

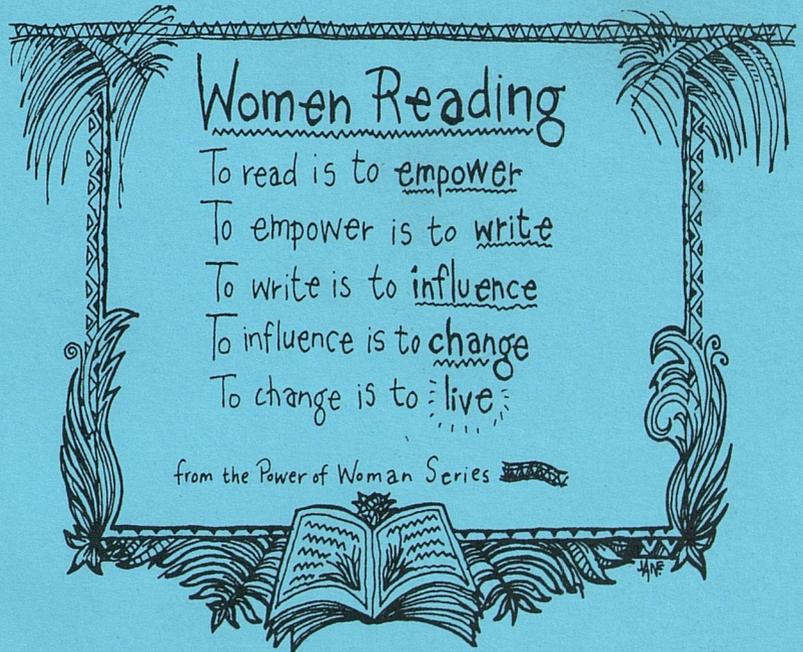
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# Feminist Bookstore News



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December 1994

Volume 17 Number 4

*Am*  
*Sen*  
Femina serial am F32978 12/16/94

NEW FROM OXFORD

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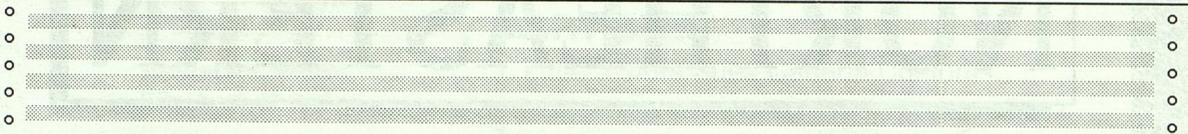
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# NOTES FROM THE COMPUTER TABLE



As we go to press, Little Sisters, the gay and lesbian bookstore in Vancouver, is in the final weeks of their eight-week long court case against Canada Customs. If all goes well, the effect of the suit will be to severely curtail Canada Customs' ability to seize lesbian, gay, feminist and other political materials at the Canadian border. See page 19 for the history of this situation and the trial to date.

The Feminist Bookstores Fall Catalog has been launched and is out in the world! Weighing in at two ounces, the full-color, 40-page catalog features 157 titles from 113 publishers. It's just as beautiful as we'd hoped it would be — thanks to Kajun Graphics — and the response to the catalog is exceeding even our wildest dreams. See page 11.

Elsewhere in this issue: a report on Inland's fight for survival (page 35), Australian feminist publisher Susan Hawthorne addresses the issues behind the *Mutant Message* craze, and much more.

After all of the departures of the summer, I'm very pleased to welcome three (!) new staff members to FBN: After 18 months of delays and regulation changes, INS has finally granted a temporary work-permit to our long-awaited Production Coordinator/Advertising Manager, Helen Krayenhoff. I'm also very pleased to welcome Beth Morgan to FBN's editorial side. Beth comes to FBN with ten years of editing experience, a year as the managing editor of another movement journal, and she's also worked at Lioness, the feminist bookstore in Sacramento. She joined FBN's crew just in time to do most of the editing for this issue and has been a joy to work with. And, to complete the crew, our new administrative assistant, Jenn Tust, will be starting the week we go to press. I'm very excited to be working with each of these women, am eager to

turn over some chunks of responsibility and to work a lot fewer hours, myself!

Many thanks to Brenda Cummings and Tricia Fallon who have job-shared the administrative assistant position for the past three months and kept FBN running as smoothly as humanly possible through all this transition.

We do have one more "opening." Cathy Andrews, who pioneered FBN's music column has left the music industry to study furniture making. If there are any booksellers out there who want to take this column on, please give me a call!

And last but not least, our special thanks to Pat Kelso, Elaine Blake and Kelly Conway for proofing this issue, and to *Feminist Broadcast Quarterly* for the inspiration for our cover.

Yours in spreading the words,  
Carol Seajay ○

## FBN Deadlines

### Spring Announcements Issue

March/April 1995

January 20

### Special ABA Issue

May/June 1995

November 18

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*Shipwreck 2* by Sabiha Khemir, 1993

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FEMINIST BOOKSTORE NEWS is the communications vehicle for the informal network of feminist bookstores. FBN reaches 500 feminist and feminist-inclined bookstores in the U.S. and Canada as well as feminist booksellers in England, Europe, Australia, New Zealand, India and Japan. Librarians, women's studies teachers, book reviewers, publishers and feminist bibliophiles comprise the remainder of the subscribers.

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

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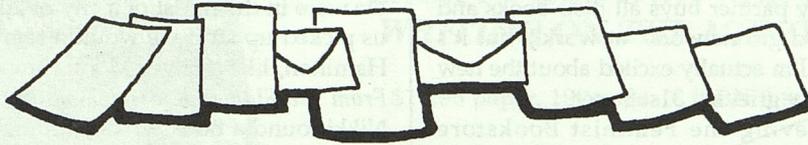
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# LETTERS



Pandora Book Peddlers  
885 Belmont Avenue  
North Haledon NJ 07508

Dear FBN,

Bad News: Inland is sold!

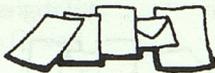
Good News: David & Steve take Inland back!

Future News: Feminist Bookstores agree to do their part to keep Inland afloat and healthy!

Pamela Sheldrick, my business partner, and I have decided we must work even harder to pay Inland in a timely fashion. This will not always be possible, but we must all change our mindset if we have not considered Inland one of our highest payment priorities, like the telephone and electric companies.

Vivian Scheinmann

*Editors Note: See article this issue for more details on Inland's revitalization.*



31st Street Bookstore Cooperative  
425 East 31st Street  
Baltimore MD 21218  
9/28/94

Dear Feminist Booksellers,

Well, it's my next-to-last day at 31st Street, and I've just spent the day packing up feminist memorabilia from my desk, cleaning out files, selecting a few FBNs to take with me, sorting through the piles of books, tapes and calendars I'm gonna buy at discount on Friday when I get paid, and generally reminiscing.

So, you're wondering what's going on at 31st Street Bookstore Cooperative? Well, back in August our accountant informed our already tired and dis-

couraged board of directors that we were steadily losing money in 1994 and it was her recommendation that we either sell or close up the store. Our September 8 cooperative meeting brought about 100 supportive women out to consider the options. The unanimous decision was to keep the store open and pursue selling the store to another feminist bookseller. At the moment, Lammas Women's Books & More in Washington DC is actively negotiating for purchase, as well as another group of Baltimore women. And I have resigned as manager to make room for new energy and to lower overhead. Over half the 13-woman board has also resigned, with elections October 2. The new interim manager, Erica Freudlenberger, currently on staff, is knowledgeable and enthusiastic and young, as are most of the women nominated for the board.

We're calling this the *fourth incarnation* of the bookstore, since it already has had *three* owners in its 21-year history. The factors in this new incarnation are common to many feminist booksellers.

- competition from Borders chain up the street and from Lambda Rising gay bookstore downtown;
- the lesbian/gay and feminist publishing "boom" in mainstream publishing, which makes it easier to find "our" books in chain stores;
- the generation gap in the lesbian community, with younger, queer dykes more identified with gay than feminist politics.

So ... it's time for my 50s-generation to let go and let others give it a try — there's lots of energy out there.

It has been a wonderful and amazing five-and-a-half years as manager; but the time has come to move on. Fortunately, I've found a job as an associate librarian with Baltimore County Public Libraries, in the Pikesville Branch. Some information and refer-

ral work, but *lots* more technology, *lots* better benefits, and a different kind of diversity in customers and books. Fortunately, Baltimore County has a good selection of feminist, lesbian and multicultural books because my partner buys all their books and has for years ("old girl network" at work!), but it's still quite a shift! I'm actually excited about the new job, but also deeply grieving 31st Street.

I'm also grieving the Feminist Bookstore Network. I've enjoyed the support and friendship of other women, Carol Seajay in particular, and have been *so proud* to be part of our network. Hope the Fall '94 "first-ever" catalog is a glorious success!

Women, wish us all well, and good luck in whatever form the transformation takes in your town. So far, the "handing over" is going smoothly here in Baltimore. Personally, I feel *good* about all that 31st Street has been for Baltimore women over the years, *grateful* to have been part of it for the last 5 years, *relieved* to be out from under the financial pressure of this past year (the store is finally solvent), and *excited* about the new possibilities for my life and for the store. Call this "memoirs of an aging lesbian feminist bookseller."

Jennie Boyd Bull

*Editors Note: As we go to press, Lammas Women's Books & More has indeed purchased 31st Street Bookstore Cooperative! For details see info in the News section.*

Women's Bookstop  
333 Main Street West  
Hamilton, Ontario  
Canada L8P 1K1

Dear FBN,

Things here are both hectic and soothing. There are the "annoyances," like getting payments out to publishers, organizing for conferences, pushing myself to think of marketing strategies and, these days, getting ready to bring Ani DiFranco to Hamilton as she tours in early 1995.

I did manage to convince myself to go to Scotland with two friends who also work here. I was gone for 10 days. During our vacation we took the train to London and visited Silver Moon on Charing Cross Road. This was one of the things on my Do-In-This-Lifetime list, and it was splendid.

Silver Moon is huge and packed full of juicy

titles. They have *Women Who Run with the Wolves* in paperback. Best of all, the staff at Silver Moon took the time to smile and listen to and answer our questions. They were so receptive to us that we forgot we were in the midst of a city of 20 million. Each of us picked up stuff we wouldn't have found here in Hamilton, like a Silver Moon canvas shopping bag, *From the Flames Radical Feminist Quarterly*, and Nikki found a book which chronicled women photographers around London. The store has expanded to the shop next to the original bookstore location and also has a basement where there are more books and an office. There are *thousands* of titles displayed on those shelves!

Inspired by the last issue of FBN, we've all taken a closer look at how we serve our customers. We did find some of Elena Rutter's study of service at feminist bookstores rather hilarious. We are guilty of being heavily involved in political discussions at times, sometimes we gossip and sometimes we are involved in the details of ordering or searching for books. Contrary to some of the situations Ellen describes, however, I know we would never betray our lesbian community — we know the women's movement thrives today because of women who are challenging heterosexist culture. Nor do I recall ever having a customer ring in purchases, although there are days when I could see it happening. Yes, it's a business but its also a haven and the women who come into feminist bookstores expect it to feel like they are coming home.

Renee Albrecht

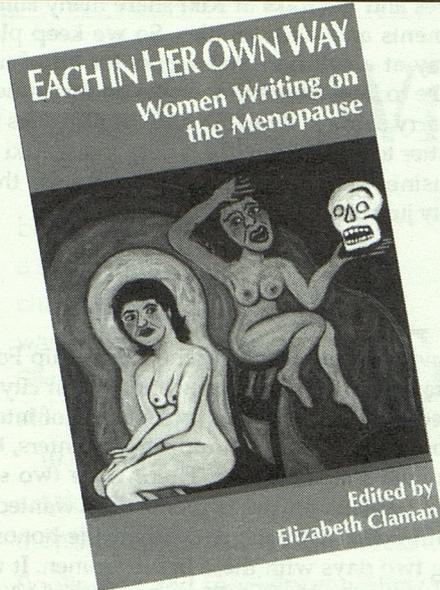


Womansline Books  
711 Richmond Street  
London, Ontario  
Canada N6A 3H1

Dear FBN,

Here's a photocopy of an ad that appeared in the summer issue of *Herizon*, Canada's leading feminist news magazine. We don't mind so much that Ms. is giving away books as a subscriber perk; it's the little note at the bottom that irks us! — "Book available at Waldenbooks or wherever fine books are sold." Where else has this ad appeared? (It doesn't harm Canadian feminist bookstores much

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because Waldenbooks doesn't exist here!) The other ironic thing about the ad was that it was placed only a page away from an article about the importance of supporting feminist bookstores. We have sent a copy of the ad back to Ms. for their "No Comment" page that highlights sexism and misogyny in advertising. Too soon to tell if they'll get it or admit any wrongdoing.

Monica McQueen

*Editor's Note: The ad in question features the front cover of Gloria Steinem's new book Moving Beyond Words, which is offered as a perk to new Ms. subscribers. The quote re Waldenbooks appears at the bottom of the ad.*

Charis Books & More  
1189 Euclid Avenue NE  
Atlanta GA 30307

Dear FBN,

A year or so ago, Charis wrote a brief article for FBN about the fact that we were not able to get t-shirts in the large sizes (i.e. 3X and 4X) from Kiki. We have a clear policy in our store to carry only shirts that we can get in large sizes so that we are

not discriminating against large women. Kathryn at the Kiki Collection was very upset by our notes in FBN and felt quite betrayed as she had tried over the years to work with us in whatever ways she felt she could. We have had several painful conversations about all this. The current result is that they have selected 3 designs (Bookwoman, Many Strong and Beautiful Women, and My Head is Full of Children) to produce for us in the large sizes if we pay the extra costs (which we were always willing



to do) and order a dozen at a time of any one design in the larger sizes. Kathryn indicated that no one else is ordering these large sizes. That surprised me, though I realize that they do not offer the larger sizes in any marketing materials so perhaps that is why no one orders them (except us!). The quantity limit now means that in order to get these shirts we will need to network with other stores in our region to do a joint order because none of us needs a dozen shirts of one design in 3X-4X at a time. We love the Kiki products and appreciate very much the inclu-



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sivity of the designs. I think we at the Feminist Bookstores and the folks at Kiki share many similar commitments and philosophies. So we keep plugging away at a solution that works for all of us. I would like to hear from other stores on this issue — do you carry shirts in large (3X and/or 4X); does this issue matter to any of you like it does to us? Kiki is a small business trying to do what works for them financially just like the rest of us. Any ideas?



On another topic, recently the Friendship Force in Atlanta brought 56 Russian women to our city for a few weeks, setting them up in a variety of internships. They spent time with rape crisis centers, battered women’s shelters, etc. There were two self-identified lesbians on the trip and they wanted to work with other lesbians, so we had the honor of spending two days with these brave women. It was a wonderful experience. They spoke very little English, but a translator was provided as part of the experience. As it turned out, one of their days with us I had been asked to do a presentation for a high school class on women and publishing as part of a “Gender Day” that the whole school participated in. So they went with me and it was pretty exciting for them to hear these issues (including lesbianism) discussed with male and female students. They are part of an organization for lesbians in art and literature in Moscow, eager to get books, hungry for any kind of contact with out lesbians. We gave them as many books as they could carry back and, though they do not (yet) read English, they said that members of their group do. Also, they brought with them a beautiful journal of art and poetry and prose that they have been working on with other lesbians. They would very much like to publish it but do not have the funds. They figure they need about \$5000 to publish it in Russian — any ideas? Wouldn’t it be great to have it in English as well so we could learn about their lives? I will continue to have contact with them — my friend from the Friendship Force is going to Moscow next week, so let me know if you have any brilliant ideas or if there is a way we can help them collectively.

Linda Bryant



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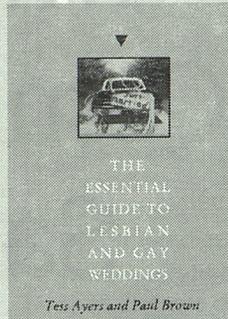
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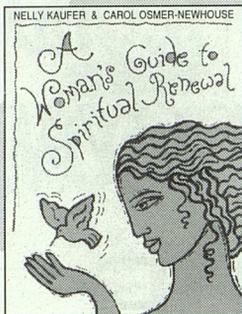
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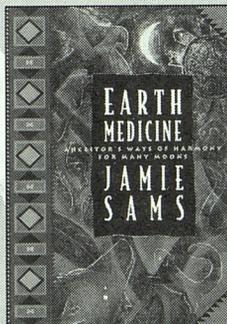
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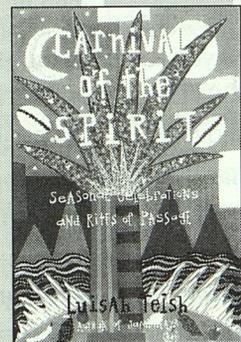
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# News News News

## Feminist Bookstore Network Launches National Catalog

117 feminist bookstores joined forces to launch a national catalog to promote feminist books and feminist bookstores. The Feminist Bookstore Network Catalog — all 40 full-color pages of it — shipped to Network members on October 11. The catalog features 160 books from 113 publishers and lists the names and addresses of all of the participating Feminist Bookstore Network members. A full-color photo of each book cover accompanies each book description.

"We wanted a catalog that would promote feminist books, feminist publishing in all its diversity, the values and priorities of feminist booksellers and, of course, feminist bookstores," catalog instigator Carol Seajay said. "We also wanted to create a piece that would remind the public that feminist bookstores and feminist publishing are a vital part of the book trade in the 90s. There are more feminist bookstores in our Network, after all, than there are bookstores in some of the highly visible chains — and we want people to know that."

The catalog was designed to increase sales to existing customers and to expand each store's customer base via mailings to national mailing lists. Publishers were tremendously enthusiastic about the project, both during the initial survey and when it came time to sign up for ads, seeing the catalog as an

*Continued on page 14*

## Feminist Bookstores Meet for Strategic Planning Conference

Twenty-five feminist booksellers met October 21st to 24th in southern Wisconsin for a four-day Strategic Planning Conference to assess the current

state of feminist bookselling, to discuss the impact of industry changes on feminist bookstores and publishing, and to make plans for the future.

The conference was designed to facilitate in-depth discussions about the problems independent bookstores are facing in the 90s and the specific situations of feminist bookstores, to do SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) analysis, and to build plans to strengthen feminist bookstores and feminist bookselling into the next century.

Plans that evolved out of the Conference include the development of a National Feminist Bookstore Week (May 13-20, 1995), improved communication among Feminist Bookstore Network members, and a Feminist Bookstore Camp, to be scheduled late next fall (after textbook selling season), that will be somewhat less intense than this conference in terms of hours of meetings per day but will address many of the same issues, will further plans made at this Conference and will generate others, while giving feminist booksellers a chance to relax together, too.

The conference was organized by The Feminist Bookstore Network and Feminist Bookstore News.

## Lammas Buys 31st Street Bookstore — Opens in Baltimore —

Jane Troxell and Rose Fennell, the owners of Washington, DC's Lammas Bookstore, bought the remaining inventory, fixtures, mailing list and other assets of the 31st Street Bookstore after 31st Street's Board of Directors voted to close the store.

31st Street, which was owned by a 700-member co-op, was the last viable business in its neighborhood. The store had been experiencing declining sales for some time, due in part to chain stores in the community, competition from other bookstores

and the decline in destination traffic in their own neighborhood. Although 31st Street was financially viable by the standards of almost any privately held contemporary bookstore, the risks of either continuing as they had been, or privately signing for loans, was greater than the majority of the volunteer Board were willing to carry. The store was financially healthy enough to close with no outstanding debt. Three offers to buy the store were made following the decision to close and the Lammas bid was the one that was chosen.

Opening the Baltimore store is, for Rose, returning home. She grew up in a Baltimore suburb and she and Jane had discussed moving to Baltimore in years past. Jane and Rose will move the store to a trendy downtown destination location in a building shared with a gay and lesbian health clinic that is very eager to have the bookstore in their building. There are two other excellent independent bookstores in the area, a gay-owned cafe next door, and several gay bars and other services in the immediate area. The new space, previously a campaign head-

quarters, features a raised stage area, huge windows and is a bright, open and welcoming space.

The new store, which is much larger than Lammas' DC store, will stock all the kinds of books that the DC store stocks, as well as a large gay and lesbian health section, an AIDS section, a greatly expanded children's section, many more gift items than fit in the DC store (including sex toys and erotica), a wider range of popular and mainstream titles and a massive humor section.

Jane Brook, currently at Lammas/DC will manage the DC store. Jane Troxell will manage the Baltimore store and Erika Freudenburger, the interim manager from 31st Street will continue on at Lammas/Baltimore. Long-time 31st Street manager Jennie Boyd Bull has accepted a position in the Baltimore Public Library System (see Letters).

Lammas/Baltimore opens on November 25 (Jane's birthday) at 1001 Cathedral Street, Baltimore MD 21202. The spirits in the telephone company willing, they will keep Thirtyfirst Street's telephone number: 410-243-3131. ○

### Partial Victory for *Courage to Heal* Authors

Judges in two municipal courtrooms in California dismissed charges in "false memory" lawsuits against the authors of *Courage to Heal*. Lower court judges ruled that Ellen Bass and Laura Davis have a right to share what they've learned from survivors about sexual abuse and the healing process. The Bill of Rights guarantees them the right to write and to publish without fear of being held legally and financially responsible for anxiety and unhappiness felt by people who read their books.

The Sacramento lawsuit, brought by Deborah David, her husband, and her parents, accused several therapists and the books' authors with creating psychological problems and leading David to confront her father and keep him from seeing her children. The Sacramento Superior Court judge dismissed the portion of the lawsuit against the authors but the suit, which asks for \$4 million in damages, will continue against the therapists.

Three weeks later a Superior Court judge in San Luis Obispo dismissed the lawsuit brought forward

by Kimberly Mark which claimed that she was emotionally damaged because Davis' book *The Courage to Heal Workbook* "induced false memories of childhood sexual abuse." Mark's lawyers say they will appeal.

Laura Davis reports feeling "great" about the ruling. "Our book has had a big effect on incest survivors coming forward and talking about their experiences," she said. "That has been very threatening to [some] people. I see the lawsuit as part of an ongoing backlash against survivors of sexual abuse."

The *Courage to Heal* Defense Committee predicts that these are just the first cases to be tried and that the appeals may cost tens of thousands of dollars. If the justices at the appellate level overturn the lower court rulings, Ellen and Laura could still be dragged into a trial court and a dangerous precedent for all authors could be set. Donations for the legal expenses may be sent to the Committee at 340 Soquel Avenue Suite 205, Santa Cruz CA 95062. Booksellers may also want to display copies of *Courage to Heal* and *The Courage to Heal Workbook* in the store window along with information about the lawsuits.

*Courage to Heal* was published in 1988 by HarperCollins and has sold 800,000 copies. ○

# UNIVERSITY PRESS NEWS



## New Directions for *Sage*

The Board of Directors of the Sage Women's Educational Press Inc. (SWEP) and the editorial collective of *Sage: A Scholarly Journal on Black Women* are celebrating their 10th anniversary and charting directions for the next decade. First, the internship at Spelman College will be expanded to strengthen connections between communities of students and scholars. Second, the collective will cease publication of *Sage* in Spring of 1995 with Volume 9, No. 2, in order to initiate new publishing efforts. Among these new efforts will be projects similar to their prize-winning anthology *Double Stitch: Black Women Write about Mothers and Daughters*, as well as a multi-volume reprint of *Sage* (1984-1994) currently under consideration by Carlson Publishing. Third, an endowed scholarship and awards program in Black women's studies will be established from the proceeds of publications projects. The most recent issue of *Sage* (Volume 8, No. 2, Fall 1994) is a special issue on Dance and the Diaspora, guest edited by Kariamuwelsh Asante, a professor in the department of African American Studies at Temple University.

## New Journal

Sage Periodicals Press announces *Violence Against Women*, a new quarterly scholarly journal dedicated to the dissemination of original research and scholarship on all aspects of violence against women. Topics will include domestic violence, sexual assault and coercion, incest, female infanticide, sexual harassment, dowry deaths and other areas of violence against women. The first issue will be published in March 1995. For more information contact Sage Publications, 2455 Teller Road, Thousand Oaks CA 91320; 805-499-0721.

In more Sage Publications news, we have received a press release announcing "Rethinking

Feminist Concerns: The Evolution of Feminist Thought" edited by Madeleine Stoner with Betty Friedan — a special issue of the journal *American Behavioral Scientist* (Vol 37, No. 78, August 1994). "Rethinking Feminist Concerns" offers a written record of the actual think tank sessions at the Betty Friedan Think Tank at the University of Southern California as they occurred over a seven-year period. Topics explored include sexuality, intimacy, childbearing, work, the environment, sexual harassment, empowerment and polarization between men and women. \$14.00 pb, ISSN 0002-7642. Bulk discounts available on orders of 5+ for classrooms or bookstores; for bulk rates call Geane Dvorak at Sage Publications, 805-499-0721.

## New Acquisitions Editor for Athene Series

Faye Zucker has joined Teachers College Press as the new acquisitions editor for the Athene Series. She is taking over from Sarah Biondello, who resigned this year to relocate to upstate New York. Faye brings over twenty years of publishing experience to the Press, including expertise in feminist and gay and lesbian studies from her tenure at Harrington Park Press.

## New Editor-in-Chief

Eileen McWilliam, formerly an editor with the University of California Press, is the new director and editor-in-chief of Wesleyan University Press, a member of the University Press of New England Consortium. Among McWilliam's many projects while at UCP were the acquisitions of Brett Millier's critically acclaimed biography *Elizabeth Bishop: Life and Memory of It*; *The Frontier in American Culture* by Richard White and Patricia Limerick; and Jose Saldivar's study of Chicano literature, art, music and film, *Border Matters*. McWilliam also coordinated the launch of UCP's new series, American Diasporas.

# Women's Health —Missing from U.S. Medicine

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## Anniversary!

Mayfield Publishing Company is celebrating its 20th Anniversary of publishing women's studies textbooks with the fifth edition of *Women: A Feminist Perspective*. Other women's studies textbooks by Mayfield include *Issues in Feminism: An Introduction to Women's Studies*; *Diverse Voices of Women*; *Women: Images and Realities, A Multicultural Anthology*; *Experiencing Race, Class, and Gender in the United States*; and *Women in American Society*. ○

## News Shorts...

*Continued from page 11*

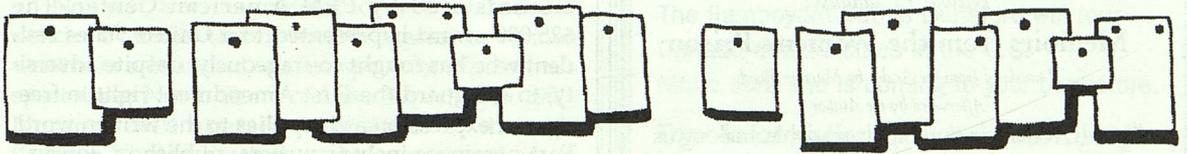
excellent opportunity to promote feminist titles to a very targeted audience and as a way to support independent bookstores during these challenging times.

Ad sales for the catalog were driven by "wish-lists" from feminist bookstores that requested that publishers advertise specific titles, a system that helped to ensure that the diversity of books feminist stores stock would be represented in the catalog. Mainstream, university, independent and a wide range of feminist publishers were invited to participate in the catalog.

As this issue goes to press the catalog has been in the stores for only a few weeks but the response so far has been tremendous. Customers are pleased and excited to see the catalogs, many return to the store to get specific books, women are coming into the stores carrying copies they received in the mail. Expectations are that the catalog, which is seen as a resource by many, will continue to sell books into the Spring.

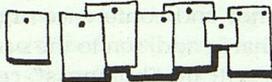
300,000 copies of the catalog are in circulation. 120,000 were mailed to national mailing lists (the entire *Ms. Magazine* subscriber list and women's lists from *Out* and *The Advocate*). The remaining 180,000 copies are being circulated through feminist bookstores — over the counter, to each store's mailing lists, and to additional mailing lists rented or borrowed for the occasion. Each Feminist Bookstore Network member store received 500 free catalogs. Most stores ordered an additional 500 to 10,000 imprinted copies to distribute in their own communities. Catalogs are available only to Feminist Bookstore Network members. ○

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



Compiled by Beth Morgan

Lee & Low Books is sponsoring a young author's contest for girls ages 7-12 years old, called "Tell the World My Dream." The contest is being conducted in association with the publication of their children's book *Zora Hurston and the Chinaberry Tree* (covered in this issue's Small Press column). The picture book tells the story of the young Zora Neale Hurston, who wanted the same opportunities as boys and dreamed of beating the odds as a young African American in the rural South to become a writer.



Bookstores around the country are invited to participate by hosting a reading group for girls ages 7-12 during January, February (Black History Month) or March (Women's History Month) of 1995. Girls who attend the reading group will be encouraged to fill out an official entry form and enter the contest right at the bookstore. The form asks the girls to tell the world what they dream of for themselves, in 150 words or less. Lee & Low will provide a contest kit to each bookstore, including a promotional flyer, reproducible entry form, group discussion questions and stickers for girls who enter the contest. Also included will be a publicity worksheet — booksellers who fill out the worksheet can specify which local press they would like to have Lee & Low contact on their behalf. A press release on the reading group/contest will go out to the print media specified by the bookstore.

Contest judges will be Isabel Stewart, Director of Girls Incorporated; Maya Angelou; Alice Walker; Carole Simpson; Jackie Joyner-Kersey; Carol

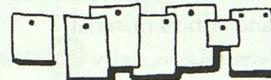
Mosley Brown; and Evelyn Moore of the National Black Child Development Institute.

A Grand Prize and two Honorable Mentions will be awarded to a total of three winners. Winners will receive cash prizes of \$250 and \$100, respectively. Winning entries will be released to the press at the end of April 1995, coinciding with the Ms. Foundation's Take Our Daughters to Work Day event.

Participating bookstores will qualify for a trade promotion contest, becoming eligible to win one complete set of Lee & Low books (13 titles) which will be awarded to each of four categories of bookstores: general, children's, women's and African American.

For more information or to enter your bookstore, call Susan Spedalle at Lee & Low, 212-867-6155; fax 212-338-9059.

A gala honoring the 1994 grantees of the Astraea Lesbian Writers Fund was held on November 5, 1994 in New York City. The Fund awards five grants of \$11,000 each to emerging lesbian writers of poetry and fiction selected through a juried competition, as well as a \$5,000 Sappho Award of Distinction to an established writer. The 1994 winners were poets Victoria Lena Manyarrows and Linda Smukler, and fiction writers A. Elizabeth Mikesell, Martha Clark Cummings and Linda Marie. Joan Nestle was presented with the Sappho Award of Distinction.



This year's judges were Marilyn Hacker and Chrystos for poetry, Carol Anshaw and Jacqueline Woodson for fiction. Jill Johnston and Joan Nestle headlined the evening, reading from their recent work and presenting the five 1994 grantees with their awards.

## New from California

*Nawal El Saadawi*

### Memoirs from the Women's Prison

*Translated from the Arabic by Marilyn Booth*

*Afterword by the Author*

"Lively, touching, and highly readable, making us re-live with the author the shock of arrest, the dirt and horror of jail, and the nagging uncertainty about when or whether she would be released."

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*Nawal El Saadawi*

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*Annette Kuhn, Editor*

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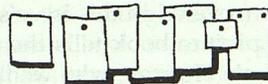
—Sandy Flitterman-Lewis, author of *To Desire Differently*

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For the third consecutive year, Newman's Own — the food company whose founder/president actor Paul Newman donates all after-tax profits to charity — is funding a First Amendment prize to be administered by PEN American Center. The \$25,000 award is presented to a United States resident who has fought courageously, despite adversity, to safeguard the First Amendment right to freedom of expression as it applies to the written word. Past nominees include writers, publishers, journalists, editors, booksellers, schoolteachers and librarians. The action for which the person is nominated must have occurred within the past five years. The deadline for nominations is January 10, 1995. For information and nomination forms contact Karen Hwa, PEN/Newman's Own First Amendment Award, PEN American Center, 568 Broadway, New York NY 10012; 212-334-1660.



Next year's Outwrite Conference has been scheduled for March 3-5, 1995 at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel. Although there is no specific theme for this year, author and conference organizer Judith Katz tells us that in addition to the usual art-related panels there will be "business"-related panels addressing, for instance, what the so-called gay and lesbian publishing "boom" really means for writers, and the practicalities and politics of making the choice to publish with a large or small press. Confirmed guests so far include Tony Kushner, Linda Villarosa, Cherie Moraga, Alison Bechdel, Judith Katz and Michael Bronski; and on the rumor front, Greg Lukanis may come. There is no information on conference cost as yet, but for general information, registration information and information on panels and workshops contact Outwrite, c/o Bromfield Street Education Foundation, 25 West Street, Boston MA 02111.

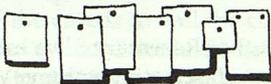
October was declared Gay and Lesbian History Month by the International Gay and Lesbian Archives (IGLA). Although many lesbian and gay pride events take place in June every year (including National Lesbian and Gay Book Month) IGLA felt that an event needed to take place while schools were in session. October was chosen because it

includes two major events — National Coming Out Day (Eleanor Roosevelt's birthday) and that oldest of gay holidays, Halloween.

Norcroft, a writing retreat for women, has residencies available (for up to four weeks) to women writers in a beautiful, serene space on Minnesota's spectacular North Shore of Lake Superior. In 1995, Norcroft will operate from April 29 through October 28. Applications must be postmarked no later than December 1, 1994. To receive an application send your name and address on a postcard to Norcroft, PO Box 300105, Minneapolis MN 55403 or call Harmony Women's Fund, 612-377-8431.

Archival and contemporary footage and material for *The Second Wave*, a four-part series for television on the contemporary women's movement, is being sought! Activists from around the country who participated in the movement are invited to make and send videotapes of their personal movement memoirs to be used in researching and developing the series; archival materials, including stock footage, home movies, photos and posters are also wanted. *Feminist Bookstores should do everything we can to make sure our history and the history of women in print makes it into this documentary!* The documentary will cover a thirty-year period from 1960 to 1990.

To submit material or for more information contact Terry Lawler, Director of Development and Production, Women Make Movies, 462 Broadway Suite 500, New York NY 10013; 212-925-0606, fax 212-925-2052.



The National Women's Studies Association (NWSA) will hold its sixteenth annual conference, "Women's Movements: Cultural, Intellectual and Political (R)evolutions," at the University of Wyoming, June 21-25, 1995. The conference plenaries are organized around four major themes: Generations of Women, Politics of Survival, Order and Chaos, and Communities and Coalitions. For more information contact NWSA, 7100 Baltimore Blvd Suite 301, University of Maryland, College Park MD 20740; 301-403-0525; e-mail: nwsa@umail.

*continued on page 33*

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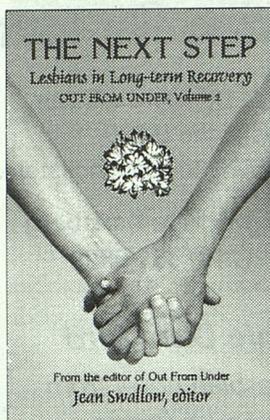
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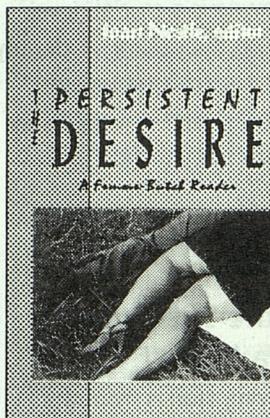
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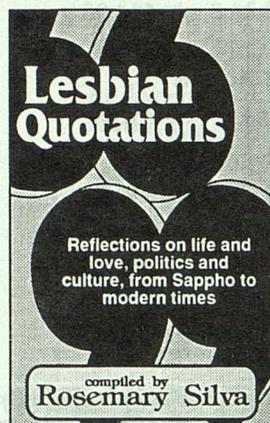
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## Seven Years Before the Courts

# CAN LITTLE SISTERS BEAT BIG BROTHER?

October 11: Eleanor Roosevelt's Birthday, National Coming Out Day, the day the Feminist Bookstores' Network Catalog was launched, and the day that Little Sisters, finally — after four years of delay — succeeded in taking Canada Customs to court. There has *never* been a case like this in Canadian — or any other — courts.

Little Sisters isn't "just" protesting the prohibition of certain specific titles that ought not be stopped, they are demanding that the British Columbia Supreme Court throw Canada Customs out of the censorship business.

The goal of the case is to nail the current system on two grounds: 1) that Canada Customs' power of prior restraint (to detain material prior to its being legally determined to be obscene by the courts) infringes on section 2(b) of the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* and, 2) that 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. Little Sisters' challenge also declares that neither of these infringements are justified under Section 1 of the *Charter*.

If the court upholds Little Sisters and BCCLA's claim, Canada Customs would no longer have the power to detain books and magazines at the border

unless they have been deemed "obscene" by due legal process. The obscenity provisions of the Criminal Code would remain in effect and would, perhaps, be the only venue for settling obscenity issues.



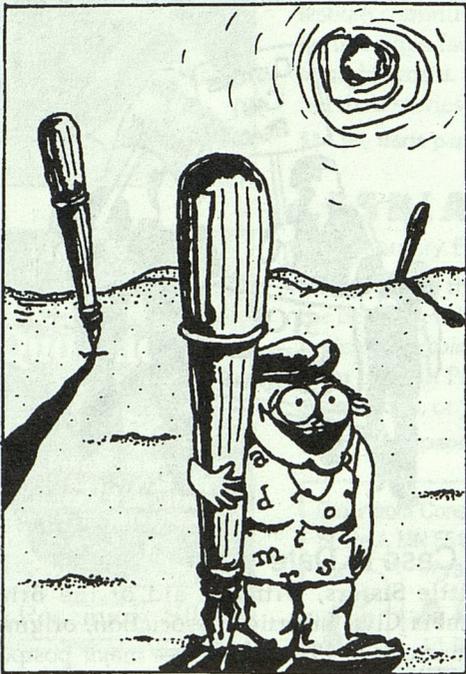
### The Case to Date

Little Sisters, with the aid of the British Columbia Civil Liberties Association, originally filed this case in 1990. After three major postponements, the case is finally in court.

On September 29, in an obvious attempt to sabotage the trial, Customs announced that it would no longer prohibit the entry of material featuring "depictions or descriptions of anal penetration, including depictions or descriptions involving implements of any kind." Little Sister's response:

"We're happy that [Canada Customs has] finally recognized what most Canadians have known for years — that the distribution of material describing anal sex does not make one a criminal.

"But it's too little, too late. Our case is not just about anal sex, it's about the whole structure whereby government workers get to detain at the border any material which they decide is too strong for our delicate minds, and challenge the importer to prove otherwise. It's about the unfair singling out of gay and lesbian material for special treatment, mainly because they can't understand or appreciate it. And it's about the basic issue of whether, in a democratic society, the administrative arm of government ought to be setting the limits on freedom of expression."



Diane DiMassa

And so the case finally, on October 11, went to court.

## The Trial

About 30-40 people attend the legal proceedings daily. Case watchers report a fascinating combination of brilliant testimony, superb gay/lesbian scholarship, a star-studded cast of witnesses, neat legal strategy, some lovely bits of egg on otherwise pristine bureaucrats' faces, and more than a little good humor during the first month of the trial. The trial began with three weeks of arguments, testimony, and expert witnesses brought forth by Little Sisters' BCCLA lawyer, Joseph Aryay. Little Sisters' co-owner Jim Deva and store manager Janine Fuller testified for Little Sisters at the first day of the trial, describing the pattern of Customs harassment they experienced.

The next day, Dennis Mahoney testified about the problems that Inland experiences when exporting books to Canada, the severity of these detentions, and problems that Inland had experienced in dealing with Canada Customs on detained books. Celia Duthie (owner, Duthie Books), testified that, despite the fact that she runs Vancouver's biggest bookstore chain and that she frequently orders the same types of books that are seized from packages bound for Little Sisters, she can't recall a single shipment of hers ever being detained by Customs. In preparation for the trial she ordered a shipment identical to one that was stopped on the way to Little Sisters. Sure enough, it arrived intact — every single book came through.

Other booksellers, including Gloria Greenfield (Vancouver Women's Bookstore), Sandra Haar (Toronto Women's Bookstore), Kimberly Mistysyn (Glad Day Manager) and Jearid Moldenhaur (Glad Day founder), among others, then detailed their experiences with Customs — the random patterns in which books are detained, released, then detained again, books being detained and released only after the authors' Canadian readings, books that, when they finally are released, are far too damaged to be sellable.

Despite objections from the federal government lawyer, Columbia University anthropology professor Carol Vance was permitted to give expert opinion evidence on the historical change in what society finds to be obscene and what is defined as

acceptable and how that changes. She described three distinct phases in the evolution of how society views sexual practices: From 1850-1870, sex was viewed as something that occurred in marriage solely for procreation; birth control information was viewed as evil. Beginning in the 1880s, sex in marriage for non-procreative purposes became more acceptable as did premarital and non-marital sex during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Sex for pleasure is now seen as strengthening the

bond between partners and is seen as quite natural. Non-consensual sex, even in marriage, is no longer acceptable in most instances. She also suggested that homosexuality will eventually be considered as natural as other forms of non-procreative sex, that most officials who view pornographic material to determine if it violates Canada's obscenity laws tend to base their opinions on their personal views, and that there is no unified feminist position on pornography and its effect on society.

*continued on page 23*

## The History of Memorandum D9-1-1

The law that allows Customs to seize books, according to *The Globe and Mail*, goes back to 1840 when Customs was given the power to block entry of material it deemed to be immoral, indecent, seditious or treasonous. The law has changed little since then, though each era has brought a new target. In the late 19th century, it was French novels, including books by Emile Zola, de Maupassant and Balzac. In the 1920s, 30s and 40s, the targets were pulp magazines, books advocating birth control, socialism or communism, and novels by James Joyce, William Faulkner, D. H. Lawrence and Dashiell Hammett. In the 1950s it was *Playboy* and nudist magazines.

The first major challenge to this system came from Dell books when, in 1956, Customs barred the entry of the steamy U.S. bestseller *Peyton Place*. Dell appealed to the tribunal of the Tariff Board which not only decided the book was not immoral, it also suggested that Customs couldn't do this job properly and that the job be given to another body, according to legal scholar Bruce Ryder.

In 1962, George Nowlan, finance minister in the Diefenbaker government, took Customs out of the censorship business, telling officers to stop only those books that had already been judged obscene by the courts. But with the increase in heterosexual erotica that followed the post-pill sexual revolution, Customs was back in the censorship business by 1967.

The roots of the current challenge go back to 1985 when, just two years after Little Sisters opened, the Supreme Court ruled that the word-

ing in the Customs Tariff barring "obscene and immoral" material was too broad to constitute a reasonable limitation of freedom of expression as defined by the *Charter*.

When Parliament declined to legislate a clearer guideline, the task became an administrative one and Memorandum D9-1-1 was rushed through the conservative Mulroney administration to serve as acting law. Ironically, it's this administrative response to the Supreme Court's decision (that the Criminal Code was too broad) that led to many of the regulations the Little Sisters' case challenges.

Memorandum D9-1-1 prohibits, among other things, descriptions or depictions of anal sex. This is the regulation most often cited for books being seized en route to Little Sisters. It's also the "justification" for Canada Customs long-term ban on safe sex materials and safe-sex articles — a prohibition that many believe has contributed to AIDS deaths in Canada.

Also at issue in this trial is whether Customs and Memorandum D9-1-1 have defined "obscenity" more broadly than the Criminal Code intended. Judging by Customs' last minute announcement that anal penetration *per se* will no longer be grounds for seizure and prohibition, Canada Customs agrees that Memorandum D9-1-1 is too broad.

Anal penetration is by far the most common justification Customs has used for seizing and prohibiting books destined for Little Sisters. It has been cited in about 50% of the cases. Over the years, more than a thousand books have been destroyed ○

# Seven Years Before the Courts

Canada Customs has done everything possible to avoid the court confrontation with Little Sisters, despite having created this situation in the first place.

In 1986, armed with the new Memorandum D9-1-1, Customs escalated the number and frequency of seizures of books addressed to Little Sisters and other gay bookstores. When a particularly large shipment of books and magazines from the U.S. was detained by Canada Customs, Little Sisters approached the BCCLA for assistance. Appeals of those seizures began.

In 1987 Little Sisters and BCCLA filed a Federal Court challenge to the ruling that two issues of *The Advocate* were obscene. The intention was to have the court scrutinize Canada Customs' exercise of its censorship powers.

In 1988, just a few weeks before the trial was scheduled to begin, the government conceded that the material was not obscene. When Little Sisters requested the return of the no-longer-obscene magazines, Customs informed them that return would be impossible as the magazines had already been destroyed, prior to the outcome of the challenge. (Out of date magazines are of little resale value, but imagine how effective they'd have been as fundraisers!) Little Sisters and BCCLA sued for damages, but the government settled the lawsuit before the trial. Still, the detention of books and magazines bound for the store continued and, if anything, escalated.

In 1990, Little Sisters and BCCLA filed the current lawsuit and a trial date was set for September, 1991. It contained the above challenges and also challenged that Canada Customs' power to prohibit the importation of books and magazines solely on the basis that they are obscene infringes on

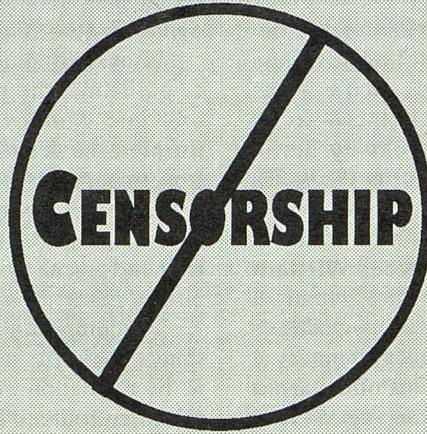
the right to freedom of expression as guaranteed by Section 2(b) of the *Charter*.

But 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," and Little Sisters' trial dates were canceled pending that decision. In February of 1992 the Supreme Court of Canada ruled that while s.163(8) does violate s.2(b) of the *Charter*, the law is justified under section 1.

Little Sisters and BCCLA amended their Claim to drop that section and proceeded with the other parts. A new trial date was set for September, 1992. Shortly before the trial was to begin, the government moved to dismiss the claim. The motion was defeated, but the trial dates were lost in the process and the trial was re-scheduled — this time for October, 1993.

In September, 1993, the government attorney announced that the case was more complicated than expected and that the scheduled 20 days would not be long enough to address the issues. He moved to adjourn the case. The court accepted the motion, despite the fact that the government had had, at that point, over two years to prepare for the case and that the delay would cost Little Sisters and BCCLA a minimum of \$20,000 in canceled airline tickets, etc. The trial was re-scheduled for 40 trial days beginning in October, 1994.

On September 29, just twelve days before the trial was scheduled to begin, the government tried to get out of it again by removing anal penetration from the prohibited list. Little Sister's didn't buy it and the court didn't care. And so the case finally, on October 11, went to trial. ○



Pat Califia testified as to the honorable intentions and literary merits of her own work and described it as "no more violent than the world I live in". Later she guided the judge through each of the short stories in *Macho Sluts*, story by story, detailing the rituals of SM as well as the equally complex moral tensions of her work. "Her testimony," according to one Vancouver paper, "took control of the legal space of the court room in a mesmerizing display of the power of lesbian storytelling."

Sarah Schulman spoke as an artist whose work had been stopped at the border and also spoke for John Preston's work, the point not being lost that Preston was among those witnesses that had died during the years the trial was being delayed.

Governor General Award-winning novelist Nino Ricci reviewed the social and literary merits of both Preston's and Pat Califia's works.

The venerable Peter Berton, former city editor of *The Vancouver Sun*, successful author of 37 books and Canadian TV personality, testified specifically on the scholarly value of *Gay Ideas* (which Oxford Canada declined to distribute in Canada, allegedly out of concern for Customs' difficulties), stating that its graphic depictions are designed to advance the educational purpose of the "learned text." Asked how long he thought it would take a reasonably intelligent person to skim the book and conclude that it is a scholarly and inoffensive work, Berton responded "A reasonably intelligent person could look at the book for two minutes and come to that conclusion" and added, to much laughter, "A customs officer would take perhaps an hour."

Jane Rule, who is as well known and loved among straight readers in Canada as she is by lesbian readers in The States, testified that, though she has won many awards for her writing, she is best remembered for having a book "banned," (despite the fact that it was only detained then released upon examination) and elaborated on the harm such an experience could have on a young and unestablished writer's career. She also addressed the extreme irony of having Customs officials with no literary education whatsoever being in the position of determining what is "literature" and what is "obscene" and spoke of an ex-student who was failing a remedial course at the University of British Columbia for people who had failed the required

freshman English course, who withdrew from the course — and the university — because he'd just obtained a position as a customs official ...

Other witnesses who were called included owners of two comic bookstores; Professor Bruce Ryder who provided legal assistance to the Toronto Women's Bookstore in connection with its detentions by Canada Customs; Vancouver artist Persimmon Blackbridge (*Kiss and Tell*) who testified that *Drawing the Line*, despite being published in Canada, had been detained by Canada Customs, along with magazines that published articles about her work; Scott Wilson, Director and curator of the UBC Fine Arts Gallery; Lorraine Weir, professor of English and Literary Studies, Vancouver psychologist Bill Coleman, University of New Mexico School of Law professor Ann Scales, and noted Canadian author and BCCLA director Stan Persky.



Little Sisters co-owner Jim Deva reports being "quite pleased" with the way the Little Sisters testimony went. "The judge is being very attentive and our case is really compelling. We're very pleased with the media coverage throughout Canada — although U.S. coverage is harder to get." He added that "It's so healthy to be there in court, to be fighting back." And fighting back is the essential next step as the government presents its arguments and witnesses.

The government "defense" seems to follow three themes: there is no problem with the current system, that if any such materials were allowed into Canada the country would be flooded with all kinds of obscene materials, and that pornography leads to violence. Heavy cross examination has been required to get higher ranking Customs officials to admit to well-documented errors and problems.

One of the hopes for this trial is that, even if the Customs mandate should remain intact, a Commission will be formed and charged with determining whether individual works are

"obscene" or admissible. Currently the decision often rests with individual Customs and Revenue officers. Under cross examination, a Mr. Shearer, the Assistant Deputy Minister of Revenue Canada (which oversees Customs), admitted that he has *never* read the entire text of any book he reviewed for determination. Linda Murphy, the Director of Revenue Canada, was sure that she had read one book cover to cover, but could not recall its title. Hopefully, their testimony, even unwilling as it is, will support this area of discovery.

Another part of Little Sisters/BCCLA's strategy is to establish the vitality and importance of the literature in question and to put it in the context of its specific communities. Each government witness is being asked if he or she is familiar with the gay and lesbian community. The answer, as we go to press, has always been an emphatic "No!"

Little Sisters/BCCLA lawyers are also looking at books that *do* make it through Customs. No one at Customs seems to be able to recall *any* mainstream-press published books that have been barred from entry.

The last major attempt to stop a mainstream press book (*Peyton Place*, published by Dell in 1956 — see below) resulted in the suggestion that Customs is not the appropriate venue for this work.

Mainstream titles that Canada Customs has reviewed and approved during the last few years include Madonna's *Sex* and Bret Easton Ellis' *American Psycho*. Canada Customs admitted 38,000 copies of *Sex* to Canada and an unknown number of copies of *American Psycho* despite the fact that both include "descriptions or depictions of sex with violence, sexual assault, bondage or bestiality," all grounds for seizing and destroying books, according to the clauses of Memorandum D9-1-1 that are applied to lesbian and gay titles. The "sex" in *American Psycho* is certainly non-consensual. Some of the scenes in *Sex* are with a young man with very little pubic hair (hence presumably well below the age of 18). Yet both of these books were reviewed and approved.

In other interesting testimony, Mr. Shearer referred to documents and discussions with the Justice Department's legal counsel, Mr. Brewer, regarding the validity of including anal penetration *per se* in the prohibited materials list. Little Sisters/BCCLA were able to subpoena portions of

As the author of one of the seized books, *Lovers*, I read at a fundraiser in September that was sponsored by the Vancouver Women's Bookshop and Little Sisters to help defray legal costs. The event was held at the Vancouver Lesbian Connection and every seat was filled. I find it hard to understand why Canada Customs would call *Lovers* "pornographic and abusive to women." It seems like such an ordinary, safe, and comforting book.

— Tee Corinne

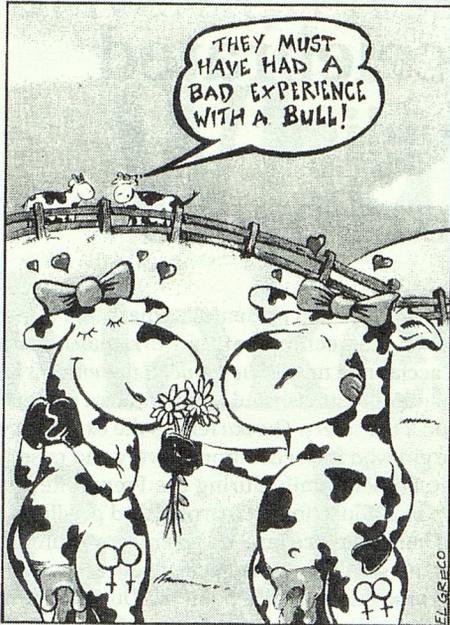
these documents which indicate that, in 1992, and possibly earlier, Customs ignored its own legal counsel's advice that anal penetration is not, in and of itself, obscene. Customs did not change its regulations regarding anal penetration until eleven days before the start of this trial.

As we go to press, the case continues. Canada Customs continues to argue its case and Little Sisters continues to cross examine witnesses and challenge the assumptions behind the testimony.

The trial will wrap up in mid-November and a decision is expected four to six months later. Costs are expected to reach an estimated \$200,000 and fundraising efforts continue on all fronts. Raising that much money for a legal case is very difficult, yet it is essential that current expenses be paid off by the time the decision comes down so that, if an appeal is necessary, Little Sisters will be able to proceed with the next steps. Now is the time to plan fundraisers or send money to Little Sisters to support the case.

Send contributions to Little Sisters' Defense Fund, 1221 Thurlow St., Vancouver BC V6E 1X4 or call 604-669-1753 for further information. Supporters include the Book and Periodical Council, Canadian Booksellers Association, American Booksellers Association, International Booksellers Federation, PEN Canada, PEN U.S.A., Random House of Canada, McClelland & Stewart, Press Gang Publishers, Canadian Manda Group, Toronto Women's Bookstore, Pages Books, Glad Day Bookshop and others.

Information from Little Sisters, *The Globe and Mail*, *The Vancouver Sun*, and *The Georgia Straight*. ○



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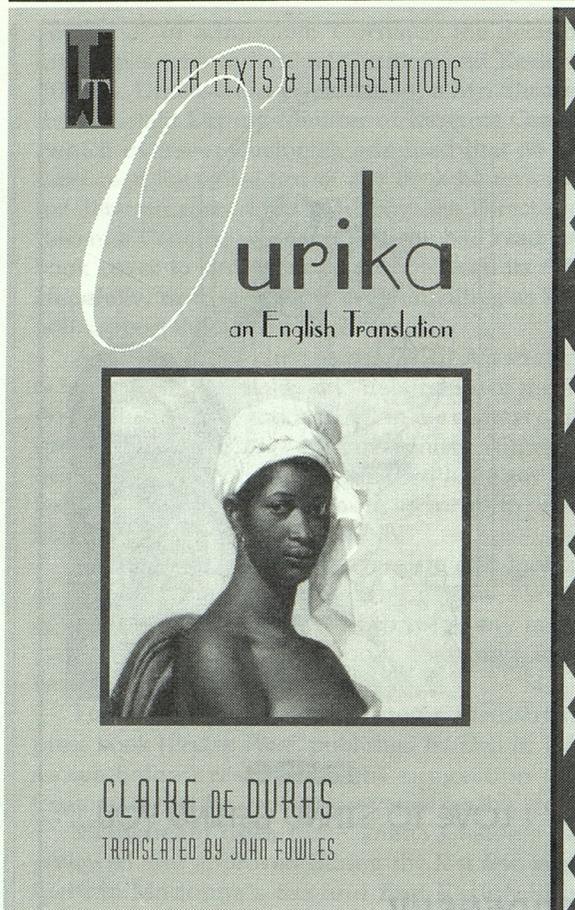
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## A University Press Perspective

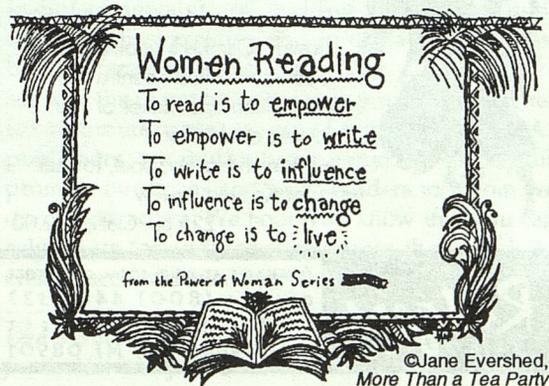
# What Really Makes a Good Book Signing?

by Dan Verdick

Recently I attended a book signing at a huge store that was part of a national chain — “MegaBooks” or something like that — and found myself standing in an endless line listening to a loudspeaker voice that kept droning “Only one book per customer *please*, no personalized autographs *please*, only *this* book will be signed today.” I realized that this would probably be considered a very successful event by the publisher, but I, the customer and reader, was having a horrible time. The line of people snaked around the store, the author’s hand required frequent massaging to keep the blood flowing, the loudspeaker droned on, and I had but a few seconds to tell the writer how she had changed my life before being pushed down a chute that emptied into the mall parking lot. At that moment I thought: Bless every independent bookstore that has ever let me bring a half-dozen books to the table, where I have a quick minute to talk with a writer who then dedicates each book to my friends who couldn’t make it; that let me hang out

after the event in case the author did too; that had an author read; that made me feel like I had attended a good book signing in a good bookstore.

But what really makes a “good book signing?” Working for a publisher, one of my first questions is, of course, how many books were sold? As a bookseller, that is certainly an important question for you as well. But as independent bookstores and scholarly presses we also ask these questions: Does the book address a personal issue that may make it



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difficult for someone to come up to a table to get an autographed copy? Were people excited? What did they say? *How did it go?*

It may be because we love to sell books, but as university presses and independent bookstores we also enjoy seeing people informed, empowered and changed by the books and writers we feel might make a difference in our communities, in our worlds. The University of Minnesota Press recently completed a regional tour for Becky Thompson, author of *A Hunger So Wide and So Deep: American Women Speak Out on Eating Problems*, and I found there are several ways we can work together to get the word out on events at your bookstore.

The first step we took toward arranging the tour was, in effect, taken for us. At the ABA last June we were given a flyer for the Mid-Atlantic Women's Bookstore Author Tour, a part of the Mid-Atlantic Feminist Bookstore Network that had put together a promotional map with store locations and phone numbers for anyone with authors in the area. We already had several reasons to approach feminist stores with this book, including the community ties they would have, awareness of the issues discussed by the author, and the author's dedication to their mission as well as her (and our) gratitude for their support. This single flyer gave us one more reason, and made it very easy to follow through on a plan to promote the book. It's the perfect example of the crucial elements required for a good promotional piece — it provided information with a good idea for how to use it, and it made things easy for everyone involved.

Getting publicity for your store's signing can follow the same simple rules. The most important tool you can have for your store's publicity efforts is to provide a good contact list to the publisher's marketing department. This list should contain the names, addresses and phone numbers of all your publicity contacts in the community — radio and television stations, newspaper columnists and review editors and local community programs or organizations. This will help publishers follow through with review copies or press releases to garner effective publicity for your event.

The more details you can provide on this list, the better. Have the name of producers and hosts of local radio and television shows, include fax num-

bers and make notes on what they've done for your store in the past. Find out if there are "bulletin board" announcements that could list events at your bookstore with theatre, music and other entertainment events. Include smaller community radio stations and cable access shows that might deal with women's issues. It's great to get a mention on a big 50,000 watt radio station, but many smaller stations may interview the author and have a much more dedicated audience — this will pay off more than being listed with ten unrelated events in your city.

Gather the same amount of detail about newspapers and magazines in your area. Who writes the columns dealing with women's issues, and when do the columns run? Who are the writers at the alternative and neighborhood papers in your city? You don't have to be limited to papers dealing strictly with feminist issues. We had a very successful event at New Words in Boston partly because they also had contacts at the African American paper in town, and *A Hunger So Wide and So Deep* addresses eating problems among women of color. Jean MacCrae of New Words booked a signing date and immediately gave me a list of names and phone numbers of contacts who knew their store and would have a good chance of plugging the date. The rest of my work was follow-through on that list and concentrating on contacts who already had a relationship with New Words.



Round out your contact list with any local college department heads and electronic bulletin boards that promote women's issues, library contacts, women's centers, writer's groups, and activist organizations you feel should know about the event at your store. Then call every single person on the list and tell them: *You are on my publicity contact list for every event at my bookstore.* They will appreciate the fact that you are promoting their shows and columns to publishers across the country, and possibly will return the favor. Invite your contacts to every event with a quick phone call, or make sure they're on your mailing list when sending out invi-

tations, flyers or calendars. Even if they don't write about a certain author coming to town, they may attend the signing and write a follow-up piece on it or mention your store in some other context. Offer yourself as a resource to them should they want to know what readers are buying, what books people are talking about, or what your opinion is as a feminist bookseller in your city or region.

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*We already had several reasons to approach feminist stores with this book, including the community ties they would have, awareness of the issues discussed by the author, and the author's dedication to their mission as well as her (and our) gratitude for their support.*

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Finally, each time an event is booked at your store, confirm the date with the publisher and attach your contact list. You may want to do your own press releases, especially for events where you think your contacts should be hit twice with event information. And when you do get some press, it's always effective (as well as polite) to jot a quick thank-you on your next mailing, or clip out the column and display it to promote your store as well as the column or show. Also, don't forget to send a copy to the publisher!

This contact list is just a beginning to the ways you can work on promoting author appearances. In-house newsletters, mailing lists, direct mail opportunities, creative and informative displays, bag stuffers and co-op funds from publishers are some of the many ways to make your store a center for community awareness of feminist issues. As publishers, we rely on your expertise to help us promote our books and reach readers to whom we don't have access. We hope you know that you can rely on us for additional resources that will help create successful events in your bookstore.

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*Dan Verdick is the publicist and subrights coordinator for the University of Minnesota Press.* ○

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## An Australian Feminist Considers *Mutant Message*

# A Case of Spiritual Voyeurism

by Susan Hawthorne

I first became aware of *Mutant Message Down Under* when a U.S. feminist bookseller faxed me in Australia in mid-1992 to ask me if I'd heard of it. The bookseller described it as the story of a "walkabout" undertaken in Australia by an American woman. The word "walkabout" made me instantly suspicious. This is a word no longer used in Australia and has connotations as derogatory as the word "nigger" in North America. My suspicions about Morgan's book were confirmed when a friend who has spent many years working alongside traditional Aboriginal women in Central Australia read the self-published version while staying with me. Her alternate laughter and anger at Morgan's story strengthened my belief that I didn't need to read this book; that is, until a recent review in Australia by an Aboriginal woman warned of the book's appearance in a new glossy hardback format. The reviewer's response was a note of caution to anyone who might consider taking the book seriously. No doubt it will get appropriately bad reviews from other Aboriginal reviewers in Australia. But in the U.S., you are less likely to have

access to these reviews. It is easy to be misled by "spiritual" stories that are set in other countries.

The book has many flaws. Marlo Morgan's story is one that reflects more Christian elements than Aboriginal spiritual ones. Amongst its themes are a journey through the desert, a three-day spiritual trial, baptism, poverty, celibacy. Sounds familiar. But what is different is that it takes place in an "exotic" landscape (Australia's desert region) amongst "exotic people" (Aboriginal people whom she calls the "Real People"). But for an Australian reader this "exoticism" fails. She has so many factual errors it's hard to know where to begin.

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*"Walkabout" is a word [that] is no longer used in Australia. It has connotations as derogatory as the word "nigger" in North America.*

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She describes "spinifex" grass as having "barbs" on "steak-knife sharp blades." Not true. Spinifex has pointed ends, but certainly no barbs, and you cannot walk "on" Spinifex as Morgan

claims to do — you walk through it. Kookaburras are described as “often compared to the braying of a donkey” or as “screeching.” Neither description in any way fits the laughter of a kookaburra. Every Australian child could tell you this. These errors may seem minor, but they call into question the veracity of her uncheckable “truths.”

When Morgan describes traditional healing methods through the use of medicinal plants, she shifts from the “I” voice of direct experience to the passive voice which resembles descriptions I have read in bush tucker and bush medicine books. I have to wonder if they could have been lifted directly from such sources.

*Worse than the halfhearted pretense to fiction is the pretense that the book represents the complexity of Aboriginal culture.*

Other areas where her work is clearly derivative are in the descriptions of various healing and spiritual practices. Anyone familiar with the literature or practice of yoga, astral healing, chakras, parapsychology or New Age will recognize these ideas and practices.

From the clues sprinkled through the book, it

seems as though Morgan spent time in Queensland (she refers to the cane toads of Queensland as a “national nuisance” — incorrect, they are a nuisance in Queensland and in parts of the Northern Territory). Given that she flies across the continent, her alleged journey seems to take her through parts of the Western Australian desert, but her time references are very odd unless she flew into Broome (indeed her checkable time references are always wrong). Her alleged “walkabout” finishes impossibly, if indeed she has crossed the continent, since there is no “black and featureless desert” on the east coast. Morgan’s one Aboriginal endorsement is not from Western, Central, or Northern Australia, but from the state of Victoria, thousands of miles to the south. It is highly unlikely that a Victorian Aboriginal man would be able to confirm or deny the truth of events taking place outside his own country. (In Australia, an area of land for which a particular group has responsibility is called a “country.”)

The above errors and borrowings make me doubt the authenticity of Morgan’s account. Indeed they make me wonder whether she has any experience of Australia at all! This is bad enough, even though HarperCollins have now dressed the book up as fiction. But it is clear to anyone who reads the note, “From the Author to the Reader,” that Marlo Morgan

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does not consider it a work of fiction and regards anyone who reads it that way as somehow less worthy. She writes, "We all have our own Outback experiences to grow through; mine just happened to be literally in the Outback" (my emphasis).

Worse than the halfhearted pretense to fiction is the pretense that the book represents the complexity of Aboriginal culture. For a start it ignores a basic ethic of Aboriginal culture — not speaking about "other people's business." It ignores the distinction between "women's business" and "men's

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*There are many other, better books on the market that you might recommend to your customers that will give them a much more accurate picture of Aboriginal Australia.*

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business." It ignores the burgeoning of cultural and artistic expression by both traditional and urban Aboriginal people in the last decade. It pretends that any one group of people anywhere on earth can be more special than others. Morgan cites an Elder as saying, "When our youngest member is gone, that will be the last of the pure human race" (my emphasis), an idea as repugnant to most Aboriginal people as it is to any other peoples with respect for cultural ethics. Such ideas form the root of hatred across cultures and end in "ethnic cleansings" and "holocausts." Every culture, every group of people, is special, and it is this that is important.

Morgan's book presents an unreachable group of people — all the more seductive to the rootless, confused, alienated-from-nature, stressed American buyer of this book — as a panacea for all of earth's ills.

More problematic still is the huge publicity budget for this book; it has been taken up by book-clubs, and it is being placed on the front counter by otherwise reputable booksellers who are being fooled by the hype. This is an offensive book. It has no place in any bookstore that espouses feminist or anti-racist causes. It should not be pushed as a "great" read. Instead, readers should be warned about its misrepresentations of Australia's indigenous culture. If readers must read it, so be it, but it

should be read with awareness of its deception. This deception extends to the cover, which depicts Katatjuta (also called the Olgas) as if they lie next to a vast lake. There is no lake in the vicinity, as it is in the middle of the desert.

There are many other, better books on the market that you might recommend to your customers. The following books are available in the U.S.: *My Place* by Sally Morgan (\$11.95 pb, 0-316-58289-1, Little Brown), *Daughters of the Dreaming* by Diane Bell (\$16.95 pb, 8166-2398-8, University of Minnesota), *Warlpiri Dreamings and Other Narratives*: Yimikirli translated by Lee Cataldi and Peggy Rockman Napaljarri (\$20 cl, 0-06-066125-9, HarperSanFrancisco). Additional titles available in Australia are *Don't Take Your Love to Town* by Ruby Langford (Penguin, 1988), and *Daughters of the Pacific* by Zohl de Ishart (Spinifex Press, 1994). These books will give you a much more accurate picture of Aboriginal Australia. These are books that should be available in U.S. bookstores but some (perhaps most) of them are not.

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*Susan Hawthorne chaired the 6th International Feminist Book Fair in Melbourne, Australia in 1994, and is a co-founder of Spinifex Press. She is the author/editor of two books about Australia, The Falling Woman (Spinifex Press) and, co-edited with Renate Klein, Australia for Women: Travel and Culture (published in the U.S. by The Feminist Press; in the rest of the English-language world by Spinifex Press).* ○

## Announcements ...

*Continued from page 17*

Naiad Books announces a new series of audio-books that began with the release of *Curious Wine* on audio in September. Actress Jane Mero (nominated for a Golden Globe Award for her performance in *A Lion in Winter*) is the reader on these two 90-minute cassettes. Prelude Audio Books/London UK will record and produce Naiad's audiobook line in the UK; Naiad will distribute in the U.S. Naiad plans to record over 20 titles in 1995, including *An Emergence of Green*, the tenth anniversary edition of *Daughters of a Coral Dawn*, a Karin Kallmaker title, and more. ○

Dear Friends,

It's a feature of human memory to recall the past nostalgically. As feminist booksellers looking back at the bad old days of filling our shelves with small and alternative press books on a piecemeal basis, however, our eyes are wide open and our memories crystal clear.

Recall for a moment those old methods of ordering. A new feminist press would send a flier about its first, and perhaps only, book. We wanted to get it in—but not the five copies required for discount. Our choice? To skip it (what kind of feminist bookstore would do that?) or to order too many copies (what kind of well-managed bookstore book we didn't get a flier about or got the flier, only to lose it the next day?

Restocking books by established feminist presses also posed problems. Each title was important to keep in stock, but some only in ones and twos. What happened when we couldn't reach the minimum for a backlist from that publisher? How could we keep up with all those ones and twos from the feminist presses we wanted everpresent in the store?

These are only a few of the problems we encountered fifteen years ago, and with the explosion of material in the intervening years, the number and severity of ordering problems only increased. Keeping informed and well-stocked, but not overstocked, still present the greatest challenges—. To enable us to meet them—Inland Book Company came on the scene in 1981 as one of the nation's premier, the *only* east-of-the-Mississippi, competent, well-stocked, reliable supplier for alternative presses, fulfilling for those of us in the Midwest and the East, many of the same functions Bookpeople fulfilled — and continues to fulfill — for the booksellers in the West.

For those of us in the East and the Midwest, it's daunting to imagine doing our jobs well without Inland's vast inventory and its knowledgeable, supportive staff. We rely on Inland to inform us about new and re-issued titles, to keep us stocked with new and backlist books, and to be a source of nonbook material as well—journals, calendars, cards, etc. Through the years, Inland and the feminist, lesbian, and alternative publishing and bookselling movements have grown and developed side by side.

When we remember our history and think about the present, it's clear that we need to do all we can to support Inland as it goes through its current economic crisis. Independent bookstores need independent suppliers; feminist bookstores need distributors who support and empower our political and cultural beliefs. It's in our own best interest to continue buying from Inland, to make timely payments, and to keep returns to a minimum. We know that strong support for Inland is also strong support for our own future.

The Feminist Bookstore Network Steering Committee  
for The Feminist Bookstore Network

Inland

# HANGING IN FOR THE LONG HAUL

Inland.

Inland, InBook, Womensource.

Inland has been an essential part of feminist bookselling and publishing since it opened in 1981. Feminist and gay bookstores were one of the core markets that Inland first addressed, and Inland was built, in large part, on our need for books, for good distribution for our publishers and for top quality service.

And Inland delivered.

Inland got the publishers, had the books, and did impeccably accurate shipping and billing.

That Monday morning call to Inland became a way of life for East Coast feminist/gay bookstores and many general independent bookstores as well. Then their following expanded to the midwest ...

A lot of folks would have stopped there, but Inland founders David Wilk and Steve Hargraves, and the staff they assembled, are idea people, political people with a passionate commitment to small press literature and getting it out into the world. Questions like "What if we ...?" "Why don't we ...?" "This area isn't being served, couldn't we ...?" led to the creation of Womensource, a program to showcase women's presses to a wider bookselling market; to the development of InBook, a program to distribute participating publishers to other distributors and thus to another segment of the book market; to sales reps; and to less dramatic programs, such as Inland's phenomenal magazine distribution program. Inland was always willing to

pick up the smallest of the small presses, and so created a list of "essential" books and other publications that were available nowhere else. By then even the farthest-flung feminist bookstores found themselves ordering from Inland regularly. Inland had what no one else had. They had a reputation for paying their publishers and they were a pleasure to deal with.

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*Four years is a very long time to wait  
for money that's owed to you.  
But then, four years is infinitely shorter  
than never.*

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## History and Context

The need for a good, small press distributor on the East Coast was obvious from the start. By 1990, when Inland moved to its present location, sales had reached \$6 million/year. But, concerned about still being a small distributor, and inspired by their success with the Womensource program, Inland decided to expand its wholesale base and set a goal of reaching a total sales level of \$20/million year within five years. By March of 1994, InBook, Womensource and Inland Distribution programs sales had reached almost \$9 million, while Inland's wholesale business was at \$6 million. They were well on the way.

# Essential Reading

## Burdens of History

British Feminists, Indian Women, and Imperial Culture, 1865–1915

BY ANTOINETTE BURTON

Antoinette Burton demonstrates how British feminists appropriated imperialistic ideology to justify their own right to equality—revealing a variety of feminisms grounded in notions of moral and racial superiority. “If the history of feminism is tarnished by Burton’s sophisticatedly critical reading, it is also indubitably rendered more realistic, inviting a new and fruitful phase of historical inquiry.”

—Philippa Levine

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Back in print

## One Hour

BY LILLIAN SMITH

New Introduction by Margaret Rose Gladney

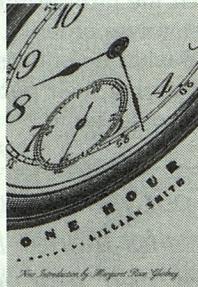
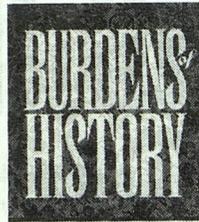
Southern novelist and activist Lillian Smith (1897–1966)

considered *One Hour* her best work of fiction. The novel, originally published in 1959 and long out of print, brilliantly chronicles a series of tragic events set in motion when a gifted scientist is unjustly accused of molesting a young girl. The novel’s tensions culminate in an eruption of violence and hate that destroys the community.

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But rapid growth also has a downside. As most bookstores know, rapid growth creates its own cash flow problems. Rapid staff growth also brings its own set of challenges and Inland’s beloved “benign anarchy” ceased functioning well as staff size doubled and then doubled again. Some programs and experiments lost money. Computerization problems were legion and made it difficult to know what was going on. By early 1993 cash flow was clearly a problem, there appeared to be other problems as well, and the search for additional investment capital began.

And the problems were being felt outside of Inland as well. At the 1993 ABA there was some concern in feminist bookstore and publishing circles about Inland being behind with payments to some publishers. At ABA in 1994 the situation was clearly much more serious.

## The Miller Group — Briefly

Then, in June, amid rumors that Inland was refinancing, Inland sold itself to the Miller Group. Miller was to bring financial resources to Inland that would make it possible for Inland to catch up on outstanding debt to publishers, not immediately, but over two to three years. Dave and Steve would stay on to direct the sales and warehouse operations and Inland would continue to do business as usual.

Wrong.

Instead things went from bad to a lot worse.

For feminist bookstores, the first clue was that the people in the order department turned into nameless automatons. The humans and the humanness disappeared. The pleasure went out of the weekly call to Inland *fast*. Then credit terms were abruptly changed with no notice and the new credit terms were applied to existing bills that were contracted under the old terms. Interest was to be charged at 30 days. Booksellers who had been buying from Inland for years suddenly started saying, “We can’t afford to do business with Inland.” And we were also hearing that payments to publishers were being “delayed.”

Inside Inland, things were worse. Job security disappeared as one round of layoffs followed another. Working conditions took a nose-dive. Suddenly there were dress codes, posters on walls were forbidden, and staff concerns were trivialized.

Inland workers did not like being called "little lady" by the new owner. Nor did they like having Inland's long-term commitment to flexibility regarding emergency childcare situations steam-rolled into a flat "no children at any time" policy.

As the weeks passed, not only did the promised injection of capital fail to appear, it began to appear that money was being taking *out* of the company. Significant amounts of money.

### The Shoot-Out at the OK Corral

On Friday, September 9, Dave and Steve "exercised certain rights available to [them] under a certain promissory note issued to [them] by John W. Miller" and took Inland back. There are some great stories out there about how this was achieved. My favorites feature cops and handcuffs and various leather fetish items. Most of that, satisfying as it is, is embellishment. The way you take a company back in these circumstances is to 1) be in the right, 2) change the locks on the doors, 3) hire a guard if you have to, and 4) have a board meeting and vote the other guys out and put yourselves in all the positions of power. Invariably, as the dust settles, there are legal challenges. The other party either gives up or, eventually, everything is settled in court. It takes a lot of courage.

### Post-Miller

Post-Miller, things at Inland were worse than before. Miller was supposed to bring in capital. By the time he was gone, the company was more than \$200,000 further in debt. The staff was shell-shocked, bookstores were alienated if not angered, publisher payments were further behind, and cash-flow, reflecting the decline in sales under Miller, was in the pits.

Still, the relief was palpable. There was hope that Inland could, somehow, survive. Everyone stopped pretending that things were "fine" and started dealing with the crisis. Information started circulating as never before. Ideas and support started pouring in.

Inland's best asset is good will. Almost everyone wants to see Inland survive. And the good will is accompanied by a powerful bottom line: If Inland can dig out, publishers will get some, or possibly all, of the money owed to them. If Inland goes under, no one will see any of it.

### The Current Plan

Meeting with publishers, Inland devised a proposal for InBook and other publishers to work together to re-capitalize Inland and pay off the debt. The gist of the plan is that Inland will shift to paying current obligations, rather than trying to liquidate old debt, and will commit to staying current as soon as possible. This should be possible now that Inland is operating in the black. Publishers were invited to support Inland by loaning Inland 5% to 10% of the coming year's receipts, and/or past-due amounts. These loans will generate a pool of money which will be used to pay off old debt. Thirty publishers have signed on to the program so far.

Inland also hopes to raise money by selling securities in the company and is actively looking for outside loans.

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*It also means that bookstores can get less of what they need from Inland and have to look further afield for essential titles that are listed as "Publishers Out of Stock" or "Not Yet Received" at Inland.*

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The current worst-case scenario is that, if book sales continue at the current rate, it will take 3-4 years to pay all of the old debt including the accumulating debt from the publishers loan program. Inland's immediate goal is to get *some* money to every publisher as soon as possible.

### Will It Work?

Four years is a very long time to wait for money that's owed to you. But then, four years is infinitely shorter than never. And it's probably quicker than starting a new distribution system from scratch. If hope and enthusiasm alone could create financial stability, Inland would have it made. But there are some other factors at work as well:

- Inland has some very powerful supporters for these programs. Barbara Grier (Naiad Press), Nancy Bereano (Firebrand Books), and Sandra Martz (Papier Mache) have been lobbying publishers on Inland's behalf. Barbara Grier has promised to per-

sonally teach Inland's Accounts Receivable crew the Grier Method for getting payment while keeping friends and keeping your debtors' businesses intact so that they can order from you again (and again and again). Sandra Martz' recent decision to join the InBook program will undoubtedly inspire confidence in Inland's future.

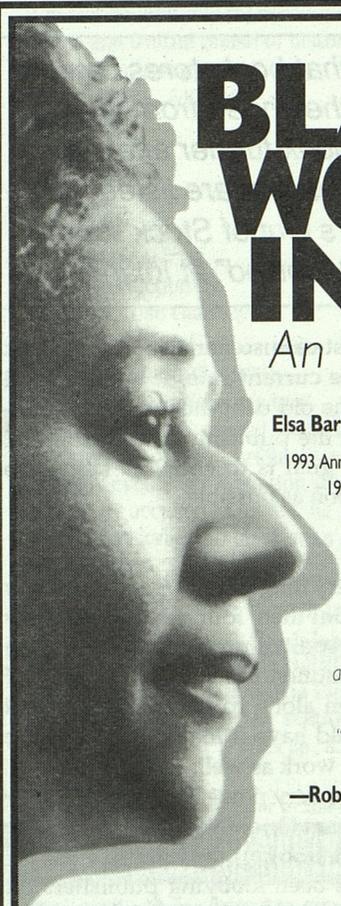
- Inland has reduced overhead significantly, primarily by cutting staff, which put Inland back into the realm of profitability. Inland is currently employing 70-75 people, down from a high of 112, though a staff of 80-85 would probably be optimal at this time. (Inland is currently hiring staff in sales, marketing and accounts receivable.)

- Publishers have come out strongly in support of Inland — some out of a passionate belief that

Inland needs to exist and some because they think it's their best chance to recover the money Inland owes them.

- Booksellers are very committed to Inland and are doing what they can, increasing their Inland "buys" where they can and paying bills earlier when possible.

- Returns rates are down from last spring's highs. A portion of the bookselling industry seems to have used returns to pay off old invoices and to shift a larger portion of their current inventory into accounts payable. This is a trick that independent bookstores may have learned from chain stores. That trend seems to have slowed down, if only because these stores have no more paid-for inventory to return. Contrary to earlier reports, feminist



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and gay/lesbian stores did not contribute significantly to the flood of returns Inland experienced this spring. The books returned were mostly "general" titles returned from general bookstores from "general" publishers (as opposed to Womensource and InBook publishers).

Inland's projected sales for 1994 are \$15 million. Inland's current bills are running about \$5 million, a viable amount for a 4-month paying cycle. The back debt (over 90 days) is around \$1.2 million. To pay that off in three years, Inland will have to generate an average "profit" of \$400,000/year (plus accumulating interest) — about 3%. All of this is in the realm of possibility.

## The Union

On October 21, Inland employees voted, overwhelmingly, to unionize. The union drive started in reaction to the Miller administration, but even with Miller out of the picture, there are still important reasons for Inland workers to unionize.

Job security is one. Twenty-some staff were laid off under Miller, but the entire staff could have lost their jobs when the business was sold. A good union contract would ensure that, if Inland were to be sold in the future or if Miller somehow regained control, union jobs would be protected.

Everyone seems to be suffering from Miller shell-shock, but there were also problems before he arrived on the scene. Inland grew very rapidly during the preceding four years but hadn't adjusted its staff management systems appropriately to deal with the increasingly complex staff situations. Inland staff see the union as a way to get a regular structure for raises, evaluations, promotions, recognition of work done, and to have their ideas for improving Inland heard and taken seriously. Many feel that some of the things Miller did were the "right things to do" (cutting back on staff, implementing tighter credit policies), but that Miller went about them the wrong way. Having some input into the way things are done becomes very important in this kind of situation.

The union also offers a very attractive health insurance program at lower cost than the programs that Inland is currently able to offer.

The healing is not finished but things are clearly improving in Inland's new incarnation. Staff

reviews have recently been resumed. Regular staff meetings have improved communication. Employee morale is high, despite the roller-coaster ride of the last few months. There's a clear commitment to making Inland work, to catching up and to showing customers that Inland can, again, be everything that it used to be. Financial plans, loans and capital are all essential. But all the best plans in the world can't do the trick if the staff isn't there to implement them. And the Inland staff is psyched to make Inland work.

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*Payment plans driven primarily by what books other distributors buy and what books the chains buy will not work for feminist bookstores.*

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## Problems

There's no doubt that things are going to be difficult for Inland and for the publishers Inland owes money to for the next few years.

The current plan is predicated on the hope that book sales will stay the same or will increase. That, as feminist and other independent booksellers know, is a dangerous assumption. Many independent bookstores are learning how to deal with reduced sales as discounters and superstores eat their marketshare. Too many general independent bookstores are closing. Presumably that means reduced sales for Inland from the independent quarter. Chain sales are increasing overall, but will their increased Inland buy exceed the potential independent store reductions? The mid- and late-90s are difficult to predict at this point.

And, while a lot of publishers are very supportive, there are also a lot of publishers who are less cooperative. Some can't afford the 5% loan deal, some need the money Inland owes them to proceed with their publishing. Some feel betrayed by Inland's failure to keep to contracted payment schedules. Some are not able to continue shipping books until they receive at least partial payment of the money owed to them. Inland is also "on hold" with a lot of suppliers. And some new publishers are understandably reticent to sign up with Inland. All of which, as all booksellers know, means lost sales at a time when

every sale is important. It also means that bookstores can get less of what they need from Inland and have to look further afield for essential titles that are listed as "Publisher Out of Stock" or "Not Yet Received" at Inland. That's hard on both Inland and the booksellers.

This entire situation is, of course, very hard on all of the publishers whose payments are overdue. Publishing is a risky, difficult business at best, and to have payment for books sold delayed for several months, nevermind two or three or four years, creates all kinds of problems. Some publishers have not been able to publish all of the books (or calendars or whatever) they had scheduled. Others went further into debt. Publishers' circumstances are as unique as their lists. Accommodating the needs of 1500 suppliers, when you don't have enough money to pay them all, will not be possible much of the time.

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*Employee morale is high. There's a clear commitment to making Inland work, to catching up and to showing customers that Inland can, again, be everything that it used to be.*

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Different publishers have different relationships with Inland. Like bookstores, Inland has its A-, B-, and C-Lists for prioritizing who gets the available money just as bookstores do. InBook publishers seem to be paid most regularly. Womensource and Inland Distribution publishers are next, but are nowhere near current.

Magazine publishers and the many small publishers who have books, et al., on consignment are near the bottom of the heap, somewhere just above discontinued publishers. And publishers also seem to be paid according to how strong their sales are. Publishers with books that sell strongly will undoubtedly be paid sooner, to ensure that these books continue to be available. Geography also seems to be a factor that is tempered by Inbook participation or sales volume.

Contemplating who gets paid, and when, raises difficult questions. Inland was built, significantly, on supplying books to feminist, lesbian/gay, progressive and feisty independent bookstores. While we are

definitely an essential part of Inland's present, it's not clear how that could change as Inland increases its distribution business and as chain stores become an ever-increasing portion of Inland's business. Payment plans driven primarily by what books other distributors buy and what books the chains buy will not work for feminist bookstores, other alternative bookstores and feisty independents. The easiest way to keep feminist presses at the top of the payment plan is to be sure that Inland is selling a lot of those books — by ordering them from Inland.

## The Future

Inland needs to tighten bookstore credit policies. Inland's accounts receivables have been running to an average of 105 days — way too late for sales that are supposed to be net 30, and that should, realistically, be closer to net 60 than net 90. Over 90 days is untenable for a business that needs to pay its suppliers at 90 to 120 days. But these changes will have to be eased in gradually. New credit and returns policies need to be announced with long implementation schedules, rather than being applied *ad hoc* to books purchased under other terms.

## Goals

Inland would like to raise \$500,000 in loans and securities in addition to the loans from publishers. Steve and Dave hope to implement an employee ownership plan that would shift a third of the ownership to employees within the next year. They also intend to have a publisher, staff and customer plan in effect by January. And of course the long-term goal is to pay off the debt and to continue to expand Inland's sales and services, and to stay vital in this rapidly shifting book industry.

## The Long Haul

If Inland is going to make it, it's going to be a long haul. Some times will look good; inevitably other times will be rocky. The best laid plans will have to be revised and updated to comply with changing conditions in the book industry. It's not going to be easy. It's not going to be quick. And it won't likely be pretty. But then, none of us went into bookselling because it was easy. We're here to do the hard work and we're here for the long haul. And hopefully, Inland is, too. ○

# BACK TO PRESS

## AND OTHER GOOD NEWS

by Beth Morgan

### Back to Press

Cleis Press sent four titles back to press this Fall: The just released **We Came All the Way from Cuba So You Could Dress Like This?**, stories by Achy Obejas, went back to press for a second printing of 3,000 copies, bringing the total number in print to 8,000. **Dagger: On Butch Women** edited by Roxxie, Lily Burana and Linnea Due is also back to press for a run of 4,000, for a total of 9,000. **Daughters of Darkness: Lesbian Vampire Stories** edited by Pam Keesey went back to press for a fourth printing of 5,000, for a total of 31,000 copies now in print. And **A Lesbian Love Advisor** by Celeste West has also gone back to press for a fourth printing, bringing the total number in print to 20,000.

No details, but the word from Naiad is that they did 38 reprints in 1994, as well as publishing 24 new titles!

### Rights

Seal Press sold the paperback rights to its forthcoming book, **A Different Angle: Fly Fishing Stories by Women** to Putnam Berkley. Executive Editor Susan Allison of Berkley bought the book for \$85,000. Seal's hardcover edition of the book will be published in April 1995.

Quality Paperback Book Club (QPBC) will release **Herotica**, **Herotica 2** and **Herotica 3** as a 3-in-1 volume in one of their Spring 1995 catalogs. Down There Press, producer of the series, licensed book club rights for **Herotica** to QPBC and NAL/Dutton licensed **Herotica 2** and **Herotica 3**. Susie Bright, editor of these volumes, is also the editor of the *Best American Erotica* series (Macmillan). In more *Herotica* news, Down There Press has created a fourth *Herotica* collection and licensed its publication to NAL/Dutton as **Herotica 4**. Marcy

Sheiner, a contributor to each of the previous *Herotica*s, and a former editor of *On Our Backs*, takes the helm as editor. NAL has slated **Herotica 4** as a 1996 release under its Plume imprint. The *Herotica* series is also moving into the technological realm — Passion Press, a new audiobook publisher of erotica, will release an abridged audio edition of **Herotica** November 1994 as one of its first titles; look for it at Ingram.



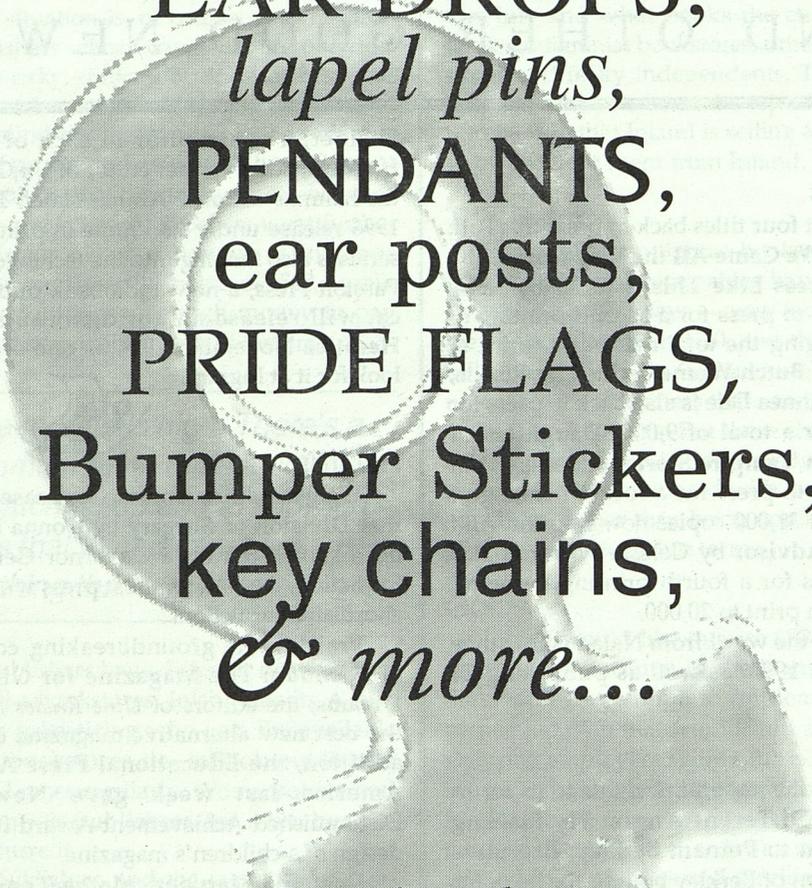
### Awards

Women's Press Toronto is pleased to announce that **Division of Surgery** by Donna McFarlane has been shortlisted for a Governor General's Award for fiction, the first feminist press we know of to be shortlisted for fiction!

Praising the groundbreaking contribution of **New Moon: The Magazine for Girls and Their Dreams**, the editors of *Utne Reader* have named it the best new alternative magazine of the year. In addition, the Educational Press Association of America last week gave **New Moon** its Distinguished Achievement Award for best overall design of a children's magazine.

Demetria Martinez' **MotherTongue** (Bilingual Press) has been awarded the Tenth Anniversary 1994 Western States Book Award for fiction! Founded in 1984, the awards are presented annually to outstanding authors and publishers of fiction, creative nonfiction and poetry working in the West.

Harvard Divinity School Professor and Beacon Press author Kiana Eck will be awarded the 1994 Melcher Book Award for her book **Encountering God: A Spiritual Journey from Bozeman to Banaras**. The Melcher Award is given annually to a work judged to be the most significant contribution to religious liberalism. **Encountering God** is the first Beacon Press book to receive this award since 1977. ○



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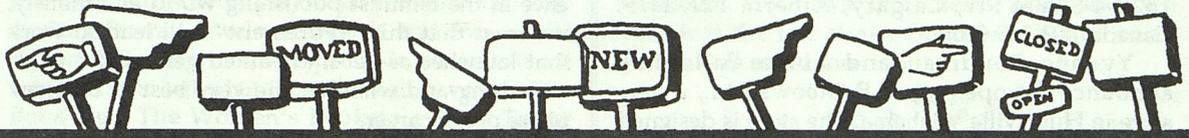
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# THEY WENT THAT-A-WAY



Compiled by Beth Morgan

## New Stores

Karen Jorgensen will open West Berkeley Women's Books in December of 1994, bringing the total of women's bookstores in the East Bay Area to three! (Mama Bears in Oakland and Boadecia's Books in North Berkeley are the other two.) The store will stock titles by women, and lesbian but not gay titles. Owner Jorgensen is a teacher, and plans a specialty section on anti-sexist and multicultural materials for teachers. The new store will be located on San Pablo Avenue next to the new location of the well-known Brick Hut Cafe; rumor has it that Good Vibrations — selling sex toys, books and videos — is considering opening a new store next door sometime in the future. West Berkeley Women's Books, 2514 San Pablo Avenue, Berkeley CA 94702; 510-204-9399.



Barbara Thomas' new store It's My Pleasure in Muskegon MI is in the final stages of preparation, and Barbara hopes to open the doors on December 8th. The store will cater to women and women's issues and will include a coffeeshop and gallery. It's My Pleasure — Women's Books & Gifts, 3228 Glade Street, Muskegon MI 49444; 616-739-7348.

New Herizons Books & Gifts, formerly mail-order-only, now has a storefront! Located between Boston and Northampton, they serve a community in which there is not much other lesbian visibility. The new store is 450 square feet and has quickly become a women's networking hub for central Massachusetts. 100% of their stock is by, for and about women, including multicultural and children's sections. Their new address is New

Herizons, 376 W. Boylston, Worcester MA 01606; 508-365-4340.

After two years of fundraising, longtime *Lesbian Connections* member Cheryl VanDeKerkhove will open a new community bookstore, The Real World, in Lansing MI this Thanksgiving! The store will carry feminist and gay & lesbian titles. The Real World, 1216 Turner Street, Lansing MI 48906; 517-485-2665.

Amarillo has a new women's bookstore — Washington Square Cafe & Bookstore. Owner Becki McQuay opened the store in early October, with stock focusing on women's self-help, recovery and gay and lesbian titles, plus sidelines and a cafe that seats 45! Washington Square Cafe & Bookstore, 1607 South Washington, Amarillo TX 79102; 806-373-5885.

The Curator is a women's books and crafts shop that opened this past June in Wellington, New Zealand. The Curator is Wellington's only women's bookshop; the store is owned and run by Kathy Marshall, Annaliese Forde, Donna Riley and Emma Spicer. The Curator, PO Box 11-267, Wellington, New Zealand.

Anne-Marie Pollowy of the Women's Voices Foundation announces the launching of the Women's Voices Bookclub, an easily accessible source of carefully selected publications by/for/about women, available on-line and from a catalog. WVF is a non-profit international organization that sees itself as "creating a connection between the funding of organizations addressing women's issues and the distribution of information to women." Women's Voices Bookclub, 5661 Columbia Road Suite 302, Columbia MD 21044; 410-715-3991.

Healing Words is a new bookstore in Calgary, Alberta. Owner Carolyn Anderson tells us she decided to start the bookstore because there were not enough resources for adult survivors in her

area. As much a community center as it is a bookstore, Healing Words is currently run out of a counseling office, but the plan is to move to a storefront in about a year. Healing Words Bookstore, 705, 1520-4 Street SW, Calgary, Alberta T2R 1H5, Canada; 403-245-5005.

Yvonne Boudreau and Linda Ballentine announce the opening of Rainbows Ltd., a new store in Huntsville, Alabama. The store is designed to appeal to both men and women, with a focus on gay and lesbian titles, feminist titles, recovery, AIDS, ethnic and black women's issues, and business and corporate gay-related titles. Rainbows Ltd., 4321 University #400B, Huntsville AL 35816; 205-722-9220.

Jacqueline Dumas has opened Orlando Books in Edmonton, Alberta, a general bookstore that emphasizes women's issues, gay and lesbian titles, left-wing politics, peace issues and good children's books. The store is a spacious 2300 square feet, with a small seating area, and so far response has been enthusiastic. Jacqueline was a co-founder of Aspen Books, which she sold in 1985. Orlando Books, 10640 Whyte Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta T6E 2A7, Canada; 403-432-7633.



## Comings and Goings

After eighteen years in feminist publishing, Barbara Wilson is leaving Seal Press at the end of the year to concentrate on her writing career. Barbara co-founded Seal Press with Rachel da Silva and "watched Seal grow from a tiny operation based in my apartment and Rachel's mother's garage" into one of the country's best-known feminist presses. She edited many titles for Seal, including the best-selling *Getting Free: A Handbook for Women in Abusive Relationships* and *Lesbian Couples*, and was also responsible for the Women in Translation series which became a separate non-profit publishing company in 1990. Barbara's recent mystery, *Gaudi Afternoon*, won the British Crime Writers Award for best mystery set in Europe and the Lambda Literary Award for best lesbian mystery. She was also awarded a Columbia Translation Prize for her translation of the short stories of

Norwegian writer Cora Sandel. Her first novel, *Murder in the Collective*, published in 1984, is credited with helping to begin the lesbian-feminist mystery genre and, though we will miss Barbara's presence in the feminist publishing world enormously, we trust that this "retirement" will lead to work that launches as-yet-undreamed genres and fields of writing and wish her the very best in this new phase of her career.

Barbara will continue as President of the Board of Women in Translation and will, for the time being, remain as one of Seal's owners. We also send our best wishes to all of the women who will continue to steer Seal Press into the future, especially Seal's long-time co-director, Faith Conlon, who will become Seal's publisher on January 1.

In other changes at Seal, Holly Morris (*Uncommon Waters* and *A Different Angle: Fly Fishing Stories by Women*) has been named Managing Editor. Operations Manager June Thomas has joined the Seal editorial staff and will be handling Seal's foreign rights. June is also the Managing Editor for Women in Translation. Lynn Siniscalchi, formerly the business manager of *Hot Wire*, has joined the press as warehouse and office manager.

And in other Comings and Goings, Lisa Domitrovich, a past editor at Calyx Press, is stepping down as executive director of Small Press Distribution, effective March 1, 1995. She leaves "confident in the knowledge that SPD is better positioned for the future than it has ever been."

## New Press

T 'n' T Books was incorporated in the summer of 1994, with the express mission of keeping works published by JH Press alive and in print, and extending the range of publication of specialized material related to the theatre. JH Press was founded in 1980 by Terry Helbing. In 1995, T 'n' T will re-issue several JH Press titles, and hopes to issue an anthology of the complete works of Jane Chambers.

## New Name

Alaska Women's Bookstore has changed its name — Bona Dea: The Women's Bookstore (translation: good goddess). The store has also moved two doors down (address, phone number and fax remain unchanged) into a space double that of the original

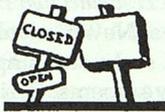
store, where things were getting far too cramped. The new space — 2600 square feet — has been remodeled, complete with new carpets and fixtures, a lovely office, huge front counter, stained glass windows and a children's play area. The store also now carries gift wrap, jewelry and cards, and does special orders. A Borders recently opened in the area, but it is too soon to tell what impact it will have on sales. Bona Dea: The Women's Bookstore, 2440 Tudor Road #304, Anchorage AK 99507; 907-562-4716.

## Presses Close

Sheba, one of Britain's independent feminist presses, has maintained a holding pattern for several years in an effort to generate enough income from published books to reduce debt to manageable proportions and return to publishing new books. But the decision was made in September to close the press after a final fund-raising auction and a "wake and celebration." Sheba was founded in 1980 as an independent women's publishing cooperative. It was particularly respected for its commitment to multiculturalism and diversity, in both publishing and staffing, and for its publication of lesbian erotic writing.

## Bookstore For Sale

Claire Sapiro will retire for the second time in January. The first time she "retired" she opened ClaireLight, the women's bookstore in Santa Rosa. Eight and a half years later she's *really* going to retire and do those "leisure"-time things — play golf, travel, take classes and enjoy some time at home! Claire would like to sell the store (including inventory and fixtures) and can help with financing. If the store doesn't sell by the end of January, she'll close it.



## Closed

Joan Turner closed Winnipeg's Bold Print Bookstore this Fall, after several years of trying to sell the store.

After 3 years in business, Wally Martin has closed Arbor Moon Books in Lincoln NE. Originally located in a social services venue, the store moved to a main street location, with better hours, its first

year in business, but with very little positive result. Several feminist bookstores have tried to make a go of it in Lincoln; Wally wishes she knew what to do about Lincoln's inability to support a women's bookstore. The arrival of Barnes & Noble this past year was the last straw. Good luck Wally, in all your future endeavors.



## Changing Distributors

Midge Stocker of Third Side Press reports that Third Side has joined the list of feminist presses now distributed by Consortium. Third Side encourages feminist booksellers to order Third Side titles directly from Consortium whenever possible, because that way Third Side gets the best discount. Midge also points out that a large frontlist order from Consortium gets booksellers a good discount, and booksellers keep this discount for any size order they place for the rest of that year.

Consortium is now also the exclusive U.S. and Canadian distributor of books from Alyson Publications of Boston. This brings Consortium's total number of publishers to 32.

Good news from Teachers College Press for bookstores who like to order through Inland Book Company: all new and many backlist titles in the Athene Series (as well as some of TCP's regular education books) are now available through Inland. TCP has also simplified the Athene discount schedule for bookstores ordering directly from the Press.

Inland is no longer distributing the *Feminists for Animal Rights Newsletter*. Copies are now available from: Feminists for Animal Rights, PO Box 694, Cathedral Station, New York NY 10025. The newsletter retails for \$3 each; 5 or more copies receive a 50% discount. Payment must accompany orders.

## Anniversaries

*Radiance: The Magazine for Large Women*, celebrated its 10th year in print with the Fall 1994 issue. Since 1984, *Radiance* has encouraged and supported more than 500,000 women worldwide in living proud, full, active lives, with self-love and self-respect. Congratulations *Radiance*! ○

# WRITING WANTED



Compiled by Beth Morgan

Naomi Holoch and Joan Nestle, editors of the Women on Women Series, invite lesbian writers from around the world to submit writing to *Words Unspoken: An Anthology of International Lesbian Fiction*, to be published by Vintage. The editors seek manuscripts of short fiction on any theme and of any length, as well as memoirs and historical writings from different countries. They are looking for compelling writing representing "the most varied of international lesbian voices," and will include a short description of the legal and social standing of lesbians and gay people in each country represented in the book. Limited funds available for translation; if work is not in English, send summary in English. Deadline December 1994. Send manuscripts to Joan Nestle, 215 West 92nd Street, Apt 13A, New York, NY 10025, USA.

Writing wanted for an anthology on body image and identity in the lesbian, bisexual and gay community(ies), exploring how those communities both challenge and perpetuate society's beauty standard. This anthology will explore such questions as: What does it mean to "look gay" or "look like a dyke?" When are we just parodying the media image? What about the fear of fat in both men's and women's communities? Prefer contributors be self-identified as lesbian, gay or bisexual. Send submissions to Dawn Atkins, P.O. Box 861, Iowa City IA 62244-0861. Deadline: December 1, 1994.

*Sistersongs: Women Across Cultures, A Triennial Journal* seeks original, unpublished material from new and emerging women writers and artists: fiction, poetry, journal entries, memoirs, experiential

essays and letters and artwork in a multitude of forms. Publish in English, but encourage non-Anglo contributors and works in translation (include original language version). Next issue is on travel: Where have you traveled, with whom and why? What did you find when you arrived? How have your journeys surprised you, served you, changed you? How does being a woman affect traveling? Treat the destination or process of the journey itself; concrete images, visual images are requisite. Send submissions or write for further details: Sistersong, PO Box 7405, Pittsburgh PA 15213, USA. Deadline for travel issue: February 1, 1995.



Raven'Light is seeking visual art and first-person non-fiction narrative prose for an anthology on breast cancer and body image. Inquiries relating to other art forms are encouraged. Open to all breast cancer survivors and/or their surviving friends. Send SASE for guidelines prior to submission: Raven'Light, PO Box 135, Graton CA 95444. Deadline: April 1, 1995.

*Contemporary Lesbian Love Poems*, an anthology edited by Leslea Newman to be published by Ballantine Books, seeks stunning, breathtaking, gorgeous lesbian love poems. Serious, funny, tender, angry poems about first love, mature love, troubled love, unrequited love, butch/femme love, PC and PI love will all be considered. Contributors will receive payment and copy of book. Send up to five poems; no line limit. SASE must be included or poems will not be considered. Send to Lesléa Newman, PO Box 815, Northampton MA 01061. Deadline: February 14, 1995.

*Continued on page 48*

# HUMOR



## RAVES & RECOMMENDATIONS

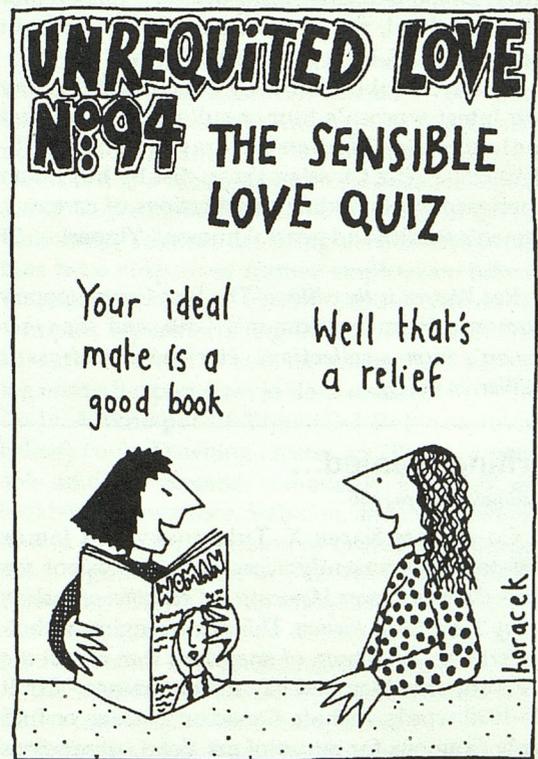
by Roz Warren

**Getting In Touch With Your Inner Bitch** by Elizabeth Hilts is a funny and empowering little book (with cover art and cartoons by Nicole Hollander). An expanded version of an essay first published in *hysteria* magazine, its message is that it's perfectly okay to be a bitch, as defined by Madonna in a quote on the book's back cover: "I'm tough, ambitious and I know exactly what I want. If that makes me a bitch, okay." **Inner Bitch** offers plenty of amusing and useful advice to help gals overcome what Hilts refers to as "Toxic Niceness," such as: "Next time you encounter a nasty salesperson, be Katherine Hepburn." \$7.95 pb, 0-9629162-0-X, Hysteria Publications, dist. by IN.

Barbara Brandon is *still* our only nationally syndicated African American woman cartoonist. Her strip, "Where I'm Coming From" now appears in more than 100 newspapers worldwide; the second collection of her work, **Where I'm Still Coming From** is now available. Brandon's strip is about a group of women who confide in each other about work, politics, race and, more often than anything else, their annoying boyfriends. (Also included are two good coming out 'toons about a gay cousin of one of the characters.) \$8.95 pb, 0-8362-8051-2, Andrews and McMeel, 4900 Main St., Kansas City MO 64112, 816-932-6600.

Ellen Forney is a major new cartooning talent. (Check out her multi-page story about the life and times of a twentysomething bisexual, "Bi Bi Birdie," in *What Is This Thing Called Sex?*) Forney is one of very few women to be given her own comic book, **Tomato: Comics By Ellen Forney** (\$2.75, Starhead Comix, POB 30044, Seattle WA 98103). A recent issue of *On Our Backs* featured Ellen and a gal pal in a photo spread that followed the plot of one of the

comic's sexier tales. **Tomato** also includes the delightful "My Date With Camille Paglia." Forney is one of many talented cartoonists featured in **Seattle Laughs: Comic Stories About Seattle** (\$11.95 pb, 0-930180-13-5, Homestead Book Company, POB 31608, Seattle WA 98103, dist. by Pacific Pipeline). Edited by cartoonist Shery Flenniken, this is a very enjoyable collection teeming with in-jokes about Seattle life (latte, the Space Needle, working at Boeing and erupting volcanoes) and featuring high quality work by Roberta Gregory, Trina Robbins, Debbie Murray, many talented guys and Flenniken herself.



**Unrequited Love** (\$12.95 pb, 0-86914-349-2, McPhee Gribble Publishers, 487 Maroondah Highway, Ringwood, Victoria, 3134 Australia) collects 100 terrific new single panel cartoons by Australia's Judy Horacek, whose work is always beautiful, funny, wry, political and feminist. The cartoon on the cover of the last issue of *FBN* was from Horacek's **Life on the Edge** (\$10.95 pb, 1-567-96051-0, Spinifex, dist. in the U.S. by IN), her only collection that is readily available in the U.S. — so far. Another cartoon collection worth checking out is Terry Harned's **Cartoons On The Edge** (\$9.95 pb, 0-9641841-0-2, Hex Magazine, POB 210133, San Francisco CA 94121, self-distributed) which includes odd, amusing, single panel toons on topics like tofu therapy and transsexual introductions ("John, this is Sue, who used to be Greg, and Sue, I want you to meet John, formerly Jennifer.") If you stock zines, try Robert Kirby's **Strange-Looking Exile: The Comix Zine For Queer Dudes and Babes** (\$4.25, Giant Ass, dist. by IN). The good news is that it's full of solid material by folks like Kirby, Diane DiMassa, Fish, Leanne Franson and Alison Bechdel; the bad news is that the current issue, number 5, is the final issue.

Finally, Booklist recently concluded that my own latest women's humor collection, **The Best Contemporary Women's Humor** (\$12.95 pb, 0-89594-694-7, The Crossing Press, dist by BP) is "an experience worth adding to collections of cartoons, women's studies and general humor." Yippeel! ○

*Roz Warren is the editor of The Best Contemporary Women's Humor, Women's Glib, and six other women's humor collections. Her e-mail address is RozWarren@AOL*

## Writing Wanted...

*Continued from page 46*

Co-editors Karen X. Tulchinsky and James Johnstone are currently accepting submissions for *Queer Glances, Queer Moments: A Collection of Lesbian & Gay Short Short Fiction*. This wide-ranging anthology will be "an album of snapshots that reflect the spectrum of lesbian and gay life experience." Limit 750-1000 words. Include Canadian postage or Int'l Reply Coupons for return of ms. Send submissions

to *Queer Glances, Queer Moments*, #1002-1340 Burnaby Street, Vancouver, B.C., Canada V6E 1R1. Deadline: March 31, 1995.

Melissa Scott and Lisa A. Barnett are looking for a few good stories of gay and lesbian erotic science fiction, fantasy or horror for an anthology to be edited by Stan Leventhal. Stories can be of any tone, but must be skillful in their genre "and — obviously — and they have to be hot!" Deadline: December 31, 1994. Send manuscripts to Melissa Scott/Lisa A. Barnett, PO Box 6554, Portsmouth NH 03802-6554.

*Lavendar Life*, a monthly nationwide lesbian magazine, announces a writing contest to celebrate the beginning of their 4th year in January 1995. All women invited to enter; prizes will be awarded. Deadline: December 31, 1994. Winners to be announced in the January 15, 1995 Anniversary Issue. Short Stories: 1st prize \$100, 2nd prize \$50, 3rd prize \$25; Poetry: 1st prize \$50, 2nd prize \$25. For more info or to send submission, write to *Lavendar Life*, Pamela K. Fite, PO Box 898, Binghamton NY, 13902-0898.



Seeking work by lesbian/queer women artists (individuals, collaborations, collectives) exploring issues of self-representation, to generate a survey article of production in photography and photo-based work since 1969. The article will cover a broad range of strategies around self-representation, including documentary, portraiture, self-portraiture, pornography, constructed and manipulated images, story telling, photo text work, deconstructive work, street work and works that combine sexual representation and gender, ethnicity and race. Desire bodies of work produced over a period of time, wherever possible. A summarized version of this research and analysis will be presented at the Society for Photographic Education conference in Atlanta, March 1995. Please send slides with slide list noting dates, sizes, etc.; artists' statements; current cv; materials related to specific exhibitions; critical writing and reviews. Send to Cyndra MacDowall, 6018 Jeanne Mance, Montreal, Quebec, Canada H2V 4K8 (Tel: 514-272-4851). ○

# SUSANNA STURGIS

ON

## SCIENCE FICTION



The theme, said the Editor, is University Presses; if you can tie in to that theme, great. Well, I thought about it; little science fiction or fantasy is published by university presses. There are, however, some notable exceptions. The Feminist Press, for example, has rediscovered and made available the important speculative fiction of Katharine Burdekin (*Swastika Night* and *The End of This Day's Business*), as well as Jessica Amanda Salmonson's historically significant and (even more important) compellingly readable *What Did Miss Darrington See?*, an anthology of women's ghost stories.

The University Press of New England has made Samuel Delany's Neveryon books available once again, and the University of New Mexico Press is distributing Living Batch Press' trade edition of Suzy McKee Charnas' *The Vampire Tapestry*. University presses have far more influence on the nonfiction side. What would we do without, to name a few titles, Sarah Lefanu's *Feminism and Science Fiction* (Indiana); Camille Bacon-Smith's *Enterprising Women* (Pennsylvania), about women in media fandom; and, perhaps the best of all, Joanna Russ' *How to Suppress Women's Writing* (Texas)?

Searching farther afield, I realized that academic settings are relatively rare and/or peripheral in fantasy and science fiction by women. More than one writer began her escape from mundane reality in the classroom, so it's probably not surprising that few imagine the school or university as an exciting setting. Caroline Stevermer's Faris Nallaneen, however, does attend *A College for Magics* (Tor) in the recent novel of the same name. In fantasy, though, young people are much more likely to learn their trades — from magic to music to martial arts — as apprentices.

In Ellen Kushner's *Swordspoint* (Tor), Michael Godwin studies swordsmanship in a school run by

a one-armed master above an old stable; we hear some but see very little of the university where the enigmatic Alec studied, but it seems to be organized like old Oxford or Cambridge. Pamela Dean set her contemporary telling of *Tam Lin* (Tor) in a liberal arts college, where some members of the Classics faculty are involved in dark rituals indeed, and some of the students have personal memories of William Shakespeare.



Since science fictional characters are often well-educated — or at least well-trained — one might expect more academic milieu, but few come to mind, and the doings at them would hardly be chronicled in a brochure for prospective students. In Tanya Huff's *Blood Pact* (DAW), the labs of Queen's University, Toronto, are being used to create zombies from corpses of former employees. Edward Weyland, the vampire in Suzy McKee Charnas' *The Vampire Tapestry* (Living Batch Press), finds academe ideally suited to both his intellect and his feeding needs; he specializes in sleep research.

In *A Whisper of Time* (Del Rey; see review below) Paula Downing creates an all-too-recognizable academic research community, complete with backbiting, cowardice, ambition, and incompetence. In one creative subversion of orthodox education, the Linguist women in Suzette Haden Elgin's *Earthsong* (DAW) use an interplanetary school system to alleviate hunger by teaching people to nourish their bodies with music instead of food.

So much for the university theme. Some titles to add to your syllabus in coming months ...

Ballantine/Del Rey: *The Dolphins of Pern* by

Anne McCaffrey (cl); **Bride of the Rat God** by Barbara Hambly (December); **The Stone Garden** by Mary Rosenblum (January), an author to watch with two fine novels to her credit, *Drylands* and *Chimera*; **The High Queen** by Nancy McKenzie (February), for all who liked *The Child Queen*, first in a Camelot trilogy told from Guinevere's point of view.

Bantam Spectra: **Remake** by Connie Willis (February, tp), a novella; **Lady of the Trillium** by Marion Zimmer Bradley (April, cl), another solo effort following up on *Black Trillium*, written by Bradley, Andre Norton, and Julian May.

HarperPrism: **A Fisherman of the Inland Sea** by Ursula K. Le Guin, a story collection (cl).

Warner/Aspect: **The Best of Marion Zimmer Bradley's Fantasy Magazine** edited by Marion Zimmer Bradley; **Parable of the Sower** by Octavia E. Butler.

## ACE BOOKS

**The Laughing Corpse** by Laurell K. Hamilton. Meet, if you haven't already, Anita Blake, detective with a difference. She works for Animators, Inc., turning corpses into zombies — an enterprise that has been legal for all of five years. But there are some jobs that she won't take, like raising a 283-year-old corpse, because human sacrifice is required. But someone with fewer scruples does take the job. Anita Blake was introduced in Hamilton's *Guilty Pleasures* (Ace, \$4.99, 0-441-30483-4). \$4.99, 0-441-00091-6.



## BAEN BOOKS

**Initiation** by Marian Hughes. Humans fight for survival on a planet "where the wildlife has developed a taste for human flesh and the native food drives humans into uncontrollable rages." The story, which the PR commends to "fans of alien cultures and strong female characters," focuses on a young man who's afraid he won't turn into a berserker and a young woman who's afraid she will. Take a chance? \$5.99, 0-671-87640-6, January.

**No Earthly Sunne** by Margaret Ball. A new historical fantasy from an author who, with *Flameweaver* and *Changeweaver*, proved she could handle the combination. In this, the present and Elizabethan England are magically linked by a

musical masque and the Queen of Faerie's penchant for robbing human women of their talented lovers. \$5.99, 0-671-87633-3, December.

## BALLANTINE/DEL REY

**A Whisper of Time** by Paula E. Downing. Medoret, a young girl, is inadvertently left behind by her starfaring people. Found by humans, she becomes a caged celebrity: humanity's first alien. Through dreams rich with ancient Mayan imagery, she catches glimmers of her own people, while struggling to be treated as more than an exotic and/or a research subject by the human academics. Though this fine novel doesn't explore gender issues specifically, Medoret's challenge, to become a bridge between two peoples, will be recognized by any feminist who belongs to more than one world at once. Recommended. Downing has published four other novels, none of which I've read: *Mad Roy's Light* (as Paula King), *Rinn's Star* (Del Rey), and *Flare Star* (\$3.99, 0-345-37165-8, Del Rey), *Fallway* (\$4.99, 0-345-37763-X, Del Rey). \$4.99, 0-345-38195-5.



## BERKLEY

**Mina** by Marie Kiraly. In Bram Stoker's *Dracula*, Mina Harker drank the vampire's blood and was saved from damnation by the stake driven through Count Dracula's heart. What happened next? Was ordinary life possible after such an experience? \$5.50, 0-425-14359-7.

## DAW BOOKS

**Storm Warning** by Mercedes Lackey. This is the first book in Lackey's new Valdemar trilogy, which takes place as Queen Selenay attempts to form an alliance with the hostile kingdom of Karse in order to defend against the Eastern Empire. As always, the telepathic bond of the horse-like Companions with their riders is a major attraction. Lackey is also a past winner of the Lammy for gay men's f/sf. \$21.95 cl, 0-88677-611-2.

## OBELESK BOOKS

Obelesk Books is a small press publishing chapbook anthologies of fantastic fiction, often though not always by women. The recent **Rites of Passage**

(\$6, no ISBN) features a story I dearly wanted to publish: Wendy Rathbone's "Ink and the Moon Goddess." The design (black & white, no title on spine, etc.) doesn't lend itself to bookstore distribution, however. For more information, write to S. G. Johnson, Editor, Obelesk Books, P.O. Box 1118, Elkton MD 21922.

## PENGUIN/ROC

**Metal Angel** by Nancy Springer. While *Larque on the Wing* garners well-deserved attention, don't ignore Springer's other 1994 novel, which also explores gender, self-realization, relationships, and various forces of repression. Wanting to experience being human, Volos, a very minor angel, incarnates on earth — with wings intact. He rapidly becomes a rock superstar, attracting both exploitive "friends" and an unusual family of runaways. Volos' bisexuality is nowhere suggested in the blurbs (though kibitzers in the Gaylaxicon dealer's room agreed that the cover picture might pique the interest of a gay male audience); neither are the religious fundamentalists who launch a crusade against the supposedly blasphemous angel. \$4.99, 0-451-45330-1.

## RISING TIDE

**Heartstone and Saber** by Jacqui Singleton. An orphan sister and brother whose town is destroyed by raiders despite their efforts (the sister with a magic amulet, the brother with his ancestral saber), an aloof but benevolent ruler, her treacherous military commander and lover, an evil mage: this has the beginnings of a solid, if generic fantasy. But the world remains sketchy and Romance and Rivalry replace more complex motivation for the (all drop-dead gorgeous) characters. Not a bad first effort, but strong editing would have done wonders. \$10.99 tp, 1-883061-00-8.

## TOR BOOKS

**Half the Day Is Night** by Maureen F. McHugh. Sad to say, the second novel by McHugh, author of the Tiptree and Lammy Award winning *China Mountain Zhang*, doesn't commend itself to feminist or gay audiences. Its outstanding feature is the underwater country of Caribe, where banker Mayla Ling and her bodyguard, David Dai, find themselves enmeshed in a surreal but credible web of corporate

greed and official corruption. Dai, haunted by his soldier past, is the more interesting character, but neither is strong enough to carry the last quarter of the novel, which focuses on their psychological states as they attempt to escape. \$21.95 cl, 0-312-85479-X.

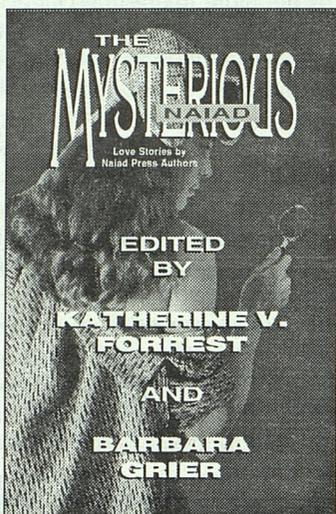
**Summer King, Winter Fool** by Lisa Goldstein. In Etrara, the king's half-siblings scheme to take the throne while Val, the true heir, is oblivious to his heritage, and when it should be spring the days continue to shrink because Callabron, the summer god, refuses to ascend to his place in heaven. The cosmology and customs are well worked out, and the main characters — Val, his cousin, and a young woman of the fisher-folk who turns out to be the most powerful of all — vital and complex. A tale, well told in deceptively simple prose, of innocents earning experience and power. \$21.95 cl, 0-312-85632-6.



**Tales from the Great Turtle** edited by Piers Anthony and Richard Gilliam. Among the most intriguing original anthologies I've seen in years, this collects fantastic stories based on Native American myths and legends, by men and women, Native and non-. A few of the contributors will be familiar to fantasy readers (Jane Yolen, Esther Friesner, Pamela Sargent, etc.), but an encouraging number are not. \$21.95 cl, 0-312-85628-8.

**The Raven Ring** by Patricia C. Wrede. A fast-read fantasy with a cast of fairly generic characters: the witty thief with a heart of gold, the tradition-bound nobleman with a heart of, well, sterling, a mage Adept, and the (solo) plucky young woman from the hinterlands with dazzling warrior skills. Said woman, Eleret, journeys to the big city to recover the personal effects of her military mother, who was slain in the emperor's service (nice touch, that). Among them is the raven ring, which is sought by various unpleasant characters. You get the idea. \$21.95 cl, 0-312-85040-9.

**Travellers in Magic** by Lisa Goldstein. A fine collection of short fiction, three of which are set in Amaz, the world of Goldstein's "slipstream" novel *Tourists*. Another, "Rites of Spring," is an intriguing modern setting of the Demeter-Persephone story. \$20.95 cl, 0-312-85790-X, December. ○



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# MYSTERIES



by Nan Cinnater  
Now Voyager/Provincetown MA

Since November and December are quiet to the point of desolation out here by the ocean, it's very hard for me to get excited about holiday sales (as I have mentioned in this column before). For the sake of the vast majority of booksellers, however, I will attempt to round up some hot prospects for the season. Ho-ho-hum.

Bestselling Israeli author Batya Gur now has the third in her series which began with the critically acclaimed *The Saturday Morning Murders*. **Sleeping Together: The Kibbutz Murder** takes Inspector Michael Ohayon out of Jerusalem to uncover disturbing secrets and political contradictions on a kibbutz (\$20 cl, 0-06-019026-4, Harper). This month, Harper also publishes Gur's previous mystery, *Literary Murder*, in trade paper (\$9 tp, 0-06-092548-5).



Feminist bookstores should do particularly well with a couple of feminist press lesbian mysteries this season. Mabel Maney's **The Case of the Good-for-Nothing Girlfriend** will speak to everyone who ever read Nancy Drew mysteries and longed for chums (and didn't we all?), so don't miss it (\$10.95 tp, 0-939416-91-3, Cleis). Ellen Hart's **A Small Sacrifice** is the new Jane Lawless and Cordelia Thorn mystery, involving the reunion of a group of

Cordelia's old college friends. With the mass market publication of her first three mysteries, Ellen Hart has gained lots of new fans in our store, which bodes well for strong interest in her new hardcover. \$20.95 cl, 1-878067-55-9, Seal Press.

Note that Ellis Peters' new hardcover, **Brother Cadfael's Penance**, is coming from Mysterious Press in December. \$25 cl, 0-67943-889-0, Mysterious Press, December.

I would hope that everyone already has on hand plenty of copies of these two hardcovers, which I missed last time but which should sell well through the holidays. Patricia Cornwell's latest, **The Body Farm**, is a guaranteed bestseller in her well-established forensic thriller mode. Of particular interest is Cornwell's stab at addressing the lesbian issue. It isn't the heroine, Dr. Kay Scarpetta, who comes out, but Kay's niece! (\$23 cl, 0-684-19597-6, Scribners). On the other hand, the lesbian issue is not addressed at all in **The Total Zone**, by Martina Navratilova and Liz Nickels, which concerns a teenage tennis pro who is being abused. \$21 cl, 0-679-43390-2, Villard/Random House.

**She Walks These Hills** is Sharyn McCrumb's follow-up to her wonderful Appalachian novel, *The Hangman's Beautiful Daughter*. While Sheriff Spencer Arrowood is tracking an escaped convict named Harm along the Appalachian Trail, a historian is trying to discover the true story of a white woman kidnapped by the Shawnee in 1789. \$21 cl, 0-684-19556-9, Scribners.

Now that Anne Perry has been unmasked as a real-life murderess in *The New York Times*, there may be renewed interest in her nicely done

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

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Victorian crime novels. Her new hardcover is **The Sins of the Wolf**, in which private investigator William Monk must defend his accomplice, nurse Hester Latterly, who is accused of murdering a patient (\$21.95 cl, 0-449-90638-8, Fawcett). Perry made her reputation, however, with her series about a Scotland Yard Inspector and his smart, feminist wife. The latest in this series is the paperback **Farrier's Lane**. \$5.99, 0-449-21961-5, Fawcett.

In **The Mother Shadow**, Melodie Johnson Howe introduced a female detective duo obviously cast in the classic mold of Holmes and Watson or Nero Wolfe and Archie Goodwin (\$4.50, 0-14-011778-4, Penguin). In their first adventure, enigmatic, imperious Claire Conrad and her reluctant assistant Maggie Hill unraveled a twisty and intriguing knot of blackmail and violence. This oddly mismatched pair is back in **Beauty Dies**, with a case involving porn videos and the murder of a topless dancer. \$19.95 cl, 0-670-85449-2, Viking.

Feminist Sherlockians — and I count myself among them — are constantly on the lookout for a female character who can rival the master himself. Sadly, it seems, we are also constantly doomed to

disappointment. Lately, more than one author has turned for inspiration to the only woman who beat Holmes at his own game, "the woman" in the Conan Doyle canon, opera singer and adventuress Irene Adler. In **the Dead of Winter** by Abby Penn Baker introduces Myrl Adler Norton, the illegitimate daughter of Irene Adler and Holmes himself. In 1918 Myrl is a professor of logic at Smith College, where she meets her life-long companion, Faye Martin Tullis. After a smashing start (including a student riot protesting Emma Goldman's arrest just before she was scheduled to speak at Smith — a true story, we hope), the novel bogs down in a boring investigation. \$19.95 cl, 0-312-11413-3, St. Martin's.

Carole Nelson Douglas is writing a series about Irene Adler herself, which I have found to be a similar near-miss, although the books sell pretty well. I suspect Douglas learned her craft as a romance writer; now she produces light entertainment that won't tax the intellect but also won't offend most feminist sensibilities. In the fourth installment, **Irene's Last Waltz**, our heroine tangles once again with the King of Bohemia (\$4.99, 0-812-51703-2, Tor). Previous books in the series were **Good Night, Mr. Holmes** (\$4.99, 0-812-51430-0, Tor), **Good Morning, Irene** (\$4.99, 0-812-50949-8, Tor), and **Irene at Large** (\$4.99, 0-812-51-702-4). Oddly enough, Douglas has also provided her heroine with a constant companion, the narrator of the series, Miss Nell Huxleigh, even though — true to the Holmes canon — Irene is married by the end of the first book.



It took me a while to figure out that Jan Burke's two books, **Goodnight, Irene** and **Sweet Dreams, Irene**, were not about Irene Adler or Sherlock Holmes. Rather, the contemporary heroine, Irene Kelly, is yet another tough female sleuth, an investigative reporter. In **Goodnight, Irene** she looks into the bombing that killed an old newspaper buddy, suspecting that it has to do with a thirty-year-old unsolved murder. I really liked **Good Night, Irene**, but it made me wonder: are

good writing, tight plotting, and quirky, convincing characters enough? Tough female sleuths are becoming so clichéd that I have a mental checklist: cat, martial art or other form of exercise, cop who's a source of information or romance or both. This book has all these and a surprising amount of mayhem besides; several characters die unpleasant deaths. Nevertheless, it's intelligent and fast-paced (\$4.99, 0-380-72279-8, Avon). Burke's recent hardcover is **Sweet Dreams, Irene**. \$20 cl, 0-671-78210-X, Simon & Schuster.



Now that it's out in paperback, you should have no trouble selling **Seneca Falls Inheritance** by Miriam Grace Monfredo. How often do you come across a mystery based on a major historical event in the feminist movement? Here the Seneca Falls town librarian helps Elizabeth Cady Stanton organize the very first Women's Rights Convention in 1848, while also solving a murder. It's an inspired concept with rather pedestrian execution, except for vivid portraits of Stanton and Anthony. The paperback is nicely packaged, with a cover blurb from Sara Paretsky. \$4.99, 0-425-14465-8, Berkley.

Here's a round-up of interesting paperbacks. **The Clay Dancers** (\$4.99, 0-8041-1261-4, Ivy) is a new Southwestern mystery from Cecil Dawkins, author of *The Santa Fe Rembrandt* (and the fondly remembered lesbian-rancher novel *Charleyhorse*). Ruth Rendell's **The Crocodile Bird**, about obsessive mother-daughter love, is out in paper (\$5.99, 0-440-21865-9, Dell). In **Pray God to Die** by Carey Roberts, D.C. police detective Anne Fitzhugh is the widow of a Congressional rep, and Capitol Hill looms large in the plot (\$4.99, 0-380-72259-3, Avon). For fans of the traditional British mystery, there's **So Little to Die For** (\$4.99, 0-671-74846-7, Pocket) by Lucretia Grindle, featuring Inspector Ross, who debuted in *The Killing of Ellis Martin*.

New paperbacks in familiar series include **O Little Town of Maggody** by Joan Hess (\$4.50, 0-

451-40457-1, Onyx), **Ruffly Speaking** by Susan Conant (\$4.99, 0-553-29484-9, Bantam), and **The Christmas Night Murder** by Lee Harris (\$4.99, 0-449-14922-6, Fawcett). Best of the lot, judging by our sales of the series, should be **Wild Kat** by Karen Kijewski (\$5.50, 0-553-56877-9, Bantam, January).

After the holidays, there are still some outstanding mysteries coming. P.D. James' new hardcover, **Original Sin**, will be published in February by Knopf (\$25 cl, 0-679-43889-0, Knopf, February). And we will finally see a sequel to Laurie R. King's Edgar Award-winning *A Grave Talent!* The sequel is called **To Play the Fool**. In it, lesbian cop Kate Martinelli searches for a killer among San Francisco's homeless population (\$21 cl, 0-312-11907-0, St. Martin's). King is a talent to be reckoned with, and I'm especially pleased to see that Bantam will publish *A Grave Talent* in paper in 1995. In addition to the Kate Martinelli series, King scored a hit with one of the best of the Sherlock Holmes pastiches, **The Beekeeper's Apprentice**. \$21.95 cl, 0-312-10423-5, St. Martin's, no paper until 1996. ○

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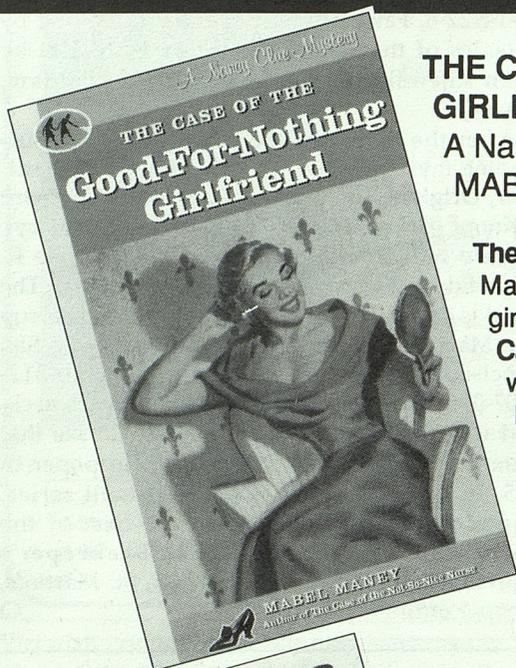
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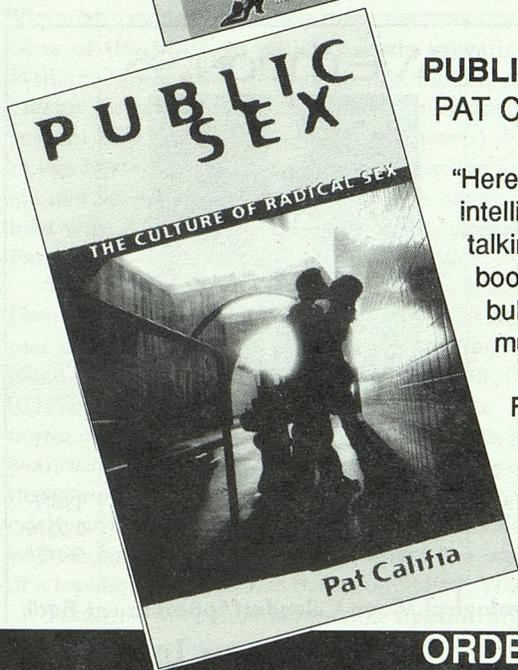


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# GAY MEN'S LIT FOR FEMINIST BOOKSTORES

by Richard Labonte

A Different Light Bookstore, San Francisco

No long lists of books this issue: next time, I'll talk about all the new winter/spring titles I like, but in this column I want to ramble at greater length than usual about a few of my favourites, some recent, a few due soon in paper and so worth anticipating.

**Say Uncle** by Eric Shaw Quinn is best described as a gay-parenting novel: Its first half tells the story of a gay man who takes custody of his dead sister's baby son; its second half describes life as seen from the now-teen's perspective. The book starts with whimsy and soon soars into the absurd, but underlying the fun is a solid look at what it's like, from both sides, for two gay men to raise a straight boy. If you have a section on lesbian/gay parenting in your store, slip a copy of this book into it. \$20.95 cl, 0-525-93780-3, Dutton.

Whimsy and the absurd are also hallmarks of **Barrel Fever** by David Sedaris, a mixture of essays and short fiction which wins my award for second-funniest book of the year. It's been out since early summer, but Sedaris pops up once a month or so reading his work on National Public Radio's "Morning Edition," and every time he does, A Different Light gets a surge of requests. \$19.95 cl, 0-316-77940-7, Little Brown.

Funniest-book-of-the-year honours go to **If You Ask Me** by Libby Gelman-Waxman, a collection of columns on film from *Premiere* magazine. The not-so-secret news about this book is that the author is really playwright and screenwriter Paul Rudnick (*Jeffrey* the play, *Addams Family Values* the movies, *I'll Take It* and *Social Disease* the novels), a top-notch humorist whose prose, besides being perceptive, guarantees a giggle practically every paragraph. \$20.95 cl, 0-312-11287-4, St. Martin's Press.

I'll let Dorothy Allison speak some for Jim Grimsley's haunting **Winter Birds**: "I have rarely read anything as powerful... I wanted to steal it and pretend it was mine, or go on tour reading it out loud so people could hear how getting it right makes you both hurt and happy." What she's praising is a novel about how horrible families can be, and about how, somehow, love heals. It's a book which deserves to be championed, and sold by hand to customers who trust you. \$18.95 cl, 1-56512-075-2, Algonquin.

Because I'm from Canada, where emotions are a currency held tight rather than loose change freely and honestly spent, I am fascinated — in novels of "The South" — by the pain around family: Allison's own *Bastard Out of Carolina*, Grimsley's *Winter Birds*, Fenton Johnson's *Scissors, Paper, Rock*, and, here, Anderson Ferrell's **Home for the Day**. Simply put, this is a novel which starts with a man defying his father by burying his lover's ashes in the family cemetery, and which extends into the past of an endearing Southern sissy. \$20 cl, 0-394-58094-X, Knopf.



Bruce Benderson's **User** is harsh stuff, set on New York's crack-soaked streets, a dimmed-life world where no one really triumphs. Benderson's novel, though, does triumph: it's fiction which doesn't pretend to cure all ills in the end, but rather plays out the might-have-been should-have-been lives of his characters with unflinching hypnotic precision. I don't usually concern myself with whether a book I mention in this column belongs or doesn't belong in a feminist bookstore — that's the choice for you and your bookstore to make. But if you carry gay male fiction, file this one under "real reads." \$19.95 cl, 0-525-93722-6, Dutton.

The charm to **American Studies** by Mark Merlis is its sense of history. The central character is an older gay man, hospitalized after being mugged by a man he picked up. With empty hours to fill, he rambles through his past as a student and then protege of a brilliant American scholar (inspired loosely by the critic F. O. Matthiessen), and while doing so tells what gay life was like in the era decades before Stonewall — a time about which too little, still, has been written. \$21.95 cl, 0-395-68992-9, Houghton Mifflin.



There is more history in **The Alienist** by Caleb Carr, which was published in April of this year by Random House — look for the paperback early next year, and consider stocking it on the basis of Carr's superb re-creation of the world of sex-for-sale in 19th Century New York. It's a serial killer novel with a twist, in which a leading character is New York Police Commissioner Theodore Roosevelt, and one of the major sleuths is a secretary (read: woman) in the police department, who works with Roosevelt to develop a psychological profile of the killer. \$22 cl, 0-679-41779-6, Random House.

Here's a book with many titles, all of them enticing . . . **Mapplethorpe: Assault With a Deadly Camera**, heralded as **A Pop Culture Memoir and An Outlaw Reminiscence**, by Jack Fritscher.

**Statement of Ownership, Management and Circulation:** FEMINIST BOOKSTORE NEWS (11/8/94), published monthly in January, March, May, July, August, September, and November. Subscription price: \$70/year/store. Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication: 2358 Market St. 3rd Floor Rear, San Francisco, CA 94114-1521. Mailing Address of Headquarters: Same. Publisher, Editor, Managing Editor, and Owner: Carol Seajay, PO Box 882554, San Francisco, CA 94188-2554. Known bondholders: none. Average Number of Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months (Actual Number of Copies September 1994/Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date): A-Total Copies/Net Press Run: 942 (900). B-Paid and/or Requested Circulation 1) Sales through dealers, carriers, street vendors and counter sales: 7 (7), 2) Mail Subscription 595 (553). C-Total Paid or Requested Circulation: 602 (560). D-Free Distribution: 43 (16). E-Total Distribution: 645 (576). F-Copies Not Distributed 1) Office use, leftover, etc: 297 (324), 2) Returns from News Agents: none (none). G-Total: 942 (900). Signed Carol Seajay, Editor & Publisher. PS Form 3526.

Fritscher, one-time lover and long-time friend of the late and greatly controversial photographer, has woven together his own memories, the reflections and refracted memories of others, some old interviews and some new facts to create a fascinating, highly readable and deeply perceptive (if occasionally repetitive) memoir. Fritscher's friendship with Mapplethorpe hasn't resulted in a glossy look at the man's life; he writes equally forcefully about Mapplethorpe's public talent and Mapplethorpe's private quirks. \$24.95 cl, 0-8038-9362-0, Hastings House, dist. by BP and PGW.

The best memoirs tell the stories of many lives, and composer Ned Rorem has always done that in his many volumes of diaries. His latest book, **Knowing When to Stop**, in fact precedes most of the diaries, recounting Rorem's first 28 years — but before he was 30, he had met a pantheon of names: it's a savoury index. Rorem writes about himself and about the people whose lives he moved through without guile and with delight; the result is a book both engaging and chock-full of incidental gossip. \$30 cl, 0-671-72872-5, Simon & Schuster.

At first glance, **Letters from the Closet** is merely a cute book — artful pages reproducing letters, several pages with pull-out postcards, not many words for nearly 20 bucks. But co-authors Tony Ferrante and Paulette Jacobson have created a coming-out book which is original, thoughtful, useful and real — definitely a must-add to any coming out section for women and men. \$18.95 cl, 0929999-03-7, Tzedakah, dist by Atrium and BP.



Cassell Publishing in Britain has published a number of excellent philosophical, academic and political books on matters lesbian and gay this year, and I'll be highlighting some of their forthcoming titles in my next column. But two which came out around Pride Time this year — and which in fact are actually non-book postcard collections — are **Pride and Protest: 32 Postcards Celebrating 25 Years of Lesbian and Gay Visibility and Activism!** (\$10.95 pb, 0-304-32966-5) and **Get the Rubber Habit: The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence** (\$10.95 pb, 0-9523229-0-0). Wonderful images from our recent history on the front, political statements and

room for a message on the back. Order from Inland, and catch up on your overdue correspondence.

**GLQ: A Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies**, now in its second issue, is pretty serious stuff. To wit: Phillip Brian Harper on "Private Affairs: Race, Sex, Property and Persons" begins his exegesis with the statement: "I would like to begin this inquiry into the social significance of privacy at what might seem an unlikely point: recent professional criticism of modern painting and sculpture." Jody Greene, in "You Must Eat Men: The Sodomitic Economy of Renaissance Patronage" starts from the 1993 ruling that a lesbian mother (Sharon Bottoms) had to turn her two-year-old over to her mother to raise, and spins into a spirited history of the "sodom," complete with 38 citations and more than four pages of notes.



Now, this is not bad — merely academic. **GLQ** is not easy reading on the level of *Genre* or *Deneuve* or even the *Harvard Gay & Lesbian Review*. This is Modern Language Association Style Manual quality — thinking in depth. The journal is published by Gordon and Breach, edited by Carolyn Dinshaw and David M. Halperin, with two book review editors, two film/video review editors, an editorial board of 15 and an advisory board of 57: lesbian and gay heavyweights all.

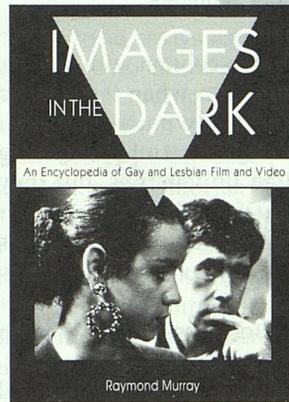
So: it's not a journal for everyone, but it's a journal every store with an interest in lesbian and gay scholarship should stock — which may be a problem. As of now, it's available only from Bernhard DeBoer (113 E. Centre St, Nutley NJ 07110, 201-667-9300).

And it does have a sense of humour: a correction to the first issue went this way: "The name 'Liza Minnelli' was misspelled. The second 'n' — or was it the first? — was omitted. **GLQ** thanks Kevin Killian for pointing out this omission and expresses its deep regret to showqueens everywhere."

Speaking of shows: there's a new playscript service publishing naughty but lesbian and gay plays, reasonably priced and at a 35 percent discount. Dialogus (POB 815761, Dallas TX 75381, 800-686-9484) offers more than 100 one-act (\$3.95) and full-length (\$5.95) plays, including work by Marie Cartier, Libbe HaLevy, Sue-Ellen Case, Lesléa Newman and Julia Willis. It's only in recent years that I've noted a real interest by customers in buying

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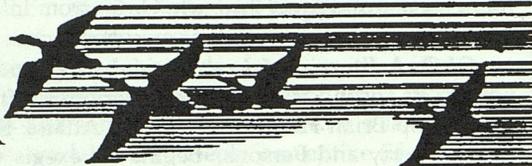
**Distributed by Inland, Bookpeople and Baker & Taylor**

plays, though Jane Chambers' work in the 1980's from JH Press was pretty popular. More recently, the success of such plays as the *Angels in America* pair and work by Paul Rudnick, Larry Kramer and John Guare has prompted more buying.

In recent columns, I've ended by noting my favourite recent lesbian book. This time around, it's Rebecca Brown's *The Gifts of the Body*, a short, potent account by a unnamed narrator whose home-care work takes her deep into the lives of children, women and men with AIDS. The "gifts" written about are those of sweat and wholeness, tears and skin and hunger and mobility, death, speech, sight, hope and last of all, mourning. The writing is subtle and elegiac, the result moving and inspirational. \$17.50 cl, 0-06-017159-6, HarperCollins. ○

Books From Canada:

# BORDER CROSSING



by Dorothy Seaton and Jana Williams

Well, heck, I hate to start a column with a gripe, but damn, the pickin's are slim when it comes to academic books of interest to women! Not that there's not a respectable amount of publishing going on at our Canadian universities, but they seem to be as blasé about feminism as they ever were. Grumble, grumble. All the same, the books they *have* published look pretty good:

The University of Manitoba Press offers **Women of the First Nations**, edited by Patricia Chuchryk. This collection "speaks to many voices, Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal," seeking to recover the lost histories and experiences of Aboriginal women in Canada, while moving beyond racist, sexist, colonial attitudes. 0-88755-161-0 cl, 634-5 pb, price TBA.



From McGill-Queen's University Press comes **Harriet Brooks: Pioneer Nuclear Scientist**, by Marlene F. Rayner-Canham and Geoffrey W. Rayner-Canham. This is the first biography of Brooks, who was a colleague of Marie Curie, and one of the first Canadian researchers in the field of radioactivity. Though her work was hampered by that fact that she was a woman, she had a significant career as a nuclear scientist, identifying radon and discovering the recoil of the radioactive atom. \$15.95 pb, 0-7735-1254-3; \$37.95 cl, -0881-3.

Also from McGill-Queen's, Gunda Lambton's **Stealing the Show: Seven Women Artists in Canadian Public Art**, pays tribute to a new "Group of Seven" in the art world. It focuses on the achievements of seven prominent Canadian women

artists — Marcelle Ferron, Anne Kahane, Cathie Falk, Joyce Wieland, Jerry Grey, Colette Whiten and Rita Letendre — who, despite receiving repeated commissions to create public works of art, have until now been given little attention. \$24.95 pb, 0-7735-1189-X; \$55 cl, -1188-1.

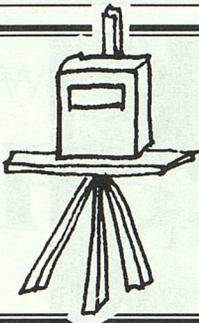
Carleton University Press brings us Lynn McDonald's **The Women Founders of the Social Sciences**, an original and ground-breaking book that debunks the myth that empirical social science has always been dominated by its male founders and methodologists. In this first book on the topic, the author analyzes the critical role British, French and American women played in creating the field from the 16th to the 19th centuries. \$24.95 pb, 0-88629-2190; \$34.95 cl, -2182.

From the University of Toronto Press, **Gigolos and Madames Bountiful: Illusions of Gender, Power & Intimacy**, by Adie Nelson and Barrie W. Robinson, is the first major study of liaisons between gigolos and the women who wittingly and unwittingly support them. An engaging text written for a general audience, it offers intriguing, often hilarious material drawn from a diversity of sources, along with a radical look at gender and power. \$29.95 cl, 0-8020-0613-2.

Also from University of Toronto, Kay MacPherson, one of Canada's best-known and most respected feminists, pacifists, and political activists, has published a memoir, **When in Doubt, Do Both: The Times of My Life**. MacPherson takes a delightful look back at a rich and fascinating life, dedicated to the unshakeable conviction that women working together can change the world and have a marvelous time in the process. \$18.95 pb, 0-8020-7473-1; \$50 cl, -0454-7.

Finally, University of Toronto offers **Through Canada With a Kodak: The Countess of Aberdeen**,

*Continued on page 102*



# ART BOOKS

by Tee A. Corinne

**Women En Large: Images of Fat Nudes** demonstrates that radical feminism is alive and visually productive. Published by photographer Laurie Toby Edison and writer/editor Debbie Notkin, **Women En Large** contains 41 photographs of nude, fat women including a woman with a mastectomy, a woman in a wheelchair, a woman with diabetes, women with scars, with tatoos, with lovers, pictured in their homes, in the gym, on the beach. It is dynamite, beautiful and affordable. The text interweaves information from various sources with the women's own stories. \$24.95 pb, 1-885495-00-5, Books in Focus, dist. by BP, Alamo Square, the distributors, and Baker & Taylor.

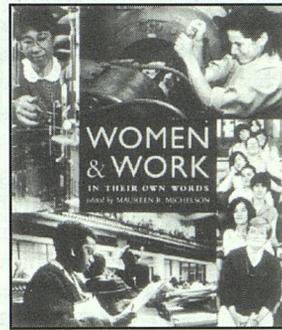
**Her Tongue on My Theory** by Kiss & Tell (Susan Stewart, Persimmon Blackbridge and Lizard Jones) is a second, in-your-face collection by the women who produced the exhibition and book *Drawing The Line*. Lesbian sexual imagery and censorship are approached from a variety of visual and written strategies including sequenced exposures, personal narratives, essays, and fantasies. \$16.95 pb, 0-88974-058-5, Press Gang, dist. by IN.

**Women & Work: In Their Own Words**, edited by Maureen R. Michelson, includes stories by working women from a wide range of occupations, essays like "Why Take Our Daughters To Work," and "Girls Empowering Girls," and a wonderful group of photographs. One of my favorites is of a wildlife activist who looks as if she is combing a large male lion while a couple of others lounge nearby. \$14.95 pb, 0-939165-23-6, NewSage Press, dist. by BP, Publishers Group West, and Ingram.

**Moving Targets: Women, Murder and Representation**, edited by Helen Birach, is a collec-

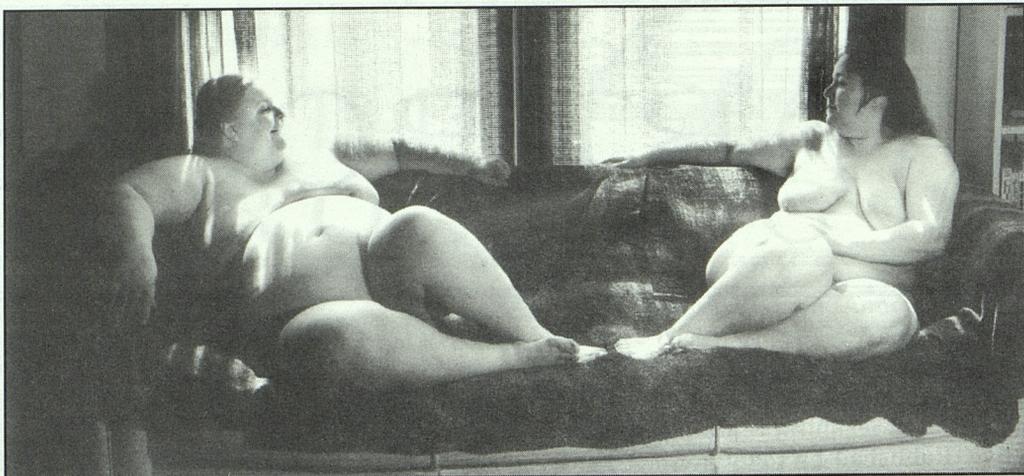
tion of lucid essays examining the fascination with women who murder. Actual and fictionalized events—including Hollywood dramas, lesbians, and the myth of the lesbian vampire—are considered. \$15 pb, 0-520-08574-4; \$35 cl, 0-520-08573-6, University of California Press.

**The Woman's Companion to International Film**, edited by Annette Kuhn, with Susannah Radstone, is a collection of brief entries which discuss women filmmakers and actresses, and give short histories of women in film in different countries. The entries are informative and interesting even if you are not particularly interested in film. \$15 pb, 0-520-08879-4, University of California Press.



**The Holocaust Project: From Darkness into Light** by Judy Chicago with photographs by her husband, Donald Woodman, uses the Holocaust as both a historical horror and a lens through which to explore the nature of evil, then and now. It includes archival photographs and photographs of the work-in-progress, a diary of the development of Chicago's ideas, and the finished, complex and very powerful images. \$22.50 pb, 0-14-015991-6, Penguin.

**Dorothy Dehner: Sixty Years of Art**, with an essay by Joan M. Marter, is a lovely collection of



©1994. L. T. Edison

From *Women En Large: Images of Fat Nudes*. By Laurie Toby Edison & Debbie Notkin, published by Books in Focus

images including early drawings and paintings and the powerful later abstract sculptures produced after Dehner (b. 1901) left her husband, sculptor David Smith. \$22.50 pb, 1-915171-29-5, Katonah Museum of Art, dist. by the University of Washington Press.

**Alma Lavenson: Photographs** by Susan Ehrens is a well-produced book of realistic, moody images by a California amateur photographer (1897-1989) who was the granddaughter of Jewish immigrants from Europe who settled in California during the Gold Rush. Published in 1990, it is now available from the University of Washington Press. \$24.95 pb, 0-8263-1238-1; \$50 cl, 0-8263-1237-3.

Not new, but still vital is **The Female Gaze: Women as Viewers of Popular Culture**, edited by Lorraine Gamman and Margaret Marshment, which examines what happens when feminism and popular culture meet. Essays include, among others, "Lolita Meets the Werewolf," "Lace: Pornography for Women?" "Black Looks," and "The Color Purple: In Defence of Happy Endings." \$12.95 pb, 0-941104-41-9, The Real Comet Press, dist. by IN.

Not really an "art" book, but including very interesting prints, is **Women and the Journey: The Female Travel Experience**, edited by Bonnie Frederick and Susan H. McLeod, illustrated by Jo Hockenhull, contains 11 essays, each introduced by a magical Hockenhull graphic. The size of each image could have been larger (you can tell where my priorities are), but the book will serve to bring

Hockenhull's work to a larger audience. \$19.95 pb, 0-87422-100-5, Washington State University Press.

**Family: A Portrait of Gay and Lesbian America** by *The Washington Post* staff photographer Nancy Andrews is a stunning collection of images of ordinary people, extraordinary, in part, because they are willing to be in a book like this. Each image is accompanied by a descriptive text and brief interview which intellectually frames and amplifies the photo. \$25.00 pb, 0-06-250011-2, HarperSanFrancisco.

**The Lavender Screen, The Gay and Lesbian Films, Their Stars, Makers, Characters & Critics** by Boze Hadleigh, with its sultry cover still from the movie *Henry and June*, is a rich collection of information and images and a good guide to use when video shopping for queer content. \$17.95 pb, 0-8065-1341-1, Citadel Press, Carol Publishing Group, 120 Enterprise Ave, Secaucus NJ 07094.

**I Am Becoming the Woman I've Wanted** has strong photographic portraits of women of all ages accompanying vivid poems and short prose. Diversity and emotional warmth characterize this collection. \$10 pb, 0-918949-49-1, Papier-Mache, dist. by IN, BP, the distributors, Pacific Pipeline, Moving Books, and others.

**Ancient Wisdom**, a complete divination set by Nancy Blair, is a great gift item for anyone interested in Goddess divination. It is marketed in a box which includes a guidebook, 27 amulets, and a velvet pouch in which to carry the amulets. \$32.95 per box, 0-914728-80-6, Wingbow Press, dist. by BP, et al. ○

## Women's Music

## FBN Music News

by Jennifer Einhorn  
Goldenrod/Horizon Distribution

As many of you know, the former fab editor of this column, Cathy Andrews, has taken a hiatus from the music biz to pursue an education in furniture making! While Carol searches for a writer who works *in* a bookstore, I'm lucky enough to join in for a while. As the East Coast distributor for Goldenrod and Horizon Distribution, I work with over 150 music and book buyers nationally. I am also the Music Editor for *Sojourner*.

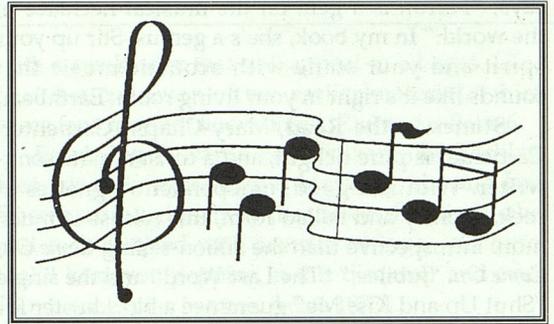
As we approach what is sure to be the busiest and hopefully most lucrative (!) time of year, here are a number of tips to remember — especially as things get more hectic.

**Ask for in-store promos of titles that you do carry.** Distributors effective at selling independent music will give you for free, what they get for free. That's because, in most cases, if you don't play it, you won't sell it. Toshi Reagon has one of the best records of the year. Play it in store and let your customers know it too! Same with lots of Celtic, Native and instrumental titles.

**Major Label Blues ...** Major label pricing makes everyone miserable. But despite the huge expense, several of my stores are selling more major label product than they are independent. Clearly, not all of your customers are buying these titles down the street at you-know-where for eight and nine dollars cheaper. They are still coming to us. One suggestion I have is to pay cost (usually the distributor's cost or a tad more) for a major label promo *only if you think you'll be able to sell a lot of it*. In this situation, I urge buyers who can't afford to *buy* a promo, to *cut* their regular order by one or two pieces.

**Face Out Your Discs.** I know space is at a premium. But displaying only the spine of a disc is a

disastrous marketing tool. If you can, try something different. Several of my stores had no space and zero money. We found some wall area a little wider than the size of a disc, and as long as they could spare. We took two clear thumbtacks and placed them in the wall so that they secured the face of one disc against the wall. Some stores tried a few discs at a time. Some did a whole row of New Releases. All of the stores experienced a rise in disc sales immediately. This tactic makes excellent use of unusable and awkward space. Quick, cheap and easy. Best of all, it looks better than any fancy display rack.



**Create a Men's section.** This is a good idea for those stores that do carry men's recordings. Men's music has always been the stepchild of Women's Music. Plopped in no particular order at the end of the women's alphabet, the guys have gotten lost in the shuffle. After appearing in the movie, *Philadelphia*, the Flirtations are more recognizable than ever. They do not appear on the movie soundtrack, so it's a great idea to call attention to them. Check your distributor's catalog this season and check out just how many (very good) men's music titles are out. Also, try stocking men like Brooks Williams and in particular Greg Greenway — while they aren't gay, they *are* drawing lots of progressive

folks. Amazing acoustic music, with voices so sweet as to recall early James Taylor.

## FOR THE HOLIDAYS

**The Rejected Stone**/Toshi Reagon. Toshi is the daughter of Sweet Honey in the Rock's Bernice Johnson Reagon, and one of the most talented musicians and producers around. Folk, spirituals, funk, blues — whatever you want, she's got it. Nona Hendryx assists with vocal production, and the title track is infectious. ProMama LP 6482.

**Cry Fire**/Catie Curtis. I've only heard the pre-release, but it's remarkable. Produced by Darleen Wilson with Patty Larkin and John Gorka on guest vocals, Curtis has never written or sounded better. She's in a whole new league now. Folk at its best. Hear Music 9402.

**Driver**/Ferron. Ferron has re-released her sixth disc this past September on Earthbeat Records (whose roster of artists also includes Sweet Honey in the Rock and Rumours of the Big Wave). New cover, same record. And same Ferron. Jane Siberry says, "Ferron is a gem on the musical necklace of the world." In my book, she's a genius. Stir up your spirit and your smile with acoustic music that sounds like it's right in your living room. Earthbeat.

**Stones in the Road**/Mary-Chapin Carpenter. Carpenter is pure delight, and a consummate songwriter. With feel-good, independent vignettes in rock, country and ballad form, this release is much more introspective than the zillion-selling *Come On, Come On*. "Jubilee," "The Last Word" and the single "Shut Up and Kiss Me" guarantee a blockbuster for Carpenter — again. Columbia 64327.

**I'll Be a Homo for Christmas**/Venus Envy. Hysterical collection of Christmas songs "re-worded" to analyze and satirize lesbian lifestyles. A new way to carol this year! Continues to be a holiday best-seller. Venus; tape only.

**A Woman's Heart 2**. The best women in Celtic folk return big time! The original *A Woman's Heart* was a best seller in Ireland and a tremendous success in this country. The follow-up should be available in November, and features all artists from the last record except Eleanor McEvoy. They've added a number of other gals, including Sinéad O'Connor! Dara 10014.

**Priscilla, Queen of the Desert Soundtrack**. Songs from the seventies that you'd like to think

you never loved — but did. Customers have started dancing in stores that play this instant party maker, and it's virtually flying out of stores catering to gay and lesbian customers. "Billy Don't Be a Hero," "Shake Your Groove Thing" and the kicker — Charlene's "I've Been to Paradise, but I've Never Been to Me." Island 516937.



## NOT-SO-NEW TITLES

**A Road Worth Walking Down**/Greg Greenway. Nothing short of electric, and probably the best kept secret around. You'll be humming the choruses of these songs first thing when you wake up in the morning! Folk-rock and breathtaking ballads, with fantastic vocals. "Free at Last" is a superb tribute to Nelson Mandela, and "Forever Forever" is exquisite. Play it in your store and watch it move. Sheen.

**Celtic Twilight**/Various Artists. One of the best of those collections of music designed to transport you to someplace c-a-l-m. It's gorgeous stuff from Bill Douglas, John Boswell, Loreena McKennit and five other artists. 13 (instrumental) tracks in all. Perfect reading and zoning music.

**Fact and Fiction**/Kristen Hall. With raspy vocals that'll hook you in seconds, this former guitar technician for the Indigo Girls just happens to be a crackerjack songwriter herself. She has three releases, but *Fact* is simply an all time classic folk-rock record. Play her in your car and you'll want to sing and drive forever. High Street 10326.

**Sing a Song to Life**/Beth Levin. No-frills Hebrew music for kids is tough to come by, and this is the perfect gift for Hanukkah. A mix of English and Hebrew traditionals and fun folk tunes performed by a Jewish educator and Bar and Bat Mitzvah teacher. Acoustic guitar, bass and cello. Beth's Music 101.

**To Drive the Cold Winter Away**/Loreena McKennit. Gaelic, Celtic, ethereal, comfort music. This title is officially her "holiday" record, but any of her five releases are perfect for the season. My fave is *The Visit*. She's breathtaking. Quinlin Road 102.

# PAINTED PRAYERS

*Women's Art In Village India*

By Stephen P. Huyler

A magnificent celebration of a centuries-old spiritual and artistic Indian tradition

For hundreds of years, Indian women have passed to their daughters the knowledge of the ritual wall and ground paintings and decorations of the home that function as messages to the deities for the health and well-being of Indian families. Including 170 stunning full-color photographs and an expertly informed text, *Painted Prayers* is a fascinating account of this little-known Indian art form and a vibrant testament to centuries of Indian women's artistic voices. 11 x 11" 170 color illustrations ISBN 0-8478-1809-8 \$50.00 Now at bookstores

RIZZOLI

**Plantation Lullabies**/Me'shell N'degeocello. A marriage between jazz, funk, hip-hop and major feminist thought, and the first artist to be signed to Madonna's new label. Known for her unorthodox bass technique and outspoken lyrics ("If that's your boyfriend, he wasn't last night..."), she's a big favorite with younger gals. An African-American lesbian mom in combat boots who, incidentally, used to work at Oscar Wilde Memorial Bookstore in New York! Maverick 45333.



**Moodfood**/Moodswings. I sprinted to buy this after hearing it played in a store that didn't actually sell it! Bliss music that alternates with infectious funk, featuring vocals from Crissie Hynde (Pretenders) and Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech dubbed over track 10. Arista 1992.

**Out of Range**/Ani DiFranco. The most accessible "alternative" artist you'll sell. Smart stuff with attitude and a major sense of humor; and folk-rock

with a punk edge that will appeal to all ages. *Like I Said* is a collection of her earlier material, which some fans may not know about. Righteous Babe 6.

**Fumbling Towards Ecstasy**/Sarah McLachlan. Best thing I bought all year. Musically, she and Jane Siberry are in a class all by themselves. Exquisite, ethereal rock coupled with acoustic strings, and lyrics that'll keep you popping in this disc over and over. Fab choice to play in-store. Arista 18725.

## BRAND NEW RELEASES

Lucy Kaplansky/**The Tide**. Red House 65. Produced by Shawn Colvin.

**The Rhythm Method**. RMD 1001.

**Street Sounds**. Redwood 9404.

Kay Gardner/**Ouroboros**. Ladyslipper 115.

## UPCOMING RELEASES

Lea Delaria will be issuing **Bulldyke in a China Shop**, previously only on tape, in disc format. G Spot 69.

Joni Mitchell/**Turbulent Indigo**. Reprise 45786.

Greg Brown/**The Poet Game**. Red House 68.

Romonovsky & Phillips/**Let's Flaunt It**. Fresh Fruit 106. ○



# THIS SEASON'S HOTTEST SELLERS

## *I Am Becoming the Woman I've Wanted*

Edited by Sandra Haldeman Martz

The powerful new title from the bestselling anthology series that includes *When I Am an Old Woman I Shall Wear Purple*. Martz's emotionally evocative selections explore women and their bodies.

- 75,000 First Printing
- \$50,000 Marketing Budget
- Editor Tour
- Fall '94/Spring '95
- National Publicity & Advertising
- Related Sidelines
- In-Store Support Materials & Counter Displays

0-918949-49-1, paper, \$10  
 0-918949-50-5, cloth, \$16  
 5-color cover, 7 x 9.25  
 230 pages, acid-free paper  
 Pub date October 1994



## *Milkweed*

A novel by Mary Gardner

Susan Carson confronts the dilemma of either losing her own identity to society's expectations or living outside of the norms. Author Mary Gardner is a recipient of the prestigious Associated Writing Programs (AWP) Award.

“reminiscent of Faulkner”

—*Library Journal*

- 15,000 First Printing
- \$15,000 Marketing Budget
- 10-City Author Tour
- National Publicity & Advertising

0-918949-46-7, cloth, \$18  
 5-color cover, 6 x 9  
 308 pages, acid-free paper  
 Pub date September 1994

## *From May Sarton's Well*

Writings of May Sarton  
 Selection and Photographs  
 by Edith Royce Schade

This treasury of beauty is a perfect sampler of the writings of May Sarton fused with “impressive photography . . . a stunning addition to the Sarton canon.”

—May Sarton

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- \$15,000 Marketing Budget
- Photographer Exhibition Tour
- National Publicity & Advertising
- In-Store Support Materials

0-918949-51-3, paper, \$12.00  
 0-918949-52-1, cloth, \$20.00  
 Full color cover, 7 x 9.25  
 156 pages, acid-free paper  
 Pub date October 1994



**SECOND PRINTING 50,000**



Available from Inland, Bookpeople, the distributors, Pacific Pipeline, Moving Books, Baker & Taylor, and Ingram. 4K06

# FROM OUR OWN PRESSES



Compiled by Beth Morgan

## CLOTHESPIN FEVER PRESS

Hailed as "a long overdue lesbian literary event," **The Amazon Chronicles** by Jane E.M. Robinson is an historical novel of the women-loving Amazons, set against the backdrop of the Trojan Wars. Glory, defeat, intrigue, sex and love — this is the heroic saga with a lesbian difference. Incorporation of contemporary issues such as boy-child conflict and in-fighting enhances the book's sense of herstory. \$15.95 pb, 1-878533-12-6, Clothespin Fever Press, 10393 Spur Ct, La Mesa CA 91941. Distributed by BP, IN.

—*Clothespin Fever*

## EIGHTH MOUNTAIN PRESS

**Seven Hands, Seven Hearts** by Elizabeth Woody collects new stories, essays and poems as well as the previously out-of-print *Hand Into Stone*, winner of the American Book Award. The work is thematically united by a focus on the land and people of the Northwest Indian tribes. Joy Harjo has described Woody's work as crucial for all of us: "In these times we are being forced to recognize the circular web that has always connected us, all of us, and to reconstruct it with the gift of our words — concurrently overturning the decay, uprooting denial — and Elizabeth Woody's work is an essential part of this transition, for she follows in the tradition of peoples who have understood the power of language, and the place of a poet/singer/storyteller at the center of the world." \$13.95 pb, 0-933377-30-4.

**Words Under Words** by Naomi Shihab Nye gathers into a single volume the finest poems by one of the most exciting, accessible poets in the U.S. today. This long-awaited collection draws from Naomi Shihab Nye's three critically acclaimed books

*Different Ways to Pray*, *Yellow Glove*, and National Poetry Series winner *Hugging the Jukebox*. Nye's Palestinian-American heritage and the Hispanic-Palestinian worlds of her home in the American Southwest inform her poetry, which is at once familiar and fresh. Nye is, in the words of William Stafford, "a champion of the literature of encouragement and heart." Nye is a popular and sought-after guest at workshops and conferences. \$13.95 pb, 0-933377-29-0, December.

The Eighth Mountain Press, 624 SE 29th Avenue, Portland OR 97214. Distributed by Consortium, IN, BP, Small Press Distribution, Airlift (UK & Europe), and Bulldog Books (Australia & New Zealand).

—*Ruth Gundle*



*Rude Girls and Dangerous Women: Cartoons by Jennifer Camper*  
Laugh Lines Press

## FEMINIST PRESS

The culmination of a nearly decade-long process, **Women of Color and the Multicultural Curriculum: Transforming the College Classroom** presents a unique and comprehensive response to the challenge

of diversifying the college curriculum, and provides the tools to incorporate women of color across the disciplines. Part One highlights the actual process of faculty transformation as it occurred on two participating campuses. Part Two contains 37 transformed course syllabi, with brief, insightful essays describing professors' encounters teaching the new texts. Part Three is a first-of-its-kind interdisciplinary guide to teaching about Puerto Rican women. \$18.95 pb, 1-55861-083-9; \$35 cl, -082-0.

*The Women's Studies Quarterly Volume XXII, Spring/Summer 1994* is a special issue on *Feminist Teachers*. The issue is divided into five sections: Teachers on Students; Students on Teachers; Colleagues, Friends, Lovers and Other Relations; History; and Resources. Features work by June Jordan, Ellen Bass, and both a tribute to and an article by Florence Howe. \$18.00 pb, 0732-1562.

The Feminist Press, 311 East 94th Street, New York NY 10128. Distributed by Consortium.

—The Feminist Press



**FIREBRAND BOOKS**

**Dykes to Watch Out For 1995 Calendar** by Alison Bechdel "flashes a mug shot of the lesbian community's best-known extended family." In its sixth year of helping lesbians keep track of who's who and what's happening, this annual cartoon opportunity brings it all into sharp focus. \$10.95

11x11 wall calendar, 1-56341-041-9, Firebrand Books, 141 The Commons, Ithaca NY 14850. Distributed by InBook  
—Firebrand Books

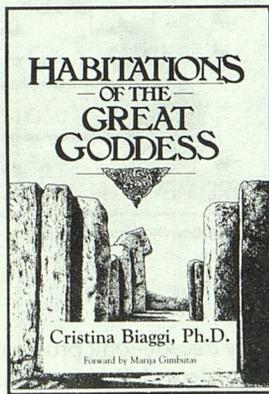
**KNOWLEDGE, IDEAS & TRENDS**

**Habitations of the Great Goddess** by Cristina Biaggi, Ph.D. is the culmination of years of research, field exploration and study. This is our biggest project so far, and it's a beautiful book! Biaggi's quest for the Great Goddess focuses on the Island of Malta, and the Orkney and Shetland Islands of Scotland. In this book she records not only her scientific findings but her experience of the wonder of the Goddess — at midnight alone in the dark temple, or in a breezy afternoon romp with seals on a deserted island off the coast of Scotland. A perfect gift for Goddess women, amateur archaeologists and art lovers. 8.5xll; 69 color plates; over 100 b&w illustrations. \$50 cl, 1-879198-18-5, Knowledge, Ideas & Trends, 400 Prospect St., Glen Rock NJ 07452. Distributed by BP, IN.  
—Rita McCullough & Sandy Brown

**LAUGH LINES PRESS**

**Rude Girls and Dangerous Women** is a collection of dangerously funny cartoons by popular lesbian cartoonist Jennifer Camper. Topics include *All the Girls Together In One Bathroom*, *Castration Etiquette*, *The Advantage of Being a Teenaged Dyke*, and more! Camper's provocative cartoons are featured in national lesbian and gay publications like *The Washington Blade* and in many books, including *What is This Thing Called Sex?*

**NEW RELEASE!**



Forward by Marija Gimbutas

This beautiful book is the culmination of Dr. Biaggi's quest for the Great Goddess, the female earth deity of antiquity.

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"A fascinating, thoroughly researched, new look at the amazing Goddess temples and sculptures."

—Riane Eisler, *The Chalice and The Blade: Our History, Our Future*

ISBN 1-879198-18-5 ♦ \$50.00 ♦ Cloth/III./Color Photos  
Distributed by InBook/Appearing in the FBN Holiday Catalog



\$8.95 pb, 0-9632526-5-8, Laugh Lines Press, PO Box 259, Bala Cynwyd PA 19004. Distributed by BP and Alamo Square.  
—Laugh Lines Press

## MOTHEROOT

**Toward Appomattox** by Virginia Scott is a collection of original poems, and translations of poems by Francophone Acadian women poets. In the title piece, Scott honors the courage of enslaved African American women in helping to bring the Civil War to a close. Scott's multiculturalism is "rooted in a willingness to recognize herself and others as straddling borders in all areas of life, and the value of border crossing." \$6.95 pb, 0-934238-08-1, Motherroot Publications, Inc., 1038 South Trenton Avenue, Pittsburgh PA 15221. Distributed by InBook.

—Motherroot

## MOTHER TONGUE

**We'Moon '95: Gaia Rhythms for Womyn** is the 14th edition of this astrological moon calendar, appointment book and daily guide to natural rhythm for women. It's a multicultural anthology of women's art and writing, as well as a primer on living in tune with earth's cycles. The theme of this edition is "Survivors: The Healing Within" — it explores the many facets of being a survivor and of healing from the wounds of patriarchy. Includes more reference material than ever before, and introductory information that makes astrology and lunar rhythms accessible to anyone using the calendar. \$13 pb, 0-9510661-61, Mother Tongue Ink, PO Box 1395, Estacada OR 97023. Distributed in the U.S. by BP, IN, Ladyslipper, Moving Books, New Leaf Distributing, Pacific Pipeline; distributed internationally by Airlift, BP, Rotation.  
—Mother Tongue

## NAIAD PRESS

Just in time for Christmas, the exceptionally well-produced audio tape of the best-loved romantic lesbian novel of all time is here — **Curious Wine** by Katherine V. Forrest. The tape is beautifully narrated

by actress Jane Merrow. Readers will now be able to listen as Lane and Diana discover each other. Readers will hear the eroticism of *Curious Wine*. \$16.95 cassette, 1-56280-105-8.

The new 10th Anniversary Edition of **Daughters of a Coral Dawn** is another can't-miss offering of a Forrest classic. It's available now, and is designed to attract new readers and bring old readers back to the fold. Anyone who hasn't discovered the compelling world — and the unforgettable women — of *Maternas* has a great treat in store. \$10.95 pb, 1-56280-104-X.



**Getting to the Point** by Teresa Stores is a subtle and powerful portrayal of today's — and yesterday's — South. When young Dix comes home to Point Will, Georgia to tend her grandmother (a powerful family matriarch), Dix's lover Sarah joins her, and the two of them present an unusual and indomitable front against the family's belief that the closet is where they belong. We think this first fine novel will rival any literary fiction published in 1995. \$10.95 pb, 1-56280-100-7, January.

**Night Songs** by Penny Mickelbury fulfills the promise of this exciting D.C.-insider author who gave us *Keeping Secrets*. In this intense second mystery novel, Lieutenant Gianna Maglione and African American Mimi Patterson are still in love but again in conflict — this time over a series of vicious killings whose malignant origin reaches into the high echelons of Washington politics. Yet only Gianna and Mimi seem to care that prostitutes are dying. \$10.95 pb, 1-56280-097-3, January.

Tell the legion of Evelyn Kennedy aficionados that the long-awaited new novel by the author of *Cherished Love* surpasses that best seller in romance and drama. In **Forever**, Sister Diana Coletti's dream of serving in Kenya is about to come true, when she falls in love — body and soul — with the woman doctor assigned to prepare her for her quest. \$10.95 pb, 1-56280-094-9, February.

# TOWARD APPOMATTOX

VIRGINIA SCOTT

Motherroot Publications, Inc.

"In *Toward Appomattox*, Virginia Scott recalls her visit to Africa and in a sequence from which the book takes its title, she honors the courage of enslaved African-American women in helping to bring the Civil War to a close. She also perceptively translates the poetry of Francophone Acadian women poets. Her multiculturalism is rooted in a willingness to recognize herself and others as straddling borders in all areas of life and the value of border crossing."

—Lois Kuznets  
San Diego State University

"The poems are beautifully crafted and sculpted, the voice tender. Her compassion and intensity explore what is mysterious and reverent in our global interconnectedness."

—Barbara Unger

Bookstores may order through  
Inbook at (800) 243-0138

To order, contact  
Motherroot Publications, Inc.  
1038 South Trenton Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15221

ISBN 0-934238-08-1 \$6.95, paperback

Not since *The House at Pelham Falls* has Naiad offered as atmospheric a novel of the supernatural as **Whispers** by Kris Bruyer. This book has it all — ghostly doings relating to a convent burned to the ground a century ago, an evil presence, visions, obsessions, and engaging women caught up in a journey across the fabric of time. \$10.95 pb, 1-56280-082-5, February.

And on the video scene, **Claire of the Moon: The Movie** (VHS) is now available at a new price of \$29.95. **Claire of the Moon "Moments"** (VHS) is now available at a new price of \$24.95.

Naiad Press, PO Box 10543, Tallahassee FL 32302. Distributed by IN, BP, et al. Naiad's bookstore discount for 1994 will be 50% at all times. —*Naiad Press*



## TORRANCE PUBLISHING COMPANY

In **Femalines: Phases of Female-Feline Phenomena**, artist Nancy Worthington has created a series of 12 artworks depicting intriguing transformations and metamorphoses between cats and women, along with text that delves into the psychological bond between the female and feline psyches and explores the spiritual power, role and status of female and feline. 12 duotone color plates. \$17.95 pb, 0-929523-11-3, Torrance Publishing Company, PO Box 2558, Sebastopol CA 95473. Distributed by BP.

—*Torrance Publishing*

## VOLCANO PRESS

**It's the Law! A Young Person's Guide to Our Legal System** by Annette Carrel is about law, the code of laws that govern what people do, and what happens when people break the law. It is written for boys and girls and young women and men. Author Carrel serves on the Juvenile Justice/Delinquency Prevention Commission in Santa Barbara, CA. Volcano has also published a facilitator's guide that includes the entire text of **It's the Law!**, along with instructions to adults working with young readers, an expanded glossary of legal terms and a mock trial script. \$12.95 pb, 1-884244-01-7; \$16.95 pb, 1-884244-06-8.

**The Physician's Guide to Domestic Violence: How to Ask the Right Questions and Recognize Abuse — Another Way to Save a Life** by Patricia R. Salber M.D. and Ellen Taliaferro M.D. is a "how to"

manual for the busy practitioner and care-giver. It's a fast read and a user-friendly, rapidly accessed, on-the-spot guide to help doctors treat the abused women who are their patients. \$8.95 pb, 1-884244-04-1, January.

Volcano Press, PO Box 270, Volcano CA 95689-2070. Terms: 1 copy 20%; 2-9 copies 35%; 10+ copies 40%. Distributed by BP, Pacific Pipeline, Ingram, the distributors.



—Volcano Press

## WELL VERSED PUBLICATIONS

**Only Mountains Never Meet: A Collection of Stories by Three New Writers** by Nancy Chong, Martha Kofie and Kwanza Msingwana is the result of a collaboration of three talented just-starting-to-be-published writers, an editor who recognized and developed that talent and a publisher with a commitment to promote the work of Black and multicultural writers and poets. \$9.95 pb, 1-895248-05-1, Well Versed Publications, 427 Bloor Street West Suite 109, Toronto, Ontario Canada M5S 1X7. Distributed by BP, IN.

—Well Versed Publications

## THE WOMEN'S PRESS/UK

**The Women Artists Diary 1995** is a beautifully produced annual planner featuring the very best of women's painting, sculpture and photography from a diverse array of international artists. Printed on high-quality art paper, it includes a stunning selection of full-color and black & white illustrations. 4.75 x 7. \$11.95 spiral bound, 0-7043-4405-X.

**Going Back Home** is the powerful debut novel by Vernella Fuller. Joy is a successful lawyer in Britain, but knows that something at the core of her being is missing — something only Jamaica touches. Her sister Esmine, cool and beautiful, echoes their mother's plea that Britain owes them the good life they have fought so hard to build. When the two sisters visit Jamaica, they reawaken the burning controversy that has troubled their family for years: Is it time to be "going back home"? \$10.95 pb, 0-7043-4301-0.

**The Charge of the Parasols: Women's Entry to the Medical Profession** by Catriona Blake is a gripping social history documenting women's struggle to gain entry to the medical establishment, a profession rife with sexual discrimination since its beginnings in the early 19th century. For instance, it may come as a shock to learn that women were not

allowed to join Harvard's prestigious Medical Degree Course until 1944! \$16.99 pb, 0-7043-4239-1.

## Livewire Books for Teenagers

In **Skirmish** by Melisa Michaels, trouble is brewing! An extraterrestrial disaster of epic proportions seems inevitable ... a crowded space shuttle hurtles out of control ... a rescue mission is urgently needed ... and only one person is up to the job — Melacha Rendell, *The Skyrider*. But even a hotshot like Melacha has problems when her ship is suddenly attacked. \$5.99 pb, 0-7043-4906-X.

The Women's Press Ltd., 34 Great Sutton Street, London EC1V 0DX, England. Distributed in the U.S. by IN.

—The Women's Press

## And a few non-book items ...

**The Lesbian Review of Books** is out. Stack a couple dozen copies on your counter and enjoy your customers' responses. Order now if, for some reason, you don't yet have it. Available from Ubiquity, Doormouse, Desert Moon and Armadillo distributors. Also try Inland, Fine Print, Small Changes and Ingram. Direct orders get 40%, payment due on receipt of next issue. Cover price is \$3.50. Lesbian Review of Books, PO Box 6369, Altadena CA 91003; tel/fax 818-398-4200.



Jill Posener, that outrageous documenter of feminist graffiti attacks on bill boards ("The Fiat" and "Born Kicking") has captured another one. Someone, inspired by the billboards advertising beverages "For that deep down body thirst," pasted "lesbianism" labels on all the bottles in the ad. Jill was there with her camera, and now you can buy the postcard from Vision Works (full color, \$.30/bulk rate), PO Box 92, Greenfield MA 01302; 413-772-6569. Watch for another series of cards and some artbooks over the next few years from Picture This, Jill's soon-to-be publishing company...

**Dyke TV** — "Because if we don't put ourselves on the air, nobody else will." **Dyke TV** airs weekly in 15 cities. But if it doesn't air in your town you can order "The Best of Dyke TV Fall, —Winter, —Spring and —Summer" tapes. \$19.99 from Dyke TV, IN or BP. The "Best of Summer" tape includes Gay Games

Continued on page 102

# A HISTORY OF WOMEN IN THE WEST

GEORGES DUBY AND MICHELLE PERROT, GENERAL EDITORS

TRANSLATED BY ARTHUR GOLDHAMMER

THE BELKNAP PRESS

## NEW IN PAPERBACK

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"A series of carefully interrelated essays that form the first volume of a five-part encyclopedic history of women ... [This work] marks the rapid development over the past twenty years in the study of women in the ancient world." —Mary Beard, *Times Literary Supplement*

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EDITED BY GENEVIÈVE FRAISSE AND MICHELLE PERROT

"A handsome volume." —Keith Thomas, *The Observer*

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The contributors and editors deserve accolades." —*Library Journal*

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**HARVARD UNIVERSITY PRESS**

TOLL-FREE TELEPHONE: 1 800 448 2242

# FROM THE UNIVERSITY PRESSES



by Mev Miller  
Amazon Bookstore

## COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY PRESS

Here's yet another addition to your section on menopause: **A Certain Age: Recollections on Menopause** edited by Joanna Goldsworthy. This is a collection of 16 imaginative and personal musings and includes such writers as Sara Maitland, Eva Figes, and Penelope Farmer. \$12.95 pb, 0-231-10151-1.

In **Lesbian Choices**, Claudia Card explores the complex ethical and political questions lesbians face regarding our identities and relationships both within and outside of lesbian communities. Included are considerations of stalking and incest and an extensive discussion of the ethics of outing. She also considers, from a lesbian-feminist perspective, the military ban as it affects lesbians. It seems this title will complement *Adventures in Lesbian Philosophy*, due to be released in December from Indiana University Press, also edited by Claudia Card (see the last *FBN* issue). \$29.95 cl, 0-231-08008-5.



## INDIANA UNIVERSITY PRESS

In addition to the titles reviewed in the last issue, Indiana has several others which seem equally interesting. Among these are two books on writers and writing: **Rereading Nadine Gordimer** by Katherine M. Wagner (\$29.95 cl 0-253-36303-9) and **Tudor and Stuart Women Writers** by Louise Schleiner (\$15.95 pb, 0-253-20886-6). And for those interested in science and biology and their effects on women, there are two titles to consider: **Love, Power and Knowledge: Towards a Feminist Transformation of the Sciences**

by Hilary Rose (\$18.95 pb, 0-253-20907-2) and **Volatile Bodies: Toward a Corporeal Feminism** by Elizabeth Grosz (\$14.95 pb, 0-253-20862-9).



**Black Women in America: An Historical Encyclopedia, Vol. 1: A-L and Vol. 2, M-Z**, edited by Darlene Clark Hine, Elsa Barkley Brown, and Rosalyn Terborg-Penn are now available in paperback as a 2-volume set. It might still seem pricey, but it's a great accomplishment and may do well as a holiday item. \$49.95 pb, 0-253-32774-1.

**From the Other Side: Women, Gender, and the Immigrant Life in the U.S., 1820-1990** by Donna Gabaccia offers, at last, an examination of the effects of immigration to the U.S. on women, including women from Europe, Asia, and Third World countries. \$12.95 pb, 0-253-20904-8.

## NEW YORK UNIVERSITY PRESS

For those stores that have a strong literary criticism section, consider **"Modernist" Women Writers and Narrative Art** by Kathleen Wheeler. By looking at the works of Edith Wharton, Kate Chopin, and Willa Cather, a foundation is set for understanding "modernism" in the works of Jean Rhys, Katherine Mansfield, Stevie Smith, and Jane Bowles. \$18.50 *short discount* pb, 0-8147-9276-6.

## OHIO UNIVERSITY PRESS

For those who collect anything about Virginia Woolf, **Recollections of Virginia Woolf by Her Contemporaries**, edited by Joan Russell Noble, will make a worthy companion to her letters and diaries. This volume includes writings and musings

# WOMEN on WOMEN

*A new series of books from Cassell which aims to provide a forum for lesbian, bisexual and heterosexual women to debate contemporary issues and to develop strategies for the advancement of feminist culture and politics into the next century.*

## NEW FROM CASSELL



### DARING TO DISSENT

*Lesbian Culture from Margin to Mainstream*

Edited by Liz Gibbs

A collection of critical essays which include perspectives on lesbians in TV, radio, journalism, theater, film and poetry. Contributors include Mary Wings and Barbara Wilson.

ISBN: 0 304 32796 4 pb \$15.95

### PORTRAITS TO THE WALL

*Historic Lesbian Lives Unveiled*

Rose Collis

A celebration of lesbian lives hitherto concealed by history; a study of swashbuckling heroines, who can put their famous male counterparts to shame. Contains biographies of 10 women.

ISBN: 0 304 32851 0 pb \$14.95



### CHALLENGING CONCEPTIONS

*Planning a Family by Self-Insemination*

Lisa Saffron

A powerful and inspiring book about lesbians and single women creating their own families independently of a social father. Includes a step-by-step guide to self-insemination.

ISBN: 0 304 33076 0 pb \$14.95



CASSELL

Also coming this fall: *Anthology of Poetry by Women* - A unique selection of over 240 poems drawn from every period of English literature from Saxon times to the present day. ISBN: 0 304 32434 5 Nov. 94 \$14.95

AVAILABLE FROM INBOOK AND BOOKPEOPLE

by such writers as Vita Sackville-West, Rebecca West, T.S. Eliot, Elizabeth Bowen and others. \$16.95 short discount pb, 0-8214-1105-5.



## OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS

Oxford has an amazing number of titles for the women's studies section this Fall (see last issue for more titles as well). For those interested in religion, **The Letters of Hildegard of Bingen, Vol. 1**, translated by Joseph Baird (\$39.95 cl, 0-19508937-5) and **Women in the Qur'an, Traditions, and Interpretation** by Barbara Freyer Stowasser (\$29.95 cl, 0-19-508480-2) will most likely only appeal to those with strong historical and canonical interests.

If you want a book that provides strategies for women to avoid the traps of femininity vs. competence, and other traps of victim feminism, **Beyond the Double Bind: Women and Leadership** by Kathleen Hall Jamieson may be just the right source. She draws on interviews with hundreds of women who have cut through the catch-22 that keeps women from all kinds of professional success. \$25.00 cl, 0-19-508940-5, December.

**Women in the Classical World**, edited by Elaine Fantham et al., is a handsome book which looks at women through architecture, art, and writings in both the early Greek and Roman worlds in order to understand their roles in ancient society as mothers, politicians and professionals, as well as their gifts of creativity, sexuality and spirituality. \$35.00 cl, 0-19-506727-4.

Do you want to know about *women* around the world who have been explorers and adventurers? **Women of the World: Women Travelers and Explorers** by Rebecca Stefoff provides an accessible (could be used by young readers doing research projects) and historical look at women who have made daring and heroic journeys. \$12.95 pb, 0-19-507688-5.

## PRINCETON UNIVERSITY PRESS

**Feminists, Islam, and Nation: Gender and the Making of Modern Egypt** by Margot Badran demonstrates how the Egyptian feminist movement in the first half of this century advanced the nationalist cause while working within the parameters of



Islam. Using memoirs, letters, fiction and other writings, Badran makes an important contribution to the understanding of international feminism while placing women as integral actors in Egyptian history. \$35.00 cl, 0-691-03706-X, February.

### STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

SUNY has two new books that arrived on the scene this summer that I have not covered in previous columns. **Ecotone: Wayfaring on the Margins** by Florence R. Krall is a challenging memoir which combines naturalist experiences with inner searching to illustrate "ecotone" — "...the place that provides sanctuary, solitude and peace, growth and transformation, as well as isolation and inner or outer conflict." It will be a fine contribution to the growing list of writings by women on nature and ecology. \$16.95 pb, 0-7914-1962-2.

And, finally, a new novel by Valerie Miner, **A Walking Fire**. It's the contemporary re-telling of *King Lear* from the point of view of Cordelia. The moving writing in this novel reminds us, again, that the political is deeply and painfully personal. I only hope the price doesn't deter fans of Miner's work from picking up this exciting literary contribution. \$18.95 pb, 0-7914-2008-6.



### TEACHERS COLLEGE PRESS

TCP's new Fall title in the Athene Series is **Women's Studies Graduates: The First Generation** by Barbara Luebke and Mary Ellen Reilly. Drawing on the experience of more than 75 graduates nationwide, the authors have put together a one-of-a-kind resource that answers the question: "What does one do with a Women's Studies major?" \$22.95 pb, 0-8077-6274-1; \$46 cl, -6275-X, December.

And good news from TCP for bookstores who like to order through Inland Book Company: all

new and many backlist titles in the Athene Series (as well as some of their regular education books) are now available through Inland. TCP has also simplified the Athene discount schedule for bookstores ordering directly from the Press.



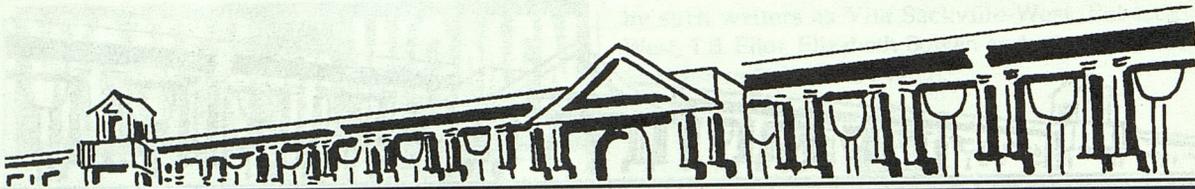
### TEMPLE UNIVERSITY PRESS

**An American Feminist in Palestine: The Intifada Years** by Sherna Berger Gluck provides another thoughtful Jewish feminist look at the struggles between Israel and Palestine during the intifada years. Drawing on her personal experience of traveling to occupied Palestine, Gluck weaves together anecdotes, interviews, and observations about women's resistance — both Israeli and Palestinian — to governmental policies \$16.95 pb, 1-56639-191-1.

Temple University also offers two highly academic though potentially interesting titles for your consideration. **Bridging the Americas: The Literature of Paule Marshall, Toni Morrison, and Gail Jones** by Stelamaris Coser extends the boundaries of what is typically thought of as "American" literature (\$18.95 pb, 1-56639-267-5, December). **Individual Voices, Collective Visions: Fifty Years of Women in Sociology** edited by Ann Goetting & Sarah Fenstermaker includes essays by 18 senior women sociologists writing about diverse personal histories and professional experiences (\$19.95 pb, 1-56639-251-9, December).

### TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY PRESS

Texas A&M offers some rather interesting new titles this season. Who would believe that a university press would be contributing to your *audio* section!! **The Stillness Shall Be the Dancing** provides three hours (2 cassettes) of Marion Woodman, in her own voice, wanting listeners to know that energies at work can bring about evolution and cre-



ativity as well as revolution and rage. Her conversation calls for new balance and the recognition that the silent point is where the dance begins. \$19.95 cassette, 0-89096-605-2.



For those with a different kind of pioneering spirit, you'll want to know about these two titles. **Mountaineering Women: Stories by Early Climbers**, edited by David Mazel, gathers in one volume some recovered stories by and about highly skilled women climbers (\$14.95 pb, 0-89096-617-6, December). **A Dance with Death: Soviet Airwomen in World War II** by Anne Noggle contains the stories of the world's first combat pilots (in their own words translated from Russian), recounts their battles, and includes photographs and portraits (\$29.95 cl, 0-89096-601-X).

#### UNIVERSITY PRESS OF FLORIDA

Slowly — but surely — there are a few books coming available by and about women of African descent living and writing in languages other than English. An important contribution to this body of literature is **Francophone African Women Writers: Destroying the Emptiness of Silence** by Iréne Assiba d'Almeida. French-speaking African women traditionally expressed themselves through oral stories and poetry. d'Almeida explores how this began to change in the late 60's and examines the autobiographies and novels of nine writers since 1975. \$34.95 *short discount* cl, 0-8130-1302-X.

#### UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS

For many of us growing up, crossing a real or artificial barrier such as a street, railroad track, or highway meant entering into a different culture or experience. So it is with Marianna De Marco Torgovnick, author of **Crossing Ocean Parkway**.

This autobiographical memoir explores the crossing of cultural boundaries from her Italian American upbringing to her marriage into a middle-class Jewish neighborhood. \$22.50 cl, 0-226-80829-7.

**The Illusion of Equality: The Rhetoric and Reality of Divorce Reform** by Martha Albertson Fineman explores how liberal divorce reform and its poor use of equality have placed women at an economic and legal disadvantage — traps such reform had intended to avoid. It strongly critiques current social policies and argues for more outcome-oriented measures. \$14.95 pb, 0-226-249457-3.

#### UNIVERSITY OF IOWA PRESS

Those who are interested in the writings of Anne Tyler will want to consider **Anne Tyler as Novelist**, edited by Dale Salwak. This collection of essays explores Tyler's writings, her development as a writer, her beliefs, and her literary accomplishments. \$14.95 pb, 0-87745-487-6.

In literature, there are distinctions between being a "major" or a "minor" writer. Not surprisingly, what gets relegated to "minor" usually involves subjects such as child-rearing or anything in the stereotypical world of women. Gail Gilliland recognizes herself as a "minor" writer in **Being a Minor Writer** and offers a critique of issues associated with writing: choice of subject matter, genre, diction, characterization, setting and style. \$12.95 pb, 0-87745-486-8.



Drawing from her experience as a practicing physician, Susan Onthank Mates offers, in **The Good Doctor**, a collection of 12 stories centering on moral implications of medical practice and other sensitive issues faced by doctors and medical practitioners. \$22.95 cl, 0-87745-467-1.

**Journey into Personhood** by Ruth Cameron Webb is the autobiography of a woman, born with

severe cerebral palsy, who went on to earn a Ph.D. in counseling and guidance. This will be a worthy addition to the slowly growing number of books written by women with disabilities. \$12.95 pb, 0-87745-471-X.

### UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS

Here's another volume to add to the growing amount of literature available on Elizabeth Bishop these days. **Remembering Elizabeth Bishop: An Oral Biography** by Gary Fountain and Peter Brazeau is unique, though, in that it contains interviews and reminiscences about her life and work arranged chronologically from her birth to her death. \$35.00 cl, 0-87023-936-8.



### UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA PRESS

We don't often think of geography as a discipline approached or affected by feminist thought or gender analysis. **Space, Place, and Gender** by a leading feminist geographer, Doreen Massey, challenges the traditional concepts of space and place with the historical impact of gender relations. It's probably not for the casual reader, but will be of interest to those doing gender studies or addressing regional development and inner-city problems. \$19.95 pb, 0-8166-2617-0.

### UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Anglo-Saxon feminist ideologies have never been free of racist or imperialist tendencies. **Burdens of History: British Feminists, Indian Women, and Imperial Culture, 1865-1915** by Antoniette Burton offers a study of British middle-class feminism at the turn-of-the-century, and its impact on women in India — a legacy which must be recognized and addressed by contemporary feminists. \$16.95 pb, 0-8078-4471-3.

**One Hour**, a novel by Lillian Smith, is now back in print (\$15.95 pb, 0-8078-4489-6), and **Revising Life: Sylvia Plath's Ariel Poems** by Susan R. Van Dyne is now available in paperback (\$12.95 pb, 0-8078-4487-X).

### UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

**Unsubmissive Women: Chinese Prostitutes in Nineteenth-Century San Francisco** by Benson Tong



### Gertrude Stein Remembered

Edited by Linda Simon

A collection of memoirs by twenty people who knew her well, it adds invaluable details to our view of Stein as a writer and woman.

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Lucie Aubrac

Translated by Konrad Bieber with the assistance of Betsy Wing

Introduction by Margaret Collins Weitz  
\$10 paper (0-8032-5923-9)

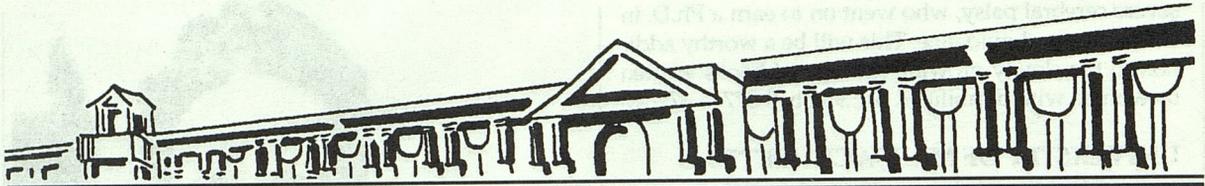
### The Shakespearean Wild

Geography, Genus, and Gender

By Jeanne Addison Roberts

\$32.50 cloth (0-8032-3899-1)

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explores the lives of Chinese women prostitutes who maintained their ability to alter their fate while making an impact on the commercial/economic lives of Chinese immigrants. It's a comprehensive study which uses census schedules, newspapers, government publications, literary sources and more to create a major contribution to the understanding of immigrant women's history. \$24.95 cl, 0-8061-2653-1.

**WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY**

German feminists have rescued the philosophical and political writings of one of the best-known women writers in Germany. Now, in **Bettina Brentano-Von Arnim: Gender and Politics** edited by Elke P. Frederiksen and Katherine R. Goodman, Von Arnim's controversial views on gender, politics, and language theory are available in English. It'll be a quality addition for those stores with strong gender studies sections. \$39.95 cl, 0-8143-2516-5, December.

**Women of the Word: Jewish Women and Jewish Writing** is the companion volume to Judith Baskin's *Jewish Women in Historical Perspective*. It's a collection of essays surveying the achievements of

Jewish women writers from the Renaissance through the Modern Era. Included are writings from women writers in Yiddish, Hebrew, English, and Spanish (\$18.95 pb, 0-8143-2423-1). If you are interested in Yiddish poetry, consider **I Want to Fall Like This: Selected Poems of Rukhl Fishman (A Bilingual Edition)** translated by Seymour Levitan. This collection of her poetry portrays Fishman, the youngest and only American-born Yiddish poet of the "Yung Yisroel," as a poet who is both stirring and thoughtful (\$15.95 pb, 0-8143-2541-6).

**YALE UNIVERSITY**

**Feminist Perspectives on Jewish Studies** edited by Lynn Davidman and Shelly Tenenbaum is the first book to evaluate the development of feminist scholarship in various fields within Jewish studies. The state of women in the fields of biblical studies, rabbinics, theology, history, literature, sociology, anthropology, philosophy and so on are analyzed. \$28.50 cl, 0-300-06028-9, January.

Now available in paperback: **Käthe Kollwitz** by Elizabeth Prelinger et al. \$27.50 pb, 0-300-06168-4. ○

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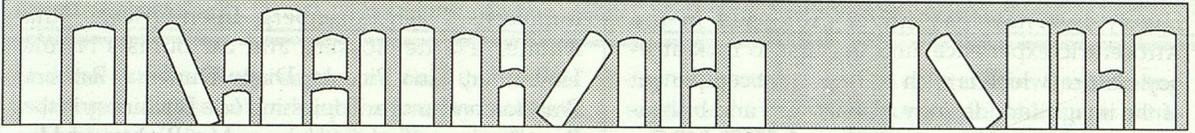
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Janice G. Raymond  
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The Miseducation of Obstetrician-Gynecologists  
Diana Scully  
1994/304 pp./Pb, \$18.95

# FROM THE SMALL PRESSES



by Beth Morgan

**Courting Pleasure** by FBN's own art columnist Tee Corinne is a diverse and sexy collection from one of lesbian feminism's most productive, frequently quoted and often censored authors of erotic material. Warm. Loving. Humorous. A delight for daytime or evening reading, with rowdy characters you won't want to forget. \$9.95 pb, 0-934411-53-0. Banned Books, an imprint of Edward-William Austin, No. 292, PO Box 33280, Austin TX 78764; 512-288-7515. Distributed by IN, BP.

Alyson Publications has seven titles of interest, beginning with three books for gay youth and those who work with them. Ten years after compiling *One Teenager in Ten*, the first book to allow dozens of teenagers to describe what it's like to be gay or lesbian, Ann Heron compiles similar stories from a new generation in **Two Teenagers in Twenty**. This book will greatly ease the way for teenagers just now coming out and the adults who seek to support them (\$17.95 cl, 1-55583-229-6). A 1989 federal study — swept under the rug by the Bush administration — found that teenagers struggling with issues of sexual orientation were three times more likely than their peers to commit suicide. **Death by Denial: Studies of Suicide in Gay and Lesbian Teenagers** edited by Gary Remafedi, M.D., M.P.H. contains the full findings of that report, information about the difficulties faced by teenagers who are coming out, and proposals for easing that process (\$9.95 pb, 1-55583-260-1). Drawing from both primary and secondary sources, **Becoming Visible: A Reader in Gay and Lesbian History for High School and College Students** edited by Kevin Jennings covers over 2000 years of history and a diverse range of cultures. Refreshing, engrossing and finely documented, each selection in

the book is followed by questions that could be assigned to students and suggestions for classroom activities (\$9.95 pb, 1-55583-254-7).

**The Men with the Pink Triangle: The True, Life-and-Death Story of Homosexuals in the Nazi Death Camps** by Heinz Heger has been reissued,

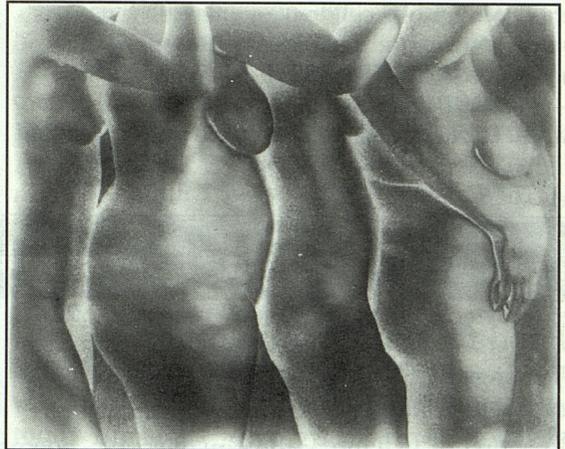


Photo By Tee Corinne

Cover of *Courting Pleasure* by Tee Corinne. (Banned Books).

with a new introduction by Klaus Muller, head of the gay history project for the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. Of the few homosexual men who survived the concentration camps, only three or four have come forward to tell their stories. This book provides an important introduction to a long-buried chapter of gay history. The lesbian experience in the camps still has not yet been documented in book form. \$8.95 pb, 1-55583-006-4.

Ten years after the publication of her much loved book about lesbians and recovery, *Out from Under*, Jean Swallow brings us **The Next Step: Out From Under, Volume Two**, which takes a new look

at long-term recovery in lesbian communities. \$9.95 pb, 1-55583-264-4.

**B-Boy Blues: A Seriously Sexy, Fiercely Funny, Black-on-Black Love Story** by James Early Hurdy is a new gay novel grounded in the Afrocentric experience, and the first to look at B-boy culture, which is such an important component of the image and ideology of many gay and bisexual men of African descent (\$9.95 pb, 1-55583-268-7).



And from the Alyson Wonderland imprint, **One Dad, Two Dads, Brown Dad, Blue Dads** by Johnny Valentine, illustrated by Melody Sarecky. In this lighthearted, easy-to-read book about parents who are different, two children — one with blue dads, one from a more traditional family — compare notes. \$10.95 cl, 1-55583-253-9.

Alyson Publications, 40 Plympton Street, Boston MA 02118; 617-542-5679. Distributed by Consortium.

The Crossing Press has five Fall titles for us.

**The Best Contemporary Women's Humor**, edited by FBN's own humor columnist Roz Warren, is a collection of all the best laughs from women of wit the world over, featuring the work of your favorite humorists, Flash Rosenberg, Ellen Orleans, Rita Rudner, Hattie Gossett, and cartoonists Nicole Hollander, Rina Piccolo, Diane Dimassa, Barbara Brandon and more. Topics include *Bitchiness is the Best*, *Revenge*, *Family Values*, *Mr. Right and Mr. Coffee*, *Marriage*, *Job Hell*, and *the Night of the Living Bra*. Roz Warren is editor of the groundbreaking *Women's Glib* humor collections and writes about humor for *FBN*, *Hysteria* and *Sojourner* (\$12.95, 0-89594-694-7).

**Out of the Class Closet: Lesbians Speak** edited by Julia Penelope is a wide-ranging, compelling anthology in which lesbians from diverse class, race and ethnic backgrounds tell their stories and articulate theories of class difference among women with insight and wit (\$14.95 pb, 0-89594-704-8).

In **Creating Circles of Power and Magic: A Woman's Guide to Sacred Community** by Caitlin Libera, eight women unhappy with modern religious experience come together to celebrate nature

## New Books from South End Press

### Food for our Grandmothers

Writings by Feminists of Arab Descent  
edited by Joanna Kadi

This first-of-its-kind anthology of essays, poems, and short stories makes space for Arab-American and Arab-Canadian feminists to tell the stories of importance to them and their communities. The contributors challenge racist and sexist stereotypes of Arab women and explore parallels to the experiences of other women of color and immigrants to North America.

Available October 24

0-89608-489-2

\$16.00

### Reproductive Rights and Wrongs

The Global Politics of Population Control  
by Betsy Hartmann

This completely revised second edition of the feminist classic — updated through the Cairo conference — has urgent relevance today, as population control advocates attempt to appropriate the language of progressive feminist and environmental movements.

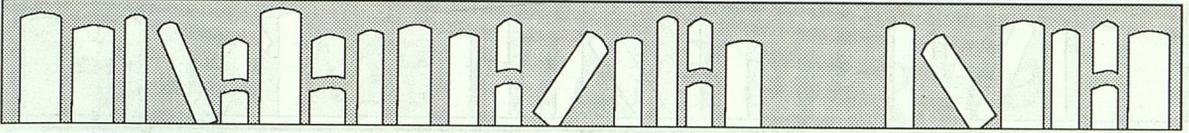
Available December 26

0-89608-491-4

\$18.00

Available to the trade from InBook: 1-800-243-0138, or from your preferred distributor.





and the seasons of the earth, and find themselves creating a successful spiritual community. An honest and interesting account, this book is also a treatise on how members of a group can achieve consensus with no appointed or elected leader (\$12.95 pb, 0-89594-712-9). **O Mother Sun: A New View of the Cosmic Feminine** by Patricia Monaghan extracts magical stories from many cultures and hundreds of sources indicating a worldwide cult of the sun goddess. **O Mother Sun** offers new material to readers who want to know more about the goddess (\$10.95 pb, 0-89594-722-6).

**Feminist Parenting: Struggles, Triumphs & Comic Interludes**, edited by Dena Taylor, collects personal accounts by parents — and a few children — of innovations, successes, muddles and humor involved in raising kids to become strong daughters and sensitive sons. Includes work by Anna Quindlen, Audre Lorde, Mary Kay Blakely, Minnie Bruce Pratt, Alma Luz Villaneuva and Robin Morgan (\$14.95 pb, 0-89594-690-4).

The Crossing Press, PO Box 1048, Freedom CA 95019; 800-777-1048. Distributed by BP, Ingram and New Leaf.



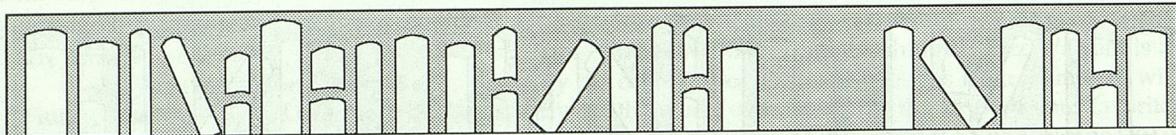
After 20 years of raising boys and years of teaching and writing about family and women's issues, Mary Kay Blakely clearly draws the connections between the personal and the political in **American Mom: Motherhood, Politics, and Humble Pie**. We've heard this book referred to as "Raising Outlaws" — the content is *much* more political than the current title suggests. Blakely is an editor at *Ms.* and has been very supportive of feminist booksellers. \$19.95 cl, 1-56512-052-3. Algonquin Books, PO Box 2225, Chapel Hill NC 27515; 919-933-2113. Distributed by IN.

Created by London's Virago Press, *The Virago Woman's Travel Guides* is a series of comprehensive

city guides with a special emphasis on the traveling needs and interests of women. In addition to what one would usually expect of a travel guide — hotels, restaurants, entertainment — each guide offers information on such practical topics as sexual harassment, racism, women with disabilities, and health and sex. One of the outstanding features of these guides is their description of women's contribution to each city's history, art and culture. Additional sections provide information on traveling with children, traveling as a business woman and recommended reading. **The Virago Woman's Travel Guide to San Francisco** by Harriet Swift, \$14.95 pb, 1-57143-015-6. — **Amsterdam**, by Catherine Stebbings, \$14.95 pb, 1-57143-016-4. — **London**, by Josie Barnard, \$14.95 pb, 1-57143-017-2. Published in the U.S. by Book Passage Press, a division of RDR Books, 2415 Woolsey Street, Berkeley CA 94705; 510-644-1133. Distributed by BP, IN.

**Moon Marked and Touched by Sun: Plays by African American Women** celebrates a universe of new and vital voices in the American theatre, collecting for the first time works by the most important African American women writing for the stage today. Includes work by Laurie Carlos, Kia Corthron, Thulani Davis, Judith Alexa Jackson, Adrienne Kennedy, Robbie McCauley, Suzan Lori-Parks, Aishah Rahman, Ntozake Shange, Anna Deavere Smith and Danitra Vance. \$15.95 pb, 1-55936-065-8. Theatre Communications Group, 355 Lexington Avenue, New York NY 10017; 212-697-5230. Distributed by Consortium.

**Plays by American Women: 1930-1960** edited by Judith E. Barlow reveals the depth and scope of women's dramatic voices during the middle years of this century. Among the eight plays in the volume are smart comedies and poignant tragedies, agitprop and surrealist fantasies, established classics and neglected treasures. Includes work by Hallie Flanagan and Margaret Ellen Clifford, Jane



Bowles, Clare Boothe, Fay Kanin and more. \$16.99 pb, 1-55783-164-5. Applause Books, 211 W. 71st Street, New York NY 10023; 212-595-4735. Distributed by Publishers Resource International, 800-937-5557.

**Compañeras: Voices from the Latin American Women's Movement** edited by Gabby Küppers is a collection of 25 interviews and essays that present a unique overview of current debates among Latin American women activists, including vigorous discussions about feminism, machismo and the whole process of social change. Contributors range from a Mexican prostitute who recently stood for parliament, a Colombian indigenous leader, and a Uruguayan black activist, to Nicaraguan feminist Sofia Montenegro and members of the Brazilian Workers' Party. \$15 pb, 0-906156-86-6. Latin American Bureau, 1 Amwell Street, London EC1R 1UL, England. Distributed by BP, IN and Monthly Review Press, 122 West 27th Street, New York NY 10001.



**What Every American Should Know About Women's History** by Christine Lunardini, Ph.D. includes over 200 key events extending from the earliest colonial times to our own century. Whether the issue is work, family life, social reform or the struggle for equal rights, the author provides compelling, readable insights into the women who shaped our destiny. \$9.95 pb, 1-55850-417-6; \$16 cl, -309-9. Bob Adams, Inc., 260 Center Street, Holbrook MA 02343; 800-872-5627. Distributed by Ingram, Baker & Taylor, Koen and Pacific Pipeline.

**The Lesbian Health Guide** edited by Regan McClure and Anne Vespy features informative articles about issues that affect lesbians, including cancer, the psychiatric system, HIV and AIDS, having

children, dealing with doctors and therapists, and violence in lesbian relationships. Other topics include addiction, fat oppression, poverty, miscarriage and rural living. This book is intended to raise awareness of how health issues impact our lesbian communities and provide options for lesbians to stay healthy in an unhealthy world. \$15.95 pb, 1-895564-02-6. Queer Press, PO Box 485 Station P, Toronto, Ontario M5S 2T1 Canada. Distributed by BP, IN.

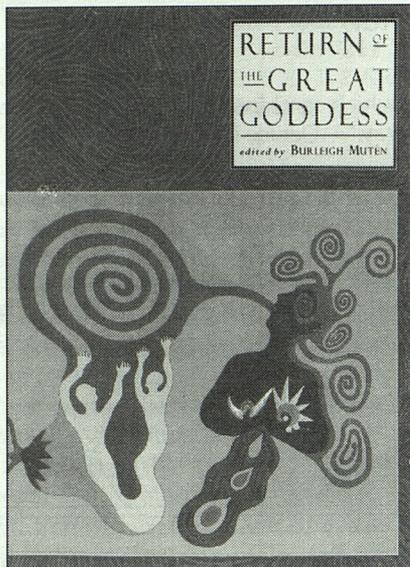
Arte Público has published several new titles of interest, two of them geared toward younger audiences. **Hispanic, Female and Young: An Anthology** edited by Phyllis Tashlik collects the voices of Las Mujeres Hispanas, a group of Latina teenagers at Manhattan East, a public alternative school in New York City's El Barrio. The young women met throughout the course of a year to read and discuss their reactions to the works of renowned female Hispanic authors as well as concerns born of their own identities. Individually and collectively they went on to write poems, stories and essays and conduct interviews with prominent Latinas. The result is this inspiring anthology. \$14 pb, 1-55885-072-4. In **Juanita Fights the School Board**, by Gloria Velasquez, a Mexican American girl is faced with expulsion from high school for defending herself when physically attacked in a primarily white school. With the help of family, friends and activist adults in her life, she confronts the powerful school board in her district. This is the first novel in the Roosevelt High School Series; a forthcoming book in this series will deal with homophobia experienced by a gay male (\$7.95 pb, 1-55885-115-1).

**The Memories of Ana Calderón** by Graciela Limón — a novel in memoir form — tells the story of a talented woman, born in tradition-bound rural Mexico, who comes to the United States and greater opportunity only to find that here, too, society, family and religion conspire to hold her back (\$18.95 pb, 0-295-97347-1; \$35 cl, -97346-3).



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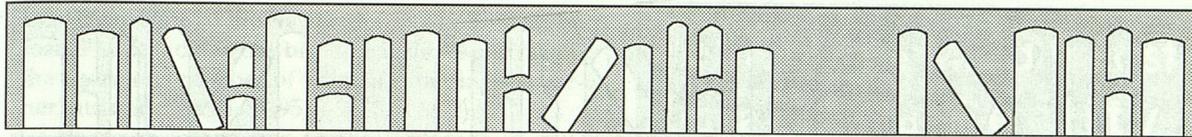
by Debbie Chocolate. Young and talented singer Elizabeth enters a talent contest and wins — but how should she spend the money? Is a new stereo more important than her friends who live at the neighborhood shelter? Elizabeth's friends come through in helping her to learn the difference between reality and dreams. \$3.95 pb, 0-940975-45-9. Just Us Books, Inc., 301 Main Street, Orange NJ 07050; 201-676-4345. Distributed by BP, IN.

A young boy looking in the reflecting waters of a lake with his friends suddenly realizes that he is different from them. Through the pages of **Less Than Half, More Than Whole** by Kathleen and Michael Lacapa, illustrated by Michael Lacapa, Tony searches for a way to understand what it means to be "less than half" of a particular heritage. Finally, while visiting his grandfather and examining the creator's gift of corn, he is shown that he is "more than whole." Although it would be nice if a female character had been included in Tony's group of friends, the gorgeous graphic illustrations in this book as well as its effective handling of what it means to come from a multicultural background make it well worth adding to your children's section (\$14.95 cl, 0-87358-592-5).



**Walking the Twilight: Women Writers of the Southwest** edited by Kathryn Wilder is a collection of 32 stories by women whose connection to the Southwest is as strong as the truth. Sandra Cisneros, Pam Houston, Barbara Kingsolver, Rita Maria Magdaleno, Mary Sojourner and others mix tales of pain, fear and victory with the hues of the Southwest to make place — city, desert, mountain-top — the heart of their work (\$14.95 pb, 0-87358-585-2). **Reckoning the Earth: Some Lessons from the Land** by Sandra Murphy is a collection of essays set at the Cincinnati Nature Center's Long Branch Farm, which exists solely to teach people — especially children — about the natural world, using everyday miracles of a working farm to demonstrate the interrelatedness of living things (\$12.95 pb, 0-87358-590-9).

Northland Publishing, PO Box 1389, Flagstaff AZ 86002; 602-774-5251. Distributed by BP, IN.



Another new title in nature writing by women is **Temporary Homelands** by Alison Hawthorne Denning. Inspired by four loved places — the northeast woods of her childhood, a remote Canadian island, southeast Alaska and the American southwest — the book's twelve essays combine the objectivity of a field notebook and the subjectivity of a personal memoir to trace one woman's journey in search of a spiritual homeland. \$18 cl, 1-56279-062-5. Mercury House, 201 Filbert Street Suite 400, San Francisco CA 94133; 415-433-7043. Distributed by Consortium.



**Sappho's Gymnasium**, poetry by Olga Broumas (*Beginning With O, Perpetua*) and T Begley, is the collaborative act at its most intensely lyrical pitch. In this hypnotically incantatory work sustained by the oral, ecstatic tradition, poetry is an issue of the body, and the body is the instrument of poetry. The result is a seamless, intoxicating music. \$12 pb, 1-55659-068-7. Copper Canyon Press, PO Box 271, Port Townsend WA 98368; 206-385-4925. Distributed by Consortium.

When first published in 1971 in Uruguay, **Evohe: Erotic Poems** by Cristina Peri Rossi was the cause of considerable scandal and the book was eventually banned by the military dictatorship. Fusing her desire for women with the desire for language, the poet illuminates a stark yet subtle world of erotic passion and transgression. Bilingual edition. \$11.95 pb, 0-9632363-5-0. Azul Editions, 2032 Belmont Road NW Suite 301, Washington DC 20009; 202-462-5904. Distributed by BP, IN.

The first anthology of contemporary Japanese Women's poetry in English translation has just been published by Stone Bridge Press. **A Long Rainy Season** edited by Leza Lowitz et al. features the traditional 17-syllable *haiku* and the slightly longer

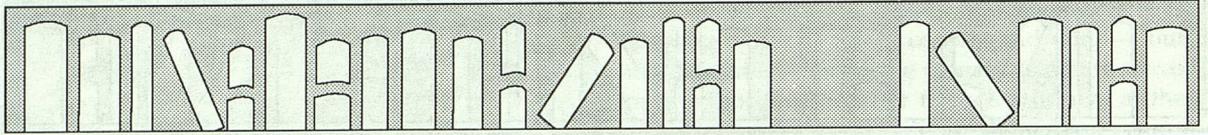
*tanka*. June Jordan calls this book "a stunning treasury of fresh, beautiful poems written by Japanese women ... as various as stars." \$12, 1-880656-15-9. Stone Bridge Press, PO Box 8208, Berkeley CA 94707; 510-524-8732. Distributed by Weatherhill Inc., 800-437-7840.

**Toward the Splendid City** by Marjorie Agosin is a bilingual collection of poetry focusing on the great cities of the world and the suffering endured there as a result of war and similar atrocities. With a spare hand, Agosin also creates haunting and memorable portraits of the people who populate this landscape. \$13 pb, 0-927534-46-0. Bilingual Review Press, Hispanic Research Center, Arizona State University, Box 872702, Tempe AZ 85287-2702; 602-965-3867. Distributed by Ingram, Small Press Distribution, BP, IN.

Published in 1990 by Kali For Women, the first feminist press in India, **The Quilt and Other Stories** by Ismat Chughtai has now been released in the U.S. by Sheep Meadow Press. A daughter of Indian Independence, Chughtai was a master storyteller and Urdu's most outspoken woman writer; the stories collected here are strongly feminist in their challenge to the traditional gender roles and assumptions of Indian culture. A very important but little-known chapter of lesbian history is the obscenity trial surrounding the title story's lesbian content — a trial that took place shortly after the famous *Well of Loneliness* trial in England, and from which Chughtai emerged the victor. Shelve in both lesbian and South Asian literature sections. \$14.95 pb, 1-878818-34-1. Sheep Meadow Press, PO Box 1345, Riverdale-on-Hudson NY 10471; 800-972-4491. Distributed by Small Press Distribution, the distributors, Baker & Taylor, Book House.



In her fiction debut **American Visa**, Wang Ping draws on her own and others' experiences of living



in Maoist China before emigrating to the United States. Through a series of linked stories, we view her character — Seaweed — at key moments: from the child who discovers a contraband lipstick during the Cultural Revolution, to the young woman who works on a farming commune and later fights to bring her sisters to New York. \$11.95 pb, 1-56689-025-X. Coffee House Press, 27 North 4th Street, Minneapolis MN 55401; 612-338-0125. Distributed by Consortium.

**Vigil for a Stranger** by Kitty Burns Florey is a haunting literary thriller about a woman who finds herself in the grip of a past she had thought resolved. In her search through the tangles of truth and illusions, memory and dream, she questions her various roles as lover, mother, painter, and mourner of the dead. An uncompromising portrait of a contemporary woman in crisis. \$13.95 pb, 0-913089-43-5. Broken Moon Press, PO Box 24585, Seattle WA 98124-0585; 206-548-1340. Distributed by Consortium, BP, IN.



Based on a true story, Claire de Duras' **Ourika** relates the experiences of a Senegalese girl who is rescued from slavery and raised by an aristocratic French family during the French Revolution. A best-seller in the 1820s, **Ourika** is the first novel set in Europe to have a Black heroine and the first French literary work narrated by a Black female protagonist. \$5.95 pb, 0-87352-780-1, January. MLA Texts & Translations, Modern Language Association, 10 Astor Place, New York NY, 10003-6981; 212-475-9500. Distributed by Ingram and Baker & Taylor.

**Stealing Heaven: The Love Story of Heloise and Abelard** by Marion Meade is historical fiction based on the actual 12th-century love letters of the main character, Heloise. At 17, she falls in love with her tutor, the philosopher/cleric Peter Abelard. After the tragic denouement of their love affair, she

goes on to become one of the most brilliant and learned women in all of Christian Europe, and establishes a renowned convent, The Paraclete (\$15 pb, 1-56947-011-1). Soho Press, 853 Broadway, New York NY 10003. Distributed by IN.

From the author of *Klytaimnestra Who Stayed at Home* and *Bobe Mayse: A Tale of Washington Square* comes the new tongue-in-cheek novel **Bagatelle Guinevere** by (fictional character!) Felice Rothman, edited with an introduction etc. by (author!) Nancy Bogen, in which failed poet and academic Rothman enlists the aid of author Bogen to help her write an account of a hush-hush mission to another planet that Rothman undertook for NASA. The intelligent indigenees Felice encounters are represented by three sexes, and present a kind of funhouse-mirror image of aspects of our modern urban society, as well as illuminating continuing inequities between females and males here on earth! \$14.95 pb, 0-936726-06-7; \$22.95 cl, -05-9, January. Twickenham Press, 31 Jane Street, Suite 17B, New York NY 10014; 212-741-2417. Distributed by IN and Baker & Taylor.

From Dalkey Archive Press comes the debut novel of a beguiling new writer — **Jack Kerouac is Pregnant** by Aurelie Sheehan. In this collection of lyrical, often bitingly funny chronicles of women breaking out of imposed roles, Sheehan crafts kaleidoscopic stories that subvert the linear notion of storytelling (\$19.95 cl, 1-56478-060-0).

**Duras: A Biography** by Alain Vircondelet is the first full-length biography of one of the best-known and most influential French writers of our time. 37 photographs (\$24.95 cl, 1-56478-065-1, December).

**Inviting the Muses** by Marguerite Young is a collection of previously uncollected short stories and short prose writings by the author of *Miss MacIntosh, My Darling* (\$21.95 cl, 1-56478-053-8).

Dalkey Archive Press, Campus Box 4241, Normal IL 61790-4241; 309-438-7555. Distributed by BP, IN.

Conari Press offers two new titles you might want to consider. With honesty and sharp-hewn

wit, **Desperate Women Need to Talk to You** by Joan Frank tackles the big and little issues facing the enormous number of women rounding the corner into middle age (\$9.95, 0-943233-68-2).

Through interviews and questionnaires with more than 150 women, **Sisters: Shared Histories, Lifelong Ties** by Elizabeth Fishel poignantly explores the depth and breadth of this bond, revealing intense rivalry, unwavering devotion and sisters' influence on each other's sexuality and creativity (\$12.95, 0-943233-70-4).

Conari Press, 1144 65th Street Suite B, Emeryville CA 94608; 510-596-4040. Distributed by Publishers Group West, BP, IN.

Another book on the theme of sisters is **Such Devoted Sisters**, a collection of stories from both new and well-known writers, edited by novelist Shena Mackay. Includes work by Janet Frame, Fiona Cooper, Mary Flanagan and more. \$21.95 cl, 1-55921-110-5. Moyer Bell, Kymbolde Way, Wakefield RI 02879; 401-789-0074. Distributed by BP, IN, Publishers Group West.

And yet a third book on that topic is **Sisters**, essays by Carol Saline, photos by Sharon J. Wohlmuth, a collection of original essays and photographs that creates a moving portrayal of the profound relationship between sisters. Includes 36 portraits, and features artists, writers, athletes, painters, socialites and teachers who tell how they fight and make up, what they risk for one another, and how proud they are of each other. \$27.50 cl, 1-56138-450-X. Running Press, 125 South 22nd Street, Philadelphia PA 19103-4399; 800-345-5359. Distributed by BP.



**Images of Ourselves: Common Legacies of Women 1995 Engagement Calendar** brings together beautiful sepia-tone photographs of women from all walks of life with quotes from Hazelden meditations. Each page has ample writing space for appointments and dates to remember. \$11.95 spiral bound, 1-56838-013-5. Hazelden Educational Materials, Center City MN 55012-0176. Distributed by BP, IN.

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**Lifecycles 1: Jewish Women on Life Passages & Personal Milestones**, edited by seventh-generation rabbi Debra Orenstein, is the premiere book in a new three-volume series. In self-aware, passionate and insightful voices, 50 leading thinkers explore tradition and innovations in personal ritual and spirituality. Speaking to women of all backgrounds, the book covers the entire spectrum of life's passages. \$24.95 cl, 1-879045-14-1. Jewish Lights Publishing, PO Box 237, Woodstock VT 05091; 802-457-4000. Distributed by BP, IN.

Through the centuries, Chinese women and girls have been bought and sold for marriage, concubinage, domestic service and prostitution in China and among Chinese communities overseas. Based on original documentary, oral research and personal

**MIKE GETS A RISE OUT OF SUZANNE.**



By Dianne Reum in *the Best Contemporary Womens Humor*. (Crossing Press).

experience, the stories collected in **Women and Chinese Patriarchy: Submission, Servitude and Escape** edited by Maria Jaschok and Suzanne Miers reveal the many forms of servitude Chinese women have endured, and the avenues of escape open to them. \$25 pb, 1-85649-126-9; \$59.95 cl, -125-0. Zed Books Ltd., 7 Cynthia Street, London N1 9JF England, available in the U.S. through Humanities Press International, 165 1st Avenue, Atlantic Highlands NJ 07716; 908-872-1441. Distributed by IN.

Using as its frame of reference Murasaki Shikibu's *The Tale of the Genji*, **The World of the Shining Prince: Court Life in Ancient Japan** is Ivan Morris' widely acclaimed portrait of tenth-century Japan at a time when women set the cultural tone. Focusing on the world of the emperor's court — so admired by Virginia Woolf and others — Morris provides detailed portrayals of the daily life of courtiers, the cult of beauty they espoused and the intricate relations between men and women. This new edition includes an introduction by Barbara Ruch. \$15 pb, 1-56836-029-0. Kodansha International, 114 Fifth Avenue, New York NY

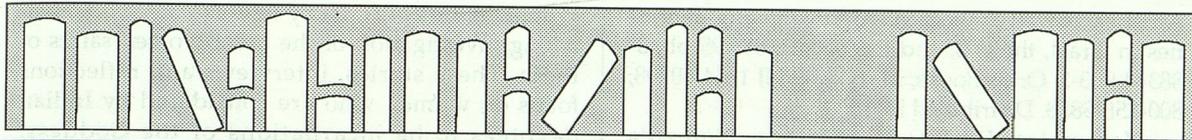
10011; 212-727-6460. Distributed by BP, IN.

**Sisters of the Wind: Voices of Early Women Aviators** by Elizabeth S. Bell is an inspiring new study of the autobiographical writings of the women who as pilots pioneered the peacetime applications of aviation. The eleven aviators featured in this collection all wrote their first-person accounts in the '20s and '30s, but the voices of these courageous women trailblazers have been all but lost until now. \$14.95, 0-9623879-4-0. Trilogy Books, 50 S. DeLacey Avenue Suite 201, Pasadena CA 91105; 818-440-0669. Distributed by IN.

**Me: A Memoir** by Brenda Ueland (first published to critical acclaim in 1939) is the author's passionate coming-of-age story, set in Minneapolis and Greenwich Village in the early part of the century. Ueland was a strident individualist, early feminist, writer and teacher. Of this autobiography Patricia Hampl says "I can think of no other book that gives a sharper sense of what it must have been like to be alive and educated — and a rule-breaking woman — in the American interior before the Second World War." Ueland is best known for her book *If You Want to Write*. \$14.95 pb, 0-930100-56-5; \$28.95 cl, -57-3. Holy Cow! Press, PO Box 3170, Mount Royal Station, Duluth MN 55803; 218-724-1653. Distributed by BP, IN.

**Things We Couldn't Say** is the true story of Diet Eman, a young Dutch woman who, with her fiance Hein Sietsma, risked everything to rescue Jews from the Nazis in occupied Holland during World War II. Eman's first-person narrative as well as diary entries and letters vividly capture the events of that tumultuous time, from the beginnings of the Resistance operation to her eventual arrest and imprisonment at the Vught concentration camp. \$19.99 cl, 0-8028-3763-8. Available directly from William B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 255 Jefferson Avenue SE, Grand Rapids MI 49503; 800-253-7521.

From the *Foremother Legacies* series — autobiographies and memoirs of women from Asia, Africa, the Middle East and Latin America — comes a new title: **Manmohini Zutshi Sahgal: An Indian Freedom Fighter Recalls Her Life**, edited by Geraldine Forbes. This richly detailed book offers a vivid portrait of a



confident, rebellious Indian woman who invaded what had been exclusively male spaces among the early participants in illegal nationalist protest. \$16.95 pb, 1-56324-340-7; \$46.50 cl, -339-3. Order from M.E. Sharpe Publisher, 80 Business Park Drive, Armonk NY 10504; 914-273-1800.



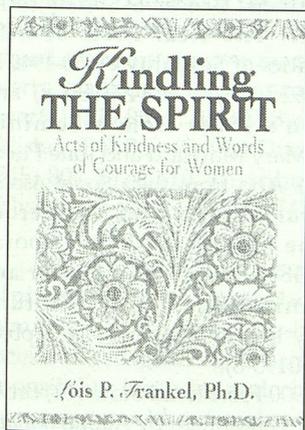
**Women and Numbers** by Teri Perl is a collection of lively, revealing and educational biographies of 19th- and 20th-century women mathematicians, designed to inspire young women to dream big and keep their options wide open. The book has a multicultural emphasis and includes math activities, photographs and illustrations. \$15.95 pb, 0-933174-87-X. Wide World Publishing/Tetra, PO Box 476, San Carlos CA 94070. Distributed by Publishers Group West.

**Neither Man Nor Beast: Feminism and the Defense of Animals** by Carol J. Adams is a collection of compelling new reflections on animal rights, vegetarianism and ecofeminism by the bestselling author of *The Sexual Politics of Meat*. Among the top-

ics covered are Animal Experimentation and Patriarchal Society, Minority Concerns and the Animal Rights Movement, and The Feminist Traffic in Animals. \$24.95 cl, 0-8264-0670-X. Continuum Books, 370 Lexington Avenue, New York NY 10017; 212-953-5858. Distributed by BP.

Using a combination of history, policy research, feminist thought and evidence from the non-Western world, **Fertile Ground: Women, Earth and the Limits of Control** by Irene Diamond (foreword by Starhawk) questions the western — and feminist — assumption that women's freedom lies primarily in their control over reproduction. Diamond, a leading ecofeminist, challenges us to embrace a broader vision of women's freedom that does not emphasize technological control over nature. \$24 cl, 0-8070-6772-5. Beacon Press, 25 Beacon Street, Boston MA 02108-2892; 616-742-2110. Distributed by BP, IN.

**Feminist Theology from the Third World: A Reader** edited by Ursula King is a new collection of readings illustrating the range and vitality of feminist theology. Included are 38 key texts representing the voices of women in Africa, Asia and Latin



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America as well as women working among minorities in Israel, the U.S. and the Pacific. \$19.95 pb, 0-88344-963-3. Orbis Books, Maryknoll NJ 10545-0308; 800-258-5838. Distributed by BP, IN.

**Helpmates, Harlots and Heroes: Women's Stories in the Hebrew Bible** by Alice Ogden Bellis is a first-of-its-kind book that draws on the work of the many feminist biblical scholars who have examined women's stories in the Old Testament — stories that have profoundly affected how (Judeo-Christian) women understand themselves. \$19.99 pb, 0-664-25430-6. Westminster John Knox Press, 100 Witherspoon Street, Louisville KY 40202-1396; 502-569-5018. Distributed by Baker & Taylor.

Yes International offers two new titles on spirituality. **The Divine Mosaic: Women's Images of the Sacred Other** edited by Theresa King is a collection of 24 essays in which women from many different spiritual traditions look into the face of God and tell us what they see. Their images of the Sacred Other in prose and poetry form a mosaic that challenges old assumptions and brings the divine fully into the lives of women today (\$15.95 pb, 0-936663-10-3). **Daughters of the Goddess: The**

**Women Saints of India** by Linda Johnsen is a fascinating investigation of the great women saints of India. These stories, interviews and reflections focus on women who are considered by Indian devotees to be incarnations of the Goddess. American writer Linda Johnsen takes readers on a tour through teeming Calcutta and placid country towns for a close-up meeting with six of these saints (\$12.95, 0-936663-09-X).

Yes International Publishers, 1317 Summit Avenue, Saint Paul MN 55105-2602; 612-645-6808. Distributed by BP, IN.



**Kindling the Spirit: Acts of Kindness and Words of Courage for Women** by Lois P. Frankel, Ph.D. is a collection of "practical instructions for self-kindness" accompanied by quotes from historical and well-known contemporary women. Because it offers instant "answers" to what is actually a very complex problem in women's lives — the incessant drain of time and energy spent on others — it will probably sell well. But we found the content overwhelmingly simplistic, for example, "Free yourself from the false confines of time by leaving your watch at home" or "Be willing to trade security for happiness." \$8.95 pb, 1-55874-323-5. Health Communications, Enterprise Center, 3201 SW 15th Street, Deerfield Beach FL 33442; 305-360-0909. Distributed by BP, IN.

From Taylor & Francis' *Gender & Society* series come two new titles, **The Real Facts of Life: Feminism and the Politics of Sexuality c1850-1940** by Margaret Jackson (\$25 pb, 0-7484-0100-8) and **Researching Women's Lives from a Feminist Perspective** edited by Mary Maynard and June Purvis (\$27 pb, 0-7484-0153-9). And from their *Social Aspects of AIDS* series, **Moral Threats and Dangerous Desires: AIDS in the News Media** by Deborah Lupton (\$27 pb, 0-7484-0180-6), and **Power and Community: Organizational and Cultural Responses to AIDS** by Dennis Altman (\$19.95 pb, 0-7484-0194-6; \$54.50 cl, -0193-8).

Taylor & Francis, 1900 Frost Road Suite 101, Bristol PA 19007; 800-821-8312. Distributed by Alamo Square.

**Wilderness Therapy for Women: The Power of**

*Whores  
from  
Samarkand*

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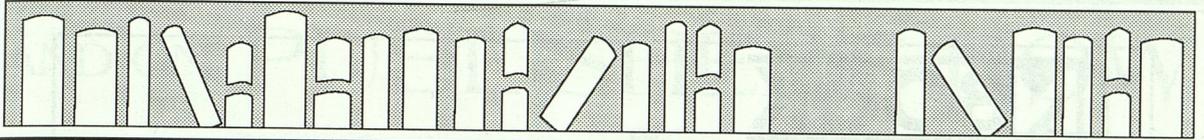
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**Adventure** edited by Ellen Cole et al. offers women risk-taking and adventure activities in the outdoors as an alternative to traditional therapy. The book is divided into four parts: Theoretical Perspectives, Wilderness Therapy in Action, Special Populations, and Personal Narratives. Topics covered include body image and wilderness therapy, the therapeutic value of the wilderness, ethical considerations of experiential therapy, and more (\$19.95 pb, 1-56023-058-4).

**Expansions of Feminist Family Theory Through Diversity** edited by Rhea V. Almeida explores feminist family therapy and how it can include issues on race, class, gender, culture and sexual orientation, to assist readers with creating solutions to mental health problems in multicultural families. Covers subject areas such as heterosexual privilege in family life, gay and racial oppression and social inequalities within the therapeutic story (\$17.95 pb, 1-56023-063-0).

Harrington Park Press, an imprint of The Haworth Press, 10 Alice Street, Binghamton NY 13904-1580; 800-342-9678. Distributed by BP.

**Time to Stop Pretending** by Stephanie Rodriguez is the story of one woman who harnessed her courage and creativity to overcome domestic violence, poverty, religious dependency and homelessness. Her account of how she and her eight children escaped from an abusive marriage and the trap of poverty to a life of education and hope is moving and powerful. \$19.95 cl, 0-8397-8060-5. Paul S. Eriksson Publisher, PO Box 62, I-54 Dunmore, Forest Dale VT 05745; 802-247-4210. Distributed by Independent Publishers Group, 312-337-0747.

Speaking directly to abusers, **Violent No More: Helping Men End Domestic Abuse** by Michael Paymar takes readers step-by-step through the process of recognizing abusive behaviors, taking responsibility for them, and ultimately the ability to express anger without violence. The book is based on Paymar's many years of experience working

directly with abusive men and law enforcement agencies through the Duluth Domestic Abuse Prevention Project. \$10.95 pb, 0-89793-117-3. Hunter House, PO Box 2914, Alameda CA 94501-0914; 510-865-5282. Distributed by Publishers Group West.

**Collect Your Child Support!: A Step-by-Step Guide to Collect Child Support for You and Your Children** by Richard Todd is a comprehensive, hands-on book offering single parents an in-depth look at every aspect of obtaining and collecting child support from the absent parent. This book enables parents to understand their rights and identifies the many collection strategies and resources readily available to them. \$14.95 pb, 0-9636419-9-9. National Legal Services, 520 SW Yamhill, 430 Pacific Bldg., Portland OR 97204; 503-243-2035. Distributed by IN.



**In the Tiger's Mouth: An Empowerment Guide for Social Action** offers practical ideas and approaches for countering the stress and burnout that often accompany working for social change. We suspect that some aspects of burnout and stress are different for women than for men — an issue not specifically addressed in this book — but the chapter on preventing burnout is still well worth reading (\$14.95 pb, 0-86571-287-5).

**Insight and Action: How to Discover and Support a Life of Integrity and Commitment to Change** by Tova Green and Peter Woodrow is a compelling how-to manual that offers practical strategies for supporting friends, colleagues and family members in making difficult decisions and sustaining commitments. Although not specifically feminist in content, women figure prominently in this useful guide for activist organizations and anyone striving to live their values (\$12.95 pb, 0-86571-296-4).

New Society Publishers, 4527 Springfield Avenue, Philadelphia PA 19143. Distributed by BP, IN. ○

**INBOOK**

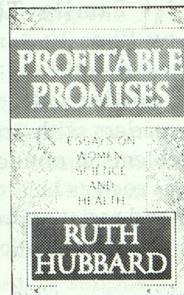
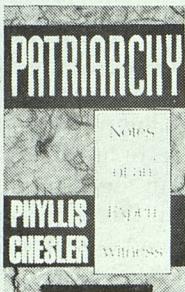
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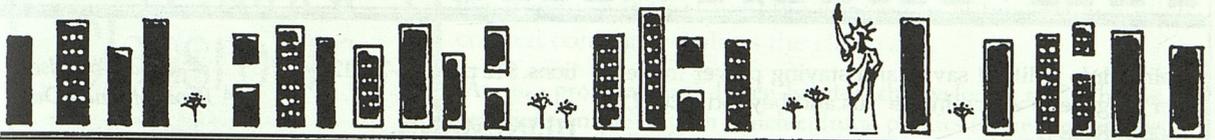
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# AND ON PUBLISHER'S ROW



Compiled by Beth Morgan

## ABBEVILLE PUBLISHING GROUP

**A History of Women Photographers** by Naomi Rosenblum documents the work of women photographers from Anna Atkins and Julia Margaret Cameron to Tina Modotti, Margaret Bourke-White and Cindy Sherman. Her groundbreaking work provides an invitingly readable chronicle not only of women's creativity but also the often-challenging contexts within which they worked. \$60 cl, 1-55859-761-1. —fbn

## BLACKWELL

**Simone de Beauvoir: The Making of an Intellectual Woman** by Toril Moi analyzes the conflicts and contradictions that shape intellectual women's lives and offers a new interpretation of de Beauvoir's relationship to Sartre and to other women. \$21.95 pb, 0-631-19181-X. —fbn



## CEDCO PUBLISHING

**In Bloom: The Floral Art of Sara Steele** gathers the work of one of the finest contemporary watercolorists working in the floral genre. Her relationship with the forms, colors and metaphorical language of flowers is rendered in a range from traditional botanicals to abstract compositions. 117 color plates. \$21.95 pb, 1-55912-504-7. —fbn

## DUTTON

In **Swamp Angel** by Anne Isaacs, there's gold — and gleeful guffaws — in them thar hills when a Tennessee woodswoman takes on a notorious bear and puts the men to shame! The primitive-style paintings are by Caldecott Honor Artist Paul O. Zelinsky. \$14.95 pb, 0-525-45271-0. —fbn

## GIBBS SMITH

**Cowgirl Legends** by Kathy Lynn Wills and Virginia Artho shows that these early rodeo girls could rope, shoot and ride with all the style of the top cowboys. Read about the cowgirl who could hit an aspirin with her .22 rifle at 20 feet — and another whose fame came in the ladies' bronc riding competition when she was mistakenly turned loose on one of the rankest horses intended for men. \$19.95 cl, 0-87905-624-X. —fbn

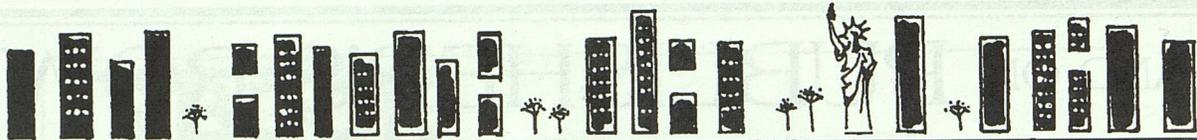
## HARPERCOLLINS

**The Brass Ring** by Diane Chamberlain tells the story of Claire Harte-Mathias who is badly shaken when she witnesses a woman jumping into an icy river. Claire seeks out the brother of the woman in an attempt to understand this tragedy. Claire finds herself revealing memories of her own childhood and the soothing and disturbing images of the magnificent carousel horses her grandfather used to carve. Claire's past collides with that of another woman three thousand miles away in Seattle. \$20 cl, 0-06-017612-1.

Annie Dillard has selected passages from her own writings for a one-volume collection that is, in essence, the best of Annie Dillard. **The Annie Dillard Reader** includes excerpts from *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek*, *Teaching a Stone to Talk*, poetry from *Holy the Firm*, and recollections from *An American Childhood*. \$25 cl, 0-06-017158-8.

## HARPERCOLLINS WEST

**Dianne Feinstein: Never Let Them See You Cry** by Jerry Roberts. From her childhood of private pain and public privilege and her rise to power as mayor of San Francisco amid the tragic Milk and Moscone slayings in 1978 to her high-profile victory of a Senate seat in the "Year of the Woman," Dianne



Feinstein's political savvy and staying power make her a figure to watch in the '90s and beyond. \$20 cl, 0-06-258508-8.

## HARPERPERENNIAL

**Body and Soul**, edited by Linda Villarosa with a foreword by Angela Davis and June Jordan, is a Black woman's guide to physical health and emotional well-being. Written by Black women and sponsored by the National Black Women's Health Project, this is a book like *Our Bodies, Ourselves*, but specifically addresses the concerns of Black women today. Drawing on the expertise of Black female scientists, academics, health care practitioners and writers, this book allows Black women to speak for and about themselves and address their issues and concerns about their bodies, coping with illness, sexual abuse and AIDS, the healing power of spirituality and many other issues. \$20 pb, 0-06-095085-4.



In **Grieving** Ruth Coughlin recollects the 10-month-long battle her husband waged against cancer, and the profound sense of loss and devastation that followed his death. She candidly shares her experiences and confronts her feelings of anger and frustration. Without false heroism or literary posing, Coughlin provides comfort to anyone whose mate has died. \$10 pb, 0-06-097635-7.

Lynn Andrews has written a workbook based on her successful lectures and workshops for women on menopause. **Woman at the Edge of Two Worlds Workbook** provides women with practical tools for a spiritual journey through menopause. \$12 pb, 0-06-095064-1.

## HARPERSANFRANCISCO

In **More Than a Tea Party**, popular artist Jane Evershed pairs her whimsical images with sassy, daring, eloquent poetry and prose in a gift book sure to please any woman's wild side. 60 full-color illustra-

tions. \$12 pb, 0-06-251125-4.

—Sandi Torkildson  
*A Room of One's Own*

## HEINEMANN

Those who enjoyed Jamaican-born Patricia Powell's first novel, *Me Dying Trial*, will want to check out her latest, **A Small Gathering of Bones**. Set in Jamaica in the late 1970s, the novel focuses on gay men and the onslaught of the AIDS crisis. \$9.95 pb, 0-435-98936-7, December.

**Unwinding Threads: Writing by Women in Africa** has been reissued with an updated preface and contributor biographies and a new cover. The volume contains the same short stories and extracts from novels as the original 1983 collection. Edited by Charlotte Bruner. \$9.95 pb, 0-435-90989-4.

**Kehinde**, Buchi Emecheta's first novel in five years (*Joys of Motherhood*), continues to draw readers into the world of a courageous, determined woman's struggle between the traditions of the African bush and her new life in London as a working single mother. \$9.95, 0-435-90985-1.

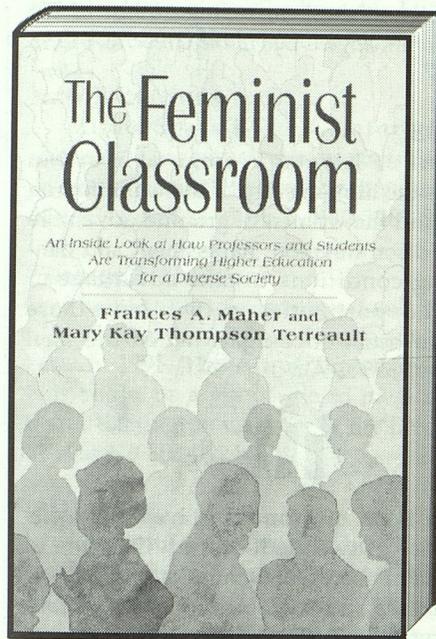
**Who's In Charge? A Teacher Speaks Her Mind** collects twenty years of Susan Ohanian's writing. According to Ohanian, if teachers ask permission to speak, they are doomed. But if they write about their experiences in the classroom, their public words will protect them from exploitation. This book should anger, affirm, and inspire teachers. \$19.95 pb, 0-86709-339-0.

**Writing to Grow: Keeping a Personal-Professional Journal** by Mary Louise Holly offers clear directions and practical tips for teachers on keeping journals. By including exercises and excerpts from many teachers' diaries, Holly encourages readers to develop their own ways of working. \$15.95 pb, 0-435-08494-1.

—Robin Bernstein

## HYPERION

**My Life, So Far: Edith Ann, as Told to Jane Wagner** collects the hilarious but true opinions and observations of the kid America loves to listen to, Edith Ann, Lily Tomlin's six-something alter ego, as



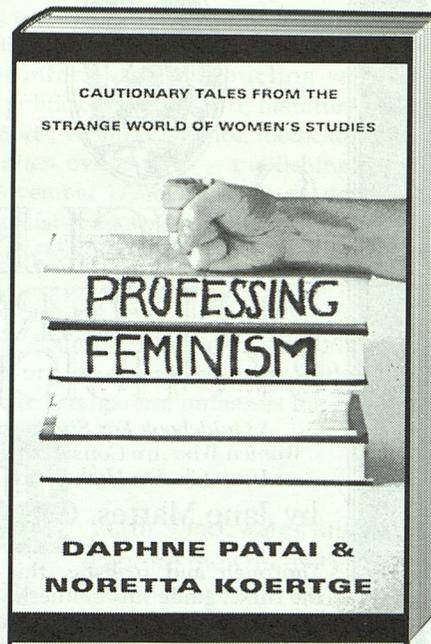
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## JOSSEY-BASS

**A Mouthful of Rivets: Women at Work in World War II** is the human story of the war effort on the homefront and the women of grit and adventure who overcame discrimination, harassment and dangerous working conditions to take advantage of unprecedented opportunities, only to have those doors closed to them once again when the men returned. \$24 cl, 1-55542-703-0. —fbn



## NORTON

**The Norton Book of Women's Lives** by Phyllis Rose is a treasury of twentieth-century literature of women's lives. This landmark anthology of autobiographies, journals and memoirs includes widely read writers from Woolf, McCarthy and de Beauvoir to Isak Dinesen, Jill Ker Conway, Maya Angelou, Annie Dillard and Joan Didion. \$30 cl, 0-393-03532-8.

## New Press

**The War** by Marguerite Duras is a translation of her writings during the battle in Paris in World War II as the city's people fought. She writes about trying to bring her husband, rescued from a concentration camp, back to life. Very immediate, stream-of-consciousness writing. First published in 1985. \$10 pb, 1-56584-221-9.

**Coming To Terms: Literary History of Abortion**, edited by Lucinda Ebersole and Rochard Peabody, is a collection of stories about women's experience with abortion. Includes positive, negative, young, old, multicultural, mostly American experiences. Makes the abortion issue very personal, and also shows the variety of feelings we all experience on this issue. \$21 cl, 1-56584-187-5, March.

## Ecco Press

**Women on Hunting: Essays, Fiction & Poetry** edited by Pam Houston is a collection of writings by women (Margaret Atwood, Joyce Carol Oates, Louise Erdrich ...) on the literal and spiritual nature of the hunt. I haven't seen this one yet, but

Houston's previous *Cowboys Are My Weakness* was very popular. \$23 cl, 0-88001-332-X.

### New Directions

Muriel Spark's *The Comforters* is being re-released. This novel was written 36 years ago. If you carry newer titles by Spark, you might want to add this one. \$10.95 pb, 0-8112-1285-8.

### Thames & Hudson

The life of Dora Carrington will be portrayed in a movie starring Emma Thompson, to be released early in 1995. *The Art of Dora Carrington* by Jane Hill might be a good title to have around at that point. Carrington was one of the Bloomsbury folks. \$24.95 cl, 0-500-09244-3.

—Dorothy Holland  
*The Book Garden*

### PUTNAM

A new and noteworthy book out for teens is Lesléa Newman's *Fat Chance*, which takes on the relevant and serious topic of bulimia to share an important lesson with readers in an emotionally compelling and subtle way. The book takes us inside the daily diary of Judith Beth Leibowitz, a 13-year-old girl who, through the influence of a

new friend, falls into the cycle of evereating, worrying and purging. Judi's great sense of humor and sympathetic nature create an utterly believable voice as Judi eventually realizes that there is more to a happy life than numbers on a scale. \$15.95 cl, 0-399-22760-1.

—fbn

### RANDOM HOUSE

#### RH-Crown

*A Woman's Book of Days* by Beverly Wittenstein is both an undated (no year) day book for keeping a permanent record of personal milestones, birthdays and secret celebrations, and a treasury of information chronicling women's progress in politics, education, art, literature, entertainment, sports, business, science, medicine and — a category often overlooked — publishing! In the entry for November 17, for instance, readers learn that the Feminist Press was established on that day in 1988. \$20 cl, 0-517-597004.

#### RH-Knopf

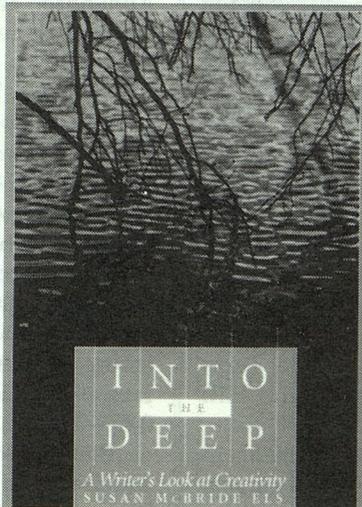
Elizabeth Arthur's novel about a modern-day woman who organizes an expedition to the South Pole, *Antarctic Navigation*, immerses the reader in

## Heinemann

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Susan McBride Els

"I write. It's that simple. However, against this straight and sturdy fence pushes a jungle of complication and contradiction. Sometimes I look over the fence. The unruly ways and means behind the writing call me to explore..."



Earth, wind, water, and fire capture the creativity process as Els, a creativity student for the past twenty years, turns her researcher eye on herself as writer. The process notes kept while writing a novel, children's fiction, and poetry are not only revealing — but surprising as well. Writers will find this book inspiring and confirming. A beautiful cover and intimate format make it a good candidate for the checkout counter. \$14.95 0-435-08803-3



the uncensored personal testimony of Boyd, a sixties radical and born-again Southerner, a lesbian with a passion for stock-car racing, and graduate of Esalen and kundalini yoga, who now takes her altered states "raw, like oysters." Her second book, *The Revolution of Little Girls*, was a bestseller for us last year. \$5.95 pb, 0-679-75767-8, January.

—Sandi Torkildson

### RIZZOLI INTERNATIONAL

**Painted Prayers: Women's Art in Village India** by Stephen P. Huyler is a splendid gallery of a diverse aspect of Indian art, and a pictorial tour of an India rarely seen. This book documents women's participation in a fascinating centuries-old artistic tradition — ritual wall and ground paintings and home decorations made to invoke the protection of gods. Full-color photographs evoke the women's rich artistic heritage and the pervading spirituality of daily life in India. \$50 cl, 0-8478-1809-8.

Bessie Nickens, born in 1906, spent her childhood moving around with her parents as they worked the cotton fields and sawmills of Louisiana, Arkansas and Texas. Now, in **Walking the Log: Memories of a Southern Childhood**, this remarkable artist and storyteller re-creates the everyday events of her rural Southern childhood, depicting African American experience from a time not long after the abolition of slavery. \$14.95 cl, 0-8478-1794-6.

—fbn



### ROUTLEDGE

Originally published in 1987 by the Latina Lesbian History Project, **Compañeras: Latina Lesbians**, an anthology compiled and edited by Juanita Ramos is a collection of oral histories, essays, poems, short stories and artwork by and about Latina Lesbians. In these pieces, some in Spanish, most in English, 47 women from 10 different countries address issues such as coming out, relationships with families and friends, political organizing and community building. Still the same wonderful book FBN raved about in 1987 (our blurb even appears on the back of the book!). \$14.95 pb, 0-415-90926-0; \$45 cl, 0-415-90925-2.

—fbn

"[Told with] clarity and sincerity...

The book has a power that brings readers along on this courageous soldier's journey."

—Kirkus Review

*Vietnam Veteran.*

*Recipient of the Bronze Star.*

*Mother of Four.*

*V.A. Nurse of the Year.*

*Discharged.*

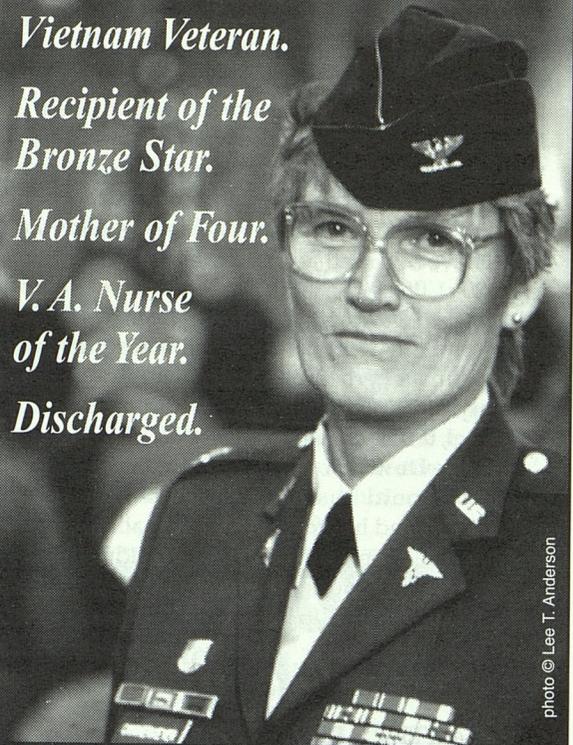


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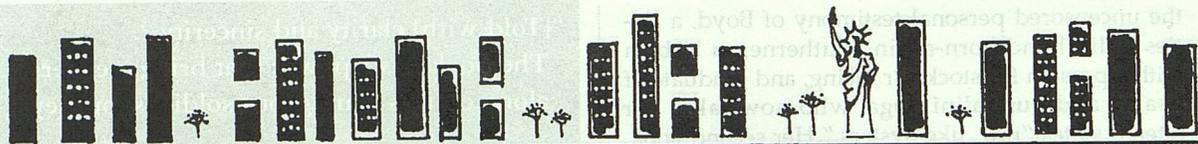
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## SCRIBNERS

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**Hard Case: a Cat Marsala Mystery** by Barbara D'Amato is the fifth in the Chicago based Cat Marsala series. Cat is spending a week at a hospital trauma center learning about the day-to-day operations, but she learns instead about murder when the director is found dead. D'Amato's other mysteries have sold well for us; she has a strong following. \$20 cl, 0-684-19686-7.

**Hangman's Root: A China Bayles Mystery** by Susan Wittig Albert combines animal rights issues with China's herb shop to make an inviting new mystery. Albert's mysteries generally sell well for us. \$20 cl, 0-684-19677-8.

**Crack Down: A Kate Brannigan Mystery** by Val McDermid is set in Manchester, England, where Kate and her rock-music-journalist boyfriend go undercover in the car dealership industry to figure out how car dealers are cheating the manufacturers. \$20 cl, 0-684-19756-1. —Dorothy Holland



## ST. MARTIN'S PRESS

Supported by the Picador marketing campaign, Jewell Parker Rhodes will tour during Black History Month to promote her debut novel, **Voodoo Dreams**. This "mesmerizing combination of history and storytelling" centers on Marie Laveau, "the notorious *voodooienne*, worshiped and feared by blacks and whites alike." \$13 pb, 0-312-11931-3, February.

A controversial book in the Picador line, Leni Riefenstahl's **Leni Riefenstahl: A Memoir** discloses the author's justifications for directing cinematic Nazi propaganda such as *Triumph of the Will*, a film of a Nazi Party rally, and *Olympia*, an account of the 1936 Berlin Olympics. \$16 pb, 0-312-11926-7, February.

Winter brings two new women's health books from St. Martin's. **Women's Sexual Health**, edited by Ruth Steinberg, M.D., Linda Robinson, R.N.,

C.N.M., and the Editors of Consumer Reports Books, covers a range of topics including contraception, infertility, abortion, menopause, hysterectomy, and cancer (\$22.95 cl, 0-89043-538-9, January). **Women's Health Advisor**, edited by Prevention Magazine Health Books and the Rodale Center for Women's Health, raises suspicions with chapters such as "The Promise of Herbal Weight Loss," "No-Fuss Skin Care Tips," and "Strategies for Body Shaping," but it also includes some promising chapters such as "Getting the Most from a GYN Visit" (\$14.95 pb, 0-87596-230-0, February).



If the turnout for the figure skating competitions at the Gay Games is any indicator, Beverly Smith's **Figure Skating: A Celebration** will spin right off the shelves. The book covers the sport's four disciplines: Women's, Men's, Pairs, and Ice Dance with over 150 photographs and an informative, anecdotal text. \$35 cl, 0-7710-2819-9, December.

Although not specifically feminist, you might want to check out Karen Armstrong's **Through the Narrow Gate**, which describes Armstrong's spiritual journey leading her into and out of a Roman Catholic convent, where she spent seven years as a postulant and nun. \$10.95 pb, 0-312-11903-8, January.

**The Things That Matter: An Anthology of Women's Spiritual Poetry**, edited by Julia Neuberger, looks like a good bet, with writers including Elizabeth Barrett Browning, Emily Dickinson, Stevie Smith, the Brontes, Sylvia Plath, and many less well-known poets. \$21 cl, 0-312-11899-6, March.

**Key to Everything: Great Lesbian Love Poems**, edited by Gerry Gomez Pearlberg, includes poetry by Paula Gunn Allen, Emily Dickinson, Gertrude Stein, Christina Rossetti, Judy Grahn, Audre Lorde, Sappho, Sor Juana Ines de la Cruz, Joan Larkin, May Swenson, May Sarton, Chrystos, and Pat Parker. Unfortunately, it's only 64 pages long. The price is

right for a hardcover, though. \$10 cl, 0-312-11842-2, February, for the lesbian Valentine's Day market.

Described as a "unique, timeless masterpiece," Yoko Ono's long-out-of-print **Grapefruit** contains "thought bombs, metaphysical metrics, Kodachrome luminescences," and poems celebrating creativity and synthesizing the Fluxus art movement and the written word. \$13.95 cl, 0-312-11816-3, February.



**Celebrating Women Writers: A Women's Journal**, created by the New York Public Library, contains quotes, drawings and photographs of famous women such as Maya Angelou, Gertrude Stein, and Willa Cather. \$12.95 cl, 1-55550-922-3, April.

**The Subject is Women Pocket Address Book**, created by The Art Institute of Chicago, includes metric conversion tables, an international time zone chart, and pages for personal notations. I'm not sure what makes the address book woman-oriented besides the cover painting of a white woman's face. \$7.95 cl, 1-55550-921-5, February.

Infinitely more promising is Rose L. Glickman's **Daughters of Feminists: Young Women with Feminist Mothers Talk About Their Lives**, now in paperback. Glickman interviewed a diverse group of young women on issues such as work, family life, friendship, sexuality and racism. In cloth, the book won an American Book Award from the Before Columbus Foundation. \$12.95 pb, 0-312-11770-1, February.

Phyllis Knight's first mystery featuring lesbian P.I. Lil Ritchie, *Switching the Odds*, was nominated for a Shamus. In her sequel, **Shattered Rhythms**, Lil Ritchie searches for a missing jazz musician. \$8.95 pb, 0-312-11888-0, March.

—Robin Bernstein

### TIMES BOOKS

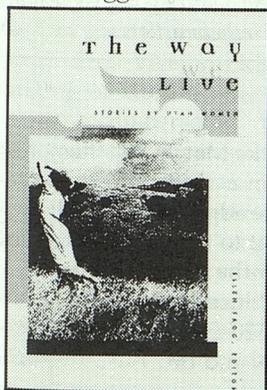
**Susan B. Anthony Slept Here: A Guide to American Women's Landmarks** by Lynn Sherr and Jurate Kazickas includes over 2000 entries, bringing to life pioneers, outlaws, suffragists, doctors, artists, public officials, and others who left their mark on America. Each entry is infused with the authors' wonderful sense of character and history. 300 photographs. \$18 pb, 0-8129-2223-9.

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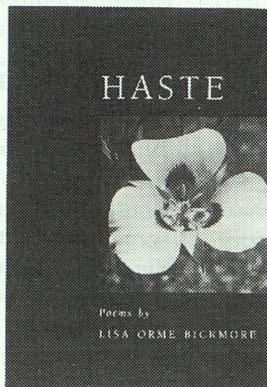
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in which Lady Aberdeen writes of her several journeys to Canada in the 1890s, and of her residence there during her husband's tenure as governor general. Though conforming to the pattern of many travelogues of the time, the uniqueness of her work lies in the quality and quantity of its illustrations, most of them photographs she took as she traveled across the Dominion. An introduction by Marjory Harper. \$24.95 pb, 0-8020-7765-X.

All of the above titles are distributed by the University of Toronto.

*Dorothy Seaton, an ex-international-calibre fencer, has recently finished her Ph.D. in Literary Criticism at the University of British Columbia, having received her Masters at the University of Queensland in Brisbane, Australia.*

*Jana Williams is partway through her fourth novel, currently untitled, and she and Dorothy are collaborating on a screenplay about two lesbian artists.* ○

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*Continued from page 71*

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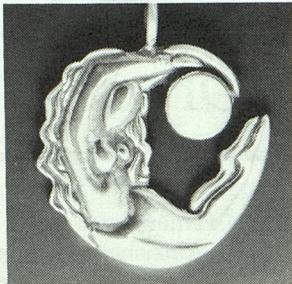
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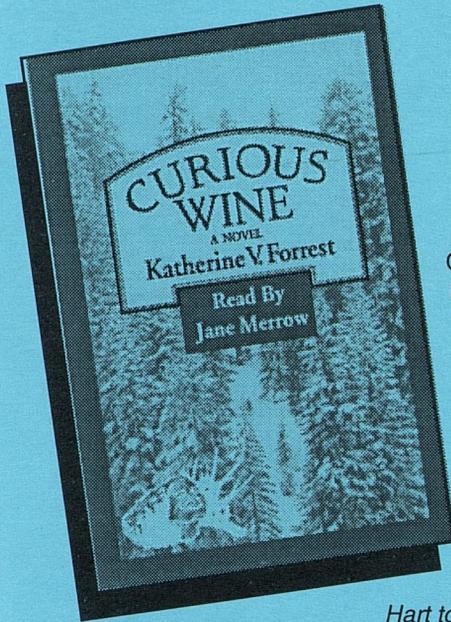
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