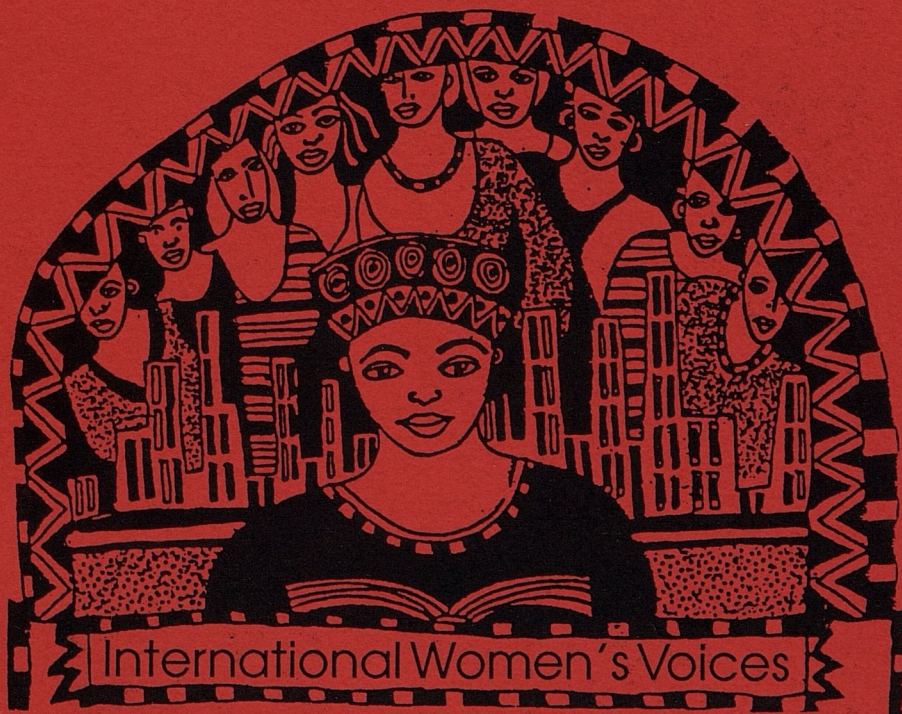

Feminist Bookstore News





International Women's Voices

January/February 1996

Volume 18 Number 5

Femina Serial am F32978

7/31/96



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NOTES FROM THE COMPUTER TABLE



Welcome to our International Women's Voices issue! It features a great line-up of articles that address a few of the many issues and barriers that women face trying to hear and be heard across national boundaries. We look briefly at one African woman's writing career, at the joy of starting and running the first Chinese-language feminist bookstore, at the sometimes delightful (and sometimes maddening) happenstances and luck that make the difference between an international audience and none. And we do something that FBN "never" does — excerpts from books: the first looks at feminist publishing in the Third World; the second looks at the ways lesbians' human rights are violated globally. Both are from exciting new publications that couldn't, wouldn't have been generated by mainstream presses.

It's an exciting issue, produced in the midst of great duress and we're very proud of it.

Please accept our apologies for any irregularities you've encountered in our office this fall. In addition to having new staff and old staff in new positions, we also took time out for an office-wide flu epidemic that actually closed the office and ate a couple of weeks out of our production schedule, a hurricane-force rain storm that wasn't called that because California doesn't have hurricanes, and a few other events that I can't recall at the moment! I think this may be business as usual!

Meanwhile, bookstores have been wading through the holiday selling season and some truly wretched snow storms, the loss of a key distributor and a plague of computer problems at other distributors as well as the chronic superstore competition.

Comings and goings: We're losing one of our most committed volunteer proofreaders, Carole London, of the Book Garden, as she moves on to other endeavors. She proofed by express mail, Fed Ex, and

fax when necessary! Thanks, Carole! We'll miss working with you and wish you the best of luck!

Susanna Sturgis, FBN's longest running columnist, is looking for the right woman to take over her fantasy/science fiction column. If you're that woman, contact Susanna (see her column for addresses) or me at FBN.

We're looking for one or two good (or obsessive!) in-town or out-of-town proofreaders. (Read FBN before it's even published!) We're also looking for one or two women who can come into the office to scan final layouts the week we go to press. If that's you, please call me at FBN!

Yours in spreading the words,
Carol Seajay

FBN Deadlines

Spring Announcements Issue

January 5

Special ABA Issue

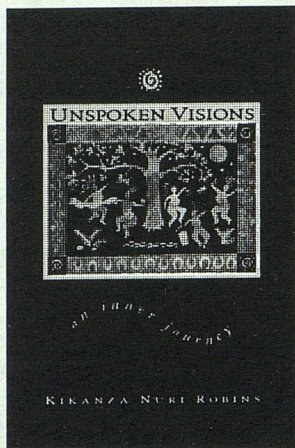
May/June 1996

March 1

Summer/Sidelines Issue

May 10

Spring at Papier-Mache

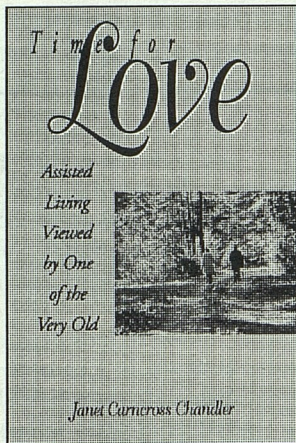


Unspoken Visions: An Inner Journey

Kikanza Nuri Robins, Ed.D.

More than a blank book, this inspiring journal offers beautiful graphics and affirmations on each page to inspire both new and experienced journalers to write. Listed in *Who's Who in the West* since 1982, Dr. Robins has touched thousands of lives through her workshops on self-esteem, personal development and assertiveness.

- Unique journal with inspiring affirmations written by an expert on personal development.
- Workshop Tour
- In-Store Support Materials
- National Ads & Publicity 128 pages, 6x9, wire-o bind, 5-color cover, acid-free paper ISBN 0-918949-88-2, paper, \$12.95 Pub. date: May 1996



Time for Love: Assisted Living Viewed by One of the Very Old

Janet Carncross Chandler

Describing her transition of living independently to living with assistance and encountering a new love life, Chandler provides a retired social worker's view of the inside of long-term care facilities. Her poetic reflections resonate with elegance and insight.

- Previous poetry collection *Why Flowers Bloom* in 2nd printing w/10,000 copies in print.
- National Ads & Publicity 120 pages, 6x9, 5-color cover, acid-free paper ISBN 0-918949-91-2, paper, \$9.00 Pub. date: April 1996



Washing the Stones: Selected Poems 1975-1995

Maude Meehan

Wise and tender poems chronicle Meehan's 75-year journey as a political activist, wife, mother, and now, widow. This stunning collection spans 20 years of work from *Chipping Bone*, *Before the Snow*, plus new, never-before-published poems. "With pleasure, I recognize a sister poet who can love both women and men." —*Small Press Review*

- Endorsed by Lucille Clifton
- In-Store Support Materials
- National Ads & Publicity 240 pages, 6x9, 5-color cover, acid-free paper ISBN 0-918949-85-8, paper, \$13.00 Pub. date: May 1996

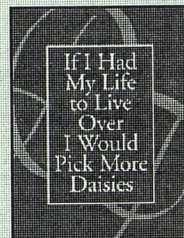
NEW!
Large Print
Editions



When I Am an Old Woman I Shall Wear Purple

Edited by
Sandra Haldeman Martz

- Unabridged Text
- National Ads & Publicity 224 pages, 7x9.25, ISBN 0-918949-83-1 paper, \$17.00 Pub. date: April 1996



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

Edited by
Sandra Haldeman Martz

- Unabridged Text
- National Ads & Publicity 240 pages, 7x9.25, ISBN 0-918949-84-X paper, \$17.00 Pub. date: April 1996

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FBN

Editor & Publisher

Carol Seajay

Assistant Editor

Jenn Tust

Advertising & Production

Kathryn Werhane

Columnists

Art Books	Tee Corinne
Canadian Books	Alexandra Wilson
Gay Men's Literature	Richard Labonte
Humor	Roz Warren
Music News	Jennifer Einhorn
Mysteries	Nan Cinnater
New Media	Dorothy Holland
Science Fiction	Susanna Sturgis
University Presses	Mev Miller

Proofreading

Elaine Blake, Carole London, Beth Morgan
and Cathleen Moore

Cover Art

S. Guppy Graphics

Feminist Bookstore News

2358 Market Street
PO Box 882554

San Francisco CA 94188

415-626-1556 FAX: 415-626-8970

e-mail: seajay@dnai.com

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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 book-sellers 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.

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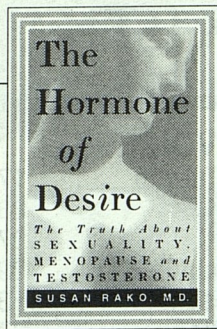
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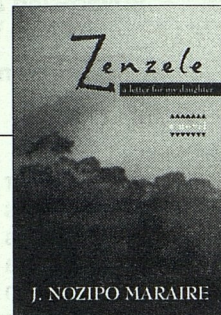


A revolutionary medical discovery for women...

In **The Hormone of Desire**, distinguished psychiatrist Dr. Susan Rako argues brilliantly that *testosterone*, not estrogen, is the supplement that can safely restore libido, energy and a sense of well-being in menopausal women—and provides all the relevant medical information.
Harmony Books • 0-517-703424 • \$21.00

An emotional story of the bond between mother and daughter...

Zenzele is a remarkable novel by a remarkable woman—a writer, neurosurgeon and art gallery owner who is originally from Zimbabwe—**J. Nozipo Maraire**. In her letter to her daughter, “*we each become her child, enriched by her knowledge born of laughter and pain.*”—Rita Mae Brown.
Crown • 0-517-702428 • \$20.00

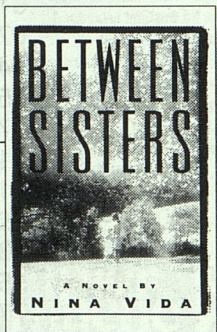
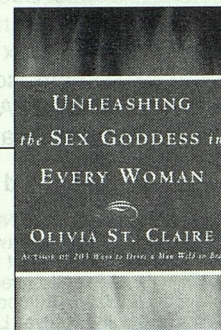


Sexy, irreverent poems for Lesbian lovers...

For Valentine’s Day—or just for the fun of it—**The Zenith of Desire** is the ideal gift book, with the emphasis on contemporary writers from Gertrude Stein to Audre Lorde, from Chrystos to Joan Larkin.
Edited by **Gerry Gomez Perlberg**
Crown • 0-517-702819 • \$12.00

Sensational erotic advice from a bestselling author...

Following the phenomenally successful **203 Ways to Drive A Man Wild in Bed**, Olivia St. Claire’s new little red book, **Unleashing the Sex Goddess in Every Woman**, is filled with suggestions that will cultivate the inherent sensuality and erotic impulses that are a part of every woman.
Harmony Books • 0-517-704382 • \$18.00



From the acclaimed author of Goodbye, Saigon...

Between Sisters is the deeply affecting new novel by Nina Vida—“a small, authentic miracle of a book...no reader who has ever had a sibling will remain unmoved by this portrait of the special love and dedication that sometimes flourishes in the shadow of a fractured family.”—Linda Gray Sexton
Crown • 0-517-700719 • \$23.00



LETTERS

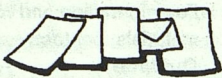


Volumes of Pleasure Bookshop
1016 Los Osos Valley Road
Los Osos CA 93402

Dear Carol & FBN friends:

Well, I have some good news to report for a change! In the last FBN, you printed my letter about the slick flyer from the Christian Coalition promoting their book *Contract With the American Family* which was included in an Ingram mailing to their bookstore customers.

Barbara and I attended The Northern California Independent Booksellers' Association trade show in early October (it's always a great trade show and a good substitute for the overwhelming ABA). There we met Helen Ellerbe, author of *The Dark Side of Christian History*. We were both impressed with her book, and we told her of the mailing and suggested that her book would be an excellent antidote to the Christian Coalition book. She and her publisher seemed most interested in the project, so when we got home, I located a copy of the slick flyer and mailed it off to them suggesting that they contact Ingram to see if a flyer promoting *The Dark Side of Christian History* could be included in a future Ingram mailing.



They followed up on our suggestion, and we received a note from the author thanking us for our follow-through and letting us know that "we are participating in Ingram's flyer program; over 9,000 bookstores should be receiving our flyer on our book very soon."

Helen Ellerbee, the author, let us know that she is available to do author appearances and signings at

bookstores. You may contact her in care of her publisher: Morningstar Books, PO Box 4032, San Rafael CA 94913; 415-472-6000, fax 415-479-1320.

Of course, this is a small victory, but we thought your readers would like to know the outcome and perhaps contact the author.

Thanks for being there for us to network.

Sincerely,
Carroll & Barbara

Two Sisters Bookshop
605 Cambridge Avenue
Menlo Park CA 94025
December 15, 1995

Dear FBN,

Just thought I'd drop a note about an author we just had here: Donna Gillespie who wrote *The Light Bearer*, a historical novel along the lines of *The Mists of Avalon*.

Donna contacted me a few months ago to call the book to my attention and shared with me her disappointment with the publisher's decisions around marketing and the cover art. I had had the book here, before she called, and had already returned it because it sat on the shelf and didn't sell. The cover art was a problem to many women: it was just another sex-pot sci-fi image. After speaking with Donna I decided to give the book another try, and I scheduled her for a reading and signing.

I have had the chance to share this with customers, and it's prompted them to look past the cover. I understand from Donna the book will soon be released with a revised cover.

Donna has a lot of integrity and commitment to her work; she wants women to hear her story and its

power if it speaks to them. As a woman I want to support her in this; as a woman bookbuyer I want to support her work in ways the publisher either could not or chose not to.

So there's my vote!
Thanks women,
Laurel Sager

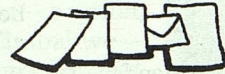
Consortium Book Sales and Distribution
1045 Westgate Drive
Saint Paul MN 55114
November 15, 1995

Dear Feminist Booksellers,

With the recent changes at Inland Book Co., we know that many stores are looking for alternative sources for the books you may usually have bought from them. We'd like to take this opportunity to remind you of the many fine women's and gay presses distributed by Consortium Book Sales and Distribution. We are the distributor for Aunt Lute Books, CALYX Books, Eighth Mountain Press, Feminist Press at CUNY, Third Side Press, Women in Translation and

Alyson Publications. Additionally, we distribute many quality presses who also publish books of interest to feminist, lesbian, and gay audiences.

If you need a set of catalogs, please call us at 1-800-283-3572. Also, in early 1996 we will be supplementing our complete catalogs with individual subject catalogs in the areas of Women's Studies, African American Studies and Lesbian/Gay Studies. If you would like assistance from someone experienced in feminist bookselling, please contact Merv Miller — our telemarketing coordinator — at the above number. She can help you determine what Consortium services will best suit your needs.



We know that many women's and independent booksellers are "holding their own" in these economically tough and competitive times. We wish you the best of luck in the upcoming new year. Our lives are much richer for the work done by feminist booksellers.

Sincerely,

Julie Schaper

(Sales Manager) and the folks at Consortium ○

OutWrite '96 Feb. 23-25

On the weekend of February 23-25, at Boston's Park Plaza Hotel, over 2,000 lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered writers, publishers, booksellers, and readers will gather again to explore the creative and political issues facing our communities. Join us to see our history and our future being written!

Featuring

Keynotes by Minnie Bruce Pratt and Edmund White, Audre Lorde Memorial Lecture by Cheryl Clarke, and a special performance by Craig Hickman.

Don't miss the panels, workshops, readings, poetry slam, conversations, caucuses, performances, networking sessions, and the new film and video component!

Lunch and converse with prominent keynotes and presenters at the Visions & Voices luncheon Friday, February 23.

Register before December 24 to receive the special rate of \$50!

Registration is \$60 after December 24 and \$65 at the door. No mail registrations received after February 3.

For information and /or registration materials, contact:

OutWrite

29 Stanhope Street
Boston, MA 02116
(617) 262-6969

e-mail: outwrite@bsef.terranel.com
Look for our new web site for the latest updates!

Registration fees are nonrefundable.

News News News

Pat Barker Wins the Booker Prize

Feminist writer Pat Barker won the U.K.'s Booker Prize for *The Ghost Road* (Viking; Dutton in the U.S.), the final part of her anti-war trilogy based in WW I. Her previous titles include *Blow Your House Down* (Virago), *Century's Daughter* (Virago), *Eye in the Door* (Penguin), *The Man Who Wasn't There*, and *Regeneration* (Penguin). In addition to carrying an anti-war theme, Barker's novels have featured feminist and gay characters and themes and addressed the difficult situations of the elderly poor.

Salman Rushdie had been favored to win the £20,000 (\$32,000) prize for *The Moor's Last Sigh*. The two titles were the front-runners in the five-title short-list chosen by judges from a record 141 submissions.

Virago Press Sold to Little Brown UK

Philippa Harrison, the Managing Director of Little Brown UK, announced in November that Little Brown has bought Virago. "I make this announcement with great pride," she said. "In my 30 years of publishing I have admired the birth, growth and vigour of Virago more than any British publishing venture. From its inception, Virago has become the centre of intellectual debate about the position of women in society and, with its magnificent classics list, provides a literary and emotional context for the female experience. The Virago list is close to my heart, and it will be one of the greatest pleasures of my publishing life to work in this area with the staff I shall be appointing."

She added, "I am determined that Little Brown will provide a home which will both honour Virago's past and bring a new and different 90s vision. It is too

soon to announce structures and plans except to say that our first task is to identify the women that will lead Virago into the next century, and that Virago will, of course, be a separate imprint of Little Brown UK. As a sister imprint to Abacus it will give Little Brown UK an unusual strength and balance in the literary marketplace. With the extraordinary changes in the publishing scene in the last decade, Virago needs the help today that a larger, well-capitalised structure and a really strong sales and marketing force can offer it."

Virago Managing Director Harriet Spicer and Carmen Callil both spoke enthusiastically about the shift in ownership, as did Gail Rebeck, Chairman and Chief Executive of Random House/UK. Virago had been owned by Random House prior to buying themselves out several years ago.

Court Approves InBook/WomenSource Sale to Login

The Connecticut bankruptcy court approved the sale of InBook Distribution Company (including WomenSource) to Login Publishers Consortium in early December for an estimated \$150,000.

Books and computerized information regarding inventory and accounts will be transferred to the Chicago-based company in January and February. Books will continue to be shipped from the old Inland (Connecticut) warehouse until Login has enough books to fulfill orders from their Chicago facility in late January or February. An estimated 30-35 truckloads of books will be moved to Login in January and February.

According to *Publishers Weekly* reports, Login is purchasing InBook's publisher contracts for six months, will set up InBook as a separate division and will hire additional staff to run the expanded operation. InBook is the first acquisition for the

Publishers who are expected to move to WomenSource/Login include:

- Biblio Press
- Down There
- Flash Back
- Gallerie*
- HerBooks*
- Institute of Lesbian Studies*
- Kitchen Table
- Laugh Lines
- Mother Courage*
- Naiad
- Plain View
- Rising Tide
- Sanguinaria*
- Third Woman

WomenSource publishers who have been discontinued include:

- Aunt Lute (at Consortium)
- Caillech
- Clothespin Fever (ceased publishing)
- Desert Crone*
- Earth Books
- Impertinent Press*
- Helicon Nine
- Lavender Crystal Press
- Mother Tongue
- Paradigm (ceased publishing)*
- Post-Apollo Press (at Interlink)
- Sudie Rakusin/Amazon Images*
- VSE
- Vintage 45
- Women's Press/UK

* indicates publishers that are not currently publishing new titles.

five-year-old Login, which represents 60 publishers of non-fiction. InBook represents about 80 publishers.

Most InBook reps are reported to be continuing on with InBook/Login, except in the South and Southeast. David Wilk will start at Login on January 1, but is not scheduled to move to Chicago until June. Other InBook staff who will work for InBook/Login, but will remain based in the East, include Ann Grossman, Craig Gilmore, and Dave Givens.

Although WomenSource was included as part of the sale, a number of publishers are not making the change to Login, including The Women's Press/UK, Aunt Lute (which is also distributed by Consortium), Caillech, Clothespin Fever and Paradigm (which have ceased publishing), Desert Crone, Impertinent Press, Helicon Nine, Lavender Crystal Press, Mother Tongue, Post Apollo-Press (now available from Interlink), Sudie Rakusin/Amazon Images, VSE, and Vintage 45. The WomenSource program represented something of a middle ground between The InBook Distribution Program and Inland's wholesale program; WomenSource had its own catalog, and books were sold by InBook reps. It will clearly need to be revamped if it is to continue with its mission at Login.

Orders for InBook and WomenSource titles can now be sent to Login Publishers/InBook, 1436 W. Randolph St., Chicago IL 60607; 800-243-0138; fax 800-334-3892; electronic 800-453-0077. (Orders for Inland titles may be sent to Koen/Inland at 800-257-8481. Many InBook and WomenSource titles will also be available at Koen and other distributors.)

Returns of titles distributed by Login will be accepted by Login beginning in January. (Attn: InBook Returns, Login Publishers/InBook, 4029 W. George St., Chicago IL 60641.) InBook and WomenSource or other titles not distributed by Login may be returned to InKo (at the Connecticut warehouse) until January 31. They should be shipped via a traceable or insured method only. InKo won't be responsible for books shipped or returned to them after January 31, as the facility is scheduled to be shut down shortly thereafter. Alternately, it may be possible to do returns to a publisher's new distributor.

"The old Inland," which can longer legally use the name Inland or InBook, since these names have

Publishers who are expected to move to InBook/Login include:

Astarte Shell
Azul Editions
Bay Press
BlackWattle Press
Marion Boyers
Cassell
Common Courage
ECW
Firebrand
Gay Men's Press
Guernica Editions
gynergy books/
Ragweed
Health Alert
Hysteria
International Books

Knowledge, Ideas & Trends
The Literary Press Group/
Canada*
New Society
New Victoria
Onlywomen
Papier-Mache
Pluto
Press Gang
Scarlet Press
Second Story
South End
Spinifex
Spinsters
Talonbooks
Turtle Island Foundation
Vega Press
The Women's Press/
Canada

InBook publishers who have been discontinued include:

Africa World/Red Sea Press
(now available from Red Sea Distribution)
Attic Press
Dalkey Archive (now from University of Chicago Distribution)
Paris Press (now from Consortium)

* LPG publishers include Arsenal Pulp, Blizzard, Coteau, Goose Lane, Mercury, New Star, NeWest, Oolichan, Quarry, Sister Vision, Turnstone, and Véhicule.

been sold to Koen and Login, respectively, will now be legally known as InKo Books. (InCo, for Inland Company, was already reserved as a fictitious name in Connecticut, hence InKo, the next nearest name that was available.)

InKo will ship books for Login, aid in the transition of InBook to Login and Inland to Koen, accept returns through January 31, pursue collections on accounts receivable, and close down the business dealings of the old Inland.

InKo reports that the InBook/Connecticut operation "freed of the pre-bankruptcy debt, actually made a profit in September, October, and November." InKo's major task during the upcoming months will be to collect as much as possible of the \$3.75 million listed in its accounts receivables. Proceeds from InKo's income will be used to 1) pay off the IRS debt and the lawyers, 2) pay secured creditors, 3) pay post-bankruptcy administrative and publisher bills, and 4) with whatever funds remain, pay unsecured creditors (pre-bankruptcy debt), in that order.

An estimated 250,000 books on consignment from various Inland publishers remain in the InKo warehouse as of this writing. Publishers will be required to pay packing and shipping to have their books returned or to make alternate arrangements. —CS

Koen Launches Magazine Distribution Program

Koen Book Distributors has launched a new magazine distribution program as part of their program to serve Inland (wholesale) publishers and booksellers. Minimum standing order for each magazine is three copies. Discount is 40%, and returns made within 30 days of receiving the new issue will be credited at 40%. Free freight and freight reduction programs also apply to Koen periodicals. Additional copies of magazines may also be ordered at any time.

Publications that have signed on to the new Koen Magazine program include *13th Moon*, *50/50*,

Advocate, Belle Lettres, Bridges, Calyx, Common Boundary, Common Lives/Lesbian Lives, Deneuve, Evergreen Chronicles, Girlfriends, Girljock, Harvard Gay & Lesbian Review, Lambda Book Report, Lesbian Review of Books, Lilith, Mothering, New Moon, off our backs, On The Issues, Our World, Out, Radiance, Sagewoman, Sinister Wisdom and Women's Review of Books.

**Charges Against ABA-2
Dropped;
SCW Decides Not to Exhibit in '96**

Charges of criminal trespass and assaulting an officer against schoolteacher Craig Gilmore and disability rights activist Tom Wilson were dropped in October. Both had been arrested and charged at last June's ABA convention while participating in the anti-Newt Gingrich/anti-Contract on America demonstration while Gingrich was speaking at the "Power Lunch" on the final day of the convention.

Craig Gilmore, one of the dozen or so people who spoke from the floor to address how the Gingrich proposals would actually affect Americans, was the only one of these speakers who was arrested. Gilmore's statements were specific to describing how cutting out hot lunch programs would affect the students he teaches. He was separated from the other floor speakers and arrested when they were removed from the hall where Gingrich was speaking. He was arrested for trespassing despite the fact that he had a luncheon ticket.

Chicagoans who had neither luncheon tickets nor ABA badges were not allowed into the Convention Center and were forced to hold their demonstration in the courtyard in front of the building. Feeling that their rights to free speech and assembly were being compromised, a number of the disability rights activists, lead by a contingent of people who use wheelchairs for mobility, attempted to bring the demonstration into the building where the Power Lunch was being held. None of the people using wheelchairs was arrested (although many did enter the building and some were held in the building and not allowed to leave it when they wanted to rejoin the demonstration outside).

Police did, however, arrest one of the walking members of the contingent, Tom Wilson, and

charged him with criminal trespass and assaulting a police officer. TV news video footage, however, substantiated Wilson's statement that McCormick Place Security Officers had, in fact, pulled him into the building against his will and that he resisted being pulled into the building and the illegal attack on his person, but did not, as McCormick Place Security charged, assault anyone, police officer or otherwise.

Both men were required to attend the initial court date in July, and, when the case was postponed at McCormick Security's behest to allow them more time to obtain additional TV news footage (which they obviously hoped would bolster their case and contradict the video footage already in their possession), both were required to attend a second court date in October, despite requests that Gilmore's case be heard immediately as postponing the date to October would interfere with his classroom responsibilities.

Charges were officially dropped at the October hearing with the caveat that Wilson not engage in illegal activities at McCormick Place. "Not a problem," Wilson told FBN, "since I have never engaged in any illegal activities at McCormick Place."

Charges against Sue Ostfield, the independent sales rep arrested and charged with "assaulting a police officer" while she was handing out leaflets, were dropped at a special hearing in June. At the time charges were dropped, a commitment was made to have the arrest expunged from her record. We will advise readers when we've received confirmation that this process has been completed.

Many ABA-member booksellers and exhibitors have expressed serious concern about McCormick Place Security's consistent disregard of First Amendment rights at the ABA Convention and about what steps are being taken to ensure that their rights will not be compromised or threatened at the forthcoming convention.

As we went to press we learned that Syracuse Cultural Workers, a long-time exhibitor at ABA, has decided not to exhibit at the 1996 Convention, citing, among other reasons, the harassment of their staff at the 1995 convention, who were threatened and prevented from distributing leaflets at the convention, and a belief that there are more effective ways to use their promotion budget than exhibiting at ABA. —CS

Houghton Mifflin, Penguin Settle with ABA

Houghton Mifflin and Penguin have both reached agreements with ABA regarding ABA's 18-month-old price discrimination lawsuit against five publishers. A third publisher, Hugh Lauter Levin, settled with ABA last year. The suit charges that these publishers give illegal and preferential price breaks and other financial benefits to large chain bookstores, price-club and warehouse type stores as well as book clubs, gift shops, gourmet stores, etc., which give these stores a significant, unfair, and illegal financial advantage over independent bookstores.

Houghton Mifflin has agreed:

- to offer a flat 47% discount to all retailers for 15+ assorted copies. An additional non-returnable discount will be available to all accounts that elect to utilize this option for a one-year period. (Previous policy was 41% for 15 books, with 47% kicking in at 2,000 books.)
- to simplify its customer classification to four categories only: retailers, wholesalers, libraries and end-users. Current distinctions between trade and non-trade customers will cease.
- to make a 2% "warehouse discount" option (for carton quantities shipped to a single destination) available to all retailers.
- to make both co-op and book display funds available to all bookstores (on both direct and indirect purchases) on a proportional basis.
- to apply the same credit terms (and penalties for late payment) to all book retailers.

Houghton Mifflin also agreed to calculate separate co-op ad allowances for retail accounts operating in more than one media area and to appoint, jointly with ABA, an expert mediator to resolve any future disputes.

These agreements are spelled out in an 18-point "plain-language" set of "rules" for avoiding price discrimination and promotional allowance discrimination. These rules define "book retailer" to include virtually every kind of business with which booksellers compete, including clubs and mail order businesses.

It is estimated that these changes will save

independent bookstores \$4 million annually. Houghton Mifflin will also make a \$275,000 cash payment to ABA for its share of the suit's legal costs. Houghton Mifflin's new policies are effective January 1, 1996.

Two weeks later Penguin agreed to revise its discount schedule and co-op policy and to comply with the same set of rules outlined in the Houghton Mifflin settlement.

Penguin's new terms (effective January 1) include a flat 46% discount to all retailers on orders of 19+ assorted books (with freight paid by Penguin), the availability of an additional 2% retail distribution center discount for carton quantities of 100+ books supplied to more than one store, and a non-returnable discount option available to all interested retail accounts. Penguin's revised co-op plan features a 2% co-op allowance on direct and indirect purchases of trade books (1.5% on mass market) with the ability to combine earning pools for the company's various imprints. Penguin will also reimburse ABA \$450,000 for a portion of legal expenses. In-store placement display allowances will also be available to all retailers with preapproval and documentation of performance.

Penguin has stated that the settlement of the suit did not mean that Penguin would automatically return to exhibiting at the ABA Convention.

Houghton Mifflin and Penguin both admitted no wrong-doing.

Earlier this fall Magistrate Judge Katz, who is handling the discover phase of the suit, ordered Barnes & Noble to provide internal documents to the plaintiffs regarding its past and present pricing and promotional allowance arrangements with the publishers being sued. B&N had resisted making those disclosures.

The suit is still in the discovery phase and continues against St. Martin's Press and Rutledge Hill Press, although there is hope that they will also settle and avoid the necessity for continuing with the costly procedure. ABA, presumably, will now turn some of its attention to the terms of other large publishers currently the subjects of the long-running Federal Trade Commission investigation.

—Information from *Publishers Weekly* and *Book-selling This Week*

Fallout from the Inland Bankruptcy

As one feminist bookseller put it, "Some publishers and some of the journals lost their shirts. And a lot of stores were floundering this fall, trying to get books that are no longer available from Inland and aren't at Koen. InBook's computer crashed [as did Pacific Pipeline's] and was down during one of the most essential pre-Christmas restocking periods." [Both companies are reported to have loaded new software during the pre-Christmas season.]

FBN's experience has been that many publishers are hesitant to publicly discuss their losses from the Inland bankruptcy and the effect those losses will have on their future operations, a situation that leads to a rather large collective silence about the impact of Inland's bankruptcy on feminist publishing at large.

Periodicals, perhaps reflecting the difference between book publishing and magazine publishing, have been a bit more forthcoming about their plight, with *off our backs*, *Common Lives/Lesbian Lives* and *Evergreen Chronicles* having sent out letters to subscribers describing the situation.

oob writes, "*off our backs* is facing a financial crisis and we are writing to ask you for help. Our largest distributor recently went bankrupt owing us \$8,000. With our small budget, this really hurts. Therefore, to tide us over this difficult time we are asking for donations...."

Common Lives writes, "Usually, about this time, you would be receiving your fall issue of *Common Lives*, loaded with great prose and poetry for your reading pleasure. Well, she's going to be a little delayed in arriving and we need to explain what's been happening to cause this delay.

"Inland Books, our largest distributor, has filed for chapter 11 bankruptcy. They had been haphazard in their payments for some time, but when they filed this summer, they owed us almost \$5,000.

"Since August we've been trying to recover from this loss of revenue, and we are making good progress, but slowly. We have contacted the individual bookstores formerly serviced by Inland in an effort to keep as many of them as possible carrying the magazine. We have explored various fundraising possibilities

and we have completely paid off publication costs through Issue 55. The Collective views this as a temporary problem, but one that will delay the publication of Issue 56. We are committed to resuming our regular publication schedule as soon as possible. Our present goal is to combine Issues 56/57 and to be back on schedule with the winter issue."

Donations, gift subscriptions, patience, and notes of encouragement are among *Common Lives'* and *oob's* suggestions.

Evergreen Chronicles has suspended publication until March of 1996. "The primary [reason] being that our main distributor has declared bankruptcy while owing us a great deal of money.... [W]e have needed to take some extra months to gather the lost money from other sources...."

Rumor also has it that some feminist (book) publishers are cutting back on their publication schedules. —CS

Clothespin Fever Press Ceases Publishing

Citing mounting debt and lack of income from sales, Carolyn Weathers and Jenny Wren have decided to dissolve Clothespin Fever Press.

Clothespin Fever is no longer doing fulfillment but many of their titles, including *Love Me like You Mean It*, will continue to be available from the distributors, Bookpeople, Alamo Square, Pacific Pipeline, and Inland. *Loss of the Ground-Note* by Helen Vozenilek is available from Bookpeople and Inland.

On-hand stock of some titles (*Black Slip* by Terry Wolverton, *Are You Two Girls Traveling Alone* by Marilyn Murphy) are being sold to the authors and will be available directly from the authors or their agents. Remaining copies of *I'm Your Daughter Not Your Lover* by Marie Cartier have been sold to Marie Cartier and to John Dunne of the Dialogus in Dallas. FBN will carry information on other titles as we receive it. ○



NEWS FROM THE BOOKSTORES

By Carol Seajay

Women and Children First just set a new record (in their very impressive series of records) for their "biggest event ever" — it was a reading/booksigning with Amy Tan for *The Hundred Secret Senses*. In addition to packing the store, W&C sold 325 copies of the \$25 hardcover, including 150 advance orders from customers who saw — and responded to — the line in W&C's ad encouraging women who couldn't make the reading to call ahead to reserve a signed copy (and, of course, pay via charge card to guarantee the sale). The rep had to scramble all over Chicago to find enough books to fill the demand. (And I bet I know what women all over Chicago got for Christmas this year!)

Fundraising

The Book Garden is pioneering a new kind of membership program that offers additional services rather than discounts and is based on getting members to host Book Garden parties and/or to promote (OK, "sell") memberships to their friends in kind of a support-your-local-bookstore pyramid scheme. Membership benefits (depending on category) include such things as free postage for mail orders, members-only nights and events with craftswomen, singles-mingles, free subscriptions to the newsletter, access to a special members-only events line (that features a "book of the week" quick rave. The promotion packet that is the foundation for the membership drive is gorgeous.

New Words reports an excellent response to their fundraising letter, in terms of both cash and other kinds of support — including a letter from prominent members of the Boston women's studies community encouraging women's studies folk to support New Words by buying *themselves* a \$200 gift certificate (Support yourself/support your bookstore). The letter was

sent to women's studies faculty at virtually every school in Boston from two-year schools to Harvard. I think this represents a real expansion in consciousness from "the support your local bookstore so you still have one" concept to "Do this wonderful thing for yourself; taking care of yourself includes taking care of your local women's bookstore." New Words is also getting an 800 number, has a new e-mail address (new-words@world.std.com), and is going up on the web.



Crazy Ladies Bookstore/Women's Building recently sent out a great letter describing (of course) their contributions to their community, the challenges of "difficult competition from national chain bookstores," some of their success in increasing their visibility, and launching a capital improvement campaign. Crazy Ladies is also running a change-drive called A Million Pennies to update their computer, add shelving and finance a paint job. These two approaches cover both the high-end check-writer types and the cash-out-of-pocket types providing support-program access to a diverse community....

Herland (Santa Cruz) will be holding their Third Annual Lesbian New Year's Ball (and fundraiser) as this issue goes to print. It's getting to be quite the California thing. To keep the focus on local women, Herland promotes the event locally and quietly before the promo hits the media. Tickets are on a sliding scale from \$65 to \$85 with special reserved seating starting at \$85.

Newsletters

Two Sisters ran a quote in a recent newsletter that just about said it all: "If you want to know what you value, look at where you spend your money." That's from Elaine Blake (Mulberry Company — and FBN

Full Circle Celebrates!

Full Circle just finished celebrating her 22nd birthday. We had a sale, with significant discounts on Saturday and Sunday, November 18 and 19. For goodies there was carrot cake (back by popular demand) on Saturday, with Chocolate Madness cake on Sunday. Hugs all around all day. CDs, t-shirts and calendars were all 25% off; everything in the store was at least 10% off. We also had additional discounts on some jewelry and sidelines.



Our new tote bags were one of the biggest hits of the event. They're from Envirotote, heavy duty, with our newly updated logo in bright purple on one side and the Feminist Bookstore Week logo on the other. We gave them away to customers spending over \$100.



We advertised the event in our newsletter, had fliers in the store and a huge, vibrant window display. We had our biggest sales day ever on Saturday and did close to that on Sunday. Sales were so good that we figure that, even with the discounts, we did well.



The local daily paper, *The Albuquerque Journal*, ran an article about us and the event the Sunday before. We sent out a number of press releases explaining that we are one of the older and larger feminist bookstores in the U.S., how amazing that is for a small state like New Mexico, and how important small independent bookstores are for our community. *The Journal*, as far as we can tell, was the only paper to pick up on it. We, however, did a lot of proselytizing during the event—raving about feminist bookstores in general and Full Circle in particular.

—Dorothy Holland

Happy Birthday to Full Circle Books and All Those Who Keep It Open!!

It seems like another lifetime when the responsibility and the pleasures of running Full Circle were mine. But I remember my search for a new home when it was time to leave the San Francisco Bay Area. I thought Santa Fe, home of mountains and turquoise skies, would be ideal, so I wrote to Kate Arnold [then-owner of Full Circle, and yes, daughter of June] broaching the idea. She invited me to visit her store in Albuquerque, where she advised me against trying to open a feminist bookstore in Santa Fe, but told me she was interested in either hiring a manager or selling Full Circle Books, which was then just a small store sharing space with the Framery.

I spent almost a week in Boulder considering purchasing a women's bookstore for sale there, loving the scenery and the university, but finding the demographics a bit too uniform and white. It took only two days in Albuquerque to convince me to move to wonderfully multi-ethnic, sunny, dry New Mexico.

And thus my destiny was set for the next seven years. Much of my self-identity was the bookstore, and I loved it: the excitement of opening presents all the time, the reward of being able to find just the right books for someone, the fun of reading all the latest mysteries, science fiction and lesbian stuff, the feeling of competence in running my own business. There are still times when I wish I was doing it again, but most of the time I am so very glad that I found the right couple to relieve me of the worries and pressure and to carry on and expand the traditions of the store.

I am very proud to have been an early part of what may be the very best feminist bookstore in the whole country, and I admire your perseverance and devotion to the cause. Thank you for allowing Full Circle Books to celebrate yet another birthday.

—Paula Wallace

proofreader extraordinaire). Someone should turn that into a pretty broadside that could be posted in every women's bookstore in the land. (We also saw it in Herland's newsletter. It's a concept that's going to circulate!)

How to reach twice as many customers for only two-thirds the printing bill and two-thirds the postage, cut your mailings by two-thirds, reduce the time it takes to produce it *and* give your customers a bigger newsletter? The geniuses at Herland have figured it out: shift from a monthly to a quarterly newsletter. The new version will be twice as big (8 pages) and will double in circulation (from 1500 copies to 3000) and will include more book reviews, gift ideas, events, and a bigger community calendar (\$5 for 5 lines) and reduce their overall newsletter expense in the process.

Your Full Service Bookstore....

Kitty Corbett (Book Garden) has invented a "new layer of service" (in keeping with the Book Garden's "Your full-service bookstore" motto) and a new strategy for dealing with the "heavy-breathers" in the lesbian erotica section: She just takes a moment to

(very considerably) write "lesbian erotica" on the memo line of the guy's check so that he (or his wife, if she balances the checkbook) will know how to categorize his expenses.



Film Night

The Crazy Ladies Center was packed for a showing of six short films by American and Canadian women. (If they want video, show them video in the store, but send them home with books under their arms!)

Drips and Rip-offs

It was a hard fall at the Vancouver Women's Bookstore. The man who rents the apartment above the bookstore forgot that he'd started running a bath and went out for a beer.... You can imagine the rest. Surprisingly few books were destroyed given the situation. But before they were fully recovered, someone

See *Bookstore News*, page 110.

News from Charis

Last week was our 21st birthday and we began our celebration on Thursday, November 2, with bell hooks. We had a special "tea and conversation" event from 4-6 pm for 20 people (who paid \$50, \$75, or \$100 to attend). Beautiful food in a friend's elegant home, 30 minutes of schmoozing, followed by a discussion bell led on many topics, especially racism/sexism and the Million Man March. Fascinating and exhilarating — not what most of us take enough time for in our lives, but we should.

That night bell did a lecture on her new book. We squeezed 250 folks into a local church, at \$10 per person. Quite exciting, and a good fundraiser for our building fund.

We continued our birthday celebration with food, flowers, fun, and a 10%-off-everything sale Friday night and Saturday.

We also did a big display on the Feminist Press' 25th birthday as part of our birthday — it was fun to have the bags and promos to give out.

Tonight is our second community meeting on

Racism in the Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Communities, put together by our co-worker BJ, and sponsored by approximately 20 organizations. The first was so successful that *Southern Voice* featured BJ and an article on it on the front page this week.

Next week Gloria Steinem returns. She will also do a "tea and conversation" Friday from 4-6 pm and then a community lecture that evening. She agreed to do the tea only if all the money would benefit Charis and if Charis was 100% woman-owned. (Yes, and yes.) We couldn't charge for the evening lecture but we will ask for donations. And we have already given out 250 "tickets" — how will we squeeze everyone else into the church??

Zami (the African American lesbian group) is doing two showings of the new Audre Lorde film, *Litany of Survival*, here this month, too. We're co-sponsoring it and are very excited.

And then just the regular holiday season hoopla! We're energized and ready — and need a great season....
—Sherry Emory

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Edited by Karen Kahn
Foreword by Robin Morgan

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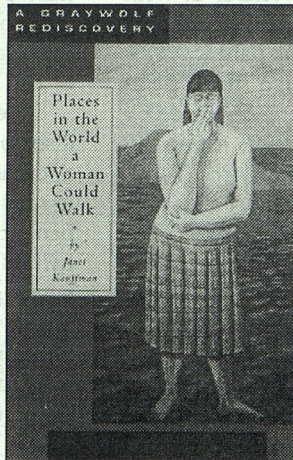
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Fem Books

The First Chinese-Language Feminist Bookstore

By Beth Morgan

Last winter, while attending a reading in Berkeley, Carol overheard a woman telling the author she had worked at Fem Books, a feminist bookstore in Taiwan. Carol turned around and met Nai Fei Ding, who was later able to arrange a meeting at FBN with her co-worker Chien-Ling Su. Beth Morgan reports:

Taiwan's Awakening Foundation began in 1982 by publishing the magazine, *Awakening*, at a time when such foundations were banned under martial law. *Awakening* appeared monthly and covered gender inequality, the role of women in society and other women's concerns. After martial law was lifted in 1987, the organization became much more active. Today they organize lectures and exhibitions, rallies, press conferences and training programs designed to promote women's rights, publish books and spin off bookstores! FBN readers may remember reading about Awakening's publishing program in a 1993 article (Vol. 16 #4) that described Awakening's pioneering efforts in preserving and translating *nu shu*, an elegant and graceful written language developed by women in Hunan as a private, written

communication among women. The group has become one of the best-known and most effective social organizations in Taiwan.

Getting Started

Members of Awakening had been talking for quite a while about opening a women's bookstore and two years ago they finally decided to take action! It took a *lot* of meetings and endless amounts of hard



A dream becomes reality; Fem Books' name is written in the framed calligraphy on the wall.

work, but the store finally opened on April 17, 1994. More than twenty women came together and donated the money to make Fem Books happen, raising enough to cover the first three years' expenses so that they would have plenty of time to build a profit-making enterprise.

A core group of seven to eight women — most of them members of Awakening — did the actual hands-on work of opening the store. Their first task was finding a suitable space that could hold both the store and the Awakening Foundation offices. They found beautiful, spacious quarters on the second floor of a building across from Taiwan National University. The Awakening offices are in the back (along with a small kitchen), the bookstore occupies the midsection, and in the front is a woman-run coffeehouse that can (and often does!) hold 30 or more women, especially in its role as meeting and lecture space for joint Awakening/bookstore programs (more on that below!).

Su tells us that when they were still in the planning stages, they knew it would be hard. But the

response from women has been very exciting — they've received much more support than they ever expected they would. Su says that women sense the friendliness in the space and love being able to find the books that they want.

Fem Books does not yet support itself, but Su points out that that's normal for a start-up store. Sales run between \$10,000-\$15,000 per month now, and when they bring sales up to \$15,000-\$20,000 per month they will be breaking even. This year they will launch a publishing program and will take responsibility for Awakening's book publishing program. Fem Books expects to make a better profit on these books than they do on books from the big houses.

The bookstore currently runs on two paid full-time positions, plus lots of volunteer labor donated by Awakening members, most of whom also have full-time jobs. One of the women working full-time in the bookstore used to work for Awakening. Su says it's great to be able to offer feminist employment opportunities to women, instead of their having to work at corporate or food service jobs. Su teaches composition and women's studies at a private women's college and works Saturday and Sunday afternoons in the store.

On the Shelves

Eighty to 90% of the books stocked at Fem Books are in Chinese, some of them published in Taiwan, some in Hong Kong and some in Mainland China. However, bookstores are limited in buying and selling books from the Mainland — one copy only, for personal use — and often must acquire these books through Hong Kong bookstores. One way around this problem is to get a Mainland author's permission to publish their book in Taiwan; then Fem Books is free to publish and sell as many copies as they wish. (And we think *we* have distribution problems!)

They also carry books in English from the U.S., but they can only acquire them fairly haphazardly, since U.S. distributors don't distribute in Taiwan. So they rely on friends who are traveling in the U.S. to pick up the women's presses books at women's bookstores. Su also ordered from *Old Wives' Tales* (San Francisco) and *Sisterhood* (L.A.). But since she has to buy these books at almost full price, they carry a much steeper price tag once they're on the shelves at Fem Books.

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On her recent travels through the U.S., Su met with distributors to set up procedures for prepaying for orders via personal credit. She spoke with the folks at Bookpeople, asking if she could use her personal credit to buy books for the store. Bookpeople agreed (bravo!), and Su can now order books in English for Fem Books by fax at standard bookstore discount.

Most of the English language books Fem Books currently stocks are novels and feminist theory. Feminists in Taiwan still rely heavily on American books for feminist and lesbian and gay [male] theory since these subjects have been relatively taboo in Taiwan until fairly recently. Su states that the presence of this theory in English has inspired Taiwanese authors to begin to write theory on these subjects.

Bestsellers at Fem Books include a history of the women's movement in Taiwan (written by founding members of Awakening), feminist cultural criticism from foremost feminist writers in Taiwan, periodicals from various women's groups, and lesbian journals! Autobiographies also sell very well. While mainstream bookstores sell autobiographies by male political figures, Fem Books sells autobiographies by ordinary women, which are very popular. They also sell lots of books by and about women artists.

Bestsellers from the U.S. include histories of women's movements in different places, theory, fiction, and the history of the lesbian and gay [men's] movement in the U.S. and other countries. It's hard to say what fiction titles sell best, since most of what they've carried is what friends have brought back from the U.S., and these buyers, of course, buy what they like or what their friends have recommended. (For instance, someone gave Nai Fei a copy of Dorothy Allison's *Trash* and now Fem Books stocks that title). Fem Books is also very interested in carrying more titles by women writing in English who are not from the U.S..

About 10% of Fem Books' business is mail order. They publish lists of recommended books in their newsletter, so customers outside of Taipei can order feminist books. Bookstores from Hong Kong regularly order books from Fem Books, as does the Chinese-language bookstore in Los Angeles, which



Tea or a snack, a challenging class or an intense meeting — Fem Books' café is the place to be.

orders titles published by Awakening. Fem Books occasionally gets orders from women living in Southeast Asia. Women's bookstores exist in Japan but not Korea.

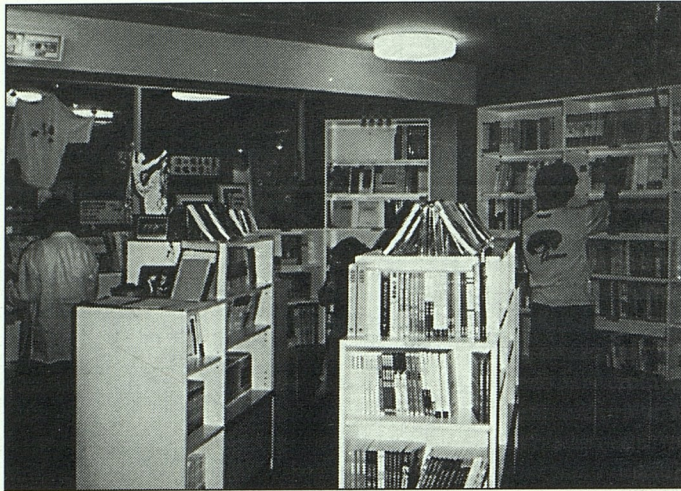
Financing the Women's Movement in Taiwan

Most of the people responsible for making Fem Books happen are also involved in other work with Awakening. Thirty percent of the bookstore's profits (still in the future!) are slated to go to Awakening.

Getting funding for women's movement work in Taiwan is virtually impossible. Awakening does fundraising twice a year, mostly directed to women and small businesses. It's very difficult work and it takes a lot of small contributions to add up to what Awakening needs to continue their work. A small group of women who give money to Awakening and Fem Books meets every two months and talks about how to keep the foundation and the store going.

Classes and Programs

Awakening and Fem Books put on two lecture series a year. One series focuses on a particular, woman-oriented topic. The other is a monthly lecture series on Women Writers, in which authors talk about their work and their experiences as women writers. Recent topics for the first series have included women's autobiography, women's music,



Shopping at Fem Books. The café is on the other side of the glass wall in the back.

women's bodies and women's travel. This year's focus is on different kinds of mothers. It will celebrate other forms of motherhood than the model mother still held up as the norm in Taiwan and explore the question of how real women cope with this image of the perfect mother. Each series, of course, includes book displays at the store and readings by various women writers.

In July of 1994, *Awakening*/Fem Books initiated classes in which women scholars, professors, activists and lawyers were asked to discuss women's issues on a more theoretical, advanced level. The first summer 20-30 women met weekly to discuss women writers and women's culture and literature. This summer 70 women enrolled and classes had to be moved to a larger space.

For activists, the classes offer a chance to participate in theoretical debates and to take the information back to their particular working groups. The classes also remind academics to ground their work in the actual experiences of women doing activist work, so that their theory can be useful on the street, where theory makes contact with practice.

A recent series on women and the law gave women lawyers an opportunity to think through feminist issues in a systematic way, to integrate feminist theory into their practice of the law and to create new, feminist approaches to the law.

Publishing Projects

Although *Awakening* still has its own monthly magazine, Fem Books has taken over the publishing side of things. Their first book will be *Feminisms*, which charts different kinds of feminist theories and histories. Although many people in Taiwan read English, there is a great need for this kind of work in Chinese, so that more women can achieve a thorough understanding of the genesis and development of feminist theory. Fem Books will also publish some works in translation. They recently bought translation rights for Jean Baker Miller's *Towards a New Psychology of Women*, which was scheduled to come out in September. In the planning stages is an anthology of stories by a variety of women writers.

Fem Books' goal is to publish seven or eight books per year. Written Chinese is ideographic — each character represents an idea or thing without expressing a particular word or phrase — and the same characters are used throughout much of Asia, so Fem Books' titles will be readable by many women who don't have a common (verbal) language.

Shaping the Mainstream Media

Although Fem Books is a small store, it has had an effect on Taiwan far out of proportion to its size. Su says it has gotten to the point that whenever they announce a topic, the mainstream Taipei papers begin to follow that topic, too, like an echo.

For instance, beginning about three years ago, many older women began to write their own stories — beautiful, meaningful stories written to their daughters, talking honestly about marriage and motherhood in a way that violates the image of the model mother. Fem Books created a forum for these women to talk about their books and their lives. After this, the mainstream press asked those same women for interviews and began to treat their work seriously. Fem Books has plans to publish books by some of these women. (Su adds that, although mainstream publications never credit *Awakening*, their reporters are actually sitting in on *Awakening*'s classes, taking notes and outlining their stories!)

The same thing happened when *Awakening*/Fem Books initiated their series on women's bodies — but of course, the mainstream papers took a more

prurient stance on the topic. One reporter tape-recorded a class and published the transcript in the paper the next day. Fem Books has talked to these reporters, but the "next day" phenomenon continues in this country where the media is very hungry for new and different ideas. A mainstream publisher took a rough outline and published an anthology on the theme with, once again, a slightly prurient bent. But the idea started in women's movement activism, and Su feels that as long as Fem Books exists, it's a place women can come and talk among themselves, and the new and different ways to talk about women's bodies will survive no matter what the mainstream press does with the ideas.

The store has attracted a lot more attention than Su ever expected — over 50 interviews last year! They didn't spend a cent in advertisement. Curiosity at this stage is more than enough to advertise the store. And the topics the store is covering interest the media. In fact, other bookstores say they are the spoiled child of the media! The store always feels very full of energy and enthusiasm, which attracts both women and the media.

Until the opening of Fem Books, women's groups in general and Awakening in particular didn't get much press. But the bookstore functions as a bridge between activists and the media and is very accepted by mainstream media.

Thus far, the bookstore hasn't received any significant negative feedback. Their landlord is a very traditional man, yet seems to be curious, and is very honored and flattered that his property is on the news a lot. Even the flower shop underneath the store has expressed its approval by copying Fem Books' design and colors!

The Competition

The effect of Fem Books on local book culture has been so strongly felt that even mainstream bookstores are now trying to stock some women authors.

On their first anniversary, Fem Books published

美國女性書店幕後的大功臣——

女性書店新知 Feminist Bookstore News

蘇平玲

前言：七月間，美國舊金山的「女性書店新知」採訪了台灣的「女書店」，對這個在美國女性書店之間扮演最重要角色的刊物，「女書店」深覺有報導的必要，藉由此文亦希望呈現，在婦女運動為開拓女人空間而努力的過程中，女性書店的產生與存在絕對是其中重要的一環。

凱若希隆 Carol Seajay [居中者] 主編

「女性書店新知」至今19年



尋找世新同志!

我喜歡投有專屬於同志的社團嗎?

除了 Letter 之外，想多認識同樣是同志的朋友嗎?

心中有苦，找不到一個能真正懂你/解的人傾吐嗎?

你/妳覺得在世新校園中，同志感到忽視嗎?

別再遲疑了，只有你/妳才能讓世新的同志

擁有一片嶄新的天空

我們需要對自我有清楚認同，而且有活力、有想法的世新男女同志加入我們的行列，一起為世新的第一個同志社團打拼!

目前我們正在籌備階段，歡迎有熱誠的世新同志一起參與籌備工作。有意者請於每週一、五晚上七時至十二時親至 Labomotion Café，或於上述時間內以電話 (02) 706-6321 洽小安。我們竭誠歡迎您的加入!



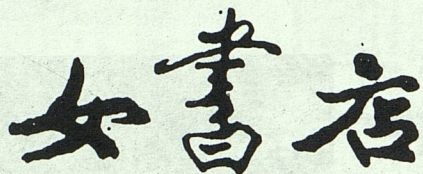
Chien-Ling Su and Wai Fei Ding meet with Beth Morgan and Carol Seajay — as reported in *Awakening*.

a list of their 30 bestsellers. They had only one book listed in common with the top 100 list from the mainstream stores, which confirmed their feeling that their customer base is entirely separate from most of the other bookstores in Taipei.

(The one book on both lists was a book on women's sexuality. The publisher — which usually publishes romances — celebrated by putting a band around the book advertising the fact that it was #1 on Fem Books Top 30 List!) The book is actually a very feminist book that the author placed with the romance

publisher to ensure that it would reach a huge audience. She also gives all the royalties to Awakening — U.S. \$8,000 to date!

One “very upscale” bookstore stocks lesbian and gay [men’s] magazines. It’s in a very expensive part of town and wants to be seen as trendsetting. Some members of Awakening work there and the store will probably be one of the few that will stock the books Fem Books publishes.



Lesbian Spaces, Too

Although Fem Books wasn’t originally conceived of as a lesbian space, it soon became a home for lesbian activist groups, as well as for other women’s groups. There has never before been a public lesbian space in Taiwan, where lesbians can meet and feel safe.

Su told us that Fem Books is the one place in Taiwan that straight women and lesbians (openly) congregate and lesbian journals such as *Isle Margin*

and *Love Magazine*, produced by local lesbian groups, sell very well. Women who belong to certain women’s groups have often been seen as “particular” and different, but now any woman can come to the store and see this is not so; they can step into this space and feel comfortable.

It’s hard for some women (and men) to come into the store initially, but after that first scary visit, it seems to be okay. Fem Books keeps a notebook on a desk for anyone to write their thoughts and opinions. Women talk about their fears, their appreciation and even their own problems. One woman, soon to be married, wrote that after reading some things from the store, she decided that she needed to think very seriously about the marriage, and maybe she wouldn’t get married after all.

International Connections

Being the only women’s bookstore in Taiwan — and one of the very few feminist bookstores in all of Asia — Fem Books relies on FBN for connection, to learn about other stores’ experiences and for the encouragement that connection and support brings. Fem Books’ staff (and friends) use FBN’s list of feminist bookstores to make contacts with other feminist booksellers when they travel. ○

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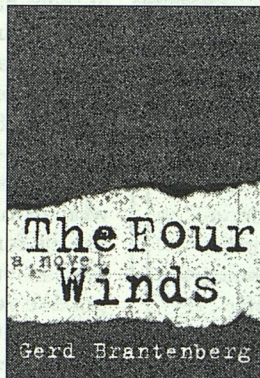
Women in Translation

Breaking the Language Barrier

By Barbara Wilson
Women in Translation

It was a rainy Monday evening in Seattle not long ago and two women authors from Norway were at Elliott Bay Books to read from the new edition of *An Everyday Story: Norwegian Women's Fiction*. We organizers of the event stood around worriedly, wondering if anyone would venture out on this gloomy night to hear a couple of unknown writers from another country. By the time the reading began there were twenty-five people in the audience, not all of them, fortunately, friends or relatives. We sat back, relieved, to listen, to laugh at and to be moved by Sissel Lie's and Laila Stien's stories as well as by their witty remarks and deft fielding of questions. Afterwards someone came up to me. "I had no idea that I would enjoy this so much," she said. "I just came because June made me. But this was fantastic!"

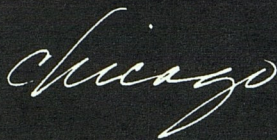
Since Women in Translation (WIT), first as an imprint of Seal Press and then, since 1989, as a separate publishing company, has published writers who are respected, beloved and even renowned in their own countries, it's not surprising that their work should move and delight us. Yet it's clear that bookstore customers and library patrons will often shy away from reading books from other countries. Such books are often perceived to be too difficult or demanding. Occasionally (Hélène Cixious, perhaps) they are.



More often, more importantly, novels and stories translated from other languages read simply like what they are: fine novels and stories by writers who have urgent and marvelous things to tell us.

The charge is often made that North Americans are parochial and geographically and culturally limited in our reading (when we read at all). I don't entirely agree. Many of us in the U.S., and perhaps more so in Canada, read across a wide variety of cultures within our own countries. We read Southern writers, Black writers, writers from South Dakota, Latina writers, Asian and Jewish writers, writers from Winnipeg and writers from Brooklyn. Some of us are interested as well in writing in English from outside our borders in the work of South African, Israeli, Australian, English and Irish writers. So I can't think that we are completely uninterested in cultures different than what we grew up with or live in. We are often passionately interested.

Yet that interest wanes, frequently, when the author is not a native English speaker and writer. When the author writes in a language that must be translated, suddenly the cultural differences are assumed to loom larger and the gulf between their world and ours seems unbridgeable. What are the reasons for this? One important reason may be that all of us have, probably more than once, read bad translations that are stilted, halting, peculiar in some way. Translations where idioms and colloquial sayings




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are rendered literally and thus senselessly. Translations like the subtitles in bad foreign films, that leave us howling with laughter ("I am killing you now." "No, halt, please!").

Another important reason for not picking up the work of foreign writers is that much of the work that you and I as feminists might be interested in is simply not available in translation. We may feel, as I did growing up, that translation means Dostoevsky and Victor Hugo, Thomas Mann and Tolstoy — literary male heavyweights. Nor does it help that most foreign writers don't live in North America and thus have no easy way of publicizing their work through readings and interviews. We may not remember, for instance, that we read Isabel Allende only in translation, because she has such a vivid presence on the literary scene here.

Women in Translation came into being precisely to address and correct some of these issues. Our goal since 1984 has been to commission excellent literary translations, usually by women translators, of work by women writers around the world. We have been particularly interested in languages that haven't been extensively translated, such as Norwegian, Korean and Catalan, and in writing that challenges perceptions about women's roles. Not all the authors we publish have considered themselves feminist, but all of them have written about the realities of women's lives, about childhood, love, abuse, coming out, work, rebellion and power. We have published novels and stories from Egypt, Korea, Japan, Sweden, Germany, Andorra, Spain, Denmark, Norway and Holland. We even published a number of murder mysteries in our International Women's Crime series, to show that women in other countries were using the thriller as a vehicle for asking social questions, just as was being done in North America.

We've selected the titles for Women in Translation in a variety of ways, and each selection has a story. Sometimes books come to us unexpectedly, for instance, I was strolling by the combined Catalan stand at the Frankfurt Book Fair some years ago and saw a book titled *Study in Lilac*. The violet-tinted cover with its figure of a woman caught my eye. It turned out to be a quirky mystery with a tough feminist P.I. that Seal published in 1987. Another Swedish author, Elisabet Peterzen, thrust her self-published mystery, *The Last Draw*, into my hands at the Oslo Feminist Book Fair.

And the moving autobiography of Danish poet and writer Tove Ditlevsen came to us because I happened to leave a potluck at the same time as another woman and asked her, "What kind of work do you do?" "I've just tried my first translation," said Tiina Nunnally (who later went on to translate Peter Hoeg's *Smila's Sense of Snow*). *Early Spring* still remains one of my favorite Seal Press titles.

Although Women in Translation has received many foreign books in the mail over the years, most of our titles have come to us on the suggestion of a translator who knows the literature of a particular country and who is willing to put together an author's biography, a synopsis and a sample translation. The translators take their vocation seriously and are skilled authors in their own right. Translators such as Katherine Hanson (from Norwegian), Wanda Boeke (from Dutch), Yukiko Tanaka (from Japanese), and Ju-chan and Bruce Fulton (from Korean) have proved valuable friends to WIT, not only translating important books for us, but helping to secure grants and funding. Through working with these fine translators, we've learned something important: that the power of a literary work is commensurate with the skill of a translator in turning the language into English.

In order to recognize and reward the dedication of the translations, WIT has instituted a Translators' Fund for the past several years. This fund is specifically for the purpose of paying translators a reasonable fee for their work. Although some of the world's wealthier countries have programs to subsidize the costs of translation, most do not, and no country subsidizes an entire translation. The Translators' Fund has enabled us to take on projects that are literary, innovative and often very feminist (like the riveting novel about a neglected girl growing up with an absent mother and an eccentric and disturbing father, *Unnatural Mothers*, by Dutch author Renate Dorrestein) — books that don't always find publishers in North America. (Tax-deductible contributions are always welcome, and may be sent to WIT at 3131 Western Avenue # 410, Seattle WA 98121).

Currently WIT publishes one to two works of fiction a year. Upcoming projects include the release of *The Four Winds*, a novel by Gerd Brantenberg. Well-

known in North America for her biting satire on the sexes, *Egalia's Daughters*, Brantenberg is justly famous in her own country as the author of a trilogy about growing up with alcoholic parents in a small town in Norway. *The Four Winds* tells the moving and often hilarious story of a girl coming out as a lesbian and coming to terms with her family. Brantenberg continues to be one of the only out lesbian-feminist authors in Scandinavia.

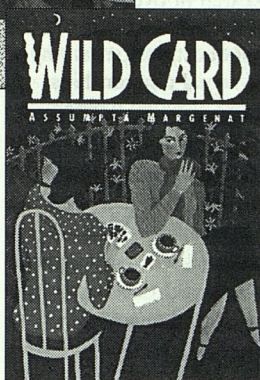
In the spring WIT will be publishing *The Cockatoo's Lie*, an absorbing puzzle of a novel by Dutch-Indonesian writer Marion Bloem. Bloem writes frankly about sex, race and family secrets in this story of three generations of women in Java and The Netherlands. And in the fall WIT will be bringing out a second collection of Korean women's writing edited and translated by

Ju-Chan and Bruce Fulton. Their previous volume, *Words of Farewell*, published by Seal Press, was a truly stunning anthology and this promises to be just as unusual and evocative.

Since its inception, Women in Translation has tried to balance the work of contemporary writers with those from the past. We have focused on fiction, believing it more accessible to more

readers. We have tried to choose work that is powerful and that, in spite of cultural differences, can speak to us with clarity and beauty. Obviously, some translations have more cross-over potential than others and some authors, such as Nawal el-Saadawi, who now lives in the States and has a strong presence here, are more able to capture an audience than others. Yet we've based the work we do on the belief that readers, once introduced to foreign writers, will be fascinated by the worlds that open up through their books. It's the aim of Women in Translation to continue to keep introducing new writers and making their work accessible to a wider public.

Barbara Wilson is the President of the Board of Women in Translation. ○



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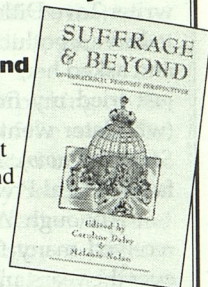
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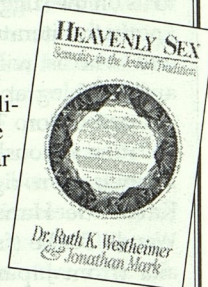
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Global Lesbians

Reports from 31 Countries



By Carol Seajay

It is with enormous respect that I greet the publication of *Unspoken Rules: Sexual Orientation and Women's Human Rights*, edited by Rachel Rosenbloom and the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission, a collection of reports from 31 countries that describe lesbians' lives and conditions in which lesbians live (and sometimes die) in 31 countries.

The project was initiated by the IGLHRC in partnership with regional coordinators in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Western Europe, Eastern Europe, Latin American and the Caribbean, and North America. These regional coordinators located authors from each of the countries represented in the book. All but one of the reports were written by lesbians who were raised in the countries in question. All but one of the reports (Iran) were written by women currently living in those countries. (The Iranian has since been granted asylum in the U.S. because she faces the possibility of execution in her native country as a lesbian and an outspoken feminist. See FBN Vol.18#4, page 10.)

The stories are awesome. Some are outrageously inspiring. Some are almost too difficult to read. They come from as close as the U.S. and Canada, from as far as Zimbabwe and South Africa from places as terrifying as Iran (where 70 lesbians and gay men suspected of planning to start a gay/lesbian organization are reported to have been thrown off a cliff), as dismaying as Thailand and as denying of history carved in stone as India...and from Serbia, Romania, Malaysia, Israel, Nicaragua, Uruguay, The Netherlands and Norway. Some (Estonia, for example) are unexpectedly encouraging.

The introduction offers one of the best analyses of the various human rights organizations' and strategies' inadequacies when it comes to addressing lesbian rights that I've ever read. It begins:

—*In an apartment in India, two women commit suicide rather than allow their relationship with one another to be broken up by their families.*

—*In a house in Zimbabwe, a woman is raped repeatedly with the knowledge and consent of her family so that she will become pregnant, get married, and cease to have relationships with women.*

—*In a psychiatric institution in the United States, a teenage girl is subjected to coercive "treatment" to "cure" her of her lesbianism.*

—*In a courtroom in Germany, a woman loses custody of her child because the court finds that her lesbianism disqualifies her as a parent.*

—*In a prison in Uruguay, a woman is isolated in a cell because her captors know that she is a lesbian.*

—*In an office in the Philippines, two women are fired from their jobs at a human rights organization because they are in a relationship with one another.*

"Every day, all over the world, women face violence, harassment, and discrimination because they reject socially imposed gender roles and because they have intimate relationships with other women...."

"Where the state has directly infringed upon the rights of lesbians, these violations have received international attention. However, the international community (and human rights movement) has remained silent where lesbians' economic, social, and cultural rights — such as the right to health care, housing, and education — are at stake, and when abuses are perpetrated by private individuals, particularly within the family. The human rights of lesbians cannot be meaningfully addressed



until these violations are taken into consideration."

"Laws directly prohibiting lesbianism do exist. For example, in the Bahamas, the Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence Act of 1989 states that

"Any female who has sexual intercourse with another female, whether with or without the consent of that female, is guilty of the offence of lesbianism and is liable to imprisonment for twenty years...."

"[But] the relative absence of legal prohibitions against lesbianism has led some to believe that lesbians face less severe persecution than gay men.... One of the primary reasons that lesbians have not been subject to state persecution is that they are socially invisible. In many places lesbians are not able to establish communities or participate in public life, and the denial of lesbian existence by governments and society is one of the most profound harms that lesbians endure. As the reports illustrate, these conditions allow society to take no responsibility for the lives of lesbians, and can serve to make political action virtually impossible."

"The insights of the women's human rights movement take on particular significance in considering human rights violations against lesbians. Not only do most violations of lesbians' human rights (like violations of women's rights more generally) take place within the "private" sphere, but the silence that surrounds lesbianism adds an additional layer of difficulty in documenting such violations. For example, the barriers that keep women from reporting domestic violence or rape — shame, fear, lack of appropriate services — are [now] well known. Those barriers are even higher when reporting an incident requires that a woman admit to the police or to the authorities that she is a lesbian."

"Whether or not explicit prohibitions against lesbianism exist in the law, women put themselves at great risk — jeopardizing family relationships, friendships, physical safety, employment, housing — if they publicly acknowledge that they are lesbians. In addition to the consequences that they may have to face, lesbians must also contend with the self-doubt and shame that widespread prejudice engenders."

"The rules may be unwritten — or even unspoken — but they are very real, and the official silence surrounding lesbianism does not make the prohibition of it any less powerful; it only makes it harder to docu-

ment, respond to, or resist the abuses that lesbians experience...."

"Given the difficulty of addressing human rights violations against women using conventional human rights frameworks, and the particular barriers that lesbians face in attempting to speak publicly about abuses they have suffered, it is not surprising that a central theme in the reports is lesbian invisibility; invisibility within the law, within society; within the work of human rights organizations and women's organizations. These reports demonstrate the ways that this invisibility is produced and maintained by means of economic and social inequality, physical violence, religious condemnation, psychological coercion, and many other means."

"Many of the reports argue that this invisibility is in itself a human rights violation; that we must stop seeing silence as signifying an *absence*, but rather see it as signifying the presence of a multitude of barriers."

"Taken together, these reports suggest ways in which our understanding of...basic human rights must be transformed if we are to begin to address women's right to control their own bodies and determine their own sexuality...."

"Unless human rights organizations and women's organizations recognize these issues as their own, they will continue to be complicit in the silence that enables human rights violations against lesbians and other sexual minorities to occur."

Unspoken Rules is an incredible document. It will change the way human rights organizations deal with lesbians' rights, but even more importantly, it will change the way lesbians think about ourselves and vastly expand our sense of community, identity, and politic.

I urge every feminist, gay, political, and independent bookstore to stock it and to promote it widely.

Unspoken Rules: Sexual Orientation and Women's Human Rights was originally published in a limited edition by the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission for the United Nations' Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing. Cassell will publish a slightly revised edition for bookstores and libraries that will be available in March, though the official publication date is May. \$14.95 pb, 0-304-33764-1; \$60 cl -33763-3. It will be distributed in the U.S. by InBook/LogIn. ○

Feminist Publishing in the Third World

By Urvashi Butalia and Ritu Menon

Excerpted from Making a Difference: Feminist Publishing in the South, Bellagio Studies in Publishing Number 5.

Introduction: The Third World Context

Feminist publishing in the Third World has followed a somewhat different trajectory from its counterpart in the West. Many countries in this part of the world have come to publishing relatively recently, and to indigenous publishing even more recently. Partly this has to do with colonization and empire: in erstwhile colonial countries part of the project of colonialism was to destroy or displace indigenous systems of knowledge, and to put new ones in their place. One of the consequences of this was the marginalization of oral cultures and the gradual turning towards print. As a first step here languages which did not have an orthography had to be 'given' one, again something that was often undertaken by the colonizers. Once introduced, however, publishing and books became major instruments in the educational process, a development that was not entirely without problems. The first of these was to develop indigenous authors, something which cannot be done overnight, and something which is doubly difficult to do without adequate resources. For some considerable time, books had to continue to be imported. Not only was this expensive, but it also continued the process of the colonization of knowledge begun by the colonizers.

It is not our intention to simplistically put the

blame for the late development of publishing in southern countries on colonialism. But it is important, when looking at publishing in the South, to take into account the very real impact that colonialism had on it. In the early and mid-1970s, a number of universities all over the Third World still had a large number of expatriate staff: local people came into the academy in large numbers somewhat later. And often it was their entry, especially that of women, which brought women's studies courses into being.

For reasons of history, economics, and politics, many Third World countries have also been lacking in the material resources necessary to set up publishing units. Few produce enough paper to meet the needs of the publishing industry. While the actual raw materials may exist, the infrastructure of production, factories, and machinery are lacking. Nor are such countries able to purchase this equipment from outside — more often than not, the exchange rates are unfavorable. Sometimes restrictive import policies do not allow easy import of paper.

In several Third World countries while books are still among the most widely used of media, high rates of illiteracy make it difficult for publishing to survive. Shortages of money, and what are universally seen as more urgent needs such as food, water, shelter, are also things to contend with. If people do not have a roof over their heads, how can you convince them to spend scarce resources on buying books? Several parts of the Third World have also — for many years and for a variety of



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reasons, many of which are not of their own making — been in the grip of politically volatile and repressive situations. The fundamentalist backlash sweeping through much of the Muslim world has made it difficult for independent publishers to survive. For women's voices to be heard in such an environment is well nigh impossible. In

countries such as Algeria the first people to have been the targets of attack have been intellectuals and writers — the wide swath of killings and executions has not spared women. In Bangladesh, the now well-known writer Talsima Nasreen has had to flee the country for having spoken out. Nor has the backlash been limited to the Muslim world. In India it is becoming increasingly difficult to counter the fundamentalism of the majority community. In Mauritius, writer Lindsey Collen has had to face the wrath of the Hindu community for her novel *The Rape of Sita*, which was published in 1993 and banned within three days of its publication.

For publishing to survive anywhere in the world

there must be writers and readers. Because of their histories of colonization many Third World countries have been at the receiving end of knowledge and information about themselves from the West or the North. It is not uncommon to find, in say Africa or Asia, numbers of Western scholars who have access to both funds and opportunities for publication and who come and do research for short or long periods and then produce the definitive book on a specific subject. With women's books this follows a somewhat different pattern: because of the solidarity built up by women's movements internationally, groups in the Third World are often more open to scholars from other countries than might be the case normally. In the process they lose control of their own histories, only to have them reproduced by 'outsiders'. Published expensively in the North, such books often have to be purchased by Third World groups and individuals simply because local material is so scarce. Additionally, because they are produced well, and because they are imported, they often carry a legitimacy and importance that many 'foreign' articles do in Third World countries. Would-be feminist publishers have had to contend with this phenomenon, and yet, conversely, it

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"I hope the letters will show," says the author, a literary and political friend of Bessie Head who corresponded with her while he was editor of *The New African* in London, "that, with her death on 17 April 1986, the light that went out was a bright and inspiring one, however dark the scenes of her life that it illuminated."

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is precisely this that has, in some instances, provided the impetus to set up local publishing houses in an attempt to "redress the balance".

Women's Books and Women's Movements

In the Third World one of the strengths of feminist publishing has been the close links it has with the women's movement. Indeed, had it not been for the kinds of questions thrown up by women's movements, and the environment of interest and empathy provided by them, feminist publishers would have found it hard to survive. Not only publishing, but also the introduction of women's studies and courses on gender in the academy have been occasioned by the gains of women's movements across countries. And women's studies has in turn led to the need for materials for teaching and training, which have provided much of the base for publishing.

While women's studies and women's publishing are closely linked, the impetus for setting up women's publishing houses has also come from other sources.

ASR

Thailand, for example, does not have a long history of women's studies courses, and its key feminist/women's publishing house, Genderpress, publishes mainly 'popular' works such as novels by women writers and translations of well known classics into Thai. Similarly, though the Women's Action Forum and other activities in Pakistan did provide one of the impetuses for the setting up of women's publishing, both Simorgh and ASR (Applied Socio-Economic Research) initially began publishing as women's groups, bringing out pamphlets and the occasional book as part of their work. ASR later developed a full-fledged publishing program as one arm of its work and now regularly attends book fairs and book-related events.

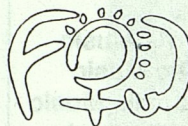
In the Third World, as indeed in many countries in the First World, a great deal of women's publishing takes place outside of publishing houses. Research institutes and women's groups bring out numbers of books and pamphlets which feed into the overall creation of knowledge and information on women. In Zimbabwe, for example, the Zimbabwe Women Writers Group is not a publishing enterprise. Their main work is to get writers together, and to hold discussions and workshops on women's writing. As part of this, however, they have published a few books by the women

who are members of the group. Similarly in Malaysia a small group of activists and academics called Sisters in Islam has begun a process of questioning Islam from within. Can the religion be as egalitarian as the clergy would have it seem? Using meticulous and detailed research, Sisters in Islam initially brought out two pamphlets. These have now been followed by a book, and their future plans include other, similar publications. In Manila, Isis International (a group originally founded by two women, Jane Cottingham and Marilee Karl, and based then in Rome), has a range of activities which include the publication of books and pamphlets which are distributed all over the world. Much of this kind of 'outside' publishing is funded with grants from donor agencies, and it is often short-lived. But it is nonetheless important to take it into account.



Where books are difficult to publish, groups in the South have often started with the occasional pamphlet or booklet and, in many cases, journals and magazines. This is particularly true in Latin America where some feminist magazines have acted as precursors to publishing houses. Magazines are, of course, not easy to publish or sustain. Most of these, however, are not commercial magazines, but those associated with women's groups and usually funded on a non-commercial basis. The kind of knowledge base created by such occasional publishing has often proved useful for groups that may later go in for books: it provides ready-made and only partially circulated material which can be put together into book form at some point. Several publishers in Third World countries have gained from such efforts.

The different political and economic situations in countries in this part of the world, as opposed to the North, have combined to produce both strengths and weaknesses in Third World feminist publishing. In relatively poorer countries labor comes cheap; new technologies are expensive and often late entrants. This may, on the one hand, mean that in terms of quality, books produced in the South may not always be able to compete with those in the North. On the other, publishers are often able to experiment with innovative things that may well be expensive, or virtually impossible to



do, in the north. Some years ago, the Indian feminist publishing house, Kali for Women, brought out a book on women's bodies and women's health, written by rural women from the north Indian state of Rajasthan. The book has an interesting history: it was initially 'written' as a result of a series of workshops on health that were conducted in different districts in Rajasthan among rural women. At the end of the workshops, some 100 women got together to 'produce' (make by hand) two or three copies of the book entitled *Shareer ki Jaankari* (Know Your Body), which held information and knowledge that they felt was needed by them, and therefore probably by other women (especially rural women) as well. In the initial stages the book carried illustrations of naked women with different parts of their bodies marked, but this was not well received in the villages where these initial two or three books were tested. People said the illustrations were not true to reality: if you did not see a naked woman in a village (i.e. if the women were well covered), how could a book about village women represent them differently? The women then returned to the drawing board, so to speak, and produced a different version of the book, one that had both women and men traditionally dressed, and there-

fore modest, with small flaps pasted on in strategic places which could be lifted up and people could see the processes of menstruation, etc.

The important thing about such a book was that it had to be priced very low in order that it could become accessible to its target readership — village women. For most mainstream publishers this would not have been a viable proposition. The feminist publishing house, Kali, however, took on the task of producing this book. The most complicated — and potentially expensive — part of the book was the binding. But since most binding in India is done by hand, it was



eventually possible to get the book bound, flaps and all, quite cheaply (and, interestingly, by a group of women binders who had been trained in binding as an income-generating activity). Elsewhere, it would probably have been quite difficult to keep the price of such a book so low, and indeed to get the complicated work of binding and pasting done so painlessly. Nor would most mainstream publishers have been interested in such a labor-intensive, small-economic-return activity. But for feminist publishers, the returns are often considered not only in economic terms.

While this kind of thing may be more easily possible in countries in the southern hemisphere, there are other, major constraints on publishing. These include shortages of resources and raw materials, paper, adequate machinery — problems which are compounded by the lack of efficient postal systems, expensive postal and freight rates, the absence of a good library or retail system, as well as the many other problems such as illiteracy, lack of buying power etc., that we have discussed earlier. These are things that impact on publishing as a whole; but something like feminist publishing is further affected for a number of reasons....

There are other things that differentiate feminist publishing in the South from its counterpart in the North. Because of their roots in activism, publishers and groups in the South have often chosen not to specialize in the way that northern publishers have. The bulk of publishing in many countries is educational — as that is the priority. While academic books do exist, in greater or lesser degree depending on the

See **Third World**, page 36.

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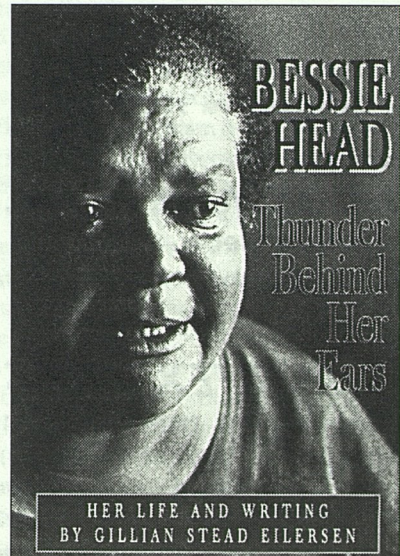
The African Writers Series, The Caribbean Writers Series, & The Asian Writers Series

By Heather L. Smith
Heinemann Trade Division

Heinemann has a long, unique history of presenting international women's voices to the rest of the world through our African Writers Series®, our Caribbean Writers Series® and, most recently, our Asian Writers Series. Every year the number of novels and single-author short story collections by women in these lists grows substantially. In addition, Heinemann publishes a number of anthologies of women's writing, such as *Unwinding Threads* and *The Heinemann Book of African Women's Poetry*, and studies of women's writing, e.g., *In Their Own Voices: African Women Writers Talk*.

All three of these series are co-published with Heinemann's sister company in England, which allows these books to be available throughout the world (except where they are, unfortunately, banned from distribution). Books are chosen by U.S. and U.K. editors and by field editors in Africa. While we were not always the first to publish the books collected in these series, we certainly keep them in print longer than anyone else so that future generations of women can experience the stories of those who went before them. The author who exemplifies this tradition best is Bessie Head, all of whose major writings are kept in print by Heinemann.

Bessie Head is one of Africa's best known women writers. She was born in 1937 in South Africa, the result of an "illicit" union between a Black man and a white woman. Her early life was a traumatic one; she was raised by a foster family until age thirteen and then went to a mission school before training as a teacher. After teaching for four years, Head worked as a journalist for *Golden City Post* in South Africa. However, an unsuccessful marriage and her involvement



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in the trial of a friend — a fellow political activist in the National Committee for Liberation, a key member of the party who had been arrested in a police raid — led her to apply for an exit visa and a teaching job in Botswana at age 27. Head felt that, with so many of her friends being arrested or forced out of the country, for those left behind "South Africa [was] an intensely lonely, intensely sad country." (*Transition*, November 1963). She maintained her permanent self-imposed exile in Botswana, first precariously as a refugee and then, after 15 years, as a citizen. There in her chosen haven of Serowe, in spite of a severe mental breakdown, she wrote novels and short stories until her death in 1986 at age 49.

Until recently, all of Head's novels were believed to be set in Botswana. Her novel, *When Rain Clouds Gather*, originally published by the British publisher Victor Gollancz Ltd. in 1969, joined a previous Heinemann series in 1972 and was eventually published in the African Writers Series in 1987. With the text remaining the same, this book will be reissued with a beautiful new cover in January 1996. As the story of this book illustrates, Head drew heavily on her own personal experiences for her novels. *When Rain Clouds Gather* tells of the poverty-stricken village of Golema Mmidi, in the heart of rural Botswana, which offers a haven to the exiles gathered there. Makhaya, a political refugee from South Africa, becomes involved with an English agricultural expert and the villagers as they struggle to revolutionize traditional subsistence farming methods by introducing modern techniques. The pressures of tradition, the opposition of the local chief and, above all, the harsh climate threaten to bring tragedy to the community, but hope remains for the future. This novel is clearly based on the period Head spent as a refugee living at the Bamangwato Development Farm.

Maru, Head's second novel, first published in 1971 also by Victor Gollancz Ltd., was included in the African Writers Series in 1972. This book will also be reissued with a striking new cover in January 1996. *Maru* tells of Margaret Cadmore, an orphaned Masarwa girl who comes to Dilepe to teach, only to discover that, in this remote Botswana village, her people are treated as outcasts. In the love story and intrigue that follows, Head brilliantly combines a portrait of loneliness with a rich affirmation of the mystery and spirituality of life. Her concern for

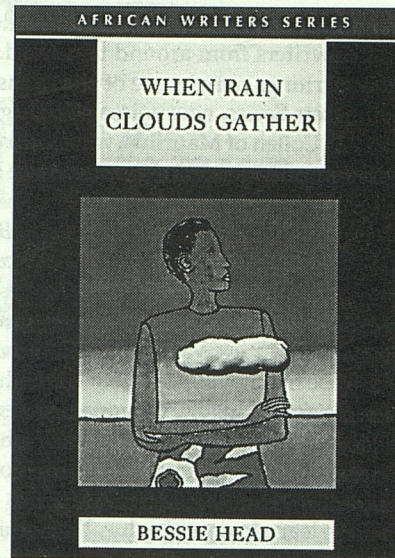
ordinary people in *Maru* has the sharp authenticity of personal experience.

A Question of Power, first published in 1974 by Davis-Poynter Ltd. and joining the African Writers Series in the same year, is an intensely autobiographical novel. In this book, Head never makes it clear whether or not the main character's mental breakdown is caused by the mission school principal's cruel revelation of her mixed origins. However, like Head, the protagonist does leave South Africa for Botswana.

Bessie Head next turned her talents to short stories and began her direct, long-lasting relationship with Heinemann with *The Collector of Treasures*, published in the African Writers Series in 1977. In 1981 *Serowe: Village of the Rain Wind*, a skillful and original historical portrait of one hundred years of the Botswanan community, reconstructed through the words of different members of the village, was published by Heinemann. (*A Bewitched Crossroad*, published in 1984, is the one Head novel not included in the African Writers Series and is not, unfortunately, widely available.) In 1989, *Tales of Tenderness and Power* was published posthumously by the Netherlands publisher, Ad Donker, and in the Series. This book is a moving collection of both famous and previously unpublished works.

After Head's death, Heinemann continued its commitment to her writing by publishing her autobiographical writings, *A Woman Alone* (edited by Craig MacKenzie), in 1990. These writings cover the entire span of Head's creative life, revealing a woman of great sensitivity and vitality. A year later, Heinemann published (outside of the Series) *A Gesture of Belonging: Letters from Bessie Head, 1965-1979* (edited by Randolph Vigne). This book is a selection of letters she wrote to Randolph Vigne, a political and literary friend from her Cape Town days, then editor of *The New African* in London. While her letters are often a record of a mind under intolerable strain, her despair was the equal of her great joys. She writes in one letter, "God knows, *Maru* is so goddam beautiful, it is the best thing I've written so far... I mean I wrote it right in hell."

Today, we are extremely proud and excited to be able to announce an exciting literary event: a newly discovered novel by Bessie Head, *The Cardinals*, to be published for the first time outside of South Africa in January 1996! The aspects of this book that make it so thrilling are that it is believed to be the very first piece



of long fiction Head produced (not *When Rain Clouds Gather* as previously thought), and it is the only one set in South Africa. Since we know Head draws heavily on her own life in her fiction, *The Cardinals* is an opportunity to learn more about Head before she exiled herself to Botswana. In addition, seven pieces of short fiction which were written immediately after her arrival in Botswana are collected with this novella.

The Cardinals tells of Mouse, a woman who, after a childhood of poverty and abuse in the slums of Cape Town, unexpectedly lands a job as a reporter in the offices of *African Beat*. She is too withdrawn to flourish in her new world and struggles to find her identity as a woman and a writer against the muckraking demanded by her editors and the sexism of the newsroom. Johnny believes in her, but his faith carries its own dangers in the South Africa of the 1960s. Questions of origins, identity, sexuality, writing, love, revenge, and politics unite to propel characters to joy while disaster awaits.

The Cardinals is sure to bring Bessie Head's writings back into the limelight and help her voice continue to be heard across all gender, racial, and national barriers. In fact, the storm of attention has already begun with the publication of the biography, *Bessie Head "Thunder Behind Her Ears": Her Life and Writing* (by Gillian Stead Eilersen; co-published with James Currey in England and David Philip in Southern Africa; now available in the United States from Heinemann).

Heinemann continues to foster and develop young women writers from around the world. While Bessie Head's writings remain one of the mainstays of the African Writers Series, new voices are being heard, such as Lindsey Collen of Mauritius, whose *Rape of Sita* was banned by her state government; Calixthe Beyala, a rising African star in francophone writing; and Gaelle Sobott-Mogwe of Botswana, whose *Colour Me Blue* has been compared to Bessie Head's writing (*Choice*, October 1995). And in the Caribbean Writers Series recent years have seen the discovery of such new women writers as Christine Craig, Vanessa Spence, and Patricia Powell, whose first novel, *Me Dying Trial*, which has received enthusiastic acclaim, was one of those occasional gems from the "slush pile." We feel that, like Bessie Head, all our international women authors offer experiences and wisdom that women of all nationalities can learn from and value. We certainly do.

Author's Note: The original theme for this article was the increasing significance of women writers in the African Writers Series and the Caribbean Writers Series. However, in researching these topics, I found that due to the staff turnover since 1962, when the African series was started with Chinua Achebe's novel, *Things Fall Apart*, there was no single, easily reachable source on how women became such an important part of the series. While I couldn't track down all the details, I did get the feeling that including women was not by design. Rather, these authors were accepted for publication because of their strong writing and their stories of their native homes. I also learned that despite the importance of women writers in the series, they presently make up 33% of the Caribbean Writers Series and less than 20% of the African Writers Series. The representation of women writers has grown substantially in recent years, though. For instance in 1988 there were five women authors in the African list; in 1995 there were fifteen, not including the many writers represented in anthologies as mentioned in the above article.

From my experience in promotion, I have found that there are many outlets to publicize women writers, yet, unfortunately, there do not seem to be as many buyers. Thankfully universities, especially women's studies programs, continue to expose students to African and Caribbean literature, thus creating and expanding the market for these important international voices. ○

Third World Publishing, *continued from page 32.*

country, there is not that much of what is known as trade publishing. Thus, whether it is in Indonesia, or Malaysia, or Nigeria or Chile, one may be almost sure that educational and academic books will have priority. Here, because there are very few courses which are open to the kinds of books feminist publishers are publishing, it becomes difficult to find a point of entry. Then again, in many places feminist publishing in the West seems to be divided into the kind of books that feminist presses do more of — fiction, self help, memoirs, autobiography, etc., — and the more 'academic' books [are] produced by university presses who run strong women's lists. This is not a situation that is commonly found in countries of the South: publishers and women's groups produce a range of things which can include practically any and every sort of book, from the textbook to the children's book to the handbook or activist book, to fiction and academic works. Below we look in detail at some of the kinds of books and materials feminist presses in the Third World are producing, and we trace, in as much as it is possible, a kind of history of feminist publishing in different parts of the Third World.

Editor's note: I was tempted to just reprint this entire 82-page book for our "International Voices Issue" — it took me weeks to narrow down the parts I wanted to reproduce here to just a few pages. It's all indispensable and fascinating reading for any first-world feminist bookseller or publisher facing burn-out or just looking for more information about the larger context in which we do our work. I've never seen this much information about the growth and development of feminist publishing in South and Southeast Asia, The Pacific, North and Sub-Saharan Africa, and Latin America collected anywhere else. Give yourself a treat and order one for yourself today! —CS

Making a Difference: Feminist Publishing in the South by Urvashi Butalia and Ritu Menon is published as the fifth book in a series of monographs on publishing in the Third World. \$15 pb, 0-964078-0-8. 50% discount (non-returnable) for 5+ copies, 33% discount for 2-4 copies. Order from Bellagio Publishing Network, Research and Information Center, School of Education, 225 Campion Hall, Boston College, Chestnut Hill MA 02167; 617-552-4236. ○

Finding the Authors, Choosing the Books

By Bruce McPherson

For twenty-odd years as a publisher I've had the distressing inclination not to accept less than the best and not to know in advance what I was looking for until I found it. The almost inevitable corollary is that the resulting books would be fundamentally oppositional to mainstream culture. I even started McPherson & Company (at the time called Treacle Press) because a particular writer, Jaimy Gordon, couldn't get a complex, beautiful and very funny novel published. Her work taught me the meaning of style.

Bring up the subject of style and most people automatically think you're referring to endless sentences of endless clauses exactly constructed by Henry James, to Southern Gothic Faulknerian paragraphs that hang like Spanish moss from sundrenched live oaks, or to the telegraph-like tough cadences affected by noir mystery writers. Which, after all, gets kind of boring very quickly, at least to talk about.

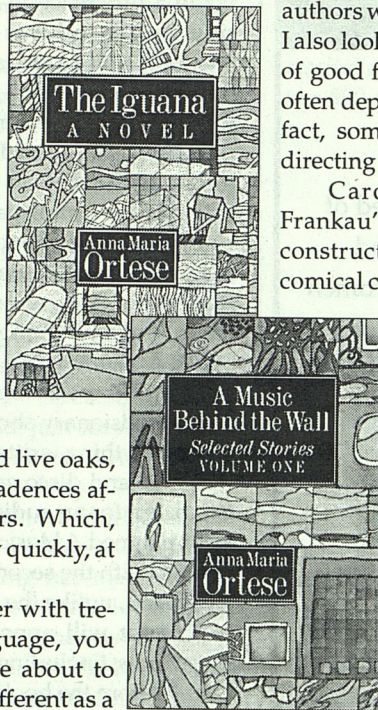
But when you read a writer with tremendous command over language, you realize very quickly that you're about to experience something utterly different as a

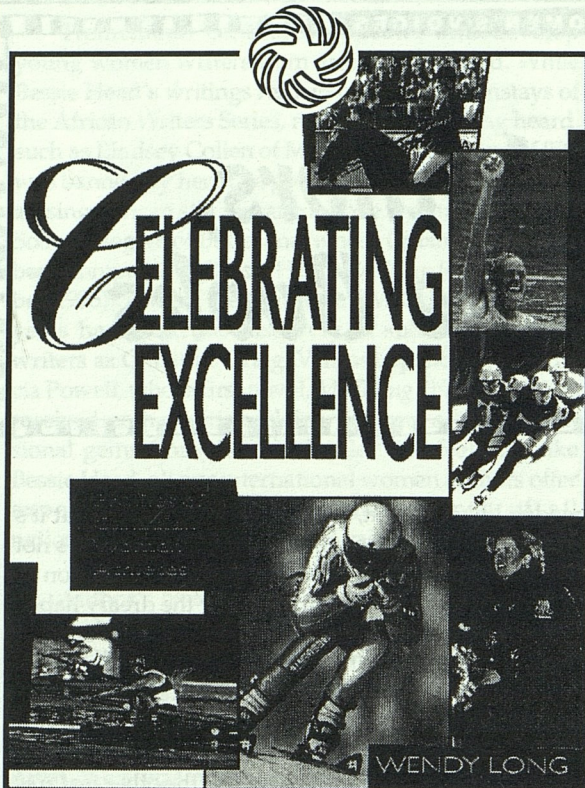
reader. I live for that, rare as it is, and I think that it's an essential component of vision. Of course that's not much talked about these days either. But vision is what actually lifts away from reality the dreary habits of received notions and passé clichés and smeary advertising and political humbug. And style is the vehicle — the act of thinking through language.

So when it comes to fiction, I try to publish authors who possess both qualities — style and vision. I also look for humor and wit and all the other features of good fiction. And to "discover" those writers I've often depended on other writers to point them out: in fact, someone outside the house is responsible for directing us to each of our international authors.

Carolee Schneemann handed me Pamela Frankau's *A Wreath for the Enemy* — an unusually constructed but utterly convincing — and quite comical coming-of-age novel from the early 1950s by a forgotten English author. At first its reappearance was met with relative indifference and after a year or two the warehouse still bulged with the first printing. Then Virago licensed it for a UK edition and I repackaged it as a "Recovered Classic," my new line at the time (and still going). Burlington Bookshop in Manhattan adopted it as one of their hand-sell specials and sold four or five hundred copies in two years. There ought to be a movie....

Anna Maria Ortese is another case in point: I don't read Italian but, in the early





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1980s, I'd done two successful books with Henry Martin, an expatriated American art critic in the Tyrol. Henry volunteered to edit an Italian fiction series (which seemed like an especially good idea, since Italians are under represented among Europeans in translation) and I was to get the translation grants. Ortese was Henry's absolute first choice, and he had a good understanding of my literary list. Now here's a writer who is arguably the finest living Italian author today, a woman whose first book was published in 1937 and who lived for 53 years in relative poverty before becoming a best-selling writer in her own country.

The book that Henry suggested we publish in 1987, *The Iguana*, is generally regarded as her masterpiece. Naturally, the translation went through multiple drafts, the whole process taking well over a year, and it's quite a short novel!

Meanwhile I had to resolve some vexing international copyright questions, fend off a hostile takeover of the book from a major American house, and correspond directly with an author who read as much English as I read Italian. But at last it appeared and I was feeling a certain smug satisfaction that we had made a difference in the author's tenuous financial situation when I was utterly nonplused to receive a telegram sent at Ortese's direction stating that all of her English-language royalties were to be donated to PEN American Center for writers with AIDS!

That we succeeded with that book, in relative terms (7500 copies in print), still amazes me, though it is still an uphill battle to convince critics, publicists, readers, and booksellers alike that not only did Magical Realism originate with the Italians (at the turn of the 20th century), but also that Ortese is in the direct mythopoetic lineage. If only she were South American!

In 1994 we brought out a subsequent volume of Ortese's visionary short stories — which are about as unlike anything written by a North American as imaginable — and discovered that we're going to have to campaign for an audience all over again! Fortunately, we'd planned *A Music Behind the Wall* as a two-volume project, with the second slated to appear at the end of 1996. And, unlike the stories in the first volume, most of this set will appear in various national literary magazines (including *Conjunctions*, *Alea*, and *Third Coast*) before the book is published.

Publishing the third of our international women authors has developed almost into an obsession to do it right. I'd heard about Mary Butts in the 1970s but never read her until Robert Kelly handed me one of her novels in 1990. I couldn't believe my eyes: here was an English high-modernist who had run with the fast Parisian crowd in the '20s, spoke and wrote perfect French, knew everyone, did everything, and somehow found time enough to write books that anticipate a host of our contemporary obsessions: jazz, movies, psychoanalysis, yes, but also spirituality, homosexuality, creativity, women in politics, the environment. She could write modern fiction, historical fiction, ghost stories, mystery, symbolist fantasy. She could write sharply etched modern poetry evoking the classical oracles at Delphi and, with the other hand, turn out reams of essays and expert book reviews. Her personal life was something of a disaster, I suppose, and she died at much too young an age, 47, in 1937. Her work was mostly lost through neglect — a few brief revivals being halfhearted or wrong-headed. Who could resist the challenge?

I don't think any writer gets more than a few chances. In fact it's entirely conceivable that there are quite a few wonderful writers whose work was very badly managed by their publishers and is virtually unknown today. So, since 1992, we've brought out two large volumes of two novels each, an ample selection of the short stories and, just six weeks ago, the first monograph of essays about Butts's work, titled *A Sacred Quest* and edited by Christopher Wagstaff. Later this year we'll issue a fourth volume titled *Ashe of Rings and Other Writings*, which will complete our project of bringing her major works back into print. I expect Nathalie Blondell will finish her full-scale biography this summer, which we'll issue here with Carcanal Press doing the British edition, in 1997. Meantime a flurry of academic theses

A Sacred Quest

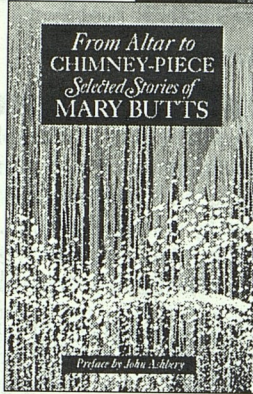
THE LIFE AND WRITINGS OF MARY BUTTS



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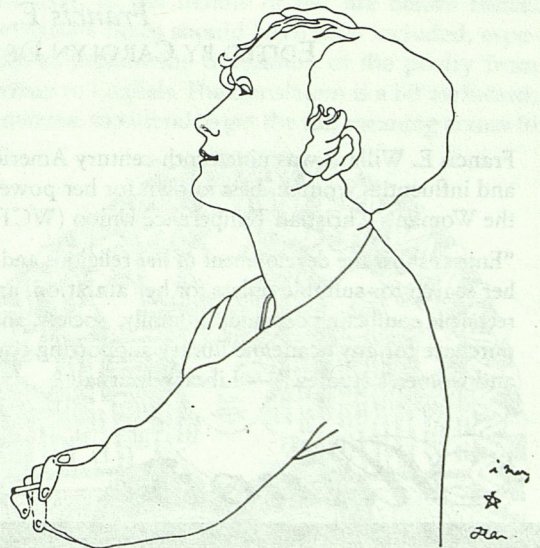
Preface by John Ashbery



are being written here and abroad, that set Mary Butts against the likes of Woolf, H.D., Rhys, Stein, Mansfield, Boyle, Blixen, and her other contemporaries. And in one strange twist this past summer, we were instrumental in restoring virtually the whole of Butts's work into European copyright.

Publishing should require a certain devotion from the publisher — otherwise why bother? But publishing such gifted writers as Frankau, Ortese and Butts makes devotion the easy part, even when the process literally takes years. I don't even think of them as "foreign" authors anymore. At a certain point their visions, their styles become part of the fabric of our thought. And as they become ours, in some way we become theirs. At least I like to think so.

Bruce McPherson directs his literary and arts house in New York's Hudson Valley. In addition to international women writers, McPherson & Company publishes Maya Deren, Pamela Zoline, Carolee Schneemann, Sheila Ascher, Jaimy Gordon, Elinor Schaffer, Denise Ohio, and Ursula Molinaro. McPherson & Company may be reached at PO Box 1126, Kingston NY 12401; phone or fax: 800-613-8219. ○



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“Stunning in its weaving together of politics, philosophy, and extensively lived and deeply felt experience. It places childbearing research within the context of the author’s life. Academics, policymakers, and laypeople all could learn a great deal by reading this book.” — Jane Pincus and Norma Swenson, for the Boston Women’s Health Book Collective, creators of *Our Bodies, Ourselves*

“Traces the patriarchal co-option of the language of birth and women’s reclaiming of that language . . . A powerful agent of that reclaiming.” — Robbie Davis-Floyd, author of *Birth as an American Rite of Passage*

WRITING OUT MY HEART

*Selections from the Journal of
Francis E. Willard, 1855-96*

EDITED BY CAROLYN DE SWARTE GIFFORD

Cloth, \$29.95

Francis E. Willard was nineteenth-century America’s most renowned and influential woman, best known for her powerful leadership of the Woman’s Christian Temperance Union (WCTU).

“Entries show the development of her religious and reform commitments, her search for suitable outlets for her ambition, and her struggles to reconcile conflicting demands of family, society, and self . . . An essential purchase for any academic library supporting courses in U.S. history and women’s studies.” — *Library Journal*



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Women's Voices

From Around the World

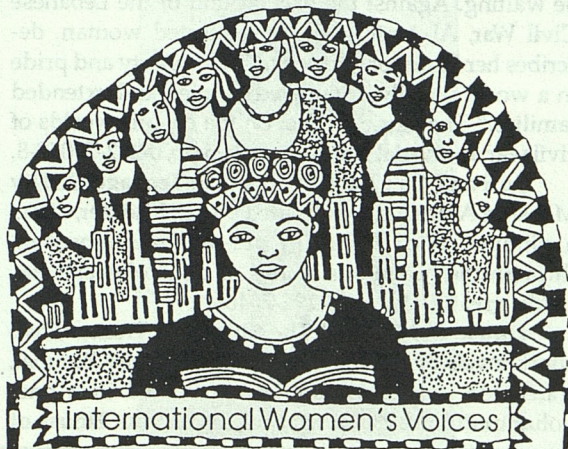
By Jenn Tust

We had planned to call booksellers and inquire about their favorite and bestselling international titles for an "International Faves and Raves" feature, but the intersection of our flu epidemic and the beginning of the holiday selling season in the bookstores made it impossible. So here's a short collection of international fiction and non-fiction titles that have come through the office recently....

Lieutenant Nun: Memoir of a Basque Transvestite in the New World by Catalina de Erauso, translated by Michele Stepto and Gabriel Stepto, is the story of a Basque woman who was placed in a convent at the age of four in 1589, and at 15 ran away to fight as a man in the Spanish conquest of Peru and Chile. During her years in the New World, Catalina de Erauso worked as a merchant, major-domo and soldier. After accidentally killing her brother in a duel, she fell into a life of gambling, deceit and murder. Finally cornered, she confessed her "condition" and became an overnight celebrity. In Rome, Pope Urban the Eighth in 1626 granted her permission to continue her life as a man. *Wow!* \$16.95 cl, 0-8070-7072-6, Beacon Press.

In 1991, 78-year-old Lilly Wust shared her memories of Berlin during WWII with Erica Fischer, a German Jew interested in publishing Lilly's story. **Aimee and Jaguar: A Love Story, Berlin 1943**, is an incredible true story of two German women who fell in love during an extraordinarily turbulent time: Lilly

(Aimee), a Gentile housewife and mother, and Felice (Jaguar), a Jewish lesbian. In August 1944, a year and a half after they met, Felice was arrested by the Gestapo and later killed. After Felice was taken away, Lilly helped to shelter three more lesbian Jews from the Nazis, and raised her four sons as Jews after the war, as she mourned her lost lover. Fischer recreated the story through Lilly's memories and journals, Felice's photographs and poems, legal documents and interviews with other survivors of the war. In the epilogue of this heartbreaking story, Fischer admits to finding some disturbing discrepancies in Lilly's memories, in the details of her life before Felice. Translator's notes should have been included, especially to explain the translation of the poetry from German to English. The translation is a bit awkward, sometimes too literal to get the full meaning across to



IRANIAN-AMERICAN FICTION FROM CITY LIGHTS



The Heart's Desire
by Nahid Rachlin
ISBN:087286-305-0 paper \$8.95
087286-304-2 clothbound \$18.95

When an American artist and her Iranian husband visit Teheran after the Iran-Iraq war, they encounter professional challenges and sexual temptations that change the course of their lives.

"Remarkable for its evenhandedness and painful honesty...By the time we've finished confronting Iran from very diverse perspectives, each beautifully evoked, we have experienced the potent spell it casts over its people, and the weight of that spell for a Western woman."

—Rosellen Brown

Also available: *Veils: Short Stories* (087286-267-4 \$8.95) and the novel *Married To A Stranger* (087286-276-3 \$9.95).

Distributed by Subterranean Company
800-274-7826 or fax 541-847-6018.
Individual orders call City Lights 415-362-8193.

English-speaking readers, but well worth reading as an inside peek into how two women lived during the violence of the holocaust. \$24 cl, 0-06-018350-0, HarperCollins.

—KWW

In the stories that comprise **The Waiting List: An Iraqi Woman's Tales of Alienation** by Daisy Al-Amir, translated by Barbara Parmenter, the author seems to be waiting. Against the background of the Lebanese Civil War, Al-Amir, a single, educated woman, describes her "interior journey to find honesty and pride in a world usually dominated by men and extended families." The stories reflect on the chaotic worlds of civil war and social transition. \$8.95 pb, 0-292-79067-8.

Suri and Co.: Tales of a Persian Teenage Girl by Mahshid Amirshahi, translated by J.E. Knörzer, offers a glimpse at daily life in pre-revolutionary Iran, through the humorous stories of an adolescent girl. Looks great! \$9.95 pb, 0-292-70463-1.

House of Mist and **The Shrouded Woman**, two short novels by Chilean novelist Maria Luisa Bombal, translated by the author, are presented in a one-volume edition by University of Texas Press. **House of**

Mist focuses on a woman of the landowning class who is "gifted — or burdened — with an extraordinary imagination and an empathetic bond with the natural world." In **The Shrouded Woman** the principal voice is that of Ana Maria, who reminisces and comments on the night of her own wake, as she lies in the coffin and opens her eyes to the people who have come to pay their respects. \$19.95 pb, 0-292-70830-0; \$40 cl, -70836-X, University of Texas Press.

The Crooked Line by Ismat Chughtai, translated by Tahira Naqvi, is the story of Shamman, the tenth and youngest child in a middle-class Muslim family in India. Isolated and ignored as she grows up, Shamman's nature is to rebel against her upbringing. Set in a time of great upheaval and transition as India moves from imperial past to an independent future, **The Crooked Line** is the multi-layered account of a young woman searching for her place in the new world. Lesbian bibliophiles will recall Chughtai's story, "The Quilt" (in *The Quilt and Other Stories*/Kali for Women and Sheep Meadow Press), which was dragged through obscenity trials at about the same time as *The Well of Loneliness* was on trial in the U.S. \$11.95 pb, 0-435-95089-4, Heinemann.

The contributors to **International Women's Writing: New Landscapes of Identity**, edited by Anne E. Brown and Marjanne E. Goozé, explore the diversity of female identity as it is expressed in the literatures of Africa, India, Latin America, the Caribbean, Western Europe, Russia, Canada and the United States. The writers consider the construction of identity as impacted by sexism, racism, classism, heterosexism and colonialism. The essays employ a wide range of methodologies and exhibit the breadth and scope of current feminist literary theories. They focus on the interrelationships between female identity and place, where place suggests both physical and metaphorical space. \$55 cl, 0-313-29045-8, Greenwood Publishing Group; 800-225-5800.

Three novels by French novelist Marie Redonnet were translated by Jordan Stump for University of Nebraska's European Women in Translation Series. **Hôtel Splendid** recounts the lives of three sisters living in a decrepit hotel on the edge of a swamp. The narrator, the youngest sister, struggles to preserve the

hotel in the face of obstacles: the decay of the building, the indifference and illness of her sisters, and the expansion of the swamp. (\$10 pb, 0-8032-8953-7.) **Forever Valley** is about a 16-year-old girl who lives in a rectory and works in a dance hall. Gradually she embarks upon a "personal project" digging pits in the rectory garden and looking for the dead. (\$10 pb, 0-8032-8951-0.) And in **Rose Mellie Rose**, Mellie, who as a baby is found in a grotto, then is raised in a souvenir shop by Rose. At the age of twelve Mellie goes to the dying town of Oât, where she enters premature adulthood and assembles a photographic and written record of her life. (\$10 pb, 0-8032-8952-9.)

Found Treasures: Stories by Yiddish Women Writers is edited by Frieda Forman, Ethel Raicus, Sarah Silberstein Swartz, and Margie Wolfe, with an introduction by Irena Klepfisz. "Acclaimed an instant classic, this prize-winning collection presents voices from an almost forgotten female heritage through 18 writers who speak powerfully of the events that shaped their lives: life in the *shtetls* and cities of Europe, the terror and challenge of survival during the Holocaust and its aftermath, and the struggle to forge new lives in North America and Israel." \$16.95 pb, 0-929005-53-8, Second Story Press. Distributed by InBook.

White Flash/Black Rain: Women of Japan Relive the Bomb is edited and translated by Lequita Vance-Williams and Aratani Mariko. "Poetry and prose by 15 Japanese women bear unique witness to the day the bomb [was dropped] on Japan and to our shared responsibility for peace. A searingly beautiful collection. After you read the history, read this book. —*Library Journal*. An extraordinary document that should be read by all men and women who still idealize warfare as heroic. —Riane Eisler." \$12.95 pb, 1-57131-402-4, Milkweed Editions. Distributed by IN, BP, B&T, Ingram, Pacific Pipeline, PGW and Koen.

In Other Words by Marie Cardinal, translated by Amy Cooper, presents conversations between writers Marie Cardinal and Annie Leclerc, interspersed with Cardinal's musings on her psychoanalysis; her relationships with her mother and with colonial Algeria; the lives of women and the feelings and experiences they share. Their conversation exemplifies

gender-marked writing; it takes up issues of *écriture féminine*, French feminism, rape, and marriage. \$12.95 pb, 0-253-20992-7; \$24.95 cl, -32929-9, Indiana University Press.

In these 100 poems, **View With a Grain of Sand**, Polish author Wislawa Szymborska "portrays a world in which nature is wise and prodigal and fate unpredictable." With irony and curiosity, Szymborska documents life's improbability as well as its transient beauty: the ruins of Troy, sunlight on a pewter jug, birds returning in the spring, the Abominable Snowman lurking in the Himalayas. "Her poetry captures the diversity and richness of existence." Translated by Stanislaw Baranczak and Clare Cavanagh. \$12 pb, 0-15-600216-7; \$20 cl, -100153-7, Harcourt Brace.

Originally published in France in 1958, **Ramza** by Out El Kouloub, now translated and with an introduction by Nayra Atiya, is the tale of one woman's rebellion against her life in the harem of a wealthy Egyptian family at the turn of the century. She tells of despising the constraints and describes the life of women in her elite milieu, including methods employed by the wives and concubines to ensure the power they seek for themselves and their children. Ramza is drawn to books, music and eventually the men's quarter, daring to express her repressed



physical, social and sexual desires. \$14.50 pb, 0-8156-0280-4; \$26 cl, -2618-5, Syracuse University Press.

Beirut Blues by Hanan al-Shaykh, translated by Catherine Cobham, is a novel in the form of letters by a woman struggling to make sense of her life and preserve her fond memories of Beirut as it existed before civil strife destroyed it. She records details of her existence, and about her sense of being a hostage in her own country. \$22.95 cl, 0-385-47381-8, Anchor Books/Doubleday.

All of the medical, technological, and psychological advances of the twentieth century struggle against mankind's being made up of **Mere Mortals** is Terese Svoboda's third book of poetry. \$14.95 pb, 0-8203-1710-1, University of Georgia Press.

Chiwid is comprised of stories, collected by Sage Birchwater, telling about Chiwid, who for half of this century lived in the forests, lakes and bush of the Chilcotin plateau (Northwestern Canada), "the way the old people lived" moving her solitary camp with the seasons. Said to have spiritual powers, she kept to herself and chose to live outdoors. Here is Chiwid's story, told in the voices of Chilcotin old-timers, both Native and non-native. "An almost unbelievable story of a remarkable woman, **Chiwid** is also a vivid portrait of the Chilcotin during a time of great change." \$16 pb, 0-921586-39-6, New Star Books. Distributed by General Distribution Services; 800-805-1083.

Auschwitz and After by Charlotte Delbo, translated by Rosette C. Lamont, begins in March 1942, when Charlotte Delbo was arrested on a charge of distributing anti-German leaflets in Paris. Her husband was executed by firing squad in May; Delbo remained in prison until January 1943, when she was deported to Auschwitz and then to Ravensbrück, where she remained until the end of the war. Delbo uses vignettes, poems and prose poems to recount her experiences. \$25 cl, 0-300-06208-7, Yale University Press.

Leonora: The Buried Story of Guadeloupe by sociologist and Creole-culture advocate Dany Bébel-Gisler, translated by Andrea Leskes, has both novelistic and documentary style. The real-life Leonora — model for and subject of this book — told

the author that "in this book made up of my words, it is my very self that is present. You have written the story just as I have told it." Spanning six decades of Leonora's life, the docu-novel explores the economic, social and cultural life of Guadeloupe's peasants and working class. In the course of her life, Leonora has witnessed, from her perspective as the mother of a large family, the passage of Guadeloupe from colony to département of France; from the hard-scrabble subsistence agriculture of the rural poor to the subsidized consumer economy of France's overseas départements today. She offers observations on language, politics, sex and religion. \$17.95 pb, 0-8139-1518-X; \$50 cl, -1515-5, University of Virginia.

The Dawning by Milka Bajic-Poderegin tells a story of several generations of women in turn-of-the-century Ottoman-occupied Serbia. Shaped by the complexities of family history, the women face the challenge of balancing ancient traditions against the opportunities and terrors of an emerging new world. The novel, originally written in Serbo-Croatian, was begun in 1963; was translated by the author's daughter, Nadja Poderegin, and first published in 1987, 16 years after the author died. \$14.95 pb, 1-56656-188-4, Interlink Publishing Group, 46 Crosby Street, Northampton MA 01060; 413-582-7057. Distributed by IN.

In Arab Women Novelists: The Formative Years and Beyond Joseph T. Zeidan assesses the contribution of women to the Arabic novel in both subject matter and form. Zeidan traces the struggle over women's rights in the Arab world, focusing on women's access to education — the area in which women first made significant gains. He also discusses the determination of Arab women to overcome the barriers of a male-dominated culture, surveys the '50s and '60s when Arab women's writings gained momentum, and addresses Arab women writers' shift toward international politics following the 1967 Arab-Israeli war. Zeidan also compares the women's movements in Arab and Western cultures and the development of women's literature in these cultures, highlighting similarities and differences between them and considering how one affected the other. \$24.95 pb, 0-7914-2172-4, State University of New York Press. ○

Selling My Store Begins With Letting Go



By Suzanne
Two Sisters Bookshop

During the first couple years after I opened the store, whenever I would think about working somewhere else, like back in the toxic corporate world I had just escaped, I would feel a sick dread in my belly. Fortunately such thoughts were rare. Over the next five years I grew progressively stronger, especially after my sister left and I began to run the store by myself — making my own decisions, organizing my way, hiring who I wanted to work with and selecting the inventory that I wanted. I was healing from incest during that period and being in the womb-like environment of my store was an essential support as I tore apart my past and my guts, focusing on my inner healing.

For most of my seven years here, the store has been my life, my source of income and my connection to women. It's also been my connection to myself — a mirror reflecting the complexities of my being and growth. It's been my source of well-being and the measure of the person I am in the world. To have been pried loose before I was ready to leave would have been traumatic, I believe, on the level of my childhood abuse. No wonder I couldn't think of leaving for such a long time. I believe it's a measure of my growing strength and healing that over the last three years I could start to consider "life after Two Sisters." I had no picture or vision of that life, just the very remote possibility of not being here forever. Bits and pieces about leaving started showing up in my writing and conversations. A year ago I talked at length with a woman who closed her clothing store after 25 years. I wanted to know every detail, particularly the emotional ones. I dropped a few clues in my newsletters and when I

Illustration by Cynthia Cunningham-Baxter, from
Celebrating Women's Spirituality 1996 (The Crossing Press)

started a part-time massage practice a year ago, I loved the work and knew I could do it full-time if I wanted. I also felt a confidence growing in me that when it was time for me to leave the store, I would know when I was ready and it wouldn't inspire the dread that I felt so many years ago. For this ending I wouldn't have to be fired, laid off or have my store die out from under me. I would know.

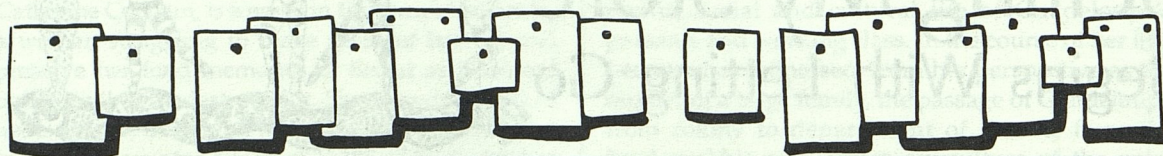
So last week when I was chatting with Laurel (my work associate), words started pouring out of my mouth describing this vision I want to create. I was surprised to hear all the bits and pieces from the last three years come together and flow clearly and easily across my lips. A part of me thought, *Ohhhhhh noooo, Stop This, Don't Say It, It Will Become Real If You Keep Talking And You Won't Be Able To Take It Back!* Laurel tells me that my clarity amazed her. She knew at that moment that this was not idle speculation or fanciful idea sharing, but rather the birthing of a vision.

Now I've said it. I'm selling the store. I'm moving. I'm excited. I'm clear and I'm scared to death much of the time. I'm so busy planning my next life that I sleep restlessly and have trouble focusing on the present. I leave unfinished projects all over the store. I'm constantly looking around and making mental packing lists. I vacillate between wanting to hoard and take with me everything I love in the store and wanting to leave behind everything I own and make a clean start. I'm determined not to be a short-timer but my mind is so busy trying to control all this unknown that I can't concentrate on much else.

I want to sell the store rather than liquidate it. Laurel is not ready to leave and the store still has an important role in the community. I worry if I can sell it. There's so little money to be made in bookselling and the cost of living is high here, but maybe there will

See *Selling My Store*, page 50.

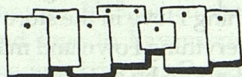
ANNOUNCEMENTS



By Jenn Tust

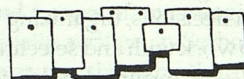
The first-ever National Feminist Exposition: Expo '96 for Women's Empowerment will be held from February 2-4 at the Sheraton Washington Hotel in Washington DC. The organizers hope all types of feminist organizations and ideas from the many sectors of society will participate in working to build a national budget, mobilizing to keep the doors open for women and visualizing a feminist future. Any organization that brings a delegation of 20 or more will receive a 20% discount for each registrant. Also, individual delegations of 20 or more will earn one free registration for the coordinator or designee. For more information contact The Feminist Majority Foundation, PO Box 96780, Washington DC 20077; 703-522-2214, fax 703-522-2219, e-mail: femmaj@feminist.org.

OutWrite '96: the Sixth Annual Queer Writers Conference will take place at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel February 23-25. Panels, performances, workshops, roundtables, readings and exhibits are part of the fun! Special guests include: Minnie Bruce Pratt, Edmund White, Cheryl Clarke, Michael Cunningham, Sarah Schulman, Kitty Tsui and Jacqueline Woodson. For information call or write OutWrite 6, 29 Stanhope Street, Boston MA 02116; 617-262-6969.



The 8th Gulf Coast Womyn's Festival will be held from April 4-7. The women at Camp Sister Spirit (Ovett MS) invite readers to come and create a Lesbian-Feminist Festival. Please help Sister Spirit make their first land payment which is due the week after the festival. Activities will include: workshops, night stage, craftwomyn show, raffle, silent auction, southern food and hospitality. Write: PO Box 12, Ovett MS 39464.

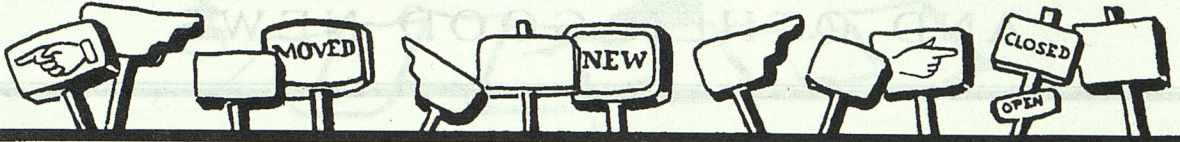
Nominations are now open for the Lambda Literary Awards — only titles published in 1995 and distributed in the U.S. are eligible. Nominations must be received by February 2. Finalists will be announced on March 1. Winners will be announced at the Lambda Literary Awards Banquet on June 14, in Chicago. Send nominations to: Lambda Literary Awards, 1625 Connecticut Avenue NW, Washinton DC 20009; fax 202-462-7257, e-mail: lamdbabook-report@his.com.



The Gregory Kolovakos Seed Grants for 1996, grants of \$2,000 each, will be awarded to three outstanding new literary magazines. (1997 grants will be awarded to three literary presses.) Applications are due April 1, winners will be announced in July. To be eligible, magazines must be based in the U.S., be primarily literary in nature, have published eight or fewer issues (or are in the process of publishing their first issue) and have published their first issue no more than two years prior to application date. To request guidelines and an application write or call Monte Postlethwait, Council of Literary Magazines and Presses, 154 Christopher Street 3C, New York NY 10014; 212-741-9100, fax 212-741-9112.

April 1996 will mark the first annual National Poetry Month, a celebration of poetry and its place in American culture. Coordinated by The Academy of American Poets, National Poetry Month is an opportunity to concentrate promotional efforts around poetry, to provide the media with a framework in which to cover poetry and to educate the public about how poetry can be enjoyed throughout the year. For more information write Academy of American Poets, 584 Broadway #1208, New York NY 10012. ○

THEY WENT THAT-A-WAY



By Jenn Tust

Stores Open

Kay Dushane is starting a mail order business for lesbian books in January named OutBack Books. Kay can be reached at 69 Elk Park Drive, Pine CO 80470; 303-838-0115.

Katie Ramaci is opening a new age gift store with a women's theme named Women of Wisdom. Katie can be reached at 20 Robichau Circle, Stoughton MA 02072.

Stores Close

Bona Dea: The Alaska Women's Bookstore went out of business at the end of November. The owners explained the closing as being the result of a legal situation with the leaseholder of the mall where the business was located, which they could not discuss due to legal constraints. The owners didn't believe that the store could survive a move at this time and so decided to close, though a call has gone out to other feminists in the area to find ways to provide community services that it lost with the bookstore's closing. The growth in chain stores in Anchorage was also reported to be a contributing factor.

Stores Move

Gualala Books has a new address: 39141 Highway One, Gualala CA 95445, their PO Box is still 765.

Publishers Move

Paradigm Publishing's new address is 4461 Mayapan Drive, La Mesa CA 91941; 619-444-3925.

Sybylla Feminist Press has a new address: 247-251 Flinders Lane, Melbourne Victoria 3000, Australia; 613-9650-2217, fax 613-9650-4175, e-mail chapter-@connexus.apana.org.au.

Anniversaries

Down There Press celebrated 20 years of publishing with a gathering of authors and friends on November 28, at Good Vibrations in San Francisco. Joani Blank, Carol Queen and Marcy Sheiner were some of the authors present.

Calyx Books celebrated their 19th anniversary with a "glittering" evening at the Corvallis Arts Center on October 13. The fourth "Glitterati Soirée" was a dazzling event with an overflow crowd that celebrated with Calyx staff, volunteers and board members. Readings, performances, musical entertainment and a silent auction, where they raised \$4,500, were all part of the fun!

Press Gang Publishers celebrated their 20th anniversary with a gala and a fall book launch on November 18. Larissa Lai, Marion Douglas and Chrystos were present to do readings and Kiss & Tell did a performance/reading. Refreshments, new books and door prizes were part of the celebration.



Internet Addresses

New Words' new e-mail address is newwords-@world.std.com.

Orlando Books' new address is orlando@compusmart.ab.ca.

Down There Press has a web site: <http://www.bookfair.com/publishers/downthere/gv> and Good Vibrations' site is at <http://www.goodvibes.com>.

Press Gang Publishers can now be reached at pgangpub@portal.ca.

Women En Large's Web page is at <http://www-igc.apc.org/BooksinFocus/> (uppercase matters.) ○

BACK TO PRESS

AND OTHER GOOD NEWS

By Jenn Tust

Back to Press

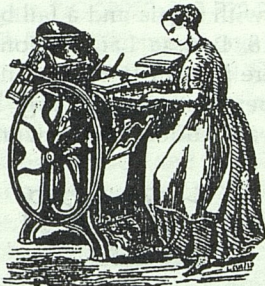
Cleis Press sent *The Case of the Not-So-Nice Nurse* by Mabel Maney back to press for a fifth printing of 5,000 copies — bringing the total number in print to 25,000.

The Good Vibrations Guide to Sex, also published by Cleis, went back to press for a fourth printing of 10,000 copies, bringing its total up to 33,000 in print.

WOMEN'S
CO-OPERATIVE

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INSURANCE PRINTING.

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Low Prices and Good Work
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BOOK & JOB WORK
NEATLY EXECUTED.
Orders from the Country specially attended to.
ESTIMATES FURNISHED.
MRS. L. G. RICHMOND, Superintendent.

Reprinted in *Women in Printing: Northern California 1857-1890* (Capra Press).

Awards

The Girls Editorial Board of *New Moon: The Magazine for Girls and Their Dreams* won the Jessie Bernard Wise Woman Award from the Center for Women Policy Studies in October. *New Moon* was also named the best magazine for Grades 4-6, winning The Parent's Choice Foundation 1995 Gold Award.

Krik? Krak! by Edwidge Danticat (Soho Press) was a finalist for the 1995 National Book Awards in the Fiction category. The Fiction judges panel deliberated on the winner until an hour before the awards dinner, finally settling on *Sabbath's Theater* by Philip Roth (Houghton Mifflin). Tina Rosenberg won in the Non-fiction category with *The Haunted Land: Facing Europe's Ghosts After Communism* (Random House).

Marilyn Hacker's *Winter Numbers* (W.W. Norton) won the 1995 Lenore Marshall Poetry Prize, an annual award of \$10,000 for the most outstanding book of poetry published in the U.S. in the previous year. *Winter Numbers* was chosen from over 175 submissions.

Labrecque Publishing in San Francisco won the Benny Award in the category of Electronic Press for their book *UNITY: A Celebration of Gay Games IV and Stonewall*, the top honor in the annual Premier Print Awards competition of the Printing Industries of America.



Rights Sold

Rights for Hilary Mullins' *The Cat Came Back* (Naiad Press) were sold to Alibaba Verlag (Germany).

Naiad reports that as of the end of 1995, 43 Naiad titles have been published in the English language in other countries and 52 Naiad titles have been published in the German language, plus a smattering of other languages. ○

WRITING WANTED



By Jenn Tust

Sister Vision Press is seeking contributions for several anthologies:

For the *First International Anthology of Lesbians, Bisexuals and Gay Men of African Descent*, Sister Vision Press is seeking testimonies, short stories, essays, photographs, recipes, interviews and poetry... or any other works that speak to your experience(s). Deadline: April 30.

Sister Vision Press is also calling all young women of colour to send artwork, photographs, fiction, prose, essays, interviews, discussions or any other works that speak to your experience(s) as sistah, sister, girlfriend, woman. Deadline: May 30.

Sister Vision Press wants to hear from heterosexual women who have friendships with lesbians and lesbians who have friendships with heterosexual women. Write about your experiences as women, as friends, tensions, complications, love, tenderness, affection, jealousy, passion, sisterhood. Send testimonies, essays, photos, recipes, interviews, poems, stories. Deadline: September 1, 1996.

Sister Vision Press is calling all women of colour under the age of 30 to send stories, journal entries, poetry, black and white art work on experiences of incest and sexual abuse violence for a new anthology. Deadline: March 30.

For an anthology of works by women of African descent speaking about violence in our lives, Sister Vision is seeking pieces that speak to our encounters with sexual harassment, rape, domestic violence, sexual abuse, physical violence, sexual violence, violence against our bodies....Some questions: How does your race/class/gender/immigration status contribute to violence against Black women? Deadline: September 1, 1996.

For any of these Sister Vision anthologies, do not send originals of artwork or photographic negatives. Please send hard copy of work on IBM disk with SASE, if you live outside Canada, send International Reply Coupon to: Sister Vision Press, PO Box 217, Station E, Toronto Ontario M6E 4E2.

Blue Jean Magazine: For Teen Girls Who Dare is a new national magazine for teen girls, by teen girls. *Blue Jean* is multiracial, multicultural, advertising free, and is devoted to publishing what teen girls are thinking, saying and doing. Features include creative works, daring feats, career profiles, community challenges and entrepreneurial ventures. No dieting tips, make-up copy or supermodels in this magazine! *Blue Jean* accepts artwork, poetry, photography, fiction and non-fiction from teen girls across the U.S. *Blue Jean* reserves the right to keep all submissions and to edit as needed. Don't send originals, be sure to include your name, address, phone number, school name and age. Send to *Blue Jean*, PO Box 90856, Rochester NY 14609; 716-654-5070.



Companion Press (*Campy, Vampy, Trampy Movie Quotes*) is looking for non-fiction book proposals from lesbians and gay men on the topics of arts and entertainment, erotica, humor and trivia, leisure activities and quote books. Send queries or proposals to Companion Press, PO Box 2575, Laguna Hills CA 92654.

Co-editors Karen X. Tulchinsky and James Johnstone are accepting works for the second in a series of international anthologies of short fiction by lesbians and gay men, *Queer View Mirror II: Lesbian & Gay Short Short Fiction*, to be published in the Spring of 1997 by Arsenal Pulp Press. Deadline: April 30.

Editor Karen X. Tulchinsky is also seeking short short fiction (1,000 words or less) for a new anthology of lesbian erotic stories, *Hot & Bothered: An International Anthology of Short Short Stories of Lesbian Desire* to be published in Autumn of 1997 by Arsenal Pulp Press. Deadline: August 31.

The guy's version, *Quickies: An International Anthology of Short Short Stories of Gay Male Desire*, will be edited by James Johnstone and be published in Autumn 1997 also by Arsenal Pulp Press. Deadline: August 31.



For any of these anthologies, send a self addressed envelope with an International Reply Coupon (Canadians send SASE) to: the title of anthology you want to send to at 1036 Odium Drive, Vancouver BC V5L 3L6 Canada; e-mail: jamescj@descon.mlnet.com.

Sing Heavenly Muse's theme for the next issue is "Womenstory: Memoir" and they are looking for lyrical accounts of personal experience told as creative nonfiction. Deadline is March 31. Special guidelines: author's name should not be placed anywhere on the manuscript, attach a cover sheet with name, address and title of the work, title should also appear on each page, 5,000 words maximum. Send to *Sing Heavenly Muse!* Women's Building, 550 Rice Street, St. Paul MN 55103.

Wanted: Short stories by lesbian writers for an anthology to be edited by Irene Zahava and published by the Crossing Press in 1997. Theme: explorations of romantic love between women — from crushes and flirtations to enduring relationships; from the immediacy of erotic lust to the dailiness of laundry and cooking. Deadline: March 1. All contributors will receive a flat-fee payment and two copies of the anthology upon publication. Send to: Irene Zahava, 307 West State Street, Ithaca NY 14850; 607-273-4675.

For issue number 3, *Fruit* is seeking diary extracts, journal musings, unpublished letters, private notes, reflections on archival diaries, a look back at one's earlier self-in-formation, first drawings, songs never recorded, sketches for a film, fake diaries, doctored diaries, a lover's imagined diaries, the diaries that will never exist, political diaries, cyber diaries, etc. *Fruit's* goal: to re-examine the form, content and role of

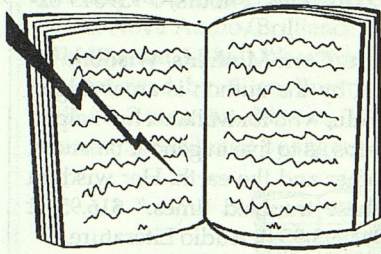
diaries. To make public what is private. To re-imagine the diaries of our time. Maximum: 1500 words. Deadline: February 28. For further guidelines or to send materials: *Fruit*, 226 East 7th Street #4a, New York NY 10009; fax 212-228-7958, e-mail fruit@echonyc.com. ○

Selling My Store, continued from page 45.

be a woman or two like myself who live simply and have enough savings that they won't need to make a lot of money. I've never taken credit cards and I understand they can increase sales by 20% - 30%, so that's a possibility. There are possibilities to increase the income, but as Carol Seajay said to me last year, there's not enough income in the business for it to buy itself. I hope I can find a way. I'm curious to see how all this unfolds over the next year. It probably won't look anything like I imagine now.

My big worry at this point is not about selling the store, but rather, how I will live without it? I plan to move to the East coast and I know one woman in Connecticut. That's it. I don't even know for sure where I will move, but I'm concerned about homophobia and small-mindedness in the small, rural places I consider. I'm scared of being alone with no family and friends or store to provide me with something to do, a place to go and be appreciated, to feel needed and valued.

I feel like the Fool card in the tarot, except I'm not nearly so carefree or baggage-free! I hope that will come and I can really enjoy myself. I have never sold a business before so I need to learn a few things. I had never run a bookstore either and I learned without much difficulty. I know there will be tons of details to work out as I extract myself from every little niche and goddess in my beautiful store. I'm so glad there's no hurry, no timetable to force my grieving or push through a deal that I don't want. I will write a letter similar to this in my Spring Newsletter and hopefully some woman will jump at the chance to own this store and create her own vision from it. The energy is moving. The truth is out of my mouth and out of the bag. Selling is not a secret, but I don't anticipate much action until this Spring. In the meantime, I will journey through the Winter darkness, sweeping out more of my bugs and baggage and hopefully freeing me to more fully participate in the vision work ahead. What a journey! ○



NEW MEDIA

AUDIO • VIDEO • CD-ROM
ELECTRONIC BOOKS

By Dorothy Holland

Here's an assorted mix of non-print media that's appropriate for our audience. To start off, there's a mailing list you "oughta" know about if you have access to the Internet. It's "devoted to an exchange of information and discussion among the staffs of lesbian and gay [men's] bookstores and giftshops." Deacon Maccubbin, president of Lambda Rising Bookstores, is the organizer, so it tends to be more gay male-oriented than feminist and lesbian, but it still has a lot of useful information — and not so many posts as to flood your mailbox. To subscribe, send an e-mail to Majordomo@vector.casti.com, with the message "subscribe glb-bookshops."

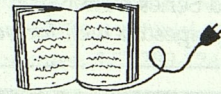
New Media

I finally found another CD-ROM title that I really like: **Conduct Unbecoming: Gays and Lesbians in the U.S. Military** by Randy Shilts. I enjoyed wandering through this title. It was easy to install, no problems at all. There are video and audio clips of Margarethe Cammermeyer and others, suppressed Pentagon reports, ways to contact your government representatives, and a lot of background material not in the book. Highly recommended. Windows and Mac, \$39.95, ApolloMedia. Not currently available at Ingram (or other distributors). ApolloMedia; 415-552-7655, fax 800-408-7655.

Audio Tapes

Harriet Lerner on Anger by Harriet Lerner, a personal session with the author. Our culture encourages and rewards aggressive men, yet when a woman shows anger she is shunned, devalued and ridiculed. Lerner traces the roots of the paradox, teaching women how to get angry, speak up and resolve life

issues. (\$10.95, 1-56455-327-2.) **Harriet Lerner on Mothers and Daughters** offers a conversation for women seeking to better understand the mysteries of mother-daughter bonds. (\$10.95, 1-56455-329-9.) **Harriet Lerner on Intimacy** confronts cherished myths about women and intimacy and offers practical guidelines for fostering maturity and passion in your most important relationships. (\$10.95, 1-56455-331-0.) Sounds True Audio, 90-minute tapes. Distributed by Ingram.



Myths for the Future by Jean Houston paints a vision of a possible future where the seeds of mystic union are sown and we see the ultimate connections between all things. Shows how to create a more humane, enlightened destiny for us all. \$16.95, 2 cassettes, 2 hours, 1-56455-323-X, Sounds True Audio. Distributed by Ingram.

Voices in the Night offers a series of audio tapes called **A Cancer Companion** for women who are newly diagnosed with cancer. I think this series and the combined set of six tapes listed below are wonderful resources for women with cancer. The programs are well produced, nicely presented, warm and user-friendly and there's no built-in heterosexual assumption. **Questions and Choices**, the first program, is a conversational exchange between patients, survivors and health care providers that extends a private reservoir of information and comfort during those early roller-coaster days right after diagnosis. **Diagnosis**, the second program in the series, provides information on choosing the best treatment options, support groups, and living day-to-day with the anxiety of having cancer. Answers are provided by both

health care providers and patients. It also includes a meditation session. Each program runs for 2 hours and lists for \$21.95, 2 cassettes per program.

Early Breast Cancer, a six-tape set, offers practical and emotional support to newly diagnosed women and their partners, and suggests ways to conquer fear, take control, root out information, make choices, build support networks for self and family, and cope with the impact this disease has on one's life. \$49.95, 6 cassettes, 6½ hours, 1-896205-02-X.



Voices in the Night, Box 24059, 1853 Grant Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3N 2B1 Canada; 800-268-0009, fax 204-885-5357. 40% discount for 5+, shipping paid. Also available to purchase for rental. These prices are U.S. dollars, prices may vary as currencies fluctuate.

Standing on Fishes, told by White Bear Woman, music by Ritambhara Tyson, part of the Myth and the Natural World Series from North Word Audio Press. If storytelling tapes do well for your store, go for it.

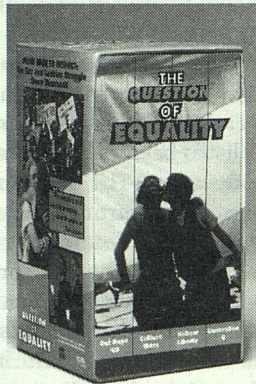
Nicely done. \$16.95, 2 cassettes, 2 hours, 0-939643-62-6, North Word Audio.

Selu: Seeking the Corn-Mother's Wisdom by Marilou Awiakta, read by the author, is an abridged version of the book. "Selu, who for Millenia has helped the Native Peoples, helps us to live in gender balanced harmony with each other and the earth. Her wisdom can help us all in these troubled times." \$16.95, 2 cassettes, 3 hours, 0-944993-95-8, Audio Literature.

No Ordinary Time, Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt: The Home Front in WWII by Doris Kearn Goodwin, read by Edward Herrman. Perhaps the tape will be more approachable for timid readers. The book is wonderful, haven't heard the tape. \$25, 4 cassettes, 6 hours, abridged, 0-671-53451-3, Simon & Schuster Audio.

Other popular current audio tapes are: **L Is for Lawless**, Sue Grafton (\$18, 0-679-42462-8, Random House Audio); **From Potters Field**, Patricia Cornwell (\$24, 4 cassettes, 0-671-86881-0, Simon & Schuster Audio); **New Passages**, Gail Sheehy (\$22.50, 0-679-44325-8, Random House Audio); **The Hundred Secret Senses**, Amy Tan (\$24.95, 4 cassettes, 0-7871-0565-1, Dove Audio); **Two or Three Things I Know for Sure**,

THE QUESTION OF EQUALITY



KQED BOOKS

The Most Acclaimed Lesbian & Gay Public Television Series of 1995!

Now Available on Home Video

The Question of Equality is the trailblazing new series about the lesbian and gay struggle for civil rights. In four dramatic episodes—each written, directed, and produced by talented lesbian and gay filmmakers—the series weaves together never-before-seen archival footage and revelatory first-hand accounts from participants in the lesbian and gay movement.

"A television breakthrough on gay and lesbian issues..." —*Los Angeles Times*

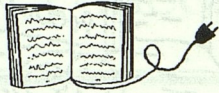
"Smartly conceived and stylishly shot..." [The series] succeeds at being good television and not just good activism... [and] makes heroes out of its protagonists." —*B. Ruby Rich, Out*

"Powerfully and skillfully produced..." an uplifting reminder of how far we've come and how much work remains." —*The Advocate*

Boxed set of four, \$59.95, ISBN 0-912333-99-5

**Distributed by Publisher's Group West
1-800-788-3123**

Dorothy Allison (\$9.95, 1 cassette, 90-minutes, 1-56100-879-6, Nova Audio/Brilliance Audio); **When I Am an Old Woman, I Shall Wear Purple**, edited by Sandra K. Martz, read by Ellen Burstyn and CCH Pounder (\$16.95, 2 cassettes, 3 hours, 0-944993-99-0, Audio Literature). Distributed by Ingram.



Music

Not usually my beat, but my North Word sales rep recommended several CDs which I have really enjoyed. They're by women and are a nice change for listening. Piano, new age sound are part of the series Music Inspired by Nature. Jeanne Cotter has **Piano From the Heartland: Solo Grand Piano** (Cassette #2110, CD #2111); Ellen Bennett has **Return to Autumn: Piano/Ensemble** (Cassette #2093, CD #2094); Tia Costas has **Shades of the Day: Solo Piano** (Cassette #2095, CD #2096); \$9.95 Cassette, \$15.95 CD. Distributed by North Word, PO Box 1360, Minocqua WI 54548; 800-336-6398.

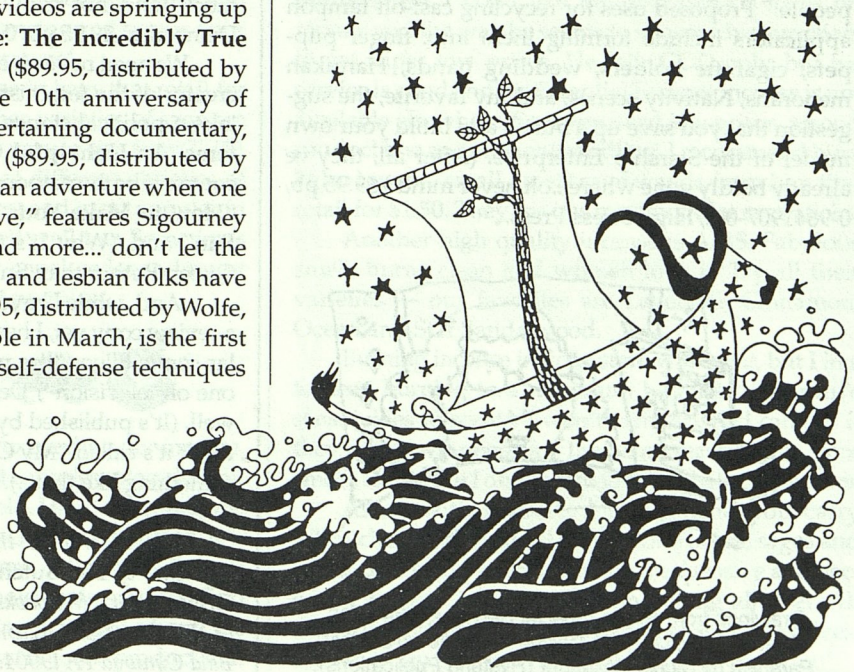
Video

Seems to me that lesbian videos are springing up all over! New this winter are: **The Incredibly True Adventure of 2 Girls in Love** (\$89.95, distributed by Wolfe, Naiad); **Wigstock**, the 10th anniversary of "Woodstock in Drag," an entertaining documentary, probably more a men's piece (\$89.95, distributed by Wolfe, Naiad); **Jeffery**, "Life is an adventure when one is sure and the other is positive," features Sigourney Weaver, Olympia Dukakis and more... don't let the maleness stop you — straight and lesbian folks have been really enjoying this (\$89.95, distributed by Wolfe, Naiad); **Best Defense**, available in March, is the first in a series of three videos on self-defense techniques

and attitudes for lesbians and gay men (\$29.95, distributed by Wolfe); **Live to Tell**, the first lesbian and gay men's prom in LA (\$24.95, distributed by Wolfe); **Positive 20s**, people living positively with HIV, young adult (\$24.95, distributed by Wolfe); **Even Cowgirls Get the Blues** will be back in January (\$19.95, distributed by Wolfe); and a **Lily Three Pack**, which includes three Lily Tomlin favorites, *Search for Signs*, *Ernestine*, and *Appearing Nightly*, in a nicely done gift box (\$59.95, distributed by Wolfe).

Reclaiming the Sisterhood: Exploring What It Means to Be a Black Canadian Woman documents the Toronto Black Women's Conference (York University, June 24-26, 1994) with clips from speakers and panels exploring what it means to be Black in the predominately white country of Canada. \$12 wholesale, prepaid, shipping included. Available from Guerrilla TV Productions, 9166 Winthrop, Detroit MI 48238; 313-508-7677.

Devotion, from Northern Arts Entertainment/Naiad Press, based on an original story by Arlene Battishell, screenplay and novel by Mindy Kaplan. I haven't seen it, can't tell you a thing! Available February 6. \$69.95, 94-minutes, 1-56280-124-4. Distributed by Wolfe, Naiad. ○



Drawing by Agusta
Agustsson, From *The '96
Lunar Calendar* (Luna Press).

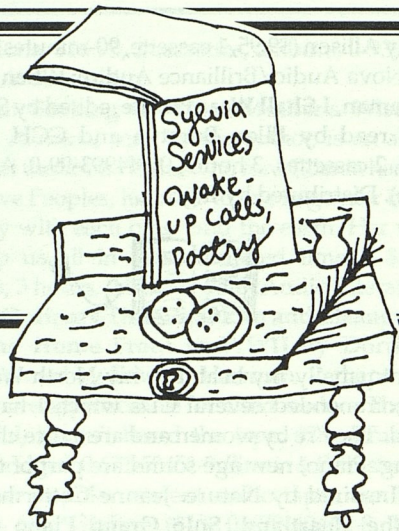
HUMOR

By Roz Warren

The funniest thing about **One Hundred and One Super Uses for Tampon Applicators** by Lori Katz and Barbara Meyer is the title. The cover is catchy as well — the book is a little square tome that mimics the color and shape of a tampon box, and it even has a little tampon string attached to mark one's place. Though the clever packaging will no doubt sell a few as gag gifts, the cartoons inside don't really measure up. Most of the ideas are pretty uninspired and the cartoons are creepy-looking. This is a shame because, as the authors warn, "Scientists believe in the year 2000 there will be more tampon applicators than people." Proposed uses for recycling cast-off tampon applicators include forming them into: finger puppets, cigarette holders, wedding bands, Hanukah menorahs, Nativity scenes, and my favorite, the suggestion that you save up a bunch and build your own model of the Starship Enterprise. (After all, they've already boldly gone where...oh never mind.) \$9.95 pb, 0-9641907-0-2, High Stress Press.



Drawings from *Sylvia, Special Services, The 1996 Calendar Dedicated to Making Your Life an Earthly Paradise* by Nicole Hollander (Hysteria Publications).



Another book with a cute title is **Newt Gingrich's Bedtime Stories for Orphans**, by Cathy Crimmins and Tom Maeder, a collection of classic fairy tales and nursery rhymes retold the way Newtie might tell them ("I've Been Tearing Down the Amtrak," "Where Has Genny Flowers Gone?" etc.). While the sly title will help sell this book, it would have been funnier had the authors taken a political stance rather than trying to mock (and not truly offend) both Republicans and Democrats. \$9.95 pb, 0-7871-0578-3, Dove Books.

We need never worry about Nicole Hollander, the creator of the feminist comic strip "Sylvia," failing to take a political stance. Her latest book **Female Problems: An Unhelpful Guide** is sure to be popular. It contains both cartoons and essays on topics such as "How to Make Your Trip to the Gynecologist More Fun" and "Why It's Okay to Identify with the Evil Queen Rather than Snow White." \$9.95 pb, Dell.

And, while I haven't been able to get my hands on a review copy yet, I hear that the humor book by popular comic Ellen ("I'm not a bookstore owner but I play one on television") Degeneres is also doing incredibly well. (It's published by Bantam and sells for \$19.95 cl. I think it's called "My Closet...and I Do Have One") (Or something like that...).

Roz Warren is the owner of *Laugh Lines Press*, publisher of *The Butches of Madison County* by Ellen Orleans. For a free bookseller's copy of *Butches* e-mail Roz at NukeNewt@AOL.com or drop her a line at PO Box 259, Bala Cynwyd PA 19004. ○

SIDELINES

Incense and Candles

By Suzanne
Two Sisters Bookshop, Menlo Park CA

Incense and candles are popular sidelines in my store. We've carried them since we opened and have quadrupled our inventory over the years. They both sell year round but best through the dark season, September through March. This is especially true for candles. We have a strong Goddess and metaphysical focus, which affects the sales of these two products — every other woman who comes in is either a witch or deeply involved with her spiritual life and uses candles in personal and group rituals and ceremony, and incense, particularly sage, for cleansing rituals. Many of us have adopted the Native American belief that smoke from burning sage is cleansing and carries your prayers to She who answers prayers!

We carry Desert Sage loose in bags that retail for \$4 and in wands for \$1.50. Other varieties of sage are string-wrapped in bundles that vary in size from 2"/\$1 to 7"/\$6. There are hundreds of different varieties of sage. Desert Sage is the strongest and most popular in my store, but other varieties sell well too. Sometimes they are blended with lavender, copal, cedar and sweet grass, etc. Lavender is the most popular.



Several years ago I started expanding our incense. There is a lot available, so I got samples, placed small orders and waited to see what sold. I tried many brands. Incense is not particularly expensive, but I find it a challenge to display in my store. Almost all brands come with custom racks that hold their product. Two drawbacks here: one, if you're not sure about the incense, those racks carry an awful lot of product that

increases your investment risk if it doesn't sell; two, I don't have counter space or floor space for racks. I put our incense in brass buckets which hold a lot more, but make it more difficult to see the selection. I also put incense on bookshelves that I've commandeered from discontinued book categories. This works well for me.



Good incense sells without me having to do a thing. I bought an unknown brand called Essential Essences made by Matchless Gifts, an incense distributor. We didn't burn it in the store but it sold well immediately. I don't like the distributor's focus on money and the way he seems to squeeze his suppliers to get super low prices. He sells COD only, but his service is good and his Essential Essence incense is not available elsewhere. So if you need low prices, a good product line and efficient handling, I recommend him. I also buy the small desert sage wands from him that retail for \$1.50. They are our most popular sage sticks.

Another high quality incense is AIRS. Fabulous smell, burns clean and women love it. Try all their varieties — our favorites are Lavender, Cinnamon, Ocean and Star Sandalwood.

Burning incense in your store will sell it, but I like to keep burning to a minimum because of women's sensitivities to scents. I won't carry scented candles if they aren't wrapped, for the same reason. Our store smells lovely, but I don't want to overwhelm customers.

Along with incenses I recommend you carry ashcatchers and charcoal to burn fine herbs, sages and resins. The wood ashcatchers are inexpensive and necessary to keep incense ash from getting all over. All these supplies are inexpensive and fit easily on shelves. It's fun to try new incenses, holders and resins.

Candles are more expensive to get into. We carry 10" tapers in about 20 colors — necessary for ritual and ceremony work. The tapers from Coyote Found are lovely, well-made, long-burning clean candles, but they have one drawback: they don't contain chemical barriers to prevent fading from light (daylight or fluorescent), so if they don't sell quickly, some colors will fade and we can't sell them. So I order conservatively and we hang towels over them each night to keep our 24-hour lights from further stripping their color. It's been worth it to me to avoid the chemicals, but it's definitely a factor in this particular brand. We carry beeswax tapers which are expensive and don't sell quickly. We also sell many votive candles, in boxes of 36 (white only) as well as individually. We carry both functional and decorative votive holders. Most candle companies also sell holders.

Floating candles are popular here, maybe due to all the California hot tubs, but you can float them as a centerpiece or in your bathtub and they really work. We get them from Luminart and from Eye of the Day/Ravenwood.

We carry the very popular herbal candles made by Consortium in Michigan, but we buy them through

Two Sisters Candle Co., a distributor in California. They are messy to burn, but are wonderfully scented and magical. We have sold the candles with stones and crystals in them, but they didn't do well and I didn't like the low quality paraffin look about them. Aromatherapy candles have sold well in the past. You can buy good quality ones from Rio Grande. We buy aroma votives from Eye of the Day/Ravenwood, witchy company! Prosperity and Relaxing blends in candles, oils and herb pillows are always the most popular in our fast-paced, money-centered Bay Area.



Candles need to be shipped with an eye to the weather (freezing and high heat damage them), so I recommend you buy candles locally if possible. There is candle competition everywhere, which may determine what types you carry. Our customers appreciate the higher priced, higher quality, long-burning candles we stock rather than the cheapies at the local grocery or import chains. Decisions, decisions. One of the best ones I made was to carry the cheap mini candles from Eye of the Day/Ravenwood. They're perfect for meditation and personal ritual. We sell tons of them. They burn for exactly two hours — you could set your watch by them. We carry every color and bought the plastic display, which makes displaying them a breeze. We sell them for .25 each or 5/\$1.

Here are some West Coast sources for candles and incense:

AIRS Incense Co. — 800-733-2477, Watsonville CA. Great high quality incense.

Coyote Found Candles — 800-788-4142, Port Townsend WA. Net 10 only.

Eye of the Day/Ravenwood — 800-433-7313, Boulder CO. Good-hearted owner.

Luminart — 800-226-3533, Redway CA. High quality candles and service.

Matchless Gifts — 800-424-4466, Laguna Niguel, CA. COD full-line incense and supplies.

Rio Grande Candles — 800-999-6946, Albuquerque NM. Scented candle pots, good quality.

Two Sisters Candle Co. — 818-762-9854, Toluca Lake CA. Popular herbal candles.

Spirit Dancer Sage — 520-282-7536, Sedona AZ. Good quality sage but high prices. ○

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FARM GIRLZ

(ALSO AVAILABLE AS FARM BOYZ)
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JAVA GIRLZ
(ALSO AVAILABLE AS JAVA BOYZ)
 &
OTHER T-SHIRT DESIGNS
OUT-ERYWEAR



MYSTERIES



By Nan Cinnater
Now Voyager, Provincetown, MA

I don't have too much to report on the international front, but in deference to our theme I'll begin with a few international mysteries. **Murder on a Kibbutz**, Batya Gur's third book, is now out in trade paperback, and is certainly worth the attention of feminist booksellers. Israeli author Gur writes intelligent, literate whodunits that have been bestsellers in Israel and are popular in translation in the U.S. Her detective is Michael Ohayon, head of the Israeli equivalent of Scotland Yard. *The New York Times* said that **Murder on a Kibbutz** "reflects earthshaking political and ideological changes transforming kibbutz society" (\$10 pb, 0-06-092654-6, Harper). In Gur's previous books, both in trade paper, she took on psychotherapy (*The Saturday Morning Murder*, 0-06-099508-4, Harper) and academia (*A Literary Murder*, 0-06-092548-5, Harper).

The very first Edgar Award-winner for best mystery novel, **Beat Not the Bones** by Charlotte Jay, takes place in Papua, New Guinea. Originally published in 1953, it has recently been reissued by Soho Press. A young Australian widow comes to New Guinea to look into the suspicious suicide of her husband, a colonial administrator. As she investigates his death, she also gradually loses her naivete about colonial relations and the Europeans' "protection" of aboriginal peoples. \$11 pb, 1-56947-047-2, Soho Press.

For the armchair traveler, there's an interesting series by Donna Leon about the commisario of police in Venice, Italy. In her latest paperback, **Dressed for Death**, the police take special notice of the murder of a transvestite when he's identified as the director of the Bank of Verona. \$4.99, 0-06-109418-8, Harper.

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

Do plain old British mysteries count as international? In any case, Ruth Rendell's recent novel in her Inspector Wexford series is a surprise: a thorough and thoughtful examination of racism in middle-class English society. Wexford embodies many of the traits that gave liberalism a bad name; he's stodgy, paternalistic, and painfully guilty, though good-hearted. This makes his newly raised consciousness a bit hard to take, but Rendell, as always, knows exactly what she's doing (\$23 cl, 0-517-70073-5, Crown). There's also a new hardcover from Rendell writing as Barbara Vine: **The Brimstone Wedding**. Vine's psychological studies are often about female relationships; in this one, according to catalog copy, a dignified woman dying in an English nursing home reveals the secrets of her erotic past to her young caretaker (\$24 cl, 0-517-70339-4, Harmony). Vine's new paperback looks to be of less interest to feminist readers. In **No Night Is Too Long**, a man who thought he got away with murder off the Alaska coast starts to get anonymous letters showing detailed knowledge of the murder (\$5.99 pb, 0-451-40634-6, Onyx).

Cheers to Spinsters Ink for getting the U.S. rights to **Common Murder** by British writer Val McDermid. Although some of McDermid's books have been published here in hardcover, this is the first U.S. paperback, and it's perfect for a feminist press. Lesbian reporter Lindsay Gordon goes to bat for an ex-lover accused of murdering a counter-demonstrator at a women's peace camp (\$10.95 pb, 1-883523-08-7). McDermid's non-lesbian sleuth, Manchester private eye Kate Brannigan, tracks down art thieves in her new hardcover **Clean Break**, favorably reviewed in *The New York Times* Crime column (\$20 cl, no ISBN, Scribner).



Among the current crop of U.S. mysteries, here are some best bets. **Speak Daggers to Her** by Rosemary Edghill introduces Bast, a practicing witch living in Manhattan who investigates a friend's death. It comes highly recommended elsewhere in *FBN*, and the cover has blurbs by Marion Zimmer Bradley (front) and Margot Adler (back). I'd say it's a must-carry (\$4.99 pb, 0-812-53438-7, Tor). The sequel, **Book of Moons**, is now out in hardcover (\$20.95 cl, 0-312-85605-9, Tor). **The Beekeeper's Apprentice**, Laurie R. King's superb Sherlock Holmes pastiche, is out in paper at last. This is the Holmes story feminist fans have been waiting for, with a wonderful, vivid, smart-as-a-whip adolescent heroine (\$5.50 pb, 0-553-57165-6, Bantam). This should also give a boost to sales of the hardcover sequel, **A Monstrous Regiment of Women** (\$22.95 cl, 0-312-13565-3, St. Martin's).

Newly out in paper is **An Imperfect Spy** by Amanda Cross, a surefire seller and a very angry, very political look at the male-dominated hierarchies of big universities (\$5.99 pb, 0-345-39005-9, Ballantine). Mrs. Pollifax is back in Dorothy Gilman's latest paperback about the sexagenarian spy, **Mrs. Pollifax Pursued** (\$5.99 pb, 0-449-14956-0, Fawcett). **A Ceremonial Death** by B.J. Oliphant involves curmudgeonly rancher Shirley McClintock in the death of a New Age healer (\$5.99 pb, 0-449-14897-1, Fawcett).

Some total unknowns you may want to try: **Hearing Faces**, a paperback original by Dotty Sohl about a blind former schoolteacher who solves a murder with the help of her ten-year-old neighbor (\$4.99 pb, 0-06-104340-0, Harper); **Tensleep** by Sarah Andrews, featuring Em Hansen, the only woman working on a Wyoming oil rig when murder strikes (\$4.99 pb, 0-451-18606-0); **North of Montana** by April Smith, a much-hyped first novel about a woman FBI agent with a case involving a Hollywood doc and illegal drugs (\$6.99 pb, 0-449-22502-X, Fawcett); **Guilt by Association** by Susan R. Sloan, psychological suspense about a woman confronting her rapist (\$5.99 pb, 0-446-60306-6, Warner).

Dell has re-issued Sarah Caudwell's **The Shortest Way to Hades**, with cover art by Edward Gorey to match her other two books. Not nearly as strong as her comic masterpiece, *Thus Was Adonis Murdered*, this is

nevertheless a sophisticated British trifle about sex, gender, and real estate tax law. \$4.99 pb, 0-440-21233-2, Dell.

Night Train to Memphis is the unlikely title of Elizabeth Peters' new mystery featuring Vicky Bliss, a museum curator based in Munich. Here most of the action takes place on a cruise up the Nile, as Peters puts her trademark Egyptology to use and Vicky Bliss foils a robbery at the Cairo Museum (\$5.99 pb, 0-446-60248-5, Mysterious Press). All of Peters' work falls into the "guilty pleasures" category, as it's lightweight, comic/romantic entertainment, but at least her feminist sympathies are strong and explicit. (Catalog copy says the author has founded a scholarship for minority women mystery writers.) **Night Train to Memphis** is one of Peters' contemporary adventures, which aren't quite as sharp — and don't sell as well — as her Victorian series about archaeologist Amelia Peabody. If you want to give Peters a try, best to start with a recent Amelia Peabody adventure, **The Snake, the Crocodile, and the Dog** (\$5.99 pb, 0-446-36478-9, Warner) or **The Last Camel Died at Noon** (\$5.99 pb, 0-446-36338-3, Warner). The new hardcover in the Amelia Peabody series, **The Hippotamus Pool**, is due out in April (\$22.95 cl, 0-446-51833-6, Warner).

Forthcoming paperbacks to watch for include **The Strange Files of Fremont Jones** by Dianne Day, a romp through turn-of-the-century San Francisco with a strong, feminist heroine, a "typewriter" who gets involved in the strange doings of her clients. Great cover art and a good blurb from Margaret Maron should ensure strong sales (\$4.99 pb, 0-553-56921-X, Bantam, February). Linda Barnes' **Hardware** brings Boston P.I. and part-time cabdriver Carlotta Carlyle into the computer age (\$5.99 pb, 0-440-21223-5, Dell, March). **Murder in a Hot Flash** by Marlys Millhiser sequel to *Death of the Office Witch*, focuses on Edwina Greene, environmentally conscious menopausal mom to Hollywood agent Charlie Greene. The title should sell it (\$5.95 pb, 0-14-025138-3, Penguin, March). **Beauty Dies** by Melodie Johnson Howe marks the return of Claire Conrad and Maggie Hill, a detecting duo with very interesting chemistry in the classical style (see Nero Wolfe and Archie Goodwin). Here they

See *Mysteries*, page 111.



SUSANNA STURGIS

ON
SCIENCE FICTION

By Susanna Sturgis

Writing one of these columns is like tossing a bottle into the future with a message in it: by the time you read these words, some of them may be out of date. (And some of the books listed below may be out of print, but we won't go in to that.)

After eleven years, the time has come for me to pass this column on. Now that I'm finally writing my first novel, my reading is (a) greatly diminished, and (b) closely related to my writing. The next FBN f/sf columnist should be familiar with feminist bookselling; knowledgeable, or passionately curious, about women's fantasy and science fiction; and able to turn in a column reasonably close to deadline six times a year. If you're interested, contact Carol at FBN or me at (508) 693-7109, e-mail: S.Sturgis2-@genie.geis.com.

ACE

Felicity Fortune, the modern-day fairy godmother who manifested in Seattle in Elizabeth Ann Scarborough's *The Godmothers* (\$5.99, 0-441-00269-2), takes on an unlikely apprentice in (you guessed it) *The Godmother's Apprentice* (\$19.95 cl, 0-441-00252-8). The candidate is one Snohomish Quantrill, the teenage daughter of a rock star. Much of the action takes place in Ireland. Scarborough, whose *The Healer's War* won the Nebula Award, is a fine writer and these books are both fun and socially satirical.

BANTAM SPECTRA

Lisa Mason's *The Golden Nineties* (\$12.95 pb, 0-553-37331-5) is doubly related to her *Summer of Love*: part of it is set in the 25th century of *Summer's* Chiron Cat's Eye in Draco, whence time travelers meddle

with the past to achieve (they hope) beneficial results, and the "past" is that of San Francisco. Here, as the title suggests, it's the (eighteen) nineties, and a major theme is the treatment of women, particularly Chinese women. The 25th-century protagonist, Zhu Wong, feels herself a misfit in her future China.

Just out in paperback, Sheri S. Tepper's *Shadow's End* (\$5.99, ISBN n/a) bears a basic feminist message: "(Hu)mankind *Über Alles*" is a despicable, ultimately dead-end doctrine, and the more ferociously men cling to their privileges, the more women suffer. For a hundred years, attempts to discover the force behind the annihilation of life on all but one of a group of planets have been doomed. The exception, Dinadh, is populated by a ritual-bound, male-dominant society. Saluez, a young woman mutilated in one of these rituals, is the main narrator. When the mysterious force returns, she teams up with a brilliant linguist, her apparently retarded child, his long-absent father, and several other outcasts to stop it. Like most of Tepper's novels, this is intriguing, frustrating, and worth carrying.



Linda Nagata garnered impressive accolades for her first novel, *The Bohr Maker*, and her second, *Tech-Heaven* (\$4.99, 0-553-56926-0), is receiving at least comparable acclaim. Like the earlier book, this deals with the (very topical!) issue of how governments regulate new technologies, in this case cryonic suspension: freezing mortally injured humans for later repair. The heated, increasingly violent debate plays out over several decades, which also see the building of the first space colonies and an attempt to establish a colony on Mars.

DAW BOOKS

Just out from DAW is a likely trio indeed. **Eye of the Daemon** (\$5.50, 0-88677-673-2) is the first novel of Camille Bacon-Smith, whom you may know as author of *Enterprising Women*, an intriguing study of women's role in a particular form of popular culture and myth-making: Star Trek and other TV fandom (tp, 0-8122-1379-3, University of Pennsylvania Press). Trying to find her kidnapped half-brother, Marnie Simpson encounters a strange firm of private investigators ("cases involving the occult handled with discretion") and the even stranger truth about her brother's captors.

Plainly intended to capitalize on the long-running success of Marion Zimmer Bradley's *Mists of Avalon*, **Return To Avalon** (\$5.99, 0-88677-679-1), edited by Jennifer Roberson, contains 20 stories drawing on the same historical and mythic background as *Mists*. Contributors include Katharine Kerr, Judith Tarr, Kate Elliot, Diana L. Paxson and Roberson herself.

Finally, Jo Clayton's *Shadowsong* trilogy concludes with **Crystal Heart** (\$5.99, 0-88677-674-0). The empath Shadith, employed by a detective agency, is assigned a mission she can't in good conscience complete: to rescue an abducted creature and return it to people who want to destroy it.



HARPERPRISM

"Erotic tales of unearthly love"? A "hauntingly seductive collection"? "A rapture that outlives the flesh"? It could be heaven or it could be hell. Given that **Killing Me Softly** (\$12 tp, 0-06-105328-7) was edited by Gardner Dozois and that it includes stories by Ursula K. LeGuin, Nancy Kress, Mary Rosenblum, Maureen F. McHugh, Pat Cadigan and others (15 stories, eight by women, seven by men), I'll place my bets on heaven.

INDIANA UNIVERSITY PRESS

Since mentioning Joanna Russ's **To Write Like a Woman: Essays in Feminism and Science Fiction** (\$12.95 tp, 0-253-20983-8) in my last column, I've been wallowing in it and am about to review it for *Sojourner*. If you aren't carrying it and shelving it

both with f/sf and with lit crit, please do. With someone proclaiming every other day the death of the written word and with many bookstores being submerged in generic dreck that used to be sold only in bus stations, these essays and Sarah Lefanu's excellent introduction are a shot in the arm and a kick in the butt. The best way to show that reading is important is to take fiction seriously, and this Russ does, with passion, intelligence, courage and a wicked sense of humor. Treat yourself!



PENGUIN/ROC

Russell Letson's recent *Locus* review easily persuaded me that I'd overlooked **Testament** (\$5.99, 0-451-45459-6) by Valerie J. Freireich, which came out in July 1995. On *Testament* personal memories are inheritable, but only through women, resulting, Letson writes, "in a society that is both matrilineal and matriarchal: since only memories of one's female ancestors are accessible, it is the experiences and attitudes of women that guide the culture. Men inherit but do not transmit memories, and . . . remain in the numerical minority, since women prefer to have daughters in order to achieve a kind of immortality." The story focuses on several outsiders within the society. It's a sequel to *Becoming Human* but can stand on its own.

Here's one publisher that doesn't shy away from a feminist audience: on the cover of Gael Baudino's **The Dove Looked In** (\$5.99, 0-451-45497-9) it says, in nice big type, "An epic battle between the power of the Goddess and the magic of a high priest." Just released, this follows *O Greenest Branch!* (\$5.50, 0-451-45449-9) in the *Water!* series. The drought-stricken, tradition-bound Three Kingdoms hope for aid from the Religious States of America, while the underestimated women hatch their own plans. Feminist, witty, and not friendly to religious fanatics.

TOR BOOKS

Essential info for Suzy McKee Charnas's **The Furies**: \$5.99, 0-812-54819-1. I've said it before, and I'll say it again: this ranks among the best, most important feminist novels of the last 25 years, even independent
See *Science Fiction*, page 62.

Books in Canada:

B O R D E R C R O S S I N G



By Alexandra Wilson
Women in Print/Vancouver

Social commentary seems to be the theme of this month's titles. We have books questioning the way we care for each other, poetry that asks hard questions about the world we live in, and a play that pokes fun at the way we define family. On top of that are several new poets and a couple of young adult (YA) novels with strong female characters. Read on...



From TalonBooks in Vancouver come two books that question contemporary life in very different ways. Jill Van Dyck, active in anti-poverty and child welfare groups for 20 years, has written a very accessible book on the culture of poverty. **Bleeding to Death** argues that all current attempts to reform social security systems in the industrialized world perpetuate the ideology of charity. A timely and thought-provoking book on Canadian — and western — social programs. (C\$17.95 pb, 0-88922-362-9.) Then, through vibrant poetry, Helen Potrebenco's strong voice speaks loudly for women and working people. **Riding Home** is a "bunch of poems" that, among other things, offers a catalogue of embarrassing questions about contemporary life. (C\$13.95 pb, 0-88922-356-4, available from General Distribution Services prior to January 1996, available from InBook thereafter.) On a different theme is Lola Lemire Tostevin's most recent collection, **Cartouches**, a book of poetry/ journal entries formed in an effort to give meaning to events which may or may not have literally happened. The described moments are hieroglyphs, or "small cartouches and amulets

that help the writer define who she is." (C\$12.95 pb, 0-88922-355-6.) Distributed by General Distribution Services.

More social commentary comes from *Between the Lines* this fall. In **Whose Brave New World**, Ontario activist and writer on women and technology, Heather Menzies, questions the perceived inevitability of information technology. She argues persuasively that we have real choices and need to actively participate in the current debates. Her clear-sighted writing "transcends the fantasyland thinking that masks a polarizing society." C\$18.95 pb, 1-896357-02-4; C\$35.95 cl, -03-2, *Between the Lines*. Distributed in the U.S. by Left Bank Distribution, 4142 Brooklyn NE #201, Seattle WA 98105; 206-632-5870.

Next, a funny and poignant play from Blizzard Publishing looks at the modern family. Recent Pulitzer Prize-winning author Carol Shields (*The Stone Diaries*) has teamed up with her daughter, Catherine, to write a gently challenging play. **Fashion, Power, Guilt and the Charity of Families** looks at the people, not the prescribed roles or labels, within families. (C\$10.95 pb, 0-921368-59-3.) Also from Blizzard, under the Bain and Cox imprint, is a new YA novel by award-winning writer Carol Matas. **The Primrose Path** explores the dark side of a charismatic leader through the eyes of a teenaged woman. (C\$9.95 pb, 0-921368-55-0.) Distributed by General Distribution Services.



Women of the Klondike by Frances Backhouse takes a look at the women of the gold rush: entrepreneurs, doctors, nuns, nurses and journalists as well as mythical prostitutes and dance hall girls. Through

archival documents, newspaper accounts and personal interviews, Backhouse explores the lives and attitudes of individual women as well as the roles of these women in society. Fascinating reading. C\$16.95 pb, 1-55110-375-3, Whitecap Books. Distributed in the U.S. by Graphic Arts Center Publishing, PO Box 10306, Portland OR 97210; 800-452-3032 and by Pacific Pipeline.

From Beach Holme Publishers I have two collections of poetry and one YA novel. **The Seed Jar** is Margaret Blackwood's first solo collection. The poetry speaks of family and other human relationships and is rich with the atmosphere of the Canadian west coast. (C\$8.95 pb, 0-88878-366-3.) **Somewhere Falling** is Allison Grayhurst's second collection of intimate and richly detailed poetry. The poems are linked by the theme of searching and have a dream-like flavour. (C\$11.95 pb, 0-88878-365-5.) Finally, a sensitive portrayal of a young woman's life after the death of her mother by Ginny Russell. **Step-by-Step** is a YA novel about loss and moving on, set in southwestern British Columbia. (C\$8.95 pb, 0-88878-364-7.) Beach Holme Publishers, 4252 Commerce Circle, Victoria BC V8Z 4M2; 604-727-6514, fax 604-727-6418.



And finally, four titles from Thistledown Press. Two of the stories in Bernice Friesen's **The Seasons are Horses** have already won Saskatchewan Writers Guild Awards. This first collection of fiction is characterized by truly fine and detailed storytelling. (C\$12.95 pb, 1-895449-40-5.) The short stories in **Blow the Moon Out** by Judy Berlyne McCrosky explore the conflict between our need to conform with society and our need to retain our individuality. (C\$13 pb, 1-895449-38-3.) Doris Hillis's poetry, **Wheelings**, lyrically celebrates the cycle of life. (C\$11 pb, 1-895449-37-5.) Eva Tihanyi's poetry in **Saved by the Telling** examines the lives of women and offers an honest, compelling and often humorous view. (C\$11 pb, 1-895449-35-9.) Distributed by General Distribution Services.

General Distribution Services' U.S. address is: 85 Rock River Drive #202, Buffalo NY 14207; 800-805-1083, fax 416-445-5967. ○

Science Fiction, continued from page 60.

of its predecessors, *Walk to the End of the World* and *Motherlines*.

Also new in paperback: Far lighter but definitely an asset to feminist bookstore shelves is Rosemary Edghill's **Speak Daggers to Her** (\$4.99, 0-812-53438-7). In solving the mystery, Bast — graphic designer and wiccan priestess — provides a knowledgeable and good-humored tour of New York's neo-pagan community.

And Maureen F. McHugh's second novel (after the Lammy and Tiptree Award-winning *China Mountain Zhang*), is **Half the Day Is Night** (\$5.99, 0-812-52410-1). In my not-so-humble opinion (that's IMNSHO for you online junkies!), the underwater city in this one is far more interesting than the main characters or the plot. As I overheard one bookseller say at Gaylaxicon '94, "It has no content." This puzzled me, till I grasped that "content" means "gay content." No especially feminist angle either.

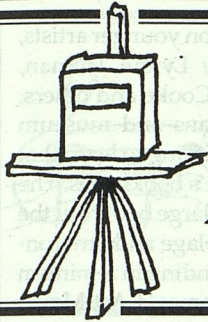
Coming in February is Kathleen Ann Goonan's second sf novel, **The Bones of Time** (\$23.95 cl, 0-312-85916-3). The bones are those of Kamehameha, greatest of the Hawaiian kings. Already out in paper is Goonan's widely, wildly acclaimed first novel, **Queen City Jazz** (\$5.99, 0-812-53626-6), which cyberpunk instigator William Gibson called "an unforgettable vision of America transfigured by a new and utterly apocalyptic technology." Once it ventured out of the austere countryside, I found it too weird to follow. Someone else will have to tell me if it's feminist or not.



WARNER/ASPECT

Like all Marion Zimmer Bradley anthologies, **The Best of Marion Zimmer Bradley's Fantasy Magazine** (\$5.99, 0-446-60192-6) features writing by women: the 13 (out of 15) female contributors include Mercedes Lackey, Jo Clayton, eluki bes shahar and Phyllis Ann Karr. Elisabeth Waters co-edited.

C. J. Cherryh's Hugo Award-winning **Cyteen**, previously available as a one-volume hardcover and a three-volume paperback, is now out in a one-volume trade paperback edition (\$14.99 tp, 0-446-67127-4). It utilizes Cherryh's considerable talent for creating complex worlds and characters, subjecting them to cataclysmic stress, and watching them develop over time. ○



ART BOOKS

By Tee A. Corinne

Because of the movie tie-in, **Carrington: A Life** by Gretchen Holbrook Gerzina should start moving quickly. Bisexual, but not particularly driven by sex, the British painter who called herself Carrington (1893-1932) fell in love with Litton Strachey, a homosexual and a writer, and they became family for one another for most of her adult life. Both Strachey and Carrington lived on the edges of the Bloomsbury group. Fascinating and complex. \$15 pb, 0-393-31328-X, W.W. Norton.

Related books: **Carrington: Paintings, Drawings and Decorations** by Noel Carrington (\$15.95 cl, 0-500-09143-9), and **The Art of Dora Carrington** by Jane Hill (\$15.95 pb, 0-500-092443; \$24.95 cl -278571), both from Thames and Hudson.

'**Deaf Maggie Lee Sayre: Photographs of a River Life** by Maggie Lee Sayre edited by Tom Rankin is a fascinating study of the candid photographs of a Mississippi River resident (b. 1920) who was born deaf, attended the Kentucky School for the Deaf where she learned sign language, inherited her sister's camera around the age of 17, and returned to live with her family on their riverboat. It is a complex story, part folk art, part sociology, lovingly done. \$17.95 pb, 0-87805-799-4; \$35 cl, -788-9, University Press of Mississippi. Distributed by Ingram and Baker & Taylor.

Journeys Through Inner Space, paintings and poems by Hue Walker, with an introduction by Robert Lentz, presents visionary, surreal, beautifully handled images which draw on a multitude of cultures and traditions: Celtic, Native American, Gothic and more. \$20 pb, 0-87654-474-X, Pomegranate.

An exhibit catalog, **A Poetic Vision: The Photographs of Anne Brigman** by Susan Ehrens, will bring the work of Brigman (1869-1950), born in Hawaii and

based as an adult in California, to a much wider audience. Best known for her nudes in landscapes made in the early years of this century, **A Poetic Vision** includes portrait, nature studies, a collection of self-portraits and other images of the artist. \$19.95 pb, 0-89951-091-4. 40% discount for 5+ books. Distributed by Santa Barbara Museum of Art, The Museum Store, 1130 State Street, Santa Barbara CA 93101.

When I'm Bad, I'm Better: Mae West, Sex, and American Entertainment by Marybeth Hamilton is as outstanding for it's lively and clear writing style as for the compelling story it tells of Mae West, the Brooklyn-born daughter of immigrant parents, who grew up sexy and tough, then learned, especially from



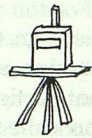
Photo by Barbara Van Cleve from *Hard Twist, Western Ranch Women* (Museum of New Mexico Press)

campy gay men, how to project that sexuality on stage. The story of America's homosexual underworld in the nineteen-teens and 'twenties is fabulously presented and interwoven with West's rise to fame. \$23 cl, 0-06-019031-0, HarperCollins.

The Diary of Frida Kahlo: An Intimate Self-Portrait, essays and commentaries by Sarah M. Lowe, introduction by Carlos Fuentes, is being published in eleven countries at once. Talented, disabled, sexually active with men and with women, Kahlo (1907-1954) has lodged herself and her work vividly in the late 20th century imagination. This volume includes a 170 page color facsimile of the diary/journal/sketchbook from the last ten years of her life. Translated and elegantly contextualized. \$39.95 cl, 0-8109-3221-0, Abrams.

Betty Hahn: Photography or Maybe Not by Steve Yates deals with the quirky, multi-faceted career of an American artist, born in 1940, who doesn't neatly fall into any single category, although most of her work involves photographs in one way or another. Widely exhibited, this is the first major study of her work. \$39.95 pb, 0-8263-1602-6; \$80 cl, -1601-8, University of New Mexico Press.

Part of an admirable new series on younger artists, **Jessica Stockholder**, interview by Lynne Tillman, essays by Barry Schwabsky, Lynne Cooke and others, may be of more interest to librarians and museum bookstores (and yes, it has been gratifying to learn that they, too, read FBN!) than to women's bookstores. The price isn't bad for the colorful, thick, large book, but the work — very contemporary assemblage and environmental constructions — has no grounding in feminism other than the spaces which the Women's Art Movement opened for artists to move into the mainstream. \$29.95 pb, 0-7148-113406-8, Phaidon. Distributed by Chronicle Books.



At Century's End: Norwegian Artists and the Figurative Tradition, 1880-1990 is a rich and fascinating book. Focusing dually on the work of three spinster artists active at the end of the last century and six contemporary women artists, it describes ways women artists have supported one another. \$19.95 pb, 0-940979-32-2; \$29.95 cl, -32-2. 40% discount for 5+ books. National Museum of Women in the Arts. Distributed by Northeastern University Press.

Probably For Librarians Only: **Sofonisba Anguissola: A Renaissance Woman** by Sylvia Ferino-Pagden and Maria Kusche is a terrific book about the early Italian portrait painter (ca. 1532-1625), known for her portrayal of great psychological intensity. Unfortunately, the publisher wrote that the "book cost so much to produce that we cannot discount it." \$29.95 pb, 0-940979-31-4, No Discount. Order from The National Museum of Women in the Arts, The Museum Shop, 1250 New York Avenue NW, Washington DC 20005, 800-222-7270.

Nicely repackaged reprints include **Old Mistresses: Women, Art and Ideology** by Rozsika Parker and Griselda Pollock (\$12.99 pb, 0-86358-185-4) and **Framing Feminism: Art and the Women's Movement, 1970-1985** by Rozsika Parker and Griselda Pollock (\$14.99 pb, 0-86358-179-X) both published by Pandora and distributed by HarperCollins. Rich with black and white illustrations, **Old Mistresses** analyzes past and present work while **Framing Feminism** presents articles which were published in Britain, creating a splendid collection of provocative material. ○

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MUSIC NEWS

By Jennifer Einhorn
Goldenrod/Horizon Distribution

Tigerlily/Natalie Merchant. Great in-store browsing music. Merchant's departure from super-group Ten Thousand Maniacs has served her well. Much like Sarah McLachlan, Merchant's melodies are not front and center. You need to pay attention in order for the resonance of the lyrics and music to sink in. Quiet but extremely potent stuff. "Beloved Wife," written from the perspective of her grandfather after losing his wife of fifty years is priceless, as is the unrequited ballad "I May Know the Word." "Carnival" and "Wonder" are the brightest moments on this collection — light, rich melodies that make you happy an artist like Merchant is making music. She's a gem. Elektra 61745.

Soon and Again/Margie Adam. This is a record that was born to be played in a cafe or bookstore and Adam has made endless promos available — especially to indie stores. Before Windham Hill, before Liz Story and George Winston — there was *Naked Keys*. Margie Adam's solo piano collection. Her latest release, *Soon and Again*, is co-produced by pianist extraordinaire, Barbara Higbie, and is Adam's second instrumental piece. Higbie calls this "...her best record yet" and she's right. Despite the lack of vocals — or perhaps *because* of — this is Adam's most personal and visceral record yet. Fans will be especially touched by her signature vocal tunes, "Tender Lady" and "Beautiful Soul," which have been reworked into a stunning melody. A class act. Pleiades 2752.

Live '88/Shawn Colvin. This re-release, now in compact disc format, was initially recorded as a demo tape at the Somerville Theater (Somerville MA) in the late eighties. Produced by Darlene Wilson, it features Colvin doing what she does best —

solo vocals and acoustic guitar. This is a thrill for long-time fans who have been continually dissatisfied with the overproduction on her three major label releases (*Steady On*, *Fat City* and *Cover Girl* — all on Columbia). The four newly recorded tunes are "Something To Believe In," "Don't You Feel It Too," "Kathy's Song" and "Knowing What I Know Now." This is what acoustic music should always sound like — crisp, live and *thoroughly* unproduced. Plump Records 5901.



Ring Them Bells/Joan Baez. Whether you're a Joan Baez fan, or a fan of contemporary women singer/songwriters, you'll think this collection is wonderful. On it, she pays homage to her colleagues of today by including duets recorded live at a performance at New York City's Bottom Line. What's more, she prominently features large photos of her gals throughout the liner notes: Kate and Anna McGarrigle, The Indigo Girls, Tish Hinojosa — all pay visits. Priceless is Baez joining forces with Mary Chapin Carpenter on "Diamonds and Rust" and her performance with the up-and-coming songstress who opened for Baez on her European tour, Dar Williams. Accompanied only by twin acoustic guitars, they play William's tune "You're Aging Well" (which appears on William's own *The Honesty Room* — a touching gesture of a torch being passed along the generations). Guardian 34989.

Global Divas: Voices from Women of the World/Variou Artists. A perfect gift. This is a pricey endeavor, but one that your customers will rejoice over. It's worth purchasing an instore at cost, and displaying it by your counter during the holiday

season. A massive three disc, 41 tune collection, this is a must for world music fans. Featuring many of the best international vocalists of our time, it includes an impressive liner notebook, with extensive biographies and anecdotes about each artist. Most interesting are the stories of those women who have had to overcome incredible political and personal adversity in order to pursue their music. American artists include Patsy Cline and Linda Rondstadt, while other well known world music women include Tarika Sammy, Oumou Sangare and Djur Djura, Miriam Makeba, The Mahotella Queens, Varttina, Edith Piaf and Mercedes Sosa — and these are just the highlights. Rounder 5062.



1200 Curfews/The Indigo Girls. An indispensable collection for all IG fans. It's also one of the best live collections ever, with 27 of Amy and Emily's faves. Cuts include songs from the Swamp Ophelia Tour, ampitheatres and small bar shows. Highlights include a live and (the only studio) version of Buffy Saint Marie's "Bury My Heart At Wounded Knee" and recent hits like "Least Complicated" (complete with the audience's "Nah, Nah's" on the chorus) and "Power of Two." Older songs include "Strange Fire," "Ghost" and, of course, "Closer To Fine." Adoring crowd screams, laughing, and bantering are woven throughout making this collection as good as it gets — the next best thing to being there. Excellent ecologically sound packaging to boot. Epic 67229.

Naked Songs/Ricki Lee Jones. A live record from a living legend. Jones is the consummate songwriter who's mumbled, drawled delivery is incomparable. No electronics here — these 15 cuts were performed acoustically with a minimal band. Her selections prove to be a fabulous mix of star-makers coupled with more obscure (and brilliant) cuts. Highlights include "Weasel and the White Boys Cool," "Living It Up," "The Horses," "Chuck E.'s in Love," "Magazine," "It Must Be Love" and the mesmerizing "We Belong Together." The title is quite apropos, for **Naked Songs** reveals just how unique an artist Jones really is. In this day of top forty schmaltz, Jones will guarantee an indelible smile across your face. Reprise 45940.

All You Can Eat/kd lang. This is mellow, sexy, alluring, dreamy kind of pop music — again, ideal for bookstores. After *Ingenue* catapulted lang into serious stardom, fans have wondered what lang could do for a follow-up. This is it! If you sold lots of her before, this collection is sure to follow suit. Again — major label pricing is a factor to consider. Packed with top-ten hits — without all the glitz, lang and co-producer Ben Mink have made a really smart record that caters to long-time fans and to folks who are looking for something a bit different. Buy a cost piece and play this a lot. Sire.

Your Little Secret/Melissa Etheridge. Melissa doing Springsteen — or trying to. Etheridge's bread was buttered in women's bookstores, and for the most part, you have to stock her. Even *with* your mark-up, there remains a core group of customers who hopefully will continue to buy her from you. Her previous multi-platinum *Yes I Am* was filled with infectious radio friendly mega-hits. This go-round is more rough around the edges — not the best in-store material. A few tracks are wonderful — the first title track single and the folk rock ballad "All The Way To Heaven," and you can be sure that her core audience will pick up this package no matter what it sounds like. Island.



Just Released

- **A Winter Garden**/Loreena McKennitt. Warner Brothers 46096.
- **New Beginning**/Tracy Chapman. Elektra 61850.
- **Classical Erotica**/Various Artists. Lesbian counterpart to Sensual Classics. Rising Star 280.
- **I'll Be a Homo for Christmas**/Venus Envy. Now available in disc format. Venus 2.
- **Our Gay Apparel**/S.F.'s Gay Men's Chorus. Goldengate 995.
- **The Shape of Things**/Coyote Oldman. COMAN 8.
- **Turtle Logic**/Mimi Fox. Disc format only. MR 1008.
- **Road Tested**/Bonnie Raitt. Recorded live. Capital 33705.
- **Waiting to Exhale, The Soundtrack**. Featuring Toni Braxton, Aretha, Whitney and many more. Arista 18796.

GAY MEN'S LIT FOR FEMINIST BOOKSTORES

By Richard Labonte
A Different Light Bookstore/ San Francisco

This month, a look at "business" books:

Less than a decade ago, "professional" gays lurked pretty low on the gay radar's horizon. We knew we were everywhere, working at every level of corporate and workplace America, from talented temps to competent mid-level managers and beyond; but public awareness of queers at IBM, AT&T, Levi Strauss and other businesses big and small was certainly limited.

That was then. Now, we have a spate of books discussing, revealing, celebrating, endorsing and emphasizing the fact that gay women and men are more than set designers, hair stylists, UPS drivers or librarians.

Let's start with the two most recent. **Straight Jobs Gay Lives** by Annette Friskopp and Sharon Silverstein, based on interviews with women and men from the American professional workplace, is both a fascinating and a tedious read: interesting personal anecdotes are muffled by a torpid writing style; these authors are no prose stylists. Still, there is a wealth of both "lived" information — on how to deal with discrimination, what being closeted is like, what coming out is like, networking — and "analyzed" information — how gender, race and ethnicity, family issues and AIDS and HIV are perceived in the professional workplace. There is also a generous resource section with lists of gay professional organizations, gay employee groups, selected employer policies and more. \$32.50 cl, 0-684-80424-7, Scribner.

The inverse of **Straight Jobs** is **A Manager's Guide to Sexual Orientation in the Workplace** by Bob Powers and Alan Ellis, which goes beyond asserting that gays are a part of the professional workplace to presume — deftly, entertainingly and assertively — that managers

must be taught how to deal with workplace diversity. With the cheeky slogan "do ask do tell" as a mantra, Powers and Ellis demonstrate, among many other truths, that a happy "out" employee, treated well by her managers and peers, is far more productive than an unhappy "closeted" employee. This is a book any self-respecting gay employee (or gay employee group) will ensure is made available to managers, personnel offices and even co-workers willing to be engaged in the process of developing an inclusive workplace environment. \$25 cl, 0-415-91277-6, Routledge.



Straight Talk About Gays in the Workplace by Liz Winfield and Susan Spielman is a hybrid of **Straight Jobs** and **A Manager's Guide** — it offers instructive tales, like the former, from women and men who have come out, and intends to instruct managers, like the latter, in how to nurture workplace tolerance, acceptance and diversity. In truth, both Friskopp and Silverstein's and Powers and Ellis's books render Winfield and Spielman's book redundant — but is there really too much of a good thing? Not at all. While there's little in **Straight Talk** that isn't covered in the other two books, the authors of this tome are as impassioned and as informative as their colleagues; and if any one thing speaks to the fact that the mid-1990's are a time when the gay community is heightening its visibility, even as the national political climate grows more hostile, it's that where two years ago there were no books on the topic of business life and gay life, now there are several. \$21.95 cl, 0-8144-0305-0, Amacom/American Management Association.

One of the newest biz books is **The Gay Male's Odyssey in the Corporate World: From Disempowerment to Empowerment** by Gerald V. Miller,

which argues that "playing it safe" is absolutely the wrong thing to do for gay business professionals, and which lays out an "action plan" for coming out. \$14.95 pb, 1-56023-867-4, Harrington Park Press.

Two books published earlier this year than those mentioned above take a different approach to gays and lesbians and their relationship to corporate America — they're about where to work, and about which workplaces are better than others.



The 100 Best Companies for Gay Men and Lesbians by Ed Mickens is more or less what the title says it is — an A to Z listing (American Friends Service Committee through Ben & Jerry's Homemade Inc. and Sun Microsystems Inc. to Ziff-Davis Publishing Co.) of 100 businesses doing well by their queer employees. It's not an exhaustive list, nor a particularly scientific one, but it does show dramatically how different types of business and professional organizations are dealing with a growing demand for workplace sensitivity. It's also to be hoped that Micken's sprightly book is already outdated; that wouldn't be a flaw, merely a sign that matters have improved since his highly readable and revealing survey came out in the spring of this year. What won't be outdated is his introductory material, in which Mickens (editor of *Working It Out: The Newsletter for Gay and Lesbian Employment Issues*), more lucidly than any of the other authors whose work is discussed here, prefaces his listings with several chapters discussing the past, present and future of gay visibility. \$12 pb, 0-671-87479-9, Pocket Books.

Cracking the Corporate Closet by Daniel Baker, Sean O'Brien Strub and Bill Henning is subtitled "the 200 best (and worst) companies to work for, buy from and invest in if you're gay or lesbian — and even if you aren't." Baker and Strub have been dealing with the direct-mail marketing business for some years, and their accumulated wisdom and insight makes this a book with weight. It's also arranged creatively — by job theme, from accounting, aerospace and automobiles through telecommunications, travel and tourism and utilities. And there's this encouraging fact, given the book's overlap with others: none of this book's "12 worst companies" shows up on Micken's 100 best —

and all but one of this book's 12 best (Quark) does appear on Micken's best. \$23 cl, 0-88730-691-8, HarperCollins.

The last of this year's crop of business books is **Untold Millions: Positioning Your Business for the Gay and Lesbian Consumer Revolution** by Grant Lukenbill, which tackles the topic from yet another angle: its purpose is to tell non-gay businesses how to tap into what Lukenbill calls "gay and lesbian consumerism, and the spectacular developments it is spawning." On the surface, there doesn't appear to be much reason for the average gay reader to care about the book's subject matter — the cover targets the book directly at businesses. That's a pity, because Lukenbill has done his research, writes with verve and style, and presents a credible and informative overview of political and social shifts in recent years which are making lesbians and gays more palatable as consumers. In essence, his book explains why all the other books reviewed here are possible: because we exist, and we matter. \$25 cl, 0-88730-699-3, HarperBusiness.

An older book (1993) which belongs in this bunch is **The Corporate Closet: The Professional Lives of Gay Men in America** by James D. Woods and Jay H. Lucas. It's the only one for gay men only, dealing primarily with the fact that, until recently, gay men in the corporate world have needed to be asexual in order to get promoted, or even get along. Why this was so, and why it's changing, is the focus. \$12.95 pb, 0-02-935604-0, Macmillan/Free Press.

(And as a postscript to the workplace books cited here, there is **Voices of Diversity** by Renee Blank and Sandra Slipp, which among its diverse voices — women, the disabled, African Americans, Asian Americans, Latinos, immigrants, elderly workers — are included those of lesbians and gay men "talking about problems and solutions in a workplace where everyone is not alike;" it's nice to be included. \$22.95 cl, 0-8144-0217-8, Amacom.)



After all the heavy lifting of serious books, here are four of my favorite recent reads:

The first is **The Badboy Book of Erotic Poetry** edited by David Laurents, a hefty chest-heaving

collection of sex-themed work by 61 writers, including many of our community's more august authors — David Bergman, James Broughton, Alfred Corn, Edward Field, Allen Ginsberg, Thom Gunn, Richard Howard, Wayne Koestenbaum, Michael Lassell, Harold Norse, David Trinidad and Ian Young — to cite a few without negelecting many more. This is a frolic of a book, often as arousing as good porn, just as often as subtle and illuminating as fine poetry can be. If you have a small male erotica section, this book would fit into it nicely; ditto if you stock any of the milder male erotica. \$5.95 pb, 400 pages, 1-56333-382-1, Masquerade.

Often just as sexy, but with a more sustained literary surface as well (and containing both prose and poetry), is **The New Fuck You: Adventures in Lesbian Reading** edited by Eileen Myles and Liz Kotz, another hefty (39 contributors) page-turner of a collection. The range of talent is impressive and seductive: it's a hard book to put down, one lesbians will savor, one gay men should read as a quick way to learn how rich much of current women's writing can be. This is my favorite lesbian title of the season. \$8 pb, 1-57027-057-0, Semiotexte.

Wit is fun. Mysteries are fun. What could be better, then, than a witty mystery? Two such are **A Ghost in the Closet** by Mabel Maney (\$10.95 pb, 1-57344-012-4, Cleis) and **Shock to the System** by Richard Stevenson (\$19.95 cl, 0-312-13610-2, St. Martin's).

Maney's third novel (after *Case of the Not-So-Nice Nurse* and *Case of the Good-For-Nothing Girlfriend*) introduces the Hardly Boys, two intrepid gay lads joining forces with Nancy Clue and Cherry Aimless to find the missing Hardly parents. Maney's superb achievement is to pen parodies (of the Hardy Boys and of Nancy Drew, for the clueless) which take on novel-length laugh-inspiring lives of their own; it's also one of the few recent books (Nisa Donnelly's *The Love Songs of Phoenix Bay* and Carole Maso's *The Art Lover*) blending characters and concerns of interest to both lesbians and gay men.

Stevenson's fifth Donald Strachey mystery is more straightforward in style, but just as amusing as Maney's swell read. The plot revolves around a cure-the-queers psychologist implicated in the murder of one of his program's former "patients." Stevenson follows all the sleuth rules by introducing a bevy of

suspects, dropping a few careful hints, and pulling his killer out of the suspect hat with no trickery — and, along the way, tosses off some of the funniest lines to be found in this year's crop of gay fiction. Such as? Well, context counts for a lot in well-crafted witty writing and there's no room here for an extended quote. But a couple of giggles are guaranteed from Stevenson's lean, comfortable prose. It's an excellent addition to a mystery section, even in hard-cover; Stevenson's earlier available mysteries are, too: **On the Other Hand, Death** (\$8.95 pb, -11871-6); **Ice Blues** (\$8.95 pb, -13517-3); **Third Man Out** (\$8.95 pb, -08906-6) and **Death Trick** (\$6.95 pb, 0-932870-27-9, Alyson).



I was asked recently to supply a list of must-stock/most favored titles to a new feature in the *San Francisco Review of Books*, a full page each issue for booksellers to give the flavor of their stores. A Different Light's titles were selected by myself and co-managers Caroline Boyden and Ken White. So, here's our eclectic list of what's indispensable:

Tales of the City by Armistead Maupin — This book and its five sequels (*More Tales*, *Further Tales*, *Babycakes*, *Significant Others*, *Sure of You*) are the best-read gay books ever, for good reason: they are sweet and funny and true, capturing life (not just gay) in San Francisco from the mid-1970s into the early 1990s. \$12pb, 0-06-096404-9, HarperCollins.

City of Night by John Rechy — When it climbed onto *The New York Times* bestseller list more than 30 years ago, this saga of the (homo)sexual underworld was a shocker; more of what it depicts is true today than many would think. Sexual content aside, it's also a beautifully-written book from one of America's writing masters. \$12 pb, 0-8021-3083-6, Grove.

What It's Like to Live Now by Meredith Maran — Activist, progressive, lesbian, partner, mother: this engaging, charming and strong-willed memoir tells well how much a part of the fabric of everyday life lesbians (and gays) really are. \$11.95 pb, 0-553-37493-1, Bantam, March.

Wild Ride by Bia Lowe — Books of essays don't sell? Take a look at this collection, a deft combination of dazzling writing and substantial thought from a

Los Angeles writer with a great prose future ahead of her. \$11 pb, 0-06-092695-3, HarperCollins.

Last Watch of the Night by Paul Monette — The last book from the author of *Borrowed Time* (the best AIDS memoir ever) and *Becoming a Man* (the National Book Award-winning coming-out memoir) collects some fierce work on AIDS, religion, writing, life and death. \$12 pb, 0-15-600202-7, Harcourt.

The Mayor of Castro Street by Randy Shilts — More than ten years after publication, this remains the best history of contemporary gay life in San Francisco, told through the story of our community's greatest martyr. \$13.95 cl, 0-312-01900-9, St. Martin's.

Gender Outlaw: On Men, Women and the Rest of Us by Kate Bornstein — The scary in-between of gender and identity becomes friendly and comprehensible in this funny and smart memoir/manual by a transsexual (from heterosexual man to lesbian woman) trail-blazer. \$12 pb, 0-679-7571-5, Vintage.

Moby Dick by Herman Melville (any edition, though the Library of America is the best) — Why Melville? Gay scholars have made a case for his 18th Century queerness; more to the point, any gay teen forced to read *Moby Dick* (or *Billy Budd*) in high school will *know* that there is gay life in more literature than the world of book-banners will ever understand.

The Complete Shorter Fiction of Virginia Woolf edited by Susan Dick — One of the English language's first truly modern writers, she helped set the stage for later literary innovations with her non-realist, stream-of-consciousness style. \$9.95pb, 0-15-621250-1, Harvest/Harcourt.

If Beale Street Could Talk by James Baldwin — One of this literary giant's best, although just about anything he wrote should be read. Not specifically a gay novel, *If Beale Street* is writing that knows what it's intended for: to move and to lift up, to affirm and to inspire. \$5.99 pb, 0-440-34060-8, Dell.



Ceremonies by Essex Hemphill — The first major collection from a mainstream press by a Black gay man. If you knew Hemphill's poetry or his skill as an editor (*Brother to Brother*), then you probably know about this sharp and provocative collection of fiction, poetry and essays...the legacy of a clear-eyed,

strong-voiced pioneer. \$10 pb, 0-452-26817-6, Penguin.

Bisexual Politics: Theories, Queries & Visions edited by Naomi Tucker with Liz Highleyman and Rebecca Kaplan — After years of dearth, the past months have seen several new releases about bisexuality. This newest is historical, analytical and personal, a fine collection for the curious, the uninformed and the "been-there, done-that's." \$14.95 pb, 1-56023-869-0, Harrington Park Press.



Prayers for Bobby by Leroy Aarons — The subtitle says it all about this poignant, important book, which refutes every hysterical hateful argument the Christians of the bigoted right make against teaching the fact of homosexuality in the real world: it's about "A mother's coming to terms with the suicide of her gay son," a teen who died because he grew up knowing he was gay and learning that the world hated him. \$22 cl, 0-06-251122-X, HarperCollins.

Now That You Know: What Every Parent Should Know About Homosexuality by Betty Fairchild — There are now many useful books dealing with the coming out process: this is the best for a lesbian or gay man to give to her or his parents. \$9.95 pb, 0-15-66701-X, Harvest/Harcourt.

Blood, Bread and Poetry by Adrienne Rich — Justly honored for her poetry (most recently *Dark Fields of the Republic*), Rich has been one of America's most important writers for years. This collection contains the classic essay "Compulsory Heterosexuality and Lesbian Existence" — the piece which has brought out many women. \$9.95 pb, 0-393-31162-7, Norton.

The Little Death by Michael Nava (\$7.95 pb, 0-932870-96-1, Alyson) and **Amateur City** by Katherine Forrest (\$9.95 pb, 0-930044-55-X, Naiad) — Once upon a time, genre fiction just didn't exist for gays: now there are dozens of lesbian/gay-charactered mysteries (and some science fiction) published every year. The continuing series by both these writers are a treat, blending social issues with intriguing sleuthing. Look for new hardcovers from both next fall, from Putnam.

Out in All Directions edited by Lynn Witt, Sherry Thomas and Eric Marcus — No single book can sum
See *Gay Men's Lit*, page 90.

FROM OUR OWN PRESSES



Compiled by Jenn Tust

ATTIC PRESS

Women, Power and Consciousness in 19th Century Ireland by Mary Cullen and Maria Luddy charts the lives of eight women whose agitation for educational, social reform, and the nationalist cause, changed the course of Irish history. This book examines how these women radically altered the public perception of women's role in society. Their achievements include persuading Trinity College, Dublin to admit women to the exam system, the establishment of the Ladies' Land League, the foundation of the outdoor system of child rearing as well as the setting up of a network of city poor schools. These women were also responsible for initiating changes in the legislation under which Irish women were subject to the authority of their husbands, for exposing problems like wife abuse and for abolishing the degrading practices associated with female emigrant trade towards the end of the nineteenth century. \$31.99 cl, 1-85594-078-7.

Attic Press, 29 Upper Mount Street, Dublin 2, Ireland; 353-1-661-6128, fax 353-1-661-6176. Distributed by InBook.

—Attic Press

CHICAGO WOMEN'S HEALTH CENTER

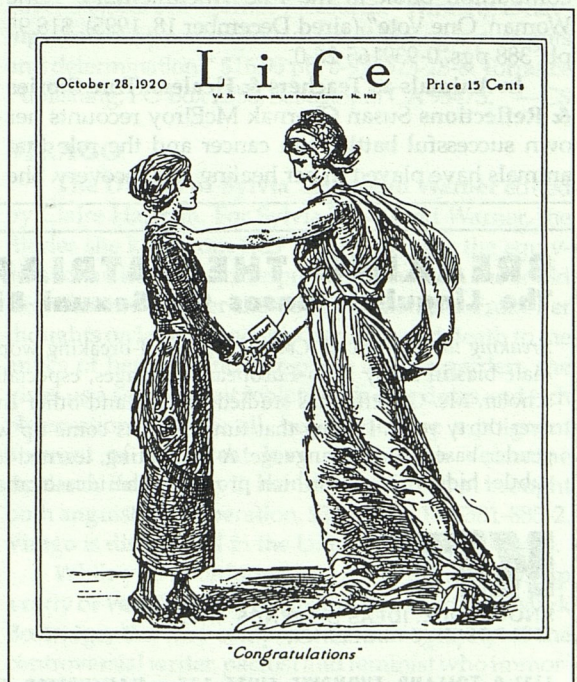
Check It Out is a self-help kit developed by the Chicago Women's Health Center to promote knowledge of women's bodies and informed medical consumerism. It includes a plastic speculum, flashlight, mirror and an informative fold out brochure featuring step-by-step instructions for cervical self exam. Suggested retail \$10. \$7 each for 1-9; \$6.50 for 11-30; \$6 for 31-50. Chicago Women's Health Center, 3435 North Sheffield, Chicago IL 69657; 312-935-6126.

—CS

NAIAD PRESS

Fans of the supernatural will line up to buy Kris Bruyer's **Out of the Night**, a spine-chilling novel set at a school for troubled girls. Replete with ghostly apparitions, horrific phantasms and black-robed specters, this eerie thriller follows the heroines of Bruyer's previous novel, *Whispers*, as they risk their lives to defeat an unseen enemy of unthinkable malevolence. \$10.95 pb, 1-56280-120-1, March.

First Impressions by Kate Calloway is the debut novel in what we're sure will become one of the most popular lesbian detective series ever. Private



From *One Woman, One Vote: Rediscovering the Woman Suffrage Movement* (New Sage Press)

detective Cassidy James is trying to solve a gruesome murder, but her investigation is complicated by sexist police, uncooperative witnesses, and the growing sexual tension between herself and the number one suspect. \$10.95 pb, 1-56280-133-3.

Naiad Press, PO Box 10543, Tallahassee FL 32302; 904-539-9322. Available from Inland, WomenSource/ Login, BP, et al. —Naiad Press

NEW SAGE PRESS

The fight for the woman's vote in the United States is of enormous political and social significance, yet it is virtually unacknowledged in the chronicles of American History. **One Woman, One Vote: Rediscovering the Woman Suffrage Movement** edited by Majorie Spruill Wheeler offers lay readers and scholars alike the most up-to-date writings on this long, arduous battle. It illustrates the diversity and complexity of the woman suffrage movement as well as the varying — and sometimes conflicting — interpretations by historians. Essays also include in-depth discussions on woman suffrage and racism, classism, political strategies and coalition building. It is the companion book to the PBS Documentary, "One Woman, One Vote" (aired December 18, 1995). \$18.95 pb, 388 pgs., 0-939165-26-0.

In **Animals as Teachers & Healers: True Stories & Reflections** Susan Chernak McElroy recounts her own successful battle with cancer and the role that animals have played in her healing and recovery. She

also collects a host of stories in which people tell of the profound experiences they have had with a pet or wild animal that somehow touched their souls for a moment or a lifetime. \$12.95 pb, 0-939165-27-9.

New Sage Press, PO Box 607, Troutdale OR 97060; 503-695-5406. Distributed by PGW. —CS



ONLYWOMEN PRESS

Dirty Work by Vivien Kelly is a virtuoso first novel set among London's caring professionals and gay community. Murder or suicide? No one seems to care — but Jo won't let it rest when Karen, a young lesbian, is found dead in a London hostel for the homeless. Advice from Jo's house mates (queer and straight), comfort from the police sergeant in charge (an ex-lover) and steamy sex with a prime suspect figure in the search through Karen's intimates and enemies. And the death toll mounts till the solution challenges even Jo's stamina and wit. \$10.99 pb, 0-906500-55-9.

An Intimacy of Equals: Lesbian Feminist Ethics edited by Lilian Mohin is the eagerly awaited (since at least 1993!) anthology that examines lesbian strategies to subvert the mainstream. **An Intimacy of Equals** addresses issues such as: femininity (not just lipstick), the misuses of psychology, gossip's advantages, sexual practice and traditional religion (for and against). Activists and academics, clerics and agnostics writing here include: Rabbi Sheila Shulman, Dr. Celia Kitzinger,

BREAKING THE PATRIARCHAL CODE

The Linguistic Bases for Sexual Bias

By Louise Gouëffic

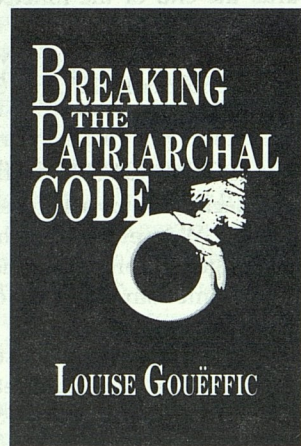
Breaking the Patriarchal Code is a ground-breaking work which exposes the hidden male bias in many Indo-European languages, especially English. An independent scholar, Ms. Gouëffic has studied English and other Indo-European languages for over thirty years. During that time, she has come up with positive ways to change gender-based, biased language. A fascinating, learned look at our language and its subtle, hidden agenda which promotes the idea of male dominance and control.

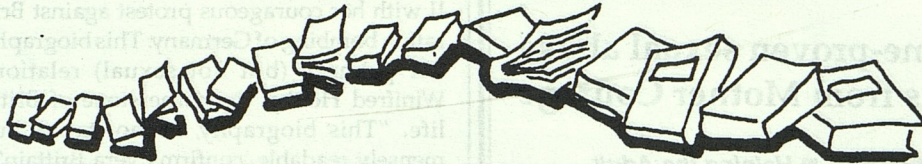


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Joyce Cunningham, Lilian Mohin, Rosie Waite, Maud Sulter, J.P. Hollerith, Anna Livia, Carol Reeves, Nett Hart, Dr. Julia Penelope and Dr. Patricia Duncker.

Onlywomen Press, 40 St. Lawrence Terrace, London W10 5ST, England; +0181-960-7122, fax +0181-960-2817, e-mail: 100756.1242@compuserve.com. Distributed by WomenSource/Login.

—Onlywomen Press



PAPIER-MACHE PRESS

Large print editions of *When I Am an Old Woman I Shall Wear Purple* (\$17 pb, 0-918949-83-1) and *If I Had My Life to Live Over I Would Pick More Daisies* (\$17 pb, 0-918949-84-X), both edited by Sandra Haldeman Martz, will be available in April.

Papier-Mache Press, PO Box 1305, Freedom CA 95019; 800-927-5913. Distributed by InBook, Inland, BP, Baker & Taylor, Ingram and Pacific Pipeline.

—Papier-Mache Press

SPINIFEX PRESS

1996 marks our fifth year, and it is appropriate that Dale Spender's extraordinary book should lead the year off and that Gillian Hanscombe's murder in the women's movement mystery should make us think about who we are and what we can justify politically.

Nattering on the Net: Women, Power and Cyberspace by Dale Spender looks at the revolution in culture that is occurring with the advent of the Internet and electronic communications. We first discussed the book in late 1991, and the book itself has changed with the times. Spender is excited about the possibilities for feminists, but is also critical about the way in which men have hijacked the superhighway. \$19.95, 1-875559-09-4.

Figments of a Murder by Gillian Hanscombe is both funny and terrifying. Hanscombe has written a riveting book about Babes, the woman everyone loves

and fears. Babes is into power and calls the shots. Or does she? *Figments of a Murder* probes obsession, images of self, sex, stardom and sisterhood. \$13.95 pb, 1-875559-43-4.

Spinifex Press, 504 Queensberry Street, PO Box 212, North Melbourne Victoria 3051, Australia; +613-9329-6088, fax +613-9329-9238. In the U.S., call or fax 718-351-9599 for further information. Distributed by InBook.

—Spinifex Press

TORRANCE PUBLISHING

How to Fight Back and Win: The Joy of Self-Defense by Judith Fein, Ph.D. is a state of the art, practical guide for preventing and stopping assault. Twenty easy to comprehend lessons (with photos and diagrams) describe both physical and emotional/psychological self-defense measures. "Winning is having no other options in your mind. Winning is pure guts and determination." \$16.95 pb, 0-929523-28-8. Torrance Publishing, PO Box 2558, Sebastopol CA 95473. —CS

VIRAGO

The Diaries of Sylvia Townsend Warner edited by Claire Harman. For Sylvia Townsend Warner, the diaries she kept from 1927 to 1978 became the equivalent of an intimate correspondent to whom she could describe and ponder the details of her life. From her thoughts on love, friendship, writing, and death to the antics of her cats and her plans for her garden, she gives us a self-portrait replete with anecdotes and rich observations. Above all, her diaries are a poignant account of her great love affair with Valentine Ackland, the woman in her life, an affair that brought both anguish and liberation. \$19.95 pb, 1-85381-885-2. Virago is distributed in the U.S. by Trafalgar Square.

While you're ordering you *might* want to pick up a copy of *Vera Brittain: A Life* by Paul Berry and Mark Bostridge, the first comprehensive biography of the controversial writer, pacifist and feminist who immortalized a lost generation in *Testament of Youth* and dared to jeopardize her literary standing during WW

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II with her courageous protest against Britain's saturation bombing of Germany. This biography describes her primary (but not sexual) relationship with Winifred Holtby, the cornerstone of Brittain's adult life. "This biography, authoritative but also immensely readable, confirms Vera Brittain's stature as one of the most remarkable women of her time, and also as a woman ahead of her time. U.S.\$35 cl, Chatto & Windus, 0-7011-2679-5. Distributed in the U.S. by Trafalgar Square, North Pomfret VT 05053. —CS

And A Few Periodicals:

The Body Politic is a "Monthly Pro-Choice News Report" in magazine-on-newsprint format "supported by a network of savvy volunteers across the country who supply the magazine with information about their local communities." \$3.50/issue, ten issues per year. *The Body Politic*, PO Box 2363, Binghamton NY 13902; 607-648-2760. Distributed by Left Bank Distribution, Desert Moon Periodicals, Armadillo Distributors, and Detroit Magazine Distribution.

Booksellers in academic communities may wish to stock *The Monthly Forum on Women in Higher Education*. The premier issue (October, 1995) looks at "Women's Quest to Scale the Ivory Tower," "The Nine Lives of the Seven Sisters," "Women's Enrollment at the Nation's Elite Colleges and Universities," "New Proof of SAT Gender Bias," and "Milestones for Women in Medical Schools." \$5.00/ 48 page issue. 200 West 57th Street, 15th Floor, New York NY 10019; 212-399-1087.

Women's Work is a five-year-old zine-ish magazine that will appeal to younger feminists and still hold the attention of the more traditionally visually oriented. The issue I saw considered the 75th anniversary of woman suffrage, the success of RV women, a woman's life as a stripper, housekeeping and guilt, and reviewed *Just Lucky I Guess*, *Egalia's Daughters*, and *Kitchen Tables*. \$3.00/32 page issue. *Women's Work*, 606 Avenue A, Snohomish WA 98290; 306-568-5914. Distributed by BP, Small Changes and Desert Moon.

Wahine (Polynesian for "women") is a very-produced, slick, color magazine about women and water. "Wahine is for all the women who love the water, whether she sails, windsurfs, bodysurfs, kayaks, canoes, swims, bodyboards or just stands in appreciation at the water's edge, and particularly the surfer, who we honor in this premier issue." The first issue includes an interview with current world champ



Lisa Anderson, a story about filmmaker Donna Olson's "Surfer Girl" video, and a surfing trip to Mexico with former world champion surfer Frieda Zamba, a lot of graphics, a lot of color, a lot of flash, a lot of bathing suits and a surprising amount of practical information. \$2.95/32 pages. Next issue is due out in February. Direct orders: 40% discount for 10+ copies. *Wahine*, 5520 East Second Street Suite K, Long Beach CA 90803; 310-434-9444. Distributed by Fine Print.

Reading Woman is a review journal/newsletter published quarterly that covers 20 books — mostly fiction and biography — per issue. It looks at "what women are reading" rather than at books by/about women. The one and two paragraph mini-reviews are followed by brief excerpts. Possibly useful for reading groups looking for ideas. \$15/year for four issues. Published by Bering Communications, PO Box 19116, Minneapolis MN 55419; 800-844-1271 or 612-822-1271. Bookstore terms and distribution information not sent.

WIG (that's Women In General) is a new women's cultural magazine that covers sports, art and music. It's designed to appeal to Generation X women (who the editors call "Generation F women") though the

editorial reflects the culture of women between ages 20 and 40. It covers everything from unknown methods of birth control to the UN Conference on Women to punk music, Seal Press books, and bodyboarding. Well produced, colorful, graphically interesting and readable. Editor Kathleen Gasperini is the former editor of *Women Sports & Fitness* and former associate editor of *Snowboarder*. The experience of the production and editorial crew shows. If there's any justice in the world, this magazine will get enough distribution to make a difference in young women's lives. \$3.95 for the premiere. *WIG*, PO Box 158, Heber City UT 84032; 801-654-5398. We'll run distribution information in "That-A-Way" as soon as we get it! —CS

Inland (Wholesale) titles are now available from Inland/Koen, 10 Twosome Drive, PO Box 600, Moorestown NJ 08057; 800-257-8481. InBook and WomenSource titles are shifting to InBook/Login. During the month of January, InBook and WomenSource titles will probably be available both from Login as well as from the old InBook warehouse in Connecticut. InBook and WomenSource titles are also available through many other wholesalers (Koen, BP, etc.). ○

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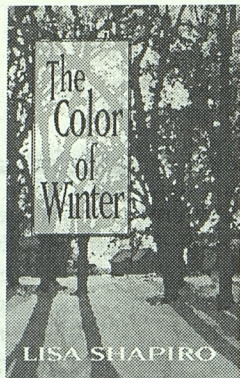
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The Color of Winter

by Lisa Shapiro

In a world that glorifies the mind but stifles the spirit, two women struggle to live life on their own terms...

Haunted by ghosts of the past, Dr. Sandra Ross, 51, seeks safety in the conventions and conformity of academia. Newly appointed to the History Department at University of California—Berkeley, she becomes faculty advisor to 29-year-old Jay Hope, the rebellious daughter of wealthy philanthropists. Jay's inheritance is contingent upon her receiving a college degree before she turns 31, and her powerful mother will do everything she can to ensure that Jay plays by her rules. But Jay has

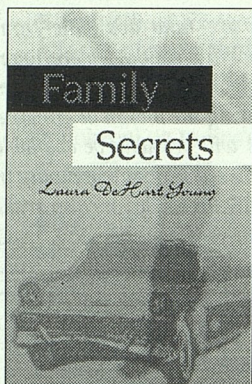
other plans...

Sandra looked at Jay. The desire in the young woman's eyes was easy to read and she felt an answering desire rise as heat to her face. "I have to protect what I believe in. You're a student. I can justify my feelings towards you. I could never justify the action."

Jay smiled. "I'm going to keep coming here until you tell me to leave."

Sandra hesitated. She could face her fear, but she could not speak it. All she had left was honesty. "I don't want you to leave."

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Family Secrets

by Laura DeHart Young

An exhilarating blend of romance and suspense that will keep you enthralled from the first page to the sensational climax!

Orphaned as a child when her parents were killed in a tragic car wreck, Meg Rhyland is shocked when a stranger appears claiming to be her half-brother and demanding his share of her inheritance. To make matters worse, Meg and Kit, her partner of four years, are having serious problems—and Kit has begun drinking heavily. After Meg catches her lover in bed with a close family friend, Kit moves out, leaving Meg alone to

deal with her alleged sibling.

When Meg learns that the car crash that killed her parents might not have been an accident, she hires Private Detective Susan Marks to find out the truth about her father's past. As the women unravel the tangled knot of lies and family secrets, they discover that Meg is the target of a terrifying conspiracy. But will they be able to stop it before the killing begins???

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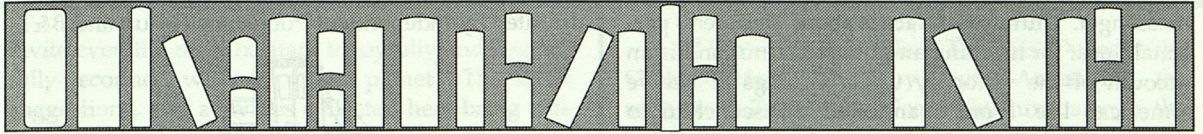


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FROM THE SMALL PRESSES



By Jenn Tust

In **Words of Fire: An Anthology of African-American Feminist Thought** Beverly Guy-Sheftall has assembled a comprehensive collection of Black women's writings from the 1830s to the present. Guy-Sheftall's work blasts the illusion that mainstream feminism's marginalization of Black women has left Black women without an intellectual tradition. Tracing the evolution of Black feminism, **Words of Fire** illustrates the tradition of resistance against the three-fold oppression of racism, classism, and sexism that Black women have struggled against since their arrival in America. Angela Davis, Sojourner Truth, Lorraine Hansberry and Alice Walker are among the 50 contributors. Looks fabulous! \$20 pb, 1-56584-256-1. The New Press, 450 West 41st Street, New York NY 10036. Distributed by W.W. Norton.

Heatwave: Women in Love and Lust edited by Lucy Jane Bledsoe features passionate, volcanic lesbian short fiction that delivers, both in terms of literary and erotic content. Running the gamut from a tender first kiss next to a stream on women's land, to knife-edge tension and dark sexual intrigue in East Berlin, the stories in **Heatwave** are hot, reflecting what Bledsoe calls "the bigness of lesbian eroticism" which is "so much more than what we do in bed." Contributors include Nisa Donnelly, Kitty Tsui, michon and Susan Fox Rogers. \$9.95 pb, 1-55583-318-7. Alyson Publications, 40 Plympton Street, Boston MA 02118. Distributed by Consortium and BP.

In **Season of the Witch: Border Lines, Marginal Notes** Gail Griffin blends autobiography and literary criticism to examine conflicts currently raging around feminism, multiculturalism and political correctness,

both on college campuses and on the larger American scene. Griffin begins her journey by probing key experiences of "growing up white and female" in the fifties and sixties, then moves on to her current life as a teacher of English and women's studies at a small liberal arts college in the Midwest. Griffin recounts classroom dramas while teaching African American literature to white students, showing herself to be a woman willing to take risks to transcend differences and open her students' minds to new possibilities. \$16.95 pb, 0-9623879-5-9. Trilogy Books, 50 South DeLacey Avenue #201, Pasadena CA 91105; 818-440-0669. Distributed by Independent Publishers Group.



Chisie Farrington in 1936 with her "first really big fish."
From *Reel Women* (Beyond Words Publishing)

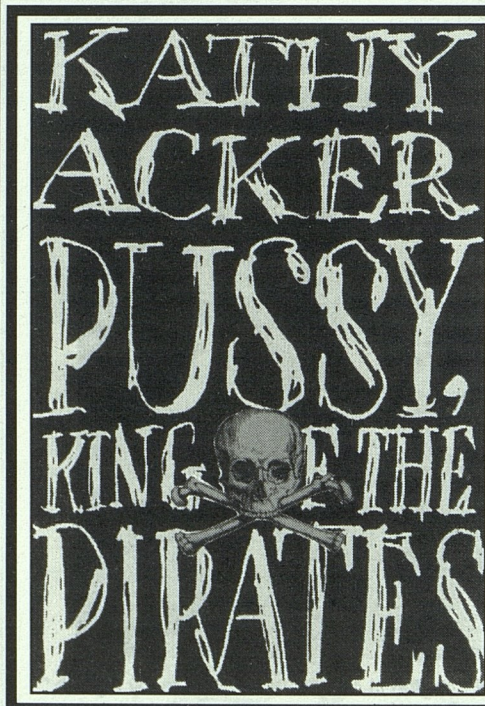
Thunder's Grace: Walking the Road of Visions With My Lakota Grandmother by Mary Elizabeth Thunder tells both her own story and the true tale about her adopted grandmother, Grace Spotted Eagle, who guided Thunder to her spiritual awakening as a messenger. **Thunder's Grace** is about Thunder's personal quest for meaning amid two cultures and is an account of the visionary underpinnings of Native American life. From abandoned, abused child to esteemed leader in the Native American movement — healer, visionary, and teacher in a native tradition — **Thunder's Grace** is the story of the author's journey. \$14.95 pb, 0-88268-166-4. Station Hill Press, Barrytown NY 12507; 914-758-5840. Distributed by Talman Company, 131 Spring Street #201E-N, New York NY 10012; 800-537-8894.

When Beaver Was Very Great: Stories to Live By, by Ojibwe Storyteller Anne M. Dunn, collects teaching stories for adults. Many of the characters in the tales are the animals of Native American legend — each having a message of hope and wisdom to share. The writings address a diversity of topics, including

humans' relationship with nature, peace activism and social justice, respect for elders, and raising children for a gentler walk on Mother Earth. \$13.95 pb, 1-883953-07-3; \$18.95 cl, -08-1. Midwest Traditions, PO Box 320, Mount Horeb WI 53572; 800-736-9189. Distributed by Independent Publishers Group and B&T.



In the foreword to **Celebrating the Great Mother: A Handbook of Earth-Honoring Activities for Parents and Children** Diane Mariechild writes, "with grace and insight emerging from their own deep experience, Cait Johnson and Maura D. Shaw have created a guidebook for parents, teachers, and caregivers to explore earth-based spirituality with their children. While drawing primarily from their roots, a Goddess-based Celtic tradition, they respectfully acknowledge the wisdom of the Native Americans upon whose soil we live. Both authors are the mothers of young sons, and their firsthand knowledge of children shines through their writing. They



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invite even the most hesitant to joyfully and respectfully reconnect with our home planet." The ideas, suggestions, and activities collected here bring children into rituals that celebrate seasonal cycles and help reclaim the spiritual roots of today's modern holidays. \$16.95 pb, 0-89281-550-7. 40% for 5-24; 42% for 25-49; 43% for 50+. Destiny Books, One Park Street, Rochester VT 05767; 800-246-8648.

In A Woman in Amber: Healing the Trauma of War and Exile, when Agate Nesaule was six, she and her family fled their home in rural Latvia to avoid Russian advance. Her family was first interned in Germany, where they were sent to work at an institute in East Germany which was later bombed and captured by Russian Mongolian troops. Nesaule writes about her exposure to rape, torture and execution, and about how she and her sister played among the corpses as her family starved, awaiting death. Often it was their mother who kept them going and her mother's wish that the life of the mind would be theirs. \$24 cl, 1-56947-046-4. Soho Press, 853 Broadway, New York NY 10003; 800-631-8571. Distributed by BP, B&T, Ingram, Pacific Pipeline, Bookazine, Bookmen and Booksource.



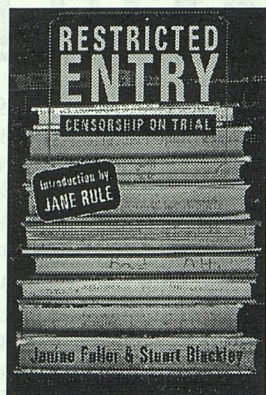
Until Women of Prague: Ethnic Diversity and Social Change From the Eighteenth Century to the Present little attention has been paid to the roles of women in the history of Prague. Wilma A. Iggers bases **Women of Prague** largely on autobiographical writings and letters by women, enhancing them with an extensive historical introduction. The vivid portraits emerge from the varied material used by Iggers, offering fascinating insights into the social and cultural history of Prague. \$25 pb, 1-57181-009-9; \$59.95 cl, -008-0. Berghahn Books, 165 Taber Avenue, Providence RI 02906; 401-861-9330. Distributed by Books International; 703-435-7064.

Of Sluts and Bastards: A Feminist Decodes the Child Welfare Debate by Louise Armstrong, the author of *Kiss Daddy Goodnight*, jumps into the Gingrichian child welfare debate, slashing through liberal and conservative nonsense to reveal a patriarchal system based on the state as Victorian "superpop." In this wake-up call for women, Armstrong reveals the link between the issue of *welfare* and that of *child welfare*: between the will to punish "sluts" and intervention to remove their "bastards." \$18.95 pb, 1-56751-066-3; \$29.95 cl, -067-1. Common Courage Press, 1 Red Barn Road, Monroe ME 04951; 207-525-0900. Distributed by Koen.



Over generations, Australian women have envisioned a world of freedom. **Freedom Bound I: Documents on Women in Colonial Australia**, edited by Marian Quartly, Susan Janson and Patricia Grimshaw (\$22.95 pb, 1-86373-735-9), and **Freedom Bound II: Documents on Women in Modern Australia**, edited by Katie Holmes and Marilyn Lake (\$22.95 pb, 1-86373-736-7), collect letters, diary extracts, poems, and public speeches that chart the visions that inspired Australian women and the obstacles that confronted them. These volumes show how intertwined women's public and personal lives were, and how bound by customs, ties, affections and duties. Different meanings of freedom have been shaped by the nature of women's oppressions, their quests given focus by their different points of departure: Aboriginal women sought self-determination and the right to keep their children; migrant women sought to affirm culture and family ties and to escape discrimination and poverty; overburdened mothers wanted relief from continual childbearing and a measure of self-fulfillment; numerous women have campaigned for freedom from domestic tyranny and male violence. Allen & Unwin. Distributed by Paul & Company

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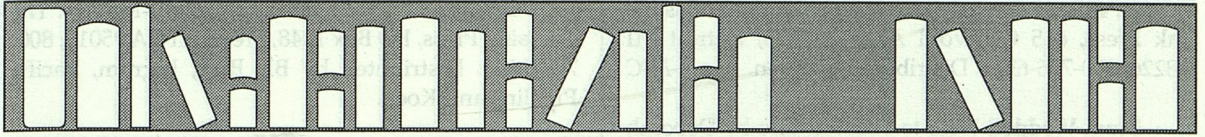
Throughout its first half century, the United Nations has served as a catalyst for the global advancement of women. **The United Nations and the Advancement of Women: 1945-1995** includes more than 100 United Nations documents relating to women's rights and chronicles the evolution of a campaign in which the initial focus on political and family life has expanded and now encompasses issues including poverty, violence against women, and equal access to education, employment and health care. \$29.95 pb, 92-1-100567-1. United Nations Publications, Room DC2-0853, Dept. PRES, New York NY 10017; 800-253-9646.

The Path We Tread: Blacks in Nursing Worldwide, 1854-1994 examines over 140 years of Black nurses' contributions to the field. The new edition is expanded and international in scope, looking at Black nurses' involvement as leaders, innovators, and caregivers in Africa, the Caribbean, and throughout the world. Historian, educator, and activist, M. Elizabeth Carnegie looks at Black nurses' work in the military, nursing education at historically Black institutions, the struggle for Black nurses to be recognized by national nursing organizations, and early leaders who paved the way for Black nurses today. \$30.95, 0-88737-640-1. National League for Nursing, 350 Hudson Street, New York NY 10014; 800-669-9656x123.



A Male/Female Continuum: Paths to Colleague-ship by Carol Pierce, David Wagner and Bill Page "describes the journeys for women and men moving away from dominance and subordination through a transition to colleagueship. A four-color fold-out chart illustrates the interaction of men's and women's journeys. Culture, race, and sexual orientation all shape our journeys. Helpful to individual readers and as a guide for discussion groups and training events." \$15.95 pb, 0-929767-02-0.

Sexual Orientation and Identity: Heterosexual, Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Journeys by Heather Wishik and Carol Pierce. "This new developmental



model describes the shifts in understanding our sexual orientation and that of others. A four-color, fold-out chart illustrates the journeys for heterosexual, lesbian, gay [male], and bisexual people moving away from compulsory heterosexuality to valuing a diversity of relationships and sexualities. Culture, race, and gender shape our development of sexual identity. For individuals, groups, and training events." \$15.95 pb, 0-929767-03-9.

40% and free shipping. New Dynamics, PO Box 595, Laconia NH 03247; 603-524-1115. —FBC



The WomanSource Catalog and Review edited by Ilene Rosoff. "In the tradition of the *Whole Earth Review*, this is a homegrown, grass-roots approach to self-reliance in every area of life, from career choices to community access, from recreational activities to relationships. The *Catalog* gives women access to an enormous variety of progressive, alternative, and hard-to-locate resources, and includes editorials, photos, and excerpts highlighting the essence of the work, organization, or service." \$19.95 pb, 0-89087-768-8.

The New Older Woman: A Dialogue for the Coming Century by Peggy Downs, Ph.D., Patricia Faul, Virginia Mudd and Ilene Tuttle "was conceived when four friends, all over sixty, organized a two-day, all-women conference at the Esalen Institute in 1991 and 1992. Multi-talented women from diverse professional disciplines gathered to discuss being vital, productive and over fifty in today's society. The result is a treasury of information which will transcend time and be of value to women of all generations." \$12.95 pb, 0-89087-769-6.

We, The Dangerous: New and Selected Poems by Janice Mirikitani is the third volume of poetry by this third generation Japanese American woman born in California and interned as an infant with her family in Rohwer, Arkansas, during WWII. Maya Angelou writes, "A major poet in America, Janice Mirikitani

speaks all our truths." \$12.95 pb, 0-89087-767-X.

40% for 10-24; 42% for 25+. Celestial Arts, PO Box 7123, Berkeley CA 94707; 800-841-2665. Distributed by BP, B&T, Ingram, Pacific Pipeline and Koen. —FBC

Shu Ting: Selected Poems edited by Eva Hung. Shu Ting is one of the foremost poets to emerge in China after the Cultural Revolution and the only woman to gain national and international recognition for her verse. Her distinctive, gentle voice and simplicity of expression have articulated the emotional longings of a generation. \$14.95 pb, 962-7255-14-9. 40% for 10+ and free regular mail (4-6 weeks). Renditions Paperbacks, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shatin, NT Hong Kong, Attn: Eric Cheung; 852-2609-7407. Distributed by Cheng & Tsui and Small Press Distribution. —FBC

The Monkey's Mask: An Erotic Murder Mystery by Dorothy Porter. "Not since Vikram Seth's *The Golden Gate* has fiction in verse been so brilliantly accessible or so masterfully crafted. This daring twist on the mystery genre is 'spoken' by a lesbian private investigator with a voice of emotion and power that picks you up and hurls you through the pages in a fast-paced and funny rhythmic charge through murder and deceit." \$19.95 cl, 1-55970-304-0, Arcade. Distributed by Little, Brown and also available from Koen. —FBC



The Gay and Lesbian Literary Companion edited by Malcolm Boyd "showcases writings with gay [male] or lesbian themes. In addition to presenting excerpts from fiction, poetry, plays, and essays, **The Gay & Lesbian Literary Companion** discusses the writers' lives and art and provides a complete list of their published writings. Among the 45 authors profiled are James Baldwin, Rita Mae Brown, Armistead Maupin and Sarah Schulman." \$18.95 pb, 0-7876-

0033-4. 40% for 5-9; 41% for 10-24; 42% for 25+. Visible Ink Press, 645 Griswold Avenue #835, Detroit MI 48226; 800-776-6265. Distributed by Koen. —FBC

From Wedded Wife to Lesbian Life by Deborah Abbott and Ellen Farmer “presents 42 personal stories of discovery by women who got married, defied tradition, and came out as lesbians. Drawing from a broad range of cultures and classes, this revealing collection of essays, interviews, poems, and photos offers a glimpse into the lives of lesbian authors JoAnn Loulan, Margaret Randall, Margarethe Cammermeyer and others.” \$14.95 pb, 0-89594-766-8. —FBC

In Men Are From Detroit, Women Are From Paris 20 women cartoonists, including Roz Chast, Nicole Hollander, Jennifer Berman, Nina Paley, and Gail Machlis, share their observations about the two sexes in this latest women’s humor collection compiled by Roz Warren. \$8.95 pb, 0-89594-748-X.

For **Making Love Visible: In Celebration of Gay and Lesbian Families** photographer Geoff Manasse and journalist/novelist Jean Swallow traveled the country to document — through photographs and interviews — the diversity in lesbian and gay male families. The book, according to Stephanie Coontz, author of *The Way We Never Were: American Families and the Nostalgia Trap*, “intimately portrays the diverse voices and faces in families that are too often ignored or stereotyped in today’s debate over family forms and values.” \$18.95 cl, 0-89594-778-1.

40% for 5-24; 42% and free freight for 25+. The Crossing Press, PO Box 1048, Freedom CA 95019; 800-777-1048. Distributed by BP, B&T, Ingram, Pacific Pipeline and Koen.

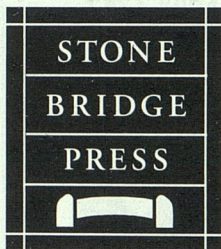


Spirit Moves: The Story of Six Generations of Native Women by Loree Boyd, with Katherine Dieter. “This powerful multi-generational chronicle reveals how one family endured the destruction of its way of life and survived into the modern world. It begins in Montana in 1886, a decade after the battle of Little Big Horn, with the birth of Bird Song, the author’s great-great-grandmother, and continues to the present day. An inspiring real-life saga of secrets, survival and love.” \$14.95 pb, 1-880032-59-7, March.

A Woman’s Book of Rituals and Celebrations by Barbara Ardinger, Ph.D., “offers joyful commemoration of the Goddess for everyone seeking meaningful ritual and new access to the divine. In this easy-to-use resource, Ardinger teaches readers how to transform the simple, everyday objects in their homes and the seemingly ordinary events of daily life into powerful ritual tools and sacred moments of revelation and celebration.” \$11.95 pb, 1-880032-57-0. —FBC

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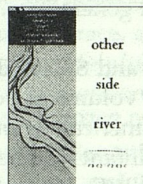
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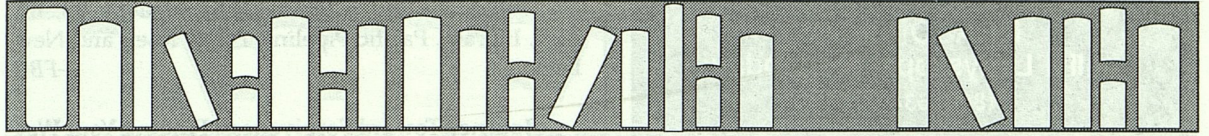
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A Long Rainy Season: Haiku and Tanka
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On Our Own Terms: Portraits of Women Business Leaders by Liane Enkelis and Karen Olsen "profiles 15 women from a variety of cultures, races, and lifestyles who head companies grossing more than \$10 million annually. These women have drawn on their passions, instincts, cultural heritage, and family strength to succeed and their profiles offer readers down-to-earth advice and inspiration on career planning, growing a business, and managing personal and family life." \$19.95 pb, 1-881052-69-9, Berrett-Koehler. Distributed by PGW and Koen. —FBC

The Complete Single Mother by Andrea Engber and Leah Klungness, Ph.D.. "Written by the founder and director of the National Organization of Single Mothers, **The Complete Single Mother** explains what nearly ten million American single mothers need to know to overcome the challenges of daily life with dignity, wisdom, humor, and courage." \$12.95 pb, 1-55850-553-9. 46% for 10+ and free freight. Adams Publishing, 260 Center Street, Holbrook MA 02343; 800-872-5627. Distributed by B&T, Ingram, Pacific Pipeline and Koen. —FBC

Tommy Stands Alone by Gloria Velasquez is the third novel in the Roosevelt High School Series for young adults. **Tommy Stands Alone** deals with the difficult issues of sexual orientation, a struggle made more difficult by the boy's family's traditional Hispanic expectations. Uncomfortable with dating girls and equally distressed by his interest in a male friend, Tommy begins to cut classes and drink alcohol in order to avoid his friends and their increasing awareness that he may be gay. His attempt at suicide lands him in the hospital and leads to a friendship with counselor Ms. Martinez. Scenes narrated by Tommy are juxtaposed with those narrated by Ms. Martinez. Realistically done. \$7.95 pb, 1-55885-147-X; \$14.95 cl, -146-1.

Pepita Talks Twice/Pepita Habla Dos Veces by Ofelia Dumas Lachtman, illustrated by Alex Pardo Delange. "A delightfully illustrated bilingual picture

book that captures the full flavor of biculturalism, this charming story will capture the imagination of both young and old alike as it teaches the joys and benefits of speaking two languages." \$14.95 cl, 1-55885-077-5.

Longing by Maria Espinosa is a psychological novel focusing on a young woman's dependence on her husband and her attempts to forge an independent life for herself by escaping their unhealthy relationship. \$9.95 pb, 1-55885-145-3.

43% for 5+. Piñata Books/Arte Público Press, University of Houston, Houston TX 77204; 800-834-ARTE. Distributed by BP, B&T, Ingram and Pacific Pipeline.



Overcoming Binge Eating by Dr. Christopher Fairburn. "An urgently needed source of information, this authoritative book presents the facts about binge eating and offers concrete solutions to help overcome it. 'This book is a must read for binge eaters and their families.'—Laura Hill, Director, National Eating Disorders Organization." \$14.95 pb, 0-89862-179-8. 40% for 5+. Guilford Publications, 72 Spring Street, New York NY 10012; 800-365-7006. Distributed by IN, BP, B&T, Ingram, Pacific Pipeline, Login, JA Majors and Blackwell NA. —FBC

Women, Sex and Desire: Exploring Your Sexuality at Every Stage of Life by Elizabeth Davis. "Tracing women's sexual cycles through the course of a month and a lifetime, Elizabeth Davis, a longtime midwife, explains why desire comes and goes. Bright with blessings and reassurances, acknowledging women's issues that are universal yet shockingly under-discussed, **Women, Sex and Desire** is a comprehensive classic-in-the-making, rewarding the reader with 'courage at every crossroad.'" \$12.95 pb, 0-89793-194-7; \$22.95 cl, -195-5. 40% and free shipping for 6+. Hunter House, PO Box 2914, Alameda CA 94501; 800-266-5592. Distributed by IN, BP, B&T, Ingram, Pacific Pipeline, PGW and Koen. —FBC

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Girlfriends: Invisible Bonds, Enduring Ties by Carmen Renee Berry and Tamara Traeder, tells the stories of old friends and new friends, best friends and lost friends, soulmates and confidants. "Inspiring, enlightening, with generous doses of humor, this book explores acceptance, strength, resilience, loyalty, and many other facets of these invaluable relationships." \$12.95 pb, 1-885171-08-0.

Soulwork: Clearing the Mind, Opening the Heart, and Replenishing the Spirit by BettyClare Moffatt, preface by Sue Patton Thoele. "The soul is our inner fulcrum, our balance point within, our point of focus, our entrance to the divine. In *SoulWork*, Betty-Clare Moffatt uses a unique blend of lyrical prose and practical exercises to teach us how to work with the soul — filling the heart with light, the mind with clarity, the body with strength — to help us become whole." \$9.95 pb, 1-885171-01-3.

Growing Season: A Healing Journey Into the Heart of Nature is Arlene Bernstein's description of her struggle to accept the deaths of three of her children through her interaction with the earth and nature. \$11.95 pb, 1-885171-10-2.

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Journey Toward Forgiveness: Finding Your Way Home by BettyClare Moffatt. "Forgiveness takes practice," Moffatt writes. "It's not enough to change our thinking, to change our minds. It's a first and necessary step. But we must change our hearts as well. And the first place to extend forgiveness is to our own self. Our whole self. Then our lives are lived in ever-increasing joy and satisfaction and wonder." \$11.95 pb, 1-57101-050-5. 42% and free freight for 5+. Master-Media; 800-334-8232. Distributed by B&T, Koen, Ingram and Spring Arbor. —FBC

Goodbye Mother, Hello Woman: Reweaving the Daughter Mother Relationship by Marilyn Irwin Boynton and Mary Dell. "Motivating, enlightening, and empowering, *Goodbye Mother, Hello Woman* uses real-life stories along with writing and visualization exercises to lift the veil on the love-hate relationship between adult daughters and mothers and helps them begin to know, love and respect each other as women." \$12.95 pb, 1-57224-025-3; \$24.95 cl, -024-5. 40% for 10+. New Harbinger, 5674 Shattuck Avenue, Oakland CA 94609; 800-748-6273. Distributed by BP, Ingram, PGW and Koen. —FBC



Reel Women: The World of Women Who Fish by Lyla Foggia documents the history of women's achievements, contributions, and participation in a sport that has long been considered the exclusive domain of men. Foggia profiles scores of women fly, big-game saltwater, and bass anglers, who have steadily broken down the barriers of this last frontier. *Reel Women* also contains resources for the nearly 19 million women who fish, including an angling resource directory, bibliography of angling books written by or for women and a gallery of rarely-seen vintage and contemporary photographs of women anglers, dating from the 1800s. \$24.95 cl, 1-885223-18-8.

The Woman's Book of Creativity by C. Diane Ealy, Ph.D., "shows women how to tap into their innate female creativity and improve all aspects of



their lives. It contains specific exercises for developing and focusing creativity and explains what is unique about the creative energy of women." \$12.95 pb, 1-885223-06-4.

Beyond Words Publishing, 443 NE Airport Road, Hillsboro OR 97124; 503-693-8700. Distributed by Koen. —FBC



Psychopharmacology From a Feminist Perspective, edited by Jean A. Hamilton, Margaret F. Jensvold, Esther D. Rothblum and Ellen Cole, seeks a more gender-sensitive approach to pharmacologic research and treatment by focusing on connections between psychopharmacology and feminism. The chapters document the links between feminism, women's studies, and practice and research in psychopharmacology. Topics range from feminist critiques of science and medicine to the roles of sex and gender in determining responsivity to psychoactive drugs. \$12.95 pb, 1-56023-059-2.

Contributors to **Lesbian Social Services: Research Issues**, edited by Carol T. Tully, Ph.D., discuss current issues surrounding social research with lesbians, examining research conducted about lesbians and lesbianism from 1950-1990, psychotherapy with lesbians and gay men, partner abuse in lesbian relationships, issues associated with conducting research with older lesbians, ethical dilemmas associated with conducting research in lesbian communities, and conflict resolution in lesbian relationships. \$9.95 pb, 1-56023-071-1.

Lesbians of Color: Social and Human Services, edited by Hilda Hidalgo, Ph.D., ACSW, examines the important issues related to the oppression and discrimination of lesbians of color by the dominant social service community. The authors' personalized accounts depict the deep-seated impact of society's racism, sexism, and homophobia. The contributors suggest ways to enhance social workers' interactions

with lesbians of color and to change practices and policies that perpetuate oppression and discrimination. \$9.95 pb, 1-56023-072-X.

Feminist Visions of Gender Similarities and Differences by Meredith M. Kimball, Ph.D., opens a dialectic between the two traditions of feminism — similarities-based and differences-based — to generate useful scientific, political and psychological tensions. Kimball presents a brief history of gender research and equal-rights feminisms in the early twentieth century, analyzes feminist critiques of science and technology, analyzes research on gender-related similarities and differences in mathematics achievement, presents history of psychoanalytic gender theory and maternal feminisms in the early twentieth century, and gives a broad overview of women's caregiving in North America and cross-culturally in motherist-based political movements. \$14.95 pb, 1-56023-870-4.

Sex, Cells, and Same-Sex Desire: The Biology of Sexual Preference, edited by John P. DeCecco, Ph.D., and David Allen Parker, explores the myriad aspects of biological theories of sexual preference. The contributors describe, review and question recent biological research on sexual preference from the point of view of knowledgeable scientists and of scholars in social sciences and humanities representing the emerging field of gay male and lesbian studies. "This book demystifies biological research on sexual preference and makes it accessible to readers unfamiliar with biological and medical research." \$19.95 pb, 1-56023-060-6.

Harrington Park Press, 10 Alice Street, Binghamton NY 13904; 800-342-9678. Distributed by BP.



Voices From Within: Faith-Life Stories of Women in the Church by Patricia Gillespie and Mary Mathews. "The need and beauty of faith sharing that comes from the feminine source finds

expression and direction in this petite volume...great for use in guiding a small group retreat or take along to the park." —*Booklist*. The *Library Journal* notes the "sense of immediacy, as if eavesdropping,...as women articulate their stories [and] discover common bonds.... Recommended." \$11.95 pb, 0-932727-75-1. 46% and free freight on 10+. Hope Publishing House, PO Box 60008, Pasadena CA 91116; 800-326-2671. Distributed by IN, BP, B&T, Ingram, Spring Arbor and New Leaf. —FBC

Patricia A. Murphy has a book and workbook set to help women survivors of abuse succeed in the work force. The book, **Making the Connections: Women, Work and Abuse**, offers dramatic insight into the lives of abuse victims and practical recommendations for their successful return to work. (\$29.95 pb, 1-878205-65-X.) The workbook, **A Career and Life Planning Guide for Women Survivors: Making the Connections Workbook**, can be used by survivors, their loved ones and families, and professional counselors to further the healing process. The exercises help readers overcome denial, cope with vulnerability, deal with

flashbacks and dreams, describe the traumas they experienced, list negative abusive experiences; create a successful vocational future; and work toward empowerment. (\$24.95 pb, 1-57444-021-7.) St. Lucie Press, 100 E. Linton Boulevard #403B, Delray Beach FL 33483; 407-274-9906. Distributed by Ingram.



In **The Birthplace**, dictated by Cleita and told by Jon Robertson, Cleita "defines the role of women in human ecstasy, and makes the case that our misunderstanding of that role has cut us off from the Divine. This loss, she claims, is the key reason for violence in our society, and for sexual abuse against women worldwide." \$11.95 pb, 0-9647402-0-6. Inkhorn, PO Box 7660, Atlantic Station, Virginia Beach VA 23458; 804-425-3964.

The new edition of Li Ang's classic, **The Butcher's Wife and Other Stories**, translated and edited by Howard Goldblatt, includes *Flower Season*, *Curvaceous Dolls* and *Test of Love*. \$18.95 pb, 0-88727-222-3. 40% for 5+. Cheng & Tsui Company, 25 West Street, Boston MA 02111; 617-426-6074.

Chick-Lit: Postfeminist Fiction is the fourth volume in "On the Edge: New Women's Fiction," FC2's ongoing effort to discover new and innovative voices in women's fiction. Determined to contradict the myth that "women don't write experimental fiction," **Chick-Lit** presents women writers with "a fresh and irreverent wit and honesty." \$11.95 pb, 1-57366-005-1. FC2/Black Ice Books, Northwestern University Press, 625 Colfax Street, Evanston IL 60208. Distributed by Chicago Distribution Center; 800-621-2736.

The Dancing With Miriam Haggadah: A Jewish Women's Celebration of Passover by Elaine Moise and Rebecca Schwartz, with illustrations by Sherrie Smith, contains original prayers, commentary, poetry, music and art. It uses grammatically feminine blessings addressed to *Yah*, *Skekhinah*, *Ruach ha-olam* (Yah, Divine Presence, Life's Breath of the Universe). The traditional Passover symbols appear, but are interpreted with a feminist understanding of life, history and the earth. \$9.50 retail, \$5.70 wholesale + shipping.

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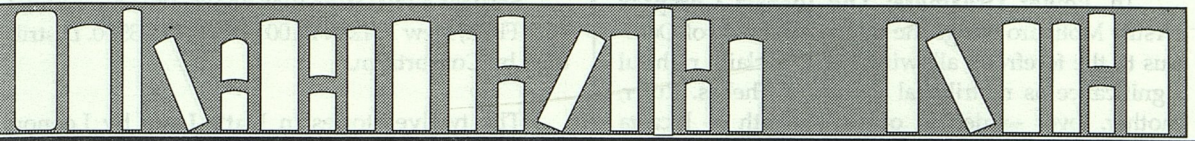
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Rikudei Miriam, 1060 Continentals Way #307, Belmont CA 94002; 415-568-7929.

Lavender Reflections: Affirmations for Lesbians and Gay Men by Eleanor Ruth Wagner, with photographs by Victor Arimondi, is a book with an array of quotations from our lesbian sisters and gay brothers. "Sometimes gay men and lesbians need a reminder that they are fine just the way they are, and that with pride and self-confidence, life will work out in wondrous and satisfying ways." \$10.95 pb, 1-886360-02-2. Alamo Square Press. Distributed by BP.

Photographing the Second Gold Rush: Dorothea Lange and the Bay Area at War, 1941-1945 presents Lange's photographic documentary of the huge changes WWII brought to one community, the San Francisco Bay Area. These are Lange's non-WPA photos, previously unpublished which capture the expulsion of Japanese Americans; thousands of young men being sent overseas; and the newly opened shipyards, military bases, and wartime factories that offered unheard-of opportunities for women, minorities, and those displaced during the Dust Bowl years. Lange stationed herself in front of stores and markets, on street corners and at shipyards to capture these moments. \$14.95 pb, 0-930588-78-9. 40% for 5+. Heyday Books, Box 9145, Berkeley CA 94709; 510-549-3564, fax 510-549-1889. Distributed by BP and Ingram.

Women of the Wild West: Biographies From Many Cultures by Ruth Pelz, a young adult book, looks at eight women whose lives exemplify the often overlooked contributions women from many cultures made to American history. \$6.95 pb, 0-940880-50-4; \$12.95 cl, -49-0. Open Hand Publishing, PO Box 22048, Seattle WA 98122; 206-323-2187. Distributed by The Subterranean Company.

"In the tradition of Alice Walker and Gloria Naylor, **Be I Whole** by Gita Brown is the choicest of

wisdom from a rising voice in American literature. Written in the lyrical voice of the talebearer, the woman who passes down the stories of family and tradition to the next generations, **Be I Whole** is a tale of ancient and spiritual people forming a new parable for the time." And, yes, Ferron fans, the title is taken from Ferron's song. \$16.95 cl, 1-878448-66-8. MacMurray & Beck, PO Box 4257, Aspen CO 81612. Distributed by National Book Network; 800-462-6420.

In **The Making of Americans**, Gertrude Stein sets out to tell "a history of a family's progress," radically reworking the traditional family saga novel to encompass her vision of personality and psychological relationships. As the history progresses over three generations, Stein also meditates on her own writing, on the making of **The Making of Americans**, and on America. Thanks, Dalkey, for bringing it back into print! \$16.95 pb, 1-56478-088-0. Dalkey Archive Press, Illinois State University, Campus Box 4241, Normal IL 61790. Distributed by Chicago Distribution; 800-621-2736.



Basketball for Women, by Nancy Lieberman-Cline and Robin Roberts with a foreword by Pat Summitt, is for women serious about playing basketball at a high level. It provides 111 drills for improving and refining offensive and defensive skills, identifies keys to proper techniques, and shows how to correct common errors; includes segments on ways to identify priorities, establish goals, seize opportunities, handle success, get the most out of practice and games; gives information on recruitment and teamwork; and also gives an overview of the history of women's basketball. The FBN staff (non-basketball players) were especially entertained by the Nancy Lieberman-Cline/Martina Navratilova photographs. \$16.95 pb, 0-87322-610-0. Human Kinetics, 1607 North Market Street, PO Box 5076, Champaign IL 61825; 217-351-5076. Distributed by Ingram and B&T.

In **Power Dreamers: The Jocasta Complex** Ursule Molinaro brings the mother and wife of Oedipus to the forefront, allowing her to reclaim rightful significance as matrilineal Queen of Thebes. Ruler, mother, lover — defiant of gods' wrath — Jocasta becomes an intelligent and compassionate actor as well as a courageous person caught in a conflict of totem and taboo. The voices of Jocasta and the sex-changing seer Tiresias, and the letters of Oedipus and Antigone, combine to tell of these 37 years in the history of Thebes: how, by marrying her son, Jocasta became the woman without whom Oedipus has no story. \$16 cl, 0-929701-44-5. McPherson & Company, PO Box 1126, Kingston NY 12401; 914-331-5807. Distributed by BP.



The protagonist in **House Rules**, 15-year-old Lee, expelled from boarding school and unwilling to go home to an abusive father, escapes to a horse-show circuit where she becomes involved with a dangerous rider, Tory, and a brother-and-sister team of horse trainers. The sister finds, in Lee, a new person on whom to practice her violent sexual habits, which are sadly comfortable for Lee, who soon realizes that the oblivion of synthetic morphine isn't enough to transform her brutal world. "An incinerating first novel, **House Rules** is the debut of a wonderful new novelist crackling with raw talent." —Rita Mae Brown. \$12.99 pb, 1-85242-413-3.

In **Armed Response** a perpetually amused, downtown New Yorker goes to L.A. for her famous uncle's funeral. While everyone else is obsessing over whether Bob Hope will pay his condolences, Ann wonders why she can't stop tripping her Aunt Cherrie's alarm system — the one which guarantees an "Armed Response." "Will the guards really arrive with guns?" is one of the many questions she asks herself throughout the novel. \$12.99 pb, 1-85242-415-X.

Where Does Kissing End? by Kate Pullinger (who collaborated with Jane Campion on the novelization of *The Piano*) is a novel about obsession and possession and asks an important question for the '90s: where does pleasure end and hurting begin. \$12.99 pb, 1-85242-277-7.

Serpent's Tail/High Risk Books, 180 Varick Street, 10th Floor, New York NY 10014; 212-741-8500. Distributed by Consortium.

The twelve stories in **Dat's Love** by Leonora Brito range widely over time and character, age and background. From the surreal to the mundane, they are moving, funny, authentic and appealing. The narrators of two of the stories salvage their Black stories from the predominantly white telling of history: an eighteenth-century grocer near death reflects on slavery and servitude; in a story set in the nineteenth-century, a woman contemplates how her dark skin created a double-edged relationship with white men. Looks good! \$15.95 pb, 1-85411-136-1. Dufour Editions, PO Box 7, Chester Springs PA 19425; 610-458-5005.

Set in pre-Stonewall Chicago (1959), **Lucy & Mickey** by Red Jordan Arobateau tells the story of two "low-class" dykes trying to succeed on skid row. Elizabeth Grindon writes in Mama Bears' August newsletter that "Reading Red Jordan Arobateau is like reading a prayer-book interspersed with x-rated scenes of the raunchiest kind." Arobateau has been writing and self-publishing her work since the '70s. It's great to see her work get out to a wider, well-deserved, audience. \$6.95 pb, 1-56333-311-2. Hard Candy/Masquerade Books, 801 Second Avenue, New York NY 10017. Distributed by BP, Alamo Square.



Stealing Fire by Claudia Mauro is a moving volume of prose and poetry which comments on everyday names, objects, and experiences to put them in a new light. Spiritual, humorous and realistic. "Claudia's work is gorgeous — big, gentle and alive with the truth of having looked into the hearts of desire and hell and come out loving." —Anita Montgomery. \$12 pb, (no ISBN). 30% and free shipping for 5+. Whiteaker Press, 204 First Avenue South #3, Seattle WA 98104; 206-382-7780 or 360-376-3263.

The contributors to **(Hetero)sexual Politics**, edited by Mary Maynard and June Purvis, discuss sexuality in a diverse range of contexts, from hetero-sensibilities on

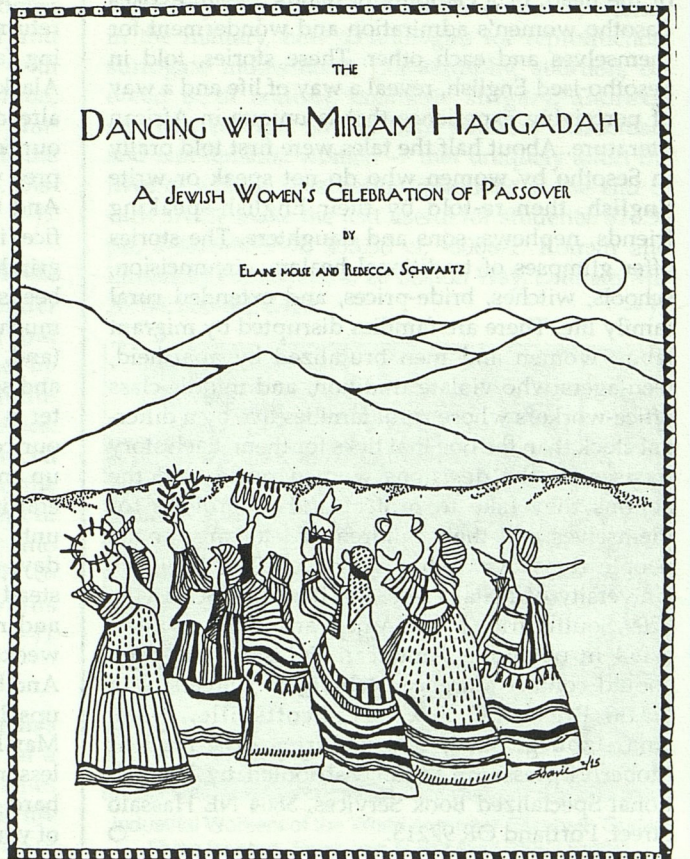
the Oprah Winfrey Show to women warriors in the Gulf War, illustrating the diversity and excitement of debates about sexuality in women's studies and feminism today, and pointing to new paths for feminist analysis, thinking and action. \$24.95 pb, 0-7484-0296-9. Taylor & Francis, 1900 Frost Road #101, Bristol PA 19007; 800-821-8312.

Queer View Mirror: Lesbian and Gay Short Fiction, edited by James C. Johnstone and Karen X. Tulchinsky, collects 101 works of short short fiction by lesbian and gay male writers, whose contributions are snapshots of queer life. With glimpses from the queer point of view on topics such as sex, politics, religion, and shopping, this anthology acknowledges the common ground within the collective gay experience while celebrating its diversity. \$17.95 pb, 1-55152-026-5. Arsenal Pulp Press, 103-1014 Homer Street, Vancouver BC Canada V6B 2W9; 604-687-4233. Distributed by InBook.

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) has teamed up with the National Freedom To Marry Coalition to create **To Have and To Hold: Organizing for Our Right To Marry**, an organizing tool geared to teach activists how to win and keep our freedom to marry. The easy-to-use work kit contains: the latest information on marriage cases; how to start a marriage group in your community; handy tips; convenient checklists and sound-bites; how to fight Radical Right attacks and hostile legislation; press strategies; The Marriage Resolution; and organizing resources. \$6 and free shipping for 10+ copies. National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, 2320 17th Street NW, Washington DC 20009; 202-332-6483, fax 202-332-0207.

Bamboo Ridge Press, a non-profit literary quarterly, has published poetry, drama and

fiction by Hawaiian writers for 16 years. **Bananaheart and Other Stories: A Collection of Fiction** by Marie Hara explores nearly 100 years of the experiences of Japanese women in Hawaii. Her characters include picture brides, plantation workers, domestic servants, and *hapa-haole* girls growing up in post-war Makiki, as well as these women's successful, but often troubled, middle-class descendants. (\$8 pb, 0-910043-33-7.) **Tsunami Years** by Juliet S. Kono (*Hilo Rains*) expands her metaphor of tsunami in her new volume of poetry exploring the turbulence of life, dealing with a mother-in-law afflicted with Alzheimer's disease, the death of a troubled son, and



the long-term consequences of natural disasters. (\$10 pb, 0-910043-35-3.) **Saturday Night at the Pahala Theatre**, poems by Lois-Ann Yamanaka, "explores the heart of existence and, from the depths, emerges language that uncovers a mother tongue — a language triumphant and rich in Native rhythms and compelling insights." (\$8 pb, 0-910043-31-0.)

Bamboo Ridge Press, PO Box 61781, Honolulu HI 96839; 808-599-4823. Distributed by Small Press Distribution.



Basali!: Stories By and About Women in Lesotho is edited by K. Limakatso Kendall. *Basali!* means women! and is one of the most common exclamations in the Sesotho language. Usually uttered by a woman and delivered with a laugh, a shaking of the head, or a clapping of hands, *Basali!* evokes Basotho women's admiration and wonderment for themselves and each other. These stories, told in Sesotho-ised English, reveal a way of life and a way of perceiving experience that is unique in African literature. About half the tales were first told orally in Sesotho by women who do not speak or write English, then re-told by their English-speaking friends, nephews, sons and daughters. The stories offer glimpses of traditional healers, circumcision, schools, witches, bride-prices, and extended rural family life. There are families disrupted by migrant labor, women and men brutalized by apartheid, teen-agers who violate tradition, and middle-class office-workers whose rural families live by a different clock than the one that ticks for them. Each story focuses on the decisions women make, and the actions they take to protect and to provide for themselves and their children and to care for the people they love. (Sorry no price), 0-86980-918-0. University of Natal Press, PO Box X01, Scottsville 3209, South Africa. North American publishers interested in obtaining American rights to this book should contact Margery Moberly at University of Natal Press, PO Box X01, Scottsville, Pietermaritzburg, 3209, South Africa or e-mail at Moberly@press.unp.ac.za. Distributed by International Specialized Book Services, 5804 NE Hassalo Street, Portland OR 97213. ○

Gay Men's Lit, *continued from page 70.*

up the entirety of gay culture and community in the 1990s, but this hefty collection of essays and snippets, graphics and quotations, and facts and facts and more facts, is an invaluable resource and a hearty good read. \$24.95 cl, 0-446-51822-0, Warner.

Long Road to Freedom edited by Mark Thompson — Drawn from 25 years of *The Advocate*, America's oldest gay magazine, this coffee table-sized anthology includes original essays as well as news, reviews, interviews, photos and more excerpted from the magazine. The result is an essential (and entertaining) historical document, tracing gay life from Stonewall into the '90s. \$24.95 cl, 0-312-13114-3, St. Martin's.



My apologies for missing the last issue; I returned in mid-September from a three week-motoring (and ferry) holiday through British Columbia, Alaska and the Yukon — relaxed, with half a column already on the computer and an easy coast towards our September 30 year-end inventory, thanks to great prep work from the staff while I was out of the way. And then: my first morning back, I turn on the office/inventory computer to the sound of rattling, grinding and then silence; soon after, the fax machine beeps frantically for a few seconds and then dies; not much later, the toilet first plugs up and then backs up (and, later, when the plumber is fixing it, explodes and spews sewage into the store), all while a carpenter is drilling and sawing and hammering to repair our collapsing back porch. Fax, toilet and porch are up and running by day's end; the computer, for several intricate and best-forgotten reasons, isn't back until just a week before inventory — with several days of missing (and heretofore perfect) data. So instead of polishing up a column, I was re-selling books and re-receiving invoices and compressing several weeks of pre-inventory work into just a few days. And because of a series of pre-crash corrupted backups, I wasn't able even to retrieve what I *had* written. May I say that the computer ate my homework? The lesson learned: always save to disk, always print a hard copy. And check and double-check the quality of your backups. ○

FROM THE UNIVERSITY PRESSES



By Mev Miller and Jenn Tust

BRITISH FILM INSTITUTE

In *Script Girls: Women Screenwriters in Hollywood* Lizzie Francke traces the history of women in the screenwriting profession — looking at the lives and fortunes of women who “put pen to screen.” *Script Girls* focuses on a range of writers whose careers highlight some of the salient issues for women as the Hollywood film industry developed and changed. Complete with extensive interviews with women working today — including Nora Ephron, Callie Khouri, and Caroline Thompson — plus filmographies, this book puts women writers back into the picture. \$18.95 pb, 0-85170-478-6; \$45 cl, -477-8. Distributed by Indiana University Press. —JT

INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

Women in the Americas: Bridging the Gender Gap examines the respective roles of men and women in development — roles determined not by biology but by social, political and economic influences that can be affected by policies and strategies. This book focuses on the status of women in social policy, the labor force, the political process and the environmental policy, examines how the concept of gender equity could better be incorporated into mainstream development policy. \$14.95 pb, 0-940602-98-9. Distributed by Johns Hopkins University Press. —JT

MCGILL-QUEENS UNIVERSITY PRESS

Ellen Smallboy: Glimpses of a Cree Woman's Life by Regina Flannery is an intimate story of a Cree woman's life among the old ways of the James Bay Cree. Born in 1853, she led a semi-nomadic life which dramatically changed during the course of

her 80 years, as did the lifestyle and culture of the Cree of northern Ontario during that time. \$12.95 pb, 0-7735-1369-8. —MM

ROWMAN & LITTLEFIELD PUBLISHERS

In Dana E. Bushnell's "*Nagging*" *Questions: Feminist Ethics in Everyday Life* eleven feminist philosophers explore contemporary ethical issues — autonomy, responsibility, sexual harassment, women in the military, new technologies for reproduction, surrogate motherhood, pornography, abortion, coerced birth control, cosmetic surgery, anorexia nervosa, in-vitro fertilization, feminist masochism and non-feminist women — that uniquely affect the lives of women. Discussion questions at the end of each article make the text useful for students. \$21.95 pb, 0-8476-8007-X; \$53.50 cl, -8006-1. Roman and Littlefield Publishers, 4720 Boston Way, Lanham MD 20706; 800-462-6420. —JT



Industrial Workers of the World organizer Elizabeth Gurley Flynn (center). From *Iron in Her Soul* (WSU Press)

CORNELL UNIVERSITY PRESS

First published in 1918, **Out of the Shadow: A Russian Jewish Girlhood on the Lower East Side** by Rose Cohen conveys a sense of the aspirations and frustrations of the author's family's journey from Tsarist Russia to New York City. Cohen reports her youthful impression of daily life in the tenements and of working conditions in garment sweatshops and domestic service. She recalls how, while confronting setbacks caused by poor health and dilemmas posed by courtship, she finds opportunities to educate herself. Cohen also records the gradual weakening of her family's commitment to religion as they find their way from the shadow of poverty toward the mainstream of American life. \$14.95 pb, 0-8014-8268-2; cl \$37.50, -3156-5. —JT

DUKE UNIVERSITY PRESS

French feminist theorist and literary critic Naomi Schor revisits some of feminist theory's most widely discredited objects, essentialism and universalism, in **Bad Objects**. This collection of essays engages Anglo American feminist theory, Freud and psychoanalytic theory, French poststructuralists, and French fiction by or about women, and also addresses issues including bilingual identity, professional controversies, female fetishism, and literature and gender, concluding with a meditation on the future of feminism. \$15.95 pb, 0-8223-1693-5; \$45.95 cl, -1681-1. —JT



MANCHESTER UNIVERSITY PRESS

The contributors to **Male Bias in the Development Process**, edited by Diane Elson, argue that the development process is marked by male bias — ill-founded and unjustified asymmetries that operate in favor of men and against women. Leading writers in the gender and development field analyze the forms taken by male bias, its foundations, the way it changes over time, and the possibilities for overcoming it. The cases considered cover both urban and rural settings; agriculture, industry and services; self-employment and wage-employment in Africa, Asia and Latin America. \$24.95 pb, 0-7190-4230-5. Distributed in the U.S. by St. Martin's Press. —JT

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY PRESS

In **Power in Struggle: Feminism, Sexuality and the State** author Davina Cooper draws on feminist, poststructuralist and Marxist theory to develop a new framework for understanding power relations in re-productive technology, queer activism, municipal politics and the regulation of lesbian reproduction. **Power in Struggle** explores the relationship between power, sexuality and the state, and provides a radical re-thinking of these concepts and their interactions. "Sexual politics must recognize the sexualization of everyday life. And sex should be neither exclusively the concern of a young, educated elite, nor shuttered as a private affair." \$17.95 pb, 0-8147-1527-3; \$50 cl, -1526-5. —JT



OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS

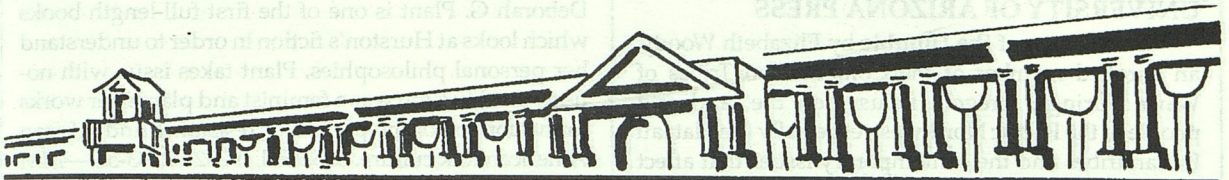
For those desiring to understand contemporary urban violence, one place to start is with history. **The Mysterious Death of Mary Rogers: Sex and Culture in Nineteenth-Century New York** by Amy Gilman Srebnick may not appeal to a general reading audience. However, it will be interesting to those wanting to understand the intersections between sex, violence, murder, and urban social complexities through studying a case history of the sensational, unsolved murder of Mary Rogers. \$25 cl, 0-19-506237-X. —MM

PURDUE UNIVERSITY PRESS

Shepherdess: Notes From the Field by Joan Jaryvis Ellison promises to be one of those delightful "professional, academic, city woman goes to the farm" type books. Ellison, mother of two active children and research associate in biophysical sciences, tells a sensitive tale of life and learning on a sheep farm. It contains humor and some sadness and you'll learn lots about sheep behavior. \$14.95 pb, 1-55753-070-X. —MM

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY PRESS

In contrast to the more commonplace images of Blacks as slaves during the eighteenth century, Gretchen Gerzina shows in **Black London** that the work of all kinds of artists, poets, playwrights and novelists reveals that not everyone in London was white. In fact there were Black pubs and clubs, balls



for Blacks only, Black churches and organizations for helping Blacks who were out of work or in trouble. Many Blacks were prosperous and respected, others were successful stewards or men of business, but many more were servants or were forced to turn to begging, prostitution or theft. \$29.95 cl, 0-8135-2259-5.

In **"Favored Strangers": Gertrude Stein and Her Family** by Linda Wagner-Martin shows the reader a Gertrude Stein rarely seen before. Piecing together the best-known versions of Stein's life, Wagner-Martin enhances the picture by also showing Stein in her earlier years and looks at the foundation that helped form her career. We see Stein, the youngest member of her German Jewish patriarchal family, an undergraduate at Radcliffe, an odd sort of feminist, a medical student at Johns Hopkins University, a lesbian and lover, an art collector, a war survivor — a multi-faceted person. \$34.95 cl, 0-8135-2169-6. —JT

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY PRESS

Faith and Freedom: Women's Human Rights in the Muslim World, edited by Mahnaz Afkhami, is a study emphasizing Muslim women's human rights and exploring the existing patriarchal structures and processes that present women's human rights as contradictory to Islam. Academics and activists, most of whom live in the Muslim world, discuss the major issues facing women of the region as they enter the twenty-first century. The contributors demonstrate how the cultural segregation of women, contradictory and conflicting legal codes, and the monopoly on the interpretation of religious texts held by a select group of male theologians have resulted in domestic and political violence against women and the suppression of women's rights. **Faith and Freedom** focuses on the ways and means of empowering Muslim women to participate in the general socialization process as well as in implementing and evaluating public policy. \$17.95 pb, 0-8156-2668-1; \$39.95 cl, -2667-3.

Daring to Dream: Utopian Fiction By United States Women Before 1950, edited by Carol Farley Kessler, recovers three full-length utopias never before reprinted in their entirety, four short utopian stories and significant excerpts from five utopian novels — providing an overview of utopias by women in the U.S. from texts not otherwise easily available. **Daring to Dream** "provides a foreground for, and feminist revision of, Edward Bellamy's *Looking Backward* (1888), as well as the imaginative underpinnings for the late twentieth-century outpouring of feminist utopias." Also includes an annotated bibliography of utopias by women writers in the United States from 1836-1988. \$17.95 pb, 0-8156-2655-X; \$49.95 cl, -2654-1. —JT



TEMPLE UNIVERSITY PRESS

The contributors to **Women of Color in U.S. Society**, edited by Maxine Baca Zinn and Bonnie Thornton Dill, examine the convergence of race, class and gender as interlocking systems of oppression in the experiences of women of color: African Americans, Latinas, Native Americans and Asian Americans. Topics discussed include social conditions that simultaneously oppress women of color and provide sites for opposition, the interface between social institutions and cultural practices, and a comparative perspective on the lives and work of women of color. \$18.95 pb, 1-56639-106-7; \$44.95 cl, -105-9.

A literary study, **Bridging the Americas: The Literature of Toni Morrison, Paule Marshall and Gayle Jones** by Stellamaris Coser, examines the "inter-American" characteristics in the novels of these three contemporary Black women writers from the U.S.. Coser argues that these authors redefine the boundaries between the Americas, while they reinterpret ethnic and sexual identity, overlap issues of race, class and nationality, and reinvent history and identity. \$18.95 pb, 1-56639-267-5; \$49.95 cl, -266-7. —JT

UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA PRESS

Luminaries of the Humble by Elizabeth Woody, an enrolled member of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Oregon, focuses on the land and people of the Pacific Northwest, especially the Plateau Indian tribes and the contemporary issues that affect their lives. This collection of poetry offers images of the natural environment, while also conveying the author's deep personal insights, experiences and understanding of the relationship between people and their land. "Infinitely far from the clueless wordgames of mandarin poets, rich, strange, a fractured tongue remaking itself to speak truth, this is poetry doing the work of poetry, legislating."—Ursula K. LeGuin. \$15.95 pb, 0-8165-1465-8. —JT

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA PRESS

Engendering the Chinese Revolution: Radical Women, Communist Politics, and Mass Movements in the 1920s by Christina Kelley Gilmartin portrays the ways in which women's emancipation was a central goal of the Chinese Communist government but one that was compromised by central aspects of the dominant patriarchy. Feminist activists interested in radical political movements can learn much from this history. \$15 pb, 0-520-20346-1. —MM

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS

Our Vampires, Ourselves by Nina Auerbach is "sometimes friendly or bewitchingly erotic, sometimes repellent, sometimes ravenous, vampires embody their societies' fears and forbidden dreams. In this wry, original book, Nina Auerbach shows how every age embraces the vampire it needs, and at the same time, gets the vampire it deserves, concluding on a hopeful note by finding vampires reborn in a female tradition." \$22 cl, 0-226-03201-9. —FBC

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS PRESS

Power of the Weak: Studies on Medieval Women, edited by Jennifer Carpenter and Sally-Beth MacLean, contains essays which explore power and independence or women's relation to power during medieval times. It studies the influences of queens, holy women, mothers, widows, Jewish *conversas* and others. \$14.95 pb, 0-252-06504-2.

Every Tub Must Sit on Its Own Bottom: The Philosophy and Politics of Zora Neale Hurston by

Deborah G. Plant is one of the first full-length books which looks at Hurston's fiction in order to understand her personal philosophies. Plant takes issue with notions that Hurston was a feminist and places her works in the context of the politics of resistance and African American folk culture. \$25.95 cl, 0-252-02183-5. —MM

In Jump at the Sun: Zora Neale Hurston's Cosmic Comedy John Lowe traces connections between Hurston's life and the cultural, historical, and literary events that affected her, revealing the sources of her humor and its serious purpose. Lowe notes that "the humor in Hurston's writing was a vehicle for subversive observations on intolerable conditions, yet it also provided a joyous commentary on the paradoxically creative and exuberant folk culture of an oppressed people." \$19.95 cl, 0-252-02110-X. —JT

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA PRESS

Second Life: A West Bank Memoir by Janet Varner Gunn contains rich accounts of the "small news" of daily life in Deheishe, the refugee camp where Mohammad Abu Aker, a Palestinian teenager who was critically shot during a stone-throwing demonstration, lived with his family. The years between Mohammad's injury, during which he was deemed a "living martyr" of the Intifada, and his death at the age of 19 in 1990, are recounted in this deeply personal book. \$19.95 cl, 0-8166-2530-1. —JT



UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA PRESS

Candy Story by Marie Redonnet recounts a turbulent year in the life of Mia, a young woman whose apparent calm is perpetually threatened by inner doubts and outer catastrophes. This is the fourth novel by Redonnet published by University of Nebraska. \$10 pb, 0-8032-8958-8. —MM

Tomorrow's Tomorrow, originally published in 1971, is a sociological study of Black girls growing up in the city. In this edition, Joyce A. Ladner updates her research and considers the differences and similarities of Black girls' lives, then and now. Ladner spent four years, at the end of the '60s, interviewing, observing and socializing with more than a hundred girls living in the Pruitt-Igoe housing project in St. Louis. Challenged by preconceived academic ideas and her own



past, Ladner examined the expectations and aspirations of these representative Black girls and their feelings about parents, boyfriends, marriage, pregnancy and child-rearing. She was interested in any significant disparity between aspirations and the resources to achieve them. According to Ladner, "The total misrepresentation of the Black community and the various myths which surround it can be seen in microcosm in the Black female adolescent." \$12 pb, 0-8032-7956-6.

In Separatism and Women's Community Dana R. Shugar 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 experiences 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. \$30 cl, 0-8032-4244-1.

Urban Survival: The World of Working-Class Women by Ruth Sidel highlights issues — the difficulty and complexity of combining work and family, inadequate and insensitive human services, employment insecurity, racism, sexual harassment and fear of crime — which are urgent problems in the lives of many Americans, particularly women. Although conditions have vastly improved since the days of sweatshops, working women are still likely to be underpaid, overworked and without adequate resources. In *Urban Survival* eight working-class women of different ages and races speak with pride and independence about their daily reality, their hopes and fears. \$10 pb, 0-8032-9239-2. —JT

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA PRESS

For fans of Nawal El Saadawi who would like to understand her works within the context of Islamic

and Arabic traditions, **Men, Women and God(s): Nawal El Saadawi and Arab Feminist Poetics** by Fedwa Malti-Douglas will be a welcome contribution. Here, Saadawi's writings are made accessible as her feminism, theology and political beliefs are clearly explained within cultural and historical context. \$17 pb, 0-520-20072-1.

Delinquent Daughters: Protecting and Policing Adolescent Female Sexuality in the United States, 1885-1920 by Mary Odem is one of those academic books which initially appears to be narrow and unappealing but, upon deeper examination, proves to be quite accessible and interesting. For those interested in teenage girls' sexuality, differences in class and racial experiences within the legal system, the conflicts created when protection becomes policing, and a historical look at how women are treated by the law with regard to sexual expression, this book sheds some light on moral reform and legal protection for girls and women. \$14.95 pb, 0-8078-4528-0. —MM



UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA PRESS

In Television Culture and Women's Lives: thirtysomething and the Contradictions of Gender, Margaret Heide explores the complex relationship between the gender conflicts played out in the scripts of the popular television show *thirtysomething* and the real-life conflicts experienced by "baby-boomer" women viewers. Combining a cultural/aesthetic assessment of *thirtysomething* episodes and interviews with 40 women viewers, Heide challenges theories that viewers passively absorb mass media messages. \$12.95 pb, 0-8122-1534-6; \$28.95 cl, -3253-4.

Susan L. Smith examines the public health initiatives created by African Americans in **Sick and Tired of Being Sick and Tired: Black Women's Health Activism in America, 1890-1950**, arguing that health

University Presses
International
Women's Voices Titles

These titles were reviewed in FBN in 1995. Listed by title, publisher, issue.

- Active Voices: Women in Jewish Culture**,
University of Illinois, May/June 95.
- Australian Gay and Lesbian Writing**,
Oxford University, March/April 95.
- Biopolitics: Feminist and Ecological Reader**,
Zed Books, Nov/Dec 95.
- Broken Silence: Voices of Japanese
Feminism**, University of Arizona,
Sept/Oct 95.
- Conceiving the New World Order**,
University of California, Nov/Dec 95.
- A Cross and a Star**,
University of New Mexico, May/June 95.
- Crossing the Snow Bridge**,
Ohio State University Press, Nov/Dec 95.
- Difficult Women, Artful Lives**,
Johns Hopkins, May/June 95.
- Entiendes?: Queer Readings, Hispanic
Writing**, Duke University, March/April 95.
- Gender and Agricultural Development**,
University of Arizona, Sept/Oct 95.
- Home Girls: Chicana Literary Voices**,
Temple University, Nov/Dec 95.
- Latin American Women Writers**,
State University of New York, Sept/Oct 95.
- Rachel Calof's Story**,
Indiana University Press, Sept/Oct 95.
- Salome of the Tenements**,
University of Illinois, Sept/Oct 95.
- Suffrage and Beyond**,
New York University Press, May/June 95.
- Tituba: Reluctant Witch of Salem**,
New York University Press, Sept/Oct 95.
- Women in the Latin American Development
Process**, Temple University, May/June 95.
- Women Singing in the Snow**,
University of Arizona, May/June 95.
- Women's Rebellion and Islamic Memory**,
Zed Books, Nov/Dec 95. —MM

improvement was a cornerstone of the early Black civil rights activity in the U.S.. Smith uses oral histories, government records and manuscript collections at historically Black colleges to show that women were at the heart of health reform in their work — as midwives, nurses, teachers, home demonstration agents, club women and sorority members — carrying out community health work and sustained projects that were part of the National Negro Health Movement. \$16.95 pb, 0-8122-1449-8; \$34.95 cl, -3237-2. —JT



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO PRESS

The essays in **Feminism in Women's Detective Fiction**, edited by Glenwood Irons, grapple with a wide range of issues important to the female detective, including gender issues and the female sleuth's suitability for the job. Some of the essays see the female detective as an important force in popular fiction, but many also question whether or not the woman detective is a positive model for feminists. \$19.95 pb, 0-8020-6954-1; \$50 cl, -0519-5.

The contributors to **Challenging Codependency: Feminist Critiques**, edited by Marguerite Babcock and Christine McKay, argue that "codependency theory is essentially misogynist in nature [holds women partly responsible for perpetuating the alcoholism and addiction of their male partners and is] — the result of a male backlash against feminism," explore the history of codependency theory, look at reasons for its growing popularity in medical-model politics, and question the validity of popular addictions philosophy and the quality of the scholarship that supports those theories. \$19.95 pb, 0-8020-7230-5; \$60 cl, -0440-7.

In **Women Editing Modernism: "Little" Magazines and Literary History**, Jayne Marek examines the work of seven women editors — Harriet Monroe, Alice Corbin Henderson, Marianne Moore, and lovers Margaret Anderson, Jane Heap, H.D. (Hilda Doolittle), Bryher (Winifred Ellermann) — whose varied activities, often behind the scenes and in collaboration with other women, contributed substantially to the development of modernist literature. Another insightful look at the expatriate women's community in early twentieth-century Paris. \$14.95 pb, 0-8131-0854-3; \$34.95 cl, -1937-5. —JT



UNIVERSITY PRESS OF NEW ENGLAND

In honor of Anna Halprin's 75th birthday, **Moving Toward Life: Five Decades of Transformational Dance** brings together Halprin's writings and interviews in book form. One of the most important innovators in contemporary dance, Halprin has spent her career exploring new forms and uses for dance, bringing dance to new audiences and environments, and reconnecting dance with its roots in myth and ritual. \$19.95 pb, 0-8195-6286-6. —MM

UNIVERSITY PRESS OF VIRGINIA

Drawing on an unusually rich array of fields — feminist social history, linguistics, folklore, literary theory, African American studies and Native American studies — **Nineteenth-Century Women Learn to Write**, edited by Catherine Hobbs, explores the gendered nature of literacy education in the nineteenth century. During this time literacy became a key element in the social transformation to Victorian culture with its cult of true womanhood advocating piety, purity, domesticity and submissiveness. Both Black and white women resisted the intended uses of literacy and fought for social reform — producing a women's movement at the end of the century with such power that its like was not seen again until the women's rights movement of the 1960s and '70s. \$47.50 cl, 0-8139-1605-4.

In **The Politics of Color in the Fiction of Jessie Fauset and Nella Larsen** Jacquelyn Y. McLendon looks at Fauset's *Plum Bun* (1929) and *Comedy: American Style* (1933) and Larsen's *Quicksand* (1928) and *Passing* (1929), finding them revisionary and subversive. McLendon contends that Fauset and Larsen attempted to blur the lines of distinction between classes and to counter racist representations of Blackness and Black female sexuality by satirizing the middle class and using the tragic mulatto and passing as metaphors in their work. Focusing on the psychology of Black women, Fauset and Larsen brought up issues of identity and difference for both Blacks and women and insisted on the authenticity of the Black

experience of mulattoes and Black middle class society. \$29.50 cl, 0-8139-1553-8. —JT

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY PRESS

In **Iron in Her Soul: Elizabeth Gurley Flynn and the American Left**, Helen Camp details 50 years of Flynn's involvement in humanitarian and social causes. Camp uses Flynn's personal papers, memoirs of friends and colleagues, FBI files, interviews and other important unpublished materials to tell about her life. Flynn was the leader of the Industrial Workers of the World, the founder of the American Civil Liberties Union and the first woman to chair the American Communist Party. \$28 pb, 0-87422-106-4; \$40 cl -105-6. —JT



WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY PRESS

Odyssey of Exile: Jewish Women Flee the Nazis for Brazil edited by Katherine Morris contains the memoirs and stories of nine educated women from the German middle class. The result is a sensitive and compelling portrait of German Jewish women who arrived in South America to face the challenge of adjusting to Brazil's patriarchal culture, an unstable economy and a tropical climate. Biographies placed in a historical context, these are the stories of average women coping with persecution and immigration. \$18.95 pb, 0-8143-2563-7. —MM

Broken Patterns: Professional Women and the Quest for a New Feminine Identity by Anita M. Harris "examines the complex relationships women share with their mothers and grandmothers and considers how those relationships and society's changing attitudes shape the experiences of professional women. Journalist Anita Harris combines personal stories of professional women with historical and psychological research to offer a new understanding of women's issues around work and mother-daughter relationships." \$17.95 pb, 0-8143-2551-3; \$39.95 cl, -03868-8. —FBC O

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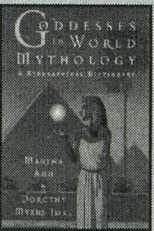
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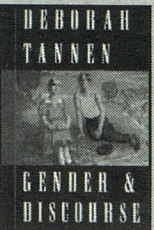
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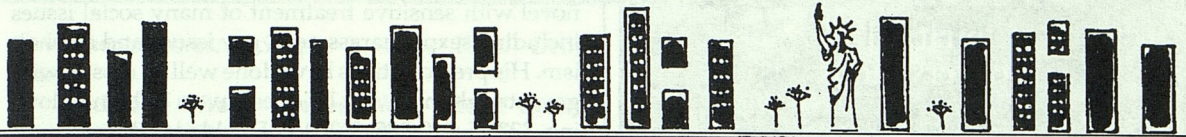
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BALLANTINE

In Nature and Other Mothers: Personal Stories of Women and the Body of Earth Brenda Peterson (*Living by Water*) combines her skills as storyteller and nature writer, exploring the healing vital symbiosis between the sacred, sensual body of our earth and the feminine — an intimacy which instructs, inspires and sustains humans. Peterson focuses on the feminine body of earth and women, of animals, human and nonhuman, weaving a story of the bond between nature and ourselves. \$12 pb, 0-449-90967-0, Ballantine Publishing Group. —JT

BANTAM, DOUBLEDAY, DELL

Dancing Moons, by Nancy Wood, illustrated by Frank Howell, (a companion to *Spirit Walker*), is a gift book with poems and meditations by Wood following the spiritual philosophy of the Pueblo Indians of New Mexico. If you've done well with *Spirit Walker*, give this a try. \$22.50 cl, 0-385-32169-4, Doubleday.

Sudden Exposure: A Jill Smith Mystery by Susan Dunlap is another mystery with a feminist protagonist, but it may be a hard sell in hardcover. \$20.95 cl, 0-385-31025-0, Delacorte, March.

Live the Life You Love in Ten Easy Step by Step Lessons by Barbara Sher follows in the line of *Wishcraft* and *I Could Do Anything if I Only Knew What It Was*. *Live* offers advice on how to live your dreams in every aspect of your life. \$10.95 pb, 0-440-50756-1, DTP, March.

The Republican War Against Women: An Insider Report From Behind the Lines by Tanya Melich, the woman who co-founded the Republican women's movement, should get some great publicity. \$23.95 cl, 0-553-10014-9, Bantam, February.

Why Can't a Man Be More Like a Cat? by Antonia van der Meer and Linda Konner answers an age-old question with humor and illustrations. \$7.95 pb, 0-440-50582-8, DTP, February.

Windy City Blues: VI Warshawski Stories by Sara Paretsky contains nine stories featuring one of my favorite heroines. \$19.95 cl, 0-385-31502-3, Delacorte.

Female Problems: An Unhelpful Guide by Nicole Hollander is another wonderful collection from the convoluted mind of Hollander. \$9.95 pb, 0-440-50686-7, DTP.

Red Hot Mamas: Coming Into Our Own at Fifty by Colette Dowling presents dozens of women Dowling interviewed who are discovering their power and vitality at mid-life. Her previous titles are *The Cinderella Complex* and *You Mean I Don't Have to Feel This Way?* \$23.95 cl, 0-553-09059-3, Bantam, March.

Riding Shotgun by Rita Mae Brown features Cig, a 35-year-old widow and "mortgage challenged" single mother whose late husband's infidelities are a hot topic in her small Virginia town. She falls back in time to 1699, and somehow comes to peace with her life. Sounds a bit disjointed? Rita Mae manages to pull it off — at least I got caught up and enjoyed the read. \$22.95 cl, 0-553-09605-2, Bantam, April.



The Conversation Begins: Mothers and Daughters Talk About Living Feminism by Christina Looper Baker and Christina Baker Kline looks at feminist motherhood based on interviews with more than 60 prominent mothers and daughters. \$22.95 cl, 0-553-09639-7, Bantam, May.

A Woman Scorned: Acquaintance Rape on Trial by Peggy Reeves Sanday looks at American sexual

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culture and the politics of acquaintance rape, identifying and examining the sexual stereotypes that continue to obstruct justice and diminish women. \$23.95 cl, 0-385-47791-0, Doubleday, March.

And This Too Shall Pass by E. Lynn Harris is a novel with sensitive treatment of many social issues including sexual harassment, gay issues and alcoholism. His previous titles have done well — mostly with gay/straight men, but he does have a lesbian following. \$23.95 cl, 0-385-48030-X, Doubleday, March.

The Visiting Physician by Susan Richards Shreve is the story of a young woman doctor in a small town full of suspicion and secrets. I haven't seen it, but her writing is generally quite good. \$23.95 cl, 0-385-47701-5, Doubleday, March.

I'd wait for the paper of **House Arrest** by Mary Morris. Her writing is very nice and her usual themes of women in extreme situations who learn to believe in themselves are very positive, but she generally sells much better in paper. \$22.95 cl, 0-385-47198-X, Doubleday, May.

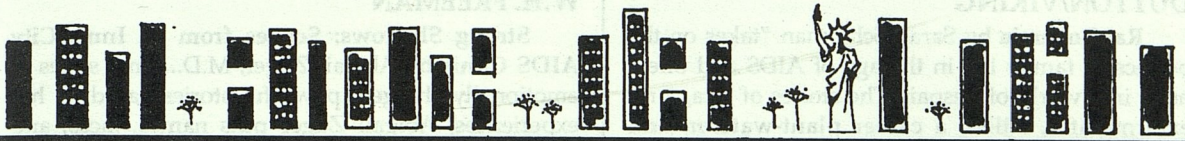
In the Wilderness: Coming of Age in Unknown Country by Kim Barnes is an account of Barnes' adolescence in small town Idaho in a fundamentalist household. I enjoyed it. \$22.50 cl, 0-385-47820-8, Doubleday, May. —Dorothy Holland

Susan Griffin, the author of Pulitzer prize and National Book Critics Circle Award nominee *A Chorus of Stones* brings us **The Eros of Everyday Life**, a "brilliant and extraordinarily eloquent new collection of essays on the relationship between feminism, nature, and the evolution of Western culture." \$24.95 cl, 0-385-47390-7, Doubleday. —FBC

Now in paper:

Revolutionary Tales: African American Women's Short Stories From the First Story to the Present edited by Bill Mullen is an anthology of African American women's writings from 1859 to present. Topics range from mob "justice" to domestic abuse, from forgiveness and redemption to the power of experience and memory. Contributors include Zora Neale Hurston, Dorothy West, Nikki Giovanni, Ann Petry, Toni Cade Bambara, Alice Walker and Terry McMillan. \$6.50 pb, 0-440-22082-3, Dell. —JT

Hardware: A Carlotta Carlyle Novel by Linda Barnes will be out in paper in March. Barnes' heroine is a spunky feminist and her mysteries usually do well



in women's stores. \$5.99 pb, (sorry no ISBN) Dell, March.

Rock She Wrote: Women Write About Rock, Pop, and Rap by Evelyn McDonnell and Ann Powers is an interesting collection, featuring female names in music, from writers to critics to musicians themselves. \$12.95 pb, 0-385-31250-4, Delta.

The Outspoken Princess and the Gentle Knight: A Treasury of Modern Fairy Tales edited by Jack Zipes and illustrated by Stephane Poulin, contains eight tales with a contemporary twist. \$12.95 pb, 0-553-37514-8, Bantam, February.

Love Awaits: African American Women Talk About Sex, Love, and Life by Courtney Long — young African American women discuss their relationships with African American men in hopes of establishing a common ground — is sort of a non-fiction equivalent to *Waiting to Exhale*. \$11.95 pb, 0-553-37559-8, Bantam, March.

Banana Rose, Natalie Goldberg's first novel, tells the story of a Brooklyn-born Jewish girl who moves to Taos. \$11.95 pb, 0-553-37513-X, Bantam, April.

What It's Like to Live Now by Meredith Maran sold well for many stores, even in hardback — be sure to stock it in paper. Maran explores the gap between the dreams of the 60s and the realities of the 90s — one of her realities is being a lesbian. \$11.95 pb, 0-553-37493-1, Bantam, April.

The Wedding by Dorothy West is a window into the rise of the Black middle class, as experienced by West, the last surviving member of the Harlem Renaissance. \$9.95 pb, 0-385-47144-0, Anchor, February.

Defending Pornography: Free Speech, Sex and the Fight for Women's Rights by Nadine Strossen adds fuel to the discussion on pornography and censorship. Strossen is the President of the American Civil Liberties Union. \$14 pb, 0-385-48173-X, Anchor, February.

A Bridge Between Us by Julie Shigekuni is a novel looking at four generations of Japanese American women making their home in a large house in San Francisco. \$9.95 pb, 0-385-48227-2, Anchor, March.

—Dorothy Holland

BERKLEY

Donna Gillespie's **The Light Bearer**, the product of twelve years of research into the history, culture and mythology of classical Rome and the proto-Germanic tribes, encompasses events spanning the reigns of the Emperors Nero and Domitian. The heroine, a Chattian tribeswoman takes the oath of a warrior, becoming a shield maiden to avoid being used as a pawn of Roman diplomacy. Also a visionary, she lays battle strategies and leads her people during the Emperor Domitian's war against the Chattians in 83 AD. Eventually she is apprenticed to a powerful tribal shamaness and joins an influential order of northern priestesses. "I was amazed to learn, through my many years of research, of the profound respect accorded to women among the tribes of the north; I later learned that many elements of the matrifocal cultures of Old Europe survived into this time and existed simultaneously with the warrior culture," Gillespie wrote to feminist bookstores. **The Light Bearer** was first issued with a cheesy sci-fi, sex-pot cover, but Berkley has promised to reissue it with a new improved cover. \$15 pb, 788 pages, 0-425-14368-6. —JT



CHRONICLE BOOKS

Voices of the Dream edited by Venice Johnson is "a joyful celebration by and about African American women." This brightly covered book combines quotes of wit and wisdom with reproductions of African American women's artwork. \$12.95 cl, 0-8118-1113-1, February. An eight-copy counter display, \$103.60, 0-8118-9287-5.

The Letters of Frida Kahlo, selected and edited by Martha Zamora. In over 80 letters to Diego Rivera, her family, doctors, friends and lovers, Kahlo discusses her art, politics and health. Accompanied by illustrations. \$17.95 cl, 0-8118-1124-7.

—Patty Callaghan
Brigit Books

DUTTON/VIKING

Rat Bohemia by Sarah Schulman "takes on the politics of family life in the age of AIDS and offers hope in a world of despair. The stories of Rita, a rat exterminator, Killer, a career plant-waterer, and David, a writer who is HIV-positive, bring to light the unsettling ways in which gay people are abandoned by their families and the enormously creative and courageous ways in which lesbians and gay men lead their lives despite this loss." \$20.95 cl, 0-525-93790-0, Dutton. —FBC

Dive by Stacey Donovan is a young adult novel about Virginia Dunn's empty suburban life which suddenly becomes chaotic when her dog gets hit by a car, her best friend starts avoiding her, her mother's drinking worsens, her father becomes very sick, and she falls in love with the new girl in her class. "V dives into the meaning of what is happening and finds there are few easy answers." \$15.99 cl, 0-525-45154-4, Dutton. —JT

**FABER & FABER**

Unspeakable: The Rise of the Gay and Lesbian Press in America by Rodger Streitmatter explores the major phases in the evolution of the gay male and lesbian press while providing a window into the history of the gay men's and lesbian movement. Streitmatter takes the reader from the era of McCarthyism to the militancy of the 60s, the Stonewall Rebellion, the liberality of the 70s, the attack from the religious right in the early 80s, the AIDS epidemic and the anti-gay backlash, to the outing of the 90s. Issues covered include ideological inclusiveness, cutting-edge design, editorial infighting, the compromises associated with advertising revenue and the place of erotic imagery and explicit language. \$27.95 cl, 0-571-19873-2.

Hot Flashes: Women Writers on the Change of Life edited by Lynne Taetzsch is a collection of 20 personal essays and eight poems by well-known women writers on the experience of menopause. Contributors including Germaine Greer, Marge Piercy, Gloria Steinem, Alma Luz Villanueva and Ellen Gilchrist describe the physical, emotional and spiritual changes associated with menopause. \$22.95 cl, 0-571-19871-6. —JT

W.H. FREEMAN

Strong Shadows: Scenes from an Inner-City AIDS Clinic by Abigail Zuger, M.D.. "In a series of emotionally charged, powerful stories based on her experiences, Abigail Zuger puts names, faces, and personal stories behind headlines and statistics of inner-city HIV-positive cases. She offers an insider's look into urban public health care, reminding us that it is not sexual politics nor abstract principles at stake, but human lives." \$22.95 cl, 0-7167-2916-4. —FBC

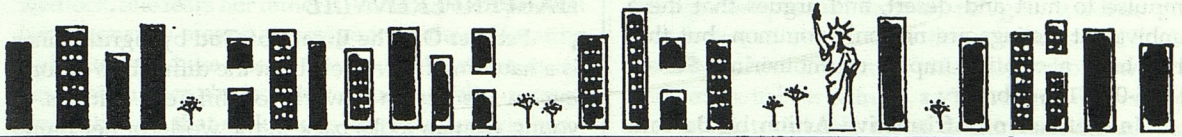
HARCOURT BRACE

Susie Mee, the editor of **Downhome: An Anthology of Southern Women Writers**, writes in the introduction, "Within [the South's] diversity of voices and experiences lies a shared legacy: the act of speech — of stories handed down in which a distinctive language is honored, a language rich in Biblical and regional contexts; the love of place — where individuals, relationships, and family histories not only matter but buttress everyday life. Both are part of that rarest and most indispensable groundspring of literature and memory. The memory of being 'Downhome.'" Contributors include Dorothy Allison, Tina McElroy Ansa, Zora Neale Hurston, Flannery O'Connor and Alice Walker. \$16 pb, 0-15-600121-7. —JT

**HARPER COLLINS**

If You Can Raise Kids, You Can Get A Good Job by Katherine Wyse Goldman is "an upbeat and positive look at returning to the workforce." Goldman has gathered stories from scores of mothers who have returned to the workforce and found their niche. She sends returning mothers into the workplace empowered, confident and enthusiastic. \$16 cl, 0-06-017338-6.

Kate Fillion "smashes sexual stereotypes and exposes the truth about women's sexual behavior" in **Lip Service**. She attacks the double standards and reveals how younger women today are reaping the benefits of the good fight fought by their older sisters. (We finally get credit for something.) Backed up with research, interviews and critical interpretations of accepted statistics, Fillion argues that women are not powerless victims in the bedroom, the dormroom or the workplace. \$22 cl, 0-06-017290-8, February.



A new collection of 18 short stories by Ursula LeGuin, **Unlocking the Air and Other Stories**, explores the boundaries between realism and magical realism. Written over the last 13 years, these stories are gathered together for the first time. In these stories, LeGuin finds the detail that reveals the strangeness of ordinary life or the unexpected depths of an ordinary person. \$21 cl, 0-06-017260-6.

Señora Honeycomb by Colombian writer Fanny Buitrago is being compared to *Like Water for Chocolate*, but I would question those comparisons. It features the innocent, good-hearted orphan Teodora Vencejos who is overjoyed when the handsome ne'er-do-well Don Galaor asks to marry her but fails to notice that he is more interested in her money and carries on torrid affairs behind her back. When Galaor's spend-thrift ways force her to leave Colombia, she finds work in a Madrid catering firm that makes anatomically correct confectionery and other erotic goodies and receives an education both culinary and carnal that gradually awakens her sexuality. \$18 cl, 0-06-0173653, February.

Also available in a Spanish language edition paperback for HarperLibros. \$10 pb, 0-06-095159-1, February.



Hood by Emma Donoghue, the author of *Stir-fry*, is a bittersweet lesbian romance. This is the story of Pen O' Grady who fell for tall, pale, inscrutable Cara, back at convent school in the late 1970s. Cara was engaged in unrequited love for someone else when Pen knew her but, when nothing else could comfort Cara under the stress of exams, sex did and they became "girlfriends of a sort." When Cara dies in a car accident, Pen is left with 14 years of baffling memories of an emotionally complex intimate relationship. \$22 cl, 0-06-017110-3, March.

Chanell Foster, born and raised in Cornville, Georgia, is the heroine of Janice Daugharty's new

novel, **Pawpaw Patch**. Forty-year-old Chanell now owns a beauty shop that is the social hub of the town. When friends and townspeople suddenly begin to shy away from her shop she discovers that rumor has it that she is part Creole. On the verge of losing her business and cast out by even her closest friends, Chanell finds a drastic way to force the town to turn its face to the mirror of hatred. \$22 cl, 0-06-017379-3, March.

Love, Again, Doris Lessing's first novel in seven years, promises to be "brilliant and controversial." Sixty-five-year old Sarah Durham falls in love with a 28-year-old actor and later with a more suitable 35-year-old director and finds herself in a condition she had thought the province of younger women. Lessing's protagonist must face the longing and sexual desire, the grief, and all the other experiences of love despite her "advanced" age. \$24 cl, 0-06-017687-3, April.

—Sandi Torkildson
A Room of One's Own

HARPERCOLLINS\BASIC BOOKS

Life After Johnnie Cochran: Why I Left the Sweetest-talking, Most Successful Black Lawyer in L.A. by Barbara Cochran Berry, with Joanne Parrent, is the story of the woman who put up with philandering, physical abuse, mind games, put-downs, and even a long-term white mistress before she grabbed her two young daughters and her dignity and walked away from her 18-year marriage to L.A.'s most successful Black lawyer. The author explains why she chose to ignore the received wisdom of those days among middle-class women that said, "No matter what, you don't leave a man who can pay the bills." Gloria Steinem says "this book has a dignity and lasting value that is a relief in the midst of all the O.J. hype. It could be the one thing of quality to come out of this trial." \$18 cl, 0-465-03965-0. —JT

Mother Love/Mother Hate by Rozsika Parker sheds new light on the ambivalent feelings that mothers have toward their children. Parker illustrates how a mother's desire for devotion co-exists with the

impulse to hurt and desert, and argues that these ambivalent feelings are not only common, but that they have a creative impact on mothering. \$25 cl, 0-465-08661-6, February.

In Defense of Affirmative Action by Barbara Bergmann is a systematic defense of affirmative action as a just and efficient solution to persistent race and sex discrimination. Bergmann counters the recent complaint that affirmative action actually hurts its intended beneficiaries. She considers the issue of unfairness to white males and argues that the ethical implications of leaving discrimination intact are far worse. \$23 cl, 0-465-09833-9, March.

Sociologist and psychotherapist Lillian Rubin offers inspiring tales of people who have managed to triumph over harsh and painful pasts in her new book **Fall Down Seven Times, Get Up Eight**. These are real-life accounts of people whose pasts have left scars but whose strength and determination — the qualities that enabled them to get through the torments of their childhoods — have helped them find paths to satisfying adulthood. \$22 cl, 0-465-08669-1, March.

Call To Home by Carol Stack is the story of the migration of many urban African Americans to the southern states over the past 20 years. Stack interweaves a powerful human story with a larger economic and social analysis of migration, poverty and the urban underclass. Without romanticizing a harsh life or the individuals living it, this book offers a rare glimpse of African American families pulling together and trying to make it in today's America. \$21 cl, 0-465-00809-7, April.

—Sandi Torkildson

A Room of One's Own



Barren in the Promised Land by Elaine Tyler May. "Why have Americans become so preoccupied with their own reproductive fates — and everyone else's? This first history of childlessness covers everything from the association of barrenness with sin and witchcraft in colonial times to the radical changes promised but not fulfilled by today's technological advances. 'Thought-provoking and emotionally wrenching.' —Ms. Magazine." \$24 cl, 0-465-00609-4.

—FBC

HARPERPERENNIAL

Feather On The Breath of God by Sigrid Nunez is a haunting first novel about the difficulties of forging an identity in a world of different cultures. A young woman looks back to the world of her immigrant parents: a Chinese Panamanian father and a German mother who meet in post-war Germany and settle in New York. \$10 pb, 0-06-092684-8.



Kim Chernin's new book, **A Different Kind Of Listening**, explores the psychoanalytic process and the process of a woman finding herself. Chernin taps into her experiences as both therapist and patient to present a compelling recounting of the rewards and shortcomings of psychoanalysis. \$12 pb, 0-06-092689-9.

Art Talk: Conversations With 15 Women Artists by Cindy Nemser is the revised edition of a 1975 book and features three new artists. Included are interviews with Barbara Hepworth, Sonia Delaunay, Louise Nevelson and Audrey Flack. Seventy black-and-white photos. \$25 pb, 0-06-430983-5.

The Best Kind Of Loving by Dr. Gwendolyn Goldsby Grant is a guide for Black women searching for healthier, more supportive, and loving relationships. Grant is a psychologist and advice columnist for *Essence* magazine. She shows African American couples how to cope with such loaded issues as money, work, stereotyping and sexual intimacy and encourages couples to celebrate their lives. \$13 pb, 0-06-092475-6, February.

The stories in **The Complete Stories of Zora Neale Hurston** span her entire career and appear together for the first time in this landmark edition. \$13 pb, 0-06-092171-4, February.

Emma Donoghue unveils an astonishing range of overlooked lesbian identities in the late 17th- and 18th-century Britain in **Passions Between Women**. She presents a revisionist and frankly sexual look at this period and provides evidence that many relationships between women were more passionate and sexual than other historians would have us believe. \$13 pb, 0-06-092680-5, March.

Necessary Lies by Janice Daugharty is a coming-of-age novel, centered on Cliffie Flowers, a luckless, 17-year-old girl who becomes pregnant out of

wedlock. She fears her father's reaction but hopes that her pregnancy means an escape from the suffocating community where she is trapped. When she is accused of murder, she faces her accusers with a courage and optimism that make her a most memorable heroine. \$10 pb, 0-06-092688-0, March.



The Good Negress by A. J. Verdelle is an extraordinary debut novel about Denise Palms, a 12-year-old girl raised in rural Virginia by her grandmother. Denise is called home to Detroit to care for her expectant mother, two older brothers and stepfather. She cooks and cleans but also studies with her new teacher, Miss Gloria Pearson, who encourages Denise to "reach beyond her station." Denise struggles with her divided loyalties and begins to determine her own course for the future. \$10 pb, 0-06-097683-7, April.

Louise Erdrich's first collection of essays, **The Blue Jay's Dance: A Birth Year**, offers an intimate and lyrical meditation on the delicate balance of mothering a baby and maintaining an artistic life. \$12 pb, 0-06-092701-1, April.

The Snarling Citizen by Barbara Ehrenreich is a provocative collection of essays that take a frank and at times funny look at the nineties. She describes a culture in which the greatest hope for a national health program is that it will provide coverage for Dr. Kevorkian's services. She is a sane voice in a decade of foibles. \$12 pb, 0-06-097688-8, April.

A powerful collection of stories by Anglo, Latina, Asian and Black feminists from all socioeconomic and religious heritages, **Feminism 3** covers the major issues in young women's lives today. Writing about everything from sexuality and biological awakenings to gender identification and romance, the writers in this collection offer a portrayal of feminism as it has evolved over the past decade. \$18 cl, 0-8133-2551-X, February.

—Sandi Torkildson

A Room of One's Own

HARPERSANFRANCISCO

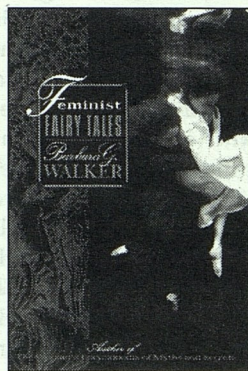
The tales in Clarissa Pinkola Estés's **The Faithful Gardener: A Wise Tale About That Which Can Never Die** are interlocked tales of loss, survival and rebirth, centering around the author's uncle, a war-ravaged

Hungarian peasant farmer, refugee, gardener and storehouse of stories. It is the story of a child who listened to her old-country elders and who grew up to remember, to bear witness, and to remind others "that the magisterial life force within all things that strengthens us in times of turmoil or transition... can never die." \$14 cl, 0-06-251380-X. —JT

HEINEMAN


My Name's Not Susie: A Life Transformed by Literacy is Sharon Jean Hamilton's story of neglect, foster homes, a series of names, physical, sexual, emotional abuse, and labels such as "disobedient," "uneducable" and "social misfit." Hamilton tells of how literacy changed her life and gave her alternatives to her own experiences and how she discovered

*And she
lived happily
ever after . . .*



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from
Barbara G. Walker,
author of
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♥ **My Lover is a Woman: Contemporary Lesbian Love Poems** edited by Lesléa Newman is an anthology of romantic, sensual, poignant and humorous poems describing lesbian experience and paying tribute to the diverse and complex nature of women's sexuality. Contributors include Adrienne Rich, June Jordan, Joy Harjo, Paula Gunn Allen and Olga Brouma. \$18.50 cl, 0-345-39483-6, Ballantine Books. —JT

♥ **The Arc of Love: An Anthology of Lesbian Love Poems** edited and with an introduction by Clare Coss includes poets from Sappho to Audre Lorde, Asian American, African American and Native American poets. A collection by and about lesbians which ranges from the romantic to the explicit. \$18 pb, 0-684-81446-3, Scribner. —DH

♥ **A Delicate Fire: Quotations on Lesbian Love** edited by Liz Tracey is a gift sized collection. (\$10 cl, 0-312-14059-2.) **In Your Eyes: Quotations on Gay Male Love** edited by Richard Derus is the male equivalent. (\$10 cl, 0-312-14057-6.) Stonewall Inn Studio Book/St. Martin's, February. —DH

♥ **The Lesbian Pillow Book**, no apparent editor or author and printed in Hong Kong, "is a celebration of lesbian love and passion as depicted in literature and art from ancient civilizations to modern times and spanning East and West. The extracts of poetry and prose are complemented by full-color illustrations, including painting, sculpture and frescoes." \$8 cl, 0-06-251169-6, HarperSanFrancisco. —JT

♥ **The Zenith of Desire** is another giftbook of lesbian love poems, with an emphasis on contemporary writers including Gertrude Stein, Audre Lorde, Chrystos and Joan Larkin. **Zenith** is the only one that has two women kissing on the cover. Yeah Crown! \$12, 0-517-702819, Crown. —JT

insights into her own world by writing about her experiences. \$19.95 cl, 0-86709-361-7. —JT

Beyond Dolls and Guns: 101 Ways to Help Children Avoid Gender Bias by Susan Hoy Crawford "is well-researched, practical, and in the words of Anne L. Bryant, the executive director of the American Association of University Women, 'Fun, balanced, easy-to-read, and ready-to-use.' Keep a supply in your glove compartment — unfortunately, you'll run across many people who can benefit from a copy!" \$9.95 pb, 0-435-08129-2. —FBC

HOLT

Now in paper is **Christina Stead: A Biography** by Hazel Rowley. \$18.95 pb, 0-8050-4262-8.

HYPERION

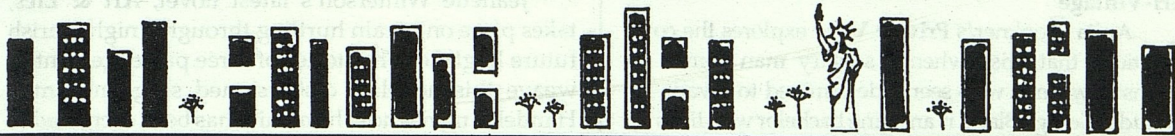
Ain't Gonna Be the Same Fool Twice, April Sinclair's sequel to the wildly popular *Coffee Will Make You Black* follows Jean Stevenson's, Stevie's, life right after her graduation from college. Set in the 1975 San Francisco of free love, war protests, and women's consciousness-raising groups, Stevie explores her sexuality, contemplates what relationships mean to her, and settles into her own. \$19.95 cl, 0-7868-6069-3, Hyperion. —JT



LITTLE, BROWN

Deep Water Passage: A Midlife Journey by Ann Linnea. "This inspiring personal account details the 65-day, 1200-mile journey by the first woman to circumnavigate Lake Superior by sea kayak. Braving storms, unseasonable cold, and physical exhaustion, Linnea embarks upon an equally treacherous spiritual quest, resulting in an extraordinary decision to leave behind the safe comfort of her middle-class existence and begin a new and richer life." \$22.95 cl, 0-316-52683-5.

We Flew Over the Bridge: The Memoirs of Faith Ringgold by Faith Ringgold. "One of the country's pre-eminent African American artists and illustrators — the creator of provocative 'story quilts,' politically charged paintings, and the Caldecott Honor-winning children's book *Tar Beach* — Faith Ringgold shares the fascinating story of her life. Richly illustrated with 40



full-color reproductions and over 100 black-and-white photographs, here is an inspiring portrait of a truly gifted woman." \$29.95 cl, 0-8212-2071-3, Bulfinch Press. —FBC

MCGRAW-HILL

Informed Consent: Inside the Dow Corning Breast Implant Tragedy by John Bryne. "Like many others, Colleen Swanson suffered catastrophic illness and was permanently disfigured as a result of breast implant surgery. But unlike others, her husband was one of the architects of Dow Corning's public relations campaign which insisted that the implants were absolutely safe. **Informed Consent** chronicles their dramatic and painful stories and raises important questions about corporate greed and responsibility." \$22 cl, 0-07-009625-2.

The Woman's Guide to On-line Services by Judith Broadhurst. "Now, with this empowering guide, women can seize the latest on-line opportunities — personal, professional, social and political. Packed with information about the Internet, on-line services, and networks designed specifically for women, this unique book gives women a high-tech connection to resources for business and career, money management, political involvement, communication, kids, recreational interests and other valuable cyberspace tools." \$19.95 pb, 0-07-024168-6. —FBC

PUTNAM PUBLISHING GROUP

Where I Stopped: Remembering Rape at Thirteen by Martha Ramsey is a memoir addressing adolescent rape. \$23.95 cl, 0-399-14107-3.

—Dorothy Holland

RANDOM HOUSE

RH-Knopf

The Seasons of A Woman's Life by Daniel Levinson and Judy Levinson is "a groundbreaking study of the adult developmental stages in women's lives." Based on lengthy interviews with a randomly selected group of women from many walks of life, this

research shows that women follow a predictable developmental course but that the situation is more complicated by gender biases. \$27.50 cl, 0-394-53235-X.

Bette Bao Lord, the author of bestselling *Spring Moon*, has a new novel, **Middle Heart**, set in China during the Japanese conquest of Manchuria, 1932. Three young people form a passionate alliance to die together in defense of their country. Over the years their lives separate and reunite again and again as they are challenged and tested by conflicting loyalties to political ideals, country, family, loved ones, friends and one's self. \$25 cl, 0-394-53432-8, February.

—Sandi Torkildson
A Room of One's Own



RH-Schocken

Love's Work: A Reckoning With Life by distinguished English scholar Gillian Rose is her attempt to illuminate the deepest issues of all human life: love, family, friendship, sexuality, illness and death. A devastating confrontation with mortality gives Rose's search an immediacy and an intimacy as she tries to teach the mind what the heart knows and the heart what the mind understands. \$20 cl, 0-8052-4135-3.

—Sandi Torkildson
A Room of One's Own

RH-Times

"Adolescence is a difficult period for anyone, but for gay male and lesbian teen-agers it can be almost unbearable." In **Passages of Pride: Lesbian and Gay Youth Come of Age** by journalist Kurt Chandler follows the stories of six Minneapolis-St. Paul teenagers who speak of the challenges of realizing at an early age that they are different, of learning how to hide, of facing depression and suicidal tendencies, and of coming out and making peace at home, school and on their own. There are also briefer profiles of dozens of other teens from across the country and insights from "experts." \$23 cl, 0-8129-2380-4. —JT

RH-Vintage

Anita Brookner's *Private View* explores the complications that arise when a solitary man comes up against a woman who seems determined to invade his solitude. George Bland is an aging bachelor who lives up to his name. Kate Gibb, a young, self-assured woman, incites alarming feelings and reactions in George, including a hitherto unknown capacity for compromise and self-deception. \$12 pb, 0-679-75443-1, February.

Rapper, activist, and hip-hop rebel, Sister Souljah's candid autobiography, *No Disrespect*, is a survival manual for any young African American woman determined to keep her heart open and her integrity intact. She addresses such current issues as disintegration of families, combat between the sexes and racism in America. \$12pb, 0-679-76708-8, February.

Jeanette Winterson's latest novel, *Art & Lies*, takes place on a train hurtling through a nightmarish future England. The stories of three passengers interweave this novel: a disillusioned surgeon named Handel, a man whose humanity has been sacrificed to intellect; a woman artist named Picasso, cast out by a family that drove her to madness; and the lesbian poet Sappho, who has propagated her subversive gospel through centuries of censorship and exile. \$11 pb, 00679076270-1, February.

—Sandi Torkildson
A Room of One's Own



ST. MARTIN'S PRESS

With Child: A Kate Martinelli Mystery by Laurie King continues a wonderful series with a lesbian homicide detective. Even though it's cloth, give it a try. \$21.95 cl, 0-312-14077-0, February.

A Delicate Fire: Quotations on Lesbian Love edited by Liz Tracey is a gift sized collection. \$10 cl, 0-312-14059-2, Stonewall Inn Studio Book, February.

In Your Eyes, Quotations on Gay Male Love edited by Richard Derus is the male equivalent. \$10 cl, 0-312-14057-6, Stonewall Inn Studio Book, February.

Essential Heart Book for Women by Morris Notelovitz and Diana Tonnessen presents what we can do to take action against this disease that kills 36% of American women. \$22.95 cl, 0-312-13968-3, March.

Among Women by Tom Bianchi is an art book with photographs capturing the relationships of women, along the lines of his previous title *Bob & Rod*. \$40 cl, 0-312-13425-8, March.

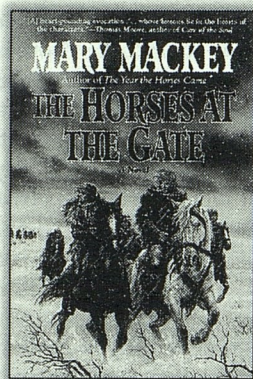
The Letters of Dorothy L. Sayers, 1899-1936: The Making of a Detective Novelist, chosen and edited by Barbara Reynolds preface by P.D. James, is a collection of the thoughts and ideas that shaped Sayers' early years. \$26.95 cl, 0-312-14001-0, April.

Tongue Fu! Deflect, Disarm and Diffuse Any Verbal Conflict by Sam Horn is a handbook for verbal self defense offering constructive alternatives for all of us. Sam Horn is a woman. \$22.95 cl, 0-312-14054-1, February.

Unveiled: One Woman's Nightmare in Iran by Cherry Mostesha is a firsthand look by a Western woman at life in revolutionary Iran under the mullahs. \$23.95 cl, 0-312-14061-4, March. —Dorothy Holland

“Mackey joins the company
of Jean Auel and
Elizabeth Marshall Thomas.”

—Marge Piercy

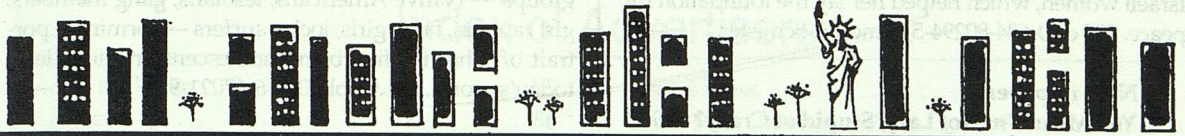


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SIMON & SCHUSTER

The Arc of Love: An Anthology of Lesbian Love Poems edited and with an introduction by Clare Coss includes poets from Sappho to Audre Lorde, Asian American, African American and Native American poets also. \$18 pb, 0-684-81446-3.

The Same River Twice: Honoring the Difficult by Alice Walker is a memoir looking at how fame, illness, betrayal and the Pulitzer prize have impacted her life, work and art. I just finished reading the galley, and I'm still mulling over many of the ideas. \$17 cl, 0-684-81446-3, Scribner.

Still Life with Rice: A Young American Woman Discovers the Life and Legacy of Her Korean Grandmother by Helie Lee is another memoir, this one looking at Lee's grandmother's life. \$24 cl, 0-684-80270-8, Scribner, March.



The End of Alice by A.M. Homes is a novel from the point of view of a violent sex offender. \$22 cl, 0-684-81528-1, Scribner, March.

The New Leaders: Leadership Diversity in America by Ann Morrison has ideas and practices for creating strategies that move women and people of color into the executive ranks. Morrison's *Breaking the Glass Ceiling* had a major impact on women in business. **The New Leaders** promises to do the same. \$18.50 pb, 0-7879-0184-9, Jossey-Bass.

Surface Tension: Lesbian and Straight Women Write About Their Relationships edited by Meg Daly, includes essays by Dorothy Allison, Gloria Steinem, Robin Morgan, Susie Bright and other lesbian, bisexual and straight women exploring the relationships among women. \$12 pb, 0-684-80221-X, Touchstone.

Un Lugar Donde Recuerda el Mar (A Place Where the Sea Remembers) by Sandra Benitez is worth a try even if you carry only a few books in Spanish. In English, this is one of Full Circle's all-time

favorites. \$10 pb, 0-684-82388-8, Simon & Schuster Libros En Espanol, April.

Yellow Woman and a Beauty of the Spirit: Essays on Native American Life Today by Leslie Marmon Silko should be on all our lists. Silko explores Native American culture and position in society. \$23 cl, 0-684-81153-7, Simon & Schuster, March.

Stop It! Weapons for the War Against Domestic Violence by Raoul Felder and Barbara Victor, is a title you'll want to consider, but perhaps not stock. "The authors accuse advocates for battered women of sacrificing victims to political correctness. By choosing privacy over protection and prevention, by insisting that the choice to report the crime must be the victim's lest we further weaken her position in society, these advocates enable the violence to continue." \$22 cl, 0-684-81362-9, Simon & Schuster, April.

—Dorothy Holland

Lost Bird of Wounded Knee: Spirit of the Lakota by Renee Sansom Flood combines research and storytelling to retell the story of Zintkala Nuni (Lost Bird) who, as a baby, survived the 1890 massacre at Wounded Knee, was adopted by General Leonard W. Colby, sexually abused by him as an adolescent, and raised by miscellaneous folks (her adopted mother Clara Colby attempted to raise her). After a futile search for her roots, Lost Bird tragically died of heart failure at the age of 29. In 1991 her remains were located and reburied at the Wounded Knee Memorial. \$25 cl, 0-634-19512-7, Scribner.

As the spokesperson for the Palestinians in the Occupied Territories, Hanan Mikhail-Ashrawi has become a recognized and articulate voice in the Palestinian struggle. In **This Side of Peace: A Personal Account**, Mikhail-Ashrawi tells of her struggles as a Christian Arab woman in a Muslim, male-dominated world, torn between motherhood and the demands of her cause, and "as a pivotal peacemaker in the monumental negotiations of our lifetime." Offering an insider's view of Mideast diplomacy Mikhail-Ashrawi shows how she learned to draw strength from her family and friendships with Palestinian and

Israeli women, which helped her lay the foundation for peace. \$25 cl, 0-684-80294-5, Simon & Schuster. —JT

Now in paper:

You Mean I'm Not Lazy, Stupid or Crazy? A Self Help Book for Adults with Attention Deficit Disorder by Kate Kelly and Peggy Ramundo. \$14 pb, 0-684-81531-1, Fireside.

Timetables of Women's History: A Chronology of the Most Important People and Events in Women's History by Karen Greenspan. \$21 pb, 0-684-81579-6, Touchstone, March.

The New Our Bodies, Ourselves: A Book By and For Women is being reissued in a 25th anniversary edition. \$20 pb, 0-684-82352-7, Touchstone, March.

—Dorothy Holland

TOR/FORGE

Thin Moon and Cold Mist by Kathleen O'Neal Gear. "By the co-author of *People of the Lakes*, **Thin Moon and Cold Mist** tells an historically accurate tale of the American West — and Robin Walkingstick Heatherton, fiercely independent former Confederate spy, who helps to shape it." This book helps refute the view of nineteenth-century women as oppressed and unable to control their own destinies by telling of women gold miners, explorers, homesteaders, farmers, ranchers, spies and business people succeeding in the West. \$22.95 cl, 0-312-85701-2, Forge. —JT



WARNER BOOKS

Knowing by Rosalyn McMillan sounds like it'll be worth a try — sexy, poignant and ultimately triumphant. The story of one woman's quest for fulfillment, it is fiction aimed at the same audience as *Brothers & Sisters* and *Waiting to Exhale*. \$19.95 cl, 0-446-51866-2.

What Every Woman Must Know About Heart Disease: The No Nonsense Approach to Diagnosing, Treating and Preventing #1 Killer of Women by Siegfried Kar, a cardiologist offers information on prevention, diagnosis and treatment of heart disease. \$22.95 cl, 0-446-51986-1, March. —Dorothy Holland

In Girl Power: Young Women Speak Out editor Hilary Carlip presents poems, letters and stories by girls aged 13-19 from different places, backgrounds and

groups — Native Americans, lesbians, gang members, girl rappers, farm girls, jocks, surfers — forming a portrait of what it's like being adolescent and female in today's world. \$11.99 pb, 0-446-67021-9. —JT

WESTVIEW PRESS

Justice and Care: Essential Readings in Feminist Ethics edited by Virginia Held explores the relationship between the ideals of justice and care — a discussion at the core of contemporary feminist ethics. Contributors include Nel Noddings, Alison Jaggar, Claudia Card, Carol Gilligan and Sara Ruddick. \$17.95 pb, 0-8133-2162-X; \$49.95 cl, -2161-1, Westview Press. —JT

Bookstore News, continued from page 15.

broke into the store (breaking the glass in the front door, despite the bars and dead-bolt) to take \$900 in cash and \$500 in CDs.

For Sale

Womansline (London, Ontario) is for sale. Owners Barb Szlavko and Deb Kunder sent a letter out to their community similar to the one that found The Reader's Feast's new owners. Interviews with ten different parties were set up as we talked to Barb. "We've had a good spring and a good summer, but what we keep coming back to is that we've been doing the store for ten years and we've done almost everything we wanted to..." she said. "I've lived in this city all my life and even went to school here. It's time to move on."



Cybercafe/Bookstore

Rebecca Walker and Angel Williams have opened Kokobar, Brooklyn's first African American and woman-owned cybercafe/bookstore. People of color are "in danger of missing out on the information superhighway," Walker told *Ms. Magazine*. With four computers set up and plans for more, they hope to attract people who don't have access to the Internet. More next issue!

So how do feminist bookstores get their news into this column? Call with the news, mention it when you call about something else, write it up yourself and mail/e-mail/fax it in, or send us your newsletter and other store publications! ○

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Mysteries, from page 58.

take to the mean streets of New York City, from Times Square porn palaces to Fashion Avenue (\$5.95 pb, 0-14-023565-5, Penguin, January). Conrad and Hill were last seen in **The Mother Shadow** (\$4.50 pb, 0-14-011778-4, Penguin).

I'm not much of a fan of comic mysteries, I find, at least not the contemporary American kind with writing that could be described as "snappy." For those who are, you may want to stock **Nice Girls Finish Last**, the new hardcover by Sparkle Hayter, featuring a bad-girl TV news reporter reminiscent of a downscale Murphy Brown (\$20.95 cl, 0-670-86039-5, Viking, March). Introduced in **What's a Girl Gotta Do?**, Robin Hudson works for a CNN-type cable news channel, is in a semi-permanent career slump (she missed her chance at the big time because she burped on air at a White House press conference), and is recovering from a nasty divorce. There are lots of jokes about TV news, but we see Robin actually working at her job even less than Murphy (\$5.95 pb, 0-14-024481-6, Penguin). Another new hardcover that looks suspiciously "snappy" is **Devil's Food** by Janice Weber, a tale of jet-setting twin sisters, one a master chef and the other an actress, who must outwit a killer hunting one of them. Catalog copy claims this combines the "wisecracking...style of Susan Isaacs and the sophisticated insight of Gloria Steinem" and it extols the power of sisterhood (especially the

kind where you can switch identities). (\$22.95 cl, 0-446-51772-0, Warner, March).

If you can sell hardcovers, you will probably want to stock **Political Death** by Antonia Fraser, the new mystery featuring another TV journalist, Jemima Shore. Combining history, theater, and murder, this concerns an eccentric older woman's private diary, full of explosive sexual secrets. \$21.95 cl, 0-552-09964-7, Bantam, March.

Librarians, academics, and other bibliographic types, take note. Doubleday has published a collection of African American crime fiction, **Spooks, Spies, and Private Eyes** edited by Paula L. Woods. This is the only collection of its kind, and it looks excellent, with a surprising number of women contributors, including Barbara Neely, Valerie Wilson Wesley and Eleanor Taylor Bland. \$22.95 cl, 0-385-47827-5, Doubleday.

Mystery fans and list enthusiasts will be entertained by **Detecting Women: A Reader's Guide and Checklist for Mystery Series Written by Women** by Willetta Heising. The title tells it, but the data has been re-arranged in interesting and useful ways, so that you can look for a series under the character's name (Kinsey who?) or find all of those set in your state. We gave it to a group of women gathered for a women's mystery weekend at a local guesthouse and they had a great time browsing. \$19.95 cl, 0-9644593-0-2. Purple Moon Press, 3319 Greenfield Road #317, Dearborn MI 48120. ○

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Feminist Bookstore Manager: This twenty-one year old feminist bookstore needs a new manager, to begin Feb./March. Full-time, or part-time jobshare. Retail management or bookstore experience preferred. Send résumé to Fan the Flames Feminist Bookstore, 3387 North High Street, Columbus OH 43202.

FBN will be hiring a project manager to coordinate all aspects of the Feminist Bookstore Network 1996 Fall Catalog. Part-time in the Spring, full-time in the Summer, and part-time in the Fall. Could evolve into

year-round position if we launch a Spring Catalog in 1997. Must live in Bay Area, be familiar with feminist bookstores and feminist and mainstream publishing, have a knack for organization, care passionately about feminist bookstores, and be willing to work as many hours a day as it takes to get it done! Send résumé with description of availability to FBN, PO Box 882554, San Francisco CA 94188.

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Inventory Specialist for Feminist Bookstores. Hire me to review your catalogs and make recommendations to you based on your store's inventory and sales. Services available on an hourly basis or monthly contract. Inventory recommendations can be made to fit your style. Dorothy Holland: 505-867-9077; 53 Perdiz Canyon Road, Box 943, Placitas NM 87043.

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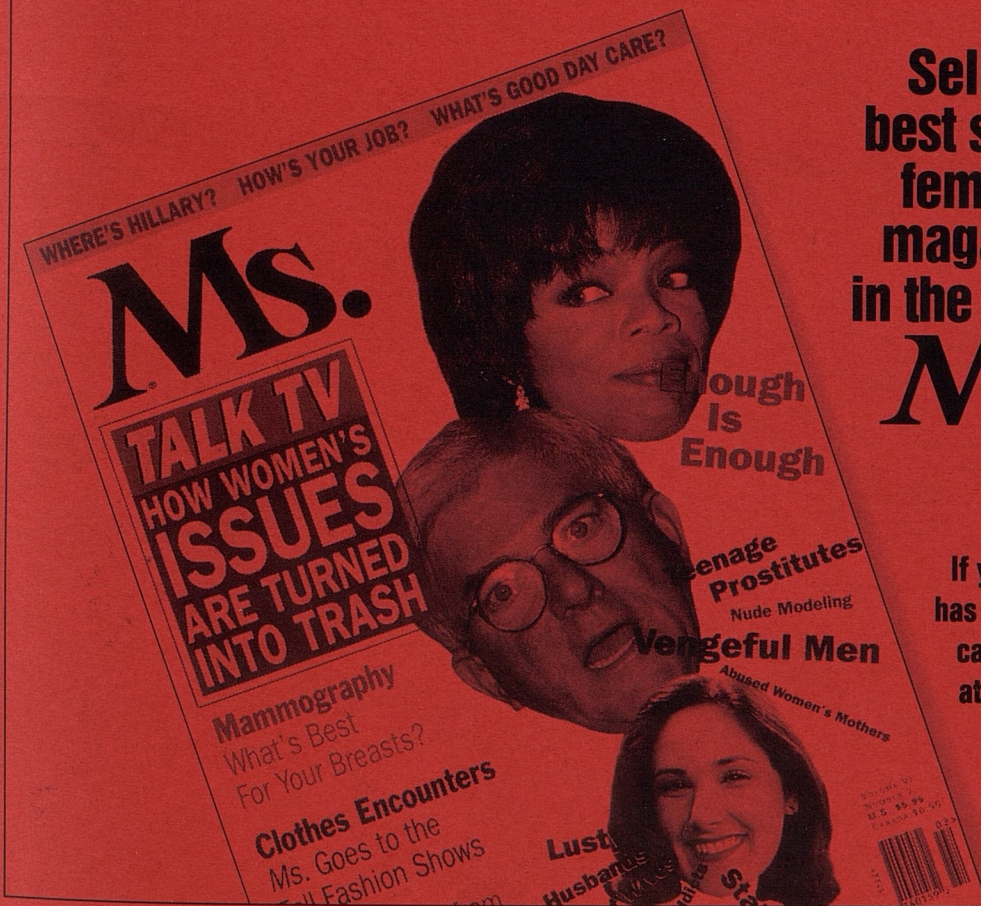
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Winslow Homer, *The New Novel*, 1877. Museum of Fine Arts, Springfield, MA. Horner F. Wright Collection



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