Feminist Bookstore News

National Feminist Bookstore Week • May 13–20

May/June 1995

Volume 18 Number 1

Femina Serial Am F 32978

5/23/95

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NOTES FROM THE COMPUTER TABLE

It's been years since we've run this column on the inside front cover of the magazine., but we couldn't resist turning that primo page-one space over to Babe. Sometimes you just gotta defer to the women who came before....

It's ABA Convention time! This year, and for many years to come, we're in Chicago, a real city with real communities, restaurants, miles of lakefront and miles of aisles at the biggest ABA Convention ever. There's lots to do, people to see, and even new books! And Chicago has Women & Children First, one of the finest feminist bookstores in the country (5233 N. Clark, one block north of Foster, on the north side of the city). Be sure to make time to visit. Enjoy!

FBN Deadlines

Sidelines Issue
June 7

Summer Issue
Last Minute Details: June 8

Fall Announcements
July 31

Greetings to all of you who are picking up FBN for the first time at ABA. FBN is a trade magazine for feminist bookstores but it's also read by booksellers, publishers, librarians, and everyone who cares passionately about books that tell the truth about women's lives. Please see page 134 for subscription information. Publishers, please call or write for advertising rates, mailing list rental information, and the scoop on the Feminist Bookstores' Fall and Spring Catalogs — the full-color, 150-book catalogs that will be distributed in all feminist bookstores this Fall and next Spring. The 1994 edition was an outrageous success and we're gearing up to produce the 1995 edition. Deadline for reserving ads in the Fall Catalog is July 7.

Turn to page 31 for Convention Watch 1995, FBN's short course on getting around the Convention floor and related events. Don't miss ABA's annual Membership Meetings on Sunday afternoon. ABA has taken a strong stand for independent bookstores in the last year or so — it's vitally important to show up and cheer them on and to make sure that programs stay on track.

Please join me in welcoming Kathryn Werhane, FBN's new production coordinator. We're thrilled to have a full staff again and delighted that Kathryn decided to take the job. She's worked in the printing industry for 18 years doing both conventional and electronic pre-press and ran her own graphics business for 6 years — and has been a feminist bookstore fan and supporter for nearly 20 years.

Please also welcome FBN's new Canadian Books columnist, Alexandra Wilson. Alexandra staffs at Women in Print in Vancouver. Her column debuts on page 83.

Yours in spreading the words,
Carol Seajay

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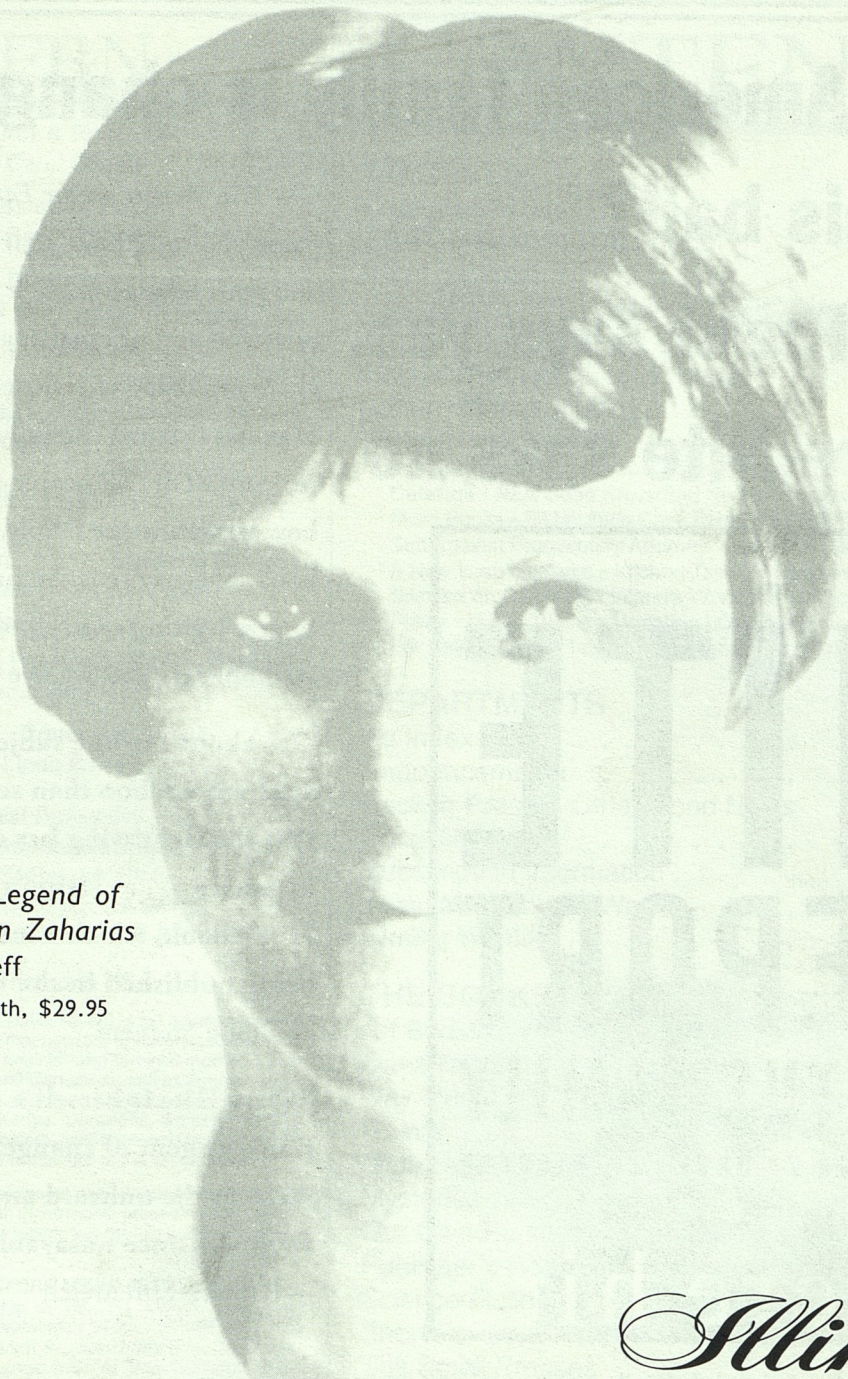
Athlete



Enigma

BABE

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Susan E. Cayleff

Illus. 392 pp. Cloth, $29.95
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Illinois

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Volume 18 Number 1 May/June 1995

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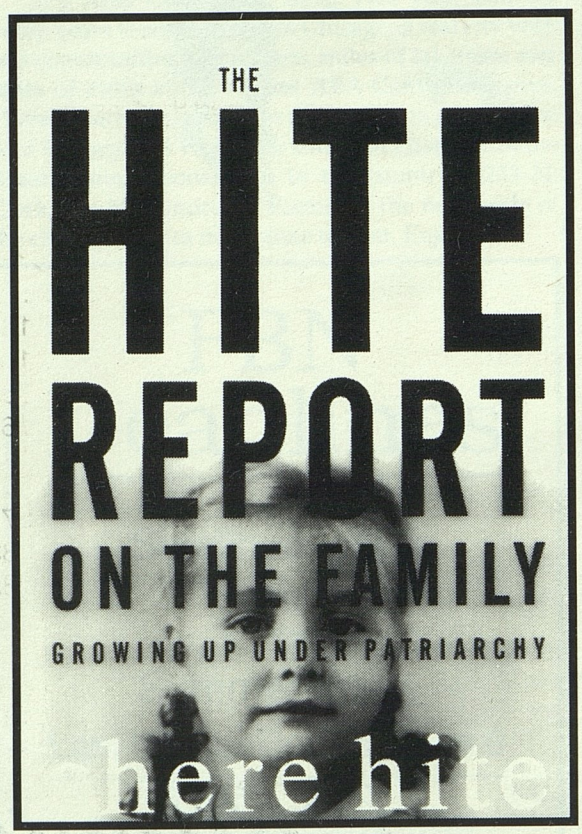
The American family is changing.

Is this bad?

The Right says yes, Shere Hite says no.



The Hite Report on the Family will cause you to rethink your childhood and your relationships. It is a powerful and original analysis of the changing shape of private life. Shere Hite has listened carefully to the real stories of real people and to how we define the family. In this book, Shere Hite is the first person to give legitimacy to all of the infinite ways that we live as families.

"It's about the one subject that's even more taboo than sex now that the right wing has organized in America. . . . [Hite] reveals all in the book, which is now, finally, being published in the U.S."
—Gloria Steinem

"Shere Hite is herself a revolutionary agent of change, giving voice to the unheard and sound to what was once unsayable."
—Barbara Ehrenreich

The Hite Report on the Family: Growing Up Under Patriarchy by Shere Hite
Published by Grove Press • 0-8021-1570-5 • $22.00 • May 1995 • Grove Press books are distributed by Publishers Group West (800) 788-3123

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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, Japan and Kenya. 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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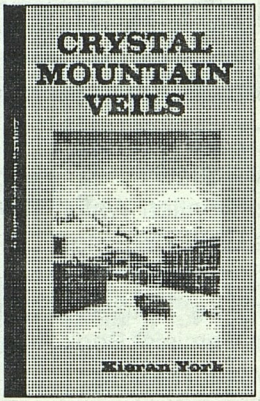

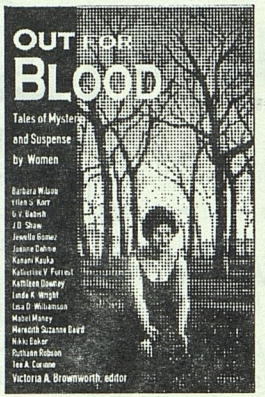

WELCOME TO CHICAGO!

COME SEE US
ABA BOOTH 5256

Don't forget to visit Women & Children First (near Clark & Foster) while you're in Chicago.

The Woman-Centered Economy

Ideals, Reality, and the Space in Between

Loraine Edwalds & Midge Stocker, editors

$15.95 1-879427-06-0

Women talk frankly about the economics of what we do and how we do it—woman-run businesses, women-focused nonprofit organizations, and women functioning economically in society at large. From Phyllis Chesler's very serious "All We Have is Each Other" to the hilarious spoof "Nan's Rent-a-Bob," *The Woman-Centered Economy* celebrates the way feminists work ethically to survive and thrive.

Crystal Mountain Veils

A Royce Madison Mystery

Kieran York

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As if finding out who really killed tabloid gossip monger Sandra Holt weren't challenge enough, Timber County's acting sheriff Royce Madison also has to deal with a drifter stalking her girlfriend and an election opponent who's ready to fight dirty. With the Family Morals Coalition pumping big bucks into her opponents campaign and everybody in town anxious for her to make an arrest, Royce has to dig deep.

"I enjoy Kieran York's work, and I can't wait to read more of it."
—Sandra Scoppettone

Out for Blood

Tales of Mystery and Suspense by Women

Victoria Brownworth, editor

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Contributors:

Barbara Wilson
Ellen Korr
G.V. Babish
J.D. Shaw
Jewelle Gomez
Joanne Dahme
Kanani Kauka
Katherine V. Forrest
Kathleen Downey
L.D. Williamson
Linda Wright
Mabel Maney
Meredith Suzanne Baird
Nikki Baker
Ruthann Robson
Tee A. Corinne

"Irresistible! . . . sizzles and snaps with mystery and wit. Not to be missed!" —Ellen Hart

ABA BOOTH 5256

Small Press Area

In keeping with our motto, "every issue has more than two sides," this year Third Side Press will have a booth in the Small Press area, rather than on the Gay/Lesbian /Feminist Aisle or the Consortium Aisle. We trust that all of you old friends will find us, and we hope to meet some folks who've missed us at ABA before.

Stop by the booth for some of our fabulous *Out for Blood* bookmarks, and mention this ad for a special gift.

Third Side Press

2250 W. Farragut, Chicago, IL 60625 voice 312-271-3029 / fax 312-271-0459

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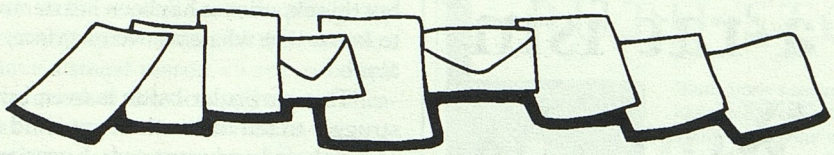
LETTERS



Onlywomen Press
40 St. Lawrence Terrace
London W10 5ST

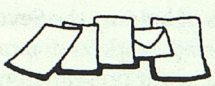
Dear FBN,

Thanks for writing about Sandy Horn's life and some of the ways we can honour her memory (FBN 17#5). She's sadly missed throughout an international community of lesbians.

However, I'd like you (and FBN's readers) to know that London's Lesbian Archive was started by women who were, and are, part of Onlywomen Press.

We invited other lesbian feminists (including Sheila Jeffries) to join us once we'd established the Archive under the umbrella of a charity (we) named Orinda. Some FBN readers may recall Onlywomen's lesbian history diary for 1984, *Past Participants*, where Catherine Phillips' entry mentions that readers called her "The Matchless Orinda" or "The English Sappho." I, and other stroppy archivists no longer working for the London Lesbian Archive, would be grateful if you'd help set the record not so much "straight" as true.

Very best regards,
Lilian Mohin



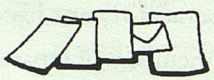
Books Beyond Borders
1881 9th Street #108
Boulder CO 80302

Dear FBN,

We recently read the letter to the editor by Chris Sitka (FBN 17#6) regarding Stacey Lannert, who is incarcerated for life [for killing her father who had been abusing her for ten years] and is only allowed to receive books from publishers. In response, we donated two of our four titles to Stacey: *Grandmothers* (a book and card set about awareness, change and growth) and *Ten Poems* (an artful tribute to women who dare to break the cycle of abuse).

We would like to encourage other publishers to do the same and thank FBN for providing such a valuable forum for women, bookstores and publishers alike.

Warm regards,
Michael Levatino



Courage to Heal Defense Committee
340 Soquel Avenue Suite 205
Santa Cruz CA 95062

Dear Friends,

Thank you so very much for your moral support and financial contribution to the Courage to Heal Legal Defense Fund. With your help, both cases were dismissed at the lower court level and both have passed their deadlines for appeal. The First Amendment has been upheld once again and we are delighted that our collective right to speak out about child sexual abuse and healing has been affirmed.

It's important to us that you know how very much your support has meant. When these cases were first filed, we were frightened and upset. We had no idea how many there would be or how costly. Unlike some legal conflicts in which you can count on reasonable action from the opponent, we were dealing with a situation in which harassment — not justice — was the goal.

You wrote us moving letters, spoke out on our behalf, and shouldered the financial burden. Rather than feeling victimized and alone, we felt part of a caring and powerful community all fighting for freedom of speech and freedom from abuse. Although we

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Sep-a-rat-ism and Women's Community

Dana R. Shugar

Separatism and Women's Community reviews debates in separatist theory, historical narratives by members of separatist collectives, and utopian novels that envision how collectives might be formed. Shugar compares the ideas and proposals of theorists—including Robin Morgan, Shulamith Firestone, Joyce Cheney, Joan Nestle, Ti-Grace Atkinson, and the Radicalesbians—with the experience of women from collectives as diverse as Cell 16, the Combahee River Collective, the Gutter Dyke Collective, the Seattle Collective, the Bloodroot Collective, and the Lavender Woman Collective of Chicago.

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were the ones being targeted, your solidarity protected us from the impact of this emotional and financial assault.

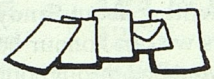
We all know this world is a very imperfect place, but this experience has been heartening. It is a real gift to know that whatever we may face, we don't face it alone.

This particular battle is over, but, of course, the struggle to tell the truth about child sexual abuse — and be heard and respected — goes on. If we can continue to support each other in the way that you have supported us, we will assuredly make real progress.

We wish you continuing courage.

Gratefully,

Ellen and Laura



7th International Feminist Book Fair
Organizing Commission
Caixa Postal 71550, 05020-990
São Paulo, SP, Brazil
February 8, 1995

To the International Advisory Board of the International Feminist Book Fair, 6th IFBF, and Friends and Supporters,

It is with great sadness that the Organizing Commission for the Seventh International Feminist Book Fair announces its dissolution. Our Commission resigns as a whole. We wish to communicate the events which have led us to this decision.

Although we are very different in many respects — such as age, profession, academic background, political party and worldview — as feminists we all shared the dream of holding the Seventh IFBF here in Brazil, and invested work and money toward that end. As we stated in our presentation of July 1994: "In Amsterdam (1992), we proposed to organize the Fair here in Brazil, considering that we are experiencing a fertile period of feminist and women's literary production, and now is the time to try to shift the axis of emphasis from the Northern Hemisphere to encompass the South, and from the predominance of Anglo-Saxon writers, to be more inclusive."

After a year and a half of work, we were surprised and taken aback to learn by reading the program of the Melbourne Fair that the decision to hold

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the IFBF in Brazil in 1996, made in Amsterdam in 1992, had been called into question and a new decision was to be taken during the IFBF in Melbourne.

We believe that a feminist manner of proceeding would have been to have confidence in the group originally chosen; any questioning of this decision would need to have a stated reason, clear procedural outlines for taking another decision and clear indications of what was lacking in the information we provided. We experienced the communications from Melbourne as unclear and impositional, and they interfered in our work at a time when it was necessary to accelerate our efforts.

During the Fair, we received a fax stating "...but many questions have been raised about Brazil 1996 that no one here can answer. At the same time, the Philippines, who were well represented here, have presented a strong bid. This, combined with the fact that your funding depends on the upcoming elections has moved the group to a consensus in support of the Philippines' bid for the 7th IFBF in 1996." We were told to try again in 1998. (Fax from the 7th IFBF Location Group, 29 July 1994.)

Another major difficulty was the withholding of information crucial to affirming (or not) the decision that Brazil would be the site of the Fair in 1996. Only after the Melbourne Fair did we learn extra-officially that there were questions involved which had never been communicated to us: to wit, a supposed split within our commission (this was never the case); a requirement that the elections in Brazil have a predetermined outcome (we would have worked successfully with whichever government had been elected and never did our project "depend on the upcoming elections" as alleged in the 29 July fax); and an issue over the extent of lesbian participation in the organizing of the Fair. The withholding of information regarding the *real* concerns of the organizers constituted an effective barrier to our *real* participation in any decision.

One of the strong points of our bid was the commercial aspect; never has a feminist Book Fair been staged inside an event with public attendance of the dimensions of the São Paulo Book Biennial — a public of 3 million in 1994. Further, members of our commission were, and are, perfectly capable of organizing large-scale events and have the track record to so demonstrate.

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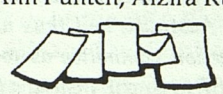
After the site was summarily removed from Brazil in July, we received indications of renewed interest on the part of the international organizers in December and January. What happened to the proponents from the Philippines? We hope that their experience has not been as difficult as ours.

With sincere hopes that these problems can be corrected, we caution that treating each other with mutual respect based on the assumption of credibility is an essential operating tenet of feminism. We do wish you success with your next efforts.

Sincerely,

Zuleika Alambert, Miriam Bottassi, Nelly Novaes Coelho, Silvia Cintra Franco, Lúcia Pimentel Góes, Danda Prado, Ann Puntch, Alzira Rufino



Editor's note: Only twice have IFBF organizing committees been given preliminary approval four years in advance of the event: In 1990 in Barcelona, Australia made an early

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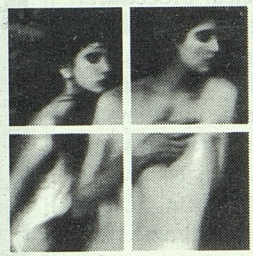
TASTING LIFE TWICE

Stories by
Carole Maso
Ana Castillo
Rebecca Brown
Mary Gaitskill
Jenifer Levin
and 19 others
Edited by E. J. Levy

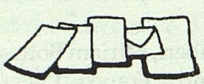


A New Lesbian Literati is Setting a Match to the Literary Canon

Twenty four award-winning authors and exceptional newcomers explode old conventions and illuminate new horizons in this bravura anthology of lesbian short fiction.

AVON TRADE PAPERBACKS
The Hearst Corporation

application to host the Fair in 1994. In 1992 in Amsterdam, Brazil applied for the 1996 Fair. Both approvals were tentative, with the understanding that the women from these countries would go back to their countries and explore organizing and funding possibilities, and report back to the women attending the Fair in two years. In Amsterdam in 1992, Australia was approved for the 1994 site only after extensive discussion regarding the needs of the Fair by the women who make up the Fair. Women at the 1994 IFBF in Australia were eager to meet with the Brazilian organizers to learn if they would be able to organize the 1996 Fair. There was a very high level of excitement about the possibility of having the next IFBF in South America.



The Brazilian organizers, however, were unable to attend the 6IFBF in Australia, and thus were not there to advise the site selection committee as to the viability of holding the next IFBF in Brazil. Instead a letter was sent to the IFBF from the Brazilian organizers that referred to concerns about the (then) upcoming elections and stating that they preferred to wait until after the elections to make their final IFBF proposal at the Frankfurt Bookfair in the fall.

This raised a number of questions and difficulties for the IFBF site-selection group: One was the problem of shifting the decision-making process away from the IFBF participants and giving that decision-making power to another group of women — the women who attend the Frankfurt Bookfair; a group that, because of the mainstream nature of the fair and its European location, would not necessarily reflect the demographics and priorities of the IFBF community. And there was considerable concern about Brazil's absence from the Australian Fair. If no one from the Brazilian organizing committee was attending the 6IFBF, how would the issues raised at the 6IFBF be addressed at the 7IFBF? There were also questions about how the IFBF's unique characteristics would be maintained in the midst of the São Paulo Book Biennial, and other appropriate and necessary considerations. And so the faxing, and the apparent and difficult miscommunication, began...

— As a member of both the Advisory Committee for the IFBF and the site-selection committee for the 7IFBF, I'm very sorry that these problems have occurred and that the Brazilian IFBF Organizing Committee has dissolved and withdrawn its offer to host the 7IFBF. — Carol Seajay

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Camp Sister Spirit
PO Box 12
Ovett MS 39464

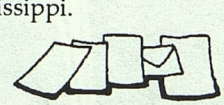
Dear FBN,

Good news: The Sister Spirit Bracelet Project is once again up and running! From 1991 to 1993, this project partially funded many of Sister Spirit's efforts. Because of religious right-wing led-and-incited violence against us at Camp Sister Spirit and the fear our volunteers were experiencing on the Gulf Coast, we suspended the Bracelet Project in 1994. But we now have enough volunteers to resume the project.

For every bracelet purchased at the $3.00 wholesale rate, we can buy and distribute 21 pounds of food from our food pantry here at Camp Sister Spirit. So far, we are making food and clothing available to forty of our neighbors on a monthly basis. Economic justice begins with having a way to access basic needs.

The bracelets are made from many types of semi-precious stone chips and beads, and sterling silver wire. Wholesale prices are as follows: 1-12 bracelets, $3.50 each (postage 1/2 of total); 13-24 bracelets, $3.25 each (postage $2); 25+ bracelets, $3 each (postage $2). Suggested retail price is $6. Send orders to Camp Sister Spirit, PO Box 12, Ovett MS 39464. For more info call 601-344-1411.

Please thank all the publishers, bookstores and individuals for sending used and new books to the camp. Our library now has over 1,500 titles! Duplicates have been sent to the Lesbian/Gay Center in Biloxi, Women's Clinic in Mobile, AL, and the Women's Resource Center on campus at University of Southern Mississippi.



Would it be possible for this fundraising letter to go out with FBN? We need funds to hold this ground, face the lawsuits against us, and support the lawsuits we intend to file against Mississippi for Family Values. [*Ed. note: the fundraising letter is inserted in this issue of FBN.*]

In Sisterspirit,
Brenda Henson ○

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edited by Nurjehan Aziz
TSAR Publications
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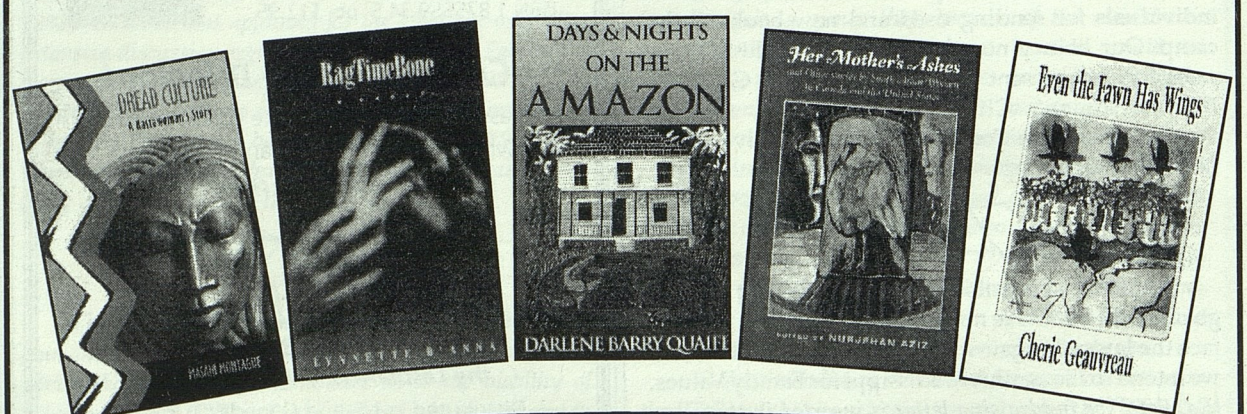

Literary Press Group

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by M. Nourbese Philip
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The Mercury Press
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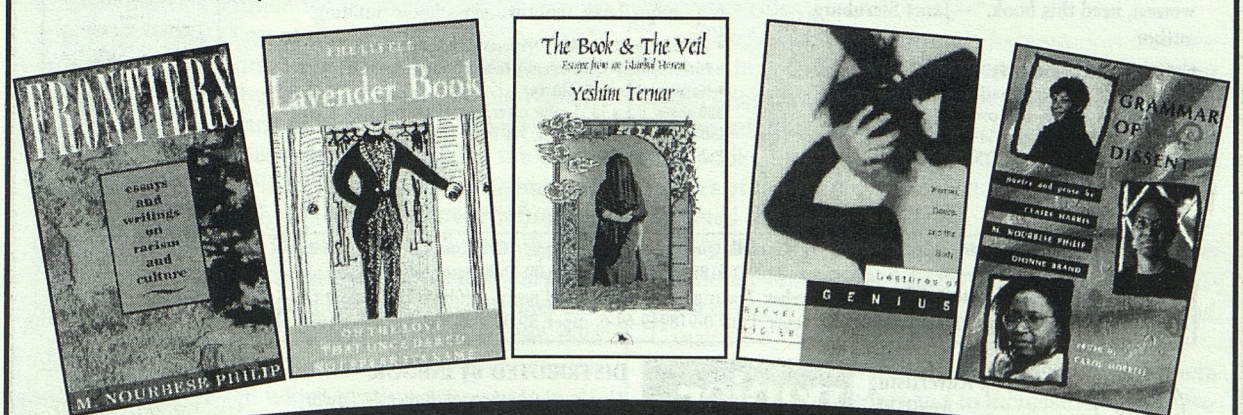

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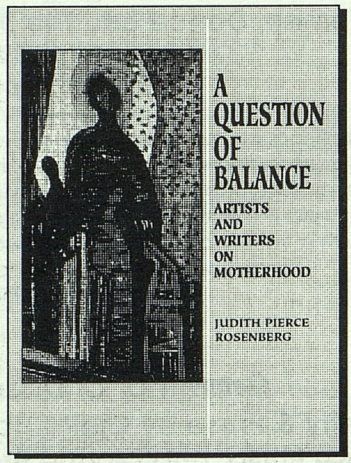
Introducing Fall Titles



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Judith Pierce Rosenberg

Ursula Le Guin, Rita Dove, Dorothy Allison, Faith Ringgold, Linda Vallejo, and twenty other remarkable artists and writers illuminate how their challenging and renewing experiences as mothers have shaped their creative work. **"I look forward to recommending this to my friends who, like so many women, need this book." —Janet Sternburg, author**

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Janice Goldfrank

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***Legacy: Gifts from a Grandmother,* Elizabeth A. Mikesell,** Quotes for daily living by "Grandma." Compact for easy cash register selling. 80 pages, 6 x 4, 5-color cover, ISBN 0-918949-68-8, paper, $6.00. Pub. date: August 1995
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News News News

NEA Good News: $75,000 Grant to The Feminist Press

In February, the Feminist Press was awarded a $75,000 challenge grant by the NEA. The grant will be used to establish a cash reserve fund to support new publishing projects as well as maintain a large active backlist. The Press was the only publisher receiving this prestigious award, intended to help arts organizations increase their endowments or establish new programs. The grant must be matched by private donations 3:1 and is awarded over a three-year period. ○

NEA Bad News: Arts Council Vetoes Urban Bush Women/ Jewelle Gomez Grant

The National Council on the Arts (the governing body of the NEA) voted to reject funding for a grant that had been recommended by an NEA advisory peer panel — a $13,000 grant to support the Urban Bush Women's production of *Bones and Ash: A Gilda Story* based on the novel by Jewelle Gomez. Jawole Willa Jo Zollar, artistic director of Urban Bush Women comments: "I am disturbed and concerned that the Council rejected Urban Bush Women's New American Works proposal which was recommended for funding by the Opera-Musical Theater panel. We strongly support the peer panel process and believe that the panel more thoroughly reviewed the proposal and was better able to assess *Bones and Ash*. Censorship can take place on many levels — in this case we perceive censorship of the way in which a culture expresses itself, as well as direct censorship of that culture. The former is apparent in the Council's public discussion and misunderstanding of a non-western approach to music and dance. We wonder if the latter is covertly and insidiously implied by the Council's avoidance of the central lesbian theme of the work." David Mendoza, executive director of the National Campaign for Freedom of Expression, feels that the Council's actions "show that the NEA is willing to continue sacrificing artists as a signal to the new congressional leadership that they are prepared to save the endowment by imposing defacto content restrictions." Anyone wishing to get involved with the National Campaign for Freedom of Expression can call 206-340-9301. ○

Feminist Bookstore Network Launches Fall and Spring Catalogs

Following on the tremendous success of the Feminist Bookstores Fall Catalog (1994) the Feminist Bookstore Network has announced plans to publish a second national Feminist Bookstores' Fall Catalog for 1995 and has also decided to proceed with plans for a Spring 1996 catalog, to feature Winter, Spring, and Summer titles.

The Network, with tremendous support from the publishing community, launched the first catalog last May. 113 publishers — from the smallest of the small to the mightiest of the multinationals — advertised 159 books in the 40-page, full-color catalog. 300,000 copies of the catalog were circulated to a very tightly targeted readership.

In addition to promoting books, the catalog also promoted feminist/specialty booksellers by including a directory of feminist bookstores in the U.S. and Canada.

The catalog was designed to bring new customers into feminist bookstores and to increase sales to existing customers. To increase mail order and walk-in traffic, approximately half of the 300,000 catalogs were mailed to *Ms.*- and other feminist and/or lesbian

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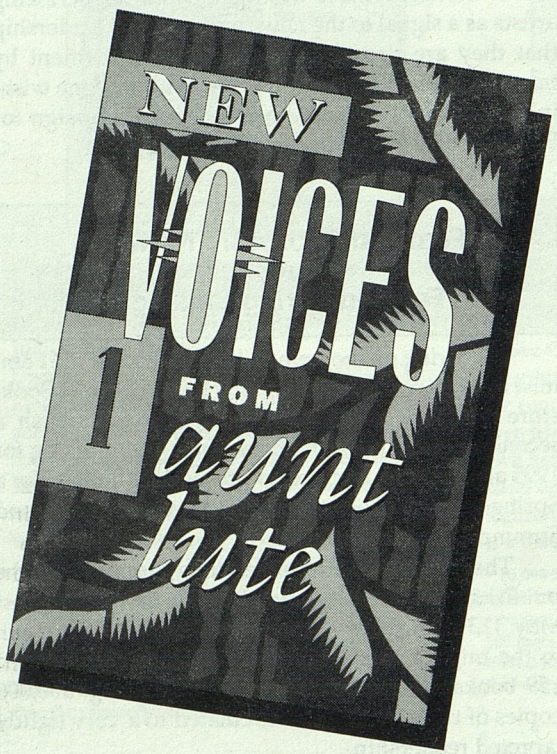
New from Aunt Lute

New Voices 1, the first in the new Aunt Lute series, showcases three African-American women whose work will take you on a bus ride you'll never forget—from Africa to Thailand to Houston to Chicago.



Featuring DeeAnne Davis, Rabie Harris and Gloria Yamato.
ISBN 1-879960-38-9. $10.95.
Available May 1995 through Consortium Book Sales and Distribution.

magazine subscribers. The remaining catalogs were distributed by the 115 participating feminist bookstores. Catalogs were given away in-store, distributed at community events, gathering places and restaurants, and were mailed to each store's mailing list and to special mailing lists solicited for the occasion.

Publishers and feminist bookstores alike praised the catalog as a tremendous success. "An outstanding execution of a fabulous idea," said Madwoman Press. "The catalogue's layout is useful and intelligent — [and it makes] a perfect shopping list," was Lee & Low's comment. The MLA's response: "Fabulous! We are delighted with both the very idea of the project and the elegance of the printed piece." Penguin USA was no less enthusiastic: "The Feminist Bookstores' Fall Catalog came out beautifully and was a terrific advertising vehicle for our books."

Booksellers reported tremendous success with the catalog. "We put the Catalog on the counter at 10 AM and had our first $100 order by noon," said Ann Christophersen, co-owner of Women & Children First in Chicago. "The single most effective promotion we've seen in our bookselling careers!" was the enthusiastic response of Mary Morell and Anne Frost at Full Circle Books in Albuquerque — "We put the catalog in the mail on Friday and five people walked in the door on Saturday with the catalog in hand! Most of them dropped $100 at at time on catalog books." "It bought us a lot of new customers, but perhaps even more impressive, it generated broader sales among our regular customers," said Kasha Songer, of the Book Garden in Denver. "Our customers were very impressed. Many said they were so thrilled when they received it that they sat down and read it cover to cover — and sales proved their enthusiasm," said New Words' Laura Zimmerman, reporting from Cambridge.

The Catalog was so successful in both selling books and in promoting feminist bookstores that the Network has decided to launch a Spring Catalog in 1996 to highlight the many excellent late-Winter, Spring, and Summer titles.

The Spring Catalog will also be designed to function as a tie-in with National Feminist Bookstore Week (NFBW), tentatively scheduled for May 11-18, 1996, and will be used by feminist bookstores as the mailer to promote NFBW. Inserts will highlight NFBW events at each store.

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The Spring Catalog will also be one of the primary vehicles for announcing and promoting the winners of the Feminist Book Awards, scheduled to debut in 1996. Promotion plans include special mailings to librarians encouraging them to do special Feminist Book Award displays and events.

400,000 copies of the Fall 1995 catalog will be circulated. In addition to all of the features that made the 1994 Catalog so successful, the 1995 Catalog will include "form-velopes" and order forms, 800-numbers for easy ordering, page numbers and a table of contents. Bi-weekly mailings will keep participating stores current on distribution information for all of the catalog books, and several new categories, including "For the Men in Your Life," "Sports, Fitness, and Health," and "Feminist Classics" will be added.

For most publishers, large and small, the Feminist Bookstores' Fall Catalog was the first time they had been able to promote their books to the entire *Ms. Magazine* mailing list.

Ads for the 1995 catalog will be $1150 per title. Ads include color reproduction of the book cover, and a sixty word description of the book. The final date for reserving ads will be July 7. For further information, call FBN, 415-626-1556 or fax 415-626-8970. ○

Canada Customs Bans Books During "Freedom to Read" Week

Montréal: L'Androgyne received notice that 55 books coming from the United States were seized and prohibited. Canada Customs Halifax branch has declared these books obscene, declaring they contain scenes of "slavery," "degradation," "sex with violence," "child sex," and "et cetera."

Most of the books are part of the "Badboy" line of gay male erotica and have been available in Canada for years. Aside from the fact that there are no scenes of sex with children, and no illustrations, these books are a well-known and popular component to gay male reading in Canada. Some of these titles have been previously detained and released as admissible in other Customs' seizures.

L'Androgyne, Canadian readers, and people everywhere who are concerned for civil liberties and the right to read protest the following:

- These books have been legally imported for years.
- L'Androgyne seriously doubts that the books have been read by Customs officials.
- "et cetera" is not a valid reason to exclude books from Canada.
- The books L'Androgyne did receive from this order were damaged.
- L'Androgyne will have to pay a $1000 invoice for the unreceived books.

This is by far the largest detention of books in L'Androgyne's history and comes at a time when Canadians are awaiting the outcome of the ten-week-long Little Sisters v. Canada Customs trial that protests such abusive practices on the part of Canada Customs.

L'Androgyne is appealing this decision and asks all Canadians to protest yet another interference with Canadians' freedom to read.

For further information contact France Desilets or Lawrence Boyle, L'Androgyne Books, 3636 St. Laurent, Montréal Qc H2X 2V4, Canada; phone 514-842-4765. ○

B&N/Libido Case Thrown Out of Court Book Industry Coalition Files Suit Against Prosecuting Attorney

A Cincinnati judge dismissed the case accusing Barnes & Noble of selling harmful material to a minor because the sale was a set-up. Cincinnati newspapers reported that the girl's father directed her to buy a copy of *Libido: The Journal of Sex and Sensibility* and observed the purchase. This non-case is only one in a series of complaints, including the failed prosecutions of the gay Pink Pyramid bookstore and the Contemporary Arts Center and its director for exhibiting a photography show by Robert Mapplethorpe.

In late December, Hamilton County (Cincinnati) Prosecuting Attorney Joseph Deters sent Barnes & Noble a letter claiming that certain publications on display at the store (*Libido, "Kiss and Tell", Playboy, Nothing Sacred, Your Flesh, Subliminal Tattoos,* and *Heavy Metal*) were harmful to minors and suggested that by removing the "magazines" from open display,

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B&N would (again) be in compliance with the state display statute.

To protest this inappropriate action, a coalition of thirteen publishing and bookselling associations filed a lawsuit charging Deters and Sheriff Simon Leis with censorship. The suit charges that Deters attempted to force the removal of constitutionally protected material from open display and charges that Deters' letter to B&N constituted prior restraint because the publications have not been legally determined to be "harmful to minors." The suit also charges that the "display statute" invoked by Deters is "unconstitutionally vague" and also unconstitutional in that it prohibits the display of materials which enjoy First Amendment protection.

Oren Teicher, ABFFE President commented, regarding ABFFE's involvement: "This case is about prior restraint, and ABFFE strongly believes that efforts by law enforcement officials to force retailers to remove constitutionally protected material must be vigorously opposed. It is simply illegal for local prosecutors to take it upon themselves to tell bookstores what they may or may not display or sell in their stores."

Plaintiffs include the Great Lakes Booksellers Association, the American Library Association's Freedom to Read Foundation, PEN American Center, the American Booksellers Foundation for Free Expression, The Association of American Publishers, Playboy Enterprises, the Council for Periodical Distributors Associations, the Magazine Publishers of America, the National Association of Recording Merchandisers, the Periodical and Book Association of America, the Recording Industry Association of America, and the Video Software Dealers Association.

The magazine "Kiss and Tell" is presumably either *Drawing the Line* or *Her Tongue on My Theory*, both by Kiss and Tell, published by Press Gang. ○

Women and Worship at Philippi

Valerie A. Abrahamsen

...an important socio-historical contribution to our growing knowledge of women in Greco-Roman religion and the early Christian movements.

—Elisabeth Schüssler Fiorenza, Stendahl Professor of Scripture and Interpretation, Harvard Divinity School.

ISBN: 1-885349-00-9 $16.95

ABA Suit Ready to Go

A federal court ruling in March cleared the way for the ABA's antitrust discrimination suit against four book publishers. The ABA filed the suit — which seeks an order to end discrimination by publishers that favor chain stores and warehouse clubs — the day before ABA last year.

U.S. District Judge John F. Keenan's decision denied the defendant publishers motions to have the ABA removed as a plaintiff in the case and to have the ABA's case dismissed or suspended pending the resolution of similar antitrust discrimination cases brought by the Federal Trade Commission against other book publishers in 1988, et al., thus clearing the way for the suit to proceed.

The judge's interest in the case and the schedule he set for discovery indicate that the case will proceed as speedily as possible.

Rumors are also circulating that the FTC will announce a decision in its case "soon," a rumor that has surfaced several times in the last two or three years. However it is unlikely that the FTC will be willing to have its investigation scooped by a lawsuit, so there may be some grounds to this rumor. ○

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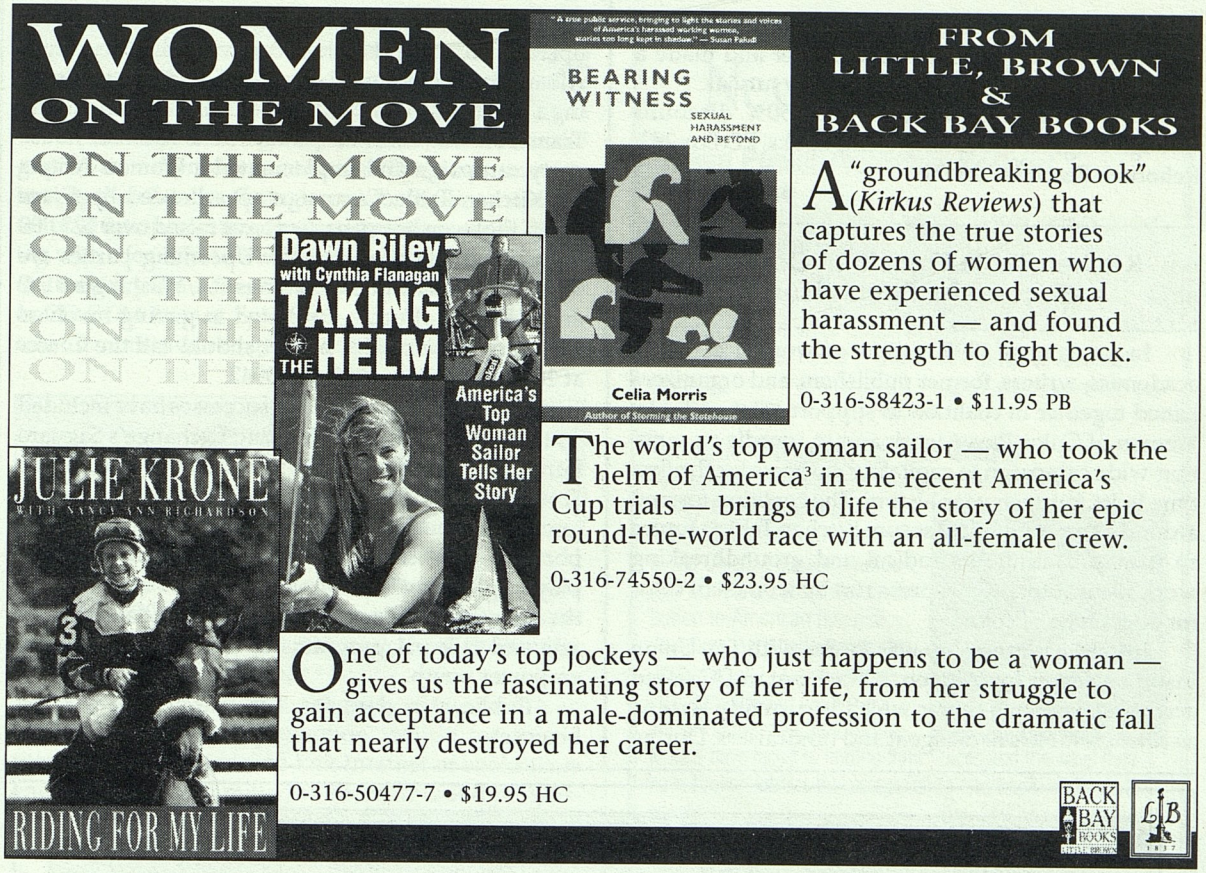

New Lesbian Press Founded by Octogenarians

Anyda Marchant, perhaps better known by her pseudonym Sarah Aldridge, and Muriel Crawford, co-founders, with Barbara Grier and Donna McBride, of Naiad Press, sold their interest in Naiad Press and started A & M Books. The primary goal of A & M books is to keep the Sarah Aldridge novels alive and available. This Fall A&M will publish *Amantha*, a new novel by Sarah Aldridge. A&M is also considering publishing books by other writers.

Books currently available from A&M include *The Latecomer* (Naiad's first book), *Tottie, Cytherea's Breath, All True Lovers, The Nesting Place, Madame Aurora, Misfortune's Friend, Magdalena, Keep to Me Stranger, A Flight of Angels,* and *Michaela.*

Anyda Marchant, now 84, began writing seriously in the early seventies when a heart condition mandated her early retirement from her law career with the Law Library of Congress and the World Bank. She co-founded Naiad Press when she hit her stride and began writing books that addressed the issues she felt were most important: describing a woman's sexual and emotional awakening and books that contradicted the badly-ever-after imagery of most published earlier lesbian fiction. Her earlier books describe "invisible" women in conflict about how visible they want to be, her later books tend more toward social issues. All center on lesbian romance.

Marchant and Crawford have been partners for 46 years.

They have long been supporters of feminist publishing and bookselling. In 1984, when FBN was

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facing a cash-flow crisis, Anyda and Muriel gave FBN a grant that got the issue to the printer and made a world of difference to FBN's long-term survial.

The books are available at a 50% discount through August. Order from A&M Books, PO Box 283, Rehoboth Beach DE 19971. ○

Kitchen Table Transition Coalition —Successful Fundraisers—

In January of 1993 a team of women activists, academics, writers, former publishers, and organizers joined together in coalition to support Kitchen Table: Women of Color Press' work and to coordinate a nation-wide campaign to capitalize the Press for the first time in its fourteen year history. The coalition formed around a commitment to secure Kitchen Table's future so it may continue its radical and groundbreaking work as an autonomous press run by women of color for all women of color.

In 1994 a partnership was forged with The Union Institute Center for Women, a Washington DC-based academic women's center which is currently serving as Kitchen Table's fiscal agent and fundraisers. During the first year, the Coalition raised $100,000 to cover operational costs, the cost of moving the Press from Albany to Brooklyn, and salaries. In addition to directing a national outreach effort to major foundations, the Transition Coalition has launched a national house party campaign and implemented a Women Writers for Kitchen Table Campaign spearheaded by Grace Paley. Eighteen house parties have raised over $23,000 for the Press in the last year. Upcoming parties are scheduled in Raleigh NC, Athens GA, Washington DC and Brooklyn. People interested in getting involved with the house parties project should call the Center at 202-667-1313/fax 202-265-0942.

Other recent fundraising successes have included a $15,000 grant from the Funding Exchange's Saguaro Fund, which is to be used to produce *The Third Wave: Feminist Perspectives on Racism*, and a $5,000 renewable grant from the Herb Alpert Foundation to help support the transition process. Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Tony Kushner brought the Press' work to the attention of Mr. Alpert, whose foundation funds arts and cultural programs as well as programs to empower youth.

Publication date for *The Third Wave* has not been set. ○

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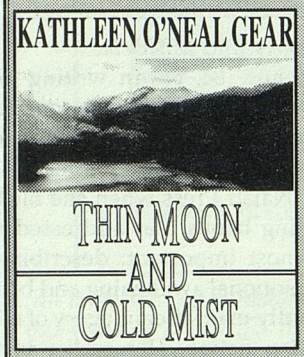

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Spinifex Working on CD-ROM Production

Australia, according to Spinifex Publishers, is in the grip of a multimedia infatuation. The government is leading the affair by offering grants for development and for production, and Spinifex has joined the action. Working with a feminist CD-ROM production company, Protea, they've put out for grants to remake two of their titles in CD-ROM format. Spinifex is eager to network with other feminists working in this arena. ○

Inland Launches World Wide Web Site: Changes Returns Policy

Inland is developing Outpost:Culture, a World Wide Web Internet site which will promote books from the publishers it distributes and will direct Internet-cruisers to bookstores that stock those and similar titles distributed by Inland.

The goal of the new program is to provide an additional sales and promotion vehicle for Inland titles and to create a loose-knit Internet of booksellers and publishers committed to alternative and progressive culture and politics.

Publishers will be able to list information about their new and backlist titles, post excerpts of books, include author news, post author tour information, etc. Publisher fees will range from $30 to $100 per month.

Inland also promises "a sophisticated system to direct potential book customers to booksellers who stock the books that Inland distributes." Eligibility for customer referrals will probably be tied to stocking a certain percentage of InBook and Womensource titles or to participation in Inland's new prepaid-STOP order program. Hopefully stores that do regular weekly orders (which get special order deliveries nearly as quickly as prepaid-STOP orders with much less paperwork, time and postage) will also qualify for this program.

Inland plans to sell direct to customers when they can't provide a referral to a "local" bookstore likely to be able to provide the requested title, a decision that seems unnccessary given the number of bookstores that offer 800-numbers and efficient mail order service. Booksellers in recent months have been very articulate about other distributor plans to sell direct to retail customers.

Inland is eager to hear from anyone interested in the new program. Stop by their booth at ABA for a demo of the new site, call Ann Griepenberg at Inland (800-243-0138) or email Inlandbook@AOL.com.

In other news Inland has announced new returns policies; a special non-returnable sales program; free- or reduced-freight on orders of 100+ books ordered electronically; and that it will cut back the number of titles it distributes in effort to reduce costs while maintaining service.

New from Arizona

Ocean Power *Poems from the Desert*
Ofelia Zepeda

In this personal collection of poems, Zepeda focuses on her experiences growing up in a Tohono O'odham family, where desert climate profoundly influenced daily life, and on her perceptions as a contemporary Native American woman. The first creative work written in both English and Tohono O'odham, *Ocean Power* is a landmark in Native American literature.

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Women Singing in the Snow
A Cultural Analysis of Chicana Literature
Tey Diana Rebolledo

The first book-length analysis of the Chicana literary tradition, this work is a substantial contribution to American feminist literature. Rebolledo traces the development of Chicana literature from 1848 to the present, exploring the struggle Chicana writers have faced in finding their voices and the ways they have broken taboos by transgressing into traditionally male spaces.

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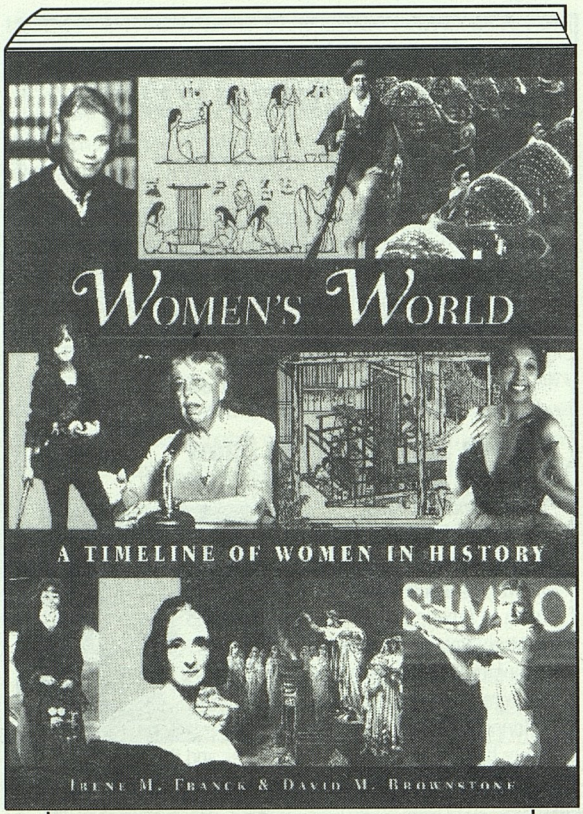

From Hatshepsut, a queen and pharaoh in Egypt in the 15th century B.C., to Janet Reno, the first woman Attorney General of the United States, *Woman's World* rescues from obscurity the extraordinarily rich stories and achievements of thousands of women—both famous and little-known. Over 100 illustrations help to bring this essential chronological timeline of women's history to life.

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The new returns policies are effective immediately, and supercede all previously announced returns policies. Bookstores may also order books on a non-returnable basis at 50% discount on distributed titles and calendars, and 44% on wholesale books, 45% on wholesale calendars. Stores may order distributed lines non-returnable, and keep returns privileges on wholesale titles, or vice versa. Account status must be specified prior to purchasing, and customers ordering non-returnable may not return to returnable status for at least six months.

Free freight is now available to stores doing electronic ordering in UPS zones 1-5 on orders of 100+ books that are stocked by Inland.

This is certainly an incentive to put Inland at the top of the cascade for east coast stores and is a *significant* advantage for stores with electronic ordering capability. ○

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The Making of *Bar Girls* and Other Movie Tie-Ins

Wolfe Video has begun production on *The Making of Bar Girls*, a video on the making of the latest lesbian flick to hit the big screen. It will include behind-the-scenes action and antics, outtakes, and interviews with the filmmakers and actors, including Nancy Allison Wolfe, Liza D'Agostino, Camila Griggs and Chastity Bono. The video will be priced at $29.95 and will be released shortly after the theatrical release of the motion picture by Orion Classics.

In related news, Wolfe announced price reductions on two lesbian comedy videos: *Out for Laughs*, the gay and lesbian comedy modeled after Saturday Night Live, and *Coming Out Is a Many Splendored Thing*, segmented stories on coming out as a lesbian. Both are now priced at $19.95.

Wolfe Video can be reached at 1-800-GET-WOLFE or 408-268-6782.

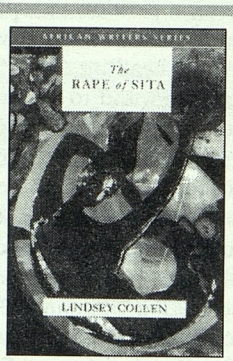
Claudia Allen (*She's Always Liked the Girls Best*/Third Side Press) has recently finished the screen play for *Don Juan in the Village*, which is scheduled to begin filming this summer.

Harpo Films has optioned *The Wedding* by Harlem Renaissance writer Dorothy West, a novel which tells how plans for an interracial marriage culminate in tragedy. Harpo (yes, that's Oprah spelled backwards) is Oprah Winfrey's film company.

Meanwhile, Frantic Goat Productions, a no-budget organization, is scheduled to film a feature-length production of *Touchwood* (Karin Kallmaker, Naiad Press) in Ann Arbor in June. Filmmakers Emily Decker and Fran Dunaway are hoping for theatrical distribution. Naiad will distribute the video. ○

Updating the Library of Congress Subject Headings

Subject headings approved and used by the Library of Congress in Washington DC appear in library catalogs throughout the English-speaking world. If these terms are unfair or inaccurate, they will influence library users globally, perhaps biasing them against certain topics or materials. When some of



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these terms are missing from the catalogs, it may wrongfully seem that certain ideas, movements, or events don't exist or never happened.

For over a decade the Cataloging Consumers Network has sought to reform Library of Congress headings by petitioning the Library of Congress to replace biased, inauthentic descriptors and to finally establish long-needed forms. There has been some success, but there's still a long way to go.

You can help by circulating and signing petitions on feminist classifications (which urges LC to assign 60 headings, including Afro-American Feminism, family planning, feminist art, feminist collectives, feminist periodicals, looksism, nonsexist children's literature, radical feminism, rape culture, sexism in advertising, and women's movement); a petition to replace subject headings with inclusive terms (freedmen/freed slaves, man/humans, manpower/human resources, watchmen/guards, etc.); a petition to change the subject heading "gays" to "Gay men and lesbians" since there is no acceptable umbrella term for both gay men and lesbians (which also requests descriptors such as adoption by gay men and lesbians, berdache, butch and fem, gay and lesbian rights, gay and lesbian studies, gay holocaust, homophobia, lesbian authors, and many more); a petition to replace "public welfare" with the more familiar form "welfare" and to humanize the current heading, "poor" by transforming it into "poor people," and to assign 50 needed headings related to poverty, hunger, homelessness and social policy — such as poor single mothers, violence against poor people, hunger activists, homeless girls — and others; and a petition that deals specifically with racist headings (such as converting existing headings such as "Gypsies" to the more respectful and preferred name "Romanies," to eliminate "Christian primacy" in all religion-related headings, and to add such classifications as anti-Semites, hate groups, native American Holocaust, Nazi collaborators, racism in business, skinheads, violence against minorities, and 45 others).

If you are able to circulate these petitions, or to include them in any upcoming mailings or publications, please write to Sanford Berman, Convenor, Cataloging Consumers Network, 4400 Morningside Road, Edina MN 55416. This has been a long-term project, but it is hoped that a big push at this point will elicit the needed response. ○

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Borders Is For Sale (Again)

Kmart has announced the long anticipated plan to sell the majority interest in Borders Group Inc. in an initial public offering of approximately 20.8 million shares, representing 52% of the company, which would reduce Kmart's ownership to approximately 41%. The offering is expected to raise between $270 and $330 million for Kmart. The Borders Group itself, which was purchased by Kmart in 1992, will gain no revenue from this sale. ○

Take Your Daughters to Work Promotion

Ballantine did a special promo to tie *Reviving Ophelia: Saving the Selves of Adolescent Girls, Meeting at the Crossroads,* and *The Girl Within* into *Ms. Magazine*'s Take Our Daughters to Work Day. The promo offered a 48% discount on 25-copy prepacks of the three titles, along with a special kit containing "Take Your Daughter to Work" badges, a tent card for table displays, and shelf talkers. ○

Womyn's Braille Press Closing Up Shop

The Womyn's Braille Press is continuing with its disbanding process.

WBP had offered subscribers one final chance to purchase books in the WBP collection and took orders through August, 1994.

All of the tape and braille masters were shipped to the new home of the WBP collection, the Bureau of Braille and Talking Book Services in Florida, in January. Librarians at the Bureau will catalog the books into the NLS sytem and make copies of the masters for distribution over the next few months.

WBP and Talking Book Services are still negotiating who will provide a catalog of the collection so that people will know what titles are available.

WBP is also still negotiating for a process by which the collection can continue to be expanded. Some WBP readers will continue to tape books if it is possible to add new books to the collection. This would be a vital service given the disparity between the kinds of books WBP has made available over the years, and the lack of similiar title availability through the traditional services.

WBP will provide information about where and how to order books from the new location when the books are ready for circulation.

Taped editions of *Sojourner* and *Sinister Wisdom,* two of the periodicals that WBP formerly recorded, are now available from their publishers, including a complete set of back issues of *Sinister Wisdom.*

WBP no longer maintains an office or a phone number but it does receive mail at Box 8475, Minneapolis MN 55408. ○

News is compiled by Carol Seajay

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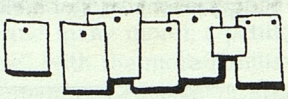
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Compiled by Beth Morgan

The 17th Annual University of Kentucky Women Writers Conference will be held October 18-21, 1995, in Lexington, Kentucky. The theme of this year's conference will complement the International Year of the Child by focusing on and exploring "Issues of Female Development and Female Relationships within the Generation." This annual conference includes writing workshops, manuscript critique sessions in fiction, non-fiction and poetry, and readings and lectures by prominent feminist authors. The list of participating writers for 1995 has not yet been released, but details will be forthcoming. For more information call the Women Writers Conference at 606-257-6681, or write Women Writers Conference, University of Kentucky, 915 Patterson Office Tower, Lexington KY 40506.



The John Hay Library of Brown University will host the event Flesh and the Word: A Gathering in Celebration of John Preston's Life and Work, October 6-8, 1995. As part of the event, The First Annual John Preston Prize for Erotic Writing will be awarded Sunday, October 8. The prize is $500 to one gay man and one lesbian each year. The three-day event is free and open to all. For more information write Flesh and the Word, c/o John Hay Library, Box A, Brown University, Providence RI 02912, or fax your inquiry to Jenifer Lee at 401-863-1271.

The National Women's Music Festival — the longest-running celebration of women's music and culture in the U.S. — will be held June 1-4, 1995, on the Indiana University Campus in Bloomington, Indiana. Rita Mae Brown will give the keynote address on Thursday, June 1, and will lead a workshop on Friday, June 2. Registration brochures are available at women's bookstores or by writing PO Box 1427-PR, Indianapolis IN 46206, or by calling 317-927-9355. ○

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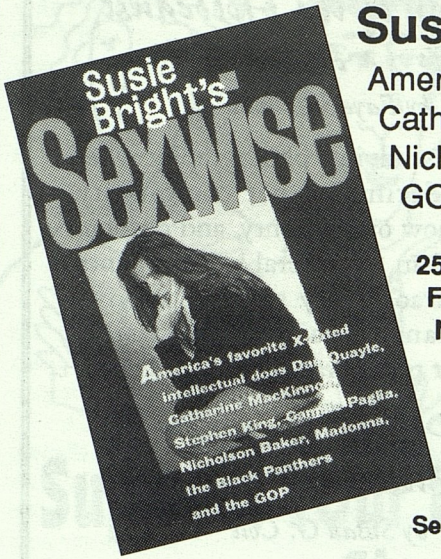

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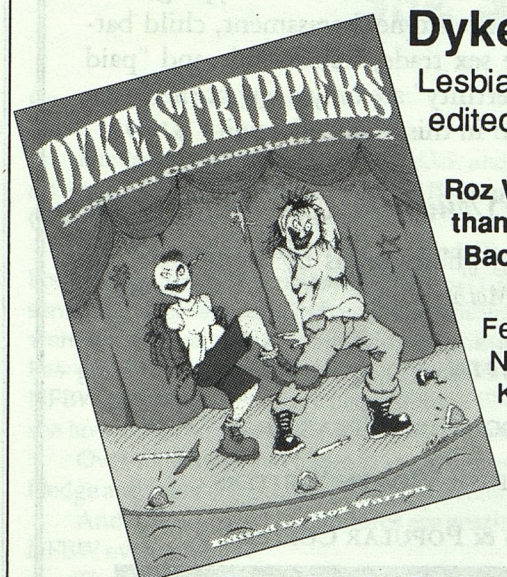

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Cast a Long Shadow

by Leena Lander

Based on actual court records this compelling novel will haunt and fascinate the reader in its imaginative retelling of the infamous witch trials of seventeenth century Finland. *$12.95*

Fitting In

by Sharon Kirsh

Mollie confronts anti-semitism and something called the "Holocaust" in this novel for readers under 14. $6.95

Woman of the Holocaust

Memoirs of a Partisan Fighter

by Faye Schulman

A teenager studying photography when the Nazis decimated her community, Schulman now over seventy, and decorated for heroism by several governments, tells an extraordinary story of survival and resistance against oppression. Includes her photographs. *$15.95*

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by Susan G. Cole

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News from the Bookstores

Support Your Local Feminist Bookstore. She Supports You!

Compiled by Carol Seajay

Feminist Bookstores across the U.S. and Canada are gearing up for National Feminist Bookstore Week (May 13-20) as we go to press.

The buttons and t-shirts are ordered. Posters and bookmarks are being printed. 150 media kits were sent out from the central office and an untold number were sent to local media by individual bookstores. *Ms.* has gone to press with a 5-page feature story on NFBW and publishers have been calling FBN daily to see how they can contribute to the festivities.

Over 150 writers have signed the Feminist Writers' Pledge and more signatures are coming in daily.

And, of course, all of the stores are gearing up for NFBW events:

The Book Garden (Denver, CO) is celebrating NFBW with a weekend festival that will showcase the work of a "network of artists, craftswomen and independently-owned businesses who help to make this independent feminist bookstore a reality and a success. The Book Garden has invited women artists and artisans from eight states to come and display their work, read their books, and perform their music... Booths will feature local women's businesses and organizations as well as body painting, free buttons for mothers (or anyone related to a mother) on Mother's Day, and it's been rumored that there might even be a kissing booth...." The festival booths will fill the space between the store and the street and the alley/driveway beside the store. Kasha's goal is to get some TV coverage.... Book Garden sent out 50-some media packets...

Full Circle (Albuquerque, NM) will hold a poetry slam with Joy Harjo, two readings, and a women's theatre production. Co-owner Mary Morell will be interviewed on the local feminist radio program. *A Labor of Love*, the new radio documentary about feminist bookselling and publishing, will be aired immediately following the interview.

The Gertrude Stein Memorial Bookstore (Pittsburgh, PA) is doing a series of programs on women's

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health issues, including a workshop on safer sex for women and a workshop on breast cancer awareness. Books on related topics will also be on sale during NFBW.

Old Wives' Tales (San Francisco, CA) will be doing three events: a reading with contributors to *Afrekete*; a one woman show on Palestinian women by Emily Shehindah; and on Saturday, a 10% discount on any book with "sisters," "sisterhood," "sistah," et al. in the title.

The Women's Bookstop (Hamilton, Ontario) is putting together an anthology for NFBW. Local women are writing stories which incorporate a recipe in each. The NFBW event will be a book-launching party with music by local musician Shelley Whitehead.

New Words (Cambridge, MA) has moved its annual Birthday Sale to NFBW, the weekend of May 13 & 14th, and is planning several NFBW events.

Her Story Bookstore (York County, PA), along with the local YWCA and NOW, is sponsoring a Women's Film Festival with films from Women Make Movies (in NYC). The event will be held on campus in a 750 seat auditorium. Tickets are $5 for 3 hours of films. The six films (*The Orientation Express, Rate It X, Cycles, Seven Lucky Charms, A Prayer Before Birth* and *Mirror, Mirror*) consider body image, disability, menstruation, pornography, battered women, conservative morality and pompous patriarchy.

Prairie Moon (Arlington Heights, IL) is doing a bookparty and reading for *The Woman-Centered Economy* with Loraine Edwalds and Janet Miller. (Prairie Moon is experimenting with a program offering 20% off the next purchase for women who donate a title to the used book section).

Booksellers Want to Know

Is the video *Straight from the Heart* by Dee Mosbacher, produced by Woman Vision Productions, available for sale in feminist bookstores? It's very hot in P-FLAG and other circles... and it would be great to be able to sell it in the stores. If you have any information or clues, please tell FBN's Multi-Media columnist Dorothy Holland and she'll tell the rest of us. Dorothy Holland, 53 Perdiz Canyon Rd., Box 943, Placitas NM 87043. Phone: 505-867-9077; fax -1455, or email DHolland1@AOL.COM.

Orlando Books (Edmonton, Alberta) has booked four programs for NFBW: a program about sexual harassment; a presentation by the Northern Alberta Women's Archives Association; a presentation by Vjera Bonifacic, who has recently returned from Croatia, on how women have grouped together, often crossing ethnic lines, to support each other and oppose the war; and a fourth event with a lesbian theme.

Inklings (Houston, TX) will celebrate NFBW with an in-store appearance by Anchorage-based singer-songwriter Libby Roderick.

Meristem (Memphis, TN) has decided to do one big event instead of several smaller events: A Celebration of Mothers & Daughters on Saturday night, May 20, will feature local writers, artists, performers and will be "a *Double Stitch* book sort of thing..."

Golden Thread (New Haven, CT) will sponsor "Coffee with Amy Bloom," an informal reading and conversation with the author of *Come to Me*.

A Woman's Prerogative (Ferndale/Detroit, MI) is doing a reading with four local authors on Friday, May 19th, and is planning other events as well.

The Readers Feast (Hartford, CT) will host a reading and signing with Mary Kay Blakely on May 14th and is working on getting Barbara Neeley to come and do an event...

Brigit Books (St. Petersburg, FL) is hosting a signing with Diane Stein, author of 14 books on healing and women's spirituality and a Reiki Master/Teacher since 1990, for her new book *Essential Reiki: A Complete Guide to an Ancient Healing Art* on Saturday afternoon, May 20.

A Room Of One's Own (Madison, WI) will do a window display that features book marks, newsletters, ads, etc. from other feminist bookstores.

An Uncommon Vision, a home-based mail-order business that specializes in out-of-print women's history and biography titles, will have a sales table at the American Association for the History of Medicine conference in Pittsburgh, featuring books, posters,

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postcards and ephemera about women in medicine. Displays will include original posters of WWII nurses and nurse recruitment, original paperback novels from the 1950s and 1960s with medical themes (such as the sexy nurse and the sex-starved woman physician who is a closeted lesbian), and original photographs and author biographies by women physicians and nurses who served as volunteers in Europe during WWI. An Uncommon Vision will also distribute her seventh out-of-print catalog during NFBW — And celebrate the beginning of Uncommon Vision's third year in business.

Publishers Celebrate NFBW

gynergy books (publishers) will have Jackie Manthorne (*Ghost Motel, Deadly Reunion*, and *Last Resort*) on tour during NFBW and will be doing a NFBW reading at My Sisters' Words (Syracuse, NY).

We've also had a number of very enthusiastic calls from publishers who read about NFBW in the 4/3/95 issue of *Publishers Weekly* and wanted to know how they could contribute to the event! We'll make a plan for next year...

Appreciation!

Helene Vann, a Full Circle staffer for nine years, was honored as one of four Women of the Year, at a luncheon on International Women's Day, for her continued contribution to the Albuquerque feminist community. The award is co-sponsored by the University of New Mexico Women's Center and the Women's Studies Department. Yeah, Helene!

More Hot Events

Amazon Bookstore is sponsoring a second Revolting Rrriot Readout. The announcement reads: Our first Riot Grrl Readout held back in July was so successful that we decided to have a second! Come join other groovy grrls in an open reading. Read something you've written or something written by your favorite revolting gal... Remember, dorky is cool so don't be shy, and bring some of your own stuff to share!

20 Years in Victoria

Everywoman's Books of Victoria, BC, just celebrated our twentieth (that's 20!) birthday. Everywoman's is remarkable in that it is non-profit and run by an all-volunteer collective of about two dozen women.

This special occasion was marked by both an in-store party and a gala reading, music, and performance evening.

At the store there were door prizes every hour, birthday goodies and 20% off all books; customers were a-plenty. The evening party held at the University of Victoria featured B.C. writers Rona Murry, Bridget Moran (*Stony Creek Woman*), Shani Mootoo (*Out on Main Street*), The Sirens (a local *a cappella* group) and a multimedia performance by The Kiss & Tell Collective (nominated for two Lambda Literary Awards for *Her Tongue on My Theory*). There were more door prizes, more birthday goodies, and a special birthday cake.

It was a great success, a good time, and we broke even!

—Jahnet Hewsick
for Everywoman's Books

Spring Celebrations

Full Circle had a rich and varied spring calendar: On International Women's Day the store hosted "A Celebration of Feminist Scholarship" with local university professors who had recently published books. Full Circle celebrated Earth Day with Marcia Starch, the author of *The Dark Goddess*. On April 30 (the new moon) Rabbi Lynn Gottleib offered a very special evening with a reading from her new book *She Who Dwells Within*, a performance piece based on the book, and a celebration of Rosh Hodesh, an ancient Jewish women's new moon ritual that is being revived by feminists. Full Circle also gave away free bumperstickers ("those cool women's symbols with fists in them") during Women's History Month and sold those "unsaleable" t- shirts, cassettes and posters for a dollar each during their "Spring Cleaning Dollar Days." ○

Illustration by Linda Bourke, especially for National Feminist Bookstore Week.

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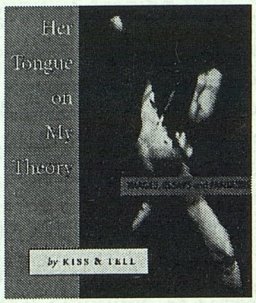

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ABA '95

CONVENTION WATCH

VISIT FBN IN BOOTH 1230

By Carol Seajay

The American Booksellers Association Convention in Chicago will be a new experience — and one we all might as well get used to: The ABA Convention is scheduled to be in Chicago every year for the next seven years. Surely this is at the convenience of the "new" trade show managers, but it has some significant advantages and disadvantages for booksellers and publishers.

First off, Chicago is a "real" city (as opposed to the plastic-ville sameness of the Disneyland site or the narrowly avoided Orlando-Disney site). There's real food, a diversity of communities and urban cultures, bookstores (!), and taxis. And it's the home of a superb women's bookstore, Women & Children First. Publishers will be able to store their exhibit paraphernalia instead of shipping it all over the country, which should be a savings. Moving the Convention year after year meant that different booksellers from different regions had increased access to the convention. ("Driving distance" fitting more readily into the contemporary bookseller's budget than flying cross-country.) Rotating the site of the convention has made it easier for a variety of booksellers to attend periodically but more difficult to organize bookseller advocacy groups at the convention. Chicago is driving distance from a vast community of booksellers who will be able to attend the Convention on a regular basis and, being in the Midwest, (and thus a cheaper flight than the far coast), FBN hopes that the advantages of having ABA "nearer" once every three years will be offset by having a more regular and stable core of bookseller attendees to carry agendas forward from year to year.

Figuring out logistics to and from the distant Convention Center will be challenging. ABA's hotel/Convention Center shuttles will need to work well for this to be a success. Meanwhile ABA is doing all it can to "grow" the show so as to increase their income. This will be the biggest-ever ABA (1800 exhibitors filling 360,000 square feet of exhibit space with a projected attendance of 42,000 book professionals), despite cutbacks in booth size by major mainstream publishers. (Penguin USA is taking no booths in response to being sued by ABA for allegedly offering illegal discounts and other benefits to chains and discounters; Random House is cutting back booth space as are HarperCollins and Simon and Schuster). Wear your running shoes.

This will also be the shortest ABA in recent years. The Convention ends Monday evening rather than Tuesday noon.

As always FBN has booked a block of rooms at a moderately priced hotel to provide some feminist-friendly space and to facilitate networking. This year we have rooms at two hotels, both in the "Miracle Mile" district (downtown), both within a block or so of ABA shuttle bus stops. Prices run about $90/night. As we go to press there are still a couple of rooms

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available. For information, call our travel agent, Ann Dwyer at 800-236-4627 or 608-233-7222.

Feminist Bookstores & Publishers Conferences

For feminist bookstores and publishers, "ABA" begins with the respective Feminist Bookstore Network Conference (Thursday and Friday, 8:30-4:30) and the Feminist Publishers' Conference (Thursday). Feminist bookstores that need further information about the FB-Network Conference should call Barb Wieser at Amazon (612-338-6560), Ann Christophersen at Women & Children First (312-769-9299) or the FBN office (415-626-1556). For more information about the Feminist Publishers Conference, call Midge Stocker at Third Side Press (312-271-3029).

The Feminist Bookstores/Feminist Publishers Banquet seems to have taken up permanent residence on pre-ABA Thursday evening. This year the event is at a Middle-Eastern restaurant just a few blocks from Women & Children First, in the Andersonville neighborhood, which is known for its successful women-owned businesses. Tickets are $22, advance reservations required. For more information contact Midge Stocker at Third Side Press (312-271-3029).

Earlier that same evening, at 6:30, Minnie Bruce Pratt and Leslie Feinberg will be reading at Women & Children First (5233 N. Clark Street).

The Lammies

This year the Lammies are open to books published outside the U.S. that are distributed in the U.S. and are sold through U.S. bookstores. So, for the first time, books from Canadian feminist publishers, long a vital part of the ABA community and the feminist bookstore and publishing communities, were nominated for Lambda Literary Awards — a change that reflects both the growing and changing vision of the Lambda Book Report staff and the (strongly expressed) concern of feminist booksellers and publishers. Hooray and congratulations to all who worked for this change.

Not to lapse into editorial, here, but this year's Lammy nominations seem awfully skewed toward corporate publishers. Even with the addition of Canadian feminist presses, only 15 nominations went to feminist/lesbian presses, 5 to gay men's presses, 14 to other small presses, and 56 to corporate presses.... Given that a disproportionate share of lesbian publishing is still coming from lesbian presses I sit and wonder if this is a result of the co-genderizing of categories, or a seduction of glitter (if it's published in New York it's got to be better!), or if the increased number of books published by/about gay men necessarily leads to a decline in valuing lesbian work in this community. Or perhaps it's the shifting definitions of categories that are edging lesbian work out.... With this year's nominations it's clear that the *author* doesn't need to be gay or lesbian for a book to be nominated (see Science Fiction, where content seems to rule). But in Lesbian Fiction, which includes a book with no discernible lesbian content, author rules rather than content — this same book, if content was the rule, should have been nominated in Gay Men's Fiction, but wasn't. Gay Men's Fiction, of course, includes no books by gay men that are primarily about lesbians. Is this an anomaly or a double standard? It's all complicated by the passion with which books that include both gay male and lesbian content and/or authors are being feted. (Are these the long-awaited "crossover books?" Twice the market? Twice the sales? Not!) What happens at the Lammies to lesbian books that are about lesbians? No one will know until the drums start rolling at the Lammies: Friday night, at the Palmer House. Cocktail hour starts at 6:00, the banquet and the awards program promptly at 7:00. Tix are $60 each, with some scholarship funds available. People who can afford to are encouraged to pay a bit extra to replenish the scholarship fund. Call 202-462-7924 w/credit card in hand to order tix. Vegetarian meals on request.

Before Columbus Foundation Awards

When ABA begins to seem like it's all white guys in suits from multinationals pushing multinational agendas (and all your best guy-allies who have to compete with the same start blurring into the same image...), it's time to skip over to the the Before Columbus Foundation reception for their American Book Award winners. The Before Columbus Foundation Awards celebrate cultural diversity, progressive social agendas, and great literature. After a couple of days on the Convention Floor, walking into this event

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"... RICE feeds readers who are hungry for the deep love and lyricism that imbues Black life. Nikky Finney is a writer who carries the traditions of her ancestors with the exquisite care they deserve." ***Evelyn C. White***

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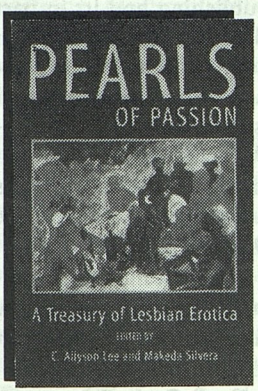

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This anthology from a diverse editorial group of six women, emerges from an anti-racist, feminist framework that links struggles against homophobia and hetero-sexism with other liberation movements.

It explores the plurality and fluidity of desire and identity and demonstrates that there are indeed more than two sides.

ISBN 0-920813-19-4 *320pp US $19.95 May 1995*

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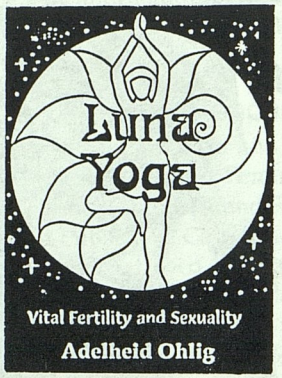

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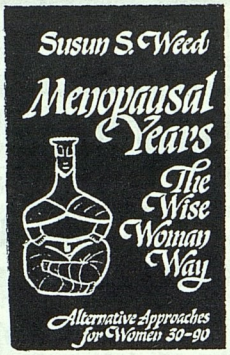

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always feels like coming home. The award winners are announced a few weeks before ABA so there's no drum-roll drama, no winners/losers drama, just a celebration of great literature, writers and writing, and the people who make it happen. There are always about twenty book awards (more or less as needed), usually a lifetime-achievement award, and various other awards as inspired by the year's publishing successes.

ABA

Sunday, June 4, 6:00-9:00 PM at the Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington St. (3 blocks from the river and walking distance from most downtown hotels). The reception starts at 6:00, the presentations start about 7:00.

Stop by the Before Columbus Foundation booth (#3142) to pick up an invitation.

Other Pre-Convention Workshops

The Association of Booksellers for Children (ABC) will host their annual day-long workshop on Friday. Call Caron Chapman at 800-421-1665 for further information.

The Second Annual African American Booksellers Conference meets from 1:00-4:00 on Friday. Topics will include Black Autobiography, Children's Books, Black Mystery Writers, and Black Romance Writers. The sessions will explore everything from writing to marketing. A panel discussion will also explore the state of African American publishing and its impact on Black books, authors, and booksellers. A reception after the conference at Chicago's Afrocentric Book Store will celebrate the store's fifth anniversary and promises to be "the largest gathering of African-American authors at the ABA." Coordinated by Paula Woods and Felix Liddell of Livre Noir in Los Angeles (213-666-2802) and Desiree Sanders of Afrocentric Book Shop in Chicago (313-939-1956).

ABA is getting into the pre-ABA meetings business with a day-long workshop on the impact of new media and technology on bookstores. $45. Contact Ellen Yurish at the ABA for details (800-637-0037).

ABA and the Children's Book Council are sponsoring an afternoon of workshops on finding the best elementary and middle-grade titles, on choosing

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CD-ROM materials, on doing add-on sales, and on stocking and selling inspirational, religious and spiritual titles for trade bookstores. The fee is $25/session. Call ABA for more info.

Friday Evening Options

The Women's National Book Association (WNBA) annual reception, 6:00-7:30 at The Palmer House. Contact Sue MacLaurin for further information (818-501-3925).

The Children's Booksellers Dinner, 5:30-9:30 (contact ABC 800-421-1665 for reservations).

And, of course, The Lammies. (See above.) The Lammies and the WNBA reception are in the same hotel, so it may be possible to do both events for a change.

The Convention

ABA cherishes its convention-based income and so is doing all it can to "grow" the event. This does not necessarily make the convention more effective or useful for booksellers. New focuses on rights sales and the international pavilion mean increased competition for publishers' attention. The fact that Saturday is "bookseller" day and the addition of The Booksellers VIP Program (dedicated registration area, discounted admission prices and a lounge on the exhibit floor) just underscore that the Convention is less and less about bookstores.

On a cheerier note, ABA is trying to become librarian friendly, and will have a Librarians Lounge.

The Gay/Lesbian/Feminist section becomes an official ABA section this year along with two new sections, Multicultural and Religious/Spiritual/Inspirational. Look for the Electronics Book/Multimedia section and the Sidelines sections to be much bigger.

Feminist/Gay/Lesbian Row

Feminist/Gay/Lesbian Row (on the 1200 aisle) is the place to visit, hang-out and meet friends. Come visit FBN in booth #1230. Sister Vision is planning festivities around their tenth anniversary, including a book signing by Nikky Finney (*Rice*) on Sunday at 2:00 PM (also reading at Women and Children First on Monday); the launching of *Plural Desires: Writing Bisexual Women's Realities;* and celebrating (with Press Gang) their first Lambda Literary Award nominations. Sister Vision celebrates the nomination of *The Very Inside*, an anthology of writing by Asian and Pacific Islander lesbian and bisexual women. Press Gang is up for an award in two categories for *Her Tongue on My Theory* by Kiss and Tell. Join Press Gang and Sister Vision in not boycotting the Lammies for the first time in its seven-year history.

Hours: Level One of the convention hall opens at 8:30, the other floors open at 9:00 and stay open until 6:00 PM.

ABA

Events

Dorothy Allison will be speaking at the Sunday morning Book & Author Breakfast along with Colin Powell and Studs Terkel. I'd like to go just to watch the audience responses but can't take the time from the floor.

Events to Boycott

Bernie Rath, over the objections of the program advisory committee, scheduled Newt Gingrich (with Ben Bradlee and Linda Wertheimer) for a "power lunch" on Monday noon. There are a lot of people, most of the committee included, who are *very* irritated that the committee's recommendations were overridden and that a politician with such a strong anti-bookstore, anti-NEA, and pro-censorship agenda is getting prime time promotion space at ABA. ABA has refused to cancel the event or to rescind the invitation, claiming that to do so would be "censorship." Not a wise charge to make in this situation. Look for a *lot* of fallout on this one.

ABA's Annual Meeting

As far as I'm concerned, the most interesting events at the ABA proper are the annual meeting and the Town Meeting, both on Sunday afternoon. This is the membership's main opportunity to meet face to face with the administration and the Board and affect the direction of the organization. Resolutions passed at these meetings in 1993 triggered the lawsuit and the National Independent Bookstores Week promotion.

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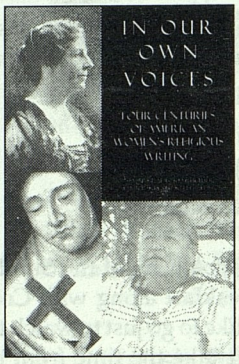

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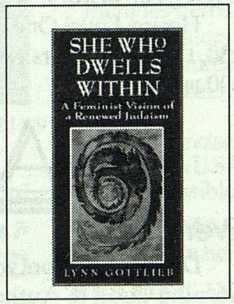

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—Susannah Heschel, author of *On Being a Jewish Feminist*

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(Feminist booksellers proposed the latter and strongly supported the former.) The Town Meeting is at 3:00, the Membership Meeting from 4:00-5:30. Hopefully they will both be in the same room this year.

ABA's Specialty Store Roundtables

The Feminist Bookstores Roundtable will be facilitated by Linda Bubon and Ann Christophersen of Chicago's own Women & Children First. Sunday 9:30-11:00.

The Gay/Lesbian Bookstore Roundtable will be facilitated by Walter Vatter of A Different Light's NYC store. Sunday, 12:00-1:30.

The African American Bookstore Roundtable will be facilitated by C.J., from Nkira Books in Brooklyn. Sunday, 2:30-4:00.

See the program book at ABA for roundtable locations.

Congratulations to whoever did the scheduling! This year it's possible to be a Black, lesbian, and feminist bookseller without having to choose between roundtables!

Other Interesting Workshops

Three Gay/Lesbian Mystery Writers Tell All (Ellen Hart, R.D. Zimmerman, and Mark Zubro), moderated by Carrie Barnett/People Like Us. Saturday 12:00-1:30.

Washington and the Bookstore.... Saturday, 12:00-1:30.

Selling Black Books to Everyone. Saturday, 2:30-4:00.

Making the Most of Your Co-op Advertising: a primer for small to mid-sized stores on how to get a co-op system up and keep it running. Saturday, 2:30-4:00.

ABA

Alliance to Preserve the Independent Bookstore: How Authors, Publishers, Booksellers and Readers Can Work Together — a look at legal means to develop tactics for protecting the diversity of the independent bookstore. Moderated by John Randall/Salt of the Earth. Sunday, 9:30-11:00.

Strategic Planning for Bookstores in a Radically Changing Retail Environment: moderated by Ed

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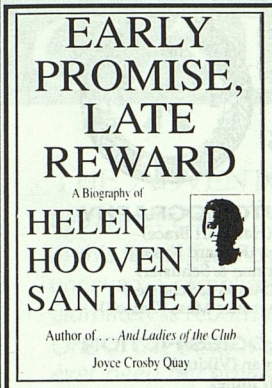

This is the biography of Helen Hooven Santmyer, author of *...And Ladies of the Club*, the best selling novel of 1984. Santmyer was 88-years-old when she realized her lifelong ambition of becoming a famous writer. Quay traces Santmyer's life from her birth in 1895 to her final days.

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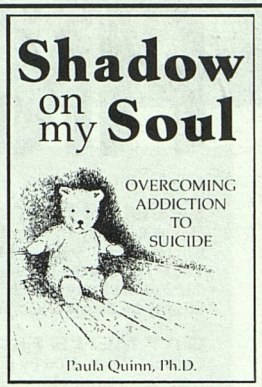

Women Who Touched My Life: A Memoir by Ruth Harriet Jacobs, Ph.D.

Dr. Jacobs, the author of *Be An Outrageous Older Woman—A Rasp*, presents us with the intimate story of her beginnings and the abuses and deprivations she suffered before her determination and hard work lifted her to another plane. She uses the help she received from other women as her framework.

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Morrow Northshire Bookstore and Michael Powell/ Powell's Books. Sunday, 1:00-2:30.

National Independent Bookstore Week: Looking Back — Looking Ahead: This is supposed to be your chance to learn what other stores did and to get ideas for how to use the event for yourself. Hopefully it's also an opportunity to have input on how this promotion is run, on broadening its mission (back to educating the media and the American Public on the importance of independent bookselling to freedom of the press, the free-flow of ideas, and diversity in America). Moderated by Mary Gay Shipley, of the ABA Board's task force which was formed to respond to the motion at the 1993 Membership Meeting that started this project rolling. Note that this meeting takes place after the ABA Membership Meeting on Sunday. If you're concerned about increasing the budget for this event, for advertising and promoting this event, etc., attend the Membership Meeting first. Monday, 9:30-11:00.

(Setting Up and Starting) Reading Groups in bookstores: moderated by Roberta Rubin/The Book Stall. Monday, 12:00-1:30.

Choosing workshops: ABA offers a wide range of workshops. Some are excellent and some not-so-useful. One way to make decisions is to sort out which workshops are run by booksellers who are sharing their hard-won skills and knowledge and which seem to have more to do with promoting a particular book.

The Printers Row Book Fair

Printers Row, Chicago's annual street fair and book festival, is also taking place in downtown Chicago on Saturday and Sunday. The event usually takes place on Father's Day but was shifted to ABA weekend to take advantage of the number of authors who would be in town. Over 60,000 people and 150 vendors attend the fair. Only bonafide booksellers and publishers can exhibit. For more information contact the Near South Planning Board, 312-987-1980.

Not Happening

There is no "New Girls on the Block" party scheduled this year, nor will there be a Publishing Triangle-sponsored meeting or reception. ○

Illusration by Franka van der Loo, *Bluestockings in Mothballs*, International Archeif voor de Vrouwenbeweging.

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FINALISTS

7TH ANNUAL LAMBDA LITERARY AWARDS

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LESBIAN FICTION
House Rules by Heather Lewis (Doubleday/Nan Talese)
Chelsea Girls by Eileen Myles (Black Sparror)
The Dyke and the Dybbuk by Ellen Galford (Seal)
Gifts of the Body by Rebecca Brown (HarperCollins)
Stir Fry by Emma Donoghue (HarperCollins)

GAY MEN'S FICTION
Cultural Revolution by Norman Wong (Persea Books)
American Studies by Mark Merlis (Houghton Mifflin)
Folding Star by Alan Hollinghurst (Pantheon)
Sacred Lips of the Bronx by Doug Sadownick (St. Martin's)
Nightswimmer by Joseph Olshan (Simon & Schuster)

LESBIAN MYSTERY
Case of the Good-For-Nothing Girlfriend by Mabel Maney (Cleis)
Small Sacrifice by Ellen Hart (Seal)
Sister's Keeper by Randye Lordon (St. Martin's)
Body Guard by Claire McNab (Naiad)
My Sweet Untraceable You by Sandra Scoppetone (Little Brown)

GAY MEN'S MYSTERY
Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil by John Berendt (Random House)
Mad Man by Samuel Delaney (Richard Kasak)
The Alienist by Caleb Carr (Random House)
Mask for a Diva by Grant Michaels (St. Martin's)
Queer Kind of Love by George Baxt (Otto Penzler)

LESBIAN POETRY
Winter Numbers by Marilyn Hacker (Norton)
American Dreams by Sapphire (Serpent's Tail)
Haruko/Love Poems by June Jordan (Serpent's Tail)
Normal Sex by Linda Smukler (Firebrand)
White Pine by Mary Oliver (Random House)

GAY MEN'S POETRY
Collected Poems by Thom Gunn (FSG)
The Other Man Was Me by Raphael Campo (Arte Publico)
Ghost Letters by Richard McCann (Alice James Books)
Wishing for Wings by Assotto Saint (Galiens Press)
West of Yesterday, East of Summer by Paul Monette (St. Martin's)

LESBIAN STUDIES
Skin by Dorothy Allison (Firebrand)
My American History by Sarah Schulman (Routledge)
Chloe Plus Olivia edited by Lillian Faderman (Viking)
Sportsdykes edited by Susan Fox Rogers (St. Martin's)
Her Tongue on My Theory by Kiss & Tell (Press Gang)

GAY MEN'S STUDIES
Gay New York by George Chauncy (BasicBooks
Same-Sex Unions in Premodern Europe by John Boswell (Villard)
Gay Soul edited by Mark Thompson (HarperSanFrancisco)
Last Watch of the Night by Paul Monette (Harcourt Brace)
Queer and Loathing by David Feinberg (Viking)

LESBIAN BIOGRAPHY/AUTOBIOGRAPHY
Serving in Silence by Col. Margarethe Cammermeyer and Chris Fisher (Viking)
One Art: Letters by Elizabeth Bishop (FSG)
The Power and the Passion of M. Carey Thomas by Helen Lefkowitz Horowitz (Knopf)
Memoir of a Race Traitor by Mab Segrest (South End)
Gertrude Stein: In Words and Pictures edited by Renate Stendhal (Algonquin Books)

GAY MEN'S BIOGRAPHY/AUTOBIOGRAPHY
Last Watch of the Night by Paul Monette (Harcourt Brace)
My Life as a Pornographer by John Preston (Richard Kasak)
Knowing When to Stop by Ned Rorem (Simon & Schuster)
My Own Country by Abraham Verghese (Simon & Schuster)
Confessions of a Jewish Wagnerite by Lawrence Mass (Cassell)

LESBIAN AND GAY ANTHOLOGIES/FICTION
Chloe Plus Olivia edited by Lillian Faderman (Viking)
Men on Men 5 edited by David Bergman (Plume)
High Risk 2 edited by Ira Silverberg and Amy Scholder (Plume)
The Very Inside edited by Sharon Lim-Hing (Sister Vision)
Lavender Mansions edited by Irene Zahava (Westview Press)

LESBIAN AND GAY ANTHOLOGIES/ NONFICTION
Sister and Brother ed. by Joan Nestle and John Preston (HarperSanFrancisco)
One Teacher in Ten edited by Kevin Jennings (Alyson)
Out of the Class Closet edited by Julia Penelope (Crossing)
Long Road to Freedom edited by Mark Thompson (St. Martin's)
Queer Reader edited by Patrick Higgins (New Press)

LESBIAN AND GAY HUMOR
Barrel Fever by David Sedaris (Little Brown)
The Dyke and the Dybbuk by Ellen Galford (Seal)
Unofficial Gay MANual by Kevin Dilallo and Jack Krumholtz (Doubleday/Main Street)
Glamourpuss by Christian McLaughlin (Dutton)
Case of the Good-For-Nothing Girlfriend by Mabel Maney (Cleis)

LESBIAN AND GAY DRAMA
Angels in America: Perestroika by Tony Kushner (TCG)
Jeffrey by Paul Rudnick (Plume)
The Night Larry Kramer Kissed Me by David Drake (Anchor)
Heroes and Saints & Other Plays by Cherrie Moraga (West End Press)
Second Coming of Joan of Arc by Carolyn Gage (HerBooks)

LESBIAN AND GAY SF/FANTASY
Trouble and Her Friends by Melissa Scott (Tor)
The Furies by Suzy McKee Charnas (Tor)
Metal Angel by Nancy Springer (ROC Fantasy)
Storm Warning by Mercedes Lackey (Daw)
Warriors of Isis by Jean Stewart (Rising Tide)

LESBIAN AND GAY SMALL PRESS
B-Boy Blues by James Earl Hardy (Alyson)
Her Tongue on My Theory by Kiss & Tell (Press Gang)
Skin by Dorothy Allison (Firebrand)
We Came All The Way From Cuba So You Could Dress Like This? by Achy Obejas (Cleis)
American Dreams by Sapphire (Serpent's Tail)

CHILDREN'S/YOUNG ADULT
2 Teenagers in 20 edited by Ann Heron (Alyson)
Am I Blue? edited by Marion Dane Bauer (HarperChildren's)
Dive by Stacey Donovan (Dutton Children's)
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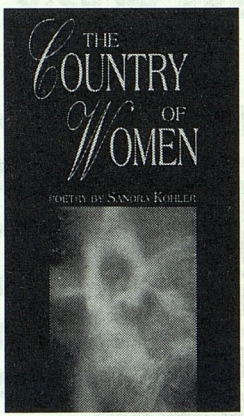

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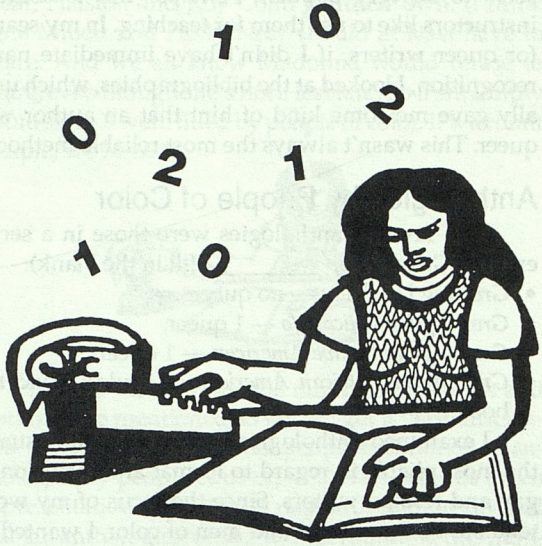
What is Queer Writing?



By Carla Trujillo

From a panel by the same title at the Different Light Writers and Readers Conference, San Francisco, CA, February 19, 1995 — the conclusions of an informal review of queer literature, a reader's tour through the shelves . . .

Obviously, queer writing is not what or where we want it to be. It doesn't take a genius to know that not much queer writing is being published. My girlfriend tells me there is a tremendous paper shortage. Perhaps this is why we don't have large amounts of material out there. Books like OJ's *I Want To Tell You* and Faye Resnick's *Life Interrupted* have probably taken up all the paper.

Actually, if publishers are hot to publish books like OJ's and Faye's, or those of Camille Paglia (whose latest book cover gives the impression that she's trying to look hot, but comes off as if she's posing for a high-school wrestling publicity shot), they ought to publish anything. And they do — except enough queer writing.

I teach as a lecturer at UC Berkeley. My course is entitled "Women of Color in the U.S." I like to teach this class from a literary perspective so I'm constantly questing for good novels by people of color. In particular, I seek those by queer writers. I went to the Bay Area Book Festival in October seeking recently published books, and then to several bookstores to find out what is currently on the shelves. The Bay Area bookstores I went to were: Modern Times, Cody's, Black Oak, A Different Light, and A Clean, Well Lighted Place for Books; plus Salt of the Earth in Albuquerque, NM. I also regularly checked *The Women's Review of Books* and *The Lesbian Review of Books*. I focused primarily on books published within the last 3 years. I'll be the first to admit that my search was far from complete or scientific. Nevertheless, here's what I found:

Very few books by gay and lesbian people and fewer still by people of color. Now, queer folks have been writing for a long time. More recently, folks have come out in their writing and have established themselves by the work they have published. While it is more common for small presses to publish queer writers and writers of color, there have been large presses publishing a small number of queer writers. But when you look on the shelves, you don't see much, and those that you do see (by the large presses) are often closeted, disguised, hidden or tokenized.

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I noticed in my search large numbers of anthologies. Anthologies — especially theme anthologies — seem to be very popular. Perhaps this is because instructors like to use them for teaching. In my search for queer writers, if I didn't have immediate name recognition, I looked at the bibliographies, which usually gave me some kind of hint that an author was queer. This wasn't always the most reliable method.

Anthologies by People of Color

My favorite anthologies were those in a series entitled *Growing Up* _____ (fill in the blank):

- *Growing Up Asian* — no queers.
- *Growing Up Chicana/o* — 1 queer.
- *Growing Up Native American* — 1 queer.
- *Growing Up African American* — couldn't find the book.

I examined anthologies because they are usually the most pliable in regard to format and inclusion of gay and lesbian writers. Since the focus of my work tends to be on women and men of color, I wanted to check the number of queer writers of color who were present in various anthologies. Keep in mind that anthologies focusing on African American gay men, lesbians of color, Asian American lesbians, Chicana lesbians, Latina lesbians, and American Indian gays and lesbians *do* exist. Each of these antholgies has, say, a minimum of twenty-five writers. Clearly there are a good number of *visible* gay and lesbian writers of color who could be solicited for contributions to new anthologies.

Out of the several anthologies by people of color I found on the shelves, here's how they scored in terms of gay & lesbian content:

- *Erotique Noire* edited by Miriam Decosta-Willis (Anchor, '92): Audre Lorde, Ann Allen Shockley, Essex Hemphill, SDiane Bogus and Jewelle Gomez were the **5** queer writers I found in a book comprised of **93** writers. (This book had an interesting story called "Dildo," written by a presumably heterosexual writer.)
- *Brotherman* edited by Herb Boyd and Robert L. Allen (Ballantine, '95): Has nineteen sections, with some of the most famous African American men in the history of this country. There were **152** authors. From what I could discern, **6** were queer. There was also a section entitled "When a Man Loves a Woman" (guess who's not in this section?). Four of the six gay men are in one section entitled "My Brothers Keeper."
- *Life Notes* edited by Patricia Bell-Scott (Norton, '94): This is a book of personal writings by contemporary Black women. I was able to identify **2** out of **52** writers as lesbian.
- *In Other Words: Literature by Latinas of the United States* by Roberta Fernandez (Arte Público Press, 94): **Six** out of the **43** authors are lesbian. Two of these pieces were excerpted from *Chicana Lesbians*, and the content of their work was not overtly lesbian. I am not certain of the content of the work of the other four lesbianas.
- *Hispanic Almanac* by Nick Kanellos (Visible Ink Press, '94): This almanac was huge, covering history, politics and literature. The literature section was predominantly men. Cherríe Moraga was the only lesbian mentioned in the literature section. I did not see Gloria Anzaldua's name, nor any other Chicana/Latina lesbian writer mentioned.

There have been several other anthologies by and about people of color published in the past couple of years. Each time one comes out, I look through it seeking queer authors. I usually find one, maybe two writers in the whole anthology. I turn immediately to their work and look at the content. Often, the pieces are very un-queer — stories about one's grandmother or the death of a loved one. Not that these issues aren't queer issues; my point is that the only ones I commonly see published are those that can pass as heterosexual.

Anthologies by Gays and Lesbians

This is where I figured I would see larger numbers of gays and lesbians in general and, of course, a correspondingly larger number of queer writers of color. Here are some examples of my search:

- *Penguin Book of Lesbian Short Stories* edited by Margaret Reynolds (Penguin '93): This book had many of the classic writers we've all come to recognize. Jewelle Gomez was the **only** woman of color out of **32** authors.
- *The Good, the Bad, and the Gorgeous: Popular Culture's Romance with Lesbianism* edited by Diane Hamer and

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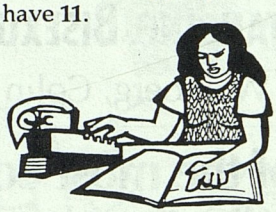
Belinda Budge (HarperPandora '94): No apparent women of color in the entire book.

• *Lesbian Culture* edited by Julia Penelope and Susan Wolfe (The Crossing Press '93): "The lives, work, ideas, art, and visions of lesbians past and present" — **9** of the **92** contributors were women of color.

• *Growing Up Gay/Growing Up Lesbian* edited by Bennett Singe (The New Press '94): **8** of the **56** contributors were people of color.

• *The Lesbian and Gay Studies Reader* edited by Henry Abelove, Michele Barale and David Halperin (Routledge '93, 666 pages): "The 42 essays gathered here constitute what we take to be some of the best and most significant recent English language work in the field of lesbian/gay studies" — **10** of the **42** pieces were by people of color, yet interestingly, *not all of the 10 were gay or lesbian.* I hesitate to believe that such a dearth of queer writers of color exists that one had to publish pieces by heterosexual writers. (This, by the way, was the highest percentage of people of color I found in any queer anthology.)

• *The Gay 100: A Ranking of the Most Influential Gay Men and Lesbians Past and Present* by Paul Russell (Citadel Press '95): As the title states, there are 100 slots in this book. Most of these slots contain only one person's name. There were **6** people of color who had their own slot: Bayard Rustin, Audre Lorde, We wha, James Baldwin, Samuel Delaney, Yukio Mishima. And then the editor must have run out of room, because Cherríe Moraga and Gloria Anzaldúa had to share one slot, and another slot, labeled "Entertainers of Harlem," featured Gladys Bentley, Ma Rainey and Bessie Smith. Now, people of color weren't the only ones grouped in slots. There were two other slots with two white folks each in them (whom I did not recognize). But I find it a bit odd that three of the most renowned Black jazz singers, and the two Chicanas who have had a tremendous influence on the gay and lesbian movement, the womens movement and the Chicano movement have to share a slot, when people like Madonna, Liberace, Rock Hudson, Kate Millett, Holly Near, Halston and Roy Cohn get their own. (I think Kate Millett and Holly Near should at least have to share. And we all know Madonna would refuse to share, even though she's not a lesbian.) So if we simply count slots, **8** were filled by people of color. If we count people, we have **11**.



Now, if we tally just the numbers of writers and authors I've mentioned so far, we get a very unscientific 20/614 gay and lesbian people mentioned in anthologies by people of color, or **.03%**. I call this token representation. And 36/334 people of color in gay and lesbian anthologies, or **10.7%**. (I'm rounding this number down to **10%** since it wasn't really fair to include heterosexuals in the gay and lesbian anthologies, even if they were people of color.) I call this minimal representation.

What I'd Like to See

- More novels by people of color and queer folks — and I mean all kinds of queer folks, not just the ones who look like heterosexuals;
- Anthologies that exceed token or minimal representation;
- Quotes from people other than Butler, Foucault, Sedgewick and Irigaray;
- Queer folks of color on the NEA;
- Large presses publishing books by queer writers who don't have to disguise who they are;
- More queer writers — including writers we've never heard of — getting published;
- My mom and dad proudly proclaiming to relatives my latest publishing accomplishments;
- A good lesbian novel;
- White people finally figuring out that they're not the center of the universe;
- Never seeing another book about the OJ Simpson case. ○

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Reflecting on a Generation at Sisterhood

By Adele Wallace
Sisterhood Bookstore

This article is based on a talk given at the Southern California Library for Social Studies & Research Annual Awards Dinner, March 11, 1995. The name of the event was Write On Women: Honoring Southern California Women Writers & Jessica Mitford. Eight authors and one bookstore (guess which one!) received a Mover & Shaker Award. The honorees were Wanda Coleman, Lynell George, Sherna Berger Gluck, Carolyn See, Robin Swicord, Martha Velez, Terry Wolverton, Mitsuye Yamada, and Sisterhood Bookstore.

The second wave of the women's liberation movement coalesced in the late sixties and swept across the decade of the seventies and beyond. In its wake it left behind many cultural and institutional changes, not the least of which was the new field of women's or feminist literature. It is a literature which cuts across all disciplines and all genres of creative writing, bringing to them a unique, feminist perspective. This literature also gathers writers from the past, such as Sojourner Truth and Virginia Woolf, whose feminist sensibilities place their works squarely within the philosophy of the contemporary women's community.

For twenty-three years, as co-owner of Sisterhood Bookstore, I have been able to observe the enormous growth and development of books by and about women. When Sisterhood Bookstore first opened in 1972, our tiny store with its few shelves was more than sufficient to display all the women's titles then available. Our greatest fear was that there were not enough appropriate titles to make a bookstore! Today our shelves are bulging and the dilemma is which titles to stock and which to pass by.

In Los Angeles, as in other parts of the country, the decade of the seventies brought a number of events which encouraged the development of women's literature. The Los Angeles Women's Center opened its doors in 1970 at the corner of Crenshaw and Olympic. It soon became a center for political expression, consciousness-raising, and a distribution outlet for the myriad of new women's journals and other theoretical and fictional works that were beginning to appear. One major outgrowth of women's centers was the emergence of the feminist bookstore movement. Many such bookstores began as literature tables at women's centers and conferences. Sisterhood Bookstore was a direct result of its founders' participation in the Los Angeles Women's Center.

Carol Seajay, co-founder (with Paula Wallace) of Old Wives' Tales Bookstore in San Francisco and the editor of *Feminist Bookstore News*, reflects: "I am continually amazed, given the impact the feminist bookstore movement has had on women and literature, and on American literature in general, how thoroughly that history has been ignored in the written word." In her view, women's bookstores were directly

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In Her Own Words ...

"... he said he didn't think there were any good women writers. But, I said, what about Carson McCullers? He said he didn't think of Carson McCullers as a writer. But, I said, what about Virginia Woolf? And he said he didn't think of Virginia Woolf as a woman."

—Carolyn See
Golden Days

"Literature is Utopia. Here I am not disenfranchised. No barrier of the senses shuts me out from the sweet, gracious discourse of my book friends. They talk to me without embarrassment or awkwardness."

—Helen Keller
The Story of My Life

"The role of the writer is not to say what we can all say, but what we are unable to say."

—Anais Nin

"When, however, one reads of a witch being ducked, of a woman possessed by devils, of a wise woman selling herbs, or even a very remarkable man who had a mother, then I think we are on the track of a lost novelist, a suppressed poet ... Indeed, I would venture to guess that Anon, who wrote so many poems without signing them, was often a woman."

—Virginia Woolf
A Room of One's Own

"We rely upon the poets, the philosophers, and playwrights to articulate what most of us can only feel, in joy and sorrow. They illustrate the thoughts for which we can only grope; they give us the strength and valor we cannot find in ourselves. Whenever I feel my courage wavering, I rush to them. They give me the wisdom of acceptance, the will and resilience to push on."

—Helen Hayes
A Gift of Joy

instrumental in the multicultural resurgence in women's literature, including the push for inclusion of women of color in women's studies curricula. Many writers who were at first promoted only in feminist bookstores have since been absorbed into the mainstream, including Alice Walker, Audre Lorde and Ntozake Shange. Lesbian literature, previously invisible or unavailable, flourished in women's bookstores. Such well known lesbian writers as Rita Mae Brown and Susan Griffin have since been picked up by major publishers and mainstreamed as well.

The Los Angeles Woman's Building opened its doors in 1974, dedicated to women and the arts. Named for the Woman's Building at the Chicago World's Fair of 1873, it housed a "multiplicity of women's creative efforts, illuminating women's arts and enunciating women's experiences." The Los Angeles Woman's Building emphasized the visual arts, but it also encouraged women's endeavors in the art of the written word. The year it opened, it hosted a Women's Words Conference, a gathering of local feminist creative talent including Deena Metzger and Holly Prado, early pioneers of the Los Angeles women's poetry scene. There was also a Women Writers Series, organized by Deena Metzger, which celebrated local writers such as Honor Moore and Adrienne Rich, as well as nationally known figures such as Meridel Le Sueur, Alice Walker and Audre Lorde. That same year Sisterhood Bookstore opened a branch at the Woman's Building, where we hosted readings by Anais Nin, Rita Mae Brown and Angela Davis, among others. The Woman's Building on Alvarado was a wonderful place to work, surrounded as I was by the ferment of eager women artists and the steady stream of local office workers who would drop by on their lunch hours to browse and chat.

In the mid-seventies, UCLA opened its women's studies department, gathering subjects from various disciplines including literature, psychology, history and political science. Other women's studies departments were opening all over the country. As more women scholars re-examined many of the traditional academic disciplines from a new perspective emphasizing women, and as they published their findings,

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new sections would regularly appear on the shelves of women's bookstores. Today Sisterhood Bookstore has over thirty sections, ranging in subject from women in international development to women in sports.

The eighties saw a continued growth of women's bookstores, co-optation of women's writing by mainstream publishers and the appearance of corporate bookstore chains with their "gender studies" sections. Paradoxically, this was also a period when mainstream media were declaring the death of the women's movement. Articles bearing such titles as "Is Feminism Finished?" (*Mademoiselle*), "Voices from the Post-Feminist Movement" (*The New York Times*) and "Feminism — A Lost Cause?" (*Vogue*) appeared throughout the eighties. Despite this supposed decline, Sisterhood and many other women's bookstores thrived. The emerging threat of conservative ideology motivated many women writers. Readers turned to women's bookstores as centers for information and organizing tools to combat the conservative onslaught.

The decade of the nineties presents women's bookstores — and the future of women's literature — with a tougher challenge. The downturn in the economy, combined with the emergence of "superchains" with their coffee bars, discounts, and market-driven inventories, poses a serious threat to all independent bookstores. The implication of corporate control over what is read (leading ultimately to even greater control over what is published) should be considered by anyone who chooses to patronize a chain bookstore.

A more positive development in the past few years has been the internationalization of women's writing. There now exist, in translation, extensive collections by and about Asian Pacific, Indian, African, Latin American and Middle Eastern women. Many feminist titles are now available in Spanish, some in the original, such as works by Isabel Allende and Gioconda Belli, as well as those in translation from English. There has also been a resurgence of feminist science fiction and mysteries. Many young writers have appeared with fresh perspectives and a willingness to deal with contemporary issues, from threats on abortion clinics to destruction of the environment.

As I scan the names of the women writers being honored here tonight, I am struck by the great variety and range of women's writing that they represent. Each of our honorees has created inspiring examples of an aspect of the art of the written word as it expresses women's lives, aspirations and understanding of the world. Each of our honorees also represents a commitment to progressive values, which are currently under siege by the right-wing militancy gripping our nation. In their determination to reshape the world through the power of images and ideas and their commitment to the empowerment of women and all oppressed groups, these women share the history and vision of the Southern California Library and its supporters. ○

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Queer Noises

JOHN GILL

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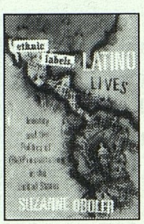

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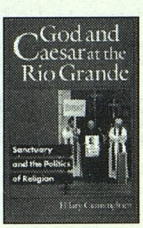

God and Caesar at the Rio Grande

Sanctuary and the Politics of Religion

HILARY CUNNINGHAM

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JAMES TIPTREE, JR. MEMORIAL AWARD
BAKE SALE
WHAT?
WHY?
WHEN?
WHERE?
NEW FEMINIST AWARD ANNOUNCED!
WANT TO HELP? YOU COULD...

Inventing the Tiptrees

Reinventing an Agenda

by Susanna J. Sturgis

During the 1980s, in the fantasy/science fiction (f/sf) world as elsewhere, feminism was unfashionable. After all, women writers were legion and female protagonists no longer rare — who needed feminism? But every year at WisCon — the world's only self-styled feminist science fiction convention, held annually in Madison, Wisconsin — feminism and f/sf were treated as natural allies.

On March 2, 1991, Pat Murphy (Nebula Award-winning author of *The Falling Woman* and *The City, Not Long After*) announced the creation of the James Tiptree Jr. Memorial Award in her guest-of-honor speech at WisCon. Until that moment the award's only tangible assets were a go-ahead from the estate of James Tiptree Jr. (Alice Sheldon) and the chutzpah of Murphy and co-instigator Karen Joy Fowler (*Artificial Things, Sarah Canary*). This was Pat's blueprint:

"[The Tiptree Award will] be presented annually to a fictional work that explores and expands the roles of women and men. We're still in the planning stages, but we plan to appoint a panel of five judges, and we plan to finance the award . . . through bake sales. (If you want to volunteer to run a bake sale, talk to me after the speech.)"

Enjoying It!

Pat Murphy could not have found a more receptive audience for her announcement. Not only did people volunteer to organize bake sales, they conceived the first Tiptree Award fundraising cookbook: *The Bakery Men Don't See*.

The Tiptree Award was born with a full-blown, irrepressible sense of humor. *Bakery*'s title was a play on one of Tiptree's most famous stories, "The Women Men Don't See." (*Bakery*'s main-dish sequel, *Her Smoke Rose Up from Supper*, was inspired by another Tiptree title, "Her Smoke Rose Up Forever.") Wasn't the award's namesake one of literature's great Tricksters? After a decade of brilliant, scientifically rigorous stories (the kind women supposedly can't write), James Tiptree Jr. was revealed as a woman: Alice Sheldon.

Cookbooks? Bake sales? For a *feminist* award? Supporters pointed out that this fundraising strategy, like the award itself, honored the often-undervalued work of women. It was fun. And it worked. When the first award ceremony was held at WisCon in March 1992, the Tiptree had raised enough money to give its first winners — Eleanor Arnason for *A Woman of the Iron People* and Gwyneth Jones for *White Queen* — airfare *to* and hotel room at the con, $500 each, plus a chocolate typewriter. Now in its fifth year, the Tiptree Award continues to be funded by bake sales, cookbooks, donations, and the annual award T-shirts created by San Francisco collage artist Freddie Baer. Nearing completion is the gorgeous Tiptree quilt, a mammoth project based in Madison but involving stitchers across the country.

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How Winners Are Chosen

The five-member jury, including a chair, is appointed by co-administrators Fowler and Murphy. So far the jurors have been f/sf writers, editors, critics and/or academics. Each year's winner is asked to serve on a subsequent jury. In three of the first five years, one juror has lived outside the U.S., in either Britain or Australia.

All works of fantasy or science fiction, any length, published in English in a given year are eligible. Anyone can recommend stories or novels; one recommendation is all it takes to get a book read by at least one juror. Publishers are reminded each year to send likely titles to each juror. Some juries informally divvy up responsibility for screening different areas, such as short fiction and independent presses.

On the Internet

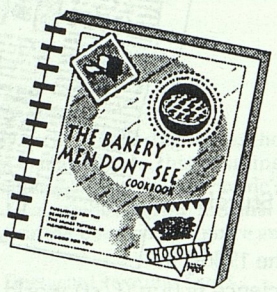
Award supporters have started using the Internet to encourage greater involvement. There is now a Tiptree Award homepage on the World Wide Web and a Tiptree Award topic on GEnie's Science Fiction RoundTable #1, online base for many f/sf writers, editors and readers.

The 1994 group was the first all-electronic Tiptree Award jury. To say that the Internet made our work easier is an epic understatement! For one thing, we had a tight deadline: the award ceremony was scheduled for Potlatch 4 in mid-February, which meant that the winner(s) had to be chosen by January 23 and the shortlist finalized before the Potlatch program book deadline. It also minimized the challenges of geography. "Snail mail" took up to 10 days to reach the 1994 jury's Australian member. By e-mail, comments could be made and responses received well within 24 hours. This allowed us to combine the immediacy of conversation with the reflection of correspondence, enhancing both the range and the depth of our discussions.

Winners & Winners

Many award programs publish in advance a list of nominees, one of which is then proclaimed "the winner." Believing that this practice unfairly stigmatizes nonwinning nominees as "losers," the Tiptree Award jury announces the winner(s) and a "shortlist" of titles seriously considered for the award at the same time. Some people still think of shortlisted works as also-rans. Many others, though, put both the shortlist and the winners at the top of their reading lists.

The juries also publish their comments on each winning and shortlisted work in the program book of the con at which the award is presented. This practice has encouraged discussion of the award criteria as well as specific novels and stories. (For an annotated list of winners and shortlisted works thus far, send $1 and a SASE [55 cents postage] to SF3, Box 1624, Madison, WI 53701.)



The Results So Far

Most obviously, the Tiptree Award has made feminism visible once again in the f/sf community and many believe that it has significantly affected what is being written and published. In the first eligibility year (1991), I was surprised how few of the books I read took risks with gender-related issues. Each year there have been more, as reflected by the steady growth of the shortlist: 5 titles in the first year, 7 in the second, 10 in the third and 14 in the fourth. Some writers now talk about how the existence of the Tiptree prompted them to re-examine and challenge their own assumptions about gender.

On the grass-roots level, The Tiptree Awards have become an organizing tool: drawing people together, promoting feminist literature and enabling experienced activists to pass their skills along. Publishers regularly use "Tiptree Award Winner" in promoting award-winning books and authors. Even the grumbling — e.g., "I bet no man ever wins this award" — indicates the growing seriousness with which the Tiptree is taken.

Susanna J. Sturgis writes the Science Fiction column for FBN, and can be reached via e-mail at: s.sturgis2@genie.geis.com ○

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$12.95 soft. ISBN: 1-56023-059-2.
Available Spring 1995. Approx. 137 pp.

Feminist Visions on Gender Similarities and Differences

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Meredith M. Kimball, PhD

This new book opens a dialectic between the two traditions of feminism—similarities-based and differences-based—to generate useful scientific, political and psychological tensions.

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The Way of the Woman Writer is a book for women who wish to write about their lives but don't know how to begin.

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1994. 156 pp. with Index.

Janet Lynn Roseman

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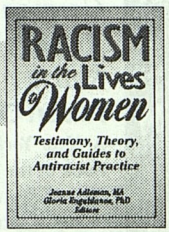

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Edited by Jeanne Adleman, MA
Gloria Enguídanos, PhD

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Britain's Feminist Book Awards

20 Selected Titles

Each year British feminists honor twenty books that represent the best in feminist publishing for the year. This year and last year the books were selected by Everywoman *magazine. This year's picks, in no particular order:*

Fiction

The Robber Bride by Margaret Atwood (£14.99, Bloomsbury), for its warm, saga-length treatment of the depth of women's love — and of their rueful acceptance of the worthlessness of the men on whom they choose to bestow it.

Marble Skin by Slavenka Drakulic (£13, Hutchinson), for its sharp, icy prose which cuts right to the heart of a cankerous mother/daughter relationship.

The Holder of the World by Bharati Mukherjee (£14.99, Chatto), a full-blooded, swashbuckling, cross-cultural historical novel by a Calcutta-born American.

Cousins by Patricia Grace (£5, Women's Press), a story of Maori women in which the political message of dispossession is powerfully realised in the heart-tugging drama of three women's lives.

Limestone and Clay by Leslie Glaister (£8.99, Secker and Warburg), a taut study of a claustrophobic, contemporary heterosexual relationship. Not her very best — try *Digging to Australia* for that — but still a superb, not to mention uncomfortable read.

Zennor in Darkness by Helen Dunmore (£5.99, Penguin), a rich, beautifully told tale of Cornwall in WWI, with a guest appearance by D.H. Lawrence. Newly issued in paperback.

The Pillow Boy of the Lady Onogoro by Alison Fell (£7.99, Serpent's Tail), a decidedly unusual story — retold in delicious, lascivious, poetic prose — of sexual shenanigans in 11th century Japan.

Pigs in Heaven by Barbara Kingsolver (£14.99, Faber), for tackling the tough topic of mixed race adoption without taking easy options; for its championing of the Cherokee nation; and for its dippy, whacky happy ending which concedes nothing to sentimentality.

The Sense of Things by Alison Dye (£9.99, Heinemann), an unlikely but absorbing first book from the perspective of an emotionally damaged young woman in New Jersey. Distinguished by its

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■ **HEROES AND SAINTS & OTHER PLAYS**
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WEST END PRESS
Distributed by Talman & Co.

detached, deadpan humour and its affection for the oddballs who people its pages.

Rope Tricks by Jocelyn Ferguson (£5.99, Virago), a first novel by a writer who should go on to great things. Like most first novels, it's a "rites of passage" book; it's also funny, sexy, thoughtful.

Non-Fiction

Goliath — Britain's Dangerous Places by Beatrix Campbell (£9.99, Methuen), a feminist, rigorous and highly emotional analysis of the "mindless" riots in Britain in the early 1990s, which should have toppled police commissioners and prompted questions in parliament but (surprise) didn't.

The Lesbian Heresy by Sheila Jeffries (£8.99, Women's Press), a controversial appraisal of sado-masochism in the lesbian community by an influential theorist on sexual politics.

What's Really Going On Here? by Susie Orbach (£7.99, Virago), a collection of her columns from the *Guardian*, in which she tackles "the emotional illiteracy that has become our way of life."

Raging Hormones by Gail Vines (£6.99, Virago), in which this award-winning science journalist challenges the conventional notion that biological explanations alone can make sense of our behaviour.

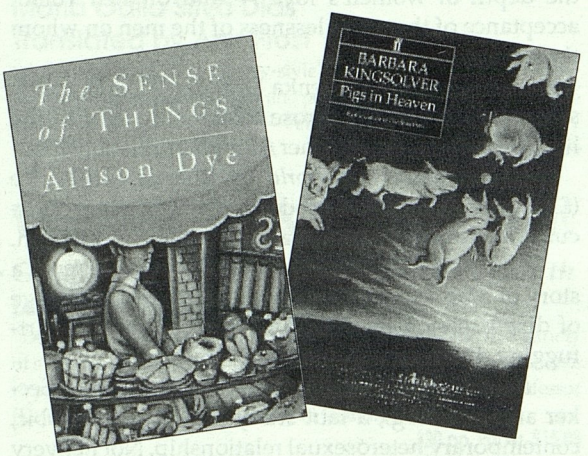
Gender and Genius: Towards a Feminist Aesthetics by Christine Battersby (£8.99, Women's Press), a cogent argument for replacing "the virility school of creativity" with "matrilineal lines of continuity and tradition" in the appraisal of women artists.

Olya's Story by Olya Roohizadegan (£7.99, One World Press), a thoughtful, pacific account of the persecution of the Baha'is in Iran, written by a survivor of Muslim fundamentalist oppression.

Round About a Pound a Week by Maud Pember Reeves (£7.99, Virago), a re-issue of a riveting piece of social history. From 1909-1913, Reeves and other members of the Fabian Women's Group recorded the daily budgets and lives of working class families. A classic.

Sexing the Millenium by Linda Grant (£6.99, HarperCollins), a *fin de siecle* examination of the intellectual, economic and technological movements that formed the sexual revolution of the sixties — and a clarion call for a new one.

The Morning After: Sexual Politics at the End of the Cold War by Cynthia Enloe (£11.95, University of California Press), a solid book with some very worthwhile insights. Like Beatrix Campbell, Cynthia Enloe brings a welcome, feminist perspective to men's version of the "news," this time on an international scale.



Eating Children by Jill Tweedie (£6.99, Penguin), a thoughtful, moving and at times hilariously funny autobiography, lyrically detailing the colourful life of writer and feminist Jill Tweedie, who tragically died last year. ○

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JUDY B. ROSENER

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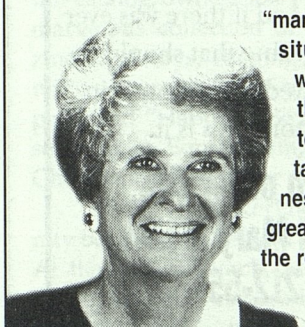

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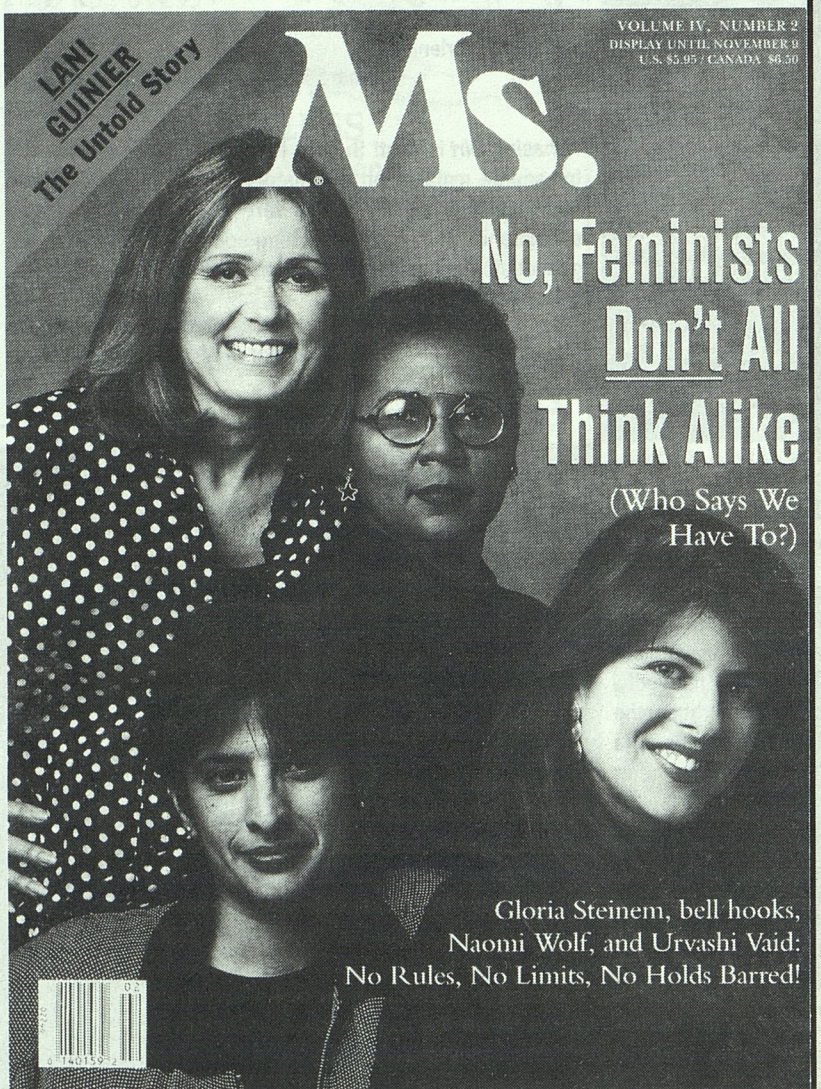
The best selling feminist magazine in the world.



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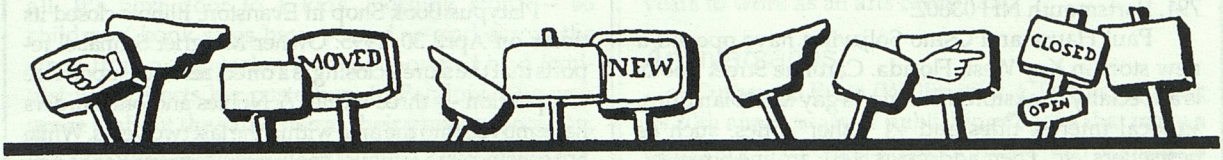
THEY WENT THAT-A-WAY



Compiled by Beth Morgan

New Stores

In February, Diane Green opened Back to the Source, a bookstore specializing in feminist/gay/lesbian spirituality, support groups and visionary metaphysics. Located in Rockford, Illinois, the store is part of an "incubator" — several businesses under one roof, sharing rent and staff to significantly cut expenses. The other businesses are a store selling used books, a store selling books about film, and an espresso bar. Diane tells us that none of the owners would have been able to go it alone. By pooling their resources they've created a beautiful and successful enterprise housed in a remodeled 1895 storefront with tin walls and ceilings, and with hand-crafted shelves eight feet tall by forty feet wide. Magazines are displayed in the front of the store, art and sculptures are featured throughout. The address is 515 E. State Street, Rockford IL 61104; 815-965-7611.

Equilibrium is a new mail order catalog specializing in youth literature and gifts celebrating the achievements and possibilities of women and girls. In this catalog, owner Sibley Dale offers an extensive and marvelous collection of girl-positive books, magazines and toys, ranging from adventure titles that write women back into history to the realistically proportioned "Happy to Be Me" doll. To order a catalog send $3 to Equilibrium, 1836 Ashley River Road, Charleston SC 29407 or call 803-766-2232.

Cheryl VanDeKerkhove opened a new community bookstore, The Real World, in December of 1994. At the end of March they held a Friday-to-Sunday grand opening celebration. Friday's festivities included a locally-produced video of the Michigan Pride March, a storyteller, a one-man play about AIDS, and portrait sittings with a gay-owned studio. On Saturday the store hosted a "networking reception" for woman- and gay-owned businesses — this event was very well received and they plan to host it annually. Saturday night's event was a concert with five performers, and on Sunday four local authors read their work. In addition, Real World held raffles daily for a week. They've tripled their inventory since December and are off to a rousing start! The address is 1214-16 Turner Street, Lansing MI 48906; 517-485-2665.

On March 12, 1995, Sandi Sprenger and Vicki Fraser opened Lavender's, a lesbian & gay bookstore, in Naples, Florida. Eighty-five percent of their stock is by/for/about women. The address is 5600 Trail Blvd #4, Naples FL 33963; 813-594-9499.

Once Upon a Time (OUT) Alternative Gifts & Books opened April 17th in Bloomington, Illinois, with the aid of an SBA loan, reports co-owner Tana Meldrum. The store will serve the gay, lesbian and feminist community in Central Illinois with books, music, videos and gifts, and will include a small coffee area where customers can sit, meet new people and browse through complimentary magazines in a relaxed atmosphere. Initially, hours will be M, W, F 4-8 PM, Saturday 10-8, Sunday 12-5; if the store does well, business hours may be expanded. Store address: 311 N. Main Street, Bloomington IL 61701; 309-828-3998.

Althea Vermaas is planning to open a bookstore specializing in lesbian, feminist and gay materials in Kelowna, a town of 100,000 on the border between British Columbia and the Northwest Territories. Vermaas hopes to open the store within the next six months. Althea's address is Box 5, Fort Liard,

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Northwest Territories, Canada X0G 0A0.

Sandy Gerald plans to open The Pride Bookstore in Portsmouth, New Hampshire sometime this spring. Mailing address for Sandy (not for the store) is PO Box 791, Portsmouth NH 03802.

Paul Hause and Osmo Soljavirta have opened a new store in Key West, Florida. Caroline Street Books is a specialty bookstore stocking ⅓ gay & lesbian titles, ⅓ local interest titles and ⅓ "other" titles, such as bestsellers, etc. Their address is 800 Caroline Street #7, Key West FL 33040; 305-294-3931.

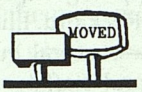
Gregory Harris-Midgette, business manager for The MENSHI Project, announces that a bookstore geared toward gay men will open this September in Durham, North Carolina. To be called MENSHI — which stands for "men empowering new social homosexual insights" — the store will feature an extensive collection of books, magazines and journals for gay men and gay youth, exclusive of pornography. The store will also include an "upscale" coffee and pastry bar — table service and linen tablecloths — and two computers that can be rented for 15-minute intervals for sending and receiving e-mail. The store will send out a monthly newsletter and provide a conference room for use by gay and lesbian organizations. For more information write The MENSHI Project, PO Box 71283, Durham NC 27722, or call 919-479-0136.

Stores Close

The Dwelling Place in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania closed its doors on April 1, 1995. Co-owners Patricia Piscitelli and Cynthia Evangelou say they will miss the store and the community connections, and that they will "always remain feminist booksellers at heart."

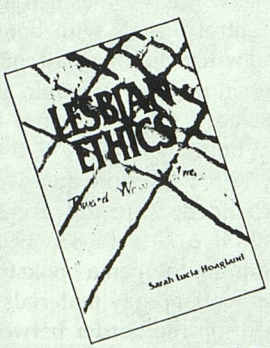
Platypus Book Shop in Evanston, Illinois closed its doors on April 30, 1995. Owner Margriet Schnabel reports that the store's closing is a direct result of superstore competition — three Barnes & Nobles and one Borders have moved into the area within the last two years. While not specifically a feminist bookstore, Platypus Book Shop has certainly been a long-term ally and friend of feminist bookstores, and we will miss them.

Abaton, a gay and lesbian bookstore in Colorado Springs, has closed. Co-owner Tamara Bartlett tells us that she and her partner both work full-time jobs, and want their weekends back.



Bookstores Move

Pandora Book Peddlers has moved to a great new location in downtown Madison, New Jersey, and from the sound of it, location is *everything*. Pandora originally started out in 1983 in downtown Englewood, then moved to a mini-mall — no place for a speciality bookstore to be, says Vivian Scheinmann. Things had gotten to the point where they knew they had to move or close. The move takes them to a historic and thriving downtown area and a solid customer base — there are five schools nearby, including Drew University,



LESBIAN ETHICS
Sarah Lucia Hoagland

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

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

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

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Fairleigh Dickinson University, and a local high school, which means they have students wandering in and finding things they've not seen before. And the new location draws "incredible walk-in traffic" overall. It's next door to a kids' clothing store — so childrens' book sales have soared — and across the street from a vegetarian food store owned by a feminist who directs her customers to Pandora. The new space is about the same size as their previous location, but is a better-designed space with great windows. They pay twice the rent but say sales are worth it — they are doing five times the business of their old location! Vivian reports that the store is simply never empty in their new location, and they've hired a full-timer. Pandora's new address is 9 Waverly Place, Madison NJ 07940; 201-822-8388.

The Binti Legacy, Nairobi's only women's bookstore, has a new address: P.O. Box 68077, Nairobi. (For more info on Binti Legacy, see News/Short Stories in FBN 17#6.)

Books Change Publishers

The Sarah Aldridge novels are no longer available from Naiad Press. The following titles are now exclusively offered through A&M Books: *The Latecomer* (Naiad's first novel, now 20 years old!), *Tottie, Cytherea's Breath, All True Lovers, The Nesting Place, Madame Aurora, Misfortune's Friend, Magdalena, Keep To Me Stranger, A Flight of Angels* and *Michaela*. A&M Books will publish a new Sarah Aldridge novel, *Amantha*, in September. Backlist titles are available at 50% through August. Send orders to A&M Books, PO Box 283, Rehoboth Beach DE 19971; 302-227-2893.

Publishers Move

Onlywomen Press has a new address: 40 St. Lawrence Terrace, London W10 5ST, England; 0181-960-7122. Onlywomen also has a new logo, which was commissioned to mark their 20th anniversary in 1994.

Comings and Goings

Following a national search conducted in Fall of 1994, Melissa Cirone became the new Executive Director of Small Press Distribution on March 1, 1995. Cirone brings over ten years' experience with nonprofit arts organizations, including Executive Director at Circuit Network, a Bay Area arts service organization and at Small Press Traffic Literary Center. Cirone succeeds Lisa Domitrovitch, who steps down after six years to work as an arts consultant.

Anniversaries

Curbstone Press (Willimantic, CT) is celebrating its 20th anniversary of publishing "books that make a difference." To celebrate, Curbstone will sponsor a series of bilingual readings throughout 1995 at bookstores, libraries, schools and community/cultural centers across the country, culminating in Curbstone's 20th Anniversary Gala Celebration on Saturday, September 16, 1995 in Willimantic, CT. Guest of honor will be Sandra Cisneros. ○

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BACK TO PRESS
AND OTHER GOOD NEWS

Compiled by Beth Morgan

Back to Press

Spinsters Ink is pleased to announce the April 1995 reprints of JoAnn Loulan's classic *Lesbian Passion* and the recent anthology *Mother Journeys* edited by Reddy, Roth and Sheldon.

Sister Vision reports that *Miscegenation Blues: Voices of Mixed Race Women* edited by Carol Camper is back to press for its second printing in less than nine months, and continues to receive rave reviews.

Rights

Serial rights to Seal Press' *Listen Up: Voices from the Next Feminist Generation* edited by Barbara Findlen have been sold to *Mademoiselle, Ms., Girlfriends* and *Cosmopolitan*. It will also be a featured QPBC selection.

Translations

In news from Spinifex Press, *The Spinifex Quiz Book* is due out in Spanish any day and will be published by horas y horas, a feminist press based in Madrid; this follows a German translation that appeared in 1994. *The Lesbian Heresy* will be published in Spanish by Catedra, which has good distribution in South America. *Too Rich* and *Nothing Mat(t)ers* will appear in German in 1995.

Awards

In more news from Spinifex Press, *Tansie* — its latest U.S. release — was shortlisted in the National Design Awards for Best Designed Book Cover.

The American Library Association presented its 1995 Coretta Scott King Awards February 6, 1995 to Patricia C. and Frederick L. McKissack for *Christmas in the Big House, Christmas in the Quarters* (Scholastic); and James E. Ransome, illustrator of *The Creation* by James Weldon Johnson (Holiday House). The King Awards are given annually in recognition of outstanding books by African American authors that promote an understanding and appreciation of all cultures. Honor Books selected by the King jury included Jacqueline Woodson's *I Hadn't Meant to Tell You This*, edited by Wendy Lamb (Delacort) and Joyce Hansen for *The Captive*, edited by Dianne Hess (Scholastic).

Louise Gluck and Susan Power were among the authors honored as the PEN American Center announced the winners of its 1995 PEN Literary Awards. The PEN/Martha Albrand Award for First Non-Fiction was awarded to Gluck's *Proofs & Theories: Essays on Poetry* (Ecco), while Power took The Ernest Hemingway Foundation Award for First Fiction for her novel *The Grass Dancer* (Putnam).

Michael Denneny of St. Martin's Press received an LMP Individual Achievement Award at the Fifth Annual LMP Awards in New York City on February 14, 1995. Denneny was honored for establishing St. Martin's Stonewall Inn Editions, a gay/lesbian imprint that has released close to seventy titles to date.

The Evergreen Chronicles: a Journal of Gay and Lesbian Arts and Cultures published the winners of its nation-wide Novella Contest in a Special Issue on March 9, 1995. First prize went to *Harmony* by William Reichard, and second prize to *Harmonic Convergence* by Ellen Lansky.

The CD-ROM *Her Heritage: A Biographical Encyclopedia of Famous American Women* (Pilgrim New Media) was named by *PC Magazine's* John R. Quinn as one of the top 20 "most informative and entertaining disks available" in an article entitled "20 Disks to Make Your Drive Spin" (*PC Magazine*, March 28, 1995, pp 134-135). ○

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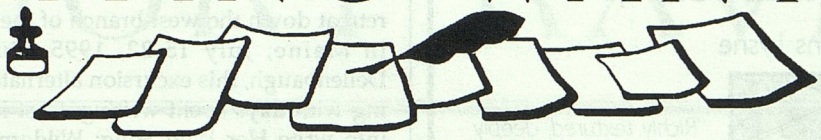

Compiled by Beth Morgan

Anthologies

FEM: An Anthology of Lesbian Sexuality and Gender Identity, edited by Lynnie Levy and Jade River, is seeking submissions from fems and the women who love them. Send SASE for more info to Fem Fatale, PO Box 6021, Madison WI 53716; phone 608-244-0072. Deadline: August 1, 1995.

The Women's Press (Canada) seeks submissions for two anthologies:

• *Countering the Myths from Within and Outside* is seeking poems and short fiction for an anthology by lesbians about the men in our lives — brother, father, lover, son, friend. We encourage a diverse mix of women — disabled women, Arab, Asian, Black, First Nation, Jewish, Latin, women over fifty, women in their teens — to write about their (good or bad) relationships with the men in their lives. Max length: 5,000 words. To submit work or for more info write Countering the Myths from Within and Outside, Women's Press, #233-517 College Street, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M6G 4A2. Deadline: June 30, 1995.

• Seeking work from lesbians who are Caribbean-born, culturally identified or of a Caribbean parentage: Say your bit on anything and everything — you have an opinion and it should be heard! Possible topics include sexuality; coming out (or not); the bar scene; your first experience; "community" in Canada; lesbian culture; lesbian and gay politics; children, family, parent and community reactions to homosexuality. We want to hear from women who are poor, don't consider themselves lesbian, who hate the word lesbian, who are not political, who are over fifty, who are below twenty, who are out lesbians. Stories on tape acceptable. Writers may use pseudonyms; anonymity assured. Send to Caribbean Women's Anthology, c/o Women's Press, #233-517 College Street, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M6G 4A2. Deadline: August 31, 1995.

Alyson Publications seeks personal essays from lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, and transsexuals born after (or shortly before) the Stonewall Riots of 1969, for the anthology *Children of Stonewall*, to be published in 1996. Were Ernie and Bert your role models? Have you never had sex without an awareness of AIDS? Are you a Riot Grrrl, Lesbian Avenger, Queer National? Did your high school have a L/G/B support group? Did you go? Did you take your lover? Are you a second- or third-generation queer? If someone asked, "Are you a friend of Dorothy?" would you answer, "Yeah, I loved *Bastard Out of Carolina*"? If you can answer "yes" to any of these questions, then you should probably contribute to *Children of Stonewall*, in which a new generation will tell the world what it's like to inherit the older generations' legacy of relative freedom and pride — and trouble. For guidelines send SASE to Robin Bernstein, Children of Stonewall, c/o Alyson Publications, 40 Plympton Street, Boston MA 02118. No fiction or poetry, please. Deadline: June 30, 1995.

Writing Workshops

The 21st Annual Feminist Women's Writing Workshops Inc. will be held July 9 - July 16, 1995, on the shores of Seneca Lake in New York's Finger Lakes Region. Join a community of established, emerging and novice women writers for eight days in a serene, supportive atmosphere, and choose from workshops on a variety of topics, evening readings, talks and critiques, as well as enjoying time for solitude and individual writing. This year's guest writer will be

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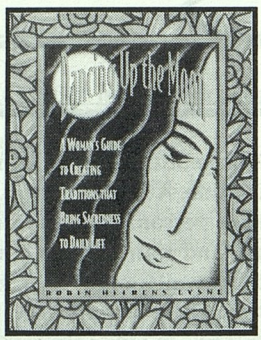

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Ruth Stone. For more information send SASE to Feminist Women's Writing Workshops Inc., PO Box 6583, Ithaca NY 14851. Partial-fee scholarships available.

Wild Writer/Wild River: A writing and canoeing retreat down the west branch of the Penobscot River in Maine, July 15-22, 1995. Guided by Anne Dellenbaugh, this excursion alternates days of canoeing with days spent writing. Cost is $795. For more info write Her Wild Song: Wilderness Journeys for Women, PO Box 515, Brunswick ME 04011, or call 207-721-9005.

Journals

CALYX, A Journal of Art and Literature by Women is celebrating its 20th anniversary with a special issue featuring new generations of writers and artists. *CALYX* exists as a forum for the creative work of all women. We strongly encourage women of color, working-class identified women, lesbian, bisexual and queer women, and other women who want to be heard, to submit work. All women under 30-ish are invited to submit works of art, poetry, fiction, essays, book reviews or genre-transcending pieces. The special summer 1996 issue will be edited by young women. For complete guidelines send SASE to CALYX Journal, Dept 20, PO Box B, Corvallis OR 97339; 503-753-0515. Deadline: Work must be postmarked from May 1, 1995 to August 31, 1995.

The Harvard Educational Review is planning a special issue exploring the lives and experiences of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered students and educators. In light of a growing climate of homophobia, the *HER* feels it is important to provide a forum that portrays the day-to-day realities of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered students, parents, teachers, administrators and counselors, and the way in which their learning, teaching and work in education is affected by their experiences as L/G/B or transgendered people. For submission guidelines write Harvard Educational Review, attention Vitka Eisen/Irene Hall, Special Issues Editors, Gutman Library Suite 349, 6 Appian Way, Cambridge MA 02138; or call 617-495-3432. Deadline: September 1, 1995. ○

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SHORT RAVES

Compiled by Beth Morgan

A few "short raves" from the various feminist bookstore newsletters:

Amazon Books

In These Girls, Hope is a Muscle by Madeleine Blais ($21 cl, Atlantic Montly Press). Remember high school, when either there weren't girls' sports teams, or there were and they got awful gym time and no one came to the games? And the only time anyone noticed girls' teams was when they were forced to play the boys' junior varsity team and if they won it was a disgrace to the boys and if they lost that was expected? Is this your experience? Your friends'? Your daughter's? Well, Madeleine Blais has written a book that truly celebrates and honors girls as athletes. She follows a girls' basketball team, the Lady Hurricanes of Amherst, Mass., through one season and shows us how amazing a role sports can play in a girl's life — not just as a hobby but as a passion. A must-read for women's sports fans and particularly for the girl in your life playing high school sports. (Jenny)

Brothers and Sisters by Bebe Moore Campbell ($22.95 cl, Putnam). This is one of those books that I would urge every white American to read to help us better understand the racial tensions in this country. A very readable, very accessible novel. Takes place a few months following the Rodney King riots in Central L.A. and centers around Esther Jackson, an African American woman trying to make it in the white man's world of banking, and her friendship with a white woman co-worker. Through the characters in the book, Campbell tries to give a personal understanding of many of the racial issues facing America today — the covert and overt racism faced by people of color, and the hostility between different racial/ethnic groups. An ambitious undertaking but she handles it well. (Barb)

I highly recommend *Forbidden Love* for anyone's video library. A gem of a film about lesbian life in 1950s Vancouver, it is a documentary, interview style, interspersed with a pulp novel cover brought to life in vignettes. A little sex, a lot of love, and a slice of herstory. We have it available for rent, but it might be one you'll want to buy so you can watch it over and over. (Donna)

I confess, I'm one of those folks constantly searching for better lesbian fiction writing and am not too satisfied with what I find. So it's a great pleasure when I do come across a well-written book with a lesbian theme. *Some Girls* by Kristin McCloy ($20.95 cl, Dutton) is such a book. It's the story of Claire, who at twenty-three leaves her hometown of Alamogordo, New Mexico and heads for New York City to discover life and love in a way she had never imagined it. I loved her descriptions of New York City and the wide open spaces of southern New Mexico, and I found her growing love for the mysterious woman, Jade, and how she comes to terms with that love, deeply moving. Hopefully this will not be another lesbian novel from the mainstream presses that drops into obscurity. (Barb)

Iris Books

I don't know how many feminist bookstores have a religion section, but we do and it's been moderately

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successful. There's a new book out from Upper Room Books called *Sacred Journeys* by Jan L. Richardson ($12.95 pb, The Upper Room), who is a feminist, a methodist minister and a long-time supporter of Iris Books here in Gainesville. It is really a lovely book about women and spirituality — a book of daily meditations which offer a diversity of voices including Annie Dillard, Sojourner Truth, Madeleine L'Engle, Hildegard of Bingen and Julia Esquire, in addition to Jan's own calm and thoughtful voice pointing out the spiritual in everyday life. If you have a Western religion category, this is a really nice book you shouldn't miss. (Karey Godwin)

Full Circle

It is with great pleasure that I recommend two wonderful but very different novels, written by two very gifted African American writers, both of whom delve into the class wars that exist within the Black community:

Blanche Among the Talented Tenth by Barbara Neely ($19.95 cl, St. Martin's). *Blanche on the Lam* was Neely's delightful debut mystery novel, and she scores high once again. Blanche is a single parent and a domestic worker. With great wit Neely manages to fuse daily life, politics and moral vision into her fiction, which always resonates with the larger questions of class and historical circumstances.

Liliane by Ntozake Shange ($18.95 cl, St. Martin's). Shange is a brillant wordsmith. She skillfully interweaves several narratives and the effect is total immersion in the inner life of Liliane. Shange is lyrical and precise, and her rich imagery and insights are consistently stunning in *Liliane*. (Helene)

And Full Circle advertised the following titles as "guaranteed reads . . . if you don't like these books, bring them back in (with receipt) for full credit":

- *The Fifth Sacred Thing* by Starhawk (Bantam)
- *Another Wilderness: New Outdoor Writing by Women* edited by Susan Fox Rogers (Seal Press)
- *Outlaw Culture: Resisting Representation* by bell hooks (Routledge)
- *Refuge: An Unnatural History of Family & Place* by Terry Tempest Williams (Vintage)
- *The Sea of Light* by Jennifer Levin (Dutton)
- *Alma Rose* by Edith Forbes (Seal Press)
- *House of Light* by Mary Oliver (Beacon Press).
- Riding the White Horse Home by Teresa Jordan (Random House) ○

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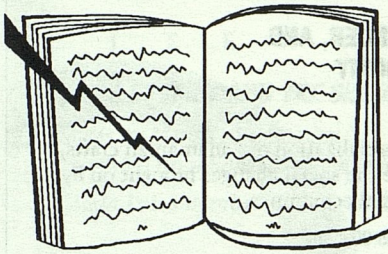

MULTIMEDIA

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By Dorothy Holland

Audio

Thanks to Naiad Press, we finally have access to a number of lesbian titles in audio format. **Sticks and Stones** by Jackie Calhoun, read by Kate Buffery, is the latest one I've heard. This lesbian fiction title sold well in trade paper for many feminist stores. The story is well abridged, and there is a music accompaniment. What a great alternative to regional radio stations as we commute! The packaging for these tapes was a drawback. I had a difficult time getting the tapes out, and never could get them back in again. Luckily, the tapes are in plastic cassettes and can be stored that way. $16.95, 2 cassettes, 3 hours, abridged, 1-56280-106-6, Naiad Press.

Other Naiad titles available are: **Curious Wine** by Katherine Forrest ($16.95, 1-56280-105-8); **Daughters of a Coral Dawn** by Katherine Forrest, read by Jane Merrow ($16.95, 1-56280-110-4); **An Emergence of Green** by Katherine Forrest, read by Maryam D'Abo ($16.95, 1-56280-112-0); **True Love** by Jennifer Fulton, read by Gayle Hunnicut ($16.95, 1-56280-111-2); **Claire of the Moon** by Nicole Conn, read by Marianne Hyatt ($16.95, 1-56280-113-9); and **Travels With Diana Hunter** by Regine Sands, read by Ingrid Pitt — a hot, lesbian erotica title which is still popular in trade paper ($16.95, 1-56280-107-4). All Naiad audio titles available from IN, BP.

A non-fiction lesbian/gay title is **Family Heart** by Robb Forman Dew, nicely read by Stockard Channing. It's a memoir of the Dew's experiences when their son came out. They are now supportive of their son, and are very much involved in PFLAG. This would be a good bet for parents whose children just came out, and for the local PFLAG group. $17, 2 cassettes, 3 hours, abridged, 0-671-89680-6, Simon & Schuster. Distributed by Ingram.

There are several titles available with positive portrayals of African American women. Bebe Moore Campbell does a marvelous job of reading her book, **Brothers & Sisters.** This story about L.A. after the Rodney King incident is wonderful ($19.95, 3 cassettes, 4½ hours, abridged, 1-55927-303-8, Audio Renaissance Tapes). **Your Blues Ain't Like Mine** is another title by Bebe Moore Campbell, this time read by Alfre Woodard and Allison Smith. Threads of violence, poverty and sorrow weave together a Black family and a white family in rural Mississippi in the 1950s. Well read ($15, 2 cassettes, 3 hours, abridged, 1-57042-188-9, Audio Renaissance Tapes). **When Death Comes Stealing,** a Tamara Hayle Mystery by Valerie Wilson Wesley, read by Angela Bassett, is an enjoyable mystery with a Black feminist single-mother private investigator trying to raise a son and make it on her own in Newark, NJ. Also well read ($17, 2 cassettes, 3 hours, abridged, 1-57042-186-2, Juneteenth Audio, from Time Warner). All distributed by Ingram.

World the Color of Salt & Carcass Trade is a set of 4 cassettes with two Smokey Brandon Mysteries by Noreen Ayres, read by Jennifer & John Durand. Both mysteries are feminist and take place in Southern California. I enjoyed the stories, but the recording was distracting. The music was louder than the voice on all of my tape players and sounded like an echo chamber in my car. $24, 4 cassettes, 6 hours, abridged, 1-886392-02-1, Parrot Audio. Distributed by Ingram.

Video

There are two videos available with Brian McNaught, who I consider to be the Mr. Rogers for

See **Multimedia,** *page 78.*

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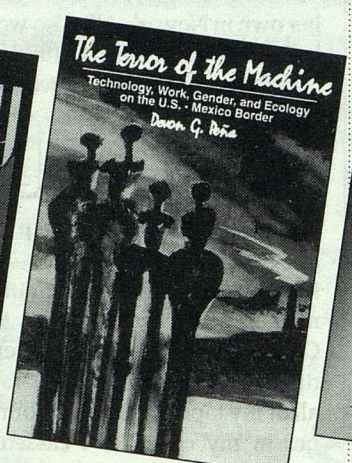

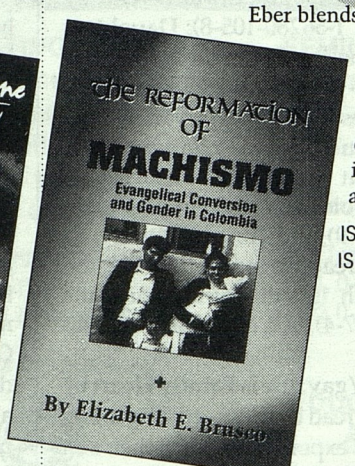

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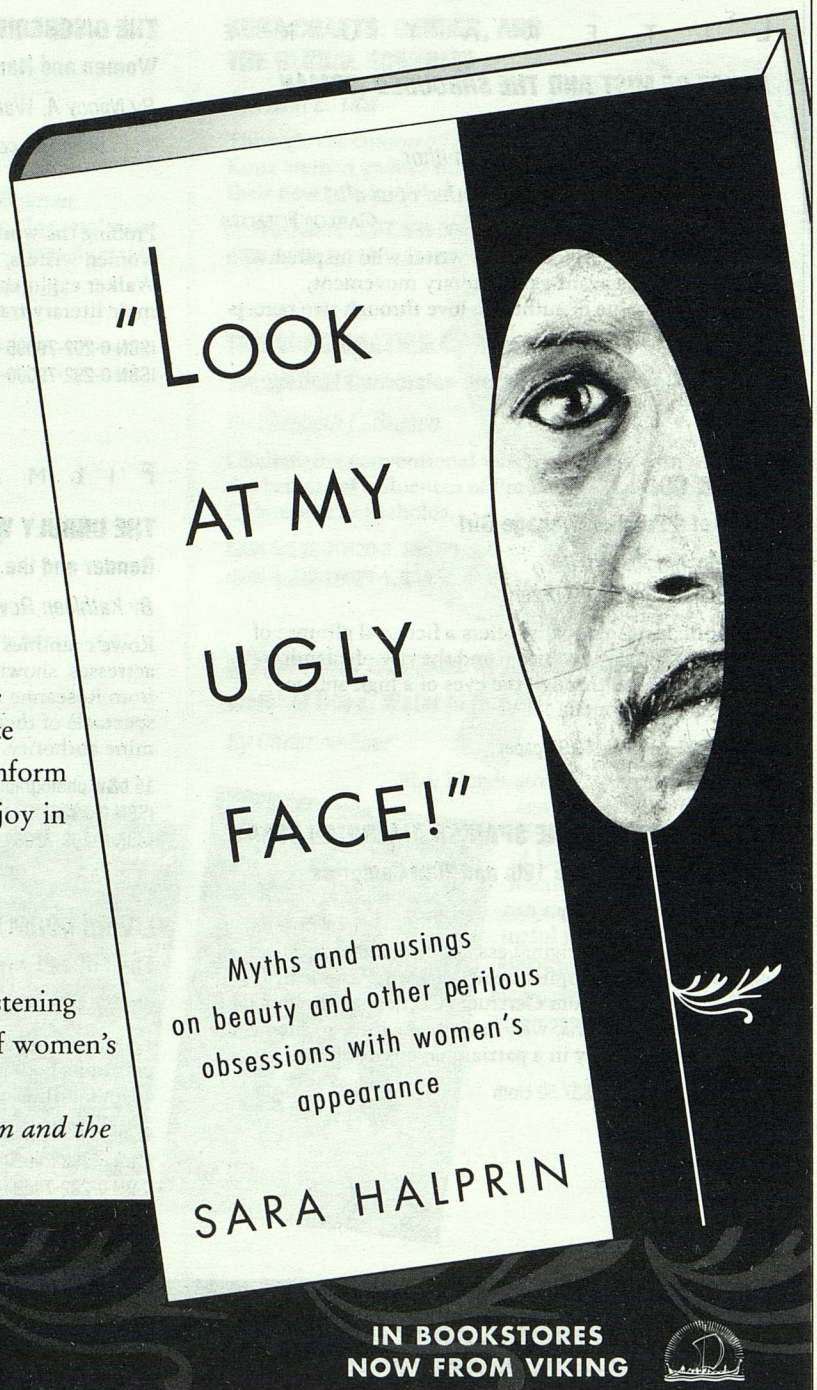

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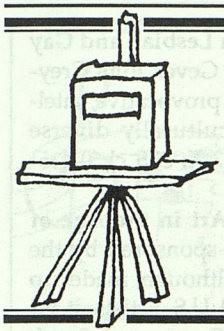

ART BOOKS

By Tee A. Corinne

I just spent a couple of hours with my local reference librarian chasing down new books on women and art via computer. What a world! But I still only review books in hand, and no computer yet can induce the rush I get from the smell of opening a new art book.

I'm starting this month's column with another expensive but very beautiful and important book. **Inuit Women Artists**,edited by Odette Leroux, Marion E. Jackson and Minnie Aodla Freeman, combines the work of — and interviews with — nine visual artists, plus commentaries by three Inuit writers. The Inuit live in Canada's Northwest Territories and produce stylized, elegant sculptures, drawings and prints. $45 cl, 0-295-97389-7, University of Washington Press.

Another pick from University of Washington Press is **Maud Gatewood: Re-Visions** by Robert Hobbs, which features the paintings of a Southern artist in whose recent work women and women's issues often have a central place, although her social commentary extends to the viciousness of the Klan and the Nazi extermination camps as well. Complex, beautiful and evocative, these paintings — dating from 1953 to the present — draw the viewer in, raise questions and elicit multiple responses. $25 pb, 0-295-97398-6; $40 cl, 0-295-97399-4.

Gladys Nilson by Whitney Halstead and James Yood is a delightful book with lots of brightly colored reproductions. Nilson, a contemporary Chicago artist, paints and draws fanciful images of people. Interesting as it is, at ninety-five pages this is going to be hard to sell in women's bookstores, but is of special interest to librarians, especially those located in the Midwest. $40 cl, 1-881572-96-X, John Natsoulas Press, distributed by University of Washington Press.

The Pink Glass Swan: Selected Feminist Essays on Art by Lucy R. Lippard gathers twenty-five years of writing by one of the earliest — and still most lucid — critics to discuss feminist art. The cover, however, will do nothing to help sales. $20 pb, 1-56584-213-8, The New Press, distributed by W.W. Norton.

Dorothy Arzner, ca. 1938. Arts Library Special Collections, University Research Library, UCLA

The recently released **Directed by Dorothy Arzner** by Judith Mayne is sure to be a hit in women's bookstores. Arzner (1900-1979) was a director of Hollywood films and a lesbian. Mayne's discussion of Arzner's life and work is brilliant and lively reading and the many photographs of Arzner in 1930s high butch style are worth the price of the book. $15.95 pb, 0-253-20896-3; $29.95 cl, 0-253-33716-X, Indiana University Press.

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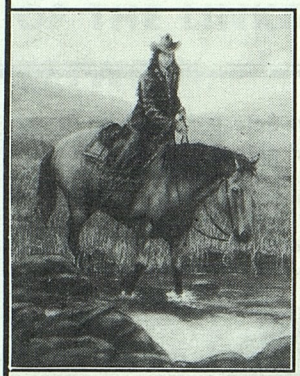
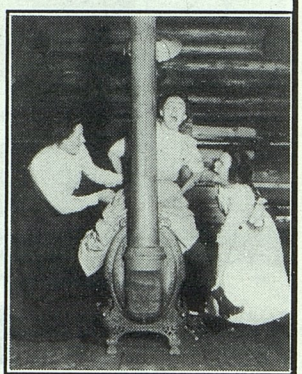
She'll be comin' round the mountain this spring...



Luanne Armstrong brings us the cowgirl hero we've been waiting for. Forging into the great western frontier alone with her horse and dog, Annie meets up with nature's vast landscape, its unforgiving weather and wild creatures, and a collection of unpredictable characters.

Annie *by Luanne Armstrong*
1-896095-00-3 •$12.95 US pb • Publication Date: April

Mattie Gunterman, American-born photographer and camp cook, captures the joyful and robust frontier spirit in her turn-of-the-century photographs. **Flapjacks and Photographs** chronicles the life of this talented, pioneering women.



Flapjacks and Photographs:
A History of Mattie Gunterman, Camp Cook and Photographer
by Henri Robideau
1-896095-03-8 • $19.95 US pb • 130 b&w photos, 24 duotones
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Queer Looks: Perspectives on Lesbian and Gay Film and Video, edited by Martha Gever, John Greyson and Pratibha Parmar, contains provocative, intelligently engaging essays from culturally diverse viewpoints. $19.95 pb, 0-415-90742-X; $55 cl, 0-415-90741-1, Routledge.

Don't Leave Me This Way: Art in the Age of AIDS compiled by Ted Gott was sponsored by the National Gallery of Australia. Although made up mostly of work by Australian and U.S. artists, it includes some from Great Britain, France and South Africa. Visually strong and emotionally moving, **Don't Leave Me This Way** dramatically and effectively balances narratives and images. $19.95 pb, 0-500-97420-9, Thames and Hudson, distributed by W.W. Norton.

Kewpies and Beyond: The World of Rose O'Neill by Shelley Armitage profiles the most highly-paid female cartoonist and illustrator of the early twentieth century, who went on to write and illustrate novels. $18.95 pb, 0-87805-711-0; $40 cl, 0-87805-710-2, University Press of Mississippi.

Marjorie Content: Photographs by Jill Quasha is the story of a wealthy woman who actively made photographs during a fifteen-year period, then spent the rest of her long life, 1895-1984, supporting the creativity of others, including her third husband, Jean Toomer. Her pictures are evocative studies of personalities, cityscapes and details of the world around her. $29.95 cl, 0-393-03682-0, W.W. Norton.

Dolls and Toys of Native America: A Journey Through Childhood by Don and Debra McQuiston (a father/daughter team) is a culturally respectful, gorgeous book — a beautifully designed intermingling of old and new photographs, landscape studies and text which create a sense of the cultures in which the dolls were created. "Most dolls were the product of elderly women who made them as gifts for their granddaughters," note the authors, "sewn with painstaking attention to detail, dolls and their acoutrements helped a girl learn her family's way of making household objects." $19.95 pb, 0-8118-0570-0; $35 cl, -0572-7, Chronicle Books. ○

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MUSIC NEWS

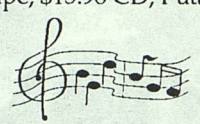
by Jennifer Einhorn
Goldenrod/Horizon Distribution

Aitara/Varttina. The funksters of Finnish folk, and the improbable love child of Zap Mama, Libana and Ladysmith Black Mambazo. **Aitara** is expected to propel Finnish music into the modern pop world, and it probably will. Varttina is fronted by a female quartet of amazing harmonists and features a superb nine-piece instrumental section. Together they fuse traditional bouzoukis, reeds, 5-row accordions, cimbaloms, hammond organs, guitars and more, and their original tunes yield something between Finnish folk, hip-hop, and hoe down. $10.98 tape, $15.98 CD, Xenophile 4026.

The Murmers/The Murmers. The Murmers are Leisha Hailey and Heather Gody; they met in an acting class in NYC; and their current single is "You Suck": "There's dust on my guitar, you fuck/you paralyze my my mind/and for that, you suck." There's something endearing about these two, and we'll see if they can make it beyond that. The Ani crowd seems to be enamoured with these gals and with the inevitable press they'll be receiving, so it might be worth carrying them to see what happens. Upbeat easy melodies of the Indigos with harmonies that hope to resemble those of the incomparable (and now defunct) group, The Story. $10.98 tape, $15.98 CD, MCA 11086.

Now That I've Found You/Alison Krauss. My new favorite. For those of you who think of Krauss as merely a fiddle-playing bluegrass devil, you had better listen up. On this retrospective — which also includes a few unreleased cuts — the 23-year-old(!) establishes herself as an astounding vocalist who's all over the musical map. Krauss' key is her exquisite simplicity. Her vocals resonate with serious power and gorgeous elasticity. No one else can say so much, so well, with so little. $10.98 tape, $15.98 CD, Rounder 325.

The Laura Love Collection/Laura Love. Widely known by many in the women's music scene, Love was until recently a virtual unknown to folks in the biz. Her performance at the Singer/Songwriter Festival at Carnegie Hall last October (a benefit for the National Homeless Coalition) prompted *Billboard* to call her "One of the top-10 unsigned bands in America." Putamayo has just released a compilation featuring selections from her three earlier records, all on her own label, Octoroon Biography. To call this music unique is quite an understatement. Love calls it "Afro-Celt." Traditional yodeling, American Indian-style chanting, funk, blues and apparently whatever else you might be interested in. Her fans will scoop this up in a sec. $10.98 tape, $15.98 CD, Putamayo 118.



Loose/Victoria Williams. Like Sarah McLachlan's stuff, you need to listen to Williams a number of times before her absolute brilliance hits you. And when it does, you can't imagine how you didn't notice it — and her — sooner. She writes parables that are smart, sweet, chilling and consistently inspiring. With easy, sometimes gritty melodies and accessible lyrics, her mood is contagious. She's a delightful blend of the best of the bunch: Ricki Lee's quirkiness, Mary Chapin's down-homey intellect, and Ani's liberating vision. $10.98 tape, $15.98 CD, Mammoth 92430.

The Bird or the Wing/Carrie Newcomer. A breath of fresh air from one of the steadiest and most talented women in the folk scene today, Newcomer returns with her third and best solo release. Poignant

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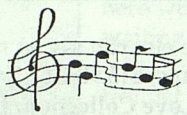
and wise without being preachy, this Indiana native refuses to back away from tough contemporary issues such as anti-choice violence and religion as commodity. As expected, Newcomer's trademark of sweetness-minus-the-sap is loud and clear throughout. This go 'round is a more produced and consequently richer sound than her last effort, *An Angel At My Shoulder.* An energetic and genuinely inspiring collection. Features vocals from The Story's Jennifer Kimball. $9.98 tape, $15.98 CD, Philo 1183.



Just Released

- **The Freedom Sessions**/Sarah McLachlan. $10.98 tape, $15.98 CD, Arista 18784.
- **Back To Back**/Barbara Lee Supeno. $9.98 tape, $15.98 CD, River of Angels MV 8253.
- **Out The Gap**/Sharon Shannon. $10.98 tape, $15.98 CD, Green Linnet 3099.
- **Seasons of the Drum**/Marilyn Rife. $9.98 tape, $15.98 CD, Talking Taco 129.
- **A Woman's Celebration of Chant and Harmony**/The Grail Singers. $9.98 tape, $15.98 CD, SKR 1801.
- **A Secret Life**/Marianne Faithfull. $10.98 tape, $15.98 CD, Island 524096.
- **Medusa**/Annie Lenox. $10.98 tape, $15.98 CD, Arista 25717.

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Upcoming Releases

- **Ani DiFranco**. We've been barraged with questions about this girl and her product. In April she'll release a two-hour live performance video which will include some interviews. Recorded at the Fox Theatre in Boulder, Colorado, the *video* will be a big seller. Her seventh release, *Not A Pretty Girl* (Righteous Babe) is expected in late May and is also a live record. And DiFranco's studio recording is due in the Fall. Whew!
- **Shape Shifters**/Ubaka Hill. The debut recording from this drummer extraordinaire, on Ladyslipper. With luck we'll have this by June.
- **Untitled**/Ann Reed. Due in April.
- **Untitled**/Les Sampou. Due in May.
- **Love Worth Fighting For**/Varous Artists. A compilation album aimed at promoting acceptance of gays and lesbians, this one includes tracks by Ann Reed, Cris and Tret, and Harvey Fierstein.

Gay Men's Music

Sensual Classics Too/Various Artists. The alluring cover features an embrace between two seminaked, very gorgeous men who have not one thing to do with the content of the record. Tchaikovsky, Shostakovich, Beethoven, Chopin, Dvorak, Mozart, Schubert are the dudes that happen to have actually created what's on this disc, but granted, they are not as cute. Warner/Teldec are billing themselves as "the first to offer a release that openly acknowledges the gay men's community and its loyal consumers. An absolutely faaaabulous collection with over 75 minutes of classical passion. . . . " Nonetheless, it is one of the best selling records of this season in gay bookstores or feminist bookstores that have a men's section. Face it out and it'll fly out. $10.98 tape, $15.98 CD, Tel Dec 98724.

And two just-released gay men's titles that will sell well in stores that carry gay men's music:

- **Pile Up**/Pansy Division. $10.98 tape, $15.98 CD, Lookout 110.
- **. . .Kiss/All My Misery**/Pussy Tourette. $10.98 tape, $15.98 CD, Feather 302. ○

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SUSANNA STURGIS ON SCIENCE FICTION

An illness in the family, a pile of editing, and best of all my first-ever trip to San Francisco have curtailed my reading since the Tiptree Award jury completed its work in mid-February. (For Tiptree Award details see FBN 17#6.) The Bay Area lived up to all my expectations and then some, thanks in no small part to FBN's own Carol Seajay, who, with partner Rose Katz, put me up for a week. Consummate book people that they are, they were hosting Room of One's Own's Sandi Torkildson at the same time — the breakfast discussions about bookselling and publishing were like a mini Women in Print.

My visit(s) to the FBN office were a homecoming, never mind that I'd never been there before. Imagine my delight when Beth Morgan turned out to be not only the creative and dedicated assistant editor of FBN but also a knowledgeable reader of f and sf. (Maybe she can be cajoled into making occasional contributions to this column?)

Carol introduced me to Beth Weise, an avid f/sf reader who also writes a column on the Internet for the Associated Press. Then there was sitting next to Starhawk on the Utopian Visions panel at the Readers & Writers II Conference; having lunch with Katharine Kerr (see under Tor, below); meeting the two Tiptree jurors (Lucy Sussex of Australia and Brian Attebery of Idaho) whom I knew only from the Internet; and spending most of a day playing at the Exploratorium, a truly marvelous museum. Debbie Notkin, writer of *Women En Large* and chair of the first Tiptree jury, not only took me to Mama Bears but also walked me past Marion Zimmer Bradley's house. And the sun was out, the grass was green, and flowers were blooming everywhere. I'll be back!

ACADEMIC PRESSES

Utopian and Science Fiction by Women: Worlds of Difference edited by Jane L. Donawerth and Carol A. Kolmerten is a treasure trove for anyone interested in speculative fiction by women, especially those writing before the 1960s. Among the periods and writers considered are France and England in the 17th century, Elizabeth Gaskell's novel *Cranford*, Charlotte Perkins Gilman's *Herland* trilogy, women's visions of utopia in the U.S. Progressive Era, sf by women in the early pulp era (1926-30), Sarah Lefanu on Naomi Mitcheson, Michelle Erica Green on Octavia Butler, and Ursula K. Le Guin's "frozen landscapes." A worthy addition to both sf and literary criticism shelves. $16.95 pb, 0-8156-2620-7, Syracuse University Press.

First published in 1827, when author Jane (Webb) Loudon was twenty years old, **The Mummy!** imagines a 22nd-century England that, notes editor Alan Rauch, is "ruled by a matrilineal monarchy that itself is unstable" and "about to succumb to corruption and political in-fighting. Loudon restores order and peace through the actions of the reanimated mummy, Cheops, who pays the debt for his own past corruption by restoring moral and political strength to Great Britain." Influenced by Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*, Loudon displayed an especially imaginative vision of future science and technology. Rauch provides an introduction to both the author and the Regency period in which she lived. $17.95 pb, 0-472-06574-2, University of Michigan Press.

Lit crit, culture crit, and more than a smidgen of speculative fiction is **Heterotopia: Postmodern Utopia and the Body Politic**, edited by Tobin Siebers. These eight essays, four by women, four by men, range from "What Is the Use of Utopia?" to utopian

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images of Los Angeles, from medical ethics to Gloria Anzaldúa's *Borderlands/La Frontera* to Samuel R. Delany's witty, down-to-earth "The Rhetoric of Sex, the Discourse of Desire." $42.50 cl, 0-472-10557-4, University of Michigan Press.

ALYSON PUBLICATIONS

The Hadra by Diana Rivers falls between *Daughters of the Great Star* and *Journey to Zelindar* in the Hadra Archives. Says the publisher: "Engrossing, sensual, and rich with detail, Rivers' storytelling leaves us truly believing in this fantasy tribe of lesbian warriors." The earlier titles are also available from Alyson. $9.95 pb, 1-55583-319-5.

ASHLAND HILLS PRESS

The Omega Transmissions by Nancy Parker is thriller rather than sf, although the scientists who vanish work for a government SETI (Search for Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence) project. Journalist Kate Lipton pursues the bad guys — including a nasty ex-boss who sexually harassed her a decade before and has been threatening her ever since — from San Francisco to the Caribbean. It's a promising if not earth-shaking premise, complete with (heterosexual) romance, but the execution is undermined by prose that relies overmuch on dialogue and description. $12.95 pb, 0-9642272-0-7. Distributed by BP, Pacific Pipeline, and other distributors or from the publisher, Ashland Hills Press, P.O. 992, Ashland, OR 97520, 1-800-557-7379. From Canada call (503) 482-9828.

BAEN BOOKS

Due in August is **Winning Colors** ($5.99 pb, 0-671-87677-5), the third book in Elizabeth Moon's popular series about interstellar yacht skipper Heris Serrano and her employer, the nonagenarian Lady Cecelia. The first two volumes are being reissued: **Hunting Party** ($5.99 pb, 0-671-72176-3) and **Sporting Chance** ($5.99 pb, 0-671-87619-8).

Believe it or not, but "anyone who's worked in a Walden's or B. Dalton store" is part of the target audience for Holly Lisle's newest, **Mall, Mayhem and Magic**. Lisle's husband and co-author is identified as "a veteran manager of several independent and mall bookstores." Just thought you'd want to know. From Newt Gingrich's publisher, of course. $5.99 pb, 0-671-87678-3.

BALLANTINE/DEL REY

Mary Rosenblum's **The Stone Garden** explores the struggles of artists in a near-future U.S. where scarcities and synthetics prevail. A master at sculpting the mysterious Stones that absorb and reflect back human emotions, Michael Tryon fears he's washed up — then Margarita Espinoza appears, claiming to be his daughter by a long-gone ex-lover. Margarita, a talented mixed-media artist on the verge of serious recognition, hardly knows her mother and has hit a rough spot with her lover, Katrina, a dancer. When Stone sculptors start dying, apparent suicides, Michael and Margarita team up uneasily to solve the mystery, along with the enigmatic Zed, "boy Friday" for a powerful magnate and art collector. Though well worth carrying, this book is less focused than the author's two earlier novels, particularly *Chimera*. $4.99 pb, 0-345-38958-1.

Nancy McKenzie's **The High Queen** follows her *The Child Queen* in a solid retelling of the Arthurian legends from the point of view of a sympathetic and thoughtful Guinevere. $5.99 pb, 0-345-38245-5.

Word from Del Rey, via its monthly Del Rey Internet Newsletter, is that Rosemary Kirstein is working on **The Lost Steersman,** which follows *The Steerswoman* and *Outskirter's Secret* in a series that belongs on feminist bookstore shelves. Earliest projected pub date at this point is late 1996.

DAW BOOKS

Upcoming in August is Tanya Huff's **Fifth Quarter,** which *has* to have something to do with *Sing the Four Quarters*, don't you think?

DIAL BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS

Nancy Springer, winner of the 1995 Tiptree Award for *Larque on the Wing* (AvoNova), also writes award-winning children's and young adult books. Recommended by the publisher for ages ten and up, **Looking for Jamie Bridger** is part mystery, part coming-of-age novel. Like Springer's recent novels for adults — *Larque* and *Metal Angel* — it offers an offbeat, inventive take on "family."

Jamie Bridger, going on fifteen, looks so much like

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her grandparents that she knows she isn't adopted, but her attempts to learn more about her parents are squelched by her puritanical Grandpa and her sweet, ineffective Grandma. When Grandpa dies abruptly, Grandma retreats to the floor of a closet. Aided by her best friend Kate, Jamie tries to look after her grandmother while pursuing her search for her parents as far as New York City.

What Jamie finds is another Jamie Bridger, who is not her father but her older brother, whom Grandpa threw out for being gay. Then, in one of the those bizarre but believable twists that Springer does so well, Grandpa got his wife pregnant with a replacement son, who turned out to be a daughter. When Grandma welcomes son Jamie back, she forgets who daughter Jamie is.

Looking for Jamie Bridger touches several feminist bases: resourceful girl protagonist, critique of homophobia, warnings against giving up one's identity to marriage. Most important, though, is that Jamie in her search creates for herself a family of blood kin, best friends, and at least one total stranger. Here, solving the mystery does not end the story. In this quest tale, what one finds is no more important than what one becomes in the process of looking. $14.99 cl, 0-8037-1773-3, June.

HARCOURT BRACE

Even if you have no sf section (and if you don't, don't tell me), here are two companion anthologies that you absolutely must carry. Remember the landmark *Women of Wonder* anthologies of the 1970s and early 1980s? Not only did they emphatically underscore the presence of women sf writers from the '40s on, they formed a springboard for the women who came into the field as they were being published. **Women of Wonder: The Classic Years** ($15 pb, 0-15-600031-8) includes 18 of the authors represented in the earlier anthos, some with new work, plus Lisa Tuttle, Zenna Henderson, and Margaret St. Clair. **Women of Wonder: The Contemporary Years** ($15 pb, 0-15-600033-4) presents stories by 21 authors published from the 1970s to the 1990s, illustrating among many other things the diversity of sf in the late twentieth century. Expect Sargent's introductory essays to provide an indispensable analysis of feminist sf with abundant bibliographical references.

HARPER*PRISM*

Elyse Guttenberg's **Summer Light** is a beautifully realized novel set on the coast of Alaska more than two millennia ago. Elik, a young woman, has visions, though she comes from a family of hunters, not shamans. Exiled from his own people, Qajak is adopted and renamed by a man of a distant village. The people of two villages struggle to live by fishing, hunting, gathering, and honoring the spirits: this, rather than plot, is the epic. Love, greed, fear, determination and loyalty wind like threads through the story, which deals subtly and intimately with difference. Along the way you'll conceive a tremendous admiration for the survival skills of the people. Guttenberg has appended an essay about her sources and how she used them. Fascinating and recommended. $5.99 pb, 0-06-105425-9.

Worth serious consideration, even in hardcover, is Elizabeth Hand's upcoming **Waking the Moon**, due in June (but already out in the U.K.). Locus reviewer Gary K. Wolfe calls it "one of the most thoughtful treatments of the White Goddess myth I've seen in fiction." On the epic level, it's about the prophesied reincarnation of the Goddess and the secret society that has been trying to prevent it. The attendant weirdness works, Wolfe notes, because it is "grounded in a romantic and attractive novel of character, and Hand does an amazing job of keeping her believable and sympathetic characters from being overwhelmed by special effects." I can't wait. $19 cl, 0-06-105214-0, June.

Ursula K. Le Guin has another collection due in August: **Four Ways to Forgiveness** (cloth — ISBN and price n/a). Le Guin's *A Fisherman of the Inland Sea*, published last December, was superb, and the quality of her recent and thus uncollected short fiction promises that this will be likewise. Tiptree Award winner "The Matter of Seggri" should be included, and Tiptree shortlister "Forgiveness Day," given the title, is a shoo-in. Both stories, by the way, are Nebula Award nominees.

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PENGUIN/ROC

If a mere fraction of *Mists of Avalon*'s fans snap up its prequel, **The Forest House**, Marion Zimmer Bradley will have another best-seller on her hands. Like many another MZB protagonist, Eilan is torn between love and spiritual leadership and must, with the Goddess's guidance, wend her way between them and abundant political intrigue. High priestess among the Druids, she also loves one of the Roman legionaries occupying her country. $12.99 pb, 0-451-45424-3.

Rave reviews have greeted the just-released **Humility Garden**, a first novel by Felicity Savage, whom *Locus* reviewer Faren Miller praises for "a wondrously individual imagination, a gift for the sensuous detail," and a dark wit. To top it off, the author is a nineteen-year-old sophomore at Columbia University. I'm going looking for it right now. $4.99 pb, 0-451-45398-0.

Due in June is **Sisters in Fantasy**, an anthology edited by Susan Shwartz and Martin H. Greenberg. Will know more about it by next issue — but with a title like that . . .?

TOR

In setting and tone, Katharine Kerr's **Freeze Frames** is remarkably unlike her Celt-inspired Deverry series, but like those popular novels, it effectively involves the reader in the intimate dilemmas of characters caught up in epic historical forces. Maggie Corey has a fling with a charismatic acid maker during San Francisco's "Summer of Love." Her grandson Richie befriends a young woman who fears she's being contacted by aliens. Her radical professor daughter, Janet, is caught in England when an ascendant religious right spawns a successful military coup in the U.S. In a somewhat revised version of Kerr's previously published novella *Resurrection*, Janet's granddaughter Tiffany fights her way back from a near-fatal plane crash — and encounters several disturbing discrepancies between what she remembers and what seems to be true. Each section, entire of itself, reveals more of a near-future California beset by scarcity and environmental deterioration, and an epic struggle between one Nick Harrison ("Old Nick") and Rabbi Akiba. In hardcover this probably won't fly in a feminist store, but keep an eye out for the paperback. A sequel following subsequent generations of Maggie Corey's descendants is planned. $21.95 cl, 0-312-89044-3.

Shariann Lewitt gets her first hardcover publication with **Memento Mori** in November (details later). I know nothing about this one, but her novels (*Songs of Chaos*, *Blind Justice*, etc.) are full of offbeat characters, vividly realized settings (Brazil is a favorite inspiration), and intriguing sciences and technologies.

Unscheduled as yet is a third volume in Nancy Kress's outstanding series that began with *Beggars in Spain* and *Beggars and Choosers*. ○

Multimedia, *continued from page 69.*

lesbian and gay issues. **Growing Up Gay & Lesbian: Questions & Answers** is aimed at parents, siblings and friends of gay and lesbian people. The information is easy to digest and clearly presented. McNaught is the consummate gentleman. **Homophobia in the Workplace** is for workers who are concerned about lesbians and gays at their workplaces, covering about the same material. Both tapes are $39.95 each, 1 hour, 35% discount for 1 or more, Motivational Media, 8430 Santa Monica Blvd, Los Angeles CA 90069; 800-848-2707, fax 213-848-2704.

Multi-Media

Here's another multi-media title I had a great time with (although it's not aimed specifically at our market, it will fit some stores): **Ozzie's World** by Kathryn Sheehan & Mary Waidner is an interactive CD-ROM based on **Earth Child**, a book from Council Oak Books by the same authors. A lot of science experiments, environmental information and fun and games, all on a science motif. I had a good time playing with this CD-ROM, although it's billed for ages 3-8. I had no trouble installing or running it. Although this CD is not by, for and about women, it is non-sexist and non-racist, and you may have an interested parent or two. $59.95 CD-ROM for Windows and/or Macintosh, 0-933031-99-8, IVI Publishing. Distributed by Council Oaks Books or available through Ingram. ○

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MYSTERIES

By Nan Cinnater
Now Voyager, Provincetown, Mass.

Having missed a column, I have lots of catching up to do, so forgive me if some of this is old news.

Of course, you already have lots of stock of Sara Paretsky's **Tunnel Vision** in paperback. Let me just add that I think this is one of Paretsky's best — and most feminist — novels. **Tunnel Vision** incorporates many feminist plot elements: a battered women's shelter, a women's construction company, the plight of a homeless family, the rage of an abusive husband and father. Although still a loner, V.I. Warshawski actually seems to be part of a larger (women's) community in this novel, which is refreshing. $6.50 pb, 0-440-21752-0, Dell.

Another must-stock which I hope you already have is **Ill Wind** by Nevada Barr ($19.95 cl, 0-399-14015-8, Putnam), the third in her spectacular eco-feminist series about park ranger Anna Pigeon. Just as one might hope, Barr seems to be moving Anna to a different national park for each of the books. In **Ill Wind**, she's at Mesa Verde National Park in Colorado, site of the Anasazi cliff dwellings. At this writing I'm still awaiting my review copy, but I can hardly wait to see what Barr makes of this great material. The first in this series was *Track of the Cat*; the second, **A Superior Death**, is newly out in paper ($5.50 pb, 0-380-72362-X, Avon).

Liza Cody, well known to feminist readers as the author of the Anna Lee series, introduced a new and far more unconventional heroine in **Bucket Nut**, now available in paper from Mysterious Press/Warner ($5.50 pb, 0-446-40459-4). Eva Wylie is a heavyweight wrestler who also does security work, specifically guarding a junkyard. There is a lesbian love interest, but this is such a quirky book — and the heroine is so odd — that it defies categorization. However, it's a great read, worth recommending to adventurous customers. Cody's hardcover follow-up is **Monkey Wrench**, in which Eva is recruited to teach self-defense to a group of prostitutes alarmed by a series of murders ($18.95 cl, 0-89296-600-9, Mysterious Press/Warner).

Jan Burke's new paperback, **Sweet Dreams, Irene**, is her second thriller in a short series that has garnered good critical notice and some award nominations. Burke's heroine, Irene Kelly, is a tough investigative reporter who is romantically involved with a cop. Irene is reminiscent of Kinsey Millhone: independent and likeable with an offbeat sense of humor. Burke's plots, however, are harder-edged and more violent than Grafton's, and some of the violence is surprisingly disturbing. In this book, Irene is kidnapped, repeatedly beaten, almost raped, and forced to kill in self-defense. Overall, the body count is high for a women's mystery. The plot concerns a California political race, runaway teens, and accusations of satanism (although to her credit, Burke makes a clear and knowledgeable distinction between wiccan-style witchcraft and devil worship) ($4.99 pb, 0-380-72350-6, Avon). Third in the series, **Dear Irene**, involves the search for a serial killer who calls himself "Thanatos" and who leaves mythological clues to his crimes ($20 cl, 0-671-78216-9, Simon and Schuster). Burke's mysteries are solid and slick, but they aren't soft-boiled. You may want to stock them for customers who like a wilder ride.

Two recent paperbacks offer nicely engrossing plots headed up by strong women sleuths with progressive politics — and how much more does a feminist

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Humor

That's Ms. Bulldyke to You, Charlie! *by Jane Caminos* Hilarious cartoons capture lesbian life in full.

reader need? **The Bulrush Murders** by Rebecca Rothenberg introduces Claire Sharples, a very academic Cambridge biologist transplanted to the California agricultural basin, where she copes admirably with cultural differences, sexism, and brown rot. Infuriated by agribusiness, Claire suspects that someone is sabotaging the Rodriguez family farm. There's an unlikely but naturally unfolding heterosexual romance that deepens both the plot and the characters. And the mystery turns on Claire's knowledge of local botany. *The Los Angeles Times* called it one of the year's ten best mysteries ($5.50 pb, 0-446-40404-7, Mysterious Press). In **Death of a Postmodernist** by Janice Steinberg, public radio reporter Margo Simon is covering an avant-garde art opening in San Diego when one of the artists is found dead. Ironically, her dead body is assumed to be part of the art "installation." As you can tell, Steinberg is spoofing the art world, but she never gets too arch or too silly. The murder victim (whose installation is entitled "Frida and I," as in Kahlo) is a lesbian. The suspects include her lover, their son, her rival artists, a homeless woman whom she had befriended, and a powerful critic. **Death of a Postmodernist** is a fun evening's entertainment, and sensible sleuth Margo is a good companion for it ($4.99 pb, 0-425-14546-8, Berkley).

Ellen Hart, an author already well known to feminist readers for her lesbian mystery series about Jane Lawless and Cordelia Thorn, has branched out with a paperback original from Ballantine. **This Little Piggy Went to Murder** introduces food critic Sophie Greenway, who does a little amateur detecting after a pair of political murders in Minnesota. Sophie is middle-aged, married to a radio talk-show host, and has an interesting past: She belonged to a religious cult, which she left years ago when she left her first marriage. There is a lesbian subplot, but this is clearly not the start of another lesbian series. True to form, Hart has penned another interesting update on the traditional, Christie-style whodunit. This book is packaged to sell not just to Hart's fans but to fans of the cozy mystery, and it sells pretty well for us ($4.99 pb, 0-345-38189-0, Ballantine). **A Killing Cure**, the fourth Jane Lawless mystery, is also now available in paper ($5.99 pb, 0-345-39112-8, Ballantine).

There are always a number of lesbian mysteries from feminist presses out in time for ABA, and I never

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know whether to highlight them here or just count on the buzz created by savvy booksellers on Feminist Row. I will mention a couple of titles that we expect to sell in mass quantities. A new Stoner McTavish novel from Sarah Dreher is a goddess-send to feminist bookstores, and now we have **Bad Company**, so blessed be. If any of your customers have been put off by Stoner's increasingly other-worldly activities, you can assure them that **Bad Company** is very down-to-earth, and is, in fact, the most traditional tale of detection from Dreher in years ($10.95 pb, 0-934678-66-9, New Victoria). We also did very well with Kate Allen's first mystery, *Tell Me What You Like*, so we're glad to see the sequel, **Give My Secrets Back**. Of course these books sell because they're unabashedly sexy, but they also have a readable, realistic style and a touch of humor. Customers intrigued by the lesbian leather scene will snap them up ($9.95 pb, 0-934678-64-2, New Victoria).

Third Side Press has an anthology that looks like a must-stock for feminist bookstores. **Out for Blood: Tales of Mystery and Suspense by Women** edited by Victoria A. Brownworth includes fifteen previously unpublished (thank you) stories by the likes of Barbara Wilson, Katherine Forrest, Jewelle Gomez and Mabel Maney. The cover features strong art and a prominent list of contributors. The title and brooding cover art suggest horror more than mystery, but most of our customers are sophisticated enough to see beyond that (and to read the subtitle). $10.95 pb, 1-879427-20-6, Third Side.

Bantam has a couple of really strong women's mysteries in its July list, coming out just after ABA. Don't miss **A Grave Talent** by Laurie R. King, an Edgar Award-winner for best first mystery that has already been flogged to death in this column. But for those who weren't taking notes . . . it's a gripping police procedural, strong on character study, featuring lesbian homicide detective Kate Martinelli and her sympathetic male partner. The book has a lot to say about women artists and the line between genius and madness, among other things. My only quibble is that too much is made of the "secret" of Martinelli's lesbianism; the setting is San Francisco, after all. Bantam has packaged **A Grave Talent** beautifully with this prominent cover blurb from *The Boston Globe*: "If there is a new P.D. James . . . I would put my money on Laurie R. King. . . ." ($5.50 pb, 0-553-57399-3). Mary Willis Walker's **The Red Scream** was nominated for an Edgar and got some good critical attention, so we take on faith that it's outstanding. **The Red Scream** introduces Texas journalist Molly Cates, here tracking down a serial killer ($5.50 pb, 0-553-57172-9).

From the catalogues, here are some recent hardcovers that are at least worth a second look:

The Strange Files of Fremont Jones by Dianne Day introduces an early twentieth-century feminist sleuth, a "type-writer" (as the person, not the machine, was then called), whose career leads her to mystery and adventure in San Francisco in 1905. $19.95 cl, 0-385-47549-7, Doubleday.

Death in Still Waters by Barbara Lee won the Malice Domestic contest sponsored by St. Martin's Press for best first traditional mystery novel. Set near Chesapeake Bay, the novel features a forty-ish heroine as well as a couple of characters in their seventies, "whom everyone treats like equals rather than curiosities," according to catalogue copy. $20.95 cl, 0-312-13048-1, St. Martin's.

Carol O'Connell's first mystery, *Mallory's Oracle*, stirred some interest and was nominated for an Edgar Award, so you might want to pay attention also to the second, **The Man Who Cast Two Shadows**. O'Connell's unique heroine was truly a wild child, adopted off the streets, now grown up to become an NYPD sergeant. Here she hunts for a killer who is leaving personal clues, literally with her name on them. $22.95 cl, 0-399-14064-6, Putnam.

Valerie Wilson Wesley is continuing her series about African American P.I. Tamara Hayle with **Devil's Gonna Get Him**, the sequel to *When Death Comes Stealing*. This is already noteworthy, if only because there are so few African American women working in this genre; but, in addition, the critical quotes were excellent. $19.95 cl, 0-339-14027-1, Putnam, July.

Another African American woman detective is on her third paperback: **Gone Quiet** by Eleanor Taylor Bland, featuring Chicago police detective Marti McAlister. The previous two were *Slow Burn* and *Dead Time*,

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Look for Sarah to be autographing at ABA!

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both from Signet. Considering the incredibly low-key promotion by Signet, they sell pretty well for us. $4.99 pb, 0-451-18267-7, Signet.

A Sudden Death at the Norfolk Cafe by Winona Sullivan won the Best First Private Eye Contest sponsored by St. Martin's Press, so we'll assume it rises above its laughably unlikely set-up. Sister Cecile is a professional private investigator, as well as an heiress and a nun, who gets involved in Boston politics and murder. The title and the very attractive cover will probably sell it in our store. $4.99 pb, 0-8041-1213-4, Ivy.

Take note of Karen Kijewski's new hardcover, **Alley Kat Blues**, fifth in her strong private-eye series. *Kate's Mystery Newsletter* called Kijewski "one of the top women authors today, in company with Sara Paretsky, Sue Grafton, Patricia Cornwell, and Linda Barnes." That's some company ($22.95 cl, 0-385-46852-0, Doubleday). If you can't sell the hardcover, don't neglect Kijewski's paperbacks. The most recent is *Wild Kat* ($5.50 pb, 0-553-56877-9, Bantam).

Before she made a splash with her Edgar Award-winning series about the bootlegger's daughter, Margaret Maron had acquired a small feminist following for her serviceable mysteries featuring NYPD detective Sigrid Harald. Mysterious Press has re-issued the first, one of the best in the series: **One Coffee With** ($5.50 pb, 0-446-40415-2, Mysterious Press). And now, after a long hiatus, there's a new Sigrid Harald novel, **Fugitive Colors** ($18.95 cl, 0-89296-567-3, Mysterious Press).

Lastly, there's **Calendar Girl** by Londoner Stella Duffy, coming in August from Serpent's Tail under their new mystery imprint, Mask Noir. The catalogue copy is worth repeating here: "Dyke detective Saz is hot on the trail of a woman known only as 'September' who commutes between London and New York in a whirlwind of drug smuggling, gambling and high-class prostitution. Meanwhile stand-up comic Maggie is falling for a mysterious woman who can't commit herself. A murder brings Saz and Maggie together...." Sounds unbelievably hip and hot, perfect for August. $11.99 pb, 1-85242-367-6, Serpent's Tail. ○

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

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Books in Canada: BORDER CROSSING

by Alexandra Wilson
Women in Print, Vancouver

Spring has finally broken here in Vancouver, and the falling crab-apple blossoms make the first title on my list especially appropriate. Part tribute to gardening, part celebration of friendship, **Garden Letters: A Growing Correspondence** by Elspeth Bradbury and Judy Maddocks is a collection of letters between best friends who live a continent apart. Beautifully written and illustrated, rich with botanical detail, the book chronicles the changes in their lives, and contrasts the climates and gardens of the east and west coasts. C$18.95 pb, 1-896095-062, Polestar Press. Distributed by Pacific Pipeline, Orca Book Publishers (604-380-1229).

Also new this Spring from Polestar is **Annie** by Luanne Armstrong, a young adult novel challenging the traditional mythologies of the west. A young heroine accompanied by her horse and her dog, Annie follows the homesteaders trail to find a home for herself and her young brothers rather than marry. C$14.95 pb, 1-896095-00-3, Polestar Press. Distributed by Pacific Pipeline, Orca Book Publishers (604-380-1229).

From University of British Columbia Press comes the first biography of a remarkable yet largely unknown woman, Carolyn Macdonald: **A Heart at Leisure with Itself** by Margaret Prang. Macdonald (1874-1931) spent her adult life in Japan and was instrumental in establishing the YWCA and in bringing the international movement in prison reform to that country. Her work elicited tributes from all over the world. C$39.95 cl, 0-7748-0522-6, UBC. Distributed by University of Washington Press.

Small Souls Under Siege is an intense collection of short stories by Anne Dandurand, the acclaimed author of *The Cracks*. Small souls fight with invention and cunning against the "pitiless and unthinking gods" of their daily lives. A compelling look at urban life. C$12.95 pb, 0-920953-81-6, Cormorant Books. Distributed by InBook.

Anne Szumigalski is a Canadian poet and playwright, and **Z: A Meditation on Oppression, Desire and Freedom** is a play that combines elements of performance art, verse, song and scripture. It reads as well as it plays, and is a powerful testament to those who survived the Holocaust. C$9.95 pb, 1-55050-080-5, Coteau Books. Distributed by InBook.

From Brick Books comes a new poet, Julie Berry. Her book **Worn Thresholds** combines startling imagery and honesty with a quirky sense of humour which sneaks up sidewise on the reader. C$11.95 pb, 0-919626-75-0. Distributed by InBook.

And who hasn't read *Anne of Green Gables*? In **Writing A Life** Mary Rubio and Elizabeth Watson explore the work of Lucy Maude Montgomery, including the secret journal she kept during the last fifty-three years of her life. An engaging look at covert rebellion "against authority (especially patriarchal authority)" in the life of the creator of the Anne stories. C$14.95 pb, 1-55022-220-1, ECW Press. Distributed by IN.

Finally, I'd like to call your attention to a few re-releases: Karen Connolly, (award-winning author of *Touch the Dragon: A Thai Journal*) won the Pat Lowther Award for poetry by a woman in 1990. Her book **The Small Words in My Body** (C$9.00 pb, 1-896356-00-1, Gutter Press/Arsenal Pulp Press) displays a strong, distinctive voice, and this re-issue contains material not published in the original.

See **Canadian Books**, *page 134.*

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—Judith Katz, author of *Running Fiercely toward a High Thin Sound*

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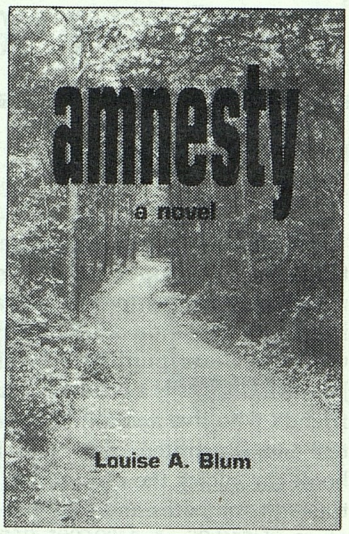

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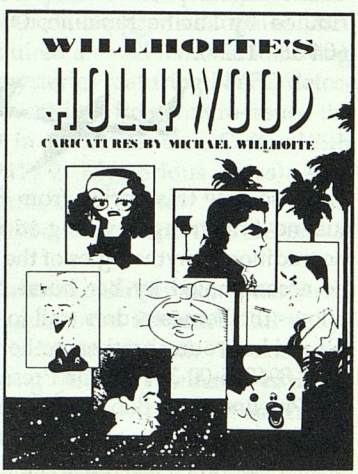

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GAY MEN'S LIT
FOR FEMINIST BOOKSTORES

By Richard Labonte
A Different Light Bookstore, San Francisco

In general, most gay "bestsellers" putter along at a couple of hundred copies — it's rare that any hardcover, or even softcover, sells more than that at A Different Light in San Francisco.

Recent exceptions include, in total sales order starting October 1, 1993 and ending March 31, 1995 (so for some books the sales period is as much as 18 months, for a couple as short as five months):

Angels in America Pt. 2: Perestroika by Tony Kushner, 776 copies in softcover, 47 in hardcover, plus 176 of the boxed set containing both books of the play.

What the Bible Really Says About Homosexuality by Daniel A. Helminiak, 761 copies in softcover.

Men on Men 5 edited by David Bergman, 624 copies in softcover.

Angels in America Pt. 1: Millenium Approaches by Tony Kushner, 582 copies in softcover, 40 in hardcover.

While England Sleeps by David Leavitt, 608 copies in hardcover.

Becoming a Man: Half a Life Story by Paul Monette, 502 copies in softcover, 102 copies in hardcover.

The Penguin Book of Gay Short Stories edited by David Leavitt, 307 copies in hardcover, 118 in softcover.

Last Watch of the Night by Paul Monette, 421 copies in hardcover.

Flesh & the Word 2 edited by John Preston, 392 copies in softcover.

Invisible Life by E. Lynn Harris, 382 copies in softcover.

Waves: An Anthology of New Gay Fiction edited by Ethan Mordden, 375 copies in softcover.

In addition to those numbers, there are a few titles which have kept selling and selling over the past 18 months — most notably Armistead Maupin's *Tales of the City* series, with the first book selling 1,603 copies, fueled by the PBS series last year, and the other five titles plus the two hardcover trilogies, *28 Barbary Lane* and *Back to Barbary Lane*, selling an additional cumulative total of 2,280 copies.

There is also the steady sales of Tom Spanbauer's *The Man Who Fell in Love With the Moon* — 406 copies in 18 months — a book which has legs primarily because it's a staff favourite and is heavily recommended.

So, that's a snapshot of the relatively few tomes, travel guides aside, which are real bestsellers — though we're certainly happy with anything over 50 or 100 copies.

(By the way, the above figures are from ADL/SF only; were New York to have supplied the numbers, George Chauncey's *Gay New York* would figure prominently, with hardcover sales of 647 in NY, versus 256 in SF; likewise, both of Paul Monette's books sold more at ADL/West Hollywood than the Tony Kushner plays which topped the SF list.)

And that brings me to the two titles which inspired this quick analysis of sales: *Breaking the Surface* by Greg Louganis and *The Unofficial Gay Manual* by Kevin Dilallo and Jack Krumholtz.

The latter has sold 1,687 copies since November, 1994, and while Christmas-gift-giving certainly spurred sales, there's no question that it was the fastest-selling gay title I'd seen in 15 years of bookselling...

Until the 31 days of March, that is, when A Different Light in San Francisco sold 1,402 copies of the Louganis title — and, like most booksellers around the

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Lesbian Bestsellers

Because the aim of this column is to suggest boy books for women's bookstores, I used sales figures in the accompanying column drawn from the male side of the shelf. But we all love numbers — so, for comparison's sake, here are the Top 10 best-selling lesbian titles from over the past 18 months:

- *Bastard Out of Carolina* by Dorothy Allison, 712 copies in softcover since 10/93.
- *The Case of the Not-So-Nice Nurse* by Mabel Maney, 492 copies in softcover since 10/93.
- *The Case of the Good-For-Nothing Girlfriend* by Mabel Maney, 438 copies in hardcover, since 11/94.
- *The Penguin Book of Lesbian Short Stories* edited by Margaret Reynolds, 221 copies in hardcover and 191 copies in softcover since 12/94.
- *Hothead Paisan* by Diane DiMassa, 410 copies in softcover since 10/93.
- *Skin* by Dorothy Allison, 397 copies in softcover since 05/94.
- *Stone Butch Blues* by Leslie Feinberg, 368 copies in softcover, since 10/93.
- *Public Sex: The Culture of Radical Sex* by Pat Califia, 312 copies in softcover, since 10/94.
- *Afterglow: More Stories of Lesbian Desire* edited by Karen Barber, 305 copies since 10/93.
- *Spawn of Dykes to Watch Out For* by Alison Bechdel, 305 copies since 10/93.

country, we were out of it for seven days in that period. (We also had the benefit of a booksigning, though only — only? — 526 copies sold that day).

And the point of all these numbers?

Well, it's because I don't believe much in the "crossover" hopes of the editors and publishers of gay books. With the prove-the-rule exception of Maupin, I don't think any gay (or solidly lesbian) book since the boom in titles started about 10 years ago has ever really transcended the overall gay "genre."

Maupin's books, with a wise and witty gay sensibility, have always had appeal beyond a gay readership. I can't prove that with numbers — I haven't quizzed the thousands of customers who've bought his books over the past decade — but there's plenty of anecdotal evidence to bear out my belief: the dozens of straight tourists looking for his books every summer, the many calls we received as the PBS series was airing from women and men all over the city desperate to buy a copy of *Tales* and its sequels, so in love with the series were they.

Lots of our literature deserves to be read by more than queers, and I'll admit that a bit more is read now than was a few years ago.

But a gay book or a lesbian book is more scary to buy than a "black" book, a "women's" book, a "Jewish" book, a "Southern" book. More than with those subsets of American literature, if you buy a fag book, might you not be one, or become one? That, more than anything, is why there have not been any gay books bought in any significant numbers by non-gay readers.

The sales of two of Randy Shilts's books, I think, support my contention. *And the Band Played On* was the last major gay-related title to have any major impact on the bestseller list of *The New York Times*, nearly 10 years ago — because bookbuyers gay and straight were curious about AIDS, and Shilts had a lot to say that was original.

His publisher, St. Martin's Press, had high hopes for his next book, *Conduct Unbecoming: Gays & Lesbians in the U.S. Military*. Relative to expectations, and to the success of *And the Band*, it was a flop (though many tens of thousands of copies did sell). Why? Because the non-gay book market that had been curious about AIDS (it might affect them) really didn't care much about queers with crewcuts in showers and submarines; in fact, many were aghast.

Those high sales noted above? Simply from gay people buying gay books, for the most part: along with our political emergence in the past 15 years has come a concurrent expansion in the numbers of people creating gay-identified art (not just books: theatre, film, performance art, magazines), and consuming it.

That's even the case with *The Unofficial Gay Manual*, a sassy, savvy little book with great gift appeal and fabulous word of mouth. Its average sale of almost 10 copies a day every day at A Different Light

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for more than four months is a phenomenon (have I used that word before?), sure, but nobody not bent was buying it.

The Greg Louganis book is, at last, another matter.

It's a gay-book first: with more than 300,000 copies in print as I write (April 3), it's truly transcended its gayness, and its AIDS-ness.

And its publisher, Random House, was caught completely short by the book's appeal — the first printing was sold out before the first booksigning on February 28, at A Different Light in New York. What struck me about the crowd, which stood in line for several moist and chilly hours, was how many straight women and men were there — some who had seen Louganis in the play *Jeffrey*, many others who were drawn by his diving career . . . young men athletes who weren't gay but were glad to be there, older fans of the Olympics who were overjoyed to have a chance to meet a man who had thrilled them with his skill, daring and pluck. The same pattern repeated at the booksignings in West Hollywood and SF: Louganis had touched a chord with the public far more resonant than his publisher (or publicist) had expected.

Publishers have laid out a lot of money and have high crossover hopes for some of this year's titles, most notably Ethan Mordden's epic *How Long Has This Been Going On* and Michael Cunningham's *Flesh & Blood*, and for a book activist Urvashi Vaid is working on, on gay politics. I'll bet they sell well; I doubt they'll be much read on airplanes.

Despite its fumbling in the first week with *Breaking the Surface*, kudos are due Random House for how it handled the Louganis book tour: Instead of scheduling appearances at large chain stores or even in major non-gay independents, there was a committment from the start to feature gay bookstores — Glad Day in Boston, Giovanni's Room in Philadelphia, Lambda Rising in Washington, Outwrite in Atlanta, Obelisk in San Diego, the three branches of A Different Light. In the few cities where he made two appearances, the gay bookstore came first (in New York, for example, he appeared the next day at Rizzolis).

As publishers try harder and harder to crack open the queer closet, they are booking authors outside of gay venues more frequently — a practice properly resented by the gay and feminist stores which have nurtured gay books for years, and the early work of many authors.

Random House, or Greg Louganis, or perhaps even his writer Eric Marcus, did the right thing with *Breaking the Surface*.

My apologies for breaking the stride of this column, which is meant to provide booksellers with a guide to new and interesting titles. I'll be back to that motif after FBN's Summer Sidelines Issue, and by then I hope to have settled into a new job . . . I'm now general manager of all three branches of A Different Light, which keeps me traveling a lot. By late summer I'll have better control over how I spend my time, and the time I need for doing this column properly (getting those pesky ISBNs to stand straight is such a chore) is top of the list.

But one title I want to recommend this issue — and it's not even a book — is the CD-ROM version of Shilts's **Conduct Unbecoming**. There's been lots of hype about multimedia, and not much of what's been released has been really very good — or of much interest to lesbian, feminist or gay stores.

This work is pretty thrilling. In addition to the text of the book, a hefty work itself, it includes audio, photo and video images of dozens of the women and men originally interviewed for the book, as well as thousands of pages of original documents, court records of challenges to the government's anti-gay military policy, and much, much more. It belongs in any progressive bookstore, even if you don't know a CD-ROM from a Belgian waffle. $39.95, on a hybrid disk compatible with Windows, Mac, DOS and UNIX. Available from ApolloMedia, 4053 18th Street, San Francisco CA 94114; 415-552-7655. ○

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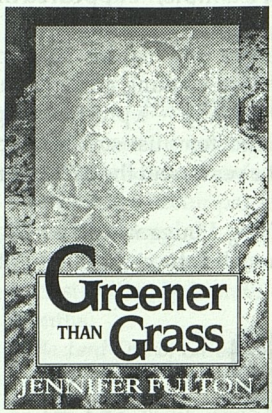


GREENER THAN GRASS

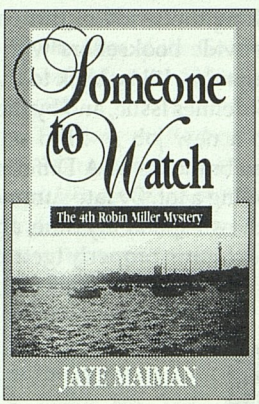
by Jennifer Fulton

When documentary filmmaker Blair Carroll comes home to the Melbourne, Australia apartment she has borrowed for a month, she finds a stranger, a young woman, asleep in her bed.

And so begins the story of two women of very different ages, backgrounds, and experience.

Cassie, who works in the offices of an escort service, finds first love in a form she never expected. And Blair . . . whose twenty-year relationship has just come to an end.

Jennifer Fulton, says *The Lesbian Review of Books,* asks "universal questions about friendship and love, intimacy and lust. The answers reflect both depth and maturity. Girl gets girl is always popular; more inspirational is when the girl gets to know herself." ISBN: 1-56280-092-2 $10.95



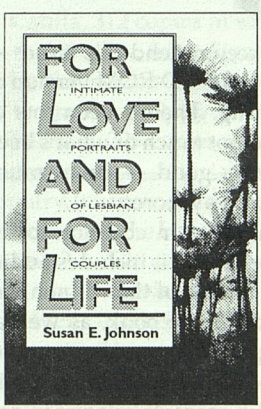
SOMEONE TO WATCH

The 4th Robin Miller Mystery *by Jaye Maiman*

Critics have raved about all three of Lambda Award-winning Jaye Maiman's superb mysteries. . .

The fourth entry in this extraordinary series finds Robin Miller hot on the trail of a sultry singer who doubles as a con artist. But she is sidetracked by a plea from her lover, K.T. Bellflower. To help K.T.'s friend, the prime suspect in the murder of her boyfriend.

But Robin is blindsided by the disappearance of both the friend and K.T. Her relationship — and her life — in deepest jeopardy, Robin is plunged into an investigation that uncovers a disturbing secret about the murdered man, and a startling connection between a right-wing politician and a gay activist . . . ISBN: 1-56280-095-7 $10.95



FOR LOVE AND FOR LIFE:

Intimate Portraits of Lesbian Couples *by Susan Johnson*

For Love and For Life expands 1990's essential, groundbreaking study of lesbian lives, *Staying Power: Long Term Lesbian Couples.*

In this new work you will come to know ten lesbian couples who have been together from fifteen to thirty-seven years.

Some are non-white, some are Jewish, some Catholic, some are well-educated, some not. Some have children. Five women are over seventy years old. Some are the other's first lover. One couple practices non-monogamy.

How has each individual partner, and each partnership, dealt with the challenges and intimacy of sharing a life together? Learn the answers these women have discovered. ISBN: 1-56280-091-4 $14.95

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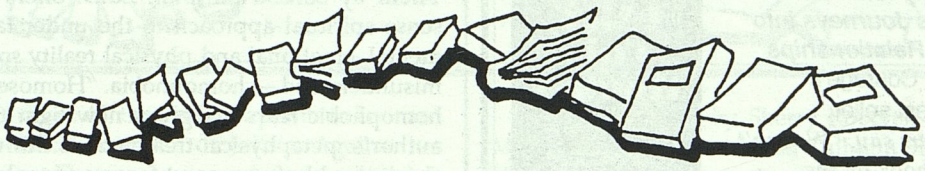

Compiled by Beth Morgan

The majority of Spring titles from the Feminist Presses were announced in FBN 17#6, the Spring Announcements Issue. Here are several more titles we just got wind of ...

ARTEMIS PRESS

Interrupted Lives: Four Women's Stories of Internment During World War II in the Philippines edited by Lily Nova and Iven Lourie includes interviews and narratives from four women who survived the Japanese internment camps in the Philippines: Margaret Sams, Jane Wills, Sascha Jean Jansen, and Karen Kerns Lewis. Two of the stories are from a child's perspective, two are from the perspective of mothers. $6.95 pb, 0-9645181-9-8.

Artemis Books, PO Box 2401, Grass Valley CA 95945; 916-432-1716. Wholesale order directly from the publishers : 25% discount for 1 copy; 40% discount for 5+ copies. —*Artemis Books*

EIGHTH MOUNTAIN PRESS

We're pleased to announce our third travel title. While not aimed exclusively at women, **The Fearless Flyer** by Cherry Hartman and Julie Sheldon Huffaker contains valuable information for all women. Hartman, a Licensed Clinical Social Worker who has specialized in treating anxiety — including aerophobia — for twenty-five years, shares the methods that have worked for her clients. And Huffaker offers the benefits of her extensive research and air travel along with tips and tricks from the experts on how to: eat well, escape noise, sleep soundly, avoid backaches, overcome jet lag, select the right seat, prevent motion sickness, schedule to avoid delays, manage luggage like a pro and ward off the after-flight cold, as well as other topics. Special information for flyers with disabilities, flying with kids, kids flying solo and flying with animals. $10.95 pb, 0-933377-33-9.

Eighth Mountain Press, 624 SE 29th Avenue, Portland OR 97214; 503-233-3936. Distributed by Consortium, IN, BP, Small Press Distribution, Airlift (UK and Europe) and Bulldog Books (Australia and New Zealand). —*Ruth Gundle*
Eighth Mountain Press

GARDEN STREET PRESS

We're excited about Eve Merriam's **Embracing the Dark**, the latest from our press, a new small press founded by women. Merriam's book opens with the exploits of Jack Dark, the perennial, prodigal demon lover, and closes with "Poems Purgatorio," which chronicle Merriam's acceptance of death. Lois Gould says: "Merriam's voice, a candle in the heart of our darkness, casts its light like the mischief of fire itself, searing, caressing, healing, changing our very shadows." $12.95 pb, 1-882329-04-X.

Other Garden Street poetry books are **Waiting for the Messiah in Somerville, Mass.** by Naomi Feigelson Chase, which Booklist calls "stunning" ($11 pb, 1-882329-00-7); **Ibbetson Street** by Jean Flanagan, which illuminates the lives of the Boston Irish ($11 pb, 1-882329-02-3); and **Poems of the Sixth Decade** by Marilyn Zuckerman, about the spiritual journey of aging and doubt ($11 pb, 1-882329-01-5).

Garden Street Press, PO Box 1231, Truro MA 02666; 508-487-8823. Distributed by Baker & Taylor and the publisher. —*Garden Street Press*

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■ ***And Then I Met This Woman:***
Previously Married Women's Journeys into Lesbian Relationships
is Mother Courage's current best seller.
Booksellers say, "We can't keep the book on the shelves . . ."

Also deserving are these previously published novels which mirror the lives of lesbians whether they are emerging into their own identity or struggling to keep themselves whole.

■ ***Night Lights*** **by Bonnie Arthur**
Heart healing and laugh-out-loud funny, mature new lovers encounter homophobia, fundamentalism, their teen-age children and more with lively action and unique twists.

■ ***Hodag Winter*** **by Deborah Wiese**
Colleen, a first-grade teacher outed by a lapsed lesbian, is fired. She, her lover and friends fight back and come to terms with their own demon hodags. Characters and confrontations in this Midwestern community ring true.

■ ***Singin' the Sun Up*** **by Ocala Wings**
From her grandmother, Proud Wolf Running, Kincaid learns the meaning of 'the old ways' and after discovering her own power to interact with nature, she is finally free from her past abuse to love whom she chooses.

Distributed by Bookpeople, Alamo Square and Inland or order directly from

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

THE GODDESS EXPRESS

The Homophobic Healer: A Primer for Gays, Lesbians and the Families and Friends Who Love Them by Sandra St. John, Ed.D. offers a common sense spiritual approach to the understanding of a mental, emotional and physical reality so commonly misunderstood — homophobia. "Homosexuality and homophobic fears are given new light through the author's metaphysical treatment of this emotionally charged subject . . . a must for every[one] who seek[s] to extend their awareness, expand their consciousness and heal their wounds [around] homosexuality." $8.95 pb, 1-885084-33-1.

The Goddess Express (an imprint of Tickerwick Publications), PO Box 47492, St. Petersburg FL 33743; 813-360-6168. Distributed by IN. *—Goddess Express*

KELSEY ST. PRESS

The Rosy Medallions: Selected Work is the second collection of writing by lesbian author and performance artist Camille Roy. These startling, witty pieces combine a playwright's keen ear for vernacular speech with a poet's compression. Every line has its physical punch. In language jangly and fierce, Roy lets us eavesdrop on a series of seductive yet disquieting encounters. These edgy short fictions deliver the yelp and hum of lovers' speech. Robert Gluck writes: "Her nasty luscious stories make up a dyke coming-of-age novel, set not in the American family, but in our traveling explosion of body-race-class-gender." And Eileen Myles writes: "Roy's a pioneer in the new literature which used to be called autobiography, poetry, theater, prose, or even the essay." $10 pb, 0-932716-35-0.

Kelsey St. Press, 2718 Ninth Street, Berkeley CA 94710; 510-845-2260. Distributed by IN, Small Press Distribution. *—Kelsey St. Press*

NAIAD PRESS

Initially, in **Final Cut** by Lisa R. Haddock, newspaper editor Carmen Ramirez and grad student Julia Nichols seem like the perfect couple. But two years into their relationship, temptation — and trouble — arrive in the form of charming, seductive Antoinette ("Toni") Stewart. Toni disappears, then turns up a

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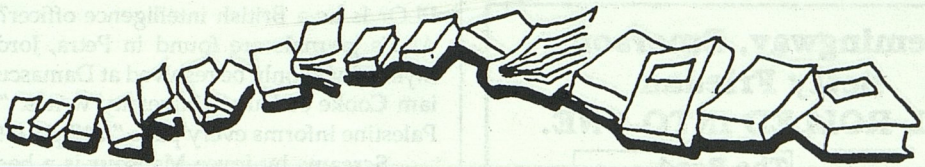

week later — dead. All the evidence points to Leonard Martin, a political comrade of Julia's. Against her better judgment Carmen agrees to help Leonard, but she discovers how little she really knew about the dead woman as she is drawn into a dark labyrinth of hatred and cruelty from which she may not be able to escape. $10.95 pb, 1-56280-88-4, July.

And finally out in paper in July is Katherine V. Forrest's **Flashpoint**. When three lesbians and a gay man are summoned together by a woman with whom they have all shared a part of their lives, none of them could possibly predict the consequences of their meeting, or the repercussions from the watershed political event of that weekend. $10.95 pb, 1-56280-079-5, July.

Naiad Press, PO Box 10543, Tallahassee FL 32302; 800-533-1973. Distributed by BP, IN, et al. Naiad's bookstore discount for 1995 will be 50% at all times.

—*Naiad Press*

PAPIER-MACHE

A Question of Balance: Artists and Writers on Motherhood edited by Judith Pierce Rosenberg asks the questions: How does a woman combine her artistic career and motherhood? And how does motherhood influence an artist's work? These interviews with twenty-five talented, successful women explore how their experiences as mothers have shaped their creative work, and their struggles to find hours of solitude to pursue their work while meeting the needs of their family and their household. $14 pb, 0-918949-51-3; $25 cl, -52-1, September.

Making Ourselves at Home: Women Builders & Designers edited by Janice Goldfrank — a general contractor from New York — presents an inspiring account of women who have designed and/or built their own houses, revealing the intense personal satisfaction and self-confidence gained from the experience. Based on interviews with women across the country, this collection is a testament to the lasting influence of the women's movement and the power of individual commitment. $20 pb, 0-918949-26-2, October.

Maud's House by Sherry Roberts. Welcome to Maud's famous house! Maud Calhoun puts her small Vermont hometown on the map with paintings that cover every inch of her house, inside and out. Then, pressured by her well-meaning neighbors to paint a town mural, Maud searches for the inspiration that has eluded her ever since she married George, an accountant with a penchant for whitewash. $11 pb, 0-918949-28-9, August.

Milkweed by Mary Gardner eloquently reveals an intense, proud young woman adrift in life. An only child traumatically orphaned at a young age, Susan Carson finds herself guided by internal rhythms and driven by a strong sense of independence. Set in the golden and sometimes harsh Midwest farmlands, Mary Gardner takes us into the powerful pulse of one woman's life and the people in it. $11 pb, 0-918949-45-9, August.

A compelling and thought-provoking poetry collection, **In the Garden of Our Own Making** by Barbara Sperber traces the painful yet edifying results of a lifelong mother-daughter struggle, and the daughter's integration of loss and desire as she first gives up for adoption then later meets her own daughter. Shaping a new kind of love with the people in our life, both known and imagined, renews our personal contentment and compassion. $9 pb, 0-918949-69-6, October.

Legacy: Gifts from a Grandmother by Elizabeth A. Miksell: A truly valued heirloom, our grandmothers' words are a legacy to be treasured and remembered. Grandmothers teach us about the world, worry about us, and remind us we are loved. The "Gramma-isms" collected here are like the smell of home-baked cookies and a warm, caring hug, bringing a smile and a feeling of warmth to everyone who reads them. $6 pb, 0-918949-68-8, August.

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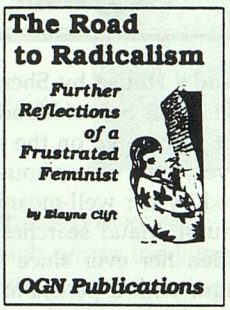

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POST-APOLLO PRESS

Precise Intrigues by Mary Angeline is a collection of poetry, some of which has been previously published in *Avec*, *Talisman*, *Big Allis* and *Notus New Writing*. Of this collection Ann Lauterbach says "**Precise Intrigues** has the rigorous murmur of a needle stitching a tapestry where each line adheres to a necessary trajectory. . . . Once again, we are reminded that language is the ordering structure of how we come to know, and that changing the order changes what we know." $12 pb, 0-942996-22-4.

A Beggar at Damascus Gate by Yasmine Zahran is a novel by a writer and archaeologist who lives and works in Paris and Jerusalem. The story is a tale of love and murder, a search for a past and a future that unfolds across three continents. Rayya has disappeared and Alex has died — is Rayya working for the PLO? Is he a British intelligence officer? Rayya and Alex's journals are found in Petra, Jordan, but the mystery will only be resolved at Damascus Gate. Miriam Cooke of Duke University writes: "The pain of Palestine informs every page." $12 pb, 0-942996-24-0.

Screams by Joyce Mansour is a book of poetry originally published in French as *Cris*. The Post-Apollo Press is publishing the first English translation, by Serge Gavronsky. Joyce Mansour's parents were Jewish-Egyptian, and she lived in Egypt until the age of twenty-eight. In the 1950s she settled in Paris with her husband and met Andre Breton and other surrealists. Mansour wrote poetry admired by the surrealists — she was fearless, and with her anatomically graphic language she went far beyond what their work merely hinted at. From the introduction: ". . . I do not know of any other examples in French poetry in which the words labia, pubis, breasts, penis, testicles, sperm and menstrual blood figure with such prominence. Such explicit terms . . . [caused] considerable consternation in a literary world in which conventions had implicitly exiled such preoccupations from women's writings." $10 pb, 0-942996-25-9.

Post-Apollo Press, 35 Marie Street, Sausalito CA 94965; 415-332-1455. Distributed by IN, BP, Small Press Distribution. —*Post-Apollo Press*

SECOND STORY PRESS

Keely had a relationship with Darla and then one with Carolyn, who seems to have been involved with everyone. . . . Romance, sex and tragedy all play a part in **The Best Laid Plans** by Mary-Ellen Ross, an engaging work of fiction about a group of lesbians whose lives are intricately entwined. $9.95 pb, 0-929005-73-2, September.

Based on actual court records, **Cast a Long Shadow** by Leena Lander is a compelling novel that will haunt and fascinate the reader with its imaginative retelling of the infamous witch trials of seventeenth-century Finland. $12.95 pb, 0-929005-66-X, September.

Mollie confronts anti-Semitism and something called the "Holocaust" in **Fitting In** by Sharon Kirsch, a novel for readers under fourteen. $6.95 pb, 0-929005-74-0, September.

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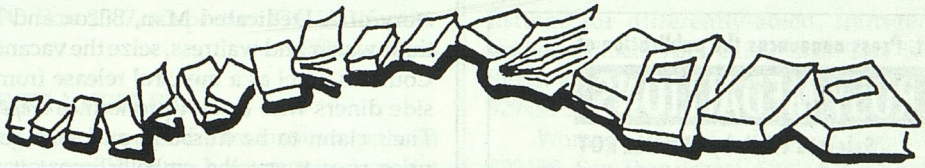

Faye Schulman was a teenager studying photography when the Nazis decimated her community. In **Woman of the Holocaust**, Schulman — now over seventy, and decorated for heroism by several governments — tells her extraordinary story of survival and resistance against oppression. Includes her photographs. $15.95 pb, 0-929005-76-7, September.

Power Surges: Sex, Violence & Pornography by Susan G. Cole is a vital collection of essays covering a range of topics, including family violence, sexual stereotyping, false memory syndrome, harassment, child battery, the sex trade, lesbian chic and "paid female fertility." $14.95 pb, 0-929005-78-3, September.

Second Story Press, 720 Bathurst Street Suite 301, Toronto, Ontario, Canada MS5 2R4; 416-537-7850. Distributed by BP, IN. —*Second Story*

THIRD WOMAN PRESS

Originally published in 1982, Theresa Hak Kyung Cha's **Dictée** maps the multiple colonial interventions in Korea and evokes episodes from the narrator's displaced adulthood as a Korean American immigrant and her return to a military-ruled South Korea. **Dictée** is a remarkable mixed-media text that combines autobiographical and biographical fragments, photographs, historical narrative, calligraphy and lyric prose poetry in a complex, discontinuous weave. $12.95 pb, 0-943219-12-4.

Concurrent with the re-issuing of *Dictée*, in **Writing Self Writing Nation** edited by Elaine Kim and Norma Alarcon, five Asian American women celebrate their rediscovery of this avant-garde text by responding to Cha's call for a new critical imaginary. This collection includes essays by scholars Laura Hyun Yi Kang, Elaine H. Kim, Lisa Lowe, and Shelley Sunn Wong, and a visual essay by artist Yong Soon Min, who especially designed the book to resonate with *Dictée*. Together their work offers reconstructions of ethnicity and nation, and gives new attention to the representation of nationalism and feminism in *Dictée*, making provocative use of historicist, marxist, postcolonial and feminist methods of interpretation. $12.95 pb, 0-943219-11-6.

Third Woman Press, 508A Barrows Hall, University of California, Berkeley CA 94720; 510-655-4824. Books can be ordered at a 40% discount through the University Bookstore, 2625 Durant, Berkeley CA 94720. —*Third Woman Press*

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Distributed by Trafalgar Square

In **Having It Away** by Patrice Chaplin, Jenny and Charmian head for Catalonia with their young

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Show off, dress up and talk hot to find one's sensuous inner self. The author, a formerly shy sex worker/educator, presents techniques and resources from her popular workshops to help those of all sexual persuasions move beyond bashfulness to erotic confidence.

$12.50, paper, 200p, biblio, ISBN 0-940208-16-4

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Also available through Bookpeople, Inland, Alamo Square, Pacific Pipeline, the distributors, Baker & Taylor and others.

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Kelsey St. Press announces the publication of

THE ROSY MEDALLIONS

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The Rosy Medallions is the second collection of writing by lesbian author and performance artist Camille Roy. These startling witty pieces combine a playwright's keen ear for vernacular speech with a poet's compression. Every line has its physical punch.

Camille Roy's skittish, predatory language stalks the inexplicable, then pounces. Her nasty luscious stories and poems make up a dyke coming-of-age novel, set not in the American family, but in our traveling explosion of body-race-class-gender... — Robert Glück ▲ *...Roy's a pioneer in the new literature which used to be called autobiography, poetry, theater, prose or even the essay.* — Eileen Myles

72pp., $10, ISBN 0-932716-35-0

Catalogues & subscriptions available upon request: Kelsey St. Press, 2718 Ninth St., Berkeley, CA 94710, FAX 510.548.9185

Distributors: Small Press Distribution 1.800.869.7553
Inland Books 1.800.243.0138

children, in search of tranquility — or so they tell their husbands. But Jenny plans to meet up with Luis, the elusive Spaniard she's loved since she was sixteen, and Charmian has the deadpan Norman in tow. The holiday that ensues is observed and embellished by the reigning local matriarch in this exuberant, hilarious portrait of domestic and romantic chaos. $10.95 pb, 1-85381-255-2.

The Turkish Embassy Letters by Lady Mary Wortley Montagu tell of her travels through Europe to Turkey in 1716. Her liveliness makes the letters wonderfully readable, and her singular intelligence provides us with insights that were exceptional for their time: the paradoxical freedoms conferred on Muslim women by the veil, the value of experimental work by Turkish doctors on innoculation, and the beauty of Arab poetry and culture. Introduction by Anita Desai. $13.95 pb, 1-85381-679-5.

And from Virago's Modern Classic Series comes two titles by Elizabeth Taylor, of whom novelist Anne Tyler says: "Like Jane Austen, like Barbara Pym . . . Elizabeth Taylor made it her business to explore the quirky underside of so-called civilization." In the title story of **A Dedicated Man**, Silcox and Edith, ambitious waiter and waitress, seize the vacancy in a Home Counties hotel as a merciful release from vulgar seaside diners who cannot pronounce *crepes de volailles*. Their claim to be husband and wife seems a small price to pay, yet the embellishment it requires has painful and unanticipated consequences ($10.95 pb, 0-86068-607-8). And in **A Wreath of Roses**, Camilla, spending the holiday with friends, finds that their private absorptions — Frances with her paintings and Liz with her baby — exclude her from the gossipy intimacy of previous summers. And so she steps into an unlikely liaison with Richard Elton, a handsome, assured — and dangerous — liar. Taylor's darkest novel, **A Wreath of Roses** is an astute exploration of the fear of loneliness and its emotional armour ($10.95 pb, 1-85381-684-1).

Virago Press, distributed in the U.S. by Trafalgar Square, North Pomfret VT 05053; 802-457-1911.

—*Virago*

WOMAN IN THE MOON PUBLICATIONS

Under Peace Rising by Merilene M. Murphy speaks with the authority of a Nobel Prize-winner and has the markings of a finely wrought metaphor, the sensibility of the spring-laced eye and the social ingenuity of a new-age customer service representative. Introduction by Ntozake Shange. $18.99 pb, 0-934172-38-2.

Birthing by Nina Silver collects poems that speak of growth, process, relationship and passages, and draw the reader into the stillness of memory like the full moon's reflection on a black sea in a cloudless night. $18.99 pb, 0-934172-39-0, June.

Laughter of the Witch (And Other Known Poems) by Red Jordan Arobateau is a narrative collection with emotion found only in the cards of human life: anger, compassion, fear, love, passion — hair-trigger phrases that sear the mind's eye like the laser cuts out the cataract. $18.99 pb, 0-934172-40-4, July.

Each of the above poets will have their works published under a common-design limited edition: Woman in the Moon Poetry Series 1A.

Cancelled: **The Gay and Lesbian Wedding Album** has been cancelled.

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WIM, PO Box 2087, Cupertino CA 95015; 408-864-8212. —*SDiane Bogus*

WOMEN'S TRAVELLER

A quick glance through the mainstream press in 1994 and it seems a chic, never-before-noticed species called "lesbian" has been discovered. But the women producing the best-selling lesbian travel guide, the **Women's Traveller,** believe that their lives deserve more than a few lines in the Sunday paper pullout style section. This 1995 edition proves they mean it: In addition to the usual listings of accommodations, bars, bookstores, women's centers, hotlines, spiritual groups and two year-long calendars of women's tours and festivals, **Women's Traveller '95** has expanded listings for differently-abled, transgendered and leather women. And editor Beth Carr is still writing those wickedly witty city overviews. $10.95 pb, 0-929435-16-8.

Women's Traveller, Damron Company, PO Box 422458, San Francisco CA 94142; 415-255-0404. Distributed by BP, Ingram, Golden Lee, Publishers Distributors Company. —*Women's Traveller*

Correction: The announcement for Volcano Press' Spring title *Stopping Domestic Violence* by Daniel Jay Sonkin, Ph.D. (see FBN 17#6) gave the wrong ISBN number. The correct ISBN number is 1-884244-03-3. Our apologies to Volcano Press. ○

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Sept. 1995 • 192 pp
ISBN 0-921881-34-7 • $10.95

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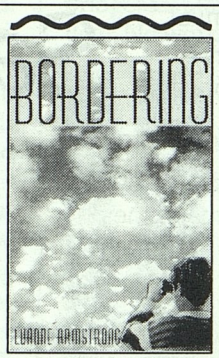
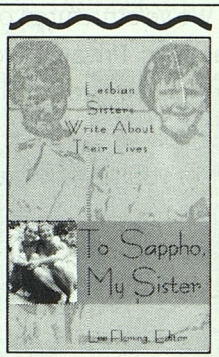


Bordering
Luanne Armstrong

Hazel is bordering on everything: coming out as a lesbian, imagining her future, moving away from the small town that keeps her pinned down and hopeless. But before she can cross over to a new life, she must face up to the old.

Sept. 1995 • 176 pp
ISBN 0-921881-35-5 • $10.95



To Sappho, My Sister
Lesbian Sisters Write About Their Lives
Lee Fleming (ed.)

In their own words, lesbian sisters from many countries explore their relationships with each other. Here is a unique chronicle of what it is like to grow up, come out, laugh, cry, work and live together, as sisters in a family and as lesbians in the world.

Oct. 1995 • 256 pp
ISBN 0-921881-36-3 • $14.95

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FROM THE SMALL PRESSES

By Beth Morgan

This year marks the 75th anniversary of women's suffrage in the U.S., and there are two very worthwhile titles you may want to carry to honor the occasion:

Last published in 1920, **Jailed for Freedom: American Women Win the Vote** by Doris Stevens, edited by Carol O'Hare, is out in a new edition from New Sage Press. A firsthand account of the militant fight for women for the right to vote, the book details the events of this fierce battle that raged for years and included illegal arrests, lengthy jail terms, hunger strikes and force-feedings. An illuminating portrayal of a unique period in U.S. history, with extensive profiles of leaders in the women's movement, among them Alice Paul, the charismatic force behind the National Women's Party. 50 black and white photos. $12.95 pb, 0-939165-25-2, New Sage Press, PO Box 607, Troutdale OR 97060. Distributed by Publishers Group West.

The Woman Who Ran for President: The Many Lives of Victoria Woodhull by Lois Beachy Underhill, introduction by Gloria Steinem, chronicles the fascinating political and personal life of Victoria Woodhull. By the age of 34 (in 1872), she was the most famous woman in America — it's amazing that her name is barely recognized today outside of feminist circles. Besides running for president against Ulysses S. Grant in 1872, Woodhull was also the first woman stockbroker in the U.S., the first woman to address the U.S. Congress on suffrage, a superstar of the lecture circuit, a public proponent of free love and sexual equality for women, publisher of a provocative weekly, and the first in America to publish an English translation of *The Communist Manifesto*. Underhill's in-depth research and access to private papers hitherto unavailable make this a must-read. One of Underhill's contentions is that Susan B. Anthony was critical of Woodhull's unconventional private life and practically ignored her when writing the history of the suffragist movement. $23.50 pb, 1-882593-10-3, Bridge Works Publishing, Bridge Lane Box 1798, Bridgehampton NY 11932. Distributed by National Book Network, 800-462-6420.

Lucy Burns was sentenced to prison six times, serving more time in jail than any other suffragist in America. From *Jailed for Freedom: American Women Win the Vote.*

From Chelsea House Publishers comes **Martina Navratilova** by Gilda Zwerman, another title in their very exciting Lives of Notable Gay Men and Lesbians series for young adult readers (General Editor, Martin Duberman). No athlete of Navratilova's stature has been as visibly out-of-the-closet as this tennis great. Zwerman tells Martina's story as it hasn't been told before: the well-known relationships; the little-known

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relationships; the reactions of other players, tennis officials, and sponsors; and Martina's whirlwind introduction to the wider world of gay and anti-gay politics. Beginning with her childhood in communist Czechoslovakia, the book takes us through Martina's early years on the tennis circuit, her defection to the U.S., and her extraordinary achievements in her 22 years of professional competition — including four U.S. Open Championships and a record-setting nine Wimbledon titles. $9.95 pb, 0-7910-2878-X; $19.95 cl, -2302-6, June. (Other books in this series profile Oscar Wilde, Sappho, T.E. Lawrence, Willa Cather, John Maynard Keynes, James Baldwin, and Liberace. A second Chelsea House series, Issues in Lesbian and Gay Life, includes the titles *Growing Up Gay or Lesbian* and *Gays and Lesbians in Sports*.) Chelsea House Publishers, 300 Park Avenue South, New York NY 10010. Distributed by Baker & Taylor.

Jessie's Song by Chea Villaneuva is a rich collection of lesbian writing that distinguishes the author as a singularly uncompromising writer. Based largely upon her own experience as a butch of Filipino-Irish ancestry, Villaneuva's work is remarkable for its frankness and delightful in it iconoclasm. Widely published in the alternative press, Villanueva "redefines all notions of 'mainstream' lesbian writing, and provides a reading experience unlike any other this year." $9.95 pb, 1-45333-235-3, A Richard Kasak Book published by Masquerade Books, 801 Second Avenue, New York NY 10017. Distributed by IN, BP, Alamo Square, Golden Lee.

In August, Dalkey Archive Press will publish **Nightwood: The Original Version and Related Drafts** — Djuna Barnes' *Nightwood* as the author had originally intended it to be seen — ending 59 years of editing imposed upon the work in 1936 by Barnes' editor T.S. Eliot and friend Emily Coleman. While this groundbreaking lesbian novel as it was initially published has become one of the most revered works of the modern period, it was edited by Eliot and Coleman to make it more "suitable" for publication. This new edition includes the restoration of cuts from *Nightwood* — ranging from one word to three pages in

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length — and reproduces 69 pages of Barnes' discarded but related drafts. $23.95 cl, 1-56478-080-5, Dalkey Archive Press, Illinois State University, Campus Box 4241, Normal IL 61790. Distributed by InBook.

First published in 1981, now reprinted under Alyson's AlyCat imprint, Aaron Fricke's **Reflections of a Rock Lobster** tells the story of how, ten days before his high school prom, Fricke entered the Federal District Courthouse in Providence to sue Cumberland High School for the right to take a male date to the event. *The Village Voice* called this book "a short, simple, unassuming, remarkably unselfpitying and nonhectoring book that nevertheless — actually for its very 'ordinariness' — packs quite a punch." $5.95 pb, 1-55583-607-0, Alyson Publications, 40 Plympton Street, Boston MA 02118. Distributed by Consortium, BP, IN.

A must-carry for your "coming out" section: **Straight Parents/Gay Children: Keeping Families Together** by Robert A. Bernstein tells about his own and others' experiences with P-FLAG and delivers a call to action to all parents of gays and lesbians, not just to love and accept their children but to speak out on their behalf. "If [this] book were compulsory reading in America," says Barney Frank, "the population of bigots would dwindle at a rapid rate. His ability to make the case for fairness and decency in the treatment of each other is unsurpassed." $12.95 pb, 1-56025-086-0; $24.95 cl, -085-2, Thunder's Mouth Press, 632 Broadway 7th Floor, New York NY 10012. Distributed by Publishers Group West.

Equal Rites: Lesbian and Gay Worship, Ceremonies, and Celebrations edited by Kittredge Cherry and Zalmon Sherwood is a collection of (Christian) worship services, ceremonies and celebrations attuned to the unique needs of sexual minorities. Written primarily by lesbians and gay men, the rites include liturgies of spiritual beginnings, healing, blessings, holy communion, funeral and memorial services, seasonal and holiday rites, and covenant rites for couples. $14.99 pb, 0-664-25535-3.

From Eve to Esther: Rabbinic Reconstructions of Biblical Women by Leila Leah Bronner is the first book-length attempt to focus on female biblical figures in the ancient rabbinic writings of midrash and Talmud. Employing primary rabbinic sources, the author brings new life and insight to the stories of Eve, Deborah, Hannah, Serah bat Asher and others. $18.99 pb, 0-664-25542-6.

Westminster John Knox Press, 100 Witherspoon Street, Louisville KY 40202. Distributed by Ingram, Baker & Taylor, Spring Arbor (800-395-5599).

From High Risk Books/Serpent's Tail comes **Spinsters**, a novel by one of my favorite new writers,

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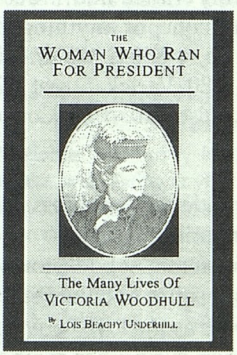

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"A feisty, compassionate doctor with a fine sense of humor....Fans of the *Dr. Quinn* television show will be elated." — ***Booklist***

"An excellent view of medical life at the turn of the century and what it meant to be a career woman and a single mother long before it became a political touchstone." — ***Publishers Weekly***

"The rigors of a country doctor with gusto." — ***Lincoln Journal-Star***

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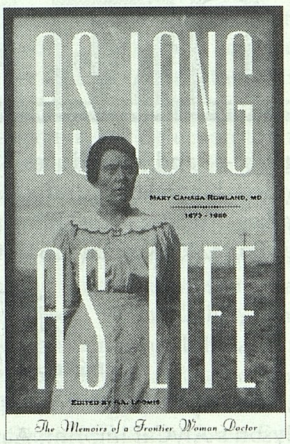

Pagan Kennedy (*Stripping and Other Stories*). It's 1968, and Frannie and Doris, middle-aged sisters and spinsters, have been taking care of their father for their entire adult lives. When he dies, they hit the road in their Plymouth Valiant to take a much needed vacation. Frannie, the novel's narrator, longs to continue her reclusive life with her sister; but Doris, cut free of responsibility, wants to raise hell and get laid. Their journey through the changing landscape of America — Civil Rights marches, the deaths of Martin Luther King and Robert Kennedy, and the 1968 Democratic Convention — is an elegy to a lost time in the U.S., and a touching, lyrical, and superbly crafted mid-life coming-of-age tale. Don't miss this one, or anything else by Pagan Kennedy! $11.99 pb, 1-85242-405-2, High Risk Books/Serpent's Tail, 180 Varick Street 10th Floor, New York NY 10014. Distributed by Consortium, BP, IN.

Global City Press, a new independent press, published its first three titles this spring:

The first, a must-carry for feminist bookstores, is E.M. Broner's **Ghost Stories**, a series of linked stories which reveal the tension as well as the love between a woman, Leila, and her mother during her mother's last days. But the death of Leila's mother leaves unfinished business and, as Leila attends a Friday evening synagogue service and rises for the Kaddish, she discovers her mother's ghost sitting beside her. The two women converse weekly — given a second chance to discover each other, they recall memories, dredge up old hurts and eventually heal wounds. Hilarious and heartbreaking, Broner's latest work is a poignant depiction of the ways mothers and daughters are inextricably linked in life and in death. $12 pb, 0-9641292-1-3.

Our History in New York by Linsey Abrams is the first novel in a trilogy concerning a co-ed community of gay and lesbian people and their friends. It follows a year in the life of Chloe as she and her lover Helen make a life with their friends — easing the romantic heartbreak of those around them, trading advice about families, analyzing their changing fortunes, ministering to the sick and dying, and finding love. Captures the history of a generation that came of age in the late sixties and early seventies in New York City. $12 pb, 0-9641292-0-5.

Also out from Global City (not yet in for review) is **House of Waiting**, a novel by Marina Tamar Budhos.

Global City Press, 138th Street and Convent Avenue, New York NY 10031. Distributed by Consortium.

From Interlink's Emerging Voices: New International Fiction series comes two new titles: **The End Play** by Indira Mahindra is a novel of three women —

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three generations — in modern-day India, their lives and loves powerfully evoked through the intense personal experiences of the youngest, Gunga, as she acts as go-between for her mother and grandmother and discovers the horrifying truth behind her family's wealth. A revealing look into the complex world of upper-class India, where social change has brought an uncomfortable degree of freedom for men and women still haunted by the rules of the past ($11.95 pb, 1-56656-166-3). **Cages on Opposite Shores** by Janset Berkok Shami is the story of Meral, a modern-day Turkish woman searching for identity and renewal after leaving her husband of 11 years. Living among the dusty artifacts in the deserted rooms of her deceased mother's house, Meral discovers the diary her mother began as a young girl, and begins a complicated process of self-redefinition ($11.95 pb, 1-56656-157-4).

Interlink Publishing Group, 99 Seventh Avenue, Brooklyn NY 11215. Distributed by IN.

One to add to your section of plays by women is **Tales of the Lost Formicans, and Other Plays** by Constance Congdon (introduction by Tony Kushner). With more than sixty productions across the U.S., the title play is a wickedly funny study of an average American family as conducted by space aliens. Playwright Tony Kushner (*Angels in America*) says that when he first saw Congdon's work he knew he had "encountered, unexpectedly, the real thing — not mere entertainment (though that is rare enough), but art." $14.95 pb, 1-55936-084-4, Theatre Communications Group.

From Ubu Repertory Theater Publications comes **Plays by Women: An International Anthology, Book Two** edited by Francoise Kourilsky and Catherine Temerson, a new collection of plays by five prize-winning playwrights from France, Quebec, Cameroon and Guadeloupe. The works in this book share an urgency in exploring certain common themes: compassion (or the lack of it) with regard to the arbitrary suffering of youth through violence, disease or food shortages; the fragility of family relationships; the erosion of the social fabric by the brutality of war and conflict; and the close connections between the personal and the political. Preface by Ntozake Shange. $15.95 pb, 0-913745-42-1, Ubu Repertory Theater Communications, distributed by Theatre Communications Group.

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ISBN 0-87728-805-4

New from Nicolas-Hays

Beyond Heroics: Living our Myths

Madeline McMurray is an analyst and a teacher who works with living myths. If we are to leave the warrior/king/hero mythology behind us, we need to replace it, so that we can consider the feminine creative principle once again. Exercises and visualization techniques, conversation about living art, and much more in this new book released at the ABA. 240 pp. Trade Paper, $12.95
ISBN 0-89254-031-1

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Theatre Communications Group, 355 Lexington Avenue, New York NY 10017. Distributed by Consortium.

Bread Out of Stone by Dionne Brand combines the politic and the poetic in an extraordinarily rich collection of thirteen essays by this leading Black Canadian author and activist. With topics ranging from street-corner violence to appropriation of voice to imposed governmental policies, Brand brings her own powerful command of language and an unflinching eye to some of the most controversial issues of contemporary life. Adrienne Rich calls her "an intellectual conscience for her country." $14.95 pb, 0-88910-492-1.

No Song, But Silence is the first novel by one of Quebec's most acclaimed and talented young authors, Hélène Le Beau (translated by Sheila Fischman). This self-portrait of a little girl with a boy's name tells the story of Stéphane (Fanny), whose life resembles a series of lost battles against the oppressive forces of a decaying society, symbolized by her warped family. A brutal honesty marks the narrator's observation of every waking moment as she tries to make sense of the pain and humiliation that surround her and of a death that robs her of Malou, a sister she refuses to let go of. $14.95 pb, 0-88910-484-0, July.

Coach House Press, 50 Prince Arthur Avenue Suite 107, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5R 1B5. Distributed by Consortium.

Recently out from Coffee House Press is Jonis Agee's **A .38 Special and a Broken Heart**, a collection

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Complimentary posters, book group companion guides, and bookmarks are available in bulk by contacting Coffee House Press, 27 North Fourth Street, Suite 400, Minneapolis MN 55401. Tel: 612-338-0125. FAX: 612-338-4004

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of stories that pack emotional detail and compelling narrative into sagas of people who love, lose and try again. Honest and biting, gentle and witty, Marge Piercy calls these stories "sharp enough to cut your fingers on." $10.95 pb, 1-56689-032-2.

Also just out from Coffee House is **Your Name Here: _____** by Cris Mazza (*How to Leave a Country, Exposed*), a disturbing novel about a young woman named Erin Haley who ten years ago was someone else — Corinne Staub, who was possibly gang-raped. She changed her name. She changed cities. She thought she changed her life. But there is no getting past her strange dreams and oddly distorted memories. Compelled to return to her stored-away journals for the truth, Erin confronts what really happened to the person she once was and in the process recovers a part of herself she had abandoned. $12.95 pb, 1-56689-031-4.

In **Happiness,** a wonderful new collection of poems, Deborah Keenan makes her mark as a poet who searches and tells in language that is quick-witted, tender, generous, and above all truthful to the passionate trials of familial lives. Of Keenan's work poet Carol Conroy says: "... by telling the truth about love and rage, grief and recovery, letting go and going on ... Keenan revisions the miracle of ordinary life." $11.95 pb, 1-56689-033-0.

Coffee House Press, 27 North 4th Street, Minneapolis MN 55401. Distributed by Consortium.

Arte Público has three new titles you may want to consider: **African Passions and Other Stories** by Beatriz Rivera is peopled by Hispanic women obsessed by love of varying sorts, but always of overwhelming intensity. Passion, obsession, raucous humor and satire are in store for the reader of this *tour-de-force* examination of Hispanic womanhood. $9.95 pb, 1-55885-135-6.

A Shell for Angela by Ofelia Dumas Lachtman is a novel that explores the emotional and spiritual consequences of a woman's rejection of her Mexican heritage and family. From the moment nine-year-old Angela Martin sees her father led away on a summer day by immigration officers, she spends her life denying her Mexican roots. But as a young woman she leaves her comfortable Los Angeles home and a distressed husband, and returns to a fishing village in Mexico to face the reality of her denial. $9.95 pb, 1-55885-123-2.

Dark Plums by Maria Espinosa is the painful story of a young woman's search for love and self in Manhattan in the late 1950s. Adrianne, a young girl from Texas, moves numbly through a world of anonymous sex and embarks on a relationship with Alfredo, a Cuban-American artist who convinces her to work as a hooker to support his work as an artist, and eventually becomes abusive. Although Adrianne eventually finds the strength to leave Alfredo and to transform herself, the book overall is a difficult and sometimes brutal read. $9.95 pb, 1-55885-128-3.

Arte Público Press, University of Houston, Houston TX 77204. Distributed by BP, IN.

The bestselling novel in Puerto Rico's history, **Happy Days, Uncle Sergio** by Magali Garcia Ramis is one of loss and love set against the rapidly changing backdrop of 1950s Puerto Rico. Fatherless Lydia and her brother Andres live in a household of women. When Uncle Sergio returns from a secretive and mysterious life in New York City and moves in with the family, he becomes a major influence on both children's lives in ways the women would never have imagined. Ed Vega calls this book "a beautiful, delicate hummingbird hovering above a concrete wall." $12 pb, 1-877727-52-0, White Pine Press, 10 Village Square, Fredonia NY 14063. Distributed by InBook.

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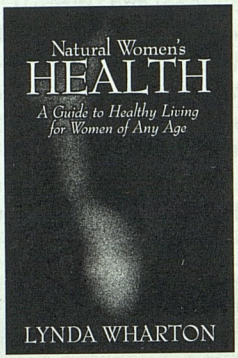
Natural Women's HEALTH

A Guide to Healthy Living for Women of Any Age



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Available April 1995 through Publishers Group West, Inland, New Leaf, and Bookpeople, or from **New Harbinger at 1-800-748-6273.**

(51FB)

Change of Circumstance by Candida Lawrence is the sequel to *Reeling & Writhing*, which detailed Lawrence's decision to kidnap her children from their unfit father after an unsuccessful custody battle. **Change of Circumstance** is the story of their first two years "underground," and of how Lawrence created a new life and identities for herself and her children. $16.95 pb, 1-878448-63-3.

An odd love match at the twisted intersections of life, **Rocket City** by Cathryn Alpert is a quirky and polished debut that runs two parallel stories through fires, carnivals, dust storms, empty New Mexico motels, atomic test sites, and love affairs in road-strung desert towns. "Alpert's imagery is inventive and often beautiful. Wry dialogue and a lean sense of humor give life to this novel about the awkward comedy of overcoming loneliness" (*Publishers Weekly*). $22.95 cl, 1-878448-62-5.

MacMurray & Beck, PO Box 4257, Aspen CO 81612. Distributed by National Book Network, 800-462-6420.

Synonym for Love by Alison Moore (*Small Spaces Between Emergencies*) is the story of Matty Grover, whose travels take her from her small hometown in rural Virginia where the racial tensions of the 1960s are rising to the surface, to the adobe homes, scorpions and flash floods of the Arizona desert. With grace, clarity, and a keen eye for emotional detail, Moore captures the turmoil of a woman's coming-of-age. $19.95 cl, 1-56279-074-9, June, Mercury House, 201 Filbert Street Suite 400, San Francisco CA 94133. Distributed by Consortium, BP, IN.

From Soho Press comes a psychological study of that accommodation of evil which was a widespread German response to war: **Reich Angel** by Anita Mason (*The Illusionist*) tells the story of Fredrika, the first woman to become a top test pilot in WWII Germany, and the last person to leave Hitler's bunker. Her dream to fly big jets and rockets was realized when she became part of the Luftwaffe and the confidant of the Third Reich's top leaders, but she realizes — after she falls in love with a woman — that she has put her talents at the service of evil. I haven't read the book, so I can't say exactly how or if Mason succeeds with this problematic plot line. $24 cl, 1-56947-033-2, June, Soho Press, 853 Broadway, New York NY 10003. Distributed by Farrar, Straus & Giroux.

In **Dirt Road Home**, Cheryl Savageau writes of poverty, mixed ancestry, nature and family in poems that are simultaneously tough and tender, and salted with rich folk humor from her Abenaki and French Canadian heritage. $11 pb, 1-880684-30-6, Curbstone Press, 321 Jackson Street, Willimantic CT 06226. Distributed by InBook. Consortium will distribute Curbstone beginning June 1.

In her collection of poems, **Dear Anne Frank**, Marjorie Agosín invokes the presence of Anne Frank as a girl in adolescence full of desires to love and rage. As a lasting remembrance to be passed from generation to generation, these poems stir us to become engaged in history's making and to bear witness to the fact that nationalism and fascism are as yet undefeated international diseases. $11.95 pb, 0-9632363-6-9, Azul Editions, 2032 Belmont Road NW, Washington DC 20009. Distributed by BP, IN.

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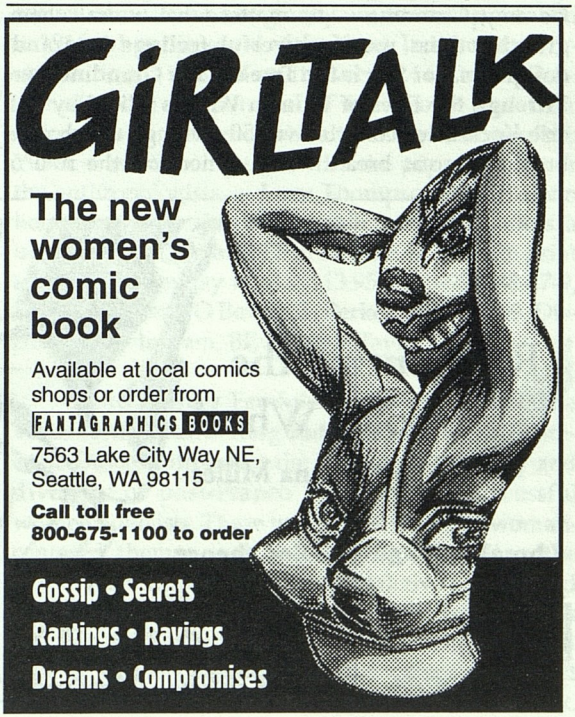
Out in 1994 but worth a look if you haven't already seen it is **Stone on Stone/Piedra Sobre Piedra: Poetry by Women of Diverse Heritages** edited by Zoë Anglesey, a bilingual anthology featuring fourteen leading women poets. The poems, originally written in English but now translated into Spanish, testify to the poets' social concerns and to the impact of the Civil Rights Movement, the Vietnam War, the women's movement and the wars in Central America. Includes work by Olga Broumas, Rita Dove, Carolyn Forché, Linda Gregg, Joy Harjo, Ntozake Shange and more. Bio and full-page photo for each poet. $12.95 pb, 0-940880-48-2, Open Hand Publishing, PO Box 22048, Seattle WA 98122. Distributed by The Subterranean Company, Inc., 800-274-7826.

From Mariposa Press comes **Sixteen Voices — Poets: Survivors of Incest & Sexual Abuse**, a collection of works from poets around the country, which together reveal the profound effect of recovery from incest on the lives and craft of working poets. $12 pb, 0-933533-10-2, Mariposa Printing & Publishing, 922 Baca Street, Sante Fe NM 87501. Order directly from the publisher, 505-988-5582. Terms: 3+ copies, 40% discount; no shipping for pre-paid orders.

In African American culture the preacher has traditionally held many roles: minister of faith, orator, politician, idealist, and most importantly, leader. But the preacher was also traditionally male, and in many ways this advanced the perception that African American women were incapable of questioning the authority of Black men. In **The Wayward Preacher in the Literature of African American Women** James Robert Saunders looks at the writings of five Black women — Nella Larsen, Zora Neale Hurston, Paule Marshall, Gloria Naylor and Terry McMillan — in which female characters question the power of religious functionaries who insist that the self must be obliterated for the sake of salvation. Looks like a very interesting, albeit scholarly, read. $27.50 cl, 0-7864-0060-9, McFarland & Company, Box 611, Jefferson NC 28640. Distributed by Baker & Taylor, Ingram.

In 1897 Isabelle Eberhardt, aged 20, left an unconventional life in Geneva for North Africa. **In the Shadow of Islam** is the first translation of the journal of her travels throughout North Africa at the turn of the century. Seeking freedom from the artificial confinements of society, Eberhardt lived in a manner that shocked the people of her day — she smoked kif, usually wore men's clothing, drank alcohol and took men home with her for the night. She also converted to a Sufi sect of Islam, and her journal is as much a chronicle of spiritual as of physical restlessness. Eberhardt's prose is vital and haunting — stark elegance riding an undertow of passionate urgency. $28



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cl, 0-7206-0889-9, Peter Owen, distributed in the U.S. by Dufour Editions.

And also distributed by Dufour Editions is **Trembling Hearts in the Bodies of Dogs**, new and selected poems by Selima Hill, whose poetry has been called dangerous, wanton, tender, intelligent, subversive and startling. Of her work Carol Ann Duffy says: "Her language and imagery is sensual, controlled ... a world strange, dreamlike, secretive, moving and vaguely sinister." $18.95 pb, 1-85224-288-4, June, Bloodaxe Books.

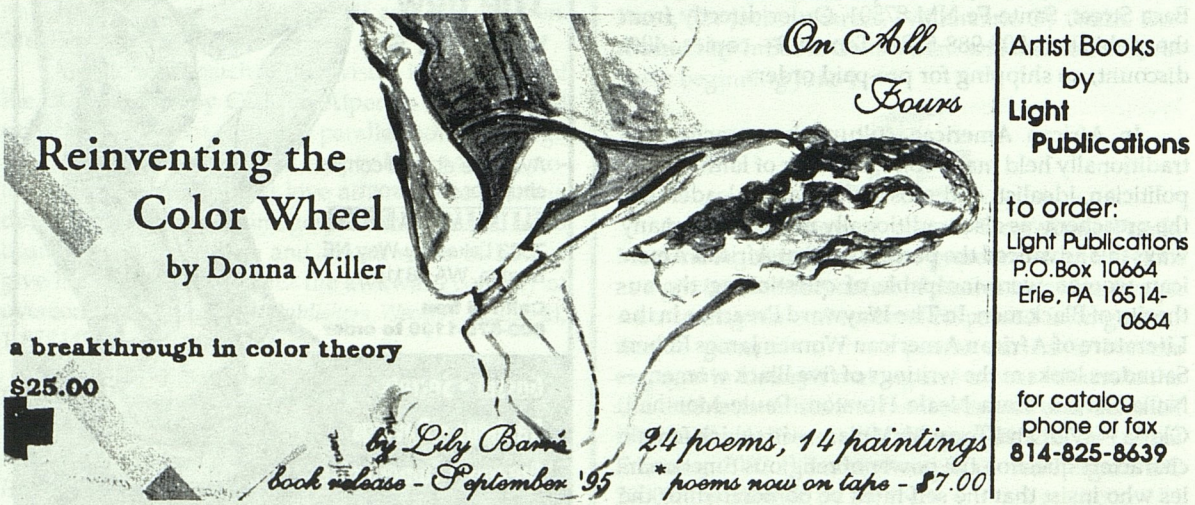
Dufour Editions, PO Box 7, Chester Springs PA 19425; 610-458-5005. Terms: 1-4 copies, 20% discount; 5-14 copies, 40% discount.

And another book about the life of Isabelle Eberhardt is **Departures**, a collection of her selected writings translated and edited by Karim Hamdy and Laura Rice. Includes previously untranslated short stories. $12.95 pb, 0-87286-288-7, City Lights Publishers, 261 Columbus Avenue, San Francisco CA 94133. Distributed by BP, IN.

Two new titles from Conari Press: Nana, Granny, Gammy, Grandma — no matter what we call them, grandmothers rouse powerful feelings in granddaughters. **For She is the Tree of Life: Grandmothers Through the Eyes of Women Writers** edited by Valerie Kack-Brice collects over 50 writings which celebrate the great breadth and dimension the role of grandmother has in women's lives. Authors include Maya Angelou, M.F.K. Fisher, Isabel Allende, Marge Piercy, Margaret Atwood, Jewelle Gomez and more ($19.95 cl, 1-57324-005-2). **Dancing Up the Moon: A Woman's Guide to Creating Traditions that Bring Sacredness to Daily Life** by Robin Heerens Lysne seeks to inspire readers to bring the sacred into daily life and to create their own rituals to commemorate life-changing passages such as conception, birth, puberty, career changes, new friendships, death and divorce ($12.95 pb, 0-943233-85-2).

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

Demanding Accountability: The Global Campaign and Tribunal for Women's Human Rights by Charlotte Bunch and Niamh Reilly presents a comprehensive history and analysis of the systematic organizing efforts of women prior to, at, and after the UN World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna in 1993. It offers especially detailed insights into the "Global Tribunal on Violations of Women's Rights" held at the Conference, a forum which demonstrated the failure of existing human rights mechanisms to protect women's human rights. $14.95 pb, 0-912917-29-6, Women, Ink.; order directly from Women, Ink.,



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777 United Nations Plaza, New York NY 10017; 212-687-8633; terms: 20% discount for 2+ copies.

Intolerance: A General Survey by Lise Noël is a comparative, interdisciplinary analysis of how oppression is related to six parameters — race, class, gender, sexual preference, age, and mental and physical health. Picking apart the logic of the dynamics which intolerance engenders, Noel reveals the shared and distinguishing features of dominated groups, examines the relations between dominated groups and the Left, and challenges the validity of using concepts such as "difference" to defend the rights of the oppressed. $19.95 pb, 0-7735-1187-3. McGill-Queen's University Press, 3430 McTavish Street, Montreal, Quebec, Canada H3A 1X9.

Two from Zed Publications: **The Strategic Silence: Gender and Economic Policy** edited by Isabella Bakker is based on the premise that global restructuring is occurring on a *gendered* terrain. Applying feminist scholarship to macroeconomics, the contributors reveal and address prevailing conceptual silences to create a more gender-aware economics ($17.50 pb, 1-85649-262-1; $55 cl, -261-3). **Mortgaging Women's Lives: Feminist Critiques of Structural Adjustment** edited by Pamela Sparr explores the impact on Third World women of the stringent economic prescriptions of the World Bank and IMF. Introductory chapters clearly explain what structural adjustment is, and subsequent chapters present carefully chosen case studies from Jamaica, Ghana, Nigeria, Egypt, Turkey, Sri Lanka and the Philippines ($19.95 pb, 1-85650-102-1; $55 cl, -101-3).

Zed Books, 7 Cynthia Street, London, England N1 9JF. Distributed by IN, Humanities Press International.

Sara Thornton: The Story of a Woman Who Killed by Jennifer Nadel, foreword by Helena Kennedy, tells the story of Sara Thornton, jailed for life for killing her violent, alcoholic husband. Eighteen months later, as a man walked free for having killed his alcoholic wife (who, in the words of the judge, "would have tried the patience of a saint"), Sara's appeal was turned down. She began a hunger strike and thousands started to campaign for her release. The book tells of Thornton's life before and after imprisonment and analyzes public reaction to Sara, her supporters, and the legal aspects of the case. $15.95 pb, 0-575-05581-2, Victor Gollancz, distributed in the U.S. by Trafalgar Square, N. Pomfret VT 05053.

To the American Indian: Reminiscences of a Yurok Woman by Lucy Thompson, Che-na-wah Weitch-ah-wah, was originally written and published in 1916, when the world of the Yurok Indians of northern California seemed on the verge of collapse. Concerned about the survival of her people and their customs, and concerned also that the true story of the Yurok was not being told — by the popular press or the anthropologists — Lucy Thompson took it upon herself to write this remarkable book that offers a unique insider's view of a great culture. Now in print again from Heyday Books. $13.95 pb, 0-930588-47-9, Heyday Books, PO Box 9145, Berkeley CA 94709. Distributed by Ingram, BP, Baker & Taylor.

Contemporary Feminist Fiction in Spain: The Work of Montserrat Roig and Rosa Montero by Catherine Davies introduces the outstanding quality and diversity of post-Franco Spain's most successful women novelists. These writers' works share woman-centered themes such as family relationships, the search for self-fulfillment in a restrictive society, and the hope for construction of a new world order. Davies provides background on the development and reception of women's writing in Spain since 1970, and delivers a critical analysis of both authors' work.

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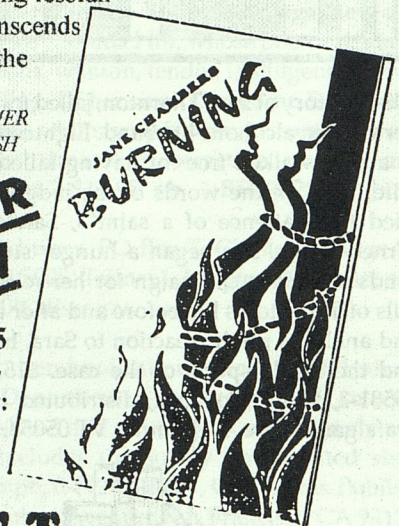

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$44.95 cl, 1-85973-086-8, Berg Publishers, 221 Waterman Street, Providence RI 02906. Distributed by BP, IN, Baker & Taylor.

Chronic Fatigue Syndrome: The Cause and the Cure by Suzann Marie Angelus tells the author's personal story of pain, despair and triumph over chronic fatigue, taking the reader on a step-by-step journey from disease to wellness. Angelus shares her research and conclusions about the causes of immune disorder — toxic chemicals, organophosphate pesticides and nerve gas chemicals, radiation and nuclear waste — and challenges established ways of thinking in the areas of research, medicine, science, genetics and politics. $15.95 pb, 0-9640559-9-6, Symbolic Productions, PO Box 6705, Moraga CA 94556. Distributed by BP, New Leaf, Pacific Pipeline, Baker & Taylor.

The Road to Radicalism: Further Reflections of a Frustrated Feminist by Elayne Clift (*Telling It Like It Is*, KIT, 1991) is the author's second volume of essays in which she once again ponders people, politics, and the events of everyday life. At once pithy, honest and provocative, this collection is a thoughtful reflection on the forces that shape our time. $14.95 pb, 0-9634827-1-8, OGN Publications. Order from the publisher,11320 Rouen Drive, Potomac MD 20854; 301-299-4930.

Claudia Johnson, Winner of the 1993 PEN/Newman's Own First Amendment Award for her work in defending the First Amendment, has written a book about her battles against censorship: **Stifled Laughter: One Woman's Story about Fighting Censorship**. In 1986, her local schoolboard voted to ban Chaucer's "The Miller's Tale" and *Lysistrata* from the high school curriculum. Outraged and amazed that anyone would stifle the glorious laughter of these two works, Johnson and two other women sued the school board and embarked on a five-year-long federal fight. $19.95 cl, 1-55591-200-1, Fulcrum Publishing, 350 Indiana Street Suite 350, Golden CO 80401. Distributed by BP, IN, Pacific Pipeline, Ingram, Baker & Taylor.

When Ministers Sin: Sexual Abuse in the Churches by Neil and Thea Ormerod is a book that raises, in every story it tells, the issue of power in human relationships and the failure of the church to face the issue of sexual abuse among its own clergy. $12.95 pb, 1-86429-011-0, Millennium Books, an imprint of E.J. Dwyer, Unit 13, Perry Park, 33 Maddox Street, Alexandria NSW 2015, Australia. Distributed in the U.S. by Seven Hills Book Distributors, 49 Central Avenue, Cincinnati OH 45202, 513-381-3881.

Periodicals

Trikone: Gay & Lesbian South Asians is published by the organization of the same name, first founded in 1986 in San Francisco, and the oldest group of its kind in the world. Recent issues include articles such as "Back to the Garden: South Asian Lesbians Reclaim their Heritage," "Gay by the Grace of Allah," and "India: The Queer View — India's First Gay & Lesbian Film Festival and Tour." **Trikone** is published four times a year. **Trikone**, PO Box 21354, San Jose CA 95151; 408-270-8776. Terms: Standard 60/40.

Girltalk is a new 40-page anthology of female cartoonists to be published bi-annually by

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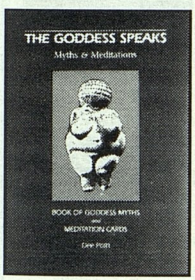
Fantagraphics. Roberta Smith of *The New York Times* says: "**[Girltalk]** veers in tone from the tragic to the riotously funny, often within single images ... encompassing an exciting range of visual styles, from semi-photograpic to semi-legible, and touches on a dazzling array of subjects, mundane, sacred and taboo." Fantagraphics Books, 7563 Lake City Way NE, Seattle WA 98115. Distributed by Baker & Taylor, BP.

REAL Girls is a new magazine for girls ages 14-20, "... an exciting alternative to the beauty and fashion genre that has for decades been shaming girls into putting on a fresh coat of lipstick (not to mention creating havoc with their self-esteem)." Through editorials like "How to Start Your Own Girl Group," "How to Get Your Poetry Published," and "10 Things You Can Do to Help Your Relationship With Your Dad Keep Growing," **REAL Girls** shows girls not what they *should* become but what they *could* become, with an emphasis on creativity, individuality and participation. **REAL Girls** is published by Small Dogs Press, PO Box 57393, Sherman Oaks CA 91413. Call for terms: 818-986-3246.

Now in its seventh year of publication is **Skipping Stones: A Multicultural Children's Magazine**, published bimonthly during the school year for youth ages 8-15. **Skipping Stones** publishes writing, artwork and photos by young people from many different countries and cultures. Articles appear in many languages, with English translation. **Skipping Stones** celebrates the cultural and environmental diversity of this planet, "with a strong commitment to gender equality in each and every issue." **Skipping Stones**, PO Box 3939, Eugene OR 97403; 503-342-4956. Terms for bookstores: 3-5 copies, 25% discount; 6-10 copies, 40% discount; 11-25 copies, 45% discount; 26+ copies, 50% discount; plus postage. Whole copy returns only, due within 3 months from receipt of next shipment, for credit toward purchase of new issues. Distributed by Fineprint, Small Changes, Ubiquity, IPO. ○



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ISBN 0-9638527-3-5, paper, 224 pp, $14.95

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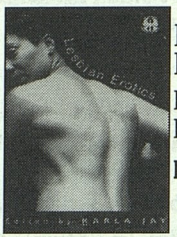

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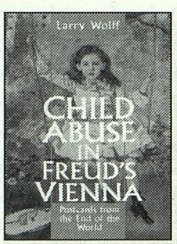

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FROM THE UNIVERSITY PRESSES

by Mev Miller

...but wait, there's more!!! (And you thought the Spring announcements column contained a lot of titles!). As usual, any time I indicate a title as short or text discount, it is because the catalogue indicates it that way. *However*, stores should be sure to contact the individual presses to see what type of agency plans they may have to alleviate these discounts!

HARVARD UNIVERSITY PRESS

Harvard has two offerings this season which center around Ancient Greece. The first is **Hypatia of Alexandria** by Maria Dzielska. Dzielska searches behind the myth of Hypatia — a brilliant mathematician murdered by a mob of Christians in 415 B.C. — to bring us the real story of her life and death, and new insight into her world ($29.95 cl (text discount), 0-674-43775-6). The second title, **Women in Ancient Greece** by Sue Blundell, examines the roles of women in Ancient Greece through the analysis of male dominated areas such as art, poetry (Homer), medical writings (Aristotle), law and custom. In spite of how they were regarded by men — especially in the limited roles assigned to them — Blundell is still able to offer a fresh look at women in the ancient world ($19.95 pb, 0-674-95473-4).

And now available in paperback, **A History of Women in the West, Volume III: Renaissance and Enlightenment Paradoxes** edited by Natalie Zemon Davis and Arlette Farge. $16.95 pb, 0-674-40367-3.

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY PRESS

JHU has two offerings this season — both literary and both concerning women who write about their "homelands." The first, **The Geographical History of America** by Gertrude Stein, contains dialogues, philosophical meditations, prose pieces and other forms of writing by Gertrude Stein in which she considers human nature and landscape ($14.95 pb, 0-8018-5133-5). In **Difficult Women, Artful Lives: Olive Schreiner and Isak Dinesen, In and Out of Africa,** Susan Horton looks at Schreiner's and Dinesen's individual experiences with Africa as a way to understand their lives ($15.95 pb, *short discount*, 0-8018-5038-X).

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY PRESS

Although there is a growing amount of literature about international feminism, little of it focuses on an issue still hotly debated in many countries — a woman's right to vote. **Suffrage and Beyond: International Feminist Perspectives** edited by Caroline Daley and Melanie Nolan looks at the political history of suffrage on a global scale. $19.95 pb, 0-8147-1870-1.

New titles for history buffs: **Becoming a Woman: And Other Essays in 19th and 20th Century Feminist History** by Sally Alexander ($17.95 pb, 0-8147-0635-5); and **Victorian Women** by Jane Perkin ($17.95 pb, 0-8147-6625-0).

Through all the discussion of reproductive rights and advanced medical technologies, what often gets lost are the fundamental emotional and physical issues that define the experience of pregnancy. This is Robin Gregg's theory in **Pregnancy in a High-Tech Age: Paradoxes of Choice**. She explores this dilemma through the narratives of thirty women who speak about their choice to become pregnant and what the experience has meant to them. $16.95 pb, 0-8147-3075-2.

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY PRESS

The Dictionary of Feminist Theory by Maggie Humm is out in its second edition, which includes

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serious consideration of work by women of color. $20 pb, 0-8142-0067-0.

Now in paperback: **Making Stories, Making Selves: Feminist Reflections on the Holocaust** by R. Ruth Linden. $14.95 pb, 0-8142-0584-4.

OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY

For those interested in social history and women's lives on the "homefront" during WWII, **Cohasset Beach Chronicles: World War II in the Pacific Northwest** by Kathy Hogan chronicles the war's effects on a small community as recorded in a weekly newspaper column, "The Kitchen Critic," written by the author. These columns reflect on the internment of Japanese Americans, the spread of government regulations and propaganda, the changing roles of women, and other impacts. $24.95 cl, 0-87071-384-1.

PENN STATE PRESS

In what promises to be an important book, **Notes of a White Black Woman: Race, Color, Community** by Judy Scales-Trent explores — through the use of autobiography and essay — what it means to be a white-skinned Black woman. In exploring her bicultural heritage, Scales-Trent describes how racial purity laws have functioned over the past four hundred years, the contradictions and interactions of race and color and the effects of these issues on relationships between men and women and within families and communities. She also offers some ideas on how to approach multicultural education. $19.50 pb, 0-271-01430-X.

Emily Dickinson wrote forty booklets — known as fascicles — comprising more than 800 of her poems. Their history is interesting and, apparently, literary professionals debate whether they were put together randomly by Dickinson or whether they center on an organizing principle. In **Emily Dickinson's Fascicles: Method and Meaning** Dorothy Huff Oberhaus makes her contribution to the discussion by showing the ways in which the fascicles are a part of Dickinson's spiritual pilgrimage. I'd recommend it only for serious scholars studying Dickinson's work and probably not for the casual reader simply interested in her poetry. $35 cl, 0-271-01337-0.

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PRINCETON UNIVERSITY PRESS

It's not enough that women are victims of sexual violence and murder; another disturbing trend in 20th-century Western culture is the violated female corpse. In **Lustmord: Sexual Murder in Weimar Germany** Maria Tartar looks at this phenomenon through the history of sexual politics of culture from Weimar Germany to the present. She shows how sexual violence is a strategy for managing social/sexual anxieties; connects it to war trauma, urban pathologies and biological reproduction; and, finally, seeks to understand the forces behind sexual violence and its portrayal in the cultural media of this century. Unfortunately, I haven't seen the book yet and can't tell from the catalogue copy just how academic this title might be. $23 cl, 0-691-04338-8.

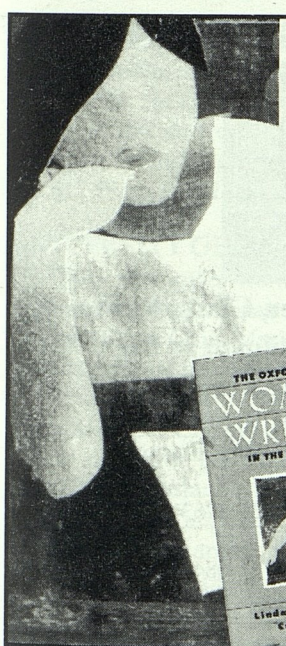
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK (SUNY)

It's interesting when more than one book comes out simultaneously on a topic rarely discussed — such as coal mining and the economic lives of rural Southwest Virginia Appalachian women (see below, University Press of Kentucky)! **Women, Development, and Communities for Empowerment in Appalachia** by Virginia Rinaldo-Seitz uses interviews to examine the class and gender conditions of working class women in Appalachia. Unlike the UPK book, though, Seitz connects these experiences with the collective actions and development issues of an international arena of "women in development." $18.95 pb, 0-7914-2378-6.

For educators interested in understanding identity and voice, **Plain and Ordinary Things: Reading Women in the Writing Classroom** by Deborah Anne Dooley explores the relationships between writing, gender, language, pedagogy and reading from a number of disciplinary and theoretical perspectives. It focuses on reading the writing of three 20th century authors: Virginia Woolf, Joanna Field, and Adrienne Rich. $14.95 pb, 0-7914-2320-4.

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY PRESS

One way for women to become involved in international politics has been through the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF). Many local communities have a chapter. In **The**



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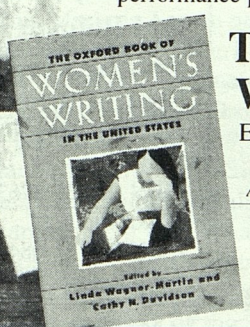

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Women and the Warriors: The United States Section of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, 1915-1946 Carrie Foster looks at the founding and original goals of WILPF, its methodology and activities and, ultimately, why their struggle to affect U.S. foreign policy decisions has been largely unsuccessful. $17.95 pb *short discount*, 0-8156-2662-2.

TEMPLE UNIVERSITY

Feminism and Community edited by Penny Weiss and Marilyn Friedman offers a rich collection of essays on the importance of community to women's social, cultural and political relationships. Writers include Kate Rushin, Rita Mae Brown, Sarah Lucia Hoaglund, Pauline Bart, Adrienne Rich and others on issues such as secrets, sisterhood, separatism, friendship, political solidarity, race and class issues, definitions of community and more. $22.95 pb, 1-56639-277-2.

Women in the Latin American Development Process edited by Christine Bose and Edna Acosta-Belen is an interdisciplinary collection of essays exploring the role of gender and politics in the ever-changing effects and goals of development in Latin America. The contributors challenge traditional policies and goals as they tackle such subjects as colonialism, the links between economic and socio-political trends, gendered divisions of paid and unpaid work, organizations of resistance and relationships of gender to class, race, and ethnicity. $18.95 pb, 1-56639-293-4.

UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA PRESS

Ocean Power: Poems from the Desert by Ofelia Zepeda is the first creative work by an individual in Tohono O'odlham and English. A landmark in Native American literature, this collection of poems reflects on Zepeda's experiences growing up, the influence of desert climate, and her perceptions as a contemporary Tohono O'odlham woman. $9.95 pb, 0-8165-1541-7.

For stores that do well with *Infinite Divisions: An Anthology of Chicana Literature*, you will definitely want to carry **Women Singing in the Snow: A Cultural Analysis of Chicana Literature** edited by Tey Diana Rebolledo. Tracing the development of Chicana literature since 1848, Rebolledo makes a major contribution to the understanding of Chicana identity and struggle as understood in literature, as well

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as a landmark addition to feminist literary studies. $16.95 pb, 0-8165-1546-8.

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The realities of slavery and emancipation deeply affected the life of Amanda America Dickson, illegitimate daughter of a Black woman slave and an elite, white male slaveowner. **Woman of Color, Daughter of Privilege: Amanda America Dickson, 1849-1893** by Kent Anderson Leslie is the story of her life — how she was raised in her father's house and inherited his estate and thus became the wealthiest Black woman in the South. She became an exception to the white rule of the South, and Leslie uses Dickson's story as a way to understand the interlocking issues of race, class and gender in both Black and white communities. $29.95 cl, 0-8203-1688-1.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS PRESS

Active Voices: Women in Jewish Culture edited by Maurie Sacks presents a multidisciplinary approach to Jewish women's lives and perceptions and considers women in Europe, Israel, and North America. $12.95 pb, 0-252-06453-4, July.

UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO PRESS

Two new titles from UNM focus on girlhood experiences. In **A Cross and a Star: Memoirs of a Jewish Girl in Chile** Marjorie Agosín narrates a story of cultures little known outside Chile. It's the story of her family, which escaped Nazi Germany only to end up in Southern Chile in the town of Osorno with fifty Nazis and three Jewish families ($19.95 cl, 0-8263-1573-9). **Canicula: Snapshots of a Girlhood en la Frontera** by Norma Elia Cantu fictionalizes the memoirs of Cantu in Laredo in the '40s, '50s and early '60s. Using actual snapshots, Cantu remembers births, deaths, fiestas and rites of passage while recreating the bilingual, bicultural world of the Texas-Mexico border. 23 photos ($22.50 cl, 0-8263-1592-5).

In a novel based on her own experience, **Eleven Days** by Brianda Domecq tells the story of a woman who is kidnapped, the experience of her terror, and her struggle to remain visible as a person both to herself and her captors. Set in contemporary Mexico, this novel explores the effects of terrorist crime. $19.95 pb, 0-8263-1606-9.

UNM also has two books considering women's creative contributions — each from very different perspectives. In **Gender and Genre: An Introduction to Women Writers of Formula Westerns, 1900-1950** Norris Yates presents women who wrote formulaic westerns yet subverted the style by shifting the focus from violence and presenting heroines with individuality and independence ($35 cl *short discount*, 0-8263-1569-0). **One Foot on the Rockies: Women and Creativity in the Modern West** by Joan Jensen examines the experiences of such artists as Georgia O'Keeffe, Isadora Duncan and Ntozake Shange. By recovering the work of women painters, photographers, writers and craftswomen, Jensen expands the history of women in the American West. Additionally, she considers how cultural climate supports creative work and considers issues of tradition and memory ($18.95 pb, 0-8263-1539-9).

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Feminist historian Gerda Lerner views history as a personal experience — one that could save one's own life and sanity. She also believes that by integrating women into history, one could transform present consciousness. A tribute to the work of Gerda Lerner, **U.S. History As Women's History: New Feminist Essays** edited by Linda Kerber, et al. offers fifteen original essays representing innovative work by women historians addressing issues of state formation, power, and knowledge in relation to women's history in the U.S. Contains an overview and bibliography of Lerner's work. $15.95 pb, 0-8078-4495-0.

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The Stranger Who Bore Me: Adoptee-Birth Mother Interactions by Karen March is the first book to scientifically and carefully explore the dilemmas and experiences of adoptees and the consequences of their reunions with their birth mothers. C$17.95 pb, 0-8020-7235-6.

The female sleuth has grown more popular in recent years, especially through the work of Sara Paretsky and Sue Grafton. **Feminism in Women's Detective Fiction** edited by Glenwood Irons collects the essays of several women who explore whether this important force in popular fiction actually does a service to feminism — do these female detectives really challenge the status quo? These essays explore gender issues, the strength of women protagonists in detective fiction, and other issues. C$19.95 pb, 0-8020-6954-1.

UNIVERSITY PRESS OF KENTUCKY

For those who want to understand the grit of women's lives — the effects of labor/economics, race, gender, geography, politics and social conditions — UPK has two important offerings this season. **Coal Miners' Wives: Portraits of Endurance** by Carol Giesen offers interviews with sixteen West Virginian women and explores the dangers and deprivations in their lives caused by Appalachian coal mining. These are personal experiences reflecting the politics of coal mining, domestic concerns and women's expectations for the future ($14.95 pb, 0-8131-0845-4). In a different way, **Daughters of Canaan: A Saga of Southern Women** by Margaret Ripley Wolfe challenges legendary Southern mythology and the views of the "southern belle" and the "southern lady" in order to examine and better understand the ordinary lives of Southern women from a variety of racial, ethnic, economic and regional backgrounds. This history also looks at the variety of activist roles filled by Southern women — wives, mothers, pioneers, suffragists, soldiers, politicians and civil rights activists — and considers the impact of the passage of time and the pressure of historical forces on women's lives ($14.95 pb, 0-8131-0837-3).

UNIVERSITY PRESS OF MISSISSIPPI

There's not much out there on the experiences of deaf women so I'm excited about **"Deaf Maggie Lee Sayre": Photographs of a River Life** by Maggie Lee Sayre, edited by Tom Rankin. Born deaf in Kentucky

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in 1920, Maggie Lee Sayre lived her fifty-one years on a river houseboat. Having been given a box camera at a young age, she took photographs which ultimately became a profound source of communication about what she saw and how she experienced life and relationships. These poignant photographs are her voice. $17.95 pb, 0-87805-799-4, July.

Quilting has largely been considered a "folk" art (not a "real" art) as well as devalued as women's domestic labor. In **Sew to Speak: The Fabric Art of Mary Milne** by Linda Pershing we see how Milne's use of textile arts is not only sensual and aesthetic but also a creative form of social protest with the incorporation of potent messages. In her pieces for the Peace Ribbon project, or banners supporting the protection of Central American refugees, Milne's work transforms modern folk art into impassioned pleas against injustice. $15.95 pb, 0-87805-787-0, July. ○

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Cactus Blood, by Lucha Corpi
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Corpi's second mystery novel featuring Chicana detective Gloria Damasco. In this novel, Damasco confronts murder and intrigue amidst Indian rituals and labor unionizing activity.

A Perfect Silence, by Alba Ambert
MARCH 1995 CLOTHBOUND ISBN 1-55885-125-9 $19.95

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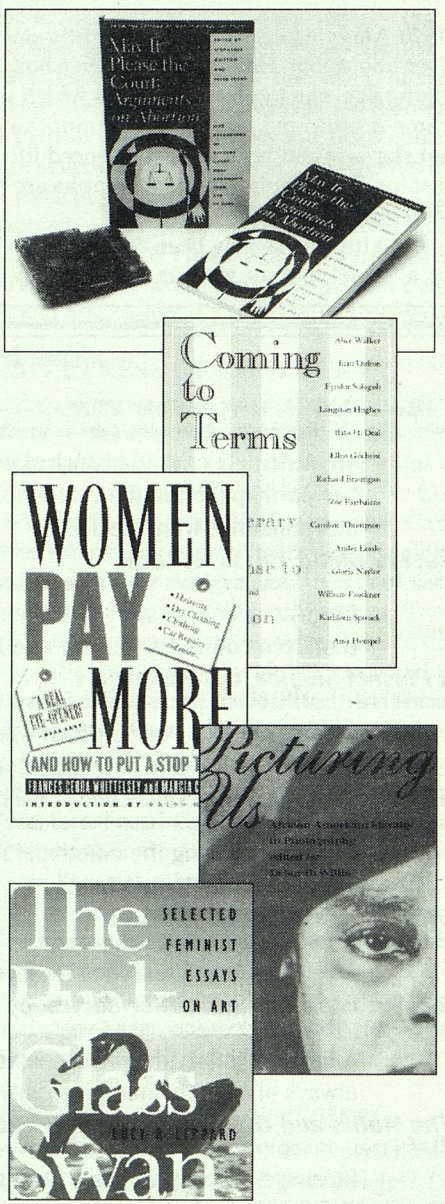

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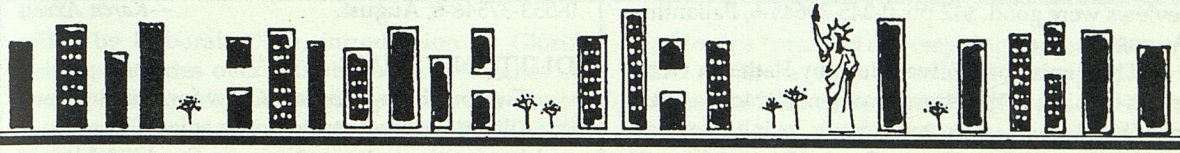
AND ON PUBLISHER'S ROW



Compiled by Beth Morgan

ADDISON-WESLEY

It's All the Rage: Crime and Culture by Wendy Kaminer begins where her *I'm Dysfunctional, You're Dysfunctional* left off, looking at the effects of popular psychology on criminal justice. Kaminer thinks that "our discussions of criminal justice have been emotionally and demagogically driven and that knowledge has become irrelevant." *Dysfunctional* sold well for us in cloth. $22 cl, 0-201-62274-2.

Mid-Life: Notes from the Halfway Mark by Elizabeth Kaye. Those of us who were once convinced that no one over thirty could be trusted are now well over that mark, and trying to come to terms with life and loss. Kaye's debut memoir could strike a chord in many of us. $18 cl, 0-201-40849-X.

One from this list you'll want to catch is **Sleeping at the Starlite Motel and Other Adventures on the Way Back Home** by Bailey White. White's first book, *Mama Makes Up Her Mind*, has sold very well for us, both in cloth and paper. Her humorous portraits of people and places are delightful. $20 cl, 0-201-62670-5.

The second edition of **Dr. Susan Love's Breast Book** is now available. $17 pb, 0-201-40835-X.

—*Dorothy Holland*

BALLANTINE PUBLISHING GROUP

In **The Missing Piece**, Claudia Black teams with practicing clinical psychologist Leslie Drozd to address the crisis of individuals consumed by the feeling that "something is missing." They believe that only by identifying and embracing all the aspects of self — including the conflicting, the disowned and the unknown aspects — can wholeness be achieved. Includes questionnaires, exercises and dialogues. $23 cl, 0-345-37668-4, Ballantine.

Fat and Furious: Women and Food Obsession by Judi Hollis connects unexpressed anger and the mother/daughter relationship to eating disorders in an attempt to help women come to terms with rage and befriend both themselves and their mothers. $11.50 pb, 0-345-39649-9, Ballantine.

Moon Cakes by Andrea Louie tells the story of Maya Li, the young American-born daughter of Chinese parents, who travels to China and discovers her soul-deep connection to that country. A first novel by a Chinese American journalist. $21 cl, 0-345-38554-3, Ballantine, June.

In **The Family Heart** novelist Robb Forman Dew tells the true story of her son's coming out. She describes the process of the family, from confusion to support to commitment. Looks like a great book to give to parents. $11 pb, 0-345-39408-9, Ballantine, June.

Out of the Garden: Women Writers on the Bible edited by Christina Buch and Celina Spiegel includes twenty-eight essays addressing women's reactions to the Old Testament stories. Sold well in cloth for us, thanks, in part, to the FB-Net catalog. $12.95 pb, 0-449-91017-2, Fawcett, June.

Set in Florida, **River of Hidden Dreams** by Connie May Fowler (*Sugar Cage*) deals with race, love and redemption for three generations of women. Granddaughter Sadie must come to terms with tragic family legends. $12 pb, 0-449-98363-3, Fawcett, June.

Recovering from the Loss of a Loved One to AIDS by Katherine Fair Donnelly offers advice on such issues as dealing strongly with your own or another person's HIV-positive status, facing hostility, finding a support system, caring for a loved one until

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the end, and grieving fully. Includes a resource section. $10 pb, 0-449-90990-5, Fawcett, June.

The Good Husband by Gail Godwin, soon out in paper, is the story of Magda Danvers' last days and a portrait of four friends and their two marriages. The reviews were good. $12 pb, 0-345-39645-6, Ballantine, August.

The Sound of a Silver Horn by Kathleen Noble traces heroism in the lives of women. Noble charts the traditional quest, from awakening to initiation, encountering allies, and transformation, resulting in new creativity and achievement. $11 pb, 0-449-90969-7, Fawcett, August. —*Karen Axness*
A Room of One's Own

BANTAM

Booker Prize nominee **Knowledge of Angels** by Jill Paton Walsh is a novel of ideas set in medieval times on a mythical island. The fate of a heretic prince depends on how a feral girl-child answers a cardinal's questions about the existence of God. $10.95 pb, 0-553-37475-3, June.

Skywriting by Margarita Engle is a novel of Cuba concerning an American woman and her Cuban half-brother who were separated at birth. After her illegal visit to Cuba, the half-brother tries to escape on a raft and is captured and imprisoned — but not before entrusting her with the 500-year-old chronicle of their family history, which she will use to free him. $21.95 cl, 0-553-09987-6, July.

Women's Bodies, Women's Wisdom by Christiane Northrup is a holistic guide to both physical and emotional healing, one that embraces feminism. This has sold well for us in hardcover. $14.95 pb (784 pp), 0-553-37466-4, July.

Jubilee Time: Celebrating Women, Spirit, and the Advent of Age by Maria Harris draws on the author's own experience and that of many wise women, famous and not. Harris urges her readers to assess what beliefs and values they want to take to the years beyond 50. Incorporates exercises and meditations. $22.95 cl, 0-553-09986-8, August.

Childhood's Thief by therapist Rose Mary Evans is the story of how she helped her client, JoAnn, recover memories of childhood sexual abuse with the help of free-associative writing. Both women were enriched by their therapeutic relationship, and ten years after their first meeting travel together to JoAnn's hometown to lay her ghosts to rest. $10.95 pb, 0-553-37546-6, August. —*Karen Axness*

DUTTON/VIKING

Two or Three Things I Know for Sure by Dorothy Allison is a memoir that looks at love, loss, family and hate with clarity and power. Frank and honest about her confrontations with the man who abused her, this will fit in abuse and incest sections, lesbian biography, and just a general good read. $14.95 pb, 0-525-93921-0, August, Dutton.

Autobiography of a Family Photo by Jacqueline Woodson is a moving portrait of childhood, family and community that explores both the destruction wrought by war and the darker sides of emotional and sexual tension. Woodson's writing has won awards in lesbian, gay and African American communities. "Look closely," says Dorothy Allison of this book, "this is a photo of great beauty, great heartbreak, greater love." I recommend Woodson's children's titles, also. $17.95 cl, 0-525-93721-8, Dutton.

Girlfriend to Girlfriend: Everyday Wisdom and Affirmations from the Sister Circle by Julia A. Boyd is full of strong, self-empowering and down-to-earth daily inspiration ($15.95 cl, 0-525-93958-X, Dutton). Boyd's previous title, *In the Company of My Sisters*, is still selling strong in cloth ($18.95 cl, 0-525-93708-0, Dutton).

The Invention of Heterosexuality by Jonathan Ned Katz, foreword by Gore Vidal, looks at how the labels "homosexual" and "heterosexual" came to be used, and their influence on cultural thinking. $22.95 cl, 0-525-93845-1, Viking.

Christina Rossetti: A Writer's Life by Jan Marsh is a biography of a remarkable woman poet. $27.95 cl, 0-670-83517-X, July, Viking.

Look at My Ugly Face! Myths and Musings on Beauty and Other Perilous Obsessions with Women's Appearance by Sara Halprin explores the links between appearance, identity and power. Halprin uses the archetype of the triple goddess, Jungian analysis, multicultural myths and popular culture. $22.95 cl, 0-670-85393-3, Viking.

Herstory: Women Who Changed the World

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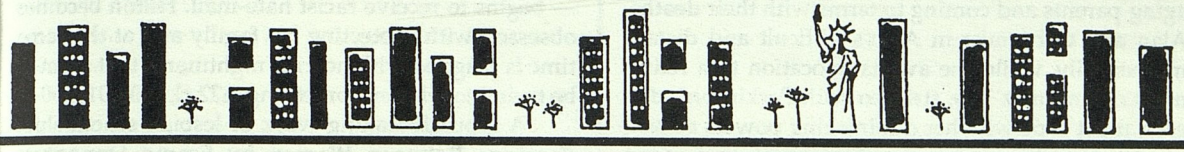

edited by Deborah Ohrn, introduction by Gloria Steinem, includes over 100 biographical sketches of women from ancient times to the present, and covers all parts of the globe. Well done. $19.95 cl, 0-670-85434-4, Viking.

Entertaining Angels by Marita van der Vyver is billed as "the freshest and funniest of modern-day fairly tales." Catalog says: "Losing her husband, home and baby, Griet lives in a borrowed flat in South Africa, writing feminist versions of fairy tales, when she is visited by a vigorously sexual angel." Sounds great. $20.95 cl, 0-525-93918-0, Dutton.

Reckless Driver by Lisa Vice is a searing portrait of a talented child at risk and a working class Indiana family under pressure. Dutton bills Vice as an important new voice in fiction. $19.95 cl, 0-525-93863-X, Dutton.

Ripening in the Wilderness: The Journey of a Woman Priest by Barbara St. Andrews tells of her experiences as an Episcopal priest, and the first ordained woman to serve as Guest Chaplain to both bodies of the U.S. Congress. $24.95 cl, 1-8523-0592-4, Dutton.

Lisa Alther's newest title is **Five Minutes in Heaven**. This novel moves from Tennessee in the 1950s, to New York, and on to Paris, weaving together a woman's life. Includes several same-sex relationships. $22.95 cl, 0-525-93893-1, Dutton.

Wooden Fish Songs by Ruthanne Lum McCunn tells the story of a Chinese man who came to the new world to improve his life — through the eyes of the women who know him. McCunn's *Thousand Pieces of Gold* was a moving and best-selling title. This one should be good also. $22.95 cl, 0-525-93927-X, Dutton.

Joan Hess' new Claire Malloy Mystery is **Busy Bodies**. This is the tenth in the series, always a good sell. $19.95 cl, 0-525-93910-5, Dutton.

Julia Alvarez has a poetry collection coming in June: **The Other Side**. I'm looking forward to it; her previous books have been enjoyable. It's cloth, so you may want to wait. $18.95 cl, 0-525-93922-9, June, Dutton.

Inc. Your Dreams: For Every Woman Who Has Ever Considered Business Ownership by Rebecca Maddox is a "practical and inspiring approach for any woman who has ever dreamed of owning her own business." $22.95 cl, 0-670-85433-6, Viking.

The catalog copy for **A New Prescription for Women's Health** by Bernadine Healy says that it "picks up where *Our Bodies, Ourselves* left off." Pardon me, I'm not convinced that *OBOS* needed to be "picked up!" However, Healy is the first female director of the National Institutes of Health, and knows her stuff. $22.95 cl, 0-670-85550-2, August, Viking.

Einstein's Wife: Work and Marriage in the Lives of Five Great Twentieth-Century Women by Andrea Gabor is intriguing. Looks at Mileva Maric, Einstein's wife, who was a strong scientist in her own right; Lee Krasner, a gifted artist who helped her husband, Jackson Pollack, before she established her own career; and more. They faced many of the same dilemmas we wrestle with today. $22.95 cl, 0-670-84210-9, August, Viking.

A young adult title that looks great is **A Whole New Ball Game** by Sue Macy. It tells the story of the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League. Definitely a topic for young women to know about. $4.99 pb, 0-14-037423-X, Puffin. —*Dorothy Holland*

HARPER *REFERENCE*

Women's World: A Timeline of Women in History by Irene Franck and David Brownstone is an illustrated guide to the history of women and their achievements through time. Arranged chronologically by era and year, this book presents events and women from ancient Egyptian queens to Attorney General Janet Reno. The coverage is worldwide but with an emphasis on subjects of particularly American interest. $20 pb, 0-06-273336-2, July.

HARPER*COLLINS*

A new novel by Sue Miller, **The Distinguished Guest** deals with the emotional hurdle of caring for

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aging parents and coming to terms with their deaths. Alan and Gaby take in Alan's difficult and distant mother, Lily, while she awaits relocation to a retirement community. Lily, stricken with Parkinson's disease, must cope with her diminishing powers as well as with disturbing memories of the events that ended her marriage years before. Both Lily and Alan look back over their lives as time runs out for a family that has left its deepest feelings unexpressed. $24 cl, 0-06-017673-3.

Paula by Isabel Allende is a memoir of Allende's family, which she began to write for her daughter when her daughter was in a coma in December, 1991. The reader meets her bizarre and delightful ancestors from Chile, her homeland. From delightful childhood memories to the turbulent history of the 1973 military coup, Allende explores the past as she questions the gods about her child's illness. $24 cl, 0-06-017253-3.

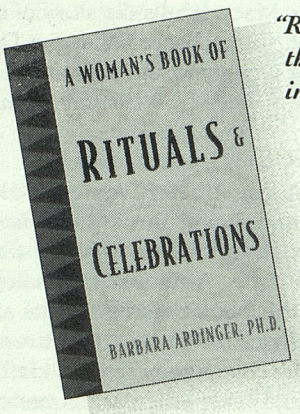
A frightening and convincing first novel about the supernatural and its effect on a middle-class African American family, **The Between** by Tanarive Due holds the reader between the real and the surreal. As a small boy, Hilton is saved by his grandmother, who sacrifices her life for his. Years later his wife — a judge — begins to receive racist hate-mail. Hilton becomes obsessed with protecting his family and at the same time is plagued with horrific nightmares that seem to be trying to tell him something. $22 cl, 0-06-017250-9.

A groundbreaking work of lesbian scholarship, **Passions Between Women** by Emma Donoghue (*Stir-Fry*) is a revisionist and frankly sexual look at eighteenth-century lesbian culture. Donoghue has uncovered an astonishing range of previously overlooked lesbian identities in Britain and provides more than ample evidence that many relationships between women were more passionate and sexual than other historians have related. Originally published by Scarlet Press, one of Britain's newer feminist presses. $25 cl, 0-06-017261-4.

Safe in America by Marcie Hershman is a powerful novel that spans three generations of a Jewish American family. It follows the Eichenbaum family from the thirties when the family tries to rescue their relatives in Europe, through World War II and into the present and the peril of AIDS. $24 cl, 0-06-017144-8.

Scottie is the first biography of the daughter of F. Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald. Written by her daughter, Eleanor Lanahan, this biography shows us the

A Woman's Book of Rituals & Celebrations



"Rich with poetry and blessings, this is a guide to practicing the presence of the Goddess in everyday life. Rituals are simple and profound; an excellent introduction to women's spirituality."

— Creation Spirituality

"A creative, down-to-earth approach to discovering the Goddess . . . written for the woman who is curious about what the re-emergence of the Goddess is all about, and an excellent place for the novice to get her toes wet."

— *Kisma K. Stepanich, author*
The Gaia Tradition

"A very interesting and useful account . . . for all women who wish to honor and explore feminine spirituality and womens' traditions."

— Library Journal

Trade paperback • $11.95 • 5½ x 8½ • ISBN 1-880032-57-0

New World Library

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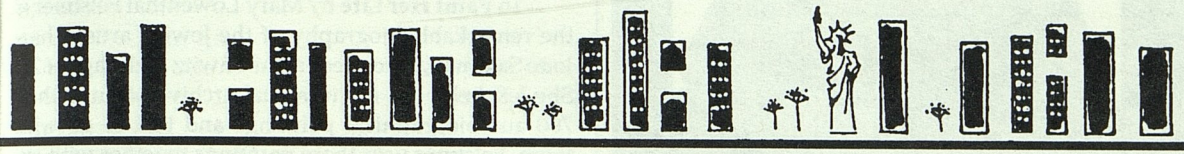

complex family relationships (especially with Tim, Scottie's son who, like Zelda, had schizophrenia and ultimately committed suicide); her successful career as a journalist and writer; her fast-lane life in Washington D.C. as a political insider during the Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson and Nixon years; and her struggles with alcoholism. $27.50 cl, 0-06-017179-0, June.

HARPER*BASIC*

Kidding Ourselves by Rhona Mahony is an empowering book that applies ideas from economic and game theory to negotiation in family life. Mahony looks at the unfair division of labor at home and offers techniques for women to change the balance of power in the home. $23 cl, 0-465-08593-9, June.

HARPER*PERENNIAL*

Oleander, Jacaranda by Penelope Lively is a bittersweet memoir by this British writer who grew up English in Egypt during the thirties and forties. Against an exotic background of a society that no longer exists, the reader follows Lively from summers on the beach at Alexandria to a dangerous sojourn in Palestine during wartime. This is a vivid account of a childhood caught between two cultures. $10 pb, 0-06-0926622-8.

The people and landscape of rural New Mexico come alive in **Blue Rodeo**, a love story about a family coming to terms with the failures of the past and healing their bonds before it is too late. Margaret Yearwood abandons California for life in the small town of Blue Dog. Amid her tenuous relationship with her newly-deaf son, Peter, she finds the courage to pick up a paintbrush and falls in love with her neighbor, who has been running from his own past. $12 pb, 0-06-092635-X.

A new collection of thought-provoking essays from Ellen Goodman's columns has been put together in **Value Judgments**. In these essays Goodman blends rational wisdom and common sense, whether she is discussing the abortion wars, Anita Hill and Clarence Thomas, the 1992 election or the small battles and large victories of marriage and family life. $13 pb, 0-06-097659-4.

An Adirondack Passage recounts an exhilarating 180-mile canoe trip by the author Christine Jerome and her husband, John. They retrace the route followed by George Washington Sears a century earlier when he was sixty-one years old. Through sunshine, storms, cottage-lined lakes and wild, lonely streams, Jerome's wilderness experience is an impassioned tribute to the Adirondack region. $12 pb, 0-06-092582-5.

Janet Campbell Hale's **The Owl's Song** deals with the coming of age of a young Native American man in a racist society. Billy White Hawk leaves the Benewah reservation to escape the violence and alcoholism and make a good life for himself. He moves to California to live with his half-sister, Fay, in search of a more promising future and discovers an alien and often hostile world where he must struggle to hold on to his Native American heritage. $11 pb, 0-06-097642-X.

Stir-Fry by Emma Donoghue is a well-written, tender coming-out/coming-of-age story. Seventeen-year-old Maria leaves her small Irish town to attend the university in Dublin. She finds a room with friendly Ruth and funny Jael, graduate students, older and more fascinating than she had expected. When she walks in on them making love one day, she is forced to question her own sexual feelings and desires. $11 pb, 0-06-092624-4.

The story of Norma McCorvey, the plaintiff in the landmark *Roe v. Wade* Supreme Court case that legalized abortion, is told in **I Am Roe**. Pregnant and an unwed mother of two, McCorvey sought out a back-alley abortion but was terrified by the horrendous conditions and fled. Soon afterward she was introduced to a team of public-spirited attorneys and began the fight that guaranteed freedom of choice to all American women (with money). $11 pb, 0-06-092638-4.

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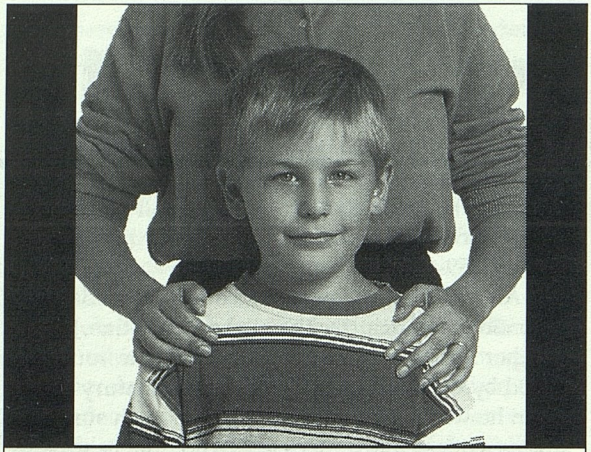

The power to redefine masculinity is in our hands.

THE COURAGE TO RAISE GOOD MEN

Olga Silverstein and Beth Rashbaum

A book that envisions a world where boys are raised to be whole people, not just strong men

"A rare and brilliant achievement...and an invigorating celebration of human possibility."—*Harriet Lerner, Ph.D.*

"*The Courage to Raise Good Men* gives us the faith and know-how to begin a new world in which men and women keep their revolutionary birthright of empathy, love, and connection."
—*Gloria Steinem*

Photograph by Barnaby Hall

At bookstores now

60 Penguin Years

To Paint Her Life by Mary Lowenthal Felstiner is the remarkable biography of the Jewish artist Charlotte Salomon, who died in Auschwitz at the age of 26. She left behind a monumental archive of more than 700 autobiographical paintings and text to go with them. Felstiner uses these paintings together with exhaustive research and personal interviews to give us this stunning portrait of a powerful woman and a remarkable witness to the Holocaust. $15 pb, 0-06-092628-7.

In **Peripheral Visions** Mary Catherine Bateson, the daughter of Margaret Mead, gives us an appreciation of the wealth of meaning that may be gained by understanding other cultures, and shows how interaction with other cultures can enrich our perspectives on our own lives. Bateson draws on her background as an anthropologist, her own life experiences, and her own reflections on our rapidly changing world to propose a new vision of learning through participation. $12 pb, 0-06-092630-9, June.

Un-American Activities by Sally Belfrage is a lively portrait of growing up in the fifties. Blonde and blue-eyed, Sally Belfrage wanted to be the conventional all-American girl. But as a gentile in a largely Jewish school and with a father who, as editor of the *National Guardian*, was under attack by Joe McCarthy, she was the ultimate misfit. $12 pb, 0-06-092626-0, June.

The paperback of **Women Who Hurt Themselves** by Dusty Miller offers help to the thousands of women who secretly inflict violence on themselves through self-mutilation, compulsive cosmetic surgeries, eating disorders and other forms of chronic injury. Miller, who has treated hundreds of such women patients, outlines a three-stage therapeutic program that empowers women to escape from the trap of anguish and shame and begin to heal. $12 pb, 0-65-09219-5.

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

HOUGHTON MIFFLIN

Can't resist telling you about these four kids' titles: **Too Far Away to Touch** by Lesléa Newman, illustrated by Catherine Stock, is about Zoe's uncle Leonard who is ill with AIDS. "Subtle and heartfelt account of a young child facing possible loss of a loved one to AIDS." Suggested for K-4th grade ($14.95 cl, 0-395-68968-6). **The Midwife's Apprentice** by Karen Cushman is the story of a young homeless girl finding

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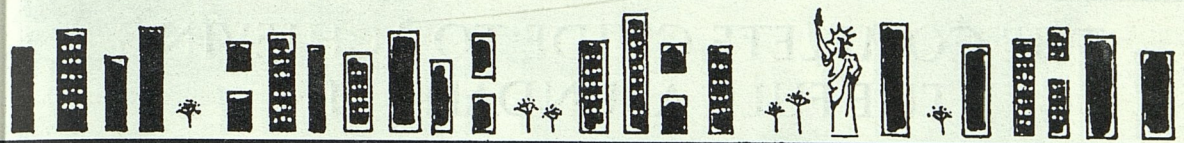

her place in the world of medieval England. Includes a note discussing midwifery past and present. Looks good ($10.95 cl, 0-395-69229-6). **Aunt Flossie's Hats (and Crab Cakes Later)** by Elizabeth Fitzgerald Howard, illustrated by James Ransome, was inspired by a real Aunt Flossie and a windy day at Baltimore's Inner Harbor. Intergenerational in an easy way, for ages 3-6 ($5.95 pb, 0-395-72077-X). **Information Please Girls' Almanac** by Alice Siegel and Margo McLoone is the only comprehensive reference for girls. Looks like a great resource ($8.95 pb, 0-395-73764-8).

Gringa Latina: A Woman of Two Worlds by Gabriella De Ferrari is a memoir of a girlhood in Peru, seen from the vantage point of adulthood in the U.S. De Ferrari grew up in Peru the daughter of Italian newlyweds who set down roots in an exotic and alluring country far from home. $19.95 cl, 0-395-70934-2.

Novels of Muriel Spark is available in two "handsome" cloth volumes. Includes ten novels. $25 cl each: Vol 1, 0-395-72670-0; Vol 2, 0-395-72671-9; boxed set $45 cl, 0-395-72672-7.

Lives of Our Own: Secrets of Salty Old Women by Caroline Bird is a wonderful, empowering book. Make sure to see the cover — great photo. First half of the book is the stories of older women living productive, independent lives, an immensely varied group with the commonality of a zest for living. The book concludes with salty secrets to make daily living easier and more manageable. $21.95 cl, 0-395-65234-0.

The Love Letter by Cathleen Schine is a romantic comedy of illicit summer love, set in a bookstore, lesbian content — right up my alley! $18.95 cl, 0-395-68996-1.

—*Dorothy Holland*

NORTON

The most exciting lesbian book from Norton this season is **The Intersection of Law and Desire**, a Micky Knight (lesbian) Mystery by J.M. Redmann. It continues the characters from her previous titles *Death by the Riverside* and *Deaths of Jocasta* (New Victoria), which sold very well. Advance reading copies are available — call Lara White at Norton (800-223-4830). I loved it, couldn't put it down. Book jacket says Micky Knight is a "tough, dyke dick" in New Orleans. A *must*. $22 cl, 0-393-03793-2, July, Norton.

Carole Maso's **The Art Lover** is being re-released in trade paper. Part fiction about a writer who catalogs images to keep the world in place, and part fact as Maso deals with the death of a friend from AIDS. Definite feminist and lesbian content. $13 pb, 0-88001-410-5, June, Ecco.

Virginia Woolf by James King is a massive new biography of Woolf, examining her childhood sexual abuse, relationships with men and women, and her interactions with other intellects of her time. The price may make customers wait for the paperback. $35 cl, 0-393-03748-7, Norton.

MotherSongs: Poems for, by and about Mothers edited by Sandra M. Gilbert, Susan Gubar and Diana O'Hehir, is one I would have passed on, but Gilbert and Gubar have collaborated on several wonderful books, including *The Norton Anthology of Literature by Women* and *Madwoman in the Attic*. This should be worth reading ($22.50 cl, 0-393-03771-1, Norton). Another mother title is **Mother Love** by the remarkable Rita Dove (*Grace Notes, Thomas & Beulah, Through the Ivory Gate*), African American feminist, novelist and Poet Laureate. Sadly, it's in cloth. Simultaneous cloth and paper would have served our customers better. $17.95 cl, 0-393-03808-4, Norton.

Doris Grumbach has several titles with Norton this season. **The Book of Knowledge** looks at the immense influence in our lives of those whom we choose to love. Definite lesbian content ($22 cl, 0-393-03770-3, June, Norton). Grumbach's **Extra Innings** is coming in June in paper ($12.00 pb, 0-393-31320-4, Norton).

Secret Paths is a title by Terri Apter on women in midlife. Apter interviewed many women in their forties and fifties. She views this midlife passage through women's psychology rather than biology, showing

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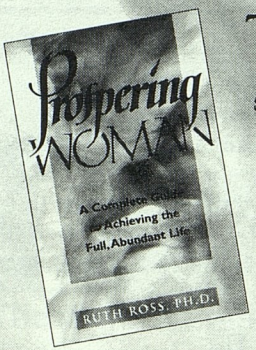
THE COMPLETE GUIDE TO ACHIEVING THE FULL, ABUNDANT LIFE



Writing with empathy and encouragement, Ruth Ross shows women how to overcome barriers to prosperity and turn their special strengths — intuition, patience, compassion, and imagination — into powerful tools. Through self-tests and checklists, affirmations, visualizations, meditations, and dozens of illustrative, real-life examples, she teaches women to define prosperity for themselves, examine self-defeating beliefs, connect with their deepest desires, and formulate goals.

Prospering Woman offers proven techniques and empowering insights for any woman who is striving to honor and realize her dreams.

Trade paperback · $11.95 · 5½ x 8½ · ISBN 1-880032-60-0

NEW WORLD LIBRARY

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midlife women moving into our own sense of power, independence and selfhood. $25 cl, 0-393-03766-5, June, Norton.

The Comfort Women by George Hicks is the story of Japan's brutal regime of enforced prostitution during WWII. Over 100,000 women were forced into prostitution by the Japanese military during the war. This title includes accounts from the women themselves, from the servicemen and from official wartime documents. Powerful, scary story. $25 cl, 0-393-03807-6, August, Norton.

Kate Millett has two titles from Norton this season. **A.D., A Memoir** is about Millett's connection with her aunt, and the estrangement that came as Millett became her own person. Millett vividly portrays growing up gay in the '50s ($23 cl, 0-393-03524-7, August, Norton). **The Politics of Cruelty: An Essay on the Literature of Political Imprisonment** will be out in paper in June ($13 pb, 0-393-31312-3, Norton).

If you did well with *Mean Spirit* by Linda Hogan, you may want to consider her new title, **Dwellings: Reflections on the Natural World**. In this book, Hogan explores the idea and meaning of home. Realizing we, as humans, are not separate from the natural world, she asks "What is our responsibility to life on the planet? How do we honor it?" $22 cl, 0-393-03784-3, August, Norton.

Tesserae is a memoir by Denise Levertov, one of my favorite poets. Levertov sees this book as a collection of pieces of an unfinished mosaic, hence the title, **Tesserae**, the word for the small pieces that make up a mosaic. $17.95 cl, 0-8112-1292-0, New Directions.

bell hooks has a new title on visual politics, **Art on My Mind**. Contributes to the ongoing discussion about the obsession of the art world with identity politics. hooks is, as always, excellent on issues of race and sex. $15 pb, 1-56584-263-4, New Directions.

Claiming Feminism: A History of Black Female Resistance by Beverly Guy-Sheftall, with an epilogue by Johnnetta Cole, traces the development of Black feminist thought in the U.S. Amazing collection. $20 pb, 1-56584-256-1, July, New Directions.

English Is Broken Here: Notes on Cultural Fusion in the Americas by Coco Fusco includes

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essays, performance scripts and interviews. $15 pb, 1-56584-245-6, New Directions.

Encore: A Journal of the Eightieth Year by May Sarton will be available in paper in July. This is a wonderful read, following Sarton in the daily round of her life in old age — physical struggles balanced by the satisfactions of friendship, nature, critical recognition and creative spark. Marvelous. $13.95, 0-393-31317-4, Norton.

Coming of Age in America: A Multicultural Anthology edited by Mary Frosch is an excellent collection of short stories and fiction excerpts that celebrate the diversity in our culture. Great gift to give the young adults in your life to stretch their awareness. Includes Julia Alvarez and Dorothy Allison, among many other strong authors. $11.95 pb, 1-56584-147-6, New Directions.

Early Work: 1970-1979 by Patti Smith includes photographs, along with parts of journals, performances and Smith's personal papers. $10 pb, 0-393-31301-8, Norton.

The Norton Book of Women's Lives edited by Phyllis Rose is now available in paper, making this wonderful resource much more accessible. $17.95 pb, 0-393-31290-9, Norton.

A Muriel Rukeyser Reader edited by Jan Heller Levi, with an introduction by Adrienne Rich, includes poetry and prose spanning forty-five years of Rukeyser's writing life. $15 pb, 0-393-31323-9, Norton.

The Latin Deli: Telling the Lives of Barrio Women by Judith Ortiz Cofer tells of the Puerto Rican women's lives that became entangled with hers in El Building in Paterson, NJ. $11 pb, 0-393-31313-1, Norton.

Lost Star: The Search for Amelia Earhart by Randall Brink is based on ten years of research. Brink theorizes that Amelia's last flight was an espionage mission, and that she was captured and became a prisoner of war. $12.95 pb, 0-393-31311-5, June, Norton.

Carrington: A Life by Gretchen Holbrook Gerzina is a biography that reads like a novel, giving new perspective on Dora Carrington, an artist whose skill and talent was overshadowed by her male companions (not unlike Frida Kahlo). $15 pb, 0-393-31328-X, August, Norton. —*Dorothy Holland*

PENGUIN

Goddesses for Every Season by Nancy Blair is a collection of 52 goddesses, with illustrations and myths, practices and meditations. Looks like a nice gift book. $12.95 cl, 1-85230-686-6, August, Element.

Now out in paper

In **Pictures of a Childhood** Alice Miller confronts the fear, despair and loneliness of her own childhood through the analysis of her own watercolor paintings. $14.95 pb, 0-452-27482-6, Meridian.

Singing Songs by Meg Tilly is a novel about a young girl's coming-of-age as her family flees from social workers, schools and nearly all the conventions of society. $9.95 pb, 0-452-27165-7, Plume, June.

Erotic Interludes: Tales Told by Women edited by Lonnie Barbach includes writings about young, old, married, single, heterosexual and lesbian women, from the woman's point of view. $11.95 pb, 0-452-27398-6, Plume, June.

Shark Dialogues by Kiana Davenport takes place in Hawai'i. Spanning seven generations, the story looks at issues of colonialism, racism and sexism. $12.95 pb, 0-452-27458-3, Plume, July.

In the Time of Butterflies by Julia Alvarez sold fairly well in cloth, should do fine in paper. It's the chronicle of three young women — wives and mothers — emerging across decades to tell their stories from the dictatorship in the Dominican Republic ($11.95 pb, 0-452-27442-7, August, Plume). Don't forget Alvarez's other award winning novel, which I loved even more: **How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents** ($10.95 pb, 0-452-26806-0, Plume).

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Price of Honor: Muslim Women Lift the Veil of Silence on the Islamic World by Jan Goodwin takes us into the homes of Muslim women, who talk of the increasingly oppressive politics that govern their personal lives. I had no idea their lives could be so confined. $12.95 pb, 0-452-27430-3, August, Plume.

—Dorothy Holland

PUTNAM

Alice Hoffman's **Practical Magic** is the story of how two sisters raised with magic spells and respect for nature try to escape their upbringing, but eventually learn that magic can be a gift. $22.95 cl, 0-399-14055-7. (A free poster is available: 0-399-19281-6.)

In **Sea Change** Sylvia Earle gives us a message from the oceans and an introduction to marine biology, speaking powerfully for the endangered life of the seas. She shares her exploits as the only female scientist (in a group of 300) on a two month international sailing expedition, and as the leader of the first team of female aquanauts to live underwater. Earle is the former Chief Scientist of the National Oceanic Institute and Atmospheric Administration. What a role model! Includes 30+ b&w photographs. $24.95 cl, 0-399-14060-3.

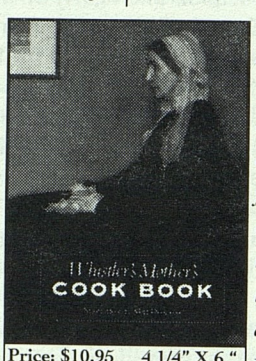
Wrestling with the Angel edited by Brian Bouldrey is a look at faith and religion in the lives of gay men. Includes Hindu, Mormon, Christian, Jewish and Muslim men describing their paths toward spiritual and sexual identity. $23.95 cl, 1-57322-003-5, Riverhead Books.

If *Red Azalea* did well for you in cloth, try **Katherine** by Anchee Min. A young white American woman comes to China to teach English, and Min delves into the clash of old mystical traditions and modern American ways. One of the subplots is that two Chinese people fall in love with her — one a man and the other a woman. $22.95 cl, 1-57322-005-1.

Sights Unseen is Kaye Gibbons newest novel. If *Charms for an Easy Life* sold well for you in cloth, give this one a try. $19.95 cl, 0-399-13986-9, Putnam.

—Dorothy Holland

Yes, Whistler's Mother was a real person and she cooked for her family..! Irreverently referred to by her son as her "Bible", the manuscript book was kept faithfully by Mrs. Whistler for many years. Included are recipes for such delectable as bread-and-butter pudding, pickled walnuts, and macaroons as well as a fascinating account of the Whistler household in America, Russia and Britain. Whistler's Mother's Cook Book offers a rare and delightful glimpse into nineteenth century life and the family of one of the leading American Impressionist painters.



Price: $10.95 4 1/4" X 6"

POMEGRANATE PUBLICATIONS/ARTBOOKS

RANDOM HOUSE
RH-Vintage

Train Go Sorry: Inside a Deaf World by Leah Hager Cohen is a portrait of New York's Lafayette School for the Deaf. It is also a memoir of Leah growing up on the school's campus where her father is its superintendent. As a hearing person raised among the deaf, Cohen appreciates both the intimate textures of the silent world and the gulf that separates it from the hearing world. Cohen also examines issues that are critical among the deaf, from the debate over signing versus "oralism" to the questions raised by new medical technologies that promise to "cure" deafness at the cost of eradicating deaf culture. $13 pb, 0-679-76165-9.

Shelby Hearon's new novel, **Life Estates**, explores women's friendships and losses and their extraordinary powers of reinvention and renewal. Sarah and Harriet, who have been friends since boarding school, are in their mid-fifties when they are both widowed. Sarah takes an attentive older lover and finds widowhood a release from a sterile marriage. But beautiful, flirtatious Harriet feels like nothing more than an unemployed wife and a woman alone in

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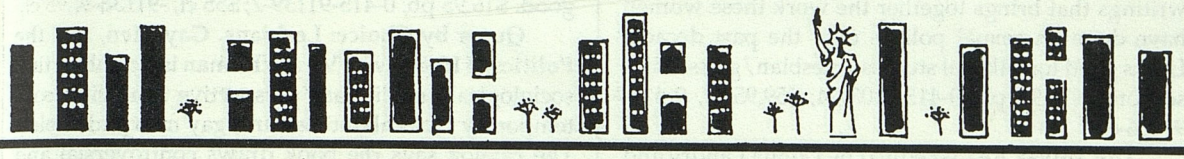

a dangerous world. $11 pb, 0-679-75796-1.

Vintage will be doing a new edition of Lorraine Hansberry's plays **A Raisin in the Sun** and **The Sign in Sidney Brustein's Window. A Raisin in the Sun** is her moving, authentic portrayal of Black family life in the inner city. $13 pb, 0-679-75531-4.

John Boswell's highly praised **Same-Sex Unions in PreModern Europe** challenges many assumptions about the history of Christianity. Boswell produces evidence that at one time the Catholic and Eastern Orthodox churches not only sanctioned unions between partners of the same sex, but sanctified them in ceremonies that bear a striking resemblance to heterosexual marriage ceremonies. $13 pb, 0-679-75164-5, June.

Tracks by Robyn Davidson is a reissue of the account of her 1,700 mile odyssey through the deserts of Australia with her dog and four camels as companions. Enduring 130-degree heat and fording swollen rivers, fending off poisonous snakes and lecherous Australian men, chasing her camels when they got skittish and nursing them when they were injured, Davidson emerges as a genuine adventurer driven by a love of the Australian landscape and an empathy for its indigenous people. $12 pb, 0-679-76287-6, June.

RH- Pantheon/Schocken

Last House by M.F.K. Fisher is the final volume in a trilogy of selections from her journals, short stories and correspondence. Fisher tells of her life in France as a young wife and student and recalls her return to California, where she spent the last twenty years of her life. She reflects on her favorite topics — food, literature and relationships — with humor and spare elegant prose. $23 cl, 0-679-43908-0, June.

The Jewish War by Tova Reich is a novel set in the near future in Israel. The Israeli Army is about to descend upon a band of militant West Bank settlers who have proclaimed the secessionist Kingdom of Judea and Samaria. Yehudi HaGoel is the charismatic king of this extremist Zionist sect whose mission is to recapture the sacred city of Hebron. The novel follows him from his youth in New York City into his campaign of terror. This is a story of the struggle between political realities and historical vision, between the hope for peace and a fierce commitment to sacred, eternal truth. $22 cl, 0-679-43987-0, July.

A new novel by Anne Tyler, **Ladder of Years** tells the story of forty-year-old Celia Grinstead, the mother of three almost grown children, who on sudden impulse walks away from her marriage, hitches a ride into the unknown and settles in a strange new town to start an entirely new life. As soon she begins her new unburdened life, fresh responsibilities inevitably accumulate, from a stray cat to another woman's maimed husband and little boy. $24 cl, 0-0679-44155-7.

A collection of short stories by Victoria Redel, **Where the Road Bottoms Out**, seeks to determine what it is to be a daughter, a wife, and a mother. With the outlook of a first-generation American, Redel battles the various impediments that rob a woman of her freedom. $20 cl, 0-679-42071-1.

Lorene Cary, the author of *Black Ice*, tells the story of freed slave Mercer Gray in **The Price of a Child**. Ginnie is freed by members of the Philadelphia Vigilance Committee while she and her master are visiting the city. She learns quickly that freedom is no less treacherous than slavery. She reinvents herself as Mercer Gray, struggles to remain free, hides from slave catchers, appears in court, and agonizes over the child she has left behind in Virginia — all while giving lectures in the cause of abolition. In this remarkable novel, Cary has created a woman who has to teach herself to be human and whole and who succeeds in an uncommonly inspiring fashion. $23 cl, 0-679-42106-8, June. —*Sandi Torkildson*

ROUTLEDGE, CHAPMAN & HALL

Sex Wars: Sexual Dissent and Political Culture by Lisa Duggan and Nan Hunter is a collection of

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writings that brings together the work these women have done on sexual politics over the past decade. Looks good for cultural studies or lesbian/gay studies sections. $16.95 pb, 0-415-91037-4; $59.95 cl, 0-415-91036-6.

The Spivak Reader edited by Donna Landry and Gerald Maclean offers a careful selection of this major critic's work, making it accessible to as wide an audience as possible in academics. A must if you have a women's studies program in your area. $17.95 pb, 0-415-91001-3; $55 cl, 0-415-91000-5.

Popular Science and Sex in America by Constance Penley examines science policy and science fiction, demonstrating the obstacles blocking women's entry not only into space, but into the fields of science and technology in general. Looks like it could have a wide appeal. $18.95 pb, 0-86091-617-0, Verso.

Mapping Desire: Geographies of Sexuality edited by David Bell and Gill Valentine presents the rich and diverse world of contemporary sexuality, exploring how the heterosexed body has been appropriated. The catalog claims this book will be valuable information for those interested in cultural or lesbian/gay studies. $24.95 pb, 0-415-11164-1; $74.95 cl, 0-415-11163-3.

White Guys: Studies in Postmodern Domination and Difference by Fred Pfeil looks like a reader in white-boys' culture. Since we're inundated with that day in and day out, perhaps it's a good thing someone's analyzing it. A must if you have a men's section. $18.95 pb, 1-85984-031-9; $64.95 cl, -937-7.

Cultural Sniping: The Art of Transgression edited by Jo Stanley, and with a foreword by Annette Kuhn, explores the work of Jo Spence, one of Britain's pioneering photographers. Spence's work explores issues of gender, class, health and the body, and their impact on the construction of identity. Good if you have an art section. $19.95 pb, 0-415-08884-4; $49.95 cl, -08883-6.

Unrelated Kin: Race and Gender in Women's Personal Narratives edited by Gwendolyn Etter-Lewis and Michele Foster is a collection of narratives by and about women of color, exploring the realities of non-Western and non-white women's lives. Looks good. $16.95 pb, 0-415-91139-7; $55 cl, -91138-9.

Queer by Choice: Lesbians, Gay Men, and the Politics of Identity by Vera Whisman is a combination sociological and literary perspective analyzing contemporary ideas about lesbians, gay men and choice. The catalog says the book draws controversial and startling conclusions. Looks very good. $16.95 pb, 0-415-91015-3; $55 cl, -91014-5.

Gender, Work and Space by Susan Hanson and Geraldine Pratt contributes to the understanding of sex-based occupational segregation. Looks interesting and should do well in a gender or sociology section. $17.95 pb, 0-415-09941-2; $59.95 cl, -09940-4, July.

Inarticulate Longings: *The Ladies Home Journal*, Gender, and the Promises of Consumer Culture by Jennifer Scanlon is a cultural history based on *The Ladies Home Journal*, analyzing the magazine's advice, advertisements and fiction. $16.95 pb, 0-415-91157-5; $59.95 cl, -91156-7, July.

Earthcare: Women and the Environment is Carolyn Merchant's newest collection of work on feminism and the environment. It includes updated and never-before-published work. Merchant has good name recognition and this book should do well. $16.95 pb, 0-415-90888-4; $59.95 cl, -90887-6, August.

Women on Ice: Feminist Responses to the Tonya Harding/Nancy Kerrigan Spectacle edited by Cynthia Baughman provides a feminist analysis of this saga, illustrating how our fascination (whose fascination?) with the story betrays gender and cultural stereotypes. There are some serious and interesting critics included in this collection, so I'm sure it will be thought-provoking. $16.95 pb, 0-415-91151-6; $69.95 cl, -91150-8, August.

Constructing Masculinity edited by Maurice Berger, Brian Wallis and Simon Watson is an anthology of twenty-one original texts organized into five discursive areas addressed by leading academics, social and applied scientists, legal scholars, poets, activists and cultural critics. Looks good for a men's section. $19.95 pb, 0-415-91053-6; $65 cl, -91052-8, August.

The Queening of America by David Van Leer looks at how certain gay motifs are and have been represented to a general population as if culturally

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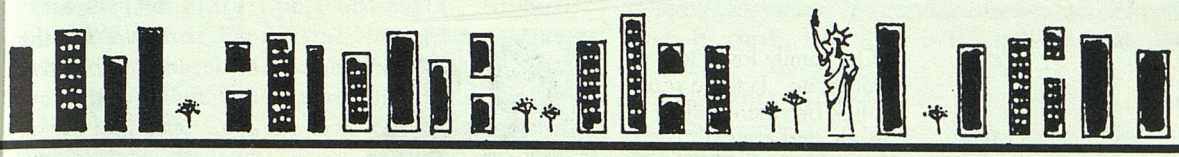

neutral. (I think this means how, for instance, Paul Lynde's gay humor was so widely accepted on *Hollywood Squares*). Looks like very interesting stuff, perhaps packaged in a bit too much academic rhetoric. Still, I think it's a must for lesbian/gay studies. $16.95 pb, 0-415-90336-X; $55 cl, -90335-1, August.

Homeworkers in Global Perspective: Invisible No More edited by Eileen Boris and Elizabeth Prugl covers the major geographic regions of the world and illustrates the diversity of home-based work and homeworkers' organizing. $18.95 pb, 0-415-91007-2; $65 cl, -91006-4, August. —*Mary Ellen Kavanaugh*
My Sisters' Words

SIMON & SCHUSTER

My pick of this list is Patricia Cornwell's **From Potter's Field**, the newest Kay Scarpetta mystery. Kay's niece is still out, Kay is still straight, but the rest you have to read for yourself. Wonderful, as usual. Galleys are available. $24 cl, 0-684-19598-4, Scribner, August.

Vice Versa: The Bisexuality of Everyday Life by Marjorie Garber is a study of bisexuality as an erotic, social and cultural phenomenon. $30 cl, 0-684-80308-9, Simon & Schuster, June.

Straight Jobs, Gay Lives, Gay and Lesbian MBA's, the Harvard Business School, and the American Workplace by Annette Friskopp and Sharon Silverstein is based on a Harvard Business School study. It offers upbeat news for all gays and lesbians hoping to climb the corporate ladder. Pricey. $30 cl, 0-684-80424-7, Scribner, June.

The Question of Equality: Gays and Lesbians from Stonewall to the Present edited by David Deitcher, foreword by Armistead Maupin. This is the tie-in to the four-part PBS documentary showing in June if the Republicans haven't totally banned PBS by then. Pricey, but worth it. $35 cl, 0-684-80030-6, Scribner, June.

The Fatigue Artist by Lynne Sharon Schwartz is a novel about a woman whose brush with Chronic Fatigue virus provokes a reexamination of her life. $21 cl, 0-684-80247-3, Scribner, June.

I Will Not Go Quietly by Mary Fisher is a collection of inspirational and moving speeches by this remarkable AIDS activist. $20 cl, 0-684-80074-8, Scribner, July.

Salt Dancers by Ursula Hegi is about the return home of an unmarried, pregnant, forty-one-year-old woman determined to understand — before her child is born — how her family unraveled ($22 cl, 0-684-80209-1, Simon & Schuster, August). Hegi's *Intrusions* comes out in paper in August also ($11 pb, 0-684-80136-1, Scribner).

Walking in the Sacred Manner by Mark St. Pierre and Tilda Longsoldier is about holy women, healers, and pipe carriers — the Medicine Women of the Plains Indians. Longsoldier wrote this book to counter misinformation being dispersed by non-native peoples about her culture. She shows how women are called to be shamans, the status of female healers within her community, and the traditional rituals and methods used by the women. $12 pb, 0-684-80200-7, Touchstone.

Latina: Women's Voices from the Borderlands edited by Lillian Castillo-Speed is a collection of fiction and non-fiction works by well-known and emerging Latina writers such as Sandra Cisneros and Julia Alvarez. $13 pb, 0-684-80240-6, $25.00 cl, 0-684-80381-X, Touchstone, August.

Why Gay Guys are a Girl's Best Friend by Jeff Fessler and Karen Raunch is a collection of cartoons contrasting a straight and a gay guy's take on the same issue. $7.95 pb, 0-684-80053-5, Fireside, June.

Now out in paper

Moses Supposes, stories by Ellen Currie, a National Book Award nominee ($10 pb, 0-684-80421-2, Scribner); **Summer of Rescue** by Barbara Nelson, a "stunning work of fiction that illuminates the sometimes varied emotions of a woman coming to

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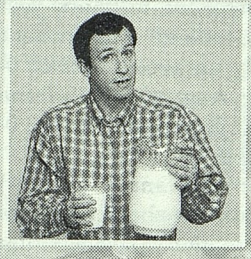
"Our family loves to barbecue. Is there really a link between grilled foods and cancer?" *See Chapter 13*

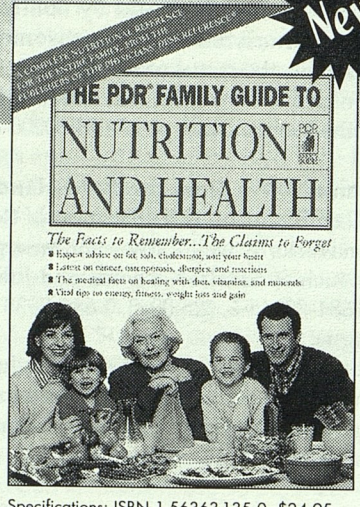
"Our supermarket has started to sell irradiated milk. Is it considered safe?" *See Chapter 13*

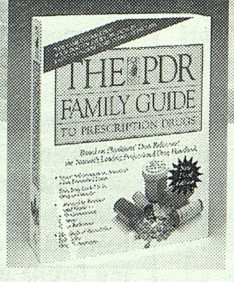


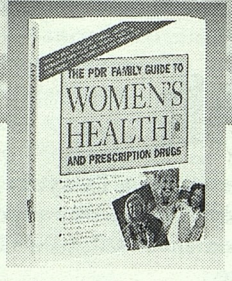
"My kids love fast food. Is it really that unhealthy?" *See Chapter 32*

"I've tried a million diets. How do I keep the weight off?" *See Chapter 7*

New







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terms with her life ($11 pb, 0-684-80114-0, Scribner, June); **Who Stole Feminism? How Women Have Betrayed Women** by Christina Hoff Sommers ($12 pb, 0-684-80156-6, Touchstone).

—Dorothy Holland

ST. MARTIN'S

Cleo by Jean Brody is a general all around good read, with a heroine you find yourself rooting for. Cleo, inspired by *My Journey to Lhasa*, leaves home at an early age in 1922 and begins to work her way toward Lhasa. $21.95 cl, 0-312-11761-2.

Shadow Man by Melissa Scott is my pick of the TOR list for feminist stores. I absolutely loved *Trouble and Her Friends*. This one is about sexual politics and the upheaval of cultures in a galaxy with five human sexual identities ($22.95 cl, 0-312-85800-8, July, TOR). The paperback of **Trouble and Her Friends** will be out in July ($4.99 pb, 0-0-812-522133, TOR).

Cat in a Crimson Haze, a Midnight Louie mystery by Carole Nelson Douglas, is the fourth title in this series. Las Vegas is not my favorite town, but Douglas manages to catch my interest every time (could be the cats). $22.95 cl, 0-312-85901-5, Forge.

The Girls in the Back of the Class by LouAnne Johnson is the non-fiction story of Johnson's commitment to making sure more girls stay in school, and particularly in her high school classroom. She recounts the struggles she and her students face — drugs, teen pregnancy, abuse, and poverty. Put it up there with *Failing at Fairness*. Here is a teacher who is trying to right the wrongs. $21.95 cl, 0-312-13081-3, St. Martin's.

Mothers by Jax Peters Lowell is about two lesbian women raising their son together. Lowell, who says she is not gay, presents a wonderful family having to deal with the "real" world. $22.95 cl, 0-312-13126-7, June, St. Martin's.

Done Wrong by Eleanor Taylor Bland is the fourth Marti MacAlister mystery. Marti is a middle-class Black woman. The previous titles have sold well, even in cloth. $20.95 cl, 0-312-13053-8, June, St. Martin's.

Diary of a Survivor by Ana Rodriguez and Glenn Garvin is one woman's courageous story of her nineteen years in a Cuban women's prison. Very gripping. $22.95 cl, 0-312-13050-3, June, St. Martin's.

Joan Benoit Samuelson's **Running for Women** has advice on running, training and racing specifically for women. Joan Benoit and Gloria Averbuch have created an inspiring and informative guide. $16.95 pb, 0-87596-239-4, June, Rodale Press.

Sarah Bird Wright has collected and edited excerpts from Edith Wharton's travel writings, presenting them in a single volume, **Edith Wharton Abroad: Selected Travel Writings, 1888-1920**. $22.95 cl, 0-312-12417-1, July, St. Martin's.

The Queen of Tambourine by Jane Gardam, who writes novels that "evoke the complex emotional lives of extraordinary female characters." In this title, we witness the emotional breakdown and eventual restoration of a smart and wildly imaginative woman in south London. $20.95 cl, 0-312-13151-8, August, St. Martin's.

Now out in paper

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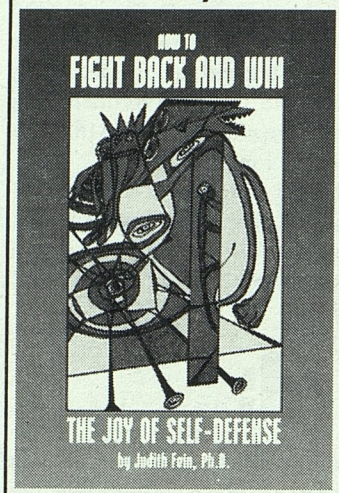

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Canadian Books, *continued from page 81.*

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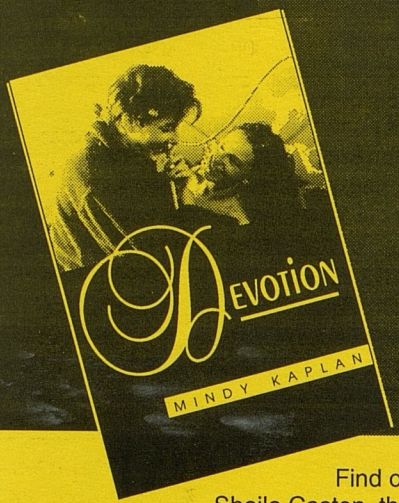

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