

Untamed Tongues (sister to the bestseller Wild Women) presents over 200 of North America's most loquacious ladies telling it like it is. From tart to terrorist, from stripper to senator, from B-girl to big-name VIP, these down-and-dirty dishers excel in the exquisite art of verbal vice.

### Conari Press

distributed by Publishers Group West (800)788-3123

columnist for the S.F. Examiner

# FROM THE SMALL PRESSES

By Dawn L. Martin

Milkweed Editions is publishing several new titles this fall. Edited by Emilie Buchwald, Pamela Fletcher, and Martha Roth, Transforming a Rape Culture is a "sourcebook of visions for a future without rape, strategies to get us there and programs for action to end sexual violence." Carol Adams, Andrea Dworkin, Louise Erdrich, Susan Griffin, bell hooks, Gloria Steinem and Ntozake Shange are among the many activists and academics who contribute to this ground-breaking book (\$22.95 cl, 0-915943-06- 9). The Importance of High Places: Stories and a Novella is a slender volume that "has the potency of a concentrate... each tale conjures up characters of remarkable freshness and grace," according to ALA Booklist (\$11.95 pb, 0-915943-79-4). Milkweed Editions, 430 First Avenue North Suite 400, Minneapolis MN 55401. Distributed by Publishers Group West, IN and BP.

Copper Canyon Press will publish Jane Miller's fourth collection of poems **August Zero** which interrupts narrative impulses with jarring new constructions of standard figurative language. Her new

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.

book attempts a redemption of a society threatened by population explosion and environmental disaster through a description of a "post-apocalyptic resurrection of consciousness." Miller won the Western States Book Award (and many other honors) and has recently published *Working Time*, a collection of essays. \$12 pb, 1-55659-061-X; \$22 cl, -060-1. Distributed by Consortium, IN and BP.



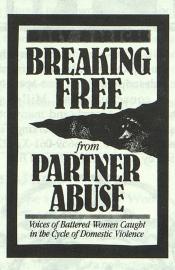
From Circle of Strength: Community Alternatives to Alienation.

Drawing by Maureen Swann.

Fall titles from Alyson Publications span a range of topics and genres. From birthing babies to bawdy bondage, **Tickled Pink** edited by FBN columnist Richard Labonté, offers funny tales of lesbian and gay humor. Some of the stories are broad farce, others are more subtly witty. Anthology contributors include Lesléa Newman, Wendy Caster, Robert Gluck, and Jaqueline de Angelis (\$9.95 pb, 1-55583-210-5).

### BREAKING FREE FROM PARTNER ABUSE

Voices of Battered Women Caught in the Cycle of Domestic Violence



Through simply written poetry and prose, Mary Marecek validates the fears and feelings of battered women and sets realistic guidelines for change. 96 pp. Illus. \$7.95

"Breaking Free provides a lifeline for battered women. It can help them end abuse and take back their lives." Tricia McClellan, coordinator, Kiwanis Domestic Abuse Shelter, Montgomery, AL



6595 San Haroldo Way Buena Park, CA 90620 714/828-1998

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Order direct or from New Horizon Press, Quality Books, Inland Books or other distributors **Lesbian Quotations** by Rosemary E. Silva is a collection of the best lesbian wit and wisdom in one volume (\$9.95 pb, 1-55583-231-8).

Butch by Jay Rayn (originally published in 1992 by Free Woman Press) is a book of interlocking short stories that describe "Mike's" small-town upbringing, an adolescence on her own (after her parents kicked her out), homophobia in the Marine Corps and the confusions of a long-time butch caught up in the second wave of the women's movement and in love with women who have a deeper understanding of feminist concepts than of lesbian practice (\$7.95 pb, 1-55583-316-0).

Michael Willhoite (author and illustrator of Daddy's Roommate) "stages his own pride parade with caricatures of over one hundred" lesbians and gay men that don't show up on the usual gay history lists in his new book, Members of the Tribe. Subjects include David Walsh (U.S. senator), Florence Nightingale (nurse), Francis Bacon (scientist) and Alberta Hunter (vocalist). Each illustration is accompanied by brief, entertaining background of their personal and professional lives (\$24.95 cl, 1-55583-238-5, Nov.).

The Alyson Almanac: 1994-95 Edition by the staff of Alyson Publications is "the most complete reference book available about the lesbian and gay community." It includes over 300 brief biographies, significant dates in history, addresses and phone numbers for major organizations, bookstores, periodicals, and hotlines (\$9.95 pb, 1-55583-242-3, Nov.).

In December look for **Word Gaymes: 100 Puzzles with Lesbian and Gay Themes** by Kathleen DeBold (\$8.95 pb, 1-55583-240-7).

Eyes of Desire: A Deaf Gay & Lesbian Reader edited by Raymond Luczak is a cross-genre book where lesbians and gay men who are deaf tell about discovering their sexual identities and "overcoming barriers to communication in a sound-based world." (\$9.95 pb, 1-55583-204-0) Alyson Publications, 40 Plympton St., Boston MA 02118. IN and BP.

Two new books from Alyson's Lace imprint, Afterglow: More Stories of Lesbian Desire edited by Karen Barber is a collection of short erotic stories

that vary in topic and intensity (\$8.95 pb, 1-55583-315-2). In Pat Califia's **Melting Pot**, a much more hardcore version of what lesbian sexuality can include, Califia does what she does best. The book contains seven stories by the author (\$9.95 pb, 1-55583-162-1).

Love, Judy: Letters of Hope and Healing for Women with Breast Cancer by Judy Hart will be published by Conari Press in October. "During ten months of treatment for a highly life-threatening breast cancer, Judy Hart began to write a series of open letters to friends and family." Eventually doctors and nurses began posting the letters on hospital bulletin boards and passing them along to patients. Love, Judy collects the letters (\$10.95 pb, 0-943233-52-6).

The First Time: Women Speak Out about Losing their Virginity by Karen Bouris is based on a survey of over 150 women. Bouris takes a look at women's emotional experiences of virginity loss and reveals the reality of the event in our culture. The sexual experiences range from romantic love to coercion, incest and rape, and the text speaks to women of all ages, races, and cultural backgrounds (\$18.95 cl, 0-943233-50-X, Nov.). Conari Press, 1144 65th Street Suite B, Emeryville CA 94608. Distributed by Publishers Group West and BP.

New children's book publisher Lee & Low Books' premiere list includes two children's titles to help kids become aware of cultural difference: Amelia's Road by Linda Jacobs Altman, illustrated by Enrique O. Sanchez — a story in which a young girl overcomes the hardship of moving to America by creating a special place for herself. Amelia Luisa Martinez and family live in California's Central Valley and work on the farmland there. By using her imagination Amelia finds a home in a place that was once very foreign (\$14.95 cl 1-880000-04-0). A Crack in the Wall by Mary Elizabeth Haggerty,

illustrated by Rubén De Anda, is the tale of a Mexican American boy who creates something magical for his mother to lift her spirits (\$14.94 cl, 1-880000-03-2). Lee & Low Books, 228 East 45th St., New York NY 10017. Publishers Group West, BP.

Crossing Press has published several new Fall books. The Black Woman's Gumbo Ya-Ya: Quotations by Black Women, edited by Terri Jewell. Through the particular resonance of language, Jewell evokes the possibility of Black women's shared experiences. She has collected nonfiction, poetry, jazz lyrics and proverbs from 350 Black women around the world as she brings alive the "Gumbo Ya-Ya" or "rich words, found words" of warriors, survivors, rulers, thinkers and lovers (\$8.95 pb, 0-89594-579-7; \$17.95 cl, -580-0).

What is This Thing Called Sex?: Cartoons by Women edited by FBN humor columnist Roz Warren (*Women's Glibber* and *Kitty Libber*), is a collection of cartoons exploring the "entire sexual universe" (\$12.95 pb, 0-89594- 631-9; \$20.95 cl, -645-9).

Love That Lasts: How to Find and Be a Permanent Partner by Dorothy Jongeward (Born to Win and Women as Winners) and Michelle Raffin. This practical book provides step-by-step processes to meeting and recognizing a permanent partner through the authors' strategy of Social Networking, a technique whereby friends and acquaintances screen groups of potential mates and bring all the parties together in a social atmosphere (\$12.95 pb, 0-89594-589-4; \$23.95 cl, -590-8).



Lesléa Newman draws on her unique philosophy that "all women have important stories to tell and the ability to tell them" in **Writing From the Heart: Inspiration and Exercises for Women Who Want to Write** (\$12.95 pb, 0-89594-641-6; \$19.95 cl, -642-4).

Let's Talk Sex: Q & A on Sex and Relationships by Isadora Alman (of "Ask Isadora" fame) gives



advice on "matters of the heart — and other body parts" in this "warm, witty and occasionally wicked" book (\$10.95 pb, 0-89594-632-7; \$19.95 cl, 633-5).

Edited by Amber Coverdale Sumrall, Love's Shadow: Writings by Women gives voice to the complexities of relationship. Sixty-five stories and poems "ranging from the humorous to the horrific" (\$14.95 pb, 0-89594-583-5; \$26.95 cl, -584-3).

No More Frogs, No More Princes: Women Making Creative Choices in Midlife by Joanne Vickers and Barbara Thomas is a presentation of twenty autobiographical stories of typical American women between the ages of 40 and 60 (\$12.95 pb, 0-89594-625-4; \$24.95 cl, -626- 2).

Tackling men's humor, King, Warrior Magician... Weenie edited by Peter Sinclair compiles cartoons and essays that take parting shots at "modern guyhood" \$12.95 pb, 0-89594-595-9; \$20.95 cl, -646-7. The Crossing Press, PO Box 1048, Freedom CA 95019. IN, BP.

Praised by Alice Walker as "a book so wise and true it might have been written by Selu herself," Selu: Seeking the Corn-Mother's Wisdom by Marilou Awiakta introduces us to the traditional life-giving story of the Corn-Mother. Awiakta, a Cherokee woman from the Appalachian mountains, weaves essays, stories and poems and creates the sense that she has access to an ancient knowledge which can help us confront modern problems. 1-55591-144-7 cl, \$19.95. Fulcrum Publishing, 350 Indiana Street Suite 350, Golden CO 80401. IN, BP.



Arte Público Press has published Graciela Limón's first novel, In Search of Bernabé, which focuses on a woman trying to find her lost son in the political turmoil and chaos that follow the assassination of Archbishop Romero in El Salvador. Graciela Limón was part of a delegation that went to El Salvador to investigate the deaths of Jesuit priests (1-55885-073-2 pb, \$9.50). In Singing to Cuba Margarita Engle chronicles the brutal relocation of

innocent peasants to prison-cities known throughout Cuba as "Captive Towns," where descendants of those imprisoned during the early 1960s remain incarcerated today. Although a novel, **Singing to Cuba**, will be of interest to anyone fascinated by the Castro regime (1-55885-073-2 pb, \$9.50). Arte Público Press, University of Houston, M.D. Anderson Library Room 2, Houston TX 77204. BP and IN.

Wise Women of the Dreamtime: Aboriginal Tales of the Ancestral Powers collected by K. Langloh Parker, edited with commentary by Johanna Lambert is a European translation of Aboriginal myths passed down through generations by storytellers. Much insight into Aboriginal culture was provided to the editor by the Aborigines themselves which makes for an interesting convergence of languages and interpretations. 0-89281-477-2 pb, \$12.95. Park Street Press, One Park Street, Rochester VT 05767.

Published by Micah Publications, Justice My Brother, My Sister: Life and Death In A Mexican Family by Roberta Kalechofsky is a novel set in Mexico. It charts the deterioration of the Donajero family as it seeks to escape a vow of vengeance taken by Ricardo Donajero upon his brother, Julio, to kill him. 916288-37-4 pb, \$11.95. 255 Humphrey St., Marblehead MA 01945. IN.

In Sandra Benitez' first novel, A Place Where the Sea Remembers, she presents a cacophony of images and an array of three dimensional characters. The setting is a small Mexican Village by the sea where a "contemporary but universal tragedy" that "resounds with a sense of hope" takes place. Chayo, the flower-seller and her husband Candelario, the salad-maker, may finally be blessed with a child, but their cause for happiness triggers a series of events that ends in misfortune. \$19.95 cl, 1-56689-011-X. Coffee House Press, 27 North 4th

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# Sacred Reality Revealed Through Feminist History & Symbols

Amulets of the Goddess: Oracle of Ancient Wisdom

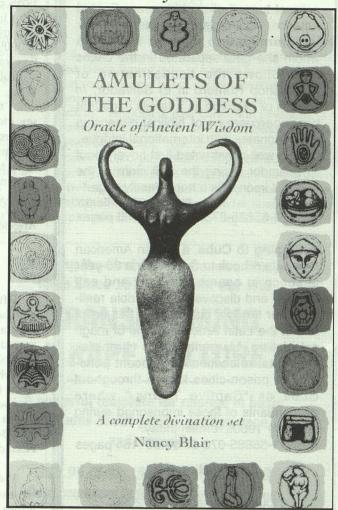
by Nancy Blair

Amulets of the Goddess is something new, something special, a divination tool based on centuries of Feminist Spirituality.

The amulets are slightly rough to the touch. their surface reminiscent of an old adobe building, or the wall of an ancient temple. The symbols engraved on the amulets are ancient, drawing the user back to an earlier, more balanced time

Each of the 27 amulets are fully described in the 200 page, clearly written, generously illustrated guide, using examples from Feminist mythology, archeology, and history.

"Amulets of the Goddess gives a fascinating overview of ancient Goddess symbols and traditions, along with practical suggestions for using these sacred images in the process of self-empowerment for today's woman engaged in her own spiritual quest." - Barbara Walker, author of Women's Rituals and The Woman's Encyclopedia of Myths and Secrets



Introductory price: \$29.95 · 200 pages, 27 amulets, 1 pouch · 0-91-4728-80-6

To be published October 15, 1995 by Wingbow Press, the publishing imprint of Bookpeople.

Available from Bookpeople – order toll-free: (800) 999-4650 · fax: (510) 632-1281 Volume 16 Number 2



#### Fall Titles from Arte Público Press

In Search of Bernabé, Graciela Limón's absorbing first novel, humanizes the political turmoil of contemporary Central America. Against terrible odds, a mother is determined to find her son, from whom she gets separated in the chaos that follows the assassination of Archbishop Romero in El Salvador. In Search of Bernabé is a family saga that has repercussions of biblical dimension and resonates with international intrigue. "In this well-constructed first novel about El Salvador during the civil strife of the 1980s, Limón tells a tragic family saga."

ISBN: 1-55885-073-2 \$9.50 166 pages

In Singing to Cuba, a Cuban American farm wife returns to Cuba after a 30-year absence in search of family and self identity, and discovers the horrible reality of her family's suffering. In this novel told in the Latin American style of magical realism, Margarita Engle chronicles the brutal relocation of innocent peasants to prison-cities known throughout Cuba as "Captive Towns," where descendants of those imprisoned during the early 1960s remain today.

ISBN: 1-55885-070-8 \$9.50 164 pages

#### **Arte Público Press**

University of Houston Houston, Texas 77204-2090 toll free 800-633-ARTE

> or (713)743-2841

Street, Minneapolis MN 55401. Distributed by Consortium, IN and BP.

Brenda Webster (author of the critically praised *Yeats: A Psychoanalytic Study* and several collections of short stories) has written her first novel, **Sins of the Mothers**, which explores an intelligent and learned woman's progression into self-understanding. The book is set in the post-Patricia Hearst mid-1970s of Berkeley, California and "speaks from the front lines with a vivid voice and a hopeful assurance that things can change for the better." \$21 cl, 1-880909-05-7. Baskerville Publishers, 7616 LBJ Freeway #220, Dallas TX 75251.

Robert Reese's debut novel, Flying With One Wing, tells the story of Daniel Morgan, a gay man, who "flees reality on a roller coaster ride of casual sex, violence, and a steady diet of drugs." He faces his problems and seeks help at a renowned drug treatment center outside Los Angeles. The story, then, takes off into a funny, unusual portrayal of contemporary living. A nicely written book that reads quickly. \$8.95 pb, 0-9633351-2-X. Blue Pacific Press, 8539 Sunset Boulevard Suite 139, Los Angeles CA 90069. BP.



Fifteen and in love, Emmy decides to have sex with her boyfriend, Art. That decision proves detrimental for Emmy. She finds herself pregnant, scared and alone. **Detour for Emmy** by Marilyn Reynolds is a YA novel that portrays a teenaged girl who decides to have her baby. The second half of the book details Emmy's attempt to adjust to her new world, and her boyfriend's unwillingness to accept an adult role in their baby's life. \$8.95 pb, 0-930934-76-8. Morning Glory Press, 6595 San Haroldo Way, Buena Park CA 90620. IN.

We're Not Alone by Rik Isensee is a well-written novel that offers a YA coming out story as a group of teens sort out their feelings for each other and deal with classic high-school homophobia, discrimination against girls, parental hysteria, and love. We're Not Alone belongs in every YA section and every high school library. \$7.95 pb, 0-938743-

090. Lavender Press, 89 Robin Lane, Fairfield CT 06430. IN, BP.

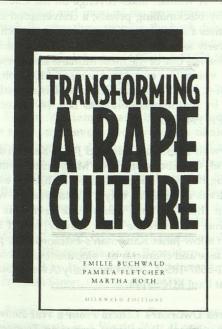
Who Would Want Those Apples by Laura and Pam Griscom, illustrated by T. Scot Halpin, is a children's story about a girl who learns the ecological benefits of organic farming and the dangers of pesticides. Laura was two years old when she became interested in growing vegetables. Evident from the photo on the book jacket, Laura is probably three or four now. Beautifully written. \$4.95 pb, 0-9633705-3-7. Share Publishing, 3130 Alpine Road Suite 200-1009, Portola Valley CA 94028.

Charlie Chin has put on paper a classic Chinese legend of the girl who goes to war to save her family's honor in China's Bravest Girl: The Legend of Hua Mu Lan, illustrated by Tomie Arai. In this adaptation of the famous fifth century legend Chin's rhyming text makes the story exciting and

fun to read aloud. Beautiful full-page color artwork. \$13.95, 0-89239-120-0. Children's Book Press, 60 Hollis Street #4, Emeryville CA 94608. IN, BP.



New Society Publishers have two new titles for Fall. The Raging Grannies Songbook, Jean McLaren and Heide Brown, eds. is a spiral bound collection that contains over 100 of the best-loved peace, environmental and anti-war songs including classics such as: "This Can is Your Can," "I'm Dreaming of a Green Christmas," and "Give Me a Home Where the Rivers Don't Foam." Also an activist's manual. Many photos (\$14.95 pb, 1-86571-255-7). Edited by Helen Forsey, Circles of Strength: Community Alternatives to Alienation is part of The New Catalyst Bioregional Series. Circles is an insightful exploration into how community members recon-



Presenting the First Comprehensive Study on Rape Since 1975's Against Our Will

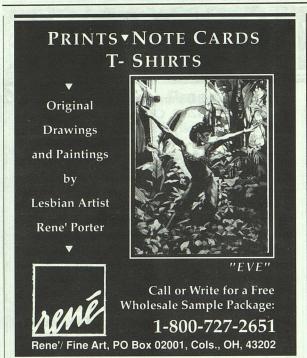
# TRANSFORMING A RAPE CULTURE

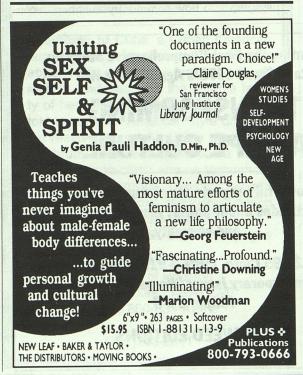
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**MILKWEED EDITIONS** 

Volume 16 Number 2 111 October 1993





struct the support institutions that are crumbling in contemporary societies. Anthology contributors include Sonia Johnson, Marge Piercy and Margo Adair (\$9.95 pb, 0-86571-259-X). New Society, 4527 Springfield Ave., Philadelphia PA 19143. IN, BP.

From Trust Publishing, Vows of Silence by Diana Louise Michael (Foreword by Steve Allen) is a collection of the author's letters which reveal how she suffered religious abuse at the hands of the Catholic Church. In her story, Diana triumphs over religious abuse, rape, and teen-age suicide. Several years of correspondence between Steve Allen and Diana are skillfully woven throughout the book as her tragic story unfolds and he helps her into recovery. Probably for your more conservative customers just making a break from abusive situations. \$12.95 pb, 0-9634910-4-0. PO Box 24568, Minneapolis MN 55424.



In her compilation of short stories, **Taking Scarlet as a Real Colour**, Irish writer Evelyn Conlon tackles "love, sex, betrayal, emptiness, fullness and pleasure." A woman takes revenge on the Catholic Church by blackmailing priests; a conversation in a bar becomes a surreal exploration into issues such as war, poverty sexuality. One writer says of Conlon's work; "She has one of the most humane and tolerant feminist voices I've ever come across." \$13.95 pb, 0-85640-501-9, Dec. The Blackstaff Press. Distributed in the U.S. by Dufour Editions, PO Box 449, Chester Springs PA 19425. BP.

Graywolf Press has reissued Janet Kauffman's first novel, Collaborators. Two Mennonite women — a daughter and her mother — influence each other's lives in magical ways. Collaborators was hailed in the New York Times Book Review as "a novel that needs to be read slowly, word for word...to allow Janet Kauffman's extraordinary gift for language and character development to unfold." \$11 pb, 1-5597-185-7. 2402 University Avenue Suite 203, Saint Paul MN 55114.

Andrea Dworkin's **Letters From a War Zone** is now in paperback. It includes essays on Tennessee

### CORMORANT BOOKS

No Words for Love and Famine a novel by Roberta Morris 0-920953-53-0 \$13.95 Inland Distribution

Roberta Morris combines levels of wit and feminist and literary theory in a provocative story about Jean-Philippe who starves himself in Montreal while his wife bloats up with pizza and Lois simply can't write that essay on famine in Africa. Relishing contradictions, Morris writes with sparkling humour.

Roberta Morris grew up in Detroit, and has lived in Hawaii. She travels frequently to New York from her home in Toronto.



Williams' plays, the novels of Jean Rhys, Emily Bronte's Wuthering Heights, freedom of speech and censorship, pornography, gender and the law, crimes of violence against women, and feminist politics. "Every piece in this book is part of my own war against the silence of women," writes Dworkin. Letters didn't really get a fair shake in hardcover. The day after its hardcover publication (Dutton 1988) the books editor and most of the promotion staff were laid off. So, after three months, the book disappeared. But Dworkin's original passionate voice refuses to be silenced; Letters is back (\$14.95 pb, 1-55652-185-5).

Evelyn Williams charts her relationship with her niece, the revolutionary Assata Shakur, and captures both the details and the spirit of two generations of Black women on the frontlines of the Civil Rights Movement in **Inadmissible Evidence**. Williams was one of the first African American women to become a trial lawyer. She defended Shakur during her seven year trial (\$12.95 pb, 1-55652-184-7; \$22.95 cl, -183-9). Lawrence Hill Books, 230 Park Place Suite 6A, Brooklyn NY 11238. Distributed by Independent Publishing Group, 814 N. Franklin Street, Chicago IL 60610.

Places of Greater Safety by Hilda Hollingsworth is a World War II coming of age memoir that illustrates the devastating effect that war has on children. When German bombers began appearing on the London horizon, thousands of parents instantly packed their children off to government-designated "Places of Greater Safety." Hilda, who was ten, and her two sisters were among the lot. Hollingsworth describes the lax manner in which children were assigned temporary residences at the homes of strangers.

"No house could turn down city children because of the war effort," she says. As a result, "children could be forced onto a family who just did not want to look after us." Places of Greater Safety reveals the physical and emotional abuse that was inflicted on Hilda and her sisters (and probably on hundreds of thousands of other displaced children).

Hilda began her maunscript in 1970, but upon its completion was convinced that the finished work was unpublishable. Nineteen years later her daughter, Val, "found the manuscript and recognized its literary and historical value. The book was released (by Virago) in 1991 to rave notices from the British press."

The London Sunday Times praised Hollingsworth's resilient good humor," while speaking about tragedy. A significant story well worth the wait. \$12.95 pb, 09636161-1-1-0; \$18.95 cl, -2-9, Nov. Zenobia Press, 2415 Woolsey Street, Berkeley CA 94705. Distributed by BP, Inland and Pacific Pipeline.

#### A GROUND-BREAKING NEW BOOK ON WOMEN'S HEALTH!

### Lesbian Health: What are the Issues?



Edited by Phyllis Noerager Stern, Indiana University School of Nursing, Indianapolis

"Making these matters public is about more than lesbians. It is about speaking up to make changes, and it is especially about extending our love and concern to all of our sisters."

—Phyllis Noerager Stern, from the Foreword

Based on a special issue of the journal *Health Care for Women International*, this is the first mainstream research book devoted to lesbian health issues. Lesbians are treated here as women first—their sexual orientation is just one factor in their lives.

Because of its broad base, this book will be of value to lesbians, and those involved in women's health, medical science, psychology, sociology, and social work. Questions addressed include:

- Should lesbians disclose their sexual orientation?
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- What about custody of their children?
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- What is the history of the scientific/medical attitude toward lesbians?
- How are lesbians viewed by college students today?
- Are the problems in receiving health care for lesbians similar to those all women face?

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Breast Cancer Journal: A Century of Petals by Juliet Wittman is a much-needed addition to the variety of books already available on breast cancer. Not merely a diary, but a useful resource for all women that includes a section entitled, "What I Wish I'd Known When I Was Diagnosed" and a Resource Guide. Wittman's writing is clear and precise as she describes her treatment from surgery through chemotherapy and radiation. She also explores alternative approaches to healing such as Chinese herbal medicine, massage and visualization. \$21.95 cl, 1-55591-136-6. Fulcrum Publishing, 350 Indiana Street Suite 350, Golden CO 80401. IN and BP.



Amulets of the Goddess by Nancy Blair is equipped with 27 handcrafted clay amulets and one pouch. The user draws the amulets from a velvet pouch and refers to the illustrated guide. The book is filled with "lessons and lore that relate the insight of the Goddess in your life and today's world." \$29.95, 0-914728-806. Wingbow Press, 7900 Edgewater Dr., Oakland CA 94621. IN, BP.

Winner of the 1993 Western States Book Award for Fiction, **The Hedge**, **The Ribbon** by Carol Orlock is a tale of eccentric characters who live in a small town called Millford. "Ghosts live here, fortune-tellers fulfill the role of psychiatrists, and the town amnesiac finds and returns whatever anyone has lost — including memories." \$13.95 pb, 0-913089-48-6. Broken Moon Press, PO Box 24585, Seattle WA 98124. Inbook, Inland and BP.

Critically-acclaimed Chilean poet, editor, and human rights activist Marjorie Agosin (*Zones of Pain* and *Circles of Madness*) reflect her deep-rooted passion for nature, life and well-being in her new collection of poems, **Sargasso**. Bilingual. English translation by Cola Franzen. \$12 pb, 1-877727-27-X. White Pine Press, 10 Village Square, Fredonia NY 14063. IN, BP.

From The Twickenham Press Bobe Mayse: A Tale of Washington Square is Nancy Bogen's second historical novel (*Klytaimnestra Who Stayed Home*). Set in New York's Greenwich Village,

WRITERS

against the Great Shirtwaist Strike of 1920 in which 20,000 immigrant young women (age 15 to 22) took part, and the Triangle Fire, which claimed 145 of their lives, this novel should be of particular interest to young women, including recent arrivals to our shores. A meticulously researched book. \$21.95 cl, 0-936726-03-2. Twickenham Press, 31 Jane Street Suite 17B, New York NY 10014.

Chân Không's Learning True Love: How I Learned and Practiced Social Change in Vietnam tells how she devoted her life to the development and practice of nonviolence grounded in the Buddhist precepts of non-killing and compassionate action. In Maxine Hong Kingston's foreword she writes, "Learning True Love stands alongside The Autobiography of Mahatma Gandhi... It is important that we have this Buddhist woman's point-ofview.... We can at last reconcile ourselves with the Vietnamese people." \$14 pb, 0-938077-50-3. Parallax Press, PO Box 7355, Berkeley CA 94707. IN, BP.

Herbal Birth Control: A Brief History with Ancient and Modern Herbal Recipes by R.R. McGregor presents alternative methods to preventing pregnancy and inducing abortion in their historical contexts. "Rue," for instance, is said to be "one of the most ancient and effective contraceptive plants," and pregnant women were strongly encouraged to be wary, as it might cause miscarriage. From plants to oils the author also explains how 25% of medicines doctors use today are derived from herbal remedies. \$10 pb, 0-9636602-0-9. Cloud Chief Publishing, PO Box 1664, Weatherford OK 73096.

The new 7th edition of A Legal Guide for Lesbian and Gay Couples by attorneys Robin Leonard, Hayden Curry and Denis Clifford spells out the steps couples must take to protect their

legal and financial rights. Includes living together contracts, buying and renting property, wills and estate planning, domestic partner benefits, durable powers of attorney and much more. Includes information compiled in one source that would take couples months to find. \$21.95 pb, 0-87337-199-2. Nolo Press, 950 Parker Street, Berkeley CA 94710. IN, BP.

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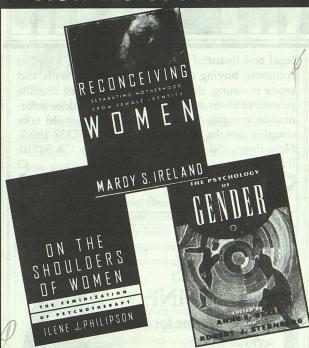
—Judith's Room, NYC

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Volume 16 Number 2

October 1993

### New Releases from Guilford Publications



# On the Shoulders of Women The Feminization of

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"Ilene Philipson brings her expertise as a feminist, a sociologist, and a clinical psychologist to the fascinating question of how psychotherapy as a profession and as a clinical theory has been feminized, and what the implications of that feminization are for the future of the field and of mental health in society. Her cautionary note...is well-timed, and should be heeded."

- Nancy J. Chodorow, Ph.D.

177 Pages, 1993, Hardcover, ISBN 0-89862-017-1, Cat. #2017, \$21.95

### The Psychology of Gender

Edited by Anne E. Beall and Robert J. Sternberg

"This book is a very welcome addition to the literature on gender. There is excellent coverage of such topics as how stereotypes create self-fulfilling prophecies for the behavior of women and men, and the social cognition literature on gender schemas. Beall's chapter on the social construction of gender is particularly welcome, as is Best and Williams's review of cross-cultural research on gender ideologies..."

-Janet Shibley Hyde, Ph.D.

278 Pages, 1993, Hardcover, ISBN 0-89862-286-7, Cat. #2286, \$28.95

#### In Paperback!

#### Reconceiving Women Separating Motherhood from Female Identity Mardy S. Ireland

"Finally, a book about women who are not mothers—normal women who by choice or happenstance remain childless. If you want to understand who these women are, what they think and feel, how deeply the ideology of motherhood has infected our thinking about women and femininity, read Mardy Ireland's insightful and sensitive analysis..."

Rubin, Ph.D.

195 Pages, 1993 Paperback, ISBN 0-89862-016-3, Cat. #2016. \$16.95

### Feminist Perspectives on Eating Disorders

Edited by Patricia Fallon, Melanie

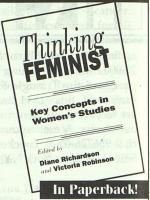
A. Katzman, and Susan C. Wooley
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of both love and anger....This distinguished group of authors cover the
gamut of important material concerning eating disorders from history, sociocultural development, moral

treatment, and prevention.... This is a serious and monumental work, but at the same time eminently readable..."

indictment, ironic commentary,

— Arnold E. Andersen, M.D.

Approx. 425 Pages, Release Date: October 1993 Hardcover, ISBN 0-89862-180-1, Cat. #2180, S36.95 (tentative)



# Thinking Feminist Key Concepts in Women's Studies

Edited by Diane Richardson and Victoria Robinson

"An excellent and comprehensive reader....In clear and accessible language, it reveals the transformative impact of feminist thinking and activism on knowledge within and beyond the academy. This book gives fair and serious coverage to the radical feminist perspective at the same time that it is informed by a postmoderncritique and attention to differences among women."

-Carla Golden, Ph.D.

368 Pages, 1993, Paperback, ISBN 0-89862-160-7, Cat. #2160. \$18.95

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# AND ON PUBLISHER'S ROW

Compiled by Jennie Boyd-Bull, Patty Callaghan, Theresa Corrigan, Jaila Hansen, Dorothy Holland and Sandi Torkildson.

#### ADDISON-WESLEY PUBLISHING

When I Was Puerto Rican by Esmeralda Santiago. Santiago's childhood moves from a shack in rural Puerto Rico to a Brooklyn tenement. She is now president of her own film company. \$20 cl, 0-201-58117-5.

Mother Daughter Revolution: From Betrayal to Power by Elizabeth Debold, Marie Wilson, & Idelisse Malave. This looks like the best of the AW offerings this season. The authors look at why/how mothers serve as the agents of daughters' survival training in conformity, thus creating a gulf in this primary relationship. The book provides a way to transform the mother/daughter relationship into a trust, not a betrayal, between women. Gloria Steinem and Carol Gilligan have been involved in the development of this work. It looks good. \$22.95 cl, 0-201-63277- 2.

Family Heart: A Story of Our Son's Coming Out by Robb Forman Dew. Dew has won an American Book Award for previous work. Looks like a good book to share with newly out folks. \$22 cl, 0-201-62450-8, Feb.

Newly in paper:

From the Faraway Nearby: Georgia O'Keeffe as Icon ed. by Ellen Bradbury & Christopher Merrill (\$15 pb, 0-201-62476-1). Confessions of a Fast Woman by Lesley Hazelton. Hazelton writes the car column for *Lear's*. This is an autobiography of "a woman transcending gender boundaries to drive faster than we ever imagined." (\$8.95 pb, 0-201-62481-8) Natural Menopause: The Complete Guide to a Woman's Most Misunderstood Passage by Susan Perry & Katherine O'Hanlan, M.D. (\$10.95 pb, 0-201-62477-X).

#### BDD/DOUBLEDAY

Wild Women Don't Wear No Blues ed. by Marita Golden, subtitled "Black Women Writers on Love, Men and Sex." Mostly about straight relationships, but still insightful. Includes essays by Audre Lorde, Jewelle Gomez and Ntozake Shange. "Explorations into the contemporary black female psyche." Striking cover. \$22.50 cl, 0-385-42400-0.

**Dreaming in Color** by Charlotte Vale Allen is a novel dealing with family violence that will probably appeal more to romance readers. May be a good vehicle for getting more word out about abuse. Includes lists of hotlines and information sources on abuse and violence. \$22 cl, 0-385-41945-7.

Mrs. Pollifax & the Second Thief by Dorothy Gilman. Gilman has a large and faithful following of readers. The heroine, Mrs. Pollifax, is an active, believable older woman, which is unusual and welcome in the mystery genre. \$20 cl, 0-385-47230-7.

/il:

At The Start, Genesis Made New by Mary Phil Korsak. Korsak has gone back to the Hebrew roots of Genesis which she presents as the experience of a prehistoric tribe whose values and ways of life are exotic and alien. She holds that, in the original, Genesis was not sexist. Adam is translated to be groundling not "man," and woman was created simultaneously with Adam, not as a leftover from his body. Should cause some discussion among Bible-type folks. \$22 cl, 0-385-47180-7.

Burning Time by Leslie Glass, Silence of the Lambs meets The Joy Luck Club, says the promo material. I can't vouch for its feminist slant (haven't read it yet), but the heroine is a Chinese-American police detective. Looks worth a try. \$18.50 cl, 0-385-46933-0.

# TRIQUARTERLY BOOKS

### ANNE CALCAGNO Pray for Yourself and Other Stories

"Here are nine stories, poignant and almost shy. Anne Calcagno has written not of the sexual politics of strife, but of the deeper understanding of life's complicated mismatches and inevitable miscalculations. Ms. Calcagno has the clean voice and sharp unblinking eye of a true storyteller."

> —Larry Heinemann National Book Award Winner

October 1993; \$26.95, cloth; \$12.95, paper

#### ANGELA JACKSON Dark Legs and Silk Kisses: The Beatitudes of the Spinners

"Hopefully this large collection will be enough to earn for Angela Jackson the extensive enthusiasm she has long deserved. She is a poet, novelist, and playwright who has known, for long, what is right for her attention and scrupulous investigation."

—Gwendolyn Brooks

October 1993; \$25, cloth; \$10.95, paper

#### EVAN ZIMROTH Dead, Dinner, or Naked

"Evan Zimroth's poetry is full of a dark shimmer, the menace of intensity, a toughness of vision that combines with an edgy grace a deeply instinctual femaleness and a deep intelligence."

-Mary Gordon

\$15, cloth; \$8.95, paper

Northwestern University Press Chicago Distribution Center 11030 S. Langley Ave. Chicago, IL 60628 800/621-2736 **Daphne Du Maurier** by Margaret Forster. Subtitled "The Secret Life of the Renowned Storyteller," this biography deals with her strong friendships and lesbian attachments. \$25 cl, 0-385-42068-4

**Seduction** by Marilyn Wallace. If you sold *A Single Stone* or *So Shall You Reap*, this will probably sell well for you. It's a "depiction of two sisters — on the edge, and the tormented killer who stalks them." \$18.50 cl, 0-385-46907-1, Nov.

Dancing Spirit by Judith Jamison with Howard Kaplan. Autobiography of the first Black superstar of American dance. Forty-five b/w photos. \$25 cl, 0-385-425657-0. Nov.

/il:

The Robber Bride by Margaret Atwood. A novel exploring the paradox of woman as villain. Just got a pre-copy today, so I haven't read it, but she's dependably good. \$23.50 cl, 0-385-47223-4, Nov. Also available in audio, \$18.99, 0-553-47238-0, Nov.

Thin Ice by Meg O'Brien. Her previous mysteries have sold very well. This one is more suspenseful, but should still do well. \$17 cl, 0-385-42572-4, Nov.

**Nightside** by Soledad Santiago. "A gripping story of corruption and sexual intrigue set in NYC." Female heroine is a former nun. I don't know much about this one, but it will have appeal for suspense readers. \$18.50 cl, 0-385-42197-4, Nov.

Down From the Pedestal: Moving Beyond Idealized Images of Womanhood by Maxine Harris. This looks good and should sell well. \$22.50 cl, 0-385-46994-2, Jan.

Too Many Crooks Spoil the Broth by Tamar Myers takes place in a Mennonite bed and breakfast, with a woman sleuth, and recipes tossed in, too. Worth a try. \$17 cl, 0-385-47139-4, Jan.

#### **BDD/ANCHOR BOOKS**

Fires in the Mirror by Anna Deavere Smith. Fires in the Mirror was a great off-Broadway play last year, based on Smith's interviews with people who experienced the NY 1991 Crown Heights racial riots. This book includes the script, a foreword by Cornel West, photos of the play and photos of the riots. This looks great. \$10 pb, 0-385-47014-2, Nov. Also available is an audio cassette, \$15.99, 0-553-47211-9.

We Who Believe in Freedom: Sweet Honey in the Rock...Still on the Journey by Bernice Johnson Reagon and Sweet Honey, includes sampler CD. Who could resist? Also, includes essays by members of the group, historical essays and more. \$30 cl (with sampler CD), 0-385-46861-X, Nov. \$16.95 pb (no CD), 0-385-46862-8, Nov.

Story of Zahra by Hanan Al-Shaykh. If Women of Sand and Myrrh sold well for you, this might. I didn't find it as readable as Women. \$18 cl, 0-385-47130-0, Jan.

Coming in paper:

A Chorus of Stones: The Private Life of War by Susan Griffin, paperback edition of her philosophical inquiry into the nature of modern warfare. \$12.95 pb, 0-385-41885-X, Nov.

A Taste of Power: A Black Woman's Story by Elaine Brown, \$14.95 pb, 0-385-47107-6, Jan.

#### **BDD/DELACORTE PRESS**

Murder Makes a Pilgrimage by Sister Carol Anne O'Marie. Sister Mary Helen and her sidekick Sister Eileen are at it again. Don't let the title " Sister" put you off, this woman writes well. \$19.95 cl, 0-385-31050-1, Nov.

Dear Barbara, Dear Lynne by Barbara Shulgold and Lynne Sipiora. This is the correspondence of two women who have never met. The letters focus on their infertility and how they deal with it. \$11.95 pb, 0-385-31089-7, Jan. —Dorothy Holland

BEACON

(Dist. by FSG)

Winner of the National Book Award for Poetry, 1992, Mary Oliver's New and Selected Poems is now in paperback, \$14. Although I don't sell a lot of poetry books, hers do sell. 0-8070-6819-5, Nov.

I was just studying the Meinrad Craighead illustration "Garden" on my Women in Art Calendar and looked down to see that it is also the cover of Judy Grahn's new book Blood, Bread and Roses: How

Menstruation Created the World. Good cover — I expect to sell a lot of these. \$22 cl, 0-8070-7504-3, Nov.

Next Time She'll Be Dead: How Society Encourages Men to Beat Women and How We Can Stop Them, by Ann Jones who wrote Women Who Kill, explains how police, judges and even some feminists, are perpetuating the battery of women. Sounds controversial and there's an author tour, but I'll probably order only a few because of the price. \$22 cl, 0-8070-6770-9, Jan.

Wini Breines' Young, White, and Miserable: Growing Up Female in the Fifties is one of several "fifties books" recently published and now out in paper. Wendy Wasserstein liked it, says it "refuels the anger that brought us to the women's movement." I didn't buy it in cloth but I'll probably sell some in paper. \$14 pb, 0-8070-7503-5. — Patty Callaghan

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—Edwin Dorn, The Brookings Institution \$38.00 cloth, 08335-0 \$15.00 paper, 08336-9, illustrated

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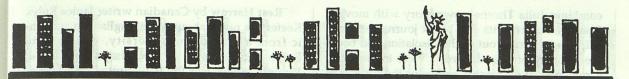
"De Grazia defines the emerging ideals of Italian womanhood in the 1920s and '30s when Catholic, Fascist and commercial models of conduct competed to shape women's perceptions of themselves and of their society." —Publishers Weekly Joan Kelly Memorial Prize of the AHA, \$14.00 paper 07457-2, illustrated

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# UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA PRESS



October 1993 120 Volume 16 Number 3



#### **CARROLL & GRAF**

Confronting the Victim Role: Healing from an Abusive Childhood by Emily & Barry McCarthy. Written to help women and men who are finding it hard to switch from feeling like a victim to becoming a survivor. (Is it my imagination, or is the mainstream beginning to catch on?) \$11.95 pb, 0-7867-0011-4, Nov.

Love's Witness: Five Centuries of Love Poetry by Women ed. by Jill Hollis. Includes Stevie Smith, Emily Dickinson, Christina Rossetti, and so on. I haven't seen it, so I'm not sure if there is any lesbian content. \$10.95 pb, 0-7867-0030-0, Nov.

Getting There: The Movement towards Gender Equality compiled by Diana Wells. An anthology of recent writings by Susan Faludi, Catherine MacKinnon, Gloria Steinem, bell hooks and more. Looks like a pretty good overview. \$11.95 pb, 0-7867-0014-9, Dec. — Dorothy Holland

#### **ECCO PRESS**

(Dist. by Norton)

Where is Here? is a collection of stories by Joyce Carol Oates that explores a world in which ordinary life is electrified by the potential for sudden change. She examines the unexpected turns of events that leave people vulnerable and struggling to puzzle out the consequences of their abrupt reversals of fortune. \$11 pb 0880013389.

Reckless Appetites by Jacqueline Deval is a very promising first novel about a contemporary young woman named Pomme who is a passionate cook with a restless hunger. Pomme looks to the lives of writers for inspiration in love and in the art of creating cuisine. Using this inspiration Pomme plans a seductive meal a la Colette, seeks a recipe to take revenge on a former lover, assembles a household cookbook and teaches a rebellious cooking course that embraces the notion of cookery as an art-form. \$21.95 cl, 0880013222, Nov.

— Sandi Torkildson A Room of One's Own

#### FARRAR, STRAUS & GIROUX

Anonymity is a memoir by Susan Bergman about losing her father to AIDS. He died at age 45, an early AIDS casualty in 1983, leaving Susan, her three sisters and their mother. She alternates childhood memories with present reflections. \$20 cl, 0-374-25407-9, Feb. '94.

#### FOUR WALLS EIGHT WINDOWS

Parable of the Sower by Octavia E. Butler. Butler (*Kindred*) is an exciting sci-fi writer, particularly because her perspective as an African American woman is fairly unique in the field. Parable takes place in California in 2025 and the heroine is a young African American woman. \$19.95 cl, 0-941423- 99-9. Dist. by PGW.

— Patty Callaghan



#### HARPER COLLINS

I Am Roe by Norma McCorvey with Andy Meisner is the moving story of the plaintiff in the landmark Roe v. Wade case that legalized abortion. Norma McCorvey was a pregnant, single, unemployed 22-year-old who was introduced to a team of public-spirited attorneys after a frightening attempt at a back-alley abortion. This ordinary working-class woman who struggled against society and her own troubled past, helped to change the course of history for all women (\$20 cl, 0060170107, Nov.).

#### HARPERPERENNIAL

Louise Erdrich has resequenced and expanded her first novel **Love Medicine**. Now it includes never- before-published chapters that more fully capture the author's vision for this first novel about two Native American families (\$12 pb, 0060975547, Nov.).

You Are Not Alone by Julia Thorne with Larry Rothstein is a compassionate book for individuals and families coping with depression. This book combines Julia Thorne's own story with moving first-person accounts and blank journal pages to help readers break out of their isolation and begin the recovery process. It gives a voice to the many experiences of depression and helps the sufferer of depression search for support and treatment (\$10 pb, 0060969776, Nov.).

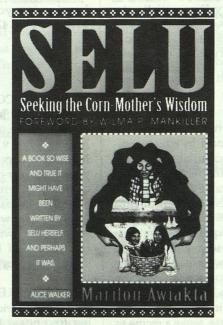
Maureen Howard's latest novel, Natural History has been compared to James Joyce's *Dubliners*. This is the story of Billy Bray, a detective, investigates the death. The investigation reveals an undertow of sex, crime and moral confusion that sweeps the detective and his family into an uncertain future (\$12 pb, 0060975695, Nov.).

Rest Harrow by Canadian writer Janice Kulyk Keefer is a novel about Anna English, an academic from a Canadian university, who goes to England to spend a year writing a book about Virginia Woolf. Her life is disrupted by a host of troubled and eccentric neighbors who push or charm their way into her company (\$12 pb, 0006475191, Nov.).

The social history and sexual politics of prostitution are traced in **Whores In History** by Nickie Roberts, herself a veteran of the Soho sex trade. Roberts sets out to rescue this important part of women's history by charting the development of the prostitute from the high-status whore-priestess of Egypt to the present day prostitute (\$12 pb, 0586200290, Nov.).

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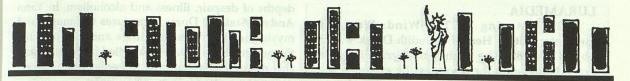
—Alice Walker, author of *The Color Purple* 



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#### HAZELDEN

Body and Soul by Susan Meltsner picks up where other food addiction and diet books leave off. Meltsner moves beyond describing eating disorders and their possible causes to solutions. Drawing on her own personal experiences as a recovering overeater and her training as a therapist, Meltsner has created a realistic, practical guide which addresses the individual needs of compulsive overeaters, bulimics and compulsive dieters (\$12 pb, 0894869035).

— Sandi Torkildson

### **/1**li

#### **HEALTH COMMUNICATIONS**

We Did the Best We Could: How to Create Healing Between the Generations by Lorie Dwinwell and Ruth Baetz. \$12.95 pb, 1558742697, is geared to parents in recovery for whom parenting has been especially difficult and shows ways to put the past into perspective with compassion and hope.

Life After Divorce: Create A New Beginning by Sharon Wegscheider-Cruse. \$8.95 pb, 1558742824, describes how the trauma of divorce can give way to growth and the promise of a new life. (With an option of lesbianism?)

Revised, expanded, and renamed, The Intimacy Struggle (previously called *The Struggle for Intimacy*) by Janet G. Woititz, \$9.95 pb, 1558742778, offers ways to acquire intimacy skills which directly contradict the guerilla survival skills many of us learned and carry with us.

#### HEINEMANN

Monologues for Women by Women, Tori Haring-Smith, ed. Fifty pieces by women playwrights from all over the United States. Some of the pieces are from award-winning full-length or short plays. Others were considered for the prestigious Jane Chambers Playwriting Award. \$11.95 pb, 0-435-08630-8.

Plays by Women 10, Annie Castledine, ed. The best source for current British women's drama. The volume includes Simone de Beauvoir's *The Woman Destroyed* and Claire Luckham's award-winning *The Choice* \$17.95 pb, 0-413-68000-2.

Sharing the Delirium: Second Generation AIDS Plays and Performances, Therese Jones, ed. Eight recent plays, all by men, for stores with AIDS sections. Addresses the AIDS epidemic in its second decade. \$15.95 pb, 0-435-08633-2, Nov.

From Heinemann's African Writers Series comes Shattering the Silence by Farida Karodia, an Indian woman who grew up in a small town in South Africa. The Mozambique War is seen through the eyes of a young Canadian girl who is rendered mute after witnessing her missionary parents' deaths during a wartime massacre. \$9.95 pb, 0-435-90593-7.

There are three new books from the Caribbean Writers Series. Mint Tea by Christine Craig. Jamaican feminist short stories. "Craig brings to this first collection a sharp, unsentimental eye, a flair for language, and a subtle sense of irony" (\$9.95 pb, 0-435-98932-4). Me Dying Trial by Patricia Powell. Twenty years in the lives of three generations of Jamaican women (\$9.95 pb, 0-435-98935-9). The Roads Are Down by Vanessa Spence. Tells the story of a Jamaican woman who meets up with an aging American and his wife. A novel of "battle zones between gender, culture and race" (\$9.95, 0-435-98930-8, Nov.).

### /il:

A Walnut Sapling on Massih's Grave and Other Stories by Iranian Women Writers, edited by John Green and Farzin Yazdanfar (Foreword by Mashid Amirshahi). Fourteen stories by Iranian women that cover a period between 1945 and 1989. \$10.95 pb, 0-435-08676-X, Nov. — Jennie Boyd-Bull 31st Street Bookstore

#### LURAMEDIA

I Sit Listening To The Wind: Woman's Encounter Within Herself by Judith Duerk. \$10.95 pb, 931055989. The author of Circle of Stones expands the quest for wholeness by exploring the Inner Masculine. This has already been an enormous seller for us.

— Jaila Hansen

Amazon Books

#### **MACMILLAN**

Running As A Woman by Linda Witt, Karen Paget and Glenna Matthews looks at gender and power in American politics today. Drawing on new survey and polling data, the authors show that 1992 was the first time there was a clear and unmistakable women's vote. Using in-depth and candid interviews with women politicians like Geraldine Ferraro, Nancy Kassebaum and Pat Schroeder, the authors examine the changing role of women in politics (\$22.95 cl, 002920315).

Stitching Stars by Mary Lyons looks at the story quilts of African-American artist Harriet Powers. Born into slavery in 1837, Harriet Powers was both a gifted seamstress and a deeply religious woman, whose quilts depicting Bible stories and folklore are a "gold mine of African imagery" (\$15.95 cl, 0684195763).

Marguerite Duras's new memoir is an homage to Yann Andrea, her current new lover, a man thirty years her junior, who has lifted her from the depths of despair, illness and alcoholism. In Yann Andrea Steiner, Duras recaptures the magic and mystery of their first meetings and explores the themes that have always compelled her — the anarchic nature of passion, the tragedies of childhood and the Holocaust (\$16 cl, 0684195909).

Modern American Women Writers edited by Lea Baechler illuminates the lives and works of thirty-two American women writers. Included in this collection are profiles of lives and works of such writers as Maya Angelou, Kate Chopin, Joan Didion, Zora Neale Hurston, Adrienne Rich, Gertrude Stein, Anne Tyler and Edith Wharton. An invaluable resource. (\$15 pb, 0020820259).

#### NEW DIRECTIONS

(Dist. by Norton)

The Crazy Hunter by Kay Boyle is a stunning short novel that portrays a family (an almost grown young woman, her mother, and her drunkard father) struggling with the fate of a magnificent blind horse. In this novel (that Boyle admires as her best work), the powerful and businesslike mother is determined to put the blind horse down while her daughter is determined to save him (\$6 pb, 0811212335).

— Sandi Torkildson

#### THE NEW PRESS

(Dist. by Norton)

North China Lover by Marguerite Duras, translated by Leigh Hafrey. Paperback edition of Duras's

From the creators of the "This book describes the "Take Our Daughters to Work" campaign. potential for a powerful new relationship between mothers and daughters Betraval "A powerful argument for which could change the Power mothers and daughters of relationships between all daught any age to reassess their women and girls." relationships, bury -Gloria Steinem antagonisms, and become allies in revolutionizing Marie how girls grow up." DEBOLD WILSON -starred Kirkus Reviews **ADDISON-WESLEY** 

story during dramatic experiences in her adolescence. \$10 pb, 1-56584-043-7.

WAC Stats: The Facts About Women, by The Women's Action Coalition. Get the facts to back up our accusations of inequality. Easy to use. Also available in packs of ten. Sixty-four pages. \$5 pb, 1-56584-122-0.

Growing Up Gay: An Anthology for Young People, ed. by Bennett Singer. A book "to reach gay young people with the news that they are not alone." Includes work by Rita Mae Brown, Audre Lorde, Martina Navratilova — poems, stories, autobiographical sketches. Looks like a valuable addition. \$21.95 cl, 1-56584-102-6.

Kids Bridge series from New Press in conjunction with the Children's Museum of Boston. Designed to "assist parents and teachers in talking candidly with children about the problems of prejudice and discrimination, and to encourage tolerance and respect for different cultures," although I don't see anything in here about homophobia. Come Home with Me: A Multicultural Treasure Hunt, by Aylette Jenness. Kids eight and up can flip back and forth in this book to hunt for a claddah ring, try rambutan, or learn to make batidas, and more. This sounds good (\$16.95 cl, 1-56584-118-2). All About You: An Activity Book, by Aylette Jenness. Helps kids develop self portraits to compare with other cultural and racial identities to lay the foundation for appreciation of cultural difference. Coloring and activity book with reproducible pages (\$8.95 pb, 1-56584-053-4, Nov.).

— Dorothy Holland

#### NORTON

The Lives of Beryl Markham by Errol Trzebinski draws on diaries, letters, interviews, and the author's own long association with Markham to unravel the complexities of Markham's free spirit. Markham was raised by her father on a Kenyan farm and became known for her pioneering transatlantic solo flights in 1936. She wrote about her trav-

els in her best-selling memoir West With the Night. Trzebinski, who also spent most of her life in Kenya, writes about Markham's adventures both in the air and in bed. Geena Davis will star in a film based on Markham's life. \$29 cl, 0393035565.

A biography of Amelia Earhart analyzes how she influenced women's history and American feminism. Still Missing by Susan Ware places Earhart in the social and cultural context of the twenties and thirties. Earhart was a heroine of her time and is an inspiration for women today. According to this new biography, Earhart loved adventure, but also saw aviation as liberating for women and she used her popularity to broaden their horizons. \$22 cl, 0393035514, Nov.

/il:

In this new collection of essays by Adrienne Rich, What is Found There, Rich reflects on how poetry and politics enter and impinge on American life. She also examines what it means to be a citizen of a country caught between its mythic past and violent present. Rich sees poetry as an instrument of change and offers up its possibilities "as a pulsing, racing convergence of tributaries — regional, ethnic, racial, social, sexual — which, rising from lost or long-blocked springs, intersect and infuse each other while reaching back to the strengths of their origins." \$20 cl, 0393035654.

Norton is doing a gift-type book of photographs and excerpts from May Sarton's unpublished journals and letters. May Sarton: Among the Usual Days, edited by Susan Sherman, spans six decades and is arranged by subject in such a way to reveal Sarton's many lifelong passions: writing, drama, gardening and travel. \$25 cl, 0393034518.

Extra Innings by Doris Grumbach continues the intense and sometimes tart account of her life begun in her earlier book *Coming into the End Zone*. Now in her seventies, she chronicles the struggles she must face with approaching old age and her







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hopes and fears as her first journal is published and her life made public, including her love for women, that Norton never mentions in their copy. \$22 cl, 0393035417.

Where We Stand: Women Poets on Literary Tradition edited by Sharon Bryan is a collection of essays by 21 contemporary female poets who reflect on their particular relationships to literary tradition. Their topics range from childhood experiences that shaped them to thoughts on the poets who most influenced their work. Included are essays by Eavan Boland on her Irish roots, Maxine Kumin who considers her generation's shaping context, and Amy Clampitt who recalls her decision to become a poet. \$25 cl, 0393035700.

Menopause: A Medical Guide For Women by Winnifred Cutler and Celso-Ramon Garcia is a 432 page revised edition of this resource guide that covers both menopause and the general health and well-being of menopausal women. This completely updated edition includes chapters on the importance of good nutrition and exercise, information on the benefits, consequences and risks of hormone replacement therapy, some alternatives to HRT, and advice on surgery. \$12.95 pb, 0393309959.

Norton is doing lots of reissues in paperback. Lyndall Gordon's biography, Virginia Woolf: A Writer's Life has been brought up to date and the notes and biographical sources have been revised. \$11.95 pb, 0393310612.



Two of Carolyn Heilbrun's early books are being brought back into print. Toward a Recognition of Androgyny explores the ideal of androgyny as a creative and civilizing force and uncovers this concept from early myth and literature, from classical writing to the present (\$9.95 pb, 0393310620). Reinventing Womanhood is Heilbrun's investigation into issues of identity for twentieth century American women. She looks at problematic past models of womanhood that left women unable to imagine themselves as simultaneously ambitious and female. She furthermore probes the ongoing task of constructing new models for a new generation \$9.95 pb, 0393310760.

New edition of both The Fact Of A Doorframe: Poems Selected and New 1950-1984 (\$10.95 pb,



0393310752) and Your Native Land, Your Life, Poems: 1986 (\$8.95 pb, 0393310825) by Adrienne Rich will be reissued in a new format and design.

The Magician's Girl and The Ladies, two novels by Doris Grumbach will be reissued in November. The Magician's Girl is about three New York women who meet at Barnard in the late 1930s and go on in the succeeding decades to fulfill their separate destinies as a photographer, a poet and a professor of history (\$8.95 pb, 0393310914, Nov.). The Ladies is a retelling of the story of two women Eleanor Butler and Sarah Ponsonby, well-born Irish women who defied all conventions of their eighteenth-century homeland and eloped to the small hamlet of Llangollen in Wales to live as a married couple (\$8.95 pb, 0393310922, Nov.).

**/1**:

— Sandi Torkildson

#### PENGUIN/VIKING

**Trouble** by Fay Weldon. \$21 cl, 06784148X. Weldon returns in this novel to remind us that marriage has been a nightmare through the ages — only now husbands have psychoanalysis.

Holocaust Project: From Darkness Into Light, by Judy Chicago. \$22.50 pb, 0140159916; \$40 cl, 0670842125. Exploring her heritage as the descendant of 23 generations of rabbis, Judy Chicago records her quest to "imagine the unimaginable" of the Holocaust. Companion book to her art show which opens in Chicago in October and will travel around the country through 1997.

A Gospel of Shame: Children, Sexual Abuse and the Catholic Church by Elinor Burkett and Frank Bruni. \$22.50 cl, 067084828-X. Investigative report uncovering the nature and extent of child sexual abuse by Catholic clergy which reveals how this abuse is sanctioned by the church's silence.

#### PENGUIN/DUTTON

Free Enterprise by Michelle Cliff, \$19 cl, 00525937048. From the author of *Abeng*. Cliff's new

novel centers on an actual 19th century civil rights activist, Mary Ellen Pleasant. Pleasant and Annie, a young Jamaican woman, join John Brown's raid on Harper's Ferry.

In the Company of My Sisters: Black Women and Self-Esteem by Julia A. Boyd, \$18 cl, 0525937080. Explores the familial, personal and social struggles Black women face and offers guidelines for finding sources of strength, identity and self-esteem. Uses tools of psychotherapy and feminism to analyze oppression. — Theresa Corrigan Lioness Books

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Barbara R. Wainrib, EdD, Editor

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— Sandi Torkildson A Room of One's Own

PUTNAM

Putnam has a few health books that look interesting. A Woman's Best Medicine: Health,

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In psychology, The Family Face of Schizophrenia (\$21.95 cl, 0-87477-748-8) by Patricia Backlar offers stories and systematic advice to the 10 million families, friends and caregivers of schizophrenics in the U.S. For parents, two titles: Families Apart: Ten Keys to Successful Co-Parenting (\$22.95 cl, 0-399-13895-1) by Melinda Blau, and Playful Parenting (\$14.95 pb, 0-87477-734-8) by Denise Chapman Weston, MSW, and Mark S. Weston, MSW.

For Lilian Jackson Braun fans, two new books. Three of her previously published novels, The Cat Who Saw Red, The Cat Who Played Brahms and The Cat Who Played Post Office, will be published in a single hardcover edition for a great price (\$11.98 cl, 0-399-13885-4). And her newest mystery The Cat Who Came to Breakfast (\$19.95 cl, 0-399-13868-4) will be out in February.

/il:

Putnam does not have much in fiction this season, but The Slow Natives (\$21.95 cl, 0-399-13875-7) by Thea Astley, an award-winning Australian writer, looks promising. Embattled with one another and with boredom, the Leversons are pushed toward a reappreciation of each other and their lives together. Another possibility is The Tracks of Angels (\$22.95 cl, 0-399-13882-X) by Kelly Dwyer. A prize winning author, Dwyer writes of a young woman intent on eluding her past, until she meets a mysterious man and is adopted by a guardian angel.

Finally, I don't know if you carry self-defense books (we typically don't because I worry about someone learning too little without hands-on experience), but No! No! No!: A Woman's Guide to Personal Defense and Street Safety (\$9.95 pb, 0-399-21845-2) by Kathy Long is available in October if you do. Kathy Long is a kickboxing champion and martial arts instructor in Bakersfield, California. Illustrated with over 100 black-and-white photographs.

— Theresa Corrigan

### RANDOM HOUSE-VINTAGE

Out In The World by Neil Miller looks at gay and lesbian life around the world. Miller travels from the Black townships of South Africa to the sex clubs of Bangkok to find out how gay men and lesbians live today. In Egypt he finds that men routinely turn to one turn to each other for sex yet few identify themselves as homosexual; in Japan gays and lesbians are struggling to define themselves; and in Prague a new gay and lesbian movement is emerging from the old ideology that had labeled homosexuality as "bourgeois decadence." "There's enough variety and sheer surprise in these pages to challenge many of our notions about what it means to be queer in the world today," states Armistead Maupin (\$13 pb, 0679745513, Nov.).

Random will publish a new trade paperback edition of **The Kitchen God's Wife** (\$12 pb, 0679748083, Dec.).

#### **RH-Large Print Editions**

Daisy Fay And The Miracle Man by Fannie Flagg is the coming-of-age story of daisy Fay Harper a sassy 11-year-old girl from rural Mississippi who can't stay out of trouble or stop telling the truth. We find out what causes her Daddy and Mamma to split up and what is really stashed in the freezer of her family's malt shop (\$16 pb, 0679749470).

— Sandi Torkildson

#### ST. MARTIN'S PRESS

Annie Lennox: Sweet Dreams Are Made of This by Lucy O'Brien looks at the life and career of Annie Lennox, Scottish singer/songwriter/video artist. Fans of both her music and gender-bending will snatch this up. We've already sold a good number. \$13.95 pb, 0312097409, photos and discography.

Dorothy L. Sayers: Her Life and Soul by Barbara Reynolds, \$24.95 cl, 0312097875. The story of the detective writer who created Lord Peter Wimsey, was written with complete access to Sayers' papers and photographs, and is illuminated by the author's own memories.

The Last Sex: Feminism and Outlaw Bodies ed. by Arthur and Marilouise Kroker, \$16.95 pb, 0312096828. Completes the CultureTexts series trilogy on contemporary feminism and offers a theoretical examination of the "new" feminism that includes discussions of queer theory, transexuality and transgender.

Mankiller: A Chief and Her People by Wilma Mankiller and Michael Wallis. \$22.95 cl, 0312098685, is the autobiography of the Chief of the Cherokee nation. From her childhood in Oklahoma and forced relocation to California, to her current status as chief, Mankiller honors and recounts Cherokee history and her own.

Voodoo Dreams: A Novel of Marie Leveau by Jewell Parker Rhodes. \$23.95 cl, 0312098693 is based on a real figure in 19th century New Orleans and offers the story of a young woman's life in the world of voodoo.

The Woman That I Am: The Literature and Culture of Women of Color ed. by D. Soyini Madison. \$35 cl, 0312100124. Works were selected to represent a diversity of voices, styles and genres; gathers 126 works of contemporary fiction, poetry, drama, autobiography and cultural criticism by American women of color.

Daughters of Feminists: Young Women with Feminist Mothers Talk About Their Lives, by Rose

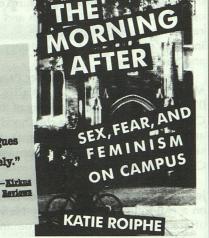
Glickman. \$21.95 cl, 0312097786. Interviews 50 daughters of feminists. The work acknowledges the complexity of women's experiences as daughters reinterpret their mothers' legacy to fit their own lives.

#### SIMON & SCHUSTER

**Fountain of Age** by Betty Friedan, \$25 cl, 0671400274. Questioning the new menopause brouhaha and the myths of aging, author of *The* 

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Feminine Mystique presents a concept of aging that does not include the expectation of decline.

Enough Is Enough: Weekly Meditations For Living Dysfunctionally by Karen Finley. \$14 pb, 067198263X. A wry look at "dysfunctional correctness." Taking a topic a week (ranging from feeling bad, to self-indulgence and procrastination, to blame, personal melodrama and jealousy), Finley shows us how to make the most of our dysfunctional qualities and parlay them into power, attention and glory.

/il:

#### S & S/FIRESIDE/TOUCHSTONE

Acts of Faith: Daily Meditations for People of Color by Iyanla Vanzant. \$9 pb, 0671864165. Positive meditations for people of color who are confronting discrimination, racism, rejection and alienation.

Making Sense of Menopause by Faye Kitchener Cane, ed. \$12 pb, 0671786385. A "how-to" menopause book that runs the gamut from expert medical advice to women's personal stories, feelings, fears and relationships. Heterosexual emphasis, but the information looks helpful.

No Less a Woman: Ten Women Shatter the Myths About Breast Cancer by Deborah Kahane. \$11 pb, 0671868993. Interviews with ten women who are survivors of breast cancer. Contains a nice variety, including lesbians, younger, and older women.

— Jaila Hansen

Amazon Books

#### SOHO

(Dist. by FSG)

Call the Darkness Light is a novel by Nancy Zaroulis about the struggles of female mill workers in Lowell, Massachusetts in the 1840s, their communal living conditions and 14-hour work days. Mill work, although arduous, was one of the "few options for an unattached single woman who wanted to live on her own." \$15 pb, 0-939149-98-2, Nov.

— Patty Callaghan O

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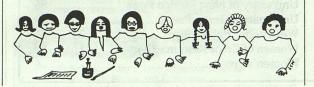
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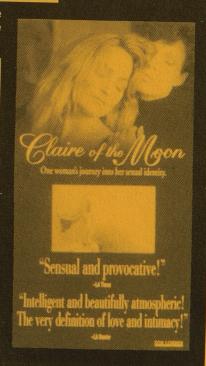
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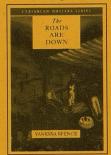
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