
Feminist Bookstore News



May/June 1996
Volume 19 Number 1

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5/30/96

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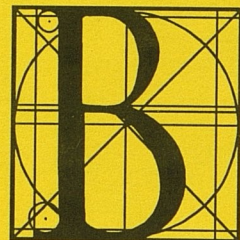
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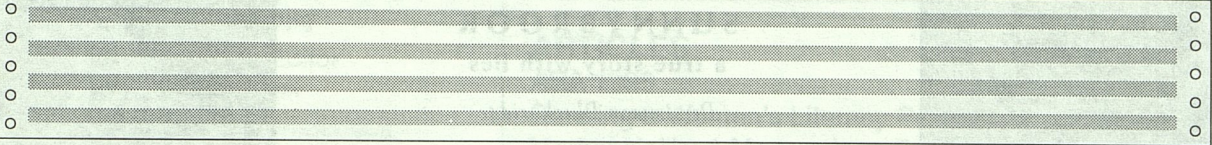
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NOTES FROM THE COMPUTER TABLE



Greetings to all of you who are picking up FBN for the first time at ABA. FBN is the trade magazine for women's bookstores and is read by general independent booksellers, by gay booksellers, by publishers from the mightiest of the mainstream to the smallest of the independents, by editors, librarians, writers — in short, by everyone who cares passionately about feminist, lesbian, and gay bookselling, publishing and books. See page 78 for subscription information. Publishers, please call or write for advertising rates and mailing list rental information.

In addition to publishing *Feminist Bookstore News*, we also publish the *Feminist Bookstores' Fall Catalog*, the full-color, 150-book catalog that is distributed in all the feminist bookstores during the holiday season. We also mail 150,000+ catalogs to the subscribers of *Ms.*, *Out*, *Curve* (Deneuve), *Women's Review of Books*, and *Lesbian Review of Books*, for a total circulation of 450,000 feminist book-buying households. It's the largest and most successful feminist book promotion in the country and gives publishers an opportunity to promote women's and children's books to a committed book-buying audience at a very reasonable price. Please call FBN or stop at ABA Booth 752 for details.

Our next issue will be a combined Summer and Sidelines issue. We always hold the Summer issue for ABA coverage but, with ABA being so late this year, we decided to combine it with the Sidelines issue to make our summer a little easier. As always, the Sidelines issue will feature "Sidelines Faves and Raves" from booksellers around the country. So, booksellers, please take a moment to jot down a few words about your favorite, hottest, most politically correct (or incorrect), newest, or best-selling sidelines — the ones you most enjoy selling and/or the sidelines your customers most appreciate. Two or three sentences will

do it! Please include the vendor's name and address. Deadline is May 10, but we'll keep the column open until booksellers have actually received this issue and had a chance to respond, albeit quickly!

And last, but not least, please join us in welcoming Lisa McGowan to the FBN staff. Lisa will be the Project Manager for the *Feminist Bookstores' Fall Catalog*. She worked with the first two catalogs as the mainstream press ad sales rep and comes to FBN with a wealth of bookselling and book-promotion experience. We're very pleased to have her on our crew.

Yours in spreading the words,
Carol Seajay

FBN Deadlines

Summer Announcements/
Sidelines Issue
July/August

May 10

Letters, News & ABA Coverage
June 18

Fall Announcements Issue
September/October
July 5

PRESS GANG PUBLISHERS

SUNNYBROOK

a true story with lies

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SEPTEMBER ISBN 0-88974-060-7 \$15.95

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WHEN FOX IS A THOUSAND

Larissa Lai

"This first novel from Astraea Foundation award-winning writer Larissa Lai comes as a particularly acute pleasure." (*The Advocate*) A 1996 Finalist for the Chapters/*Books in Canada* First Novel Award.

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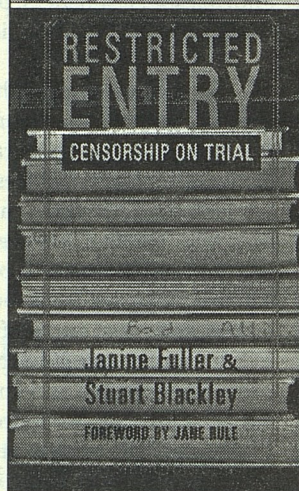
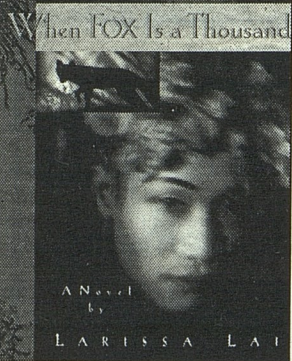
RESTRICTED ENTRY

Censorship on Trial

Janine Fuller and Stuart Blackley

"A concise and readable history ... an excellent book." (*Harbourfront*) A new edition, out for ABA, includes the court's decision on this pivotal censorship trial.

ISBN 0-88974-053-4 \$16.95



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

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

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*Eight Bullets: One Woman's Story
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Jewelle Gomez

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Parker & Hulme: A Lesbian View

Julie Glamuzina and Alison J. Laurie

*Lesbian Studies &
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S/he

Minnie Bruce Pratt

Lesbian/Gay Humor

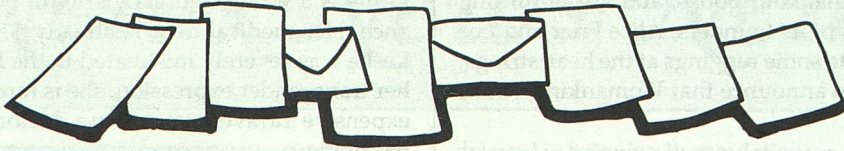
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Alison Bechdel

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607-272-0000

LETTERS



My Sisters' Words
304 N. McBride Street
Syracuse NY 13203

Dear FBN,

As previously reported, I'm not happy with receiving B&T Link twice a year, so I have upgraded to four times a year (January, April, July, October) at the current rate of \$394 for all four. This should help with the problem of finding forthcoming titles.



Please note B&T Link prices go up effective May 1st: \$175 for 1 update a year; \$225 for 2; \$450 for 4; \$875 for 9; and \$1,095 for 12.

I'll keep you posted on how effective I find the four times a year to be. Even four times a year at the new price is cheaper than B.I.P.

I'm doing books at NWSA this year since most presses will be at ABA. Wish me luck. Would love advice from anyone who has done it.

Mary Ellen Kavanaugh

Jane Evershed Card Collection
PO Box 8874
Minneapolis MN 55408

Dear FBN,

It has come to my attention that we as a community in the alternative bookstore are a kind of minority ethnic group that needs to look out for each other in much the same way that the Jewish people rallied against Hitlerian dictatorship and the threat of total annihilation. The independent bookstores are under the same threat. Alternative information in a nation of daily propaganda is key to making the positive

change away from a society that glorifies war, violence and the maintenance of the degradation of women. They provide me and my children with our bread and butter, they put food on my table, they do not require me to wear a triangle on my forehead like a bar code on my goods, [whereas] the chain stores need bar codes to identify their masses of mainstream product to the masses. Independent bookstores set you free, chain stores chain you up!

I think that manufacturers can help out. I think that if we find out a store is in financial difficulty we can help them through the low periods by giving them a break, cutting a deal. Just 20 manufacturers forgoing \$100 off the bill could give the store a \$2,000 break, that might mean a month's rent or that the store could reinvest in its own future. Or just do any other inventive thing to help. Whenever it is brought to my attention that a store is in financial difficulty I will cut them a break. The other stores that are flourishing can always help me pay my huge printing costs and overheads when they order my art wares.



Another way we can keep the free flow of important information through keeping the independents alive is to make it known in FBN and simply ask for donations. Without these outlets we will all eventually suffer, that is, the community of free-thinking radicals, the manufacturers and the bookstore owners. Let's do it, let's keep each other going for the new generations that need an alternative to the chain mentality and a feast of new ideas to get us off the path of total self-destruction through the imbibing of mass media lies and hype.

Jane Evershed

5 Kivy Street
Huntington Station NY 11746

Dear FBN,

1996 will mark the 17th anniversary of the founding of Womankind Books, and also a turning point in the lives of its founders, Alice Frier and Lee Boojamra. Despite some tuggings at the heartstrings, we are pleased to announce that Womankind Books is up for sale.



What started out in 1979 as a cozy little feminist bookstore featuring a strong lesbian section, has metamorphosed into a thriving, well-known national/international mail-order business specializing in lesbian books and videos. With its sixteen-page catalog, its impressive mailing list of loyal customers, seven computers, four full-time staffers, and computerized inventory system, Womankind Books proves that a niche mail-order business can not only survive, but thrive in these difficult economic times for booksellers.

At this juncture in our lives, Lee and I have decided that we wish to devote more of our time and energy to nurturing and growing Rising Tide Press, the publishing company we started five years ago. Hence the decision to offer Womankind Books for sale.

As many bookstores have discovered, mail-order sales can significantly augment in-store sales. Any lesbian/gay/feminist/alternative bookstore considering mail order, or already doing so, would benefit from acquiring this well-established company. Serious, capitalized, prospective buyers are encouraged to explore the details with Alice Frier at 516-427-1289.

Sincerely,

Alice Frier and Lee Boojamra
Womankind Books, Inc.

46 Harlow Street
Arlington MA 02174

Dear FBN,

On behalf of Leslie Feinberg author of *Stone Butch Blues*, and the forthcoming *Transgender Warriors*, I am

asking for your help in raising funds to pay Leslie's recent medical bills. Since early December, Leslie has been battling bacterial infections, which have required expensive tests, medications and treatment. Leslie is a writer and activist with no health insurance. Her medical debt is already \$10,000. Because Leslie was severely mistreated in the hospital due to her transgender expression, she is forced to continue expensive intravenous care in a doctor's office and in her home.

I am asking Leslie's friends, admirers and other lovers of justice to help offset some of Leslie's expenses. Please make a donation of any size to: Leslie Feinberg Health Fund, c/o William Sachs, Esq., Column Foundation, 370 Seventh Avenue, New York NY 10001. Make checks out to the Column Foundation and a note: For the Leslie Feinberg Health Fund.

Please spread the word.

Gail Leondar-Wright

We received a copy of the following letter and couldn't resist publishing it...

Direct Cinema Limited
PO Box 10003
Santa Monica CA 90410
800-525-0000

Dear Valued Customer:

We are terribly sorry for the delay in filling your recent order for *The Burning Times*, *Goddess Remembered* and *Full Circle*. During the past few months, we have experienced a greater than anticipated demand for these wonderful films due to a promotion in the Feminist Bookstores' Catalog (Fall 95) and a much stronger response from PBS stations that have utilized them for pledge premiums.



Currently, we are reprinting the video boxes and duplicating the videos.

We apologize for this temporary inconvenience, and expect to fill all orders within the next few weeks.

Sincerely,

Direct Cinema Limited

○

News News News

Court Awards Little Sisters \$170,000+ In Case Against Canada Customs

On March 29, B.C. Supreme Court Justice Kenneth Smith ordered the Canadian government to pay nearly \$170,000 (75%) of Little Sisters' legal costs. He also ordered Canada Customs to remove the Vancouver gay and lesbian bookstore from its "lookout" list at the Vancouver Mail Centre.

The rulings were the latest step in Little Sisters' long and arduous — and sometimes victorious — fight against Canada Customs. Canada Customs stepped up its harassment of gay bookstores in the mid-eighties. Little Sisters first mounted their legal case against Canada Customs in 1986. Little Sisters' current case asked the court to declare unconstitutional the section of the Customs Act that allows individual Customs officers to seize books, videos and other materials at the border that have *not* been determined to be obscene by any other agency. Little Sisters also charged Customs with violating gay and lesbian readers' freedom of expression and equality under Canada's Charter of Rights. Following three years of delay, a lengthy trial, and over a year of deliberation, Justice Smith ruled in January that the section was constitutionally sound but that Customs often enforced its own rules in a manner that violated the Charter of Rights.

On the strength of that declaration, Little Sisters filed an injunction asking the court to stop Customs from seizing books at the border until the court was satisfied that the rules would no longer be applied in an unconstitutional manner. Little Sisters also asked that the government be ordered to pay \$225,000 in "special costs." Special costs are awarded in Canadian courts when the court finds a party has engaged in reprehensible behavior before or during the trial.

While Justice Smith did not find Customs' behavior to be reprehensible, he did find that Customs

delayed in bringing its regulations in line with current obscenity standards. In particular he noted that Customs had waited until a few days before the trial began to drop the prohibition on representations of anal penetration, despite the fact that the courts had ruled several years earlier that such depictions were *not* obscene. In light of that behavior, Smith awarded the bookstore 75% of special costs — Canadian courts rarely award 100% of special costs — and 75% is a very high, and significant, award in the Canadian judicial system. Little Sisters is actually expected to receive closer to \$220,000 when disbursements such as long distance calls and photocopying are added in.

Justice Smith also provided Little Sisters with an option to apply for a second injunction to stop Customs from seizing books on October 31, 1996, if Little Sisters is not satisfied with Customs behavior in the interim.

Janine Fuller, Little Sisters' manager, told FBN that they were very pleased with the rulings. "The award takes a certain amount of stress off the bookstore," she understated. "We'll still have to do fundraising for the appeal, but it helps with our outstanding debt." Little Sisters will file an appeal against the less strongly favorable aspects of the ruling later this year. ○

Sue Ostfield's ABA Arrest Records Expunged At Last

Sue Ostfield, the InBook/South End sales rep who was arrested at last year's ABA while handing out leaflets during the No Newts demonstration, has finally been notified that the records of her arrest have been expunged from the files of the Chicago Police Department and the Department of State Police.

Records of the arrest and her fingerprints were returned to Sue in April, but her mug shots were not included in the package. Apparently mug shots aren't

developed until they are needed. Negatives are supposedly exposed for expungement purposes, but no negatives, exposed or otherwise, were returned to her.

The No Newts demonstration was called by a coalition of Chicago organizations to protest Power Lunch speaker Newt Gingrich's political agenda. Gingrich had been invited to speak at the ABA event despite strong statements from the program advisory committee that Gingrich, because of his demonstrated commitment to cutting NEA funding and to passing censorship legislation that could profoundly affect bookselling in this country, would not be an appropriate ABA guest.

ABA members sought to convey their concerns and anger to ABA in a number of ways. Many joined the outside-the-building demonstration, but others preferred to express their concerns directly to ABA staff, board members, and others inside the hall where the luncheon was taking place. McCormick Place Security, however, consistently threatened and intimidated these members and exhibitors and refused to allow placards, leafletting and, at times, even standing, in the building where the event took place.

Sue Ostfield was arrested while passing out leaflets in the corridor outside the meeting room while Gingrich was speaking. She had also been threatened with arrest earlier. She was held for several hours, initially in the security office at McCormick Place and later in a Chicago jail, booked, and charged with assaulting a police officer. (According to the arrest record, she scratched a security guard's arm while he and another security guard dragged her away. The scratch, however, was not deep enough to be visible to reporters.)

Two other demonstrators, schoolteacher Craig Segal and disability rights activist Tom Wilson, were also arrested during the demonstration. Segal, who was one of the protesters involved in verbally disrupting Gingrich's speech, was arrested and charged with Criminal Trespass despite the fact that he was a paid guest at the luncheon. Wilson, who was attending the outdoor demonstration, was charged with Criminal Trespass (entering the building rented to ABA) and Battery (assaulting a police officer).

Charges against Sue Ostfield were dropped at a special hearing in June that was arranged by ABA's lawyers. Craig Segal and Tom Wilson had to go through



Madwoman Press

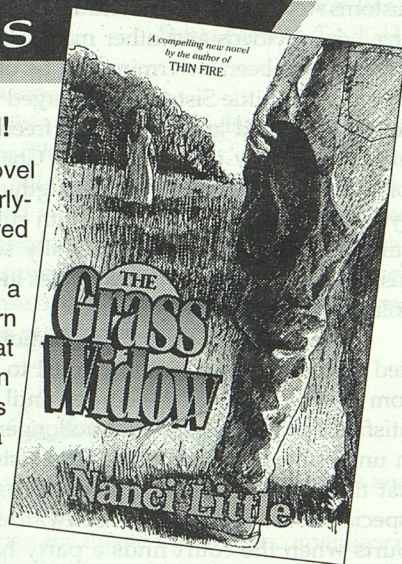
From the author of *Thin Fire* comes a powerful new novel!

The Grass Widow, set in Kansas in 1876, Nanci Little's second novel explores a lesbian relationship in a time when there were no clearly-defined archetypes to which women could look when they discovered that they were 'different.'

A doctor's daughter from Portland, Maine, is banished to the care of a distant cousin. When Aidan Blackstone arrives in seedy little Washburn Station, Kansas, she is met by the androgynous Joss Bodett: "... that voice had been as hard as a Portland winter, and Joss had sworn easily, as if she were the man she'd looked to be in dusty canvas trousers, a faded cotton shirt and work boots, her hair hidden by a sweat-stained hat pulled low over unwelcoming dark eyes—and most incredibly, the gumbelt around her narrow hips, a dark tool worn as close to her lithe body as blankets to a bed."

They both have secrets . . .

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three court appearances before charges against them were dropped. (TV news video showed that McCormick Place Security officers had pulled Wilson into the building, making a mockery of the trespassing charge.) ABA had requested that charges against Sue be dropped and that her record be expunged. Segal and Wilson's records were not expunged.

Although ABA executives met with McCormick Place Security prior to the convention to advise Security that First Amendment rights were to be respected at all times, McCormick Place Security repeatedly told ABA members that they could not leaflet, demonstrate, or hold placards in the building, confiscated leaflets, and stated that they were only enforcing ABA policy. Members who attempted to exercise their First Amendment rights were threatened with arrest and jail. One exhibitor, Amy Bartell (Syracuse Cultural Workers), was threatened with being removed from the building and then was detained while her badge was confiscated, taken away for examination, and then returned. (Syracuse Cultural Workers have since withdrawn from exhibiting at ABA.) Booksellers and exhibitors were also confined, against their will, in the building. Several demonstrators and several members of the press (including this reporter) were manhandled by "security guards."

Many ABA members and exhibitors criticized ABA for its lack of foresight and sensitivity in protecting First Amendment rights in Chicago, for failing to provide monitors to ensure that First Amendment rights were respected during the demonstrations, for its slow response to the arrests, and for choosing to advocate for only one of the First Amendment arrestees.

Confidence that ABA is a safe place to exercise freedom of speech and assembly has not been restored. It is ironic and not without notice that ABA has, at conventions past, invested significant resources in publishing and circulating thousands of leaflets that outline what ABA members could and could not discuss at ABA apropos of Federal Trade Commission regulations, but that ABA has not seen fit to provide members with information about how to proceed in any of the situations that occurred at ABA last year. If adequate measures have been taken to prevent these kinds of situations from recurring at ABA this year or in future years, the membership and exhibitors have not been advised of them. — CS ○

A Web Site of One's Own: Low Cost Website for Feminist Bookstores

Every women's bookstore, publisher, newspaper, magazine and newsletter has a listing on The ElectraPages that can be jump-started into a Web page.

Created by the Women's Information Exchange/National Women's Mailing List, The ElectraPages lists 7,500 feminist organizations. This massive directory spans the entire women's movement and allows feminists to search out women's organizations — both locally or nationally — as well as by type of service offered. Each listing currently includes only basic information: name, address, phone, FAX and e-mail.

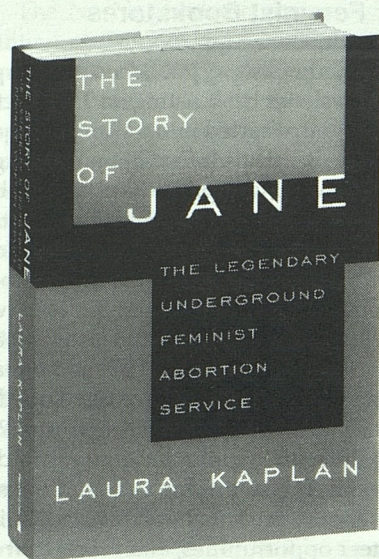
The women at ElectraPages have developed an inexpensive way to turn basic listings into Web pages — complete with logos and numerous folders (calendar of events, hours, catalog information, new title lists, bestseller or favorite book lists, wish lists, job and volunteer opportunities, and more) that can be filled in with whatever information you want. Even your e-mail address can be hotlinked so that clicking on it brings up a ready-to-send e-mail form addressed to the store so browsers can zip mail and messages to you instantly. And all at feminist-bookstore-budget prices: a mere \$5 per month. And you don't even have to be on-line yourself to post information on your site.

The Web pages are available to those who are already "on the Net" as well as to those who aren't connected at all. If you don't have a modem hooked up, the women at ElectraPages will send you a preformatted disk that you use to provide the information you want on your Web page. It can be filled in using any word processing program you wish.

As with any free listing, you first want to make sure your basic listing is correct and complete. If you're already on the Web, cruise over to (<http://electrapages.com>) using a Netscape browser (1.1 or higher). Check it out and request a free listing form while you're there. To see what an extended listing looks like, search for Feminist Bookstore News/Network's nifty new site: click on FBN's Web page icon or go directly to (<http://electrapages.com/fbntoc.htm>).

If you don't have access to the Web, but have a friend or customer who does, ask them to take a look

It's been twenty-three years since the *Roe v. Wade* decision. Now read the "fascinating"* book about the courageous women who started it all.




THE STORY OF JANE

The Legendary Underground Feminist Abortion Service
by LAURA KAPLAN

"A gripping and indispensable record of the days before American women had access to safe and legal abortions."—Naomi Wolf

"Kaplan's account of his remarkable story recaptures the political idealism of the early '70s...A timely reminder that abortions need not be performed by doctors to be safe."—*San Francisco Chronicle*

Now at bookstores  PANTHEON

for you (or better yet, invite you over and give you a quick tour). Ask them to print out the free listing form for you, then you can fill it out and send it in so your information is verified. Otherwise call or fax ElectraPages to request the free listing form.

If you already have a Web site, ElectraPages invites you to hotlink their site to yours to take advantage of the traffic their site can generate for you.

Setting up your own Web page at The ElectraPages site is unreasonably reasonable: \$25 for setting up the page plus \$5 per month (no additional space rental charges), payable in three-month increments for a word-based site. If your logo is already scanned (in a compatible graphics file), it can be added for an additional \$25 set-up fee. If your logo isn't yet scanned, they'll scan it, convert it to an acceptable Internet format, and set it up for \$50. If you're already on-line, you can update your site at will. If you're not on-line and are updating by disk, you get to update your site monthly.

FBN asked ElectraPages creators Jill Lippert and Deborah Brecher how they could afford to offer Web pages at these prices. (Most Internet directories charge a minimum of \$150 per set-up plus \$25 per

update.) "We already had the information as part of the National Women's Mailing List," Jill said, "So it was the next logical step. It's what we've always done: find a way to reach women, help women find the resources that women need desperately, and help resources and organizations find their audiences." Deborah added, "We're so used to living on sub-feminist salaries that we wouldn't know how to charge enough to make a computer-era profit! Anyway, what can you do if you're still stuck in a sixties change-the-world consciousness and proud of it? — Move to an electronic cottage in the wilderness and pretend you're living in Amazonia."

To set up a Web page at ElectraPages, request an Extended Listing Form while you're on the net or simply send the start-up fee plus the first three months rent (\$25 + \$15) by mail. They'll need to know whether you have a PC or Macintosh, the operating system you use (DOS, Windows, Finder), the size diskette you use (5¼" or 3½") and the kind of word processing system you use.

Questions? Call The ElectraPages at 707-632-5763, fax 707-632-5589, e-mail (wie@wco.com) or write: PO Box 68, Jenner CA 95450. ○

Feminist Bookstore Network Launches Fall 1996 Catalog Lisa McGowan, Project Manager

The 1995 Feminist Bookstores' Fall Catalog once again proved itself an ideal vehicle for bringing feminist-interest books to a committed, book buying audience and for bringing book buyers into feminist bookstores.

Space reservations for the 1996 edition began arriving in April, several weeks before the advertising kits were mailed to publishers.

Plans for the 1996 edition include a print run of 450,000 (50,000 more than in 1995), promotion on the Internet, direct mailing to 165,000 feminist and lesbian magazine subscribers (including the entire *Ms. Magazine* list, *Out* (women subscribers), *Women's Review of Books*, *Lesbian Review of Books*, *Wolfe Video*, *Curve* and others. One hundred and thirty feminist bookstores will distribute imprinted catalogs in-store, in their communities and to their mailing lists.

Distribution of the Feminist Bookstores' Fall Catalog, unlike most other book catalogs, is very carefully targeted to reach women who have previously expressed interest in feminist literature and have demonstrated a commitment to purchasing feminist and women-related books and materials. Many recipients keep the Catalog at hand and requests for the Catalog continue to come in six to eight months after publication. In these days of dwindling market resources, the Feminist Bookstores' Catalog reaches exactly the right audience for feminist-interest books in one easy (and reasonably priced) step.

Because so many recipients use the catalog as the place to start their holiday shopping, catalog coordinators are inviting publishers to expand the list of books they advertise in the catalog to include books appropriate as gifts for family, friends and colleagues. This year a 20% discount will be extended to ads for children's and YA titles.

Mev Miller (612-646-0097/(mev@winternet.com)) will once again coordinate university and academic press ads; Dorothy Holland (505-867-9077/(dorothy@bookgrrls.com)) will focus on small and independent presses; and Lisa McGowan will be the contact for New York-based and mainstream publishers as well as providing in-house coordination for the 1996 edition.

Lisa comes to FBN with twenty years experience in independent bookselling and publishing. Most recently as Special Sales Manager for Kepler's Books, she has also coordinated Black Oak Books' highly esteemed reading series and was Marketing Director at The New Press.

Catalog books are supported by bi-weekly mailings to all participating stores regarding availability and ordering information. In 1996 this information will also be posted to participating stores via the Internet.

For further information, contact the appropriate rep or call Lisa McGowan or Carol Seajay at 415-626-2039 or 415-626-1556, or by e-mail (Lisa@FemBkNews.com) or (Carol@FemBkNews.com).

100+ Feminist Bookstores Celebrate Feminist Bookstore Week — North America — May 11-19

One hundred and thirty feminist bookstores across the United States and Canada have joined together to celebrate Feminist Bookstore Week — North America (FBW) May 11-19, 1996. The event will draw attention to the contributions of feminist bookstores both in their local and national book communities.

Feminist Bookstore Week is sponsored by the Feminist Bookstores Network and grew out of a working session at the Feminist Bookstores Strategic Planning Conference in October, 1994.

The goals of Feminist Bookstore Week are to draw attention to the importance of the work that feminist bookstores do

- to empower women to change their lives and to change the world by distributing books and other information;
- to create women-centered space;
- to promote feminist books and publishing;
- to educate our communities about feminist bookstores as local resources;
- to remind the publishing industry about the importance of feminist bookstores and their impact on what books are published, a concern that is of particular importance as corporate chain bookstores have an ever-larger influence on which books are (and aren't) published and promoted; and

- to celebrate feminist bookstores' 25-year history as the information arm of the women's movement.

Paraphernalia for the event includes FBW posters, t-shirts, flags and bumperstickers. Arrangements are being made in many communities to air *A Labor of Love: A Tribute to 25 Years of Feminist and Lesbian Publishers and Bookstores*, a one-hour radio documentary portraying a brief history of feminist and lesbian bookstores and publishers over the past 25 years and their ongoing importance as political and cultural arenas. The documentary was prepared by Mev Miller and highlights the 25th anniversaries of Amazon Bookstore, *off our backs*, and The Feminist Press.

The Feminist Writers Pledge is another aspect of FBW. Two hundred writers from Dorothy Allison to Alice Walker have already signed the pledge which calls on both writers and readers to support feminist and other independent bookstores and "to invest in freedom of expression and independent thinking by shopping in feminist and other independent bookstores." The bookstores' goal for 1996 is to gather a thousand signatures from the writers whose books are promoted in feminist bookstores.

The pledge reads: "As writers, feminists and political activists, we believe in the enormous power of words to inform, inspire and challenge. In order for our words to be read and heard, we must rely on publishers and bookstores to bring our work to the public.

"Independent feminist bookstores...have been

supporting and distributing our books for many years. We count on them. Independent bookstores are now an endangered species because of the rise of corporate-owned chain bookstores that engage in predatory pricing and discount policies. The more corporate bookstores control the market, the less likely it will be that they and the publishing industry will take risks on new or controversial authors—and the more control the corporations will have over what we all read.

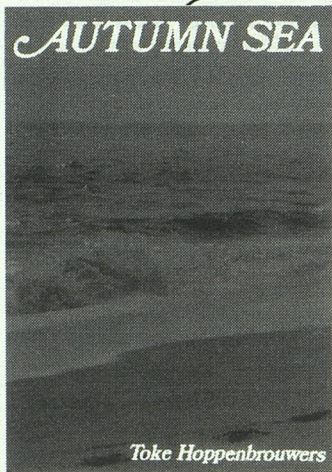
"Without independent and feminist bookstores and small presses some of us could be silenced and the next generation of authors with important ideas might never be found.

"As writers we pledge the following:

1. We will remain committed to supporting independent and feminist bookstores;
2. We will seek out local feminist and independent bookstores in each city or town to do our *first* reading or booksigning;
3. We will donate our time and talents to community events and campaigns that support independent and feminist bookstores.

"And we ask you, as readers, to do the same. Please shop at feminist and independent bookstores as often as you can. Think of it as an investment in freedom of expression and independent thinking. Thank you."

Although Feminist Bookstore Week — North America will focus on feminist bookstores and events in feminist bookstores, it is expected that FBW will



"If lesbians didn't have their ex-lovers they would have only their cats."

AUTUMN SEA

by Toke Hoppenbrouwers

A lesbian love story—

envisioning endings that are beginnings,
celebrating differences of race and ethnicity,
creating trust and transforming relationships

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strengthen other community-based and specialty bookstores by drawing attention to our collective role in the bookselling industry. Feminist and other specialty bookstores encourage publishing in our interest areas by proving a market for the kinds of books we sell.

For copies of The Feminist Writers Pledge, send a SASE to Feminist Bookstore Network, PO Box 882554, San Francisco CA 94188. ○

**Login/InBook Reorganize
Now Called LPC Group
David Wilk to be Managing Director**

In an attempt to define itself more clearly to both Login and InBook/Womensource customers, Login Publishers Consortium has incorporated all three divisions into the LPC Group. InBook and Womensource will both retain their names under the LPC Group heading. The organization that had previously been called Login Publishers Consortium will now be known as Login Trade. LPC Group's objective is to maintain separate sales identities for all three lines while consolidating operations such as shipping and billing. Sales reps will handle all LPC Group lines and bookstores will be able to order books from all divisions at one time.

Login Publishers Consortium (now Login Trade) was formed five years ago as a partnership between two independent publishers, Dominique Raccach (Sourcebooks) and Mitchell Rogatz (Triumph Books), and Login Brothers Book Company, a medical book wholesaler. Login Trade is reported to include 60 active publishers, with strengths in sports, self-help and business.

David Wilk, co-founder of Inland Book Company, will join the LPC Group as Managing Director.

The former Inland Book Company's East Haven, Connecticut warehouse closed in March. InBook/Womensource returns should now be sent to the LPC Group warehouse at 4029 West George Street, Chicago IL 60641. Orders may be placed by phone 800-243-0138, fax 800-334-3892, electronically 800-453-0077, or mailed to: LPC Group, 1436 West Randolph Street, Chicago IL 60607.

LPC acquired InBook and Womensource after the Inland Book Company filed Chapter 11 bankruptcy last summer and sold InBook/Womensource to Login in the fall. In acquiring InBook/Womensource, LPC

hopes to create a symbiotic relationship, strengthening both Login Trade's and InBook/Womensource's presence in the marketplace. ○

Spinifex Press Goes Electronic

AUSTRALIA: For a press such as Spinifex, global in its reach and located in Australia, electronic communications are a boon. We have, therefore, decided to move forward into this area.

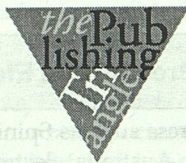
1996 in the U.S. will see the publication of Dale Spender's *Nattering on the Net: Women, Power and Cyberspace*, which looks at the cultural and social implications of the electronic world. This is followed in the Fall by *The Internet for Women: Travel & Culture*. Written by Rye Senjen, a research scientist in the Artificial Intelligence section of Telstra, Australia's biggest communications company, this book guides readers through the process of logging on. But these sound like books, you say.

They are, but they are supported by a home page: (<http://www.peg.apc.org/~spinifex>) and the home page will include updates of resources on electronic women's sites, bulletin boards, news groups and home pages.

Toward the end of 1996 in Australia, and in Spring 1997 in North America, we will be releasing an interactive final chapter to Suniti Namjoshi's latest novel, *Building Babel*. We will be publishing, in print in the novel and electronically, an invitation for readers to contribute to the building of Babel by responding with images, words, music and maps about possible worlds that sisters might invent.

Spinifex has also recently been the recipient of a grant to establish an electronic network of women publishers, distributors and Women's Studies courses in Asia and Australia, and this project will increase our reach and importance on the World Wide Web.

So if you're already hooked up, visit our home page (it's still being built) or create a hotlink. You will soon be able to read extracts from our titles as well as browse our catalogue and eventually be able to contribute your ideas for Babel. We'd love to get feedback from you as these things appear on our site. Please e-mail us with your responses on (spinifex@publishaust.net.au) or snail mail: PO Box 212, North Melbourne Vic 3051 Australia; fax: 61-3-9329 9238. —Spinifex Press ○



The Publishing Triangle celebrates the 5th Annual National Lesbian and Gay Book Month along with these 1996 sponsors:

Alyson Publications

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Feminist Bookstore News

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Harrington Park Press an imprint of The Haworth Press, Inc.

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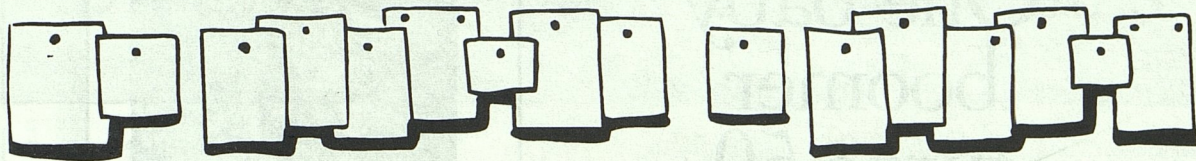
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Rising Tide Press

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To request a Book Month Buyers Guide please write: Michele Karlsberg Publicity Services
47 Dongan Hills Avenue—First Floor Staten Island, New York 10306

ANNOUNCEMENTS



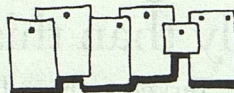
By Jenn Tust

June is the Fifth Annual National Lesbian and Gay Book Month. NL&GBM is sponsored by The Publishing Triangle, an association of lesbians and gay men working in the publishing industry. This year's NL&GBM kit will include a glossy 8½ x 5½ pamphlet with a four-color cover as well as the familiar NL&GBM poster, tip sheet and past lesbian and gay book award winners. Over six hundred libraries, gay, lesbian, feminist, independent, chain and university bookstores requested the promo kit last year. The Publishing Triangle anticipates sending out as many as 1,000 kits this year. Promotional kits are available for booksellers, librarians and universities to help effectively market and promote lesbian and gay titles as a category. To receive a promotional kit, write: Michele Karlsberg Publicity Services, 47 Dongan Hills Avenue, Staten Island NY 10306.

The Athena Awards for Lesbian Excellence in Film, Video and Television sponsored by Northern Arts/The Naiad Press will be announced on August 15. These are competitive awards honoring excellence in film/video/TV by and/or about lesbians and lesbian issues. Thousands of dollars worth of prizes from various film/video labs will be awarded. Features, shorts, documentary, experimental, animation and all forms of television programs accepted. Format: VHS-NTSC. Entry fee: \$25. Deadline: July 10. For entry form send SASE to: Awards Coordinator, Athena Awards, PO Box 201, Williamsburg MA 01096; 413-268-9301, fax 413-268-9309.

Lambda Rising On-line and AOL both host special conferences featuring lesbigay authors. To keep people informed about these upcoming conferences, Lambda Rising On-line maintains a listserv mailing

list, RAINBOW-L, which sends one message weekly announcing upcoming conferences. Although you have to have an AOL account to attend the conferences, you can receive the weekly announcements with or without an AOL account. Send a "subscribe" message to <lambdamac@aol.com>.



BookWire and *Publishers Weekly* have created an author tour database for Internet browsers. Geared for both industry professionals and the general public, the service, called *Authors on the Highway*, will allow browsers to follow a few simple links to discover which authors are touring in their area. Whenever possible, the listings will offer links to the Web sites of the publishers and bookstores hosting the author's visit. Publicists and booksellers are asked to supply *BookWire* with notification of confirmed appearances via e-mail or fax. Information about appearances should include the name of the bookstore, author and title, a sample book cover (optional), suggested list price, ISBN and publisher's and publicist's names. Please fax or e-mail to: *Authors on the Highway*, 32 Union Square East #903, New York NY 10003; fax 212-982-6454, e-mail <roadtrip@bookwire.com>. For more information, contact Roger Williams, *BookWire's* director of sales and marketing, at 212-982-7008, e-mail <roger.williams@bookwire.com>. *BookWire* can be found at <<http://www.bookwire.com>>.

WisCon 20, the greatest confluence of feminist science fiction ever, will be held May 24-27 in Madison, Wisconsin. Events include the fifth annual James
See Announcements, page 37.

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6E01

News FROM THE BOOKSTORES

By Carol Seajay

Binti Legacy (Women's Legacy), the women's bookstore in Nairobi, Kenya, is tentatively scheduled to open in May. The opening has been postponed, several times, due to construction delays in the building where the store is to open. Write to Binti's founder, M. Aoko Midiwo-Odembo, PO Box 31534, Nairobi, Kenya; fax 011-2542-561-654, or send information to her U.S. agent, Dan Hoffman, 597 San Luis Road, Berkeley CA 94707; 510-528-9900.



Funds & Fundraising

While many independent bookstores have seen sales fall when superstores and preda-chains open bookstores in their towns, having Borders open directly across the street adds insult to the injury. And that's the situation Sisterhood Bookstore in LA has been confronting for the last year.

They say you can't fight City Hall and you can't beat a Borders, but feminist bookstores take fighting — and surviving — against incredible odds as something of a norm. Sisterhood had already done a tremendous amount of educational work, established a frequent buyer club for customers, and increased the number of in-store events when Adele Wallace and the rest of the Sisterhood crew decided it was time to hold a fundraiser and raise \$10,000 to hire a financial adviser, create a financial cushion and pay some bills.

The event honored ten women — mostly local authors and poets who have been long-time members of Sisterhood's community and history. The honorees included Lily Tomlin, Deena Metzger, Eloise Klein-Healy, Wanda Coleman and Carolyn See. One hundred fifty women and a few men contributed up to \$100 to attend, wear pins stating "I am helping to

save women's literature in Los Angeles" and meet some of their literary idols. Set in neon-artist Lily Lakich's studio, homemade hors d'oeuvres and a classical quartet created ambiance.

The formal presentations strolled down memory lane while educating supporters about the changing bookselling and publishing scene. Robin Morgan, after talking about the closing of Judith's Room, advised that fundraisers aren't always enough — but that if 10% of the women's studies programs at universities across the country insisted that their students buy books from feminist bookstores, all of the stores could stay alive and healthy. LA councilwoman Jackie Goldberg noted, "It's easy to be lulled into a false sense of security because chain stores are carrying a good selection of women's titles. But there's a generation of women writers who depend on independent bookstores for their voices to be heard." She then asked the audience to take out their checkbooks and donate more money. After the silent auction had closed, Sisterhood had raised \$13,000. The *LA Times* ran a feature the next day and sales on that rainy Sunday afternoon were double a normal day's take.

The Charis Circle

Charis Books received 501(c)(3) status for their new non-profit aspect, the Charis Circle, which will take over/fund readings, book groups, specific on-going groups such as the African American lesbian group that has met at Charis for years, and educational programs for which Charis is so well known and loved. Two local community foundations have promised funding "as soon as the status is official." Grant proposals include funds for salaries, rent, networking and other related expenses and even sending Charis staff to Feminist Bookstore Camp in October.

Anticipating that the non-profit status would be approved, the women who created the Charis Circle

sent a fundraising letter to 550 women from their personal mailing lists. As FBN went to press, Charis had received 67 responses totaling \$6,000.... Yes!

Getting Grants/Expanding Services

Sue Bennett, of Gifts of Athena (Cleveland Heights, Ohio), e-mails, "We did a grant application to a local lesbian organization to install a Lesbian Information Center (LIC) in our back room. We won't hear if we got it until July, but it was a great learning process!"

Once Upon a Time (Bloomington, Illinois) has just acquired, with a local gay/lesbian bar owner, a space for a community center that will feature theater, film, musical entertainment as well as meeting space. Tana Meldrum would like to talk to other booksellers who've managed such spaces in- or outside of their bookstores. OUT, 311 North Main, Bloomington IL 61791; 309-828-3998.

"Bring Back the Play!"

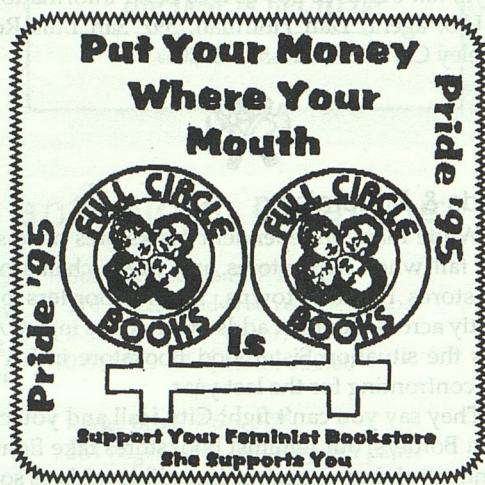
is the Book Garden's new rallying cry. "Our membership program is centered on having a good time — for us and the members. Singles mingles and book groups are the two favorite events so far. We feel like social directors on a cruise ship — and love it. We're marketing ourselves silly — and enjoying it," Kasha Songer told FBN. Sales are swinging back despite the two new "Pride" stores in Denver, the invasion of the body-snatchers (I mean chain stores) and the expansion of Tattered Cover. The Book Garden hired a "Mev" (bookstore promotion genius) six months ago.

Inspired by Amazon, the Book Garden started buying and selling used books a couple weeks after Amazon did. "Customers love it!" is the word. The Book Garden buys used books only on Sundays, buys only from the store's best-selling areas and only buys "the hot stuff." "We explain," Kasha said, "that everybody's got Beebo Brinker, and our customers get it with no hard feelings." Book Garden puts their used books on computer: "We put an R — for recycled — in front of the ISBN and the word 'used' after the titles," Kasha explained. "On Sunday night we create and receive a purchase order with all the titles and prices, and print out barcode labels that we slap over the original barcodes for high-speed, no-mistakenly-charging-full-price checkout. It's been really good for sales. A lot of customers tuck their credit slips away,

but even the women who use them right away almost always overspend their credit."

And More Fun

Gay Pride is coming, and it's time for floats and banners, for waving those Support Feminist Bookstores flags and handing out coupons and store-address fliers. Inspired by that great slogan invented at the Feminist Bookstore Strategic Planning Conference in 1994, Full Circle took Pride one step further last year and created little zip-lock baggies with Hershey's kisses, dental dams and a note stating proudly, "Put your money where your mouth is — Support your feminist bookstore." (And, of course, Full Circle's name and address.) "We tossed them to the crowd from our float and got *quite* a few reactions!" Dorothy Holland writes.



Anne Frost and Mary Morell (Full Circle) were recently in San Francisco for the gift show. "It's worth going outside of your area to find things that aren't already all over town," Anne said. And it's probably worth going every few years if you can work it into your vacation, but it's not worth an annual pilgrimage. We found some interesting goddess stuff," Mary added, "a great series of women-pilots t-shirts, new jewelry and *no* rainbow-stuff!"

CyberStuff

Once Upon a Time has had a Web site for about five months...(<http://www.outbooks.com>). They're

also planning to add a cyber-cafe station in their coffee area in the next few months. The idea is to set up customer accounts that include e-mail addresses and some on-line time for a moderate monthly fee.

A Different Drummer's Web site should be up by now. E-mail them at <ddrummer@ix.netcom.com> for the address.



Expanding

Want to stimulate sales? Bring the Final Four (women's basketball tournament) to town. Rising Moon's Sue Henry reports that "We sold everything in the store" while the sports fans were in Charlotte.

But Rising Moon has another, more dependable, way of increasing revenue: opening branch and satellite stores. In addition to the main store in Charlotte, Rising Moon ran "a weekend store" in a local coffeehouse for nearly a year, closing the store only when the coffeehouse closed its doors permanently. In November, Rising Moon opened a third store, in Wilmington, a summer tourist community on the Carolina coast four hours east of Charlotte. Wilmington had previously had a gay-themed store that closed at the end of the summer. Sue hired one of women who ran that store to manage the new Rising Moon. Rising Moon Charlotte and Rising Moon Wilmington have similar stock. Ordering and receiving is based in Charlotte and books are shipped or driven over to Wilmington as needed. The address for the new store is 215 Princess Street, Wilmington NC 28401; 910-343-9106.

Kudos and Awards

BookWoman was voted the Best Specialty Bookstore in the *Austin Chronicle* Reader's Poll. BookWoman had "our best holiday season yet" despite still growing into their new, expanded space.

Programming

Several stores have mentioned having screenings or fundraisers (for themselves or other community organizations) featuring *A Litany for Survival: The Life and Work of Audre Lorde*, the new film by Ada Gay Griffin and Michelle Parkerson. It's available from Third World Newsreal, 335 West 38th Street, New

York, NY 10018; 212-947-9277, fax 212-594-6417. The 90-minute film version rents for \$400; the 60-minute video rents for \$125. If you know of other sources, pass the word!

Changes

Alice Frier and Lee Boojamra are contemplating selling Womankind Books, their mail-order book business, to concentrate on Rising Tide, the publishing aspect of their vision and commitment to the women-in-print movement. See "Letters" for details.

Wild Iris Bookstore in Claremont, California is also for sale. "It became clear to me that the store was not generating enough income to pay expenses. I started calling people and invited them to a brainstorming session for alternatives to closing the store — thirty people came to the first meeting, forty to the second....," reports owner Genevieve Beenen. ○

Booksellers Want to Know:

If anyone else has received hate mail made up of letters cut out of newspapers or magazines and mailed from Hawaii, please contact FBN.

Moonyean wants to know if anyone knows where or how to look up ISBN numbers online. "I know there's Books in Print, but it costs a fortune to access. When I went to SSU for an Internet class I could use the school library's CD ROM of BIP if I went to the school library but I could not access BIP via my home computer (something to do with the library's contract with Bowker.) I have access to dozens of library holdings, but it seems few of them list the ISBN number. Am I wrong? Can anybody help?" — Moonyean <m3lake@ix.netcom.com>. (Or call FBN and we'll pass it on.)

Tana Meldrum at Once Upon a Time is looking for a book a customer described that "gives names and addresses of lesbian separatist spaces around the world." If you have a clue what was on the customer's mind, call Tana at 309-828-3998 or e-mail her at <OUTBOOKS@aol.com>.

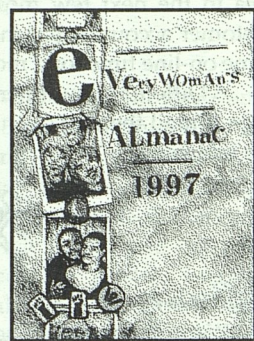


Everywoman's Almanac 1997

New Attitude: Young Women & Feminism

A spicy, spunky and fun collection of interviews by young women aged 14 to 24, the *1997 Everywoman's Almanac* cuts to the heart of feminist issues in young women's lives. These twelve young women strip back the rhetoric and dig up their realities; they share their sorrow and their pride, and entrust with us a sweet sensitivity of their everyday lives. Don't miss these young women grapple with issues that will impact their lives and ours, and shape a future of celebration, resiliency and hope.

224 pages
 sewn bound \$8.95 0-88961-215-3
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 Release Date: June 1996



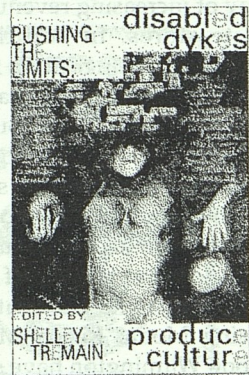
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Edited by Shelley Tremain

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\$13.95 pb 0-88961-218-8 Release: October 1996



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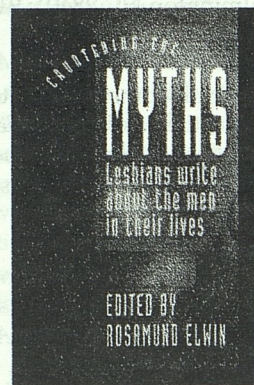
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Edited by Rosamund Elwin

A daring debut collection of fiction and poetry by lesbians about the men who share their Lives. These women strip back the myths that lesbians have always been involved with women, that lesbians hate men, that lesbians do not consider sleeping with men, that lesbians have only women as significant forces in their lives. They write with honesty, caution, anger, sadness and love about brothers, lovers, fathers, grandfathers, sons, friends — even about parts of themselves.

\$15.95 pb 0-88961-219-6 Release: November 1996



Amazon Bookstore:

Literacy Skills For Women

By Mev Miller

In many ways, the contemporary women's movement communicates via the written word. Access to the words and ideas of women is one of the primary ways women's lives are enriched, changed, and improved and access to these ideas presumes the ability to read.

Amazon Bookstore was founded on the belief that all women should have access to women's ideas and to writings that tell the truth about women's lives. Now, in Amazon's 25th year, Amazon staff have begun to focus some of our energies in the area of literacy for women, believing, as we do, that all women — including women who struggle with reading — should have access to the writings of women.

In the United States, an estimated 23% of all adult females have severely limited literacy skills, compared to 17% of males. Poverty among women and children continues to rise at crisis proportions and literacy, or the lack of it, is a significant factor. Seventy-five percent of families with female heads-of-households who don't have a high school diploma live in poverty, compared to 34% of families with

male heads-of-households in the same situation. Nearly 40% of female single parents and 35% of displaced homemakers have an eighth-grade education or less.¹ Conditions that prevent or inhibit women from developing literacy skills include family obligations, violence and sexual assault, alcohol and drug addiction in families, lack of transportation, child care issues, male attitudes towards women, culture and tradition (especially among immigrant women), class differences and oppression. Yet it is often the lack of literacy skills that keeps women trapped in these situations. As Audre Lorde wrote, "Poetry is not a luxury."

It has been a year since Amazon decided to actively pursue the ways in which we, as a feminist bookstore, could begin to address issues of literacy for

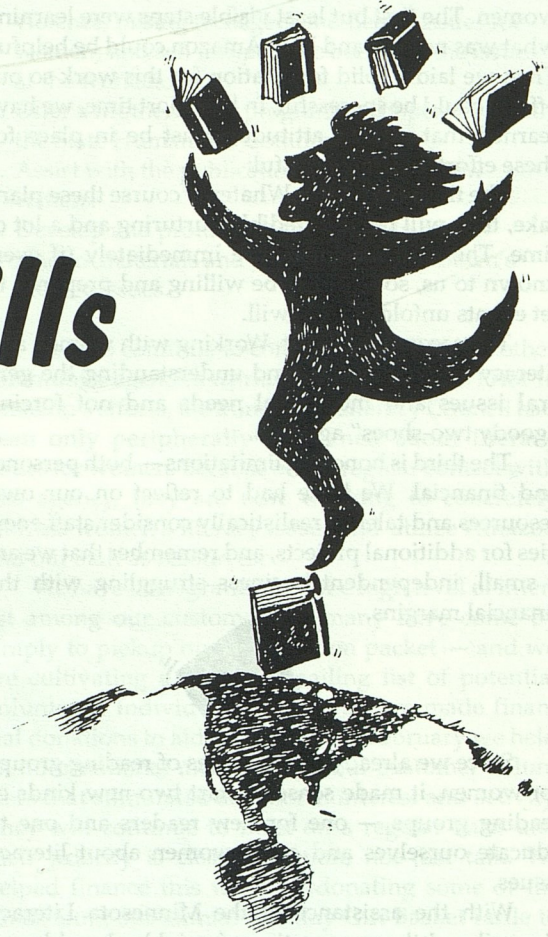


Illustration by Linda Bourke

women. The first but least visible steps were learning what was needed and how Amazon could be helpful. Then we laid a solid foundation for this work so our efforts could be successful. In this short time, we have learned that several attitudes must be in place for these efforts to be successful:

The first is patience. Whatever course these plans take, they will need incredible nurturing and a lot of time. The impact will not be immediately (if ever) known to us, so we must be willing and prepared to let events unfold as they will.

The second is respect. Working with women and literacy means learning and understanding the general issues and individual needs and not forcing "goody two-shoes" agendas.

The third is honoring limitations — both personal and financial. We have had to reflect on our own resources and talents, realistically consider staff energies for additional projects, and remember that we are a small, independent business struggling with the financial margins.



Since we already offer a series of reading groups for women, it made sense to start two new kinds of reading groups — one for new readers and one to educate ourselves and other women about literacy issues.

With the assistance of the Minnesota Literacy Council and the cooperation of neighborhood learning centers we initiated a series of "new readers book groups" for women. The purpose of these groups is to offer reading and discussion opportunities to women who have already attained a certain level of reading skill and want to further develop these skills. Participants tend to be ESL students, so these groups also provide practice in conversational skills and vocabulary development. The groups provide a relaxed and social atmosphere — and are free.

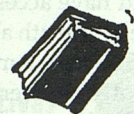
Finding reading materials to use in the groups proved to be more difficult than we anticipated. Knowing that the participants would be from several countries around the world, we wanted to provide readings that would be relevant to their experiences. We wanted short fiction (two to three pages at most) from international women writers written in accessi-

ble English. And of course we wanted interesting and thought-provoking readings — a rather large order to fill. We found that the resources we wanted didn't exist (surprise!), so we decided to use the poetry in *Looking for Home: Women Writing About Exile* from Milkweed Editions.

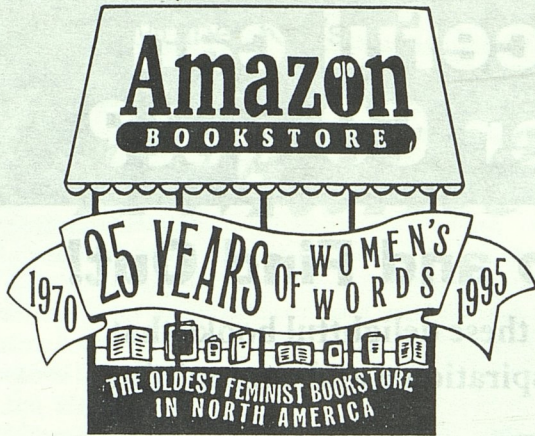


Our first new readers book group was called Women Across Cultures. It included both new readers (women were recommended by area learning centers) and experienced readers. The group met for a six-week session between October and December 1995 at Amazon. In an effort to reduce the barriers that could keep some women from participating, we provided financial assistance for transportation, childcare and books.

Though only two new readers participated, we generally felt that it was a successful first effort. A second six-week session was planned for January/February '96 but, due to inclement weather, conflicting schedules, and no new students, this group met only once. The time, date and process for involving students needs some reevaluation, but we will continue to offer new readers book groups. We are also looking into ways to sponsor some groups in the neighborhood centers, to cultivate more customer volunteers and to find an intern/volunteer who can do the hours of phone calling and general coordination of the work involved.



To educate ourselves and other women about literacy issues, we also launched a Women and Literacy Book Group, an eight-week session that met between January and March. The participants read articles and books about issues relating to literacy for women. The participants learned about obstacles that prevent or discourage women from obtaining and developing their literacy skills, looked at several learning programs and discussed the societal values, definitions and structures of literacy as they pertain to women. This book group will also be offered, with some modification, on an on-going basis.



This is just the beginning. When we started looking at women's literacy issues we read what we could find, consulted with various literacy agencies and volunteers and generated a list of specific ways Amazon can make a difference, including:

1. Recruit literacy volunteers from our membership/customer base.
2. Establish and maintain contact with neighborhood literacy programs, women's shelters, organizations serving women in employment transition and other appropriate service agencies as a way to promote our literacy programs.
3. Create a special membership plan for new readers that offers materials at a discount.
4. Create new sections for reading materials for new readers and resources for literacy volunteers.
5. Encourage learning centers to bring their students to Amazon on field trips so that the women will know the store is a friendly space and a resource for their future reading needs — and that we have affordable used books and new books about women's needs and concerns.
6. Fundraise for women's literacy materials (e.g., accept donations for gift-wrapping and gift basket raffles).
7. Collaborate with local businesses and non-profits to finance transportation, childcare and other aspects of our programs.
8. Create workshops for women on specific issues of importance to new readers (e.g., preventing

- violence, raising teenagers and health issues for women) and sell inexpensive books on the issues at the workshops.
9. Offer a MotherRead² program in cooperation with the State Humanities Commission.
10. Assist with the publication of works by new writers.
11. Develop and promote the availability of new readers materials and information on women's literacy issues.

We also continue to contact and meet with other community agencies working on these issues. Prior to Amazon's efforts, the Minnesota Literacy Council had been only peripherally concerned about literacy issues for women. Because of our regular contact with this agency, they are now working to concretely address women's literacy issues and utilize Amazon and our staff as resources.

We have been gratified by the high level of interest among our customers — many have come by simply to pickup our information packet — and we are cultivating a growing mailing list of potential volunteers. Individual customers have made financial donations to aid the project. In February we held an informational meeting with our customer volunteers that stimulated additional interest and activity. They will continue to meet on a regular basis and their priority is clear — action, not just talk. We helped finance this work by donating some of the funds from our annual Holiday Gift Basket raffle to our literacy fund. We are also looking for grants to move this work along.



¹Statistics taken from the Laubach Literacy Action paper, "By Women/For Women: A Beginning Dialogue on Women and Literacy in the United States."

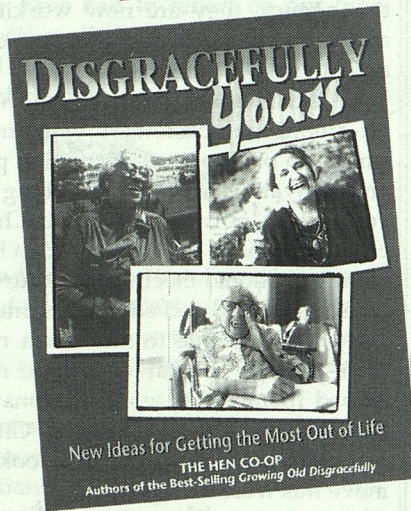
²MotherRead/FatherRead is a program that assists parents with skills to read to/with their children. The parents are provided with recommended book titles and information on how to discuss the material with their children. Basically, it's providing assistance with parenting skills and how to have productive and communicative/listening conversations with children by using the books as a facilitation mechanism. ○

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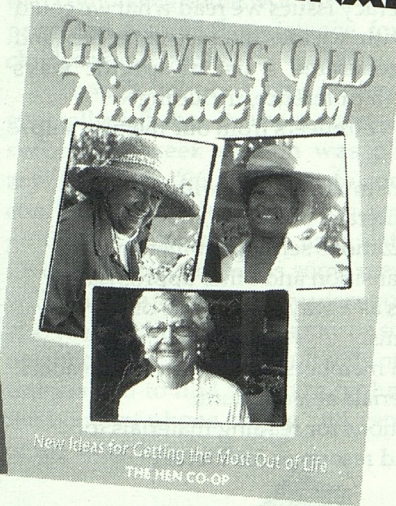


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Profile: Mother Kali's

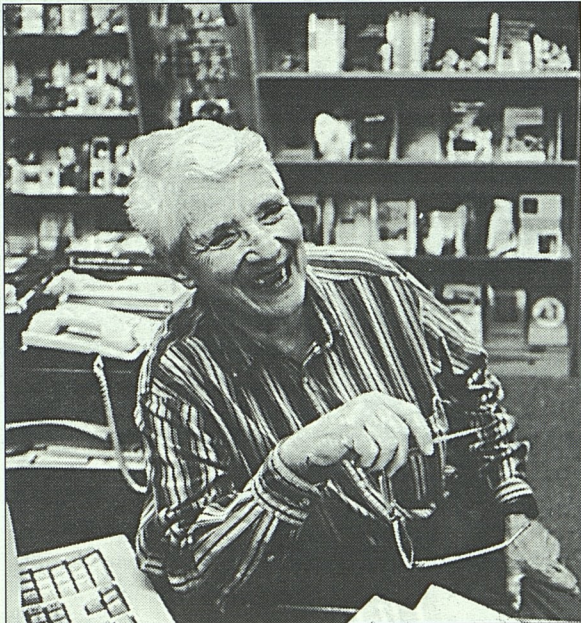
A Marketplace for Ideas

By Kimber Williams

It was the sound that caught Izzie Harbaugh's attention — the slight wheeze of the front door opening, the natural bubble of young voices.

For a bookseller, it's the sound of customers. The call to attention.

From behind the front desk, Harbaugh greeted them, a librarian imprisoned by her own books.



Izzie Harbaugh in Mother Kali's;
Photographs from *The Register-Guard*.

Stacks of recent arrivals stood in columns around her, piles of special orders waiting to be picked up.

A cocoon of women's literature.

The Absent Body. Becoming Visible. Fertile Ground. Menopausal Years. Straight Parents, Gay Children. Harbaugh's finger traced the spine of each volume, a gesture of gentle reassurance.

"Let me know if I can help you find anything," Harbaugh called out, raking through invoices heaped before her.

It would have been easy to peg the young women as browsers.

They picked over the watercolored greeting cards and sticks of incense, thumbed through Janis Ian CDs and "Cat Lovers Against the Bomb" calendars.

They lingered over books on feminist theory and bumper stickers that admonished slogans such as "It's Never Too Late to Have a Happy Childhood."

But in her 68 years, Harbaugh has grown stubborn about a thing or two. And one of them is a resistance to rush to judgment. Time and patience, she insists, can often sell a book as well as anyone.

And sure enough. In a few minutes, Julie Aukstkalnis was chatting with Harbaugh about a class at the community college and a paper she was doing on women and spirituality. Could she recommend any authors?

Harbaugh already had a book in hand. "The author is very widely known," she confided, ringing up the sale.

Aukstkalnis paused to admire a poster: a rough drawing of a lumpy, wrinkled old woman — arms

raised in fierce triumph, the front of her loose shift carpeted in political buttons. *Seeker of Truth. Equal Justice. Nuclear Freeze.*

Harbaugh smiled. "The title is 'Her Strength is in Her Convictions,'" she said, "She's my favorite."

In some ways, the woman in that poster could be Izzie Harbaugh.

An unlikely warrior, yet a devoted radical. A woman who allowed time to shape her convictions and chance to lead her through much of her life.

A blue-collar hillbilly from Pennsylvania who, in her maturity, would find her greatest joy, and her true calling as a born-again liberal.

To the outside world, a quick smile, a grandmotherly face. To those who know her, a fierce intellect, a hunger for books and a passion for her own political planks: Ageism. Homelessness. Classism. Breast Cancer. Environmentalism.

And above all, a woman with an extreme commitment to this work — running a nonprofit feminist bookstore that is a rarity and something of a relic.

A bookstore that, like Harbaugh, has remained a little stubborn.

It was twenty years ago that a group of women decided to create Mother Kali's Books — a fresh, funky, informal center for marginalized voices that opened its doors in a worn-out rental house at 333 West 11th. For 17 of those years, Elizabeth Ann "Izzie" Harbaugh has been a part of that bookstore.

Through five moves and ongoing financial struggles. Against the increased competition from superstores and critics who would brand feminism as the new "F" word.

A bookstore that literally grew up with the women's movement, absorbing every anxious tremor of it — the trouble and the triumphs. And yet it stands.

Mother Kali's.

The state's oldest feminist bookstore.

Hardly a day goes by that she doesn't hear the question:

"Are you Mother Kali?"

Harbaugh shakes her head. "I usually tell them, politely, 'No, I'm Izzie,'" she explains. "Mother Kali is a Hindu goddess. I am not."

And yet in the minds of many, it is often hard to separate the store from the woman who has made it

"I loved...the sheer vitality and sexual energy of these aging women."—Kate Millett.

Lesbian Passages: True Stories Told By Women Over 40, edited by Marcy Adelman, Ph.D.

Life for gay women growing up before lesbianism became chic was more exciting than you think. This fascinating collection of tales from trail-blazing lesbians creates a complex tapestry of what life was like for those women who shared the love that could not speak its name. These astonishing, touching, and sexy first-hand glimpses create a whole new definition of the "gay" life, for the past, present, and future.

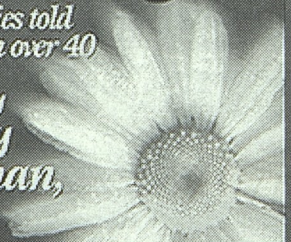
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—May Sarton*

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Passages

*True stories told
by women over 40*

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Adelman,
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Alyson Publications, Los Angeles, California

her life's work to keep its doors open.

"The creation of the bookstore was actually very impulsive," recalled Kathryn Hunt, a Seattle-based filmmaker and Mother Kali's founder.

Hunt and two friends — Marilyn Picariello and Ellen Greenlaw — all arrived in Eugene from elsewhere, drawn to the town's laid-back ways and fertile political climate.

The gathering women's movement already had sparked emotions, actions and headlines in Oregon that year.

In 1975, four certificates in women's studies were awarded at the University of Oregon — the only public institution in the state to offer such a curriculum. Newspapers called it a milestone.

"When we started, it was really at the very beginning of the women's literature movement," Hunt explained. "Women had been fighting to get their books published. Then all of the sudden, there were these feminist presses popping up all over. And that's where we began. Feminist theory, lesbian literature, poetry..."

"Plus, we all felt a need to make a place for women to gather, read books, make connections."

The trio of friends were all in their 20s. Joined by Marie Mileto, they scraped together \$800 to create a bookstore. "The joke was that Ellen Greenlaw's parents, unbeknownst to them, had underwritten the start-up of a feminist bookstore," Hunt said.

Around Eugene, it was among a handful of alternative bookstores to emerge, with names like "The Book & Tea Shop" and "Son of Koobdooga."

"From the beginning, it was more than a bookstore," Hunt said. "It was a place to gather, to hang out. We held poetry readings, all kinds of support groups and gatherings."

The work was exhausting. The store ran as a collective, largely with volunteers. Paychecks were often \$30-a-month book credits.

"If we made \$50 a month, we were lucky," Hunt recalled.

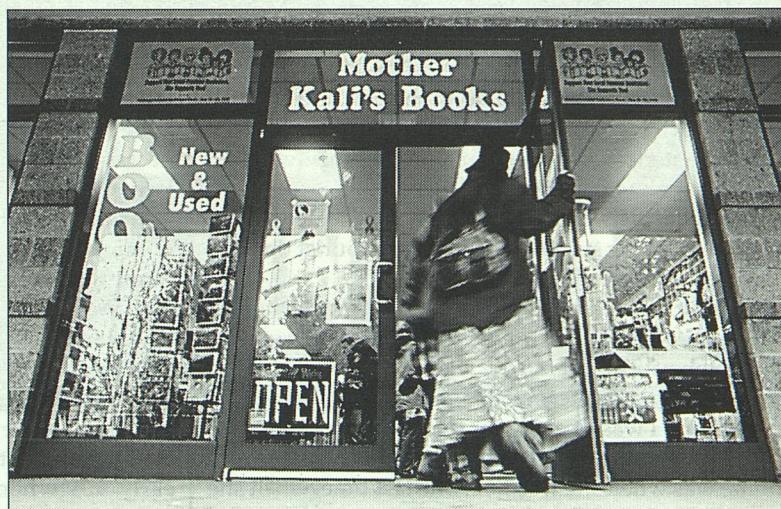
By the end of the first year, they were evicted. The bookstore was hurriedly moved into a storefront on

Blair Boulevard — a former parts room for a garage.

"It was in horrible physical condition," Harbaugh said. "We had no running water and a neighbor who hated us."

The gas heater leaked. Some people worried about its safety, but Harbaugh just laughed. They had nothing to fear.

"There was a big crack in the wall that ran from feminism through spirituality," she said. "We always had fresh air."



Enid Lefton remembers it well. "It was the first place I went to when I came to Eugene in 1977," recalled Lefton, who hosts a Women's Music program at a local radio station.

"That's what you did in those days — roll into town and check out the feminist bookstore to connect with people," she said. "It remained a central point in my life. I ended up moving almost right across the street."

Lorraine Ironplow felt an immediate connection with the small, struggling bookstore. "I love books," said Ironplow, a local computer programmer and Internet troubleshooter who has served on Mother Kali's board of directors since the early 1980s.

"I love to hold them, the ideas in them, to talk to women about them..." she said. "The bookstore was a place for ideas — not ivory tower stuff, not slicing hairs in postmodernistic complicated language. Feminist ideas are simply about improving women's lives. Always have been."

Over time, Hunt and her co-founders withdrew

from the bookstore. The work drained them and other interests took them elsewhere. Dozens of women in the community came in to help, including Harbaugh.

"We were lucky when Ann (Izzie) stepped in as manager," Hunt said.

"She was so solid and grounded. And she brought a business sense that we lacked. We were so young and idealistic. We had always looked at it as this fun place to be, not in terms of keeping it around for years to come."

By the time Izzie Harbaugh came to Mother Kali's, she had found her path. But getting there had been one long, hard road.

Like others who grew up in the lush hill country of Southern Pennsylvania, Harbaugh's family knew a hard existence. Everyone made do, surviving on home-grown vegetables and chickens.

Her father was a teacher who supplemented his income working summers for the local tourist trade — the area's main industry.

They were not happy years. Her mother was a Mennonite, her father an atheist, and Izzie an unrepentant tomboy. The chemistry was not successful. "My mother felt it was her duty to make me an acceptable person and I wasn't going for that," Harbaugh said.

The first time Harbaugh tried to run away from home was when she was five. The last time, when she was 18, Harbaugh headed to Pittsburgh with dreams of becoming an atomic physicist.

Instead, she took a job in the Pittsburgh steel mills, part of the wave of women brought into factories during World War II. When the war ended, so did her income. There was a brief stint as a telephone rep but it didn't pay a living wage.

Hunger and poverty led her to enlist in the Army. "I still had some patriotism, and frankly, I wanted three square meals and a roof over my head," she said.

After basic training, she landed at a Colorado Army hospital taking histories from psychiatric patients. For the first time, Harbaugh found work that allowed her to show real compassion.

"The Army was something I put up with to survive," Harbaugh explained. "But since I've been out, I've found that I absolutely refuse to consider any direct order. I don't even like it when people say I *should* do something."

After three years, Harbaugh returned to college majoring first in sociology, then psychology.

It was the 1950s, the age of McCarthy.

Harbaugh had long accepted that she was a lesbian. She had followed a partner to Berkeley and was interested in graduate studies in social work. But she also was determined that the world wouldn't know her secret.

Instead, she went to work for the Navy Department as an analyst. It was a lousy job, but a critical time.

Throughout her life, Harbaugh had been surrounded by conservative institutions. In time, she came to see their influences on her own thinking.

"I think the biggest radicals are people who feel they've been lied to right and left, and I had been," Harbaugh said, "Through the years, I began to see that a lot of things I thought were true weren't. It wasn't necessarily the 'Land of the Free and the Home of the Brave.'"

Like everything else about Harbaugh's life, her politics "just grew that way," she said, "Although I think the thing that really ignited me was the Vietnam War."

Harbaugh left her job with the Navy and dove into East Bay radical politics, working with the Peace Center — a combination of social reformers from the old and the new left. The center distributed food, clothing and anti-war literature. Harbaugh was in her early 40s when she began participating in peace marches — exciting times, but also frustrating.

"Did we make a difference?" she said. "Who knows?"

In time, Harbaugh yearned to leave the city. Burned out with her activism, she joined the back-to-the-land movement and came to Oregon, retreating to property near Elmira to raise chickens, goats and organic vegetables.

"I decided I had had it with trying to tell people how to live their lives," she said. "I decided to try to live my own."

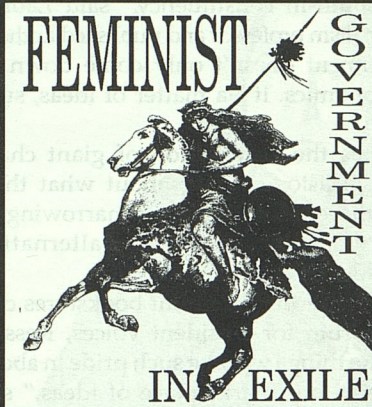
Despite work against poverty and the anti-war movement, Harbaugh hadn't been involved with the women's movement at all.

Women's bookstores hadn't begun to flourish, but the women's studies program had taken foothold at the University of Oregon. Harbaugh took a class.

"It was this whole universe that I didn't know was here," she said. "I was carried away and never had a relapse."

That sense of discovery is what she has tried to

IN YOUR FEMINIST BOOKSTORE



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create in Mother Kali's Bookstore, Harbaugh said, "I want that universe to always be available."

She knows the store won't appeal to everyone. Some customers have told her they were afraid to come in at first. And she knows there are those who view lesbian and feminist concerns as somehow incompatible.

But if anything frustrates Harbaugh it's the notion that there isn't enough room for divergent voices.

"Feminism isn't dead," she said sternly. "If you ask 15 women who call themselves feminists what that means, you will probably get 15 different answers. But I don't think that's bad, that's just reality."

For awhile, Harbaugh acknowledged, the word "feminism" was earning such a bad rap that she took it off the bookstore's advertising, changing it to "Celebrating Women's Lives and All Our Diversities."

"That was a point I wanted to make," Harbaugh said. "But there comes a time that you have to do more than celebrate. Knowledge is power. Before you can do anything about a situation, you should find out a little bit about it. We try to help with that."

Today the store is a far cry from its humble beginnings.

Located in well-trafficked retail space at 720 E. 13th Avenue, the store draws in customers with colorful wall hangings and an abundance of books, but it is also a clearinghouse of information.

The phone rings constantly with inquiries about tickets to musical performances or readings, which the store often hosts. At the back of the store are reference books for housing, cancer, battered lesbians, battering, a women's business network and more.

Slim shelf tags mark dozens of categories of books: Body Image/Fat Liberation; Old Women; Women with Disabilities; Deaf Culture; Tarot/Spirituality; Breast Health; African American Women....

Customers range from women in buzz cuts and birkies to those carrying briefcases. From silk running suits to elegant ethnic chic.

And men, too. Harbaugh has noted a sharp increase in men taking women's studies courses.

On a recent afternoon, Keiko Kagawa dropped by in an academic frenzy. There was this book. Could

Harbaugh find it, order it? No problem.

Kagawa's relief was obvious.

"I've been looking all over for it," she explained. "I asked about it at the UO Bookstore and they said it would take seven weeks. We're talking about *the beginning of next term.*"

Joey Pettiti, an insurance agent who logs considerable road time, likes to stop in Mother Kali's for books-on-tape and CDs. "I like Black women authors and I know they'll have a wide selection," she said, "And then there's always Izzie. I'll go in and say, 'What's your favorite book this month?' She knows me and always has a good recommendation."

Roberta, a customer who stops in regularly for lesbian mysteries, observed that while larger bookstores are beginning to stock the authors she likes, they don't tend to carry the latest titles.

In recent years, Mother Kali's has joined feminist bookstores across the country in feeling that competition. This month, the store held a fund-raising benefit to help with a financial crunch — not the first, and probably not the last.

Harbaugh points to several historic independent bookstores in major cities that already have closed. "And that's an alarming trend," said Joan Acker, a UO sociology professor whose books are carried at Mother Kali's. "The book market is very troubled now," Acker said. "The emphasis on best-sellers, the

very difficult time small presses are having, the growth of monopolies in publishing, and now the growth of the hyper store."

"It's incredibly difficult to get a book published without a large built-in constituency," said Lauren Kessler, a UO journalism professor and published author.

But the argument doesn't only come down to exposure and economics. It's a matter of ideas, supporters insist.

Not only does the domination of giant chain stores centralize decision-making about what their stores stock, in the end, "It means a narrowing, a constriction of what is available for alternative voices," Acker added.

Feminist and other independent bookstores create a necessary forum for dissident voices, Kessler argues. "One of the things we take such pride in about the United States is our marketplace of ideas," she said, "In order for that to be real — it's not enough that people are just thinking those ideas, it's that they're available for consumption. That's why places that take chances, like Mother Kali's, are important. We don't stop having challenging ideas. But unless it's possible to see them, hear them and feel them, it's like the tree falling in the forest."

Reprinted with permission from The Register-Guard, Eugene OR, Sunday November 12, 1995. ○

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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April 1996

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BREAKING
THE
PATRIARCHAL
CODE



LOUISE GOUËFFIC



More than ten years ago visual artist Stephanie Martin, 47 (left), and writer Makeda Silvera, 41 (right), cofounders of Sister Vision Press in Toronto, started the first women-of-color publishing house in Canada. Here's how:

Background: Says Silvera: "We met through the Sistren Theatre Collective in Jamaica in the 1970s during the Michael Manley era. We both had a passion for literature." Adds Martin: "If we had any concept of how difficult this would be, we probably wouldn't have done it. Makeda was trying to publish *Silenced*, oral narratives of Caribbean domestic workers in Canada, which she edited. We looked at that success and saw what we had to do. With ten bucks, a name and a dream, we started Sister Vision. In 1985 we put out our first book, *Speshal Rikwes*, a dub poetry collection by Ahdri Zhina Mandiela. [Dub poetry is a kind of spoken-word reggae.] By 1990 we had published

Publisher Profile:
Sister Vision Press

How We Did It

Visionary publishers Silvera and Martin get the words out

approximately ten books and we decided to pursue core funding from the Canada Council, for which we needed 17 titles by Canadian writers. Since 1991 we have published seven or eight books a year, and we currently have 55 titles in print."

Challenges: According to Martin: "We spend half the time fund-raising and half the time working on the books. But what continues to be the most challenging thing is getting the kind of exposure and readership we need to have in order to continue publishing."

What Makes Them Proud: Concludes Martin: "We did something that hadn't been done before. It's amazing. A group of women — many of whom might never have been heard if we weren't publishing them — are being read, and that helps sustain our vision and helps us continue doing what we're doing. It definitely keeps you going when you're feeling really weary, and that's quite a wonderful thing." Adds Silvera: "What sustains me is a great passion for the work. It is a very large part of my life. I could never imagine giving up publishing. This has been more than a labor of love."

Reprinted with permission from the March 1996 issue of Essence. Photo by Alvaro Goveia. ○

WOMEN

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*The Army Nurse Corps
in World War II*

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Taking Care of Business



Cultivating Co-op Dollars

By Dorothy Holland

There are several co-op opportunities for feminist booksellers this Summer season — some that will even work for our smaller stores. As a result of the ABA suits against publishers (or for whatever reasons), many publishers are adjusting their policies for co-op dollars. Little, Brown, Putnam and PGW have all come up with programs that are extremely friendly for small independent stores. These programs are not based on previous year's purchases or on huge frontlist orders. Many of us will be able to use these programs to our advantage.

Little, Brown

Little, Brown currently has one of the easiest systems. If you haven't been ordering direct from LB, now may be the time to start. If you order ten copies of any frontlist title and put it in your newsletter or make a display, they'll give you between \$50 and \$100! In my figuring, they are almost paying you to purchase books. Here are the titles I think you may want to consider using: *Getting Over Getting Older* by Letty Cottin Pogrebin; *Let's Face the Music and Die* by Sandra Scoppettone — a lesbian mystery; *Woman's Best Friend: A Celebration of Dogs and Their Women* by Barbara Cohen and Louise Taylor; *Waking Up, Fighting Back* by Roberta Altman; and *Girls With the Grandmother Faces* by Frances Weaver.

Dorothy's simplified instructions for Little, Brown co-op: Place an order and ask for co-op contracts at the same time. When you have the books, make a sweet little display (and take a picture, if you can — but it's not necessary) and/or put a 50-word blurb in your newsletter. Immediately upon publication/display, fill

out the contract and send it in (it's too easy to put it off and forget completely). LB will issue a credit to your account.

Hint #1: A stack of books almost always sells better than one or two, so you may actually sell all ten of the Pogrebin memoirs — but if they aren't moving, waste no time in returning the excess. What the hey, it was worth a try, huh?

Hint #2: It has been my experience that LB is willing to bend *a lot* on this policy — like do the above for only five books, or for a shelf talker, or an in-store flyer. Try it.

Hint #3: If you do put a blurb in your newsletter, slip in the cover of the book; it's worth an extra \$50 to LB.

Hint #4: Keep in mind that this co-op is over and above your normal co-op pool — but it is limited to \$1,000! (And you know each Borders store will get its \$1,000. I'd like to see every feminist store collect at least some.)

Putnam

Putnam also has a friendly plan, although they are more selective on the titles you can use. They allow \$100 co-op with purchase of ten copies of selected titles for newsletter, display or print advertising. Titles feminist stores might "do" are: *Firestorm* by Nevada Barr; *Shelter of Each Other*, the new Mary Pipher — with *Reviving Ophelia* on the *New York Times* bestseller list, this one should do well; and *Cloister Walk* by Kathleen Norris (if her previous titles did well for you).

Dorothy's simplified instructions for Putnam co-op: Place an order for ten copies of each title you want to use, asking for a co-op contract as you do so. When you get the books, make the display or newsletter blurb (Putnam really wants you to do the

See Co-op, page 46.

Spring titles from

NEW VICTORIA PUBLISHERS



I CHANGE, I CHANGE

Poems by Barbara Deming

Edited by Judith McDaniel

Preface by Grace Paley

She marched to end segregation in the 50s
She went to Vietnam on a peace mission in the 60s
She joined the Seneca women's encampment in the 70s

All the while she was writing poetry to the women who captivated and inspired her.

Compiled by Barbara shortly before her death, this volume of previously unpublished poems provides fresh insight into the personal passions and importance of love in the life of one of our most respected social justice activists. With an informative introduction by Judith McDaniel.

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Jorjet Harper is smart hilarious and depraved. —Alison Bechdel

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WINDSWEPT

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A beautiful tale of women's sailing adventures on the high seas from an Astraea Lesbian Fund Emerging Fiction Writer's Award winner. Mara, Zöe and Olivia all seek the independence of sailing yet yearn for women's community and compassion in a world dominated by rich and powerful men. Each brings a personal quest to her voyages, together they share their letters, dreams and connection to the stars.



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Selling My Bookstore

Part II

By Suzanne
Two Sisters Bookshop/Menlo Park, CA

Four months have passed since I decided to sell my bookstore. At that time I was excited about my new plans, feeling good about my completion at Two Sisters, and terrified of permanently entering the abyss when I left the store. While I hadn't made a general announcement of my plans in my newsletter, I did begin to tell women. I gave myself lots of "processing" time this winter, expecting that by spring the action would pick up energy as I would have done inventory, arrived at a selling price and announced my leaving in the newsletter.

Getting to a selling price has been intense. In the beginning I found myself inordinately preoccupied with proving that the store was worth buying. I have a plethora of women interested in buying it, and many more worried that it will close or be radically changed, and I'm worried no one will think it's a worthy enterprise. My mouth says I want to be fair and equitable and ask a price that won't jeopardize the continuing viability of the store. No sooner are these pretty words out of my mouth than my greedy monster demands that I get everything I can. "Go for highest price possible," she says, "the store is all you have left of value. You'll never have anything else worthwhile to trade on, so get it all now." Then I flip back again to the other side of the coin reminding



Gathering strength for the inner journey, by Cynthia Cunningham-Baxter, from *Celebrating Women's Spirituality 1996* (Crossing Press)

myself that nobody will want my store anyway because it doesn't make much money, so I'd better ask just a small amount over liquidation value and pray I can get that much. Whew. What classic scarcity thinking. Yak, Yak, Yak go my internal voices. As boring as they are, they are still tough on my stomach lining.

People tell me to get some outside help from someone who will be more objective. But, I don't want someone more objective. I want to price my loving creation all by myself without external formulas or professional opinions. So I started with our inventory number as of the first of the year. Next, I

listed all the assets like business equipment and furnishings. My first list was incomplete and I considered only their liquidation values in the case that I can't sell the store and will have to close it. This was a most depressing number. Then I added this asset liquidation value to the current inventory cost and came up with a total that was so pathetic I ran sobbing to my pillows. How could all these years of love and work amount to less than what I put in it? I hadn't discovered "good will" yet. I sat with my disappointment for weeks before I bounced back and dove in again. I started looking for ways to inflate the inventory and/or the assets so I could raise my selling price. Then I discovered I had left out about half the assets.

My pricing process often reminded me of craftswomen who, over the years, would bring in their precious creations to sell at the store and didn't know how to value them. They always looked to me to give them the answer. I encouraged them to set their own value on their work, saying, "Pick a price and you'll know if it isn't right about two steps out the front door. If you've undervalued your creation (and therefore abandoned yourself) you'll get that old familiar feeling, a pit in your stomach." So now it's my turn to walk my talk and put a value on the biggest craft project of my life. It feels like hanging a price tag around my own neck.

When I had narrowed my price down to three choices, I called two women who had sold a similar store across the Bay. They gave me some background on their store, and shared a formula they had used to arrive at a selling price (two times net earnings plus inventory). I loved this formula because when I applied it to Two Sisters, the number was higher than the highest price I'd been considering. I knew at that point what formulas were used for, to justify what you already decided you want.

During this conversation I also learned that their annual revenues were \$100,000 higher than mine and it was all from credit card sales. This bit of news spun me into another round of sobbing and

wailing. How could I have been so righteous, rigid and self-defeating by not taking credit cards all these years? Not only could I have made a lot more money for myself and my employees, but I'd be able to sell my store for more because I could show a stronger revenue history. I always thought I was a competent businesswoman, and suddenly I felt like a stupid amateur. This process was a rough one but it too passed, and I decided on a price about a week before the newsletter arrived in customers' hands. And no it wasn't either of the two highest numbers. I pulled Tarot cards, asked for guidance in dreams, begged my bookkeeper for her opinion, and in the end I let my gut guide me. The two higher prices made my

stomach turn with greed-guilt, so I went with the middle ground. I also put together a complete package of store history, financial information, lease and operating information to give to serious buyers. I have given that package to five women already.

I am screening interested buyers on the phone first, to get a sense of their character and intentions, and I also give them a few facts and numbers to chew on and decide whether they want to go forward in the process. If they call back, we talk again and I evaluate how serious they are. If they fit my buyer profile, I send them my big packet of information. My next step, for women who have read and

digested the packet and are still interested, is to bring them together for a Q & A meeting with me and my bookkeeper. I'm excited about these meetings; there may even be a partnership that emerges.

I have had at least 25 calls and the newsletter is still arriving, so there will probably be more. I'm excited by all the interest and, while I'm getting fried from all the talking, these conversations help me clarify my own intentions. Like a buyer profile. I hadn't really thought about this much, guess I expected that only the "right" women would be interested, but I'm finding that isn't so. When a woman talks about changing the store name, I seriously question her business judgment and her "qualifications" go down



a notch in my mind. Another woman loves our backroom space for putting on her own workshops but cares nothing about retail. She already has a store in a nearby suburb. I asked her why she wanted a second store, and she said she wanted to get the word out. I asked, "What word do you want to get out," she didn't know. I know I'm not interested in Two Sisters becoming another property so an entrepreneur can add a notch to her property belt. Each time I find myself clutching during a conversation, I know there's a "buyer profile" issue for me to examine. Am I being unreasonably controlling and protective of my parochial interests or am I exercising good judgment in order to preserve the essence of the space I have created to serve women? How far can I stretch and open to another woman's agenda without losing the integrity of the store? What will I do if the only offer I receive is from a woman who wants to turn the backroom into a music store? Now really! That's when the going will get rough for me.

Laurel, my associate who has been with me for three years now, is having her own growth experiences these last four months. Her first reaction to hearing my news was fear and anger that I was disrupting her life just as it was getting comfortable. She told me she wasn't ready to leave the store and would stay to the end. She later realized this position was motivated out of her fear that she wouldn't be able to get a job elsewhere. This whole process has opened her to considering other jobs and to looking realistically at her skills and needs. Laurel's even talked with a prospective employer, so she's beginning to feel the strength and empowerment that comes with giving herself choices. She wants to be supportive of my life change at the same time she's being bounced around by it.

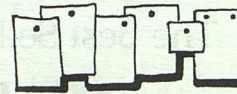
I'm doing the same. I'd hate to have to train someone new if Laurel leaves early and yet I want to be supportive of her decisions. So even though we bounce around day to day, we have talked more openly than ever before. It's a reminder to me that open, honest discussions work much better than when I withhold information to try and control another person's behavior (thinking, of course, that I'm doing them a favor). Here's an example: When I first told Laurel it was time for me to leave the store, I thought it would be two years. When I realized it would be more like six to eight months, I wanted to

withhold this information from her because I was afraid it would scare her into leaving early, and I wanted to keep her around until I was ready to leave. I ended up telling her the truth and stepped back to let her process this information in her own way and own time. Walking my talk can be tough sometimes.

So that's the scoop. I hope to close a sale by August, stick around for some training if I'm needed, and then head off into the wild blue yonder. Gulp. To be continued. ○

Announcements, from page 15.

Tiptree Jr. Award Ceremony where the first Retroactive Tiptree Award will be presented. Programs include readings, academic papers, discussions and panels. Past guests of honor and other sci-fi professionals attending this year include: Ursula K. Le Guin, Judith Merrill, Lois McMaster Bujold, Suzy McKee Charnas, Karen Joy Fowler, Nicola Griffith, Pat Murphy, FBN's Susanna Sturgis, Chelsea Quinn Yarbro and many others. For more information contact WisCon 20 at: SF3, PO Box 1624, Madison WI 53701; 608-233-8850, e-mail <wicon.consom@cs.wisc.edu>, Web <<http://www.cs.wisc.edu/wicon/>>.



GLAMA, the Gay/Lesbian American Music Awards, is seeking nominations for the First Annual Gay/Lesbian American Music Awards to be presented on October 6th in New York City. Ten awards will be presented including seven recording artist awards, one songwriter award and two special honors. Recordings by self-identified gay, lesbian, or bisexual artists released for sale in the U.S. between June 1, 1995 and May 31, 1996 are eligible for consideration. Submissions will be reviewed by panels of recording artists, producers, music journalists and music industry personnel. A special advisory committee will determine the recipients of the two special honors, the Michael Callen Medal of Achievement and the Outmusic Award. For an entry application send SASE to: GLAMA, 244 Fifth Avenue #2049, New York NY 10016; 800-956-5262, e-mail at <GLAMAS@aol.com>. ○

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Pre-Convention events June 13-14

Convention June 15-17

ABA Watch



AMERICAN
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CONVENTION & TRADE EXHIBIT

By Carol Seajay

We're back to Chicago again. It will be easier, this year, going to the same city twice in a row, easier (hopefully) to get around, we'll have favorite restaurants to go back to, a superb women's bookstore — and a wonderful city. My questions are two: 1) How many ABA's in the same city will it take before it's totally boring? and 2) Is anyone going?

Last year's convention was thick with booksellers who hadn't been to ABA in a while — Midwesterners who got in their cars and *drove* to ABA. The big question is, did they have a good enough time last year to want to do the same thing again this year? Will East- and West-Coast booksellers decide to come? (And why would they, since their sales reps won't be there to provide introductions to the people they go to ABA to meet?) Is anyone making enough disposable income selling books to be able to spend a few thousand on a trip to a mid-June ABA in steamy Chicago? It's hard to imagine how ABA plans to draw booksellers back to the same location year after year. There's some writing on the wall here — and the Feminist Bookstore Network's reading of it is to provide another alternative for booksellers who want to get together but no longer see the ABA convention as *raison d'être* — Feminist Bookstore Camp in October in the Blue Ridge Mountains as the leaves are changing colors...

Hotels

The Feminist Bookstore Network has once again booked rooms at two hotels: the super-economy (but clean and decent) Cass and the more elegant Seneca.

For special rates call our travel agent, Ann Dwyer, at The Complete Traveler in Madison, 800-236-4627 (608-233-7222 from Canada).

Drop-in receptions to welcome arriving booksellers and publishers will be held in the hospitality suites of both hotels on Wednesday evening, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm.

Feminist Bookstores Conference

The Feminist Bookstore Network's annual two-day conference will be June 13 and 14. Workshops will address surviving the superstore invasions and other bookselling skills for the current era, Internet issues and skills, bookstore promotion in the late 90s, and making the most of the new co-op opportunities. Planning sessions will review plans for the 1996 Feminist Bookstore Network Catalog, Feminist Bookstore Week — North America, and the Feminist Bookstore Workers' retreat in October. And, of course, we'll be hanging out with some of the finest booksellers in the trade! For details, watch your mail box, contact organizers Jane Brooke (Lammas/DC at 202-775-8218) and River Artz (Pandora/Kalamazoo at 616-388-5656) or Feminist Bookstore News.

Feminist Publishers Meeting

After some initial confusion it looks as if the feminist publishers will meet for a half-day session. For more information call Beth Dingman at New Victoria Publishers, 802-649-5297.

Feminist Publishers/ Feminist Bookstores Dinner

The pre-ABA Feminist Publishers/Feminist Bookstores Dinner will be Thursday evening. Watch

your mailbox or e-mail for details, or call FBN after May 1. Plan to register by June 3.

New Girls on the Block

This year's ABA sees the return of FBN's popular New Girls on the Block event. ABA is a huge event and it's easy for first-timers to get lost or get buried in the illusion that everybody else already knows everyone. So, several years ago FBN invented the New Girls on the Block event for women working in and around feminist bookselling and publishing who were attending their first, second or third ABA. No big agendas, no politics, no dinner — just a chance to meet peers, exchange information and make dinner or party plans. Saturday 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm. Call after May 15 to confirm location.



WNBA Reception

The Women's National Book Association's annual reception for Women in the Book Industry is Friday 6 pm - 8 pm at the Chicago Marriott.

The Awards

Friday — The Lammies

The Lambda Literary Awards will be presented Friday evening. Mingling starts at 6 pm, dinner at 7 pm. Tickets are \$75, and a limited number of scholarship tickets are available. Call 202-462-7924 for tickets.

This ABA will also see the re-launch of the *Lambda Book Report*. Reports of their demise, it would seem, were greatly exaggerated. "It's better and even more fabulous than before," Kanani Kauka promises.

Saturday — The FAB-Do!

The latest new-book awards, the Firecracker Alternative Book Award (Books With a Fuse!) will explode onto the scene Saturday night. The point is to wildly celebrate independent writing and publishing. The organizers are looking for the outrageous, the provocative, the unmapped edges of contemporary culture — for the books and authors who excite and disturb us, challenge our limits, and maybe even piss us off.

Categories are Fiction, Non-Fiction, Poetry, Politics, Sex, Drugs, Music, Graphic Novels, 'Zines, and Outstanding Independent Press of the Year. You can also nominate a category "My own wild idea for a category 'cuz the book I love just doesn't fit in any of the others." (No suggestion too outrageous, too goofy, or too wanton.) Nominations are open until May 7. (But why stop then??? This is about rule-breaking.) For a nomination form (and invitation to the party) fax FAB-Do!, c/o Koen Book Distribution, 800-255-3840, include your name, phone number and fax number.

The Event, a late night party (9 pm - 12+ am) with live music punctuated by rollicking awards announcements, will be Saturday night. Invented and sponsored by AK Press, Cassell Publishing, Consortium, Gates of Heck, Incommunicado Press, Juno



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1996 LAMBDA LITERARY AWARD NOMINEES

LESBIAN FICTION

- Passion of Alice**, Stephanie Grant, Houghton Mifflin
Rat Bohemia, Sarah Schulman, Dutton
Autobiography of a Family Photo, Jacqueline Woodson, Dutton
Amnesty, Louise Blum, Alyson
Sweat, Lucy Jane Bledsoe, Seal

GAY MEN'S FICTION

- Dream Boy**, Jim Grimsley, Algonquin
Flesh and Blood, Michael Cunningham, FSG
Father of Frankenstein, Christopher Bram, Dutton
Mysterious Skin, Scott Heim, HarperCollins
Like People in History, Felice Picano, Viking

LESBIAN STUDIES

- Virtual Equality**, Urvashi Vaid, Anchor
Dyke Life, Karla Jay, ed., BasicBooks
S/he, Minnie Bruce Pratt, Firebrand
Tomboys, Lynn Yamaguchi and Karen Barber, Alyson
Parker and Hulme: A Lesbian View, Julie Glamuzina and Alison J. Laurie, Firebrand

GAY MEN'S STUDIES

- Invention of Heterosexuality**, Jonathan Ned Katz, Dutton
De Los Otros: Intimacy and Homosexuality Among Mexican Men, Joseph Carrier, Columbia University
I, Pierre Seel, Deported Homosexual, Pierre Seel, BasicBooks
Virtually Normal, Andrew Sullivan, Random House
Saint Foucault: Towards a Gay Hagiography, Daniel Halperin, Oxford University

LESBIAN POETRY

- Dark Fields of the Republic**, Adrienne Rich, Norton
Maxfield Parrish, Eileen Myles, Black Sparrow
Oral Tradition, Jewelle Gomez, Firebrand
Fire Power, Chrystos, Press Gang
Key to Everything, Gerry Gomez Pearlberg, St. Martin's

GAY MEN'S POETRY

- Atlantis**, Mark Doty, HarperPerennial
Cortege, Carl Phillips, Graywolf
Badboy Book of Erotic Verse, David Laurents, Badboy
Scattering of Salts, James Merrill, Knopf
Burnt Offerings, Timothy Liu, Copper Canyon

LESBIAN MYSTERY

- Intersection of Law and Desire**, J. M. Redmann, Norton
Hang Dog Hustle, Elizabeth Pincus, Spinsters
Faint Praise, Ellen Hart, Seal

- Someone to Watch**, Jaye Maiman, Naiad
Night Songs, Penny Mickleberry, Naiad

GAY MEN'S MYSTERY

- Venus Throw**, Steven Saylor, St. Martin's
Closet, R. D. Zimmerman, Dell
Shock to the System, Richard Stevenson, St. Martin's
Another Dead Teenager, Mark Richard Zubro, St. Martin's
Queer Kind of Umbrella, George Baxt, Simon & Schuster

LESBIAN BIOGRAPHY/AUTOBIOGRAPHY

- Two or Three Things I Know for Sure**, Dorothy Allison, Dutton
Aimee & Jaguar, Erica Fischer, HarperCollins
Eight Bullets, Claudia Brenner with Hannah Ashley, Firebrand
And Say Hi to Joyce, Deb Price and Joyce Murdoch, Doubleday
Babe, Susan E. Cayliff, University of Illinois

GAY MEN'S BIOGRAPHY/AUTOBIOGRAPHY

- Last Night on Earth**, Bill T. Jones with Peggy Gillespie, Pantheon
Palimpsest, Gore Vidal, Random House
Tom: The Unknown Tennessee Williams, Lyle Leverich, Crown
Our Paris, Edmund White, Knopf
Prayers for Bobby, Leroy Aarons, HarperCollins

ANTHOLOGIES/FICTION

- Afrekete**, Catherine McKinley and L. Joyce Delaney, eds., Anchor
Tasting Life Twice, E. J. Levy, ed., Avon
The New Fuck You, Eileen Myles and Liz Kotz, eds., Semiotext(e)
Forbidden Passages, Pat Califia and Janine Fuller, Cleis
His, Robert Drake, Faber & Faber

ANTHOLOGIES/NONFICTION

- Gay and Lesbian Literary Heritage**, Claude J. Summers, ed., Henry Holt
Dyke Life, Karla Jay, ed., Basic
Tomboys, Lynn Yamaguchi and Karen Barber, Alyson
A Loving Testimony, Leslea Newman, Crossing
Out in All Directions, Lynn Witt, Sherry Thomas and Eric Marcus, Warner

PHOTOGRAPHY/VISUAL ARTS

- Stuck Rubber Baby**, Howard Cruse, Paradox Press
Butch/Femme, M. G. Soares, ed., Crown
Fully Exposed, Emmanuel Cooper, Routledge
Making Love Visible, Geoff Manasse and Jean Swallow, Crossing

- Paris Was a Woman**, Andrea Weiss, HarperCollins

HUMOR

- Butches of Madison County**, Ellen Orleans, Laugh Lines
Revenge of Hothead Paisan, Diane Dimassa, Cleis
Unnatural Dykes to Watch Out For, Alison Bechdel, Firebrand
Growing Up Gay, Funny Gay Males, Hyperion
Ghost in the Closet, Mable Maney, Cleis

SPIRITUALITY

- Wrestling With the Angel**, Brian Bouldrey, Riverhead
Queer Spirits, Will Roscoe, Beacon
Gay Fairy Tales, Peter Cashorali, HarperCollins
Our Tribe, Nancy Wilson, HarperSanFrancisco
Freedom, Glorious Freedom, John McNeill, Beacon

SCIENCE FICTION/FANTASY

- Slow River**, Nicola Griffith, DelRay
Dryland's End, Felice Picano, Richard Kasak
Shadow Man, Melissa Scott, Tor
Dark Angels, Pam Keesey, Cleis
Atlantis: Three Tales, Samuel Delaney, Wesleyan

DRAMA

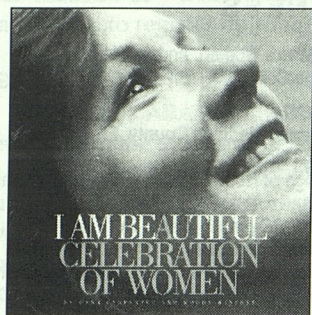
- Actor's Book of Gay and Lesbian Plays**, Eric Lane and Nina Shengold, Penguin
Love! Valor! Compassion!, Terrence McNally, Plume
Go Fish, Guinevere Turner and Rose Troche, Penguin
T-Cells and Sympathy, Michael Kerns, Heinemann
Slavs (Thinking About the Longstanding Problems of Virtue and Happiness), Tony Kushner, TCG

CHILDREN/YOUNG ADULT

- Baby Bebo**, Francesca Lia Block, HarperCollins
From the Notebooks of Melanin Sun, Jacqueline Woodson, Blue Sky
My Two Uncles, Judith Vinga, Albert Whitman & Co.
Passages of Pride, Kurt Chandler, Times
Toby's Lie, Daniel Vilmure, Simon & Schuster

SMALL PRESS

- The New Fuck You**, Eileen Myles and Liz Kotz, eds., Semiotext(e)
S/he, Minnie Bruce Pratt, Firebrand
Three-Hand Jax and Other Spells, Staszek, Permeable Press
The Medicine Burns, Adam Klein, Serpent's Tale
Milking Black Bull, Vega Press, ed., Vega Press



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Awards will be presented by alternative culture celebrities including Susie Bright and Annie Sprinkle, and best of all, Sue Ostfield — the woman who was arrested at ABA last year for passing out leaflets while Newt Gingrich was speaking — is presenting the Political Award.

If you don't get the word until it's too late to nominate, haunt the sponsors' booths for tickets. This should be one of the hottest parties at ABA!

Mail nominations to: FAB Do! c/o Koen Book Distributors (attn: John Davis), PO Box 699, Moorestown NJ 08057 or fax 203-459-3700.

Saturday — The Blackboard Awards

This year the Blackboard Awards will be given at the Poetry & Literature in Everyday Life luncheon on Saturday — the event that (wisely) seems to have replaced the Newt Gingrich-oriented fiasco (aka The Power Lunch) that supporters were forced to sit through last year to attend the Blackboard Awards.

Sunday — The Before Columbus Foundation American Book Awards

Before Columbus Foundation's American Book Awards presentation, a celebration of multicultural

literature, will be held Sunday evening 6 pm - 9 pm at The School of the Art Institute of Chicago's Ballroom, 112 South Michigan Avenue. This event is always one of the highlights of ABA — reminding frazzled booksellers and frantic publishers that we love the written word and why. Something that's too easy to forget amid the convention glitter and hassles. By invitation only, so stop by the Before Columbus Foundation booth, #149, for an invitation.



More Pre-ABA Conferences

African American Booksellers' Conference

The African American Booksellers' Conference on Friday leads off with a morning-long workshop on financial management. Afternoon sessions will stress the important mission Black bookstores fulfill in their communities, facing the challenges of the marketplace, and techniques for increased sales and visibility, as well as looking at forthcoming children's and adult books and predicting the bestsellers.... The program is coordinated by Paula Woods and Felix Liddell of Livre Noir in Los Angeles. It begins at 9 am at McCormick Place.

Association of Booksellers for Children

The Children's Book Council and ABA are sponsoring Savvy Kids: Connecting With Your Ultimate Customer on Friday 1 pm - 5 pm in the East Building.

The ABC's annual meeting (open to all) is on Friday 8:30 am - 10:30 am.

ABC's The Most Important 20 Minutes of Your Day Campaign (parents reading to their kids) meets 10:30 am - 11:30 am followed by ABC's box lunch roundtable discussion 11:30 am - 12:30 pm. Cost is \$15.

The annual Evening With Children's Booksellers Dinner will be held Friday 7 pm - 9 pm at the Field Museum. Tickets are \$55 for members/\$75 for non-members. For tickets or more information about any of these events, contact Caron Chapman at the ABC National Office, 800-421-1665.

ABA's Pre-ABA Conferences

Last year ABA shortened the convention by a day. This year they're "adding" a day by offering various workshops on the day before ABA begins. Now there are reasons that feminist bookstores, children's bookstores, and African American bookstores might feel a bit encroached upon by that, given that we've all exercised extreme courtesy by holding our meetings pre-ABA, so as not to conflict with ABA's event.... On the other hand, think of all those non-specialty booksellers without a workshop to attend and you can either feel sympathy or, if you're ABA, see opportunity. OK so far, but I fail to see why ABA is charging for this "fourth" day of workshops—including those presented by ABA's own staff. I guess dropping a day of bookseller convention means creating an opportunity to charge members for workshops that used to be free.

OK, that said, the most interesting of these workshops would appear to be:

Nurturing Your Inventory From a Financial Perspective, Thursday 9 am - 5 pm at the Chicago Hilton, pre-registration is necessary, no walk-ins allowed. Call 800-421-1665 for ticket information.

The Bookstore of the 21st Century: Start Planning Now, Thursday 10 am - 4 pm at the Westin Hotel Chicago. Moderator: Richard Scott, Managing Editor of *American Bookseller*. Cost: \$45.

Marketing Your Store With a Newsletter, Friday 1 pm - 5 pm; Speaker: Elaine Floyd, Newsletter Resources, St. Louis MO. Fee \$25.

And at the Convention

Gay/Lesbian/Feminist Row

The Gay/Lesbian/Feminist Row made it to the main floor this year. It looks like we may actually get

our money's worth for our real estate costs if any booksellers show up to walk by our primo location. The new digs are a relief after being closeted behind the cement-block wall last year. Several publishers jumped ship as a result of last year's location and a number of others threatened to walk. Paradigm and Clothespin Fever, both Inland bankruptcy casualties, will be sorely missed.... The G/L/F row will fill booths 747 to 857, FBN is booth 752.



Signings

This looks like a good year for womanist auto-graph collectors: Lucy Jane Bledsoe (*Sweat/Seal Press*), Carol Queen (*Exhibitionism for the Shy/Down There Press*), Yvonne Ziptery (*Ransacking the Closet/Spinsters Ink*), Joan Drury (*The Other Side of Silence/Spinsters Ink*), Vickie León (*Uppity Women of Ancient Times/Conari*), Sara Steele (*Sara Steele Originals 1997 Calendar* and *Sara Steele 1997 Desk Diary/Tide-Mark Press*), Tanya Melich (*The Republican War Against Women/Bantam*), Susan Skog (*Embracing Our Essence/Health Communications*), Phyllis Tickle (*In Good Company/The Pilgrim Press*), Julia Cameron (*The Artist's Way/Tarcher/Putnam*), Ana Castillo (*Loverboys/W.W. Norton*) and Ellen Holly (*One Life/Kodansha America*) will all be doing booksignings. Check your ABA schedule for times and locations.

ABA Town Meeting and Annual Meeting

ABA wouldn't be ABA without the Annual Meeting (now preceded by the Town Meeting) at which the ABA rank-and-file force those who run the organization to listen to them for an hour or two.... Even when things at ABA seem to be going well (aka "the lawsuit is happening") there are always a few gems: Last year it was pointed out from the floor that the authors invited to do on-line bookchats to promote ABA's new Web site were all white men...and it was unspeakably rude to schedule the Blackboard/African American Book Awards during the Newt Gingrich luncheon. What was really depressing was listening to the ABA brass say they didn't mean to offend anyone, they simply hadn't noticed.... (This year's on-line chats haven't been confirmed as we go

to press — but we did notice that a whopping 25% — 7 out of 27 authors — speaking at ABA luncheons and “Wake-ups” are women — but hey, who’s counting?) I’m still waiting for the rank-and-file (women) to wake up to the fact that well over half of the bookstores in the country are owned by women and way over half the people who work in bookstores are women — but a scant 50% of the ABA Board’s seats are allocated for women. Which is to say that half of the seats are reserved for that minority of members who are — you guessed it — white men. Gee, I wonder who benefits from that?

But don’t miss the meetings! This year’s Town Meeting is Sunday 3 pm - 4 pm followed by the Annual Membership Meeting 4 pm - 5:30 pm. Both are in the East Building of the McCormick Place Complex. (Check your ABA schedule for exact location.)



Roundtables

The specialty store roundtables provide some of the most focused information sharing at ABA....

Feminist Books Roundtable is Sunday 9:30 am - 11 am, facilitators: Linda Bubon and Ann Christopher-son, Women & Children First/Chicago IL.

Gay/Lesbian Books Roundtable is Sunday 12 pm - 1:30 pm, facilitators: Deacon Maccubbin, Jim Bennett, Kevin Drewery, Lambda Rising Bookstore & Online/Washington DC.

African American Books Roundtable is Sunday 2:30 pm - 4 pm, facilitators: Clara Villarosa, Hue-Man Experience Bookstore/Denver CO and Sonia Williams-Babers, The Black Bookworm Bookstore/Fort Worth TX.

Used Books Roundtable is Sunday 9:30 am - 11 am, facilitator: Jerry Brace, Brace Books & More/Ponca City OK.

Note that the Children’s Bookstore Roundtable, sponsored by the Association of Booksellers for Children, will be held on Friday, the day before ABA. (See above.)

Workshops

Some of the more interesting-appearing ABA workshops include:

The Future of Black Bookselling, Saturday 12 pm

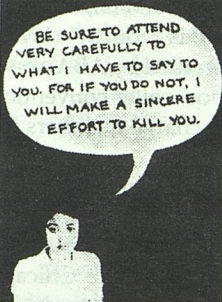
- 1:30 pm, moderator: Ken Smikle, Target Marketing News, Chicago IL.

Empowering Your Staff: Training Others to Do Your Work, Sunday 12 pm - 1:30 pm.

So You Want to Open a Bookstore, Sunday 12 pm - 1:30 pm, speaker: Willard Dickerson of American Booksellers Association.

ABA — Not!

Syracuse Cultural Workers won’t be attending ABA this year in protest of the Newt Gingrich event, the arrests, harassment of their staff at the demonstration, and ABA’s response (“pathetic in a word”) and due to “the relatively unsuccessful show we had coupled with ever rising costs.” Lesser reasons include the overall obnoxious manner in which the Chicago show treated everyone; that it was impossible to self-unload small exhibits, the absurd lines and waits, carbon monoxide poisoning, etc. SCW is planning an “ABA — Not!” promotion in May and June “which will benefit our store accounts more and the ABA brass less.”



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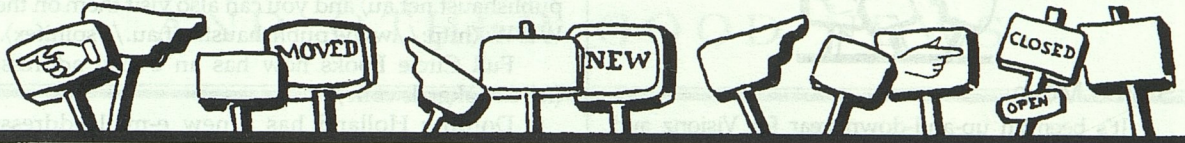
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THEY WENT THAT-A-WAY



By Jenn Tust

New Stores

Girlfriends, a new lesbian bookstore in Tucson, was opened by partners Susie Parsons and Mary Devine on March 1st. A 3,850 square foot bookstore/giftstore and coffeehouse, it also has an outdoor patio area. The bookstore specializes in lesbian fiction and metaphysical titles and has a multitude of sidelines including T-shirts, CDs, candles and videos. They plan to add video rentals in the near future. The coffeehouse features gourmet coffee and luscious desserts. Girlfriends opened with free tarot readings and a performance by a local lesbian duo. Psychic readings are offered on Friday and Saturday nights. Sue reports, "business is better than we expected!" The address is 3540 North Oracle Road #126, Tucson AZ 85705; 520-888-GIRL (4475).

On March 16, Carolyn Kerr opened her feminist bookstore, Josephine's, in Indiana, Pennsylvania. About 60 miles northeast of Pittsburgh, Josephine's preview, by-invitation-only party, went great and the official opening was set for March 23. You can reach Josephine's at: 1176 Grant Street #2180, Indiana PA 15701; 412-465-4469.

Nan Cinnater, FBN's mystery columnist, and her partner in life and business, Diane Johnson, are opening a second bookstore in May. The new store, to be called Cape & Dagger, will specialize in mysteries and be open summers — during the tourist season. Now Voyager will continue to carry lesbian and gay men's titles. The stores are adjacent, have the same address, 357 Commercial Street, PO Box 551, Provincetown MA 02657, and for now, the same phone number: 508-487-0848.

Jean Julien Caron and partner Michel Caron opened Librarie l'Accro, a gay and lesbian bookstore in Quebec City, on October 26, 1995. The store features

a mix of gay and lesbian titles with a section of feminist titles. They also stock a mix of French and English language editions — heavier on the French side, of course. You can reach l'Accro at 845 Rue St. Jean, Quebec City Quebec G1R 1R2; 418-552-9920, fax 418-522-8921.

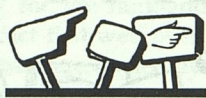


Bonnie Ray is planning on opening a women's bookstore and place for women to be nurtured with books, candles, body lotions, yoga and workshops in Bill Clinton's hometown, Hot Springs (Arkansas), before next Christmas. Ray was a social worker, has many contacts and has received tremendous response from her community about the idea. Hot Springs is a small southern town in the Bible Belt with tourism its biggest industry, a big arts community and an international music festival. You can reach Ray at her home address: 1316 Richard Street, Hot Springs AR 71913.



Poppy Seed Moore, FBN's newest proofreader.

Anna Marie St. John is contemplating opening a women's bookstore in Ontario. You can reach her at home: 40 Tagge Street, Kitchener Ontario N2K 3R7 Canada.



Stores Move

It's been an up-and-down year for Visionz and Dreamz. A year ago they moved to a larger location and added a coffeehouse, The Freedom Cafe. But sales collapsed when two chains moved into town precipitating a financial crisis. Owners Raye Ann Tucker and Renee Fletcher were ready to close the store when several local lesbian bands joined forces to throw a fundraising concert and raised enough money (\$3,000) to finance Visionz and Dreamz to move to a smaller, affordable location and save the day. Their new address is 2717 East Central, Wichita KS 67214; 316-685-4404.

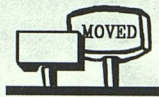
Books Move

New Victoria Press has taken on the distribution of *Love Me Like You Mean It* by Lesléa Newman, originally published by Clothespin Fever Press. It is available for \$8.95 plus \$1.75 shipping.

Publisher's Move

Virago's new address is Virago Press, Little Brown, Brettenham House, Lancaster Place, London WC2E 7EN England; 0171-911-8000, fax 0171-911-8100.

Alyson Publications has moved to 6922 Hollywood Boulevard #1000, Los Angeles CA 90028; 213-871-1225, fax 213-467-0173.



People Move

Tom Radko is the new publisher at Alyson Publications, taking the helm as Alyson transitions to new ownership and new location. Radko is the former director of the University of Nevada Press. Alyson has also just appointed David Groff as Acquiring Editor and Greg Constante as Associate Publisher-Marketing. Groff worked twelve years at Crown, most recently as Senior Editor, and is cofounder of the Publishing Triangle. Constante has worked 15 years in the publishing field, including six at Random House.

Internet News

Visit Attic Press on their Web page (<http://www.iol.ie/~atticirl>) or e-mail them at (Atticirl@iol.ie).

Spinifex has an e-mail address: (spinifex@publishaust.net.au) and you can also visit them on the WWW: (<http://www.publishaust.net.au/~spinifex>).

Full Circle Books now has an e-mail address: (fcbookgrrls.com).

Dorothy Holland has a new e-mail address: (dorothy@bookgrrls.com).

Kelsey St. Press now has a Web page: (<http://www.sirius.com/~kelsey/welcome.html>).

A Different Light now has a Web page: (<http://www.dnai.com/~adl>).

Koen/Inland Book Distributors is creating a WWW site at (<http://www.koen.com>) aimed at retailers. It will feature a 'Support Your Local Bookstore' theme to give browsers and booklovers who cruise by a push in the right direction: "If a book looks good, go to a bookstore and pick it up." ○

Co-op, continued from page 33.

advertising within three months of the publication date). Fill out and send in your contract. Credit will show up on your statement. Hints: same as LB on returns and flexibility.

PGW

Another co-op opportunity not to be missed is the new PGW policy. For selected publishers, PGW will provide — for titles published in the previous six months — \$50 for a positive newsletter review of at least 50 words or \$80 for a positive newsletter review of at least 50 words and including a picture.

Conari is a participating press that has at least two titles feminist stores might want: *Our Power As Women* and *Wild Words from Wild Women*. No Starch Press is also participating and has *Internet for Cats*. (See New Media.) Call your PGW rep, or PGW directly, to get the credit claim forms.

This article is a massively abridged version of a workshop I presented to Mountains and Plains Booksellers in March. For more information, call me at 505-867-9077, or send \$15 for a copy of the worksheets and forms I presented to: Box 943, Placitas NM 87043. ○

BACK TO PRESS

AND OTHER GOOD NEWS

By Jenn Tust

Back to Press

Press Gang Publishers sent several titles back to press: *When Fox is a Thousand* by Larissa Lai and *Bending at the Bow* by Marion Douglas are both going into a second printing only months after their initial publication; and two books by Chrystos, *Dream On*, and her volume of lesbian erotic poetry, *In Her I Am*, are going back for third runs.

Down There Press reports that both *Herotica* (the original) and *Exhibitionism for the Shy: Show Off, Dress Up, and Talk Hot* are going back to press. In related *Herotica* news, Plume recently released *Herotica 4*, and an audio for *Herotica 2* is in the works.

Daughters of the Goddess, published by Yes International, just came off press with its third printing.



Rights Sold

Naiad has just signed Spanish director/writer Marta Balletbò-Coll for a novel adaptation of her film *Costa Brava*.

Yes International recently sold Portuguese and Czech language rights to *Daughters of the Goddess*.

Naiad sold the Spanish language rights for Karin Kallmaker's *Painted Moon* to a new gay and lesbian publishing company in Spain. Gai y Lesbiana's first title was Claire McNab's *Under the Southern Cross* (*En Otras Palabras*). This small, all-women company plans to grow gradually and to publish one or two lesbian titles a year.

Awards

Dale Spender has been appointed a member of the Order of Australia (AM) in this year's Australia Day honors. Spender, whose latest work *Nattering on*

the Net (Spinifex) is set for release in the U.S. later this year, received the award for "service to the community as a writer and researcher in the field of equality of opportunity and equal status for women."

Larissa Lai's *When Fox is a Thousand* has been short-listed for the Chapters/Books in Canada First Novel Award. There are six other nominees for this prestigious award.

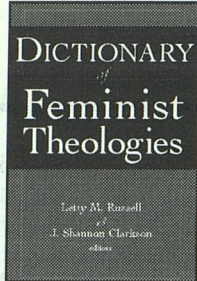
The ALA's 1996 Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Book Award winners are Urvashi Vaid's *Virtual Equality: The Mainstreaming of Gay and Lesbian Liberation* (Anchor) for Nonfiction, and Jim Grimsley's *Dream Boy* (Algonquin) for Literature. Finalists for Nonfiction were: *Joining the Tribe: Growing Up Gay and Lesbian in the '90s* by Linnea Due (Anchor); *The Invention of Heterosexuality* by Jonathan Ned Katz (Dutton); *S/he* by Minnie Bruce Pratt (Firebrand); and *The Gay and Lesbian Literary Heritage: A Reader's Companion to the Writers and Their Works, From Antiquity to the Present* edited by Claude J. Summers (Holt). Finalists for the Literature Award were: *Two or Three Things I Know for Sure* by Dorothy Allison (Dutton); *Baby Be-Bop* by Francesca Lia Block (HarperCollins); *Stuck Rubber Baby* by Howard Cruse (Paradox Press); and *The Promise of Rest* by Reynolds Price (Scribner). The awards will be presented at the first Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Book Award Breakfast during the ALA Annual Conference in New York.

The awards are given annually to books examining the lesbian, gay, and/or bisexual experience and published during the prior calendar year. Nominations for the 1997 award are open until November 30. Send nominations to John DeSantis/Chair, Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Book Award Committee, Dartmouth College Library, HB 6025, Hanover NH 03755; 603-646-3605, fax 603-646-3702, e-mail <John.C.DeSantis@dartmouth.edu>.

○

WOMEN & RELIGION

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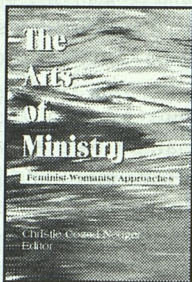
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Compiled by Jenn Tust

Malachite and Agate is a new annual journal dedicated to lesbian poetry. Each issue will contain chapbook-length selections from three poets and brief reviews. Query first for reviews (2,000 words). Send 20-25 pages of poetry, a brief bio, \$10 reading fee and SASE to: *Malachite and Agate*, PO Box 283, Brockport NY 14420.

Boy, the new 'zine for and about boy-dykes, especially boy-dyke fags who dig other boy-dykes, is seeking fiction, non-fiction, erotica/smut, poetry, photos, drawings or whatever about boy-dykes passing as boys, fags or guys, at home or on travel adventures, for its second issue, *The Passing Issue: Boy-Dykes at Home and Away*. Deadline: May 31. Send to: *Boy*, PO Box 410992, San Francisco CA 94103; 415-241-0281 or 415-821-2104.



Cleis press is seeking contributions for *Best Lesbian Erotica 1997*, which will be selected and introduced by Jewelle Gomez, and *Best Gay Erotica 1997*, which will be selected and introduced by Bruce Benderson. Deadline: June 1. Send manuscripts for *Best Lesbian Erotica 1997* to: Tristan Taormino, PO Box 4108, Grand Central Station, New York NY 10163, and for *Best Gay Erotica 1997* to: Michael Ford, 19 Burr Street #1, Jamaica Plain MA 02130.

Evergreen Chronicles, a journal of gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgender arts and cultures, is seeking original novellas for its 1996 Novella Contest. Publication and \$500 to the winning author. Length: 60-120 pages and between 15,000 and 30,000 words.

Deadline: September 30. Send a SASE for guidelines to: 1996 Novella Contest, c/o *Evergreen Chronicles*, PO Box 8939, Minneapolis MN 55408.

Circler Press is seeking short stories for its anthology *Worlds of Women: Sapphic SF Erotica, Volume 3*. Stories should be 3,000 to 15,000 words and combine explicit erotic interaction with science fiction or fantasy elements. No horror, rape, murder or nonconsensual acts. Deadline: August 31. Send stories in hardcopy form with SASE to Circler Press, 1770 Massachusetts Avenue #278, Cambridge MA 02140. E-mail for complete details (circlerinfo@circler.com).

Writing Workshops

The Flight of the Mind Thirteenth Annual Summer Writing Workshops for Women are June 14-21 and June 23-30. Judith Barrington, Andrea Carlisle, Ursula K. LeGuin, Valerie Miner, Naomi Shihab Nye, Lucinda Roy, Charlotte Watson Sherman, Evelyn C. White and Elizabeth Woody are this year's workshop leaders. For more information write: The Flight of the Mind, 622 Southeast 29th Avenue, Portland OR 97214.

The 22nd Annual Feminist Women's Writing Workshops, Inc. will be held July 14-21 on the campus of Hobart and William Smith Colleges in Geneva, New York. Mornings offer multi-session working groups featuring fiction, poetry and creative non-fiction intensives or open genre writing/reading groups. Afternoons and evenings offer one-session workshops on publishing, poetry for non-poets, erotica, writing for children and young adults, playwriting and others. For more information write: Feminist Women's Writing Workshops, Inc, PO Box 6583, Ithaca NY 14851. ○

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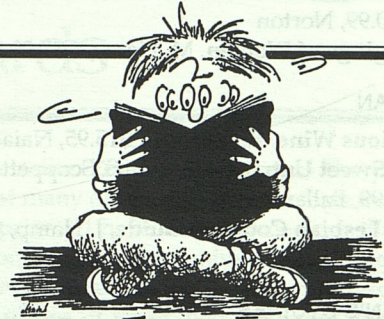
Cambridge MA
February 1996 Best sellers

NON-FICTION

1. **S/he**, Minnie Bruce Pratt, \$10.95, Firebrand
2. **Unnatural Dykes to Watch Out For**, Alison Bechdel, \$10.95, Firebrand
3. **Eyes Right! Challenging the Right Wing Backlash**, Chip Berlet, ed., \$17, South End
4. **The Arc of Love**, Clare Coss, ed., \$20, Scribner
5. **My Lover Is a Woman**, Lesléa Newman, ed., \$18.50, Ballantine
6. **From Wedded Wife to Lesbian Life**, Deborah Abbott and Ellen Farmer, eds., \$14.95, Crossing Press
7. **All-American Girl**, Robin Becker, \$10.95, University of Pittsburgh Press
8. **Do What I Say**, Meryl Cohn, \$11.95, Houghton Mifflin
9. **Names We Call Home**, Becky Thompson and Sangeeta Tyagi, eds., \$19.95, Routledge
10. **Out in the Workplace**, Richard A. Rasi and Lourdes Rodriguez-Nogues, eds., \$12.95, Alyson

FICTION

1. **Stone Butch Blues**, Leslie Feinberg, \$12.95, Firebrand
2. **Breathless: Erotica**, Kitty Tsui, \$9.95, Firebrand
3. **Autobiography of a Family Photo**, Jacqueline Woodson, \$9.95, Plume/Penguin
4. **My Sweet Untraceable You**, Sandra Scoppettone, \$5.99, Ballantine
5. **Double Bluff**, Claire McNab, \$10.95, Naiad
6. **The Gilda Stories**, Jewelle Gomez, \$10.95, Firebrand
7. **Love's Harvest**, Peggy Herring, \$10.95, Naiad
8. **Northern Blue**, Tracey Richardson, \$10.95, Naiad



9. **An Imperfect Spy**, Amanda Cross, \$5.99, Ballantine
10. **Blanche Among the Talented 10th**, Barbara Neely, \$5.95, Penguin

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Best-seller list 1995

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- **Circle of Stones: Woman's Journey to Herself**, J. Duerk, C\$16.50, LuraMedia
- **Medicine Wheel**, Sun Bear, C\$13, Simon & Schuster
- **Dragon Doesn't Live Here Anymore**, A. Cohen, C\$16.50, Ballantine

PARENTING

- **I'll Never Do to My Kids What My Parents Did to Me**, T. Paris, C\$11.99, Warner
- **How to Talk So Kids Will Listen**, A. Faber, C\$15, Avon
- **Parents, Teens, and Boundaries**, J. Bluestein, C\$14.50, Health Communications

RELATIONSHIPS

- **Rebuilding: When Your Relationship Ends**, B. Fisher, C\$16.75, Impact
- **Emotionally Abused Woman**, B. Engel, C\$13, Ballantine

- **Boundaries: Where You End and I Begin**, A. Katherine, C\$13.50, Parkside Publishing

FICTION

- **The Stone Diaries**, C. Shields, C\$15.95, Random
- **Education of Harriet Hatfield**, M. Sarton, C\$10.99, Norton
- **Longings of Women**, M. Piercy, C\$7.99, Ballantine

LESBIAN

- **Curious Wine**, K. Forrest, C\$15.95, Naiad
- **My Sweet Untraceable You**, S. Scoppettone, C\$6.99, Ballantine
- **The Lesbian Couple's Guide**, J. Hamp, C\$18, HarperCollins

WOMEN'S STUDIES

- **Women's Growth in Connection: Writings From the Stone Center**, J. Jordon, C\$28.95, Guilford
- **Reviving Ophelia**, M. Pipher, C\$17.50, Ballantine
- **The Journal Project**, D. Putnam, C\$13.50, Second Story

HEALTH

- **Menopause and Emotions**, L. Page, C\$19.95, Primavera Press
- **Conscious Breathing**, G. Hendricks, C\$17.95, Bantam
- **Essential Reiki**, D. Stein, C\$26.95, Crossing Press

SELF-AWARENESS

- **Motherless Daughters: Legacy for Loss**, H. Edelman, C\$17.95, Bantam
- **I Could Do Anything**, B. Sher, C\$15.95, Bantam
- **No More Frogs, No More Princes**, Joanne Vickers and Barbara Thomas, C\$16, Crossing Press

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TOP 10 FICTION SO FAR IN 1996

1. **My Lover Is a Woman**, Lesléa Newman, \$18.50 cl, Bantam
2. **Double Bluff**, Claire McNab, \$10.95 pb, Naiad
3. **Butches of Madison County**, Ellen Orleans, \$7.95 pb, Laugh Lines Press
4. **Charleyhorse**, Cecil Dawkins, \$9.95 pb, Alyson

5. **Unnatural Dykes to Watch Out For**, Alison Bechdel, \$10.95 pb, Firebrand
6. **Heatwave**, Lucy Bledsoe, \$9.95 pb, Alyson
7. **Nancy Clue and the Hardly Boys**, Mabel Maney, \$10.95 pb, Cleis
8. **I Knew You Would Call**, Kate Allen, \$10.95 pb, New Victoria
9. **Love's Harvest**, Peggy Herring, \$10.95 pb, Naiad
10. **Lesbian Pillow Book**, \$8 cl, HarperCollins

TOP 10 NON-FICTION SO FAR IN 1996:

1. **Women's Traveller 1995**, \$10.95 pb, Women's Traveller
2. **Girlfriends**, Carmen Renee Berry, \$12.95 pb, Wildcat Press
3. **Femme Mystique**, Lesléa Newman, \$11.95 pb, Alyson
4. **Ferrari's Places of Interest for Women**, \$14 pb, Ferrari
5. **Great Gay and Lesbian Places to Live**, Lannie Dills and Lynn West, \$16.95 pb, Lannie Dills Publishing/Relocation Station
6. **Virtual Equality**, Urvashi Vaid, \$24.95 cl, Anchor
7. **Aimee & Jaguar**, Erica Fischer, \$24 cl, HarperCollins
8. **Be Good to Yourself Therapy**, Cherry Hartman, \$4.50 pb, Warner Books
9. **Inn Places 1996**, \$16 pb, Ferrari
10. **k.d. lang**, Victoria Starr, \$5.50 pb, St. Martin's

NEW WOMAN BOOKS
Kent WA

1995's BEST-SELLER LIST

1. **Woman's Comfort Book**, Jennifer Loudon, \$14, HarperCollins
2. **Circle of Stones**, Judith Duerk, \$11.95, LuraMedia
3. **I Am Becoming the Woman I've Wanted**, Sandra Haldeman Martz, \$10, Papier-Mache Press
4. **I Sit Listening to the Wind**, Judith Duerk, \$11.95, LuraMedia
5. **Charms for the Easy Life**, Kaye Gibbons, \$5.99, Avon

See **Bestsellers**, page 126.

SIDELINES

Greeting Cards

By Suzanne

Two Sisters Bookshop, Menlo Park CA

All sidelines reflect store values and intentions, but I think greeting cards are the most reflective. Maybe because I've heard so many comments about our cards over the years. More than any other product we carry, women say our cards are unique and they come into the store just to buy them. So given this introduction, I'll tell you how I buy cards at Two Sisters and maybe some of my ideas will be helpful to your store.

From the start, my card emphasis was on unusual *blank* cards (ungreeted) that were metaphysical, mystical, visionary and new age. As my feminine/Goddess consciousness awakened, my focus shifted to metaphysical, mystical, new age and pagan, all with a woman-focus. I have carried a few mainstream card lines that have been very successful. One of them is Sunrise Cards. Good company, helpful, pleasant reps and they trade back cards that don't sell, which I love. The problem with mainstream card lines is that they are available everywhere. This wasn't true at first with Sunrise but, after eight years, our area is flooded and our sales are way down. It may be that our customers are bored with them after so many years, too. As a rule I stay away from the mainstream lines offered at trade shows, not because they aren't attractive, but because they are so common. Also, the mainstream lines tend to be ageist and sexist, especially the birthday and humor cards, which often carry demeaning images of women; our bodies, our ages, our lives, etc. I don't think they're funny anymore.

The vast majority of our cards now are what I call "quote cards" or inspiration cards. There are many varieties, but most have a witty or profound quote on the front with a design or graphic to pretty it up and

are blank inside. You know the ones. The problem here is that many of the quotes come from men. Surprise, surprise.... I have found some lines that have what I consider healthy, universal messages from women and men sages of the past and present, but when I find one of those men dominant lines I just hand the whole card pack to the rep and tell her no thanks. I tell her why too. Ridiculous when women do 90% of the card buying.

I read every card I buy to ensure the message is in line with my values. Every now and then I slip into a residual "ism or misogyny" and select a card that I



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will later throw out when I return to sanity. Recently a woman brought a particular card to my attention telling me how it didn't fit her idea of the store and she was surprised to see it. She was right on. Of course, I wanted to tell her some naughty gremlin slipped it in when I wasn't looking, but I owned up to my selection and pulled it from the rack and threw them all away.



Cards that don't sell for us are black and white cards, most photograph cards, and lesbian and gay cards (I keep trying them but none of them sell). Most humorous cards don't sell well except for Stein, which were very popular for a couple years. I find most humor cards have an underlying meanness. Now if they pick on a group I don't like then I think they're funny but they still don't sell at the store, so I pretty much avoid them. I've never been interested in post-cards, but I can't resist stocking some of the political cards and cat and dog postcards from Visionworks. Cat and dog humor does sell!

I keep our card racks well tended. That means very neat and tidy, all empty slots are filled daily with filler cards I keep in the office. I mercilessly send slow selling cards to our sale card bin for 50¢ each and bring in new lines all the time. Sometimes I wonder if I make any money on our cards, but if not, they are a great loss-leader! I have tried to sell our sale cards for more, but they sit and sit, so the 50¢ price works for me. This also means I have new product in the card racks constantly. There's nothing more boring than seeing the same cards all the time. Also, when I put in new cards, I move others around so it changes the energy and women will see cards that they haven't seen before and feel like everything is new. I carry about \$2,500 - \$3,000 in card inventory on four revolving lucite racks from Clear Solutions. These racks were more expensive than wire racks, but I've never been sorry we bought them. They look so good and hold the cards well. Three of the racks hold 72 faces and the fourth rack holds 120. We also keep expensive one-of-a-kind cards and overflow cards in baskets around the store.

I've never carried many boxed cards and the few I have have sold slowly. I think I need to carry more of a

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selection or not bother at all. It's not something I've wanted to make shelf space for and most of our unusual cards are not available boxed. Christmas/Solstice cards I only sell boxed. I used to sell counter cards but the sales died out over the years, so I only carry cards from the Syracuse Cultural Workers and Brush Dance. They both have the messages we like and the prices are moderate. Our women customers have changed their holiday shopping habits over the years and we see this reflected in the lowered card sales and smaller single purchases during the holidays.

This will probably be my last sidelines article as I expect to be immersed in selling my store and moving myself to New England. I plan to stop by every woman's bookstore on my way and look forward to meeting you sisters. I hope my sidelines news has been helpful to you.

Here are some best-selling card lines:

Hershey Studios, PO Box 856, Cannon Beach OR 97110; 503-436-2854. Heartful, flexible. Mariann Salamar has lovely message cards using her own poetry. Always bringing in new designs. Her product arrives in packages that are so special they're like birthday presents.

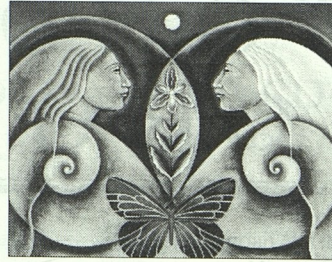
Orna Pascal, 5 Bulson Court, Napa CA 94559; 707-254-9790. Beautiful quote cards on a colorful art graphic. Her quotes are not the everyday, processed fare. These are currently our best-selling cards and magnets. I reorder every six weeks. Retail \$3.50, magnets \$4.



Brush Dance, 100 Ebbtide Avenue, Sausalito CA 94965; 415-331-9030. If you didn't carry another card in your store, I would say, make space for these. They are a beautiful, ever-expanding line with several artists and the messages are heartful and universal. Also includes a woman-loving line by Rashani, which I thought were lovely, but didn't sell as well as I expected. I recommend their magnets and blank books that carry the same card graphics. Retail \$1.75-1.95.

Karen's Fine Art Products, PO Box 6053, Altadena CA 91003; 818-798-9307. These frameable art cards retail for \$6 and have sold very well, much to my surprise, because expensive art cards, as a rule, sell slowly for me. But Karen's images are unusual and if she came out


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with more new designs I think our sales would continue at a high level. Her primary images are mermaids, fairies and Goddesses. Be sure and ask her for a sample. Her bookmarks (retail \$2) are popular too.

Kate Harper Designs, PO Box 2112, Berkeley CA 94702; 510-486-8133. More artistically stylized quotes cards, the uniqueness here are the quotes. They are funny, but I have to think through some of the messages as it was one of these cards I threw out after my customer's comment. She does have softer messages on another line so check out all of them.

Spirit Art Visionary Cards, 8000 Pennsylvania Road, Bloomington MN 55438; 800-523-5831. These are just what the title says. They constantly add new images. They're good quality and moderately priced \$1.79-1.95.

Nancy Bright, PO Box 3045, Ashland OR 97520. I'm seeing her images all over now — which I love — on our best-selling tape by Shaina Noll, *Songs for the Inner Child*, and on a recent book cover. I love her art, which focuses on women's inner journeys. I have sold Nancy's cards for many years and if you haven't carried them, I recommend you try them. Retail \$1.50-1.75. ○

Books in Canada:

BORDER CROSSING



By Alexandra Wilson
Women In Print/Vancouver

In 1992, Anvil Press took over the now 18-year-old three-day novel contest, and this year's winner looks very promising. Loree Harell wrote **Body Speaking Words**, a novel about, among other things, writing a novel. It is a clever and poignant account of a woman's attempt to understand the forces that drive us to document our lives, offering insight into family, friendship and growing up female. C\$10.95 pb, 1-895636-09-4, Anvil Press. Available through General Distribution Services.

Arsenal-Pulp Press brings us a new — and provocative — title by Sheri D. Wilson (*Sverve*, C\$12.95 pb, 0-88978-274-1), Canada's premier action poet. **Girl's Guide to Giving Head** is a poetic instruction manual for life; a journey that "collapses convention in its search for the feminine." (C\$13.95 pb, 1-55152-031-1.) **This Imagined Permanence** is a second collection of poetry from Natalie Stephens, which explores the reflections of a lesbian caught in a passive life. (C\$11.95 pb, 1-896356-05-2.) Available through Login/InBook.



From Brick Books is a first collection of poetry from Metis writer and filmmaker Marilyn Dumont. The direct and forceful voice in **A Really Good Brown Girl** explores and transcends "the multiple boundaries imposed by society on the self." C\$12.95 pb, 0-919626-76-9. Available through Login/InBook and General.

Coteau Books has three titles of note. **Inspection of a Small Village** is a collection of short stories

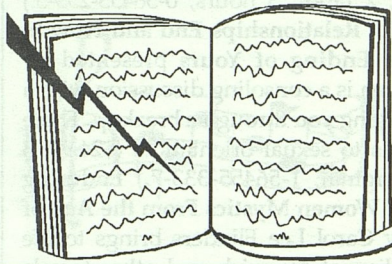
examining our "extended village;" people from other times and places who exist with us, in our lives in the present. A confident second collection from Connie Gault. (C\$14.95 pb, 1-55050-095-3.) And keep an eye out for a collection from one of Canada's finest poets, **Exiles Among You** by Kristjana Gunnars, a series of meditations on loss, grief, and solace that offers comfort and hope wrapped in stunning imagery. (C\$9.95 pb, 1-55050-093-7.) Then, **Clay Birds** is the title of the debut of Tonja Gunvaldsen Klaassen, touted as "one of the most exciting new writers of her generation." The collection is diverse, exploring a young woman's coming-of-age, a search for home and a search for self-knowledge. (C\$9.95 pb, 1-55050-094-5.) Available through General.

Creative Book Publishing/Killick Press offers a non-fiction title by Kathleen Winter. **The Necklace of Occasional Dreams** is taken from the journals Winter kept during the two years between her husband's diagnosis with cancer and his death in 1994. Excerpts aired on CBC radio. C\$11.95 pb, 1-895387-62-0. Available through General.

And don't forget ECW's up-dated edition of **The Bent Guide to Gay/Lesbian Canada 1995/6** for your travel section. There isn't much out there on the subject, so this listing of 650 accommodations, bars, shops, services, tours, etc. is a useful addition. C\$9.95 pb, 1-55022-253-8. Available through General.

Goose Lane Press builds on past success with emerging writers with the launch of two titles by young women this Spring. In **English Lessons and Other Stories**, Shauna Singh Baldwin writes passionate stories, full of colour and sensuous detail, dramatizing the lives of Indian women in the 20th century. (C\$16.95 pb, 0-86492-183-7.) Kim Moritugu's first novel, **Looks Perfect**, is a fast-paced and

See Canada, page 64.



NEW MEDIA

AUDIO • VIDEO • CD-ROM
ELECTRONIC BOOKS

By Dorothy Holland

I've been working with Full Circle Books to set up a site on the Web that will feature their Healing Catalog and my cybergrrl book lists. Naturally, I had to spend hours (Jackie, my Internet widow, would probably say weeks!) checking out other "stuff" on the Web. I've found three books to be especially helpful in locating sites of interest to women. **The Woman's Guide to Online Services** by Judith Broadhurst is a great collection of information about the world online, specially tailored for feminists. I consider myself quite a Web surfer, and I still found more information than I could possibly digest in this book! New sites to visit, new ways to get there. And yet, Broadhurst still manages to make the whole process easily available to beginners. Highly recommended for women starting out to explore the world online. (\$19.95 pb, 0-07-024168-6, McGraw Hill. Available from Ingram.) **Net Chick: A Smart Girl's Guide to the Cyberworld** by Carla Sinclair is a wild and wacky guide to the Internet. Much like the **Woman's Guide** (above), but with an attitude. Chock-full of marvelous places to visit, usenet groups you just have to check out and all the best mailing lists to join. (\$19.95 pb, 0-8050-4393-4, Henry Holt. Available from BP, Ingram.)

Of course I have a bit of feline help with computer matters: Shorty, the black-and-white tail-less wonder that owns me, gets quite a kick out of **Internet for Cats** by Judy Heim. It's a humorous Internet book for cats with side bars for people. I've used several of Heim's sources for cat-type information — from emergency first aid for my felines to information on breeds of cats. \$8.95 pb, 1-886411-07-7, No Starch Press. Available from BP, Ingram.

The other computer item is a new reference source: **Words of Women: Quotations for Success**

from PowerDynamics Publishing. What a pleasure to find so many quotable women! The program is easy to use — within minutes I was adding quotes to my documents. It also provides a way to print out a "quote of the day." \$29.95 Mac version 0-9644906-1-7, IBM version available summer '96. 40% for 5+. PowerDynamics, 6000 California Street, San Francisco CA 94121; 800-WOMEN02, fax 415-751-4416.



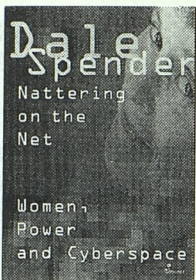
Audio

In the audio department, I am pleased to tell you about Hall Closet Book Co., publisher of lesbian and gay audio books. The first one I heard was **Hallowed Murder: A Jane Lawless Mystery** by Ellen Hart, read by Carol Jordan Stewart. I'm impressed — a well-done mystery with a dyke detective that you won't be embarrassed to have anyone else hear. The packaging is different — a plastic tape holder the size of a trade paper. Ecologically it may not be your dream, but it will last through repeated listenings and looks very professional. (\$39.95, 6 tapes, 8 hours, unabridged, 1-8883-48-00-3.) The next one is **Fade Out: A Dave Brandstetter Mystery** by Joseph Hansen, read by Jim Zeiger. This one is also a treat to hear. I hope we can find the audience these tapes deserve. I think Hall Closet is on to something. (\$24.95, 4 tapes, 5.25 hours, unabridged, 1-8883-48-01-1.) Hall Closet Book Co., 800-895-8915, [closetbk@AOL.com]. Available from BP.

Artist's Way: Meeting Your Creative Myths and Monsters presented by Julia Cameron is a wonderfully done, informative lecture that includes a question-and-answer session. I found this title a good way to inspire myself into creative activity. As always with Sounds True, this is not the book on tape, but a specific creation

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■ Forthcoming Titles

RADICALLY SPEAKING: *Feminism Reclaimed*

Diane Bell and Renate Klein (eds)

ISBN 1 875559 38 8 Price TBA August

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ISBN 1 875559 52 3 Price TBA August

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for audio. (\$18.95, 2 tapes, 3 hours, 0-56455-253-5.) **Coming Apart: Why Relationships End and How to Live Through the Ending of Yours** presented by Daphne Rose Kingma is a consoling discussion with a good friend, supporting you through a breakup. There is no assumption as to sexual orientation. (\$24.95, 3 tapes, 3 hours, original, 1-56455-333-7.) **Enduring Grace: Lives of Six Women Mystics From the Age of Faith** presented by Carol Lee Flinders brings to life Teresa of Avila, Julian of Norwich and other female mystics. Demonstrates the transformative power of divine grace. This all sounds rather theological, but it turns out to be feminist and spiritual. (\$18.95, 2 tapes, 3 hours, original, 1-56455-299-3.) All original recordings from Sounds True Audio. Available from Ingram.

Between Sisters by Nina Vida, read by Tia Carrere, is a novel about a woman managing to escape her father's sexual abuse and the murder of her mother, burying all memories of her former life. But eventually she is forced to confront the past and carve out a new future. An intense listening experience. (\$17.95, 2 tapes, 3 hours, abridged, 0-7871-0658-5, Dove Audio. Available from Ingram.) **Oprah Winfrey: The Real Story** written and read by George Mair. Very interesting and quite listenable, even though read by a guy. B&B is doing a good job of getting out celebrity bios on feminist women. (\$16.95, 2 tapes, 3 hours, abridged, 1-882071-56-5, B&B Audio. Available from Ingram.)

Video

And for the video crowd: **Grandmothers Speak: Healing the Earth, Wise Women Series, Vol II**, an exploration of the thoughts and minds of several grandmothers (wise women) on the issue of healing the earth. This is a well-done video; I think it would be a good lead-in to a discussion of how we accomplish significant change and/or how older women contribute. \$29.95, 38 minutes, no ISBN. ConText Productions, 5405 North Estelle Drive, Tucson AZ 85718; 520-888-4292, (vtpae@AOL.com). Available from BP, Moving Books.

Singing for Freedom: Sweet Honey in the Rock from Music for Little People. I loved this video from the moment Sweet Honey swept onstage in their flowing bright robes and throughout the combination concert, lecture and social history class. The only thing that could be better would be seeing them in person. \$14.98, 45 minutes, 1-56628-078-8, Music for Little People. Available from BP. ○



MUSIC NEWS

By Jennifer Einhorn
Goldenrod/Horizon Distribution

Kismet/Marta Sebestyen. World Music fans will love this talented woman who has literally worked all over the musical and geographical map. Recently, her vocals have fronted the most impressive ensembles in the genre including: the French group Deep Forest, the Hungarian group Muzsikas, and the British group Towering Inferno. And an appearance with Peter Gabriel clinched her already sparkling reputation. Sebestyen is known as a preservist of Hungarian folk-lore and culture, but **Kismet** is her first collection of *non*-Hungarian songs. It highlights the rich cultures of Russia, Ireland, Greece, India, Bulgaria and more. *Musician Magazine* touted her extraordinary vocals as an "otherworldly beauty, as expressive as it is erotic." Exquisite packaging. Hannibal 1392.



Boys For Pele/Tori Amos. Atlantic records is aggressively marketing Amos to the gay and lesbian community. In addition to approaching progressive bookstores, *her* people have booked an extensive tour of queer venues and bars across the country. Regardless of why this is (I do not know) — buyers should in fact pay attention and keep this title in stock. Fact is, Amos is a seriously gifted vocalist — and even if you have absolutely no idea of what she is talking about (most of us don't) — it matters not. Some of these tunes — all of which were recorded in an abandoned church, the main instrument being a gorgeous harpsichord — are quite brilliant. This is Amos' fourth and least pop-ridden collection. She

has, incidentally, a large and fierce following who will be thrilled to find their girl on your shelves. Atlantic.

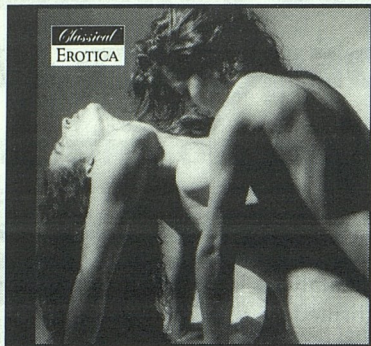


Stage One-How I Love You/Various Artists. Gay men's sections are doing well with this collection, mostly due to its *lyrical* content. What a concept: men singing love songs to men from well-known Broadway plays such as *Pippin*, *The King and I*, *Les Miserables*, *Carousel* and much more. Neither classical nor disco, the cover of this release does, however, feature two men in cool, clean, white sheets together with more sequential frames found inside etc., etc. Again, this is your call. If nothing else, customers should know that you can special order this — and for that matter — all titles. Dink 1996.

Songs of the Irish Whistle/Joannie Madden. Indisputably the reigning queen of the Irish whistle, this has been one long awaited solo record. This is a collection of ballads, ethnic dances and beautiful spirit. In addition to Madden's dazzling work, listeners will appreciate the company she keeps. Produced by Brian Keane, **Songs** is virtually a Who's Who of contemporary Celtic and New Age musicianship. It boasts fiddler Eileen Ivers, pianist John Boswell, percussionist Glen Valez and guitarists John Doan and Brian Keane. Promos for this and all Hearts of Space artists are easily accessible and should be played often in store. Hearts of Space 11060.

No Se Parece a Nada/Albita. Emilio Estefan — as in Gloria — signed this dynamic Cuban phenomenon to his Sony music label, after hearing her perform just

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once. Initially touted as the Cuban k.d. lang, she dresses in smooth Italian suits, and touts a short, slicked-back haircut. Albita Rodriguez, 32, is quite a presence and quite a vocalist to boot. When featured in last summer's *OUT Magazine*, she refused to settle on the gender of her professed affections. Whether or not this makes for a certain level of intrigue (it does) — the woman has a spectacular sense of rhythm and vocal command. After defecting from Cuba in 1992, she now makes her home in Miami. A very refreshing collection. Jacket-liner notes in Spanish. Sony Music.

Mozart's Music/Hugh Blumenfeld. There's one song on this record, "Raphael," that I've been longing to hear for three long years. I heard Blumenfeld perform it live in a seriously crowded hotel room during the Folk Alliance Convention. The whole room joined in the chorus and it was stunning. This guy ranks as one of the best and creative storytellers on the acoustic folk scene. If you like Richard Shindell or John Gorka, you won't miss with this guy. Accessible, funny and particularly touching, Blumenfeld — an English teacher by trade — has an uncanny ability to create

melodies listeners can literally wrap themselves up in and never forget. His subject matter is tackled delicately — uplifting even the most jaded listeners. Take advantage of the tons of promos available. Prime CD.

Mr. Wrong/Soundtrack to the Movie. Various artists, featuring Shawn Colvin, Joan Osborne, Sophie B. Hawkins, Amy Grant, Joan Jett and the Blackhearts and more. The star of this picture, Ellen DeGeneres, has been a big hit in the women's community for years now. Recent very public speculation (in *New York Magazine* and *The Village Voice*) regarding her sexuality has catapulted her even further into the limelight. Speaking of which, this collection has gathered some of the hottest singer-songwriters of the moment. However, the choice of songs is questionable — very questionable — Sophie B. Hawkins performing Joe Tex's "I Gotcha" being the main offender. Regardless, new material from Joan Osborne and Shawn Colvin will be selling points for this title. Face it out. Hollywood 62041.

Mortal City/Dar Williams. After touring with Joan Baez across Europe this summer, Northampton resident (and Wesleyan University grad) Dar Williams has made quite a name for herself. A cross between Baez and Jane Siberry, Williams is a particularly smart, quirky and witty songwriter who has a fabulous publicity machine. This is the kind of music that people go to small indie stores to discover. And if they do so at your place, perhaps they'll keep coming back. Razor and Tie.



Truth From Lies/Catie Curtis. Truth be *told*, this is actually a re-release for this title. Curtis initially released it on the Hear Music label. Now here we go with Guardian. It's Joan Baez' new label, and from the looks of things, this was a very smart move. The disc boasts new liner notes, funky new photos — the works. Great press, a huge feature in *Billboard* and the video for "Radical" (Curtis' nod to same-sex relationships) is scheduled to begin airing on VH1. All changes, however, are not merely cosmetic. There are several remixes courtesy of big time producer, David Kershenbaum, and most importantly, a single tune, "The Wolf" was added. This cut is by far Curtis' best moment to date — musically and

lyrically. John Gorka and Patty Larkin on guest vocals, and the rest of the material expertly produced by veteran Darlene Wilson. *Guardian*.

Great Women of Gospel/Featuring: Cece Winans, Mom Winans, Deniece Williams, Tramaine Hawkins, The Clark Sisters and Sandra Crouch. Best of the best, this is a wonderful compilation that will introduce the uninitiated to a genre that is becoming more visible than ever before. And profitable. It's certainly about time. Cece Winans is one of the most outstanding vocalists of the 90s. Her recent alliance with Whitney Houston on the Grammys singing "Count on Me" has let everyone in on a well guarded secret. This disc is worth paying cost for in order to play in store. As you do with all compilation records, keep in mind that all of these gals have solo records. If this moves, you might want to start a section.

Dance Compilations featuring naked men on the covers. (I am not kidding.) Many buyers have decided that they are not going to carry anything of the sort — including the women's blockbuster title, *Classical Erotica*. For good reason. This is shameless marketing at its worse — or best — depending on how one views the whole thing. If you, as the music buyer, have in fact decided to forego such things — read no further. And bravo to you.



If you've had requests, or are thinking about it, here you go: Many stores that have never catered to the gay community, or never sold music by men, are rethinking things about now. For this is a gimmick that has proven to be *incredibly* successful. Songs from the disco divas of the early 80s have been cloaked in pastel jewel boxes with virile, chiseled guys in suggestive poses gazing right back at you. They are, incidentally, selling like hotcakes right now. And the aforementioned *Classical Erotica* (featuring racy photography of lesbian couples) — has been out-selling the multi-platinum *The Three Tenors*, in classical sections of major chains across the country.

This craze applies to indie retailers as well. The compilations are usually imported and *extremely* pricey, some buyers marking them up to \$27.

Recently however, a three-volume Rhino Records collection was issued at a \$10.19 cost to retailers. Nonetheless, they keep re-ordering — in quantity — in two week chunks. Best-sellers include the multi-volumes of *Gay Happenings*, *Gay Anthems* and *Glad To Be Gay*. See above for current titles.



Just Released

- **Love and Respect/Marla Glen.** An out lesbian woman of color, she's been Nina Simone's cook, bodyguard and companion. While this is her first U.S. release, her debut went platinum in Europe. She's been on the cover of the German issue of *Rolling Stone* and it's just a matter of time before her anomaly of a voice becomes one very big deal in this country. BMG 11120.
- **Parodisiac/Monica Grant.** Ganz 103.
- **Odetta Sings Ballads and Blues/Odetta.** Tradition 1004.
- **Reggae Songbird/Reggae Collection of Various Artists.** Heartbeat 176.
- **We've All Got Stories/Jane Sapp and Dream Project.** Rounder 8035.
- **Sirensong: Celebration of Women.** Epic 66215.
- **Gotta Get Over Greta/The Neilds.** Razor and Tie 2822.
- **Tornado/Rory Block.** Rounder 3140.
- **I'm With Stupid/Aimee Mann.** Geffen 24951.
- **An Odd Collection/Peggy Seeger.** Rounder 4031.

Dance Compilations:

- **Over The Rainbow 2.** Blast 2.
- **Out Standing, Out! Loud! Proud!, Out Rageous, Heading Out, Out and About and Rindin' The Rainbow.** All on the Hot Label.

Take Note:

Ani Difranco is recording number eight on her own Righteous Babe Records, entitled **Dilate**. Street date is scheduled for the end of May, but keep a close watch as this is not definite. Meantime, word has it a music video of "Shy," from her current release *Not A Pretty Girl* should be airing soon. Keep your eyes open, for when the long awaited video happens — sales are expected to go up drastically. ○

Step into the life of internationally known
artist, writer, feminist, and intellectual

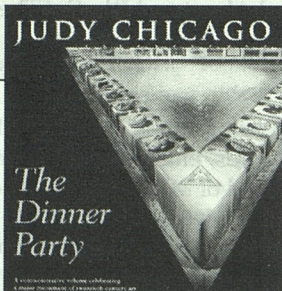
JUDY CHICAGO


Lifting the veil of the public persona she has become since her influential work *The Dinner Party*, Judy Chicago reveals her very personal struggles as an artist and a woman in today's world. Intense, intimate, and provocative...this work will excite art lovers, feminists, and working women alike.



beyond the flower


The Autobiography of a Feminist Artist



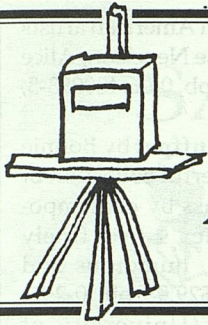
VIKING 

Other works available from Penguin include: *Through the Flower*,
The Holocaust Project, and *The Dinner Party*

“Take your lumps, Leonardo, Judy Chicago has reset the table
and this time, the guests are all women.” —*People*

PENGUIN 

IN BOOKSTORES NOW



ART BOOKS

By Tee A. Corinne

This is, I'm afraid, going to be once over, lightly. Your reviewer is very sick with the flu after attending the Women's Caucus for Art, College Art Association and Outwrite conferences during one long week in Boston. And it *was* worth it!

Gumbo Ya Ya: Anthology of Contemporary African-American Women Artists with an introduction by Leslie King-Hammond is full of information, commentary and pictures. Well-packaged and lively. \$35 pb, 1-877675-07-5. 20% for 1-4; 30% for 5-9; 40% for 10+. Midmarch Arts Press, 300 Riverside Drive, New York NY 10025; 212-666-6990.

Butch/Femme edited by M.G. Soares, with essays by Judy Grahn and Nisa Donnelly, is a charming, sexy and provocative gift book with exquisite black and white photographs of women, singly and together. \$12 cl, 0-517-70222-3, Crown.

Michelangelo and Me: Six Years in My Carrara Haven by Hanna Eshel is a delightful autobiography, describing the life of a middle-aged divorcée who goes to the marble-producing Italian town of Carrara (where Michelangelo's stones came from). It is an inspiring story of personal growth; open it anywhere and just start reading. \$14 pb, 1-877675-19-9, Midmarch Arts Press. (See **Gumbo Ya Ya** above.)

Weaving Identities: Construction of Dress and Self in a Highland Guatemala Town by Carol Hendrickson discusses "Traje, the brightly colored traditional dress of the highland Maya...(which) plays an active role in the construction and expression of ethnicity, gender, education, politics, wealth and nationality." \$15.95 pb, 0-292-73120-0; \$35 cl, -73099-3, University of Texas Press.

Jean Jongeward in the Northwest Design Tradition by Douglas, Larsen, Mendoza and Hill

presents the subtle richness of a modern interior design through the work of a Seattle-based practitioner. \$18.95 pb, 0-295-97496-6, Bellevue Art Museum. Distributed by the University of Washington Press.

Art Talk: Conversations with 15 Women Artists by Cindy Nemser, revised and enlarged, originally published in 1975, is made up of interviews with and photographs of one African American artist, Betye



Blackie, circa 1950s, from *Butch/Femme* (Crown)

An icon of avant-garde modernism in the '20s—

a woman who dared to rebel against the smothering privilege she was born to—an artist who had it all, and at the height of her success—stopped...

THE WHITE BLACKBIRD



**a life of the painter
Margarett Sargent
by her granddaughter**

Honor Moore

“Like so many women of her time, Margarett Sargent has been lost to history: a great artist who abandoned her art and left no story.”

—CAROLYN HEILBRUN

“A striking portrait of a woman artist’s struggle for life”—ARTHUR MILLER

“Everyone interested in American culture and women’s lives will want to read this biography of a talented, troubled woman whose life embraces the longing, contradictions and tragedies of privileged America at mid-century.”

—BLANCHE WIESEN COOK



IN BOOKSTORES NOW FROM VIKING

Saar, and 14 European and European American artists including Barbara Hepworth, Louise Nevelson, Alice Neel, Audrey Flack and others. \$25 pb, 0-06-430983-5, IconEditions/Harper Collins.

Why Not? The Art of Ginny Ruffner by Bonnie J. Miller features a wild and wonderful collection of work, most in shaped, painted glass by contemporary artist Ginny Ruffner. Miller’s text finely contextualizes Ruffner’s fanciful, humorous and intellectually teasing sculptures. \$29.95 pb, 0-295-97508-3, Tacoma Art Museum/University of Washington Press.

Librarians take note: **The Life and Art of Florine Stettheimer** by Barbara J. Bloemink is the second book to come out recently about this wealthy, eccentric spinster (1871-1944) who used her family and friends as subjects in her fanciful paintings. \$45 cl, 0-300-06340-7, Yale University Press.

Tina Modotti: Photographs by Sarah M. Lowe is a handsome book about the radical, Italian-born Marxist (1896-1942) who made many of her memorable photographs in Mexico. \$45 cl, 0-8109-4280-1, Abrams/Philadelphia Museum of Art. ○

Border Crossing, from page 56.

funny novel about appearances — about being biracial, about attraction, about fashion. (C\$16.95 pb, 0-86492-196-9.) Also from Goose Lane is a biography of the woman who organized the cadre of women who knew jujitsu as bodyguards for British Suffragettes. In **With All Her Might: The Life of Gertrude Harding, Militant Suffragette**, Gretchen Wilson uses narrative, Harding’s memoir, cartoons and photographs to tell the story of women’s suffrage and of the women who, very colourfully, served the Suffragette movement. (C\$17.95 pb, 0-86492-184-5.) Finally, a new collection of poetry from one of Canada’s strongest poets, Claire Harris, rounds out Goose Lane’s offerings. **Dipped in Shadow** presents five hard-hitting poems about women, their children, and the fears of the contemporary world. (C\$12.95 pb, 0-86492-186-1.) Selected Goose Lane titles are available through Login/InBook, all others through General.

More fiction and poetry next time — so far, I haven’t seen much non-fiction this season, but I will keep looking. Enjoy the spring. ○

Photograph by Eriemien Eitling

SUSANNA STURGIS

ON SCIENCE FICTION



By Susanna Sturgis

This is indeed my last f/sf column for FBN. Wow. When I began, in 1984, women writers were flooding into the field, yet I — and, so I learned later, other feminist readers — felt something was missing. It was hard to find novels as exciting as those of the 70s: Le Guin's *The Dispossessed*, Piercy's *Woman on the Edge of Time*, Russ' *The Female Man*, McIntyre's *Dreamsnake*, Butler's *Kindred*, Gearhart's *The Wanderground* and Charnas' *Motherlines*, among others. "F/sf by women" and "feminist f/sf," or "f/sf of interest to feminists," were not synonymous. Even the most stalwart among us began to wonder if we were, as pundits kept telling us, in a "post-feminist" era.

No way! Not long after the decade turned, it became obvious that feminism was not only not passé in f and sf, it was in resurgence. One catalyst was certainly the James Tiptree Jr. Memorial Award, founded by writers Pat Murphy and Karen Joy Fowler in 1991 and presented each year since then to a work of fiction, short or long, that explores and expands gender roles. The Tiptree exemplifies grass-roots organizing; as well as recognizing important works of f/sf, it continually reminds us that feminism remains high-spirited and vital all over the world.



The 80s, needless to say, were not a bust. The number of excellent women writers who started publishing in what we really shouldn't call "The Reagan Years" is staggering: Murphy and Fowler themselves, of course, and also Melissa Scott, Nancy Kress, Tanya Huff, Ellen Kushner, Shariann Lewitt, Katharine Kerr, Lois McMaster Bujold, Nancy Springer, Michaela

Roessner, Lisa Goldstein and many more. Writers active in the 60s and 70s didn't exactly disappear either: Le Guin, Charnas, Butler, Russ, McIntyre, Pamela Sargent, Eleanor Arnason, Marion Zimmer Bradley and others remain influential to this day.



What I love about f/sf is what I love about feminist publishing and bookselling: both are blessed with a far-flung network of readers to whom the literature matters, and passionately. In a world ever more inundated with interchangeable best-sellers, this is precious.

Long-time readers of this column will remember that I've often expressed disappointment that feminist publishing and f/sf remain, largely, strangers — unlike, say, feminist publishing and mysteries, which have been locked in undying embrace for nearly a decade now. Sure, there have been some notable cross-overs, like Jewelle Gomez's *The Gilda Stories* (Firebrand Books, 1991), Sybil Claiborne's *In the Garden of Dead Cars* (Cleis, 1993) and Ellen Frye's *Amazon Story Bones* (Spinsters Ink, 1994). Some publishers, like Cleis and, more recently, Seal Press, are venturing into the horror genre with vampire anthologies. Others, like Rising Tide, have attempted to combine f or sf with lesbian romance; until more attention is paid to the rigorous demands of f/sf, these novels are unlikely to please f/sf readers, even those who relish a good woman-to-woman love story.

At the moment, books like Nicola Griffith's *Slow River*, Melissa Scott's *Trouble and Her Friends* and Kim Antieau's *The Jigsaw Woman* are being successfully published by mainstream houses. There are sporadic signs, however, that some editors and publishers are nervous; a pro-abortion story, for instance, was

retained in an anthology recently only because the anthologist fought for it. What if feminist and lesbian themes became taboo tomorrow? Who would take up the slack? What publishers would buy the blacklisted books and ensure that they reached their readers? Nothing like the feminist presses exist in f/sf. Most of the field's independent book publishers focus on collector's editions of work by well-known writers.

I suspect that feminist and lesbian f/sf would survive. The spirit that has sustained the Tiptree Award could probably found a publishing house or two. But I still wish that the chasm weren't so great. I wish that more feminist f/sf readers could get their literary fixes in feminist bookstores. I wish more feminist bookstore regulars included f/sf in their diet.

Well, maybe — one of these days. Meanwhile, it's been a pleasure crossing the border all these years, bringing f/sf to the attention of feminist booksellers and the women in print movement to the attention of f/sf-dom.

Now, back to that damn novel....



ACE BOOKS

Anita Blake, vampire hunter, returns in Laurell K. Hamilton's **The Lunatic Cafe** (\$5.99 pb, 0-441-00293-5). "Fast, feisty, and far from frilly," Anita Blake describes her harrowing adventures — with vampires, zombies, werewolves and worse — first person, and her snappy style is one of this series' major assets.

Starmind (\$5.99 pb, 0441-003-052) concludes a trilogy that has been popular with feminist readers since its first volume, *Stardance*, was published more than 15 years ago. Co-written by well-known sf author Spider Robinson and his wife Jeanne, a dancer, the story incorporates dance and music at the heart of a grand vision of future humankind.

BAEN BOOKS

Elizabeth Moon's **Remnant Population** (\$22 cl, 0-671-87718-6) looks promising — except it's in hardcover. One old woman remains behind voluntarily on an abandoned planet. When new settlers arrive, she is the only witness to their slaughter by a primitive indigenous people no one realized were there. Her mission: to keep furious Earth authorities from

destroying the alien people. Baen is releasing several backlist Moon titles at the same time: **Hunting Party** (\$5.99 pb, 0-671-72176-3), **The Deed of Paksenarrion** (\$15 tp, 0-671-72104-6 — this is a single volume edition of the acclaimed trilogy that comprises **Sheepfarmer's Daughter**, **Divided Allegiance** and **Oath of Gold**) and **Sassinak** (\$5.99 pb, 0-671-69863-X), written with Anne McCaffrey.

CIRCLET PRESS

Hard to believe that Circlet, the first publisher dedicated exclusively to erotic f and sf, is four years old, and that the time is already right for its first retrospective omnibus. **Tales from the Erotic Edge** (\$15.95 tp, 1-885865-06-6) edited by publisher Cecilia Tan comprises Circlet's first four collections: *Feline Fetishes*, *Forged Bonds*, *Mate* and *Telepaths Don't Need Safewords*. The editor's introduction provides a thoughtful overview of the interplay of sex and f/sf over the years, and compelling evidence that Circlet has indeed been on the cutting edge for publishing stories that simultaneously adhered to f/sf standards, introduced female and female-friendly perspectives, and turned readers on.

DAW BOOKS

Katharine Kerr proves herself a fine anthologist in **Enchanted Forests** (\$5.50 pb, 0-88677-672-4) co-edited with Martin H. Greenberg with a strong assist from Jo Clayton. The title adequately conveys the theme, but not the diversity of these 25 approaches to it. Most of the authors are up-and-coming fantasy writers, well deserving of future acclaim. Among the 14 women contributors are Susan Shwartz, Nina Kiriki Hoffman, Kate Elliot, Jo Clayton and Michelle Sagara.

For the many fans of Marion Zimmer Bradley's *Sword and Sorceress* series, here's **Warrior Enchantresses** (\$5.50 pb, 0-88677-690-2) edited by Kathleen M. Massie-Ferch and Martin H. Greenberg. Contributors include many of the usual suspects, among them Tanith Lee, Jennifer Roberson, Andre Norton and Pamela Sargent.

To make it a trio of new theme anthologies, **Castle Fantastic** (\$5.99 pb, 0-88677-686-4) is worth your attention, not for the number of female contributors (6 of 17) but for the caliber of those included, Jane Yolen, Nancy Springer, Pamela Sargent and Esther Friesner among them.

In **No Quarter** (\$5.99 pb, 0-88677-698-8), Tanya Huff sends the brother and sister assassins of *Fifth Quarter* (\$4.99 pb, 0-88677-651-1) — the latter now unwillingly sharing her body with the body-snatcher Gyhard — to the bards of *Sing the Four Quarters* (\$4.99 pb, 0-88677-628-7) for their help. This is one of those rarities, a fantasy adventure series that is intelligent, original and memorable even after the last page is turned.

C. J. Cherryh's **Invader** (\$5.99 pb, 0-88677-687-2), the sequel to *Foreigner* (\$5.99 pb, 0-88677-637-6), is now out in paperback. Like much of Cherryh's work, this explores relationships between human and alien peoples — when the aliens have the upper hand. For those who can't wait, **Inheritor** (\$21.95 cl, 0-88677-689-9), third in the series, was just released in hardcover.



HARPERPRISM

Briefly noted a couple of issues back, **Killing Me Softly** (\$12 tp, 0-06-105328-7) edited by Gardner Dozois is well worth carrying. Subtitled "erotic tales of unearthly love," it's eerie, stylish and original. Just over half the 15 stories are by women, and what women! Ursula K. Le Guin, Nancy Kress, Mary Rosenblum, Pat Cadigan, Maureen F. McHugh... (P.S. The male writers are no slouches either.)

The Hedge of Mist (\$22 cl, 0-06-105230-2) is the sixth of Patricia Kennealy-Morrison's Keltiad novels (aka "Kelts in Space") and the conclusion of her Tales of Arthur trilogy.

PENGUIN/ROC

No question about it, Kim Antieau's first novel, **The Jigsaw Woman** (\$10.95 tp, 0-451-45509-6), belongs on your shelves. Keelie awakens in a rich man's lab with fragmented memories of several lives: she has been surgically pieced together from the bodies of three women, all of whom now live in her. Keelie escapes. Guided by the daunting underground goddess Eriskegal, she goes back in time, to the age of the Inquisition, to a hidden enclave of South American Amazons, to the fringe of antiquity before the monotheism shackled women. The story combines numerous myths — among them Frankenstein's monster, Inanna in the underworld, Rapunzel and the

Wizard of Oz — into an exhilarating, gritty, altogether marvelous whole. Kim Antieau, the author of much acclaimed short fiction, edits and publishes *Daughter of Nyx*.

Sisters in Fantasy 2 (\$5.99 pb, 0-451-45503-8) edited by Susan Schwartz and Martin H. Greenberg looks like a worthy successor to *SiF*. Among the 15 writers included are Andre Norton, Jane Yolen, Nancy Springer, Lisa Goldstein, Nancy Kress, Mercedes Lackey, Katharine Kerr and co-editor Schwartz. All stories are original to this volume. I'd love to see this series become an annual!

Also brand new is Emily Devenport's, **Eggheads** (\$5.99 pb, 0-451-45517-7), in which two explorers, both women, race against alien competitors and a failing biological enhancement mechanism to decode the glyphs left by a vanished civilization. An encouraging sign of the times: as one of its selling points, the catalog copy says, "Strong female characters are very popular." Devenport's previous novels are also in print: *Larissa* (\$4.99 pb, 0-451-45276-3) and *Scorpienne* (\$4.99 pb, 0-451-45318-2).

Much has been made of wunderkind Felicity Savage's age: her second novel, **Delta City** (\$5.99 pb, 0-451-45399-9), is just out and she's still shy of 21. It's a sequel to her acclaimed *Humility Garden* (\$4.99 pb, 0-451-45398-0). Humility, deposed as Divinarch of Salt, must fight to recover her throne and to tip the balance in an epic struggle between gods and humans.

World Fantasy Award-winning editor Ellen Datlow's much-praised anthology **Alien Sex** (\$4.99 pb, 0-451-45142-2) is now out in paperback. Contributors include Pat Murphy and Connie Willis.



RISING TIDE PRESS

The predictable romance doesn't overwhelm the fantasy tale in Karen Williams' **Nightshade** (\$11.99 tp, 1-883061-08-3), and the novel is all the better for it. Artist and naturalist Alex Spherris is well-known among the lesbians in her upstate New York town for her affairs, which are many and brief. Then a bizarre accident on a rainy night brings a strange cast of characters into her life: a witch and a wizard, both a century old, a talking Scottish terrier and a beautiful

fairy long imprisoned in a magic bell. Well, you can figure out who gets together with whom, but the outrageously dotty supporting characters, the vivid descriptions of the natural world and the author's sense of humor lift this one out of the ordinary.



TOR BOOKS

As usual, Tor has an abundance of riches forthcoming, three of them first novels. Unfortunately for book buyers (though a boon for the authors — hardcovers still get more attention from both publicity departments and reviewers), they're all in cloth. Make note, and look for the paperbacks in a year or so.

Ladylord (\$23.95 cl, 0-312-85050-1) is a promising debut by Sasha Miller. In this Japanese-flavored fantasy society, women do not occupy thrones, so the dying Lord Qai names daughter Javerri his son and heir to Third Province. Seeking to prevent Javerri's accession, the corrupt lord of First Province sends her on an impossible mission. She accomplishes it, of course, with a valiant party of (male) supporters — and crucial assistance from a powerful madam, a courageous courtesan and First Lord's ingenious young wife. The machinations of the women were the best part of the book for this reader!

One veteran in the field is Susan Shwartz (*Grail of Hearts*), whose **Shards of Empire** (\$23.95 cl, 0-312-85716-0) is set in tenth-century Byzantium. Leo Ducas, a young nobleman, sets out to serve his emperor and his God and soon loses emperor, faith and his treacherous family. Shwartz, a very fine writer, pays close attention to the choices made by her characters, of high station and low, in triumph and defeat. She romanticizes nothing, not power and not poverty and her evocation of place and time is gloriously detailed.

Whiteout (\$23.95 cl, 0-312-85765-9) is a first novel by respected short-fiction writer Sage Walker. Set in a near future where multinational corporations run the show and human perception is manipulated by virtual images, this thriller posits a great power struggle for Antarctica, the planet's last source of untainted water.

Manuscripts that rise from the (unagented, unsolicited) "slush pile" to hardcover publication are rare indeed. Deborah Christian's **Mainline** (\$23.95 cl,

0-312-86928-3, June) is one such, and it's easy to see why it caught the slush reader's jaded eye. Protagonist Reva is an assassin with the rare ability to move across timelines — a talent that, uncontrolled, lost her her family at a young age. Accustomed to cold killing and then evading all consequences, she startles herself by actually saving a man's life — and by befriending a novice smuggler whose passion for winning gets her in big trouble. Christian sets this personal struggle on a vividly described water world and against a backdrop of high-stakes political and commercial intrigue. Sometimes the complex subplots and quick-cut structure threaten to overwhelm the "mainline" story, but the novel impresses nonetheless.

In Anne Harris's **The Nature of Smoke** (\$21.95 cl, 0-312-85286-X, June), a young woman escapes her dysfunctional family and the slums of Detroit for New York City, where ever more dangerous entanglements threaten her life. Editor Jim Frenkel, who also edited *Ladylord*, above, notes that Harris is "a wonderful storyteller with a tremendous energy and creativity." Frenkel's track record is excellent, plus he's married to Joan Vinge and lives in Madison, Wisconsin; in other words, believe him!

And finally, Lisa Goldstein has a new fantasy due any day now: **Walking the Labyrinth** (\$21.95 cl, 0-312-86175-3, June). Molly Travers, a young woman in contemporary San Francisco, explores her ancestry, which includes a family of 19th-century vaudeville magicians who performed real magic. Expect from Goldstein a deft touch with the ways reality and magic swirl together at the edges and characters not easily forgotten.



WARNER ASPECT

A new novel from Joan Vinge, author of *The Snow Queen* and *The Summer Queen*, is cause for celebration. **Dreamfall** (\$22.95 cl, 0-446-51627-9), due in June, is the sequel to *Catspaw* and further explores the predicament of Cat, raised among humans who feared him for the telepathic powers he inherited from his mother. Here he returns to his mother's home planet to find it under siege by human commercial interests. His outsider status and mixed loyalties will prove key to saving the planet's threatened ecosystem. ○



MYSTERIES



By Nan Cinnater
Cape and Dagger/Provincetown MA

These columns, as Susanna Sturgis wrote in a recent issue, are indeed like messages in bottles, traveling through time. With any luck, when this one washes up on shore in a couple of months, I will be one of the proud proprietors of a new mystery bookstore called Cape and Dagger, adjacent to our existing gay and lesbian bookstore, Now Voyager. This is shameless self-promotion, but I want to share my excitement, terror, and general insanity, especially if this column seems a little more scattered than usual.



I just caught up with the new Nevada Barr, which I hope you already have in stock. **Firestorm**, the recent hardcover from Putnam, focuses on firefighting in Northern California, highlighting the courage, conflicts, and environmental issues involved. (\$21.95 cl, 0-399-14126-X.) Barr's latest paperback, **Ill Wind**, finds National Parks

ranger Anna Pigeon at Mesa Verde, site of the Anasazi cliff dwellings. Barr is tops at the literate, atmospheric, progressive/feminist mystery, so at first I was disappointed that she didn't make more of that very evocative setting. What we get instead is a deeper character study of Anna herself, which is fascinating and welcome. Barr's series is a must-carry for virtually all feminist bookstores, if not in hardcover, then in paper. (\$5.99 pb, 0-380-72363-8, Avon.)

Dana Stabenow is another must-carry, and she has a new hardcover in her series about Alaskan Aleut private investigator Kate Shugak. In **Blood**

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

Will Tell, Kate is commissioned by Ekaterina, her marvelously enigmatic grandmother, to investigate deaths among members of the tribal council. \$21.95 cl, 0-399-14124-3, Putnam.

Carol O'Connell brings back her unique heroine, wild child turned NYPD sergeant Kathleen Mallory, in **Killing Critics**, third in the critically acclaimed series. The previous two were *Mallory's Oracle*, already available in paper, and *The Man Who Cast Two Shadows* (which should be coming out in paper this summer). These are literate and intriguing thrillers that take on basic questions such as how morality is formed in human beings. Customers looking for more than mind candy will be glad to discover them. \$23.95 cl, 0-399-14168-5, June, Putnam.

Patricia Cornwell's **Cause of Death** may well be the bread and butter of many bookstores this summer, so order early and stock up. Dr. Kay alert: Cornwell is credited in her catalogue bio as screenwriter and executive producer of the forthcoming film *From Potter's Field*. But who's going to play Scarpetta on the big screen? \$25.95 cl, 0-399-14146-4, July, Putnam.

Mercedes Lambert is a tease. Not only did she give us two sizzling heroines, attorney Whitney Logan and Chicana prostitute Lupe, who were obviously attracted to each other but failed to do anything about it, in her debut mystery, **Dogtown** (\$4.95 pb, 0-14-013928-1, Penguin), she then took five years to bring us the sequel. **Soultown** brings the pair back in a hip LA mystery. (\$20.95 cl, sorry no ISBN, July, Viking.) We can expect progressive race and class politics, as well.

Since Minette Walters has won top mystery awards on both sides of the Atlantic in the last few years, it would be a crime for this column not to take note of her new hardcover, however belatedly. Released last March, **The Dark Room** details the

recovery, at a private clinic, of an amnesia victim who happens to be the daughter of a millionaire. Walters writes the darkest, creepiest psychological suspense in Great Britain, making Rendell and James look cozy by comparison. If that's your cup of Earl Gray, you can't do any better. \$23.95 cl, 0-399-14078-6, Putnam.

Other Spring hardcovers of note include **Full Stop** by Joan Smith, the new mystery featuring Loretta Lawson, England's answer to Amanda Cross. This one finds the academic sleuth alone in New York City, harassed by a series of threatening phone calls. (\$21 cl, 0-449-91048-2, Fawcett.) The title alone should sell Sarah Shankman's **I Still Miss My Man, But My Aim Is Getting Better**. Already known to feminist readers for her witty Southern mysteries, Shankman here introduces a new heroine, Nashville songwriter Shelby Kay Tate. (\$21 cl, 0-671-89751-9, Pocket.)

The lesbian mystery field is becoming ever more crowded and competitive, with both mainstream and feminist presses demanding literate writing, intelligent plotting, and the elusive "page-turning" quality. Randye Lordon and Jean Taylor have new entries in series that are certainly strong on at least the first two of those qualifications. **Sister's Keeper** by Randye Lordon, now out in paper, is the second in a series about lesbian private eye Sydney Sloan. Based in New York City (where she never does run into Lauren Larano, either personally or professionally), Sydney investigates the apparent suicide of longtime family friend Zoe Freeman. (\$9.95 pb, 0-312-14134-3, St. Martin's.) **The Last of Her Lies** by Jean Taylor brings back San Francisco P.I. Maggie Garrett. Maggie is notable for her flippant humor and her strong ties to

the local lesbian and gay community (making it all the more puzzling that she never runs into Emma Victor). Here she is hired to clear the name of a woman therapist accused of sexually abusing a (female) client. (\$10.95 pb, 1-878067-75-3, Seal.)

The prolific Kate Wilhelm has the third hardcover in what will apparently be an ongoing series about Oregon attorney Barbara Holloway. The previous two were **Death Qualified** (\$6.99 pb, 0-449-22314-0, Fawcett) and **The Best Defense** (\$6.99 pb, sorry no ISBN, Fawcett). In **Malice Prepense**, Holloway defends a



mentally handicapped young man accused of killing an Oregon senator. (\$23.95 cl, 0-312-14364-8, July, St. Martin's.) Wilhelm does great courtroom drama that hinges on feminist or progressive issues, and you probably know by now whether her fans will spring for the hardcovers. Wilhelm's new paperback, **A Flush of Shadows**, contains five short novels featuring married sleuths Constance Leidl and Charlie Meiklejohn. She's a psychologist; he's an arson investigator. This is a less popular and less feminist series, although the critical quotes are great. In the cover blurb, the *Seattle Times* calls these novellas "suspenseful gems." (\$5.99 pb, 0-449-22434-1, June, Fawcett.)

The Anniversary by Rachel Canon concerns the assassination of the first female president of the U.S. One year later (the anniversary), her best friend realizes that someone is out to kill her too. This is a first novel by an unknown writer, but it's a hell of a premise, isn't it? (\$23 cl, 0-679-43731-2, July, Random House.) Another woman writer fishing in John Grisham's waters is Jean Hanff Korelitz. **A Jury of Her Peers** features a female public defender in what could be a wonderfully paranoid political thriller, with mysterious abductions among New York City's homeless somehow connected to "an exclusive and forbidding men's club." (\$24 cl, 0-517-70051-1, Crown.)

Ballantine is heavily promoting **Buck Naked**, a first mystery by Joyce Burditt, as the next best thing to Sue Grafton. Burditt is a veteran TV writer and this features (female) P.I. Dutch O'Brien consulting on the set of a thinly disguised "Matlock." Blurbs from booksellers indicate that this is indeed a lot of fun. (Most intriguing quote: "I'll never look at Saran Wrap the same way again.") But can we please have a moratorium on the use of the following adjectives to describe women private eyes: feisty, sassy, savvy, wisecracking, tough-talking? Would they describe the boys this way? \$21 cl, sorry no ISBN, Ballantine.

Summer entries in reliable series include **House of Blues** by Julie Smith, the latest paperback in her Edgar Award-winning series about big-boned New Orleans police detective Skip Langdon. (\$5.99, 0-804-11342-4, June, Ivy.) The hardcover sequel, **The Kindness of Strangers**, will be coming in July from Fawcett. (\$21 cl, 0-449-90937-9.) Eleanor Taylor Bland continues her well-received series about a widowed African American police detective in **Keep Still**. (\$20.95 cl, 0-312-14318-4, July, St. Martin's.)

Bland has changed paperback publishers from Signet to St. Martin's, who published **Done Wrong** in May with the fabulous tag line: "She's a woman. She's a mother. She's pure cop." (\$4.99 pb, 0-312-95794-7.) **Rosewood Casket** is the new Appalachian mystery by Sharyn McCrumb, described by my sales



rep as "Carson McCullers meets Mary Higgins Clark." (\$23.95 cl, sorry no ISBN, Dutton.) McCrumb also has a new paperback in her other, more comic series about anthropologist Elizabeth MacPherson, **If I'd Killed Him When I Met Him....** (\$6.50 pb, 0-449-14998-6, Fawcett.)

Foremother Marcia Muller's new Sharon McCone mystery, **The Broken Promise Land**, concerns the stalking of a (male) country-western star. (\$22.95 cl, 0-89296-621-1, June, Mysterious Press/Warner.) Muller's **A Wild and Lonely Place** will be out in paper in August. (\$6.50 pb, 0-446-60328-7, Warner.) Due to some weird publishing synergy, Karen Kijewski's new hardcover, **Honky Tonk Kat**, also concerns the stalking of a (female) country-western star. (\$22.95 cl, 0-399-14133-2, June, Putnam.)

Veterans Martha Grimes and Ruth Rendell have new hardcovers that probably won't generate great sales. Rendell's is a collection of short stories called **Blood Lines**. (\$23 cl, 0-517-70323-8, June, Crown.) Grimes departs from her popular series with a novel called **Hotel Paradise**, which may not even be a mystery, although there is a death and the catalog does mention suspense. The novel features her trademark precocious twelve-year-old girl (which she does very well indeed), but mystery fans are creatures of habit who probably won't go for it. (\$24 cl, 0-679-44187-5, Knopf.)

As for paperbacks, **The Club** by Jane Heller may be overly suburban for some tastes (the setting is a Connecticut country club) but it looks interesting. The heroine befriends a prominent feminist who is murdered on the golf course. There's a romantic sub-plot and it all sounds very Susan Isaacs, but harmless. \$4.99 pb, 1-57566-038-5, Kensington.

While we're in suburbia, **Mommy and the Murder** by Nancy Goldstone will be out in paper

this summer. Though funny and readable, this book never quite lives up to the feminist potential of its premise: heroine solves her ex-husband's murder with help from the other members of her mothers' group. There is some irony in the fact that these full-time moms meeting for an infants' play group are all high-powered doctors, brokers, artists, and programmers, but much more could have been made of it. Instead the plot takes an unexpected twist at the end, making it a more interesting mystery with less of a feminist point. \$4.99 pb, 0-06-109410-2, August, Harper.

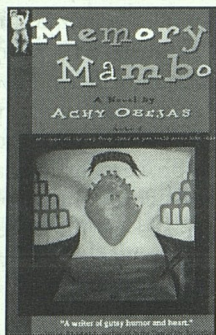
Booksellers need mindless entertainment, too, and luckily Kathryn Lasky Knight and Joan Hess have new book-related paperbacks out. In Knight's **Dark Swan**, children's book illustrator Calista Jacobs leaves her beloved Cambridge to house-sit and solve a murder in Beacon Hill, Boston. (\$4.99 pb, 0-373-26204-5, Worldwide.) In Hess' **Busy Bodies**, bookstore owner Claire Malloy helps an environmental artist accused of murdering his wife. (\$5.50 pb, 0-451-40560-9, Onyx.)

Ballantine is again offering its Lesbian and Gay Mysteries display as its June promotion. This is a 36-copy floor display containing four copies each of nine titles: **How Town** and **The Hidden Law** by Michael Nava; **Vital Lies**, **Stage Fright**, and **A Killing Cure** by Ellen Hart; **I'll Be Leaving You Always** and **My Sweet Untraceable You** by Sandra Scoppettone; and **Roman Blood** and **Catilina's Riddle** by Steven Saylor. The riser depicts a shadowy figure in a trenchcoat with a pink triangle on the lapel. Ours was a big hit last summer; we couldn't keep it filled. \$191.64, 0-345-40593-5, June.

Those of you who carry audio and have been bemoaning the lack of lesbian and gay books on tape will be happy to hear about Hall Closet Book Company, the first U.S. audio book publisher to specialize in gay and lesbian titles. They debuted in March with two excellent mysteries: **Hallowed Murder** by Ellen Hart, read by Carol Jordan Stewart (\$39.95, 6 tapes, unabridged, 1-8883-48-00-3), and **Fadeout** by Joseph Hansen, read by Jim Zeiger (\$24.95, 4 tapes, unabridged, 1-8883-48-01-1). They're distributed by BP, or call 800-895-8915, fax 206-286-0656.



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September

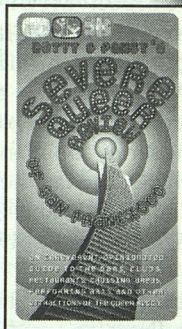
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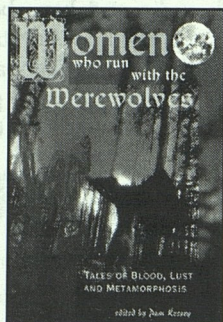
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150pp, 7 x 10, November

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Michael Rowe and Thomas Roche

\$12.95, Trade paper, ISBN 1-57344-059-0,
180pp, 5 1/2 x 8 1/2, October



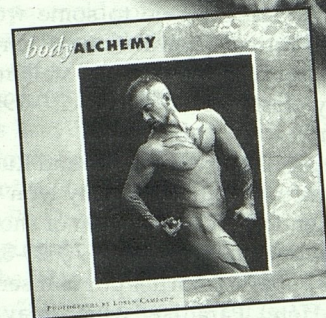
WOMEN WHO RUN WITH THE WEREWOLVES

Tales of Blood, Lust and Metamorphosis

Pam Keesey

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Photographs

Loren Cameron

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November

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GAY MEN'S LIT FOR FEMINIST BOOKSTORES

By Richard Labonté
A Different Light Bookstores

Last year (but an issue earlier) I took a different tack from the standard some-form-of-book-blurbs, and gave FBN readers a snapshot of a year of the sales at A Different Light's three branches (San Francisco, New York and West Hollywood) plus mail-order and Web-site sales. There was nothing scientific about the list — just the raw math of total number of copies sold of gay male interest titles between January 1 and December 31, 1994, sometimes even combining hard-cover and softcover edition sales.

Publisher Carol loves numbers (she said so in the March/April issue), and she suggested I make the tabulation an annual event; she also ordered me (as publishers are quite able to do) to supply a sidebar report on how lesbian-interest titles did, even though the purview of this column is the gayboy book; and so that listing also appears.

Since there's no attempt in the ranking to "weight" books by how long they were actually on sale in 1995, the year now under review, I've added a slightly sophisticated touch: in addition to number of copies sold, I've provided the date that the book came into the bookstore. This means that you'll see some books which arrived in October, 1995 ("9510") selling more copies than some which arrived earlier in the year ("9503"); a book already in the store as the year started will be dated 9501; and of course some titles near the bottom of the list in raw numbers, which arrived late in the year, may have continued to sell well into 1996, and may also appear on next year's list.

See sidebar on page 74 for the list of gay men's titles — books that sold 200 or more copies among all three branches of A Different Light. See sidebar on page 77 for the lesbian titles.

As usual, titles I especially recommend are asterisked (*), and if the due date is later than May (when this issue is out), it's noted. Many more of the titles this time are small press, since Consortium (Alyson), PGW and Login/InBook catalogues did indeed arrive after last issue's deadline. To save space, this being the ABA issue, I've divided titles into just two categories, fiction and non-fiction, making clear with each entry what kind of book I'm touting.



Fiction

***Captain Swing** by Larry Duplechan — Paperback reprint of the third in L.A. writer Duplechan's smart and sassy trilogy (*Eight Days a Week*, *Blackbird*) about Johnny Ray Rousseau, a young Black man finding his way in the world. \$9.95 pb, 1-55583-361-6, Alyson.

3 Plays by Mart Crowley — The classic play, *The Boys in the Band*, is finally back in print (and well worth the revival) along with *A Breeze From the Gulf* and *For Reasons That Remain Unclear*. \$11.95 pb, 1-55583-357-8, June, Alyson.

***Swords of the Rainbow** edited by Eric Garber and Jewelle Gomez — The work of both women (Dorothy Allison, Tanya Huff) and men (Stan Leventhal, Samuel Delany) appears in this collection of science fiction and fantasy. \$11.95 pb, 1-55583-266-0, Alyson.

One for the Gods by Gordon Merrick — A lot sexist and a bit racist and definitely classist, but Merrick's classic horny romances sure do have a following; this is the second of a 60s trilogy (the first was *The Lord Won't Mind*) to make its way back into print. \$9.95 pb, 1-55583-291-1, Alyson.

***The Quarterback Went Deep** by R. J. Hamilton — Third title in a young adult adventure/mystery/

Gay Men's Top Sellers

1. **Breaking the Surface** by Greg Louganis: 4,773 (9503)
2. **Virtually Normal** by Andrew Sullivan: 1,519 (9509)
3. **The Unofficial Gay Manual** by Kevin Dillalo and Jack Krumholtz: 1,394 (9501)
4. **What the Bible Really Says About Homosexuality** by Daniel Helminiak: 1,301 (9501)
5. **Flesh and the Word 3 ed.** by John Preston: 1,252 (9506)
6. **B-Boy Blues** by James Earl Hardy: 1,201 (9501)
7. **Like People in History** by Felice Picano: 987 (9507)
8. **In the Shadow of the Epidemic** by Walt Odets: 943 (9509)
9. **Lettin' It All Hang Out** by RuPaul: 816 (9506)
10. **You Know You're Gay When...** by Joseph Cohen: 811 (9510)
11. **How Long Has This Been Going On?** by Ethan Mordden: 809 (9505)
12. **Virtual Equality** by Urvashi Vaid: 802 (9510)
13. **Barely Legal** by John Patrick: 797 (9505)
14. **The Name of Love** by Michael Lassell: 794 (9502)
15. **My First Time** by Jack Hart: 781 (9505)
16. **Mysterious Skin** by Scott Heim: 779 (9503)
17. **Flesh and Blood** by Michael Cunningham: 753 (9504)
18. **Nutrition and HIV: A New Model for Treatment** by Mary Romeyn: 734 (9509)
19. **Absolutely Fabulous** by Jennifer Saunders: 729 (9505)
20. **In Defense of Beauty** by Tom Bianchi: 642 (9510)
21. **Fairy Tales** by Peter Cashorali: 631 (9510)
22. **Prayers for Bobby** by Leroy Aarons: 629 (9506)
23. **Growing Up Gay: From Left Out to Coming Out** by Funny Gay Males: 581 (9506)
24. **Now That You Know** by Betty Fairchild: 578 (9501)
25. **The Lord Won't Mind** by Gordon Merrick: 556 (9509)
26. **If You Ask Me** by Libby Gelman-Waxner/Paul Rudnick: 478 (9506)
27. **The Last Watch of the Night** by Paul Monette: 477 (9501)
28. **The Folding Star** by Alan Hollinghurst: 477 (9510)
29. **The Penguin Book of Gay Short Stories** ed. by David Leavitt 476 (9501)
30. **Gay Soul** by Mark Thompson: 471 (9506)
31. **Gay New York** by George Chauncey: 471 (9506)
32. **The Badboy Book of Erotic Poetry** ed. by David Laurents: 452 (9510)
33. **Jeffrey** by Terence McNally: 451 (9509)
34. **Tales of the City** by Armistead Maupin: 439 (9501)
35. **Do What I Say** by Meryl Cohn: 450 (9510)
36. **Glamourpuss** by Christian McLaughlin: 450 (9510)
37. **Freedom, Glorious Freedom** by John McNeil: 448 (9502)
38. **Skinned Alive** by Edmund White: 444 (9507)
39. **Out in All Directions** ed. by Lynn Witt, Sherry Thomas and Eric Marcus: 437 (9509)
40. **Immune Power** by Jon Kaiser: 394 (9502)
41. **Straight From the Heart** by Bob and Rod Jackson-Paris: 391 (9503)
42. **The President's Son** by Krاندall Kraus: 388 (9503)
43. **The HIV Drug Book** by Project Open Hand: 372 (9511)
44. **Wrestling With the Angel** ed. by Brian Bouldrey: 370 (9505)
45. **While England Sleeps** by David Leavitt: 360 (9510)
46. **Putting Out: The Essential Publishing Resource for Lesbians and Gay Men** by Edisol Dotson: 360 (9501)
47. **Outing Yourself** by Michelangelo Signorile: 356 (9506)
48. **Memnoch the Devil** by Anne Rice: 353 (9505)
49. **Palimpsest** by Gore Vidal: 351 (9510)
50. **The 2069 Trilogy** by Larry Townsend: 346 (9503)
51. **The God in Flight** by Laura Argiri: 345 (9502)
52. **Young Man From the Provinces** by Alan Helms: 340 (9512)
53. **Father of Frankenstein** by Christopher Bram: 340 (9504)
54. **Say Uncle** by Eric Shaw Quinn: 318 (9508)
55. **Essential Book of Gay Manners** by Steven Petrow: 311 (9506)
56. **Muscle Sex** by Greg Nero: 309 (9504)
57. **Sometimes My Heart Grows Numb** by Charles Garfield: 309 (9509)
58. **Homos** by Leo Bersani: 287 (9503)
59. **Take It Like a Man** by Boy George: 287 (9506)
60. **His** ed. by Robert Drake: 287 (9507)
61. **Cultural Revolution** by Norman Wong: 282 (9509)
62. **Edge of Desire** by Howard Roffmann: 280 (9510)
63. **Boy Culture** by Matthew Rettenmund: 280 (9509)
64. **Significant Others** by Armistead Maupin: 238 (9501)
65. **The Mayor of Castro Street** by Randy Shilts: 217 (9501)
66. **Nightswimmer** by Joseph Olshan: 201 (9501)

Some footnotes on older books: **Tales of the City** and **The Mayor of Castro Street**, both in print more than a decade, are strong tourist sellers in San Francisco; **The Unofficial Gay Manual** was selling as well in December of 1995 as it was in January; **What the Bible Really Says About Homosexuality** was a phenomenal mail-order seller for us, as was **B-Boy Blues**, and **Putting Out** was also a steady through-the-mail sale; **Now That You Know** has been the consistent best-selling coming out book for several years.

hero series with teens (co-gender) saving the day; check out *Who Framed Lorenzo Garcia* (1-55583-608-9) and *The Case of the Missing Mother* (1-55583-609-7) for your young adult section. \$5.95 pb, 1-55583-371-3, June, Alyson.

Straitjacket and Tie by Eugene Stein — Paperback edition of a comic coming out novel set in a slightly surreal Manhattan. \$9.95 pb, 1-55583-358-6, June, Alyson.

***Daddy's Wedding** by Michael Willhoite — Just in time for the heavy-breathing attack by the foamers of the right on the very idea of sanctioned gay companions comes author/illustrator Willhoite's sweet story of Daddy, daddy's roommate Frank and 10-year-old Nick's life in the wake of a wedding. \$15.95 cl, 1-55583-350-0, June, Alyson.

Nature in the Raw: Erotic Stories From Freshman Magazine edited by Gerry Kroll — Men, having sex, outside. \$11.95 pb, 1-55583-363-2, Alyson.

The Birdcage: The Shooting Script by Elaine May — For real fans of the newest version of *La Cage aux Folles*, or of Robin Williams, or of Nathan Lane. \$14.95 pb, 1-55704-277-2, Newmarket.

and that's final by Dean Kiley — From Australia, a mosaic of compelling fiction which boasts that none are coming out tales. \$10.95, 1-875243-19-4, Blackwattle, Koen/Inland, Login/InBook.

Works and Other 'Smoky George' Stories, second expanded edition by Perry Brass — What happens when a poet turns to porn? Sexy writing. \$9.95 pb, 0-9627123-6-1, Belhue Press, Koen/Inland and Alamo.

Aviary Slag by Jacques Servin — "Intricately inter-locked mini-epics, moral tales and porn tracts," says the publisher of this new work by a highly-praised San Francisco writer. \$11.95 pb, 0-932511-92-9, FC2/Black Ice Books.

***From a Burning House: The AIDS Project Los Angeles Writers Workshop Collection** edited by Irene Borger — Stories, poems and fragments of writing from people with AIDS and their care-givers. \$14 pb, 0-871-53517-X, Pocket Books/Washington Square.

***Toby's Lie** by Daniel Vilmure — Toby's dream is to come out by dancing with his boyfriend at his high school prom; an irreverent novel about small towns, big plans, AIDS and love and betrayal and triumph. \$12 pb, 0-06-097694-2, HarperPerennial.

Plays are Literature!

Thinking About the Longstanding Problems of Virtue and Happiness

by TONY KUSHNER

Theatre Communications Guild \$15.95 PB 1-55936-100-X

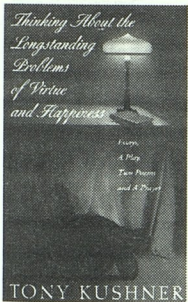
This first collection of writings by Tony Kushner—including his latest play, *Slavs!*—gives us a glimpse into the mind of one of the greatest writers of our generation.

Baltimore Waltz and Other Plays

by PAUL VOGEL

Theatre Communications Guild \$15.95 PB 1-55936-109-3

The Baltimore Waltz, Vogel's most personal play, centers around memory of a loved one lost to AIDS; the other plays include *Desdemona*, *The Oldest Profession*, *And Baby Makes Seven*, and *Hot n' Throbbing*, a controversial play most recently produced in Cambridge, Massachusetts and London.

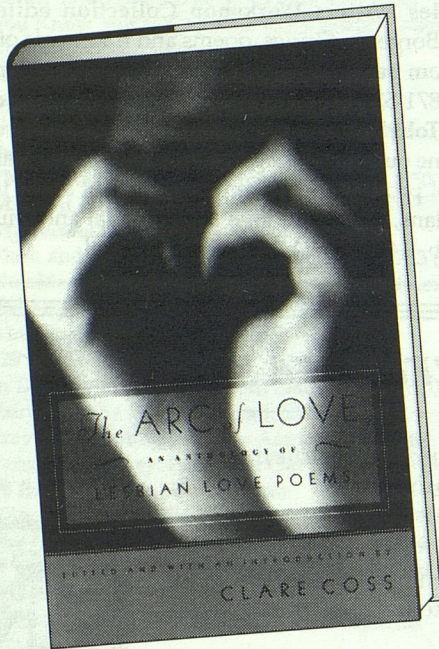


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Time to Check Out by Grant Michaels — The fifth in Michaels' ever-finer Stan Kraychik mysteries takes the sharp-tongued Boston hairdresser to Key West, where he gets involved in a murder committed with a clock. \$21.95 cl, 0-312-14434-2, August, St. Martin's.

Rust on the Razor by Mark Richard Zubro — Another long-running St. Martin's series, this, with teacher Tom and baseball player Scott caught up in the hysteria of small-town homophobia and the murder of a rural Georgia sheriff. \$20.95 cl, 0-312-14404-0, St. Martin's.

***Murder on the Appian Way** by Steven Saylor — Saylor's Ancient-Rome set mysteries get better and better; this fifth in the Gordianus the Finder series combines superb historical fact with irresistible mystery. \$23.95 cl, 0-312-14377-X, St. Martin's.

The Gospel of Corax by Paul Park — At the center of this apocryphal gospel describing Christ's journey to Tibet is dark-skinned slave Corax, who flees Rome when his master and lover dies, and meets 'Jeshua' on the road. \$25 cl, 1-56947-061-8, June, FSG/Soho.

The Butterfly's Wing by Martin Foreman — Something different in a gay novel plot: this is about how the settled lives of a British gay couple are unsettled when one of them is kidnapped by Shining Path guerrillas in Peru. \$14.95 pb, 0-85449-223-2, Gay Men's Press, Login/InBook.

The Heart in Exile by Rodney Garland — Reissue of a 1953 British gay novel, an absorbing portrait of gay London in the early 50s. \$12.95 pb, 1-873741-23-5, Millivres, Koen/Inland.

The Biker Below the Downs by Graeme Woolaston — The story of a man discovering the son he didn't know he had, and of a boy discovering the father he never knew. \$12.95 pb, 1-873741-25-1, Millivres, Koen/Inland.

***Go the Way Your Blood Beats** edited by Shawn Stewart Ruff — An anthology of older (Baldwin, Lorde, Wright, Morrison) and newer (Sapphire, Woodson) writing, this collection of 32 stories, from the Harlem Renaissance to the present, is a long-overdue publishing milestone. \$16.95 pb, 0-8050-4437-X, Henry Holt.

***Trash Trio** by John Waters — This second edition contains the scripts to three of the filmmaker's early works — *Pink Flamingos*, *Desperate Living* and the never-produced *Flamingos Forever*. \$12.95 pb, 1-56025-127-1, Thunder's Mouth Press, PGW.

Hell Soup: The Collected Writings of Sparrow
13 **Laughing Wand** — Radical faerie pagan poetry.
\$8.95 pb, 0-916397-43-2, Manic D, PGW.

Dream Police by Dennis Cooper — Paper edition of a controversial novelist's stark poetry. \$11 pb, 0-8021-3457-2, June, Grove, PGW.

***The Waterfront Journals** by David Wojnarowicz — Early work from the late author of *Close to the Knives*, autobiographical fiction in the voices of the men the author met in his travels around America. \$20 cl, 0-8021-1585-3, June, Grove, PGW.

***Switch Hitters: Lesbians Write Gay Male Erotica and Gay Men Write Lesbian Erotica** edited by Carol Queen and Lawrence Schimel — Anyone who reads all of this issue's book blurbs and has any memory of last issue's Spring Announcements Part I will have spotted the hot topic of the season — transgender fact. Here's some fiction to buttress the trend. \$12.95 pb, 1-57344-021-3, Cleis, PGW.

Best Gay Erotica 1996 edited by Michael Ford, judged by Scott Heim — The first in a planned annual series of both reprint and original fiction, with equal emphasis on arousing content and literary style. \$12.95 pb, 1-57344-052-3, Cleis, PGW.



Non-fiction

***Fuori: Essays by Italian-American Lesbians and Gays** edited by Anthony Julian Tamburri — Contributors include Tommi Aviccolli Mecca, Philip Gambone and Giovanni Capone. \$10 pb, 1-884419-05-4, Bordighera, 1359 Stanley Coulter Hall, West Lafayette IN 47907. Distributed by Armadillo; 800-499-7675.

***Lesbian and Gay Visions of Ireland: Towards the Twenty-First Century** edited by Ide O'Carroll and Eain Collins — Essays on the Irish gay experience by both American and Republic of Ireland activists. \$17.95 pb, 0-304-33229-1, Cassell, Login/InBook, Koen/Inland.

***Dear Sir or Madam: The Autobiography of a Female-to-Male Transsexual** by Mark Rees — From Brenda to Mark, the story of Britain's most prominent transsexual. \$16.95 pb, 0-304-33394-8, Cassell, Login/InBook, Koen/Inland.

***No Bath but Plenty of Bubbles: Stories From a Generation of Young People Affected by AIDS** edited by Ian Lucas — Based on a dozen interviews,

Lesbian and Women's Interest Top Sellers

1. **Ghost in the Closet** by Mabel Maney: 712 (9509)
2. **Two or Three Things I Know for Sure** by Dorothy Allison: 703 (9509)
3. **Unnatural Dykes to Watch Out For** by Allison Bechdel: 664 (9510)
4. **Stone Butch Blues** by Leslie Feinberg: 591 (9501)
5. **My Sweet Untraceable You** by Sandra Scoppetone: 549 (9510)
6. **The Key to Everything: Great Lesbian Love Poetry** ed. by Gerry Gomez Pearlberg: 543 (9502)
7. **Bastard out of Carolina** by Dorothy Allison: 398 (9501)
8. **Coffee Will Make You Black** by April Sinclair: 375 (9502)
9. **The New Fuck You** ed. by Eileen Myles: 374 (9505)
10. **Revenge of Hothead Paisan** by Diane DiMassa: 363 (9510)
11. **Susie Bright's Sexwise** by Susie Bright: 339 (9506)
12. **Gender Outlaw** by Kate Bornstein: 334 (9504)
13. **Femme Mystique** by Lesléa Newman: 333 (9506)
14. **The Penguin Book of Lesbian Short Fiction** ed. by Margaret Mitchell: 320 (9501)
15. **Virgin Territory** by Shar Rednour: 318 (9503)
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24. **Public Sex** by Pat Califia: 247 (9501)
25. **Intersection of Law and Desire** by J. R. Redmann: 236 (9507)
26. **Tomboys: Tales of Dyke Derring-Do** ed. by Lynne Yagamuchi and Karen Barber: 224 (9510)
27. **Hers** ed. by Terry Wolverton: 222 (9510)
28. **Sweat** ed. by Lucy Jane Bledsoe: 203 (9511)

this eye-opener is a testament to the need for frank safe-sex education. \$16.95 pb, 0-304-33207-0, Cassell, Login/InBook, Koen/Inland.

Male Order: Life Stories From Boys Who Sell Sex by Barbara Gibson — Four young men and two transsexuals tell how and why they sell sex on the streets of London. \$16.95 pb, 0-304-33287-9, Cassell, Login/InBook, Koen/Inland.

***A Select Body: The Gay Dance Party Subculture and the HIV/AIDS Pandemic** by Dr. Lynette A. Lewis and Dr. Michael Ross — How AIDS is handled in a culture separate from gay bars. \$16.95 pb, 0-304-33511-8, Cassell, Login/InBook, Koen/Inland.

Seduced and Abandoned: Essays on Gay Men and Popular Music by Richard Smith — Essays on how the music of pop culture both shapes and is shaped by gay identity. \$16.95 pb, 0-304-33347-6, Cassell, Login/InBook, Koen/Inland.

***Rubber Up! Every Gay Man's Guide to Condoms** by Edward King and Chris Markham — Let's not assume that gay men know as much as they should on this topic. \$4.95 pb, 0-304-33409-X, Cassell, Login/InBook, Koen/Inland.

***Cassell's Queer Quizbook** by David Pollard — Cunning queer brain-teasers, a not-so-trivial pursuit for fans of lesbian and gay heritage. \$4.95 pb, 0-304-33408-1, Cassell, Login/InBook, Koen/Inland.

*There are also five excellent pamphlets available in Cassell's Listen Up! Series, each \$4.95 pb through Login/InBook, Koen/Inland; the titles are self-explanatory. Three new ones are **Fighting Words: An Open Letter to Queers and Radicals** by Scott Tucker (0-304-33537-1); **Moral Panic: Exposing**

the Religious Right's Agenda on Sexuality by Terri Murray and Michael McClure (0-304-33327-1) and **Cassocks in the Closet: Homosexuality and the Anglican Church** by Sebastian Sandys (0-304-33467-7). Two from last season are **We Don't Want to March Straight: Why Queers Should Oppose the Military** by Peter Tatchell (0-304-33373-5) and **With Friends Like These: Marxism and Gay Politics** by Simon Edge (0-304-33320-4).



***Sex Death Enlightenment: A True Story** by Mark Matousek — From a survivor of the Warhol factory comes an intense, mesmerizing narrative of a life touched by AIDS, craziness and, of course, everything in the title — the story of a spiritual quest, a healing discovery and a new lease on life. \$22.95 cl, 1-57322-032-9, Putnam/Riverhead.

Whitman's Men: Walt Whitman's Calamus Poems Celebrated by Contemporary Photographers, essays by David Groff and Richard Berman — The pairing of Whitman's purest, most erotic poems and the work of eight young photographers makes for a

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unique book, ideal for romantics and gift-givers. \$18.95 pb, 0-7893-0022-2, June, Rizzoli.

***Love Between Men** by Rik Isensee — This is a wonderful book to have back in print, a self-help book for men in relationships, and one of the best of its kind, based on years of the author's clinical experience. \$12.95 pb, 1-55583-362-4, Alyson.

***The New Gay Book of Lists** by Leigh W. Rutledge — Smart lists, sassy lists, learned lists, surprising lists: this is a must for any reference section. \$11.95 pb, 1-55583-359-4, Alyson.

***Dancing With Dogs and Mozart: Meditations on Life, Death and the AIDS Epidemic** by Michael Freiberg — Fierce poems, presented in calligraphic style and illustrated by the author, take the reader inside the world of an AIDS survivor. \$9.95 pb, 1-55583-360-8, July, Alyson.

The Ethics of Marginality: A New Approach to Gay Studies by John Champagne — Using both film and philosophy, the author argues that celebration of the oppressed (us) by the oppressors may not be such a good thing. \$19.95 pb, 0-8166-2533-6, University of Minnesota.

***Queer Noises: Male and Female Homosexuality in Twentieth-Century Music** by John Gill — A personal account of one gay critic's sense of self in relation to the music of his era. \$19.95 pb, 0-8166-2334-1, University of Minnesota.

The Gay Critic by Hubert Fichte — The late German critic's musings on a pantheon of writers filters the likes of Sophocles, Marlowe, Casanova and Borges through an unabashedly gay eye. \$19.95 pb, 0-472-08340-6, University of Michigan.

***The Lavender Vote: Lesbians, Gay Men and Bisexuals in American Electoral Politics** by Mark Hertzog — An analysis and projection of les/gay/bi voting patterns, by gosh. \$18.95 pb, 0-8147-3530-4, August, New York University.

RePresenting Bisexualities: Subjects and Cultures of Fluid Desire edited by Maria Pramaggiore and Donald E. Hall — As bisexual images, and people, become more visible, the question is begged: Is there an understanding of what it means to be bisexual in a monosexual culture? \$18.95 pb, 0-8147-6634-X, New York University.

***The Drag Queens of New York: An Illustrated Field Guide** by Julian Fleisher — No well-dressed gender section can do without this account of the

ecosystem of Manhattan drag. \$13 pb, 1-57322-552-5, August, Putnam/Riverhead.

***The Gay Almanac** compiled by the National Museum and Archive of Lesbian and Gay History, a program of the Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center, New York — Four hundred pages of facts and figures, and another indispensable for the reference section. (\$15.95 pb, 0-425-15300-2, June, Berkley.) And there's a companion volume, **The Lesbian Almanac**. (\$15.95 pb, 0-425-15301-0, June, Berkley.)

***Truth Serum** by Bernard Cooper — I've praised Cooper's previous essay collection (*Maps to Anywhere*) and first novel (*A Year of Rhymes*); this second work of essays/memoirs is chilling in its truth and charming in its style. \$21.95 cl, 0-395-74539-X, Houghton Mifflin.

***HIV, AIDS, and the Law: A Guide to Our Rights and Challenges** by Mark S. Senak — From a lawyer who has counseled people with AIDS for more than ten years, an up-to-date look at laws that matter. \$15.95 pb, 0-306-45269-3, DaCapo/Plenum/Insight.

***Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Identities Over the Lifespan: Psychological Perspectives** edited by Anthony R. D'Augelli and Charlotte J. Patterson — Relationships and community issues as well as personal development are the focus of this collection of writing on a spectrum of identities. \$18.95 pb, 0-19-510899-X, Oxford University Press.

***Homosexuality and Christian Community** edited by Choon-Leong Seow — Members of the Princeton Theological Seminary faculty discuss such issues as queer ordination, the blessing of gay unions and the role of God in a pluralistic culture. \$14.99 pb, 0-664-25664-3, Westminster/John Knox.



***Biblical Ethics and Homosexuality: Listening to Scripture** edited by Robert L. Brawley — An array of notable biblical scholars survey the scriptures to discern how the Bible's words might be applied to thorny ethical and sexual questions. \$16.99 pb, 0-664-25638-4, Westminster/John Knox.

***We Were Baptized Too: Claiming God's Grace for Lesbians and Gays** by Marilyn Bennett Alexander and James Preston (with a foreword by South African Bishop Desmond Tutu) — Personal testimony, prayers and thoughtful commentary telling the church, in

essence, that we're here, we're queer, get over it. \$16.99 pb, 0-664-25628-7, Westminster/John Knox.

***Uncommon Calling: A Gay Christian's Struggle to Serve the Church** by Chris Glaser — The fourth title in a strong pro-gay season for Westminster/John Knox is a welcome new edition of a gay Christian's personal coming out. \$19.99 pb, 0-664-25659-7, Westminster/John Knox.

God's Gym: Divine Male Bodies in the Bible by Stephen Moore — Perhaps my favorite title of the season: a personal and theological look at the concept of male perfectibility. \$16.95 pb, 0-415-91757-3, August, Routledge.

Blending Genders: Social Aspects of Cross-Dressing and Sex-Changing edited by Richard Elkins and David King — Sexuality's newest cutting edge gets an academic overview. \$17.95 pb, 0-415-11552-3, Routledge.



Culture and Sexual Risk edited by Han ten Brummelhuis and Gilbert Herdt — Among other topics, this pricey paperback discusses the impact of AIDS on anthropological studies. \$29.95 pb, 2-88449-131-7, Gordon & Breach.

Word's Out: Gay Men's English by William Leap — How gay men's English is different from straight men's English is one of the topics studied in this fascinating look at language and orientation. \$17.95 pb, 0-8166-2253-1, University of Minnesota.

Beyond the Lavender Lexicon: Authenticity, Imagination and Appropriation in Lesbian and Gay Languages edited by William Leap — Fifteen essays by linguists, historians and anthropologists set forth the premise that "there are indeed lesbian/gay languages." \$25 cl 2-88449-180-5, Gordon & Breach.

Massengill by Reed Massengill and **Bianchi** by Tom Bianchi — Two more in St. Martin's new series of palm-sized and pretty tasteful male nude photobooks: good books to stock if you have customers looking for gifts for their men friends. \$12 cl, 0-312-14367-2/-11809-0, July, Stonewall Inn/St. Martin's.

***Freedom, Glorious Freedom** by John J. McNeil — Paperback edition of McNeil's writings on coming out, spirituality, gay unions, gays in the military and more. (\$14 pb, 0-8070-7937-5, Beacon Press.) Also available,

now in uniform editions, are ***The Church and the Homosexual** (fourth edition, \$14 pb, 0-8070-7931-6, Beacon Press) and ***Taking a Chance on God** (new preface, \$14 pb, 0-8070-7945-6, Beacon Press).

***Queer Spirits: A Gay Man's Myth Book** edited by Will Roscoe — A collection of work on the myths and spirits within gay men. \$15 pb, 0-8070-7939-1, Beacon Press.

***Radically Gay: Gay Liberation in the Words of Its Founder** edited by Will Roscoe — The first collection of the work of Harry Hay, honored as a founder of the modern gay movement, includes interviews, speeches, papers and more, an archive of 50 years of committed activism. \$27 cl, 0-8070-7080-7, Beacon Press.

***Cracks in the Iron Closet: Travels in Gay and Lesbian Russia** by David Tuller — This is travel writing at its best: a skilled journalist blending caring reporting and personal narrative to tell of gay life in another culture through the lives of the women and men he meets. \$24.95 cl, 0-571-19890-2, June, Faber & Faber.

***Journeys and Arrivals: On Being Gay and Jewish** by Lev Raphael — Essays on how the author's two worlds overlap, occasionally conflict and often inspire him. \$19.95 cl, 0-571-19882-1, Faber & Faber.

***Strength in Numbers: A Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Resource** — It's been a good twelve months for queer resource material: this book, from a reference publisher, provides both contact addresses and descriptions of hundreds of organizations, as well as short profiles of the arts, family, health, legal issues and more. \$16.95 pb, 0-7876-0881-5, Visible Ink.

***Serbian Diaries** by Boris L. Davidovich — What has the Balkan War meant for gay people in the cities of the former Yugoslavia? asks the author, a Belgrade university teacher, in a unique look at a gay sexual and cultural existence so very different from that of North America. \$14.95 pb, 0-85449-222-4, Gay Men's Press, Login/InBook.

The Kama Sutra of Gay Sex by Bjorn Andersen and Dr. Ray Lightbown — One hundred pages of position-photos, along with a how-to text. \$30 pb, 0-9524647-0-5, Prowler Press, Koen/Inland.

Planet Boys: The Most Beautiful Boys on the Planet by Barry Cranwell — Photo book: a book with photos. This one wins the redundant-title prize; but

it's a fine collection of male fashion-model work. \$30 pb, 0-9524647-1-3, Prowler Press, Koen/Inland.

The Journal of John Wieners is/to/be/called by John Wieners — A previously unknown journal by a noted American gay poet. \$12.95 pb, 1-55713-252-6, Sun & Moon.

***The Unsinkable Bambi Lake: A Fairy Tale Containing the Dish on Cockettes, Punks and Angels** by Bambi Lake with Alvin Orloff — Suburban innocent Johnny Purcell transforms himself into living Bay Area legend Bambi Lake, a she-male star born in the anything-goes 70s. \$13.95 pb, 0-916397-42-4, Manic D.

Man Enough to Be Woman: The Autobiography of Jayne County by Jayne County with Rupert Smith — The life of the original rock and roll transsexual. \$17.99 pb, 1-85242-338-2, High Risk/Serpent's Tail.

***The Ultimate Guide to Lesbian and Gay Film and Video** edited by Jenni Olson — The former co-director of the San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival provides info on more than 2,000 works. \$25 pb, 1-85242-339-0, June, High Risk/Serpent's Tail.

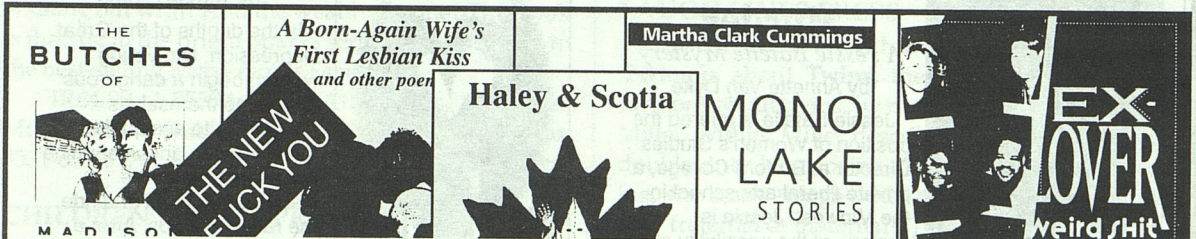
***Being Different: Lambda Youths Speak Out** by

Larry Dane Brimmer — The personal narratives of lesbian, gay and bi young women and men. \$15 cl, 0-531-11222-5, Franklin Watts.

***Open Lives Safe Schools** edited by Donovan R. Walling — Good news: an excellent collection of writing on gay issues in education, a must for any teacher anywhere. Bad news: a \$30 paperback. 0-87367-485-5, Phi Delta Kappa, Alamo Square.



My favorite lesbian novel for this issue is Margaret Erhart's **Courtship** (or maybe it's **Old Love**, which was the better title on the galley I read); whatever the name, though, it's a smooth and thoughtful book which looks at life from the shifting perspectives of a wife, her husband, their children and the next-door gay neighbor. This is Erhart's third fiction, after her out-of-print debut *Unusual Company* and the sublime *Augusta Cotton*, a Zoland Books title which also seems to be out of stock. \$23 cl, 1-883642-07-8, Steerforth Press/National Book Network. ○



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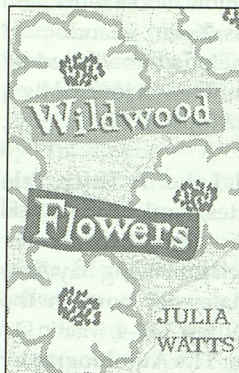
by Linda Hill

Computer analyst, Leslie Howard, knows all too well that the fastest way to a broken heart is to ignore Lesbian Dating Rule Number One: *Never, ever, get involved with a straight woman.* Yet, despite her better judgement, and serious warnings from her friends, she finds herself

battling a growing infatuation with her very straight—and very attractive—co-worker Sara Stevens.

Haunted by memories of past rejection, Leslie is understandably hesitant about coming out to Sara, yet she doesn't want to jeopardize their friendship by being dishonest about who she is. When Leslie finally trusts Sara enough to tell her she's a lesbian, Sara fulfills Leslie's worst fears and cuts her off. But not for the reason Leslie thinks.

ISBN 1-56280-126-0 \$10.95



Wildwood Flowers

by Julia Watts

When Bev's lover Andie receives an assistant professorship at a Christian-affiliated college, Bev does her best to be supportive. But she isn't too thrilled about the prospect of moving from Boston's lesbian ghetto to the small town of Morgan, Kentucky.

Before she and Andie are even unpacked, a nosy neighbor is at the door with a welcoming cake and a basketful of personal questions. Bev is shocked when Andie tells the women that the two of them are cousins—and mortified when the woman promises to set them up with all the eligible men in town, beginning with her grandson Cricket, the local mortician.

Thus begins a hilarious and heartwarming tale of lesbian culture shock, the resiliency of true love, and the maddening gap between coming out and being out.

ISBN 1-56280-127-9 \$10.95



Hooded Murder

A *Jessie Batelle Mystery*

by Annette Van Dyke

Jessie Batelle is offered the position of Women's Studies Director at Burford College, a private liberal arts school in the Midwest. Jessie is ecstatic at the possibility of living and working in a supportive, women-centered environment. What she finds

instead is a fraternity-dominated atmosphere where pornographic flyers and graffiti are considered harmless pranks, and where the lesbian faculty is less than supportive. Professor Joyce Barnette (nicknamed "the lesbian vampire") is found dead in a staged accident. When the official investigation proves fruitless, Jessie decides to do a little sleuthing on her own. But the solution is much closer to home than Jessie realizes. . .

ISBN 1-56280-134-1 \$10.95



Side Tracks

by Teresa Stores

In the depths of the Great Depression, two young women begin a dangerous journey to themselves...

Unwilling to accept their fates, Maxine and Josephine run away from home disguised as boys and ride the rails as hobos. After a chance meeting in a boxcar, "Joe" and "Max" decide to travel together, each believing the other is really a

boy unlike any of the other boys she's known. As the trains meander through the maze of silver tracks, the wanderers grow closer...and begin to fall in love.

The side track is a place of change, diversion, a backstage waiting room for the right switch, the right engine, the string of cars with a similar destination. And for Max and Jo, the true ride to freedom begins when they cross the boundaries they cannot see...

ISBN 1-56280-122-8 \$10.95

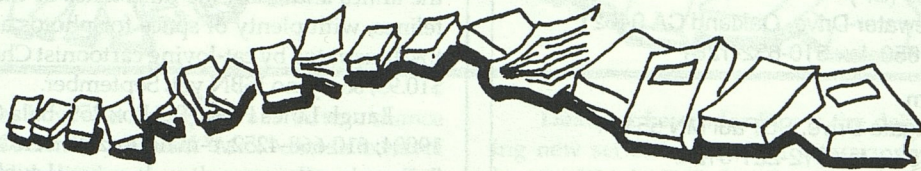


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In *After the Famine* by Colette McCormack, the famine years are hard for Mary-Anne to forget, but now she is building a new life for herself in the New World. New York offers a lot to a young girl — but there are also strange and unknown dangers facing the immigrants crowded into the hazardous, hellish sweatshops of the city.... And then Sean Thornton, her beloved schoolmaster, is beginning to realise that Mary-Anne is no longer a little girl.... But what about Tim O'Connor, the handsome young policeman she is walking out with? And the wealthy Janine? This book is the 21st in the Bright Sparks series and is a sequel to the best-selling *Mary-Anne's Famine*.

IRE£4.99, 1-85594-142-2. Attic Press, 29 Upper Mount Street, Dublin 2, Ireland; 3531-661-6128, fax 3531-661-6176, e-mail (Atticirl@iol.ie). —Attic Press

CHILDREN'S BOOK PRESS

In *Prietita and the Ghost Woman (Prietita y la Llorona)* Gloria Anzaldúa (*Friends From the Other Side/ Amigos del Otro Lado*) reinterprets one of the most famous Mexican legends — the story of *la Llorona*, the ghost woman. Surrounded by the live oak and prickly pear of the Texas woods, Prietita discovers that *la Llorona* is not what people expect but, rather, a compassionate woman who helps Prietita on her path. In this magical story, Prietita's search for the healing rue plant turns into a powerful journey of self-discovery. Beautifully illustrated by Christina Gonzalez. Bilingual in English and Spanish. \$14.95 cl, 0-89239-136-7.

Two Mrs. Gibsons is author Toyomi Igus' tender and touching tribute to the two most important women in her life — her Japanese mother and her African American grandmother. From memories of

grandmother's big bear hugs to mother's light down-filled comforter hugs, from listening to grandmother's lively spirituals to mother's soft lullabies, from playing with grandmother's fancy going-to-Sunday-meeting hats to trying on mother's kimonos, Toyomi celebrates the joys and rich diversity of growing up mixed race. Gorgeous illustrations by Daryl Wells. \$14.95 cl, 0-89239-135-9.

40% for 5-14; 42% for 15+. Children's Book Press, 246 First Street #101, San Francisco CA 94105; 415-995-2200. Distributed by BP, Koen, Ingram, B&T, Pacific Pipeline. —JT

LAUGH LINES PRESS

You'll double up with laughter over *Twin 'Toons: Cartoons about Twins*, the first-ever collection of cartoons about twins, by mother-of-twins Nancy Bea Miller. Within, Miller describes that first ultrasound, double-duty labor pains, "his and hers" breastfeeding, the crazy things other people say ("Twins! Are they fraternal or maternal?") and, of course, the perils

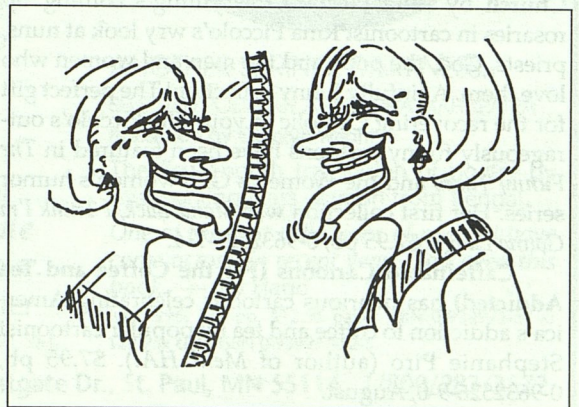


Illustration by Eliane Mauerberg-deCastro, from *Women in Motion* (Women of Diversity Productions).

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of telling the kids apart. Miller's cartoons have been featured in *The Funny Times* and *Liberty Moms*, as well as in *Men Are From Detroit/Women Are From Paris*. This is her first cartoon collection. **Twin Toons** is a perfect gift book for moms who are expecting twins, as well as a nice sanity-saving gift-of-laughter book for moms who have given birth to twins. \$7.95 pb, 0-9632526-8-2.



Kicking the Habit: Cartoons About the Catholic Church by Rina Piccolo. Everything's coming up rosaries in cartoonist Rina Piccolo's wry look at nuns, priests, God, the pope and the men and women who love them. A sinfully funny collection! The perfect gift for the recovering Catholic in your life. Piccolo's outrageously funny cartoons have been featured in *The Funny Times* and the Women's Glib women's humor series. Her first collection was *Stand Back, I Think I'm Gonna Laugh*. \$7.95 pb, 0-9632526-7-4.

Caffeinated Cartoons (For the Coffee and Tea Addicted) has hilarious cartoons celebrating America's addiction to coffee and tea by popular cartoonist Stephanie Piro (author of *Men! HA!*). \$7.95 pb, 0-9632526-9-0, August.

Meow-Mories: A Place for Kitten Notes and Cat Fancies Recorded by Non-biological Parents of

Fabulous Felines by Julia Willis, with illustrations by Chris Suddick, is a charming and humorous "baby book" where those nonbiological parents can record the antics and mark the milestones of their fabulous felines, with plenty of space for photos and mementos. Illustrated by cat-loving cartoonist Chris Suddick. \$10.95, sorry, no ISBN yet, September.

Laugh Lines Press, PO Box 259, Bala Cynwyd PA 19004; 610-668-4252; e-mail <RozWarren@AOL.com>.
—Laugh Lines Press

MADWOMAN PRESS

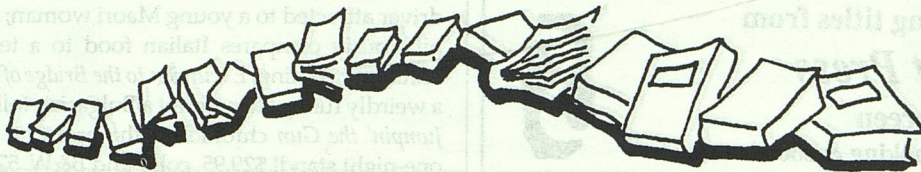
For all those readers who called after reading *Thin Fire* and asked for more books by Nanci Little, we're happy to offer **The Grass Widow**. Set in Kansas in 1876, Little's second novel explores a lesbian relationship in a time when there were no clearly defined archetypes to which women could look when they discovered that they were 'different.' When Aidan Blackstone, unmarried and pregnant, arrives in tiny Washburn Station, Kansas, she is met by her distant relative Joss Bodett. To Joss, who has just lost her family to an influenza outbreak, Aidan, trained to be a rich man's wife, seems at first to be only one more obstacle in her struggle to keep and run her family's farm. Joss' fierce independence and preference for men's clothing mark her as singularly unconventional — a woman misplaced in her time. But fate isn't entirely fickle, and with Aidan, Joss finds first support, then friendship and finally love. \$12.95 pb, 1-886231-01-X. Madwoman Press, PO Box 690, Northboro MA 01532; 508-393-3447, fax 508-393-8305, e-mail <76620.460@compuserve.com>.

—Madwoman Press

NAIAD PRESS

We're proud to announce *the* lesbian literary event of the year: the long-awaited release of Margaret Anderson's **Forbidden Fires!** This never-before-published novel by the legendary editor of *The Little Review* fictionalizes an episode contemporary with — and totally absent from — Anderson's well-known autobiographies. Editor Mathilde Hill's personal account — part mystery, part romance — of her quest for the manuscript is as remarkable as the novel itself. **Forbidden Fires** includes 100 rare photographs from Margaret Anderson's personal collection. \$21.95 cl, 1-56280-123-6.

In Teresa Stores' **Side Tracks** two young women struggle to survive the Great Depression by disguising



themselves as boys and riding the rails. After a chance meeting in a boxcar, "Joe" and "Max" decide to travel together, each believing the other is really a boy. Full of adventure and genderbending romance, *Side Tracks* is guaranteed to be even more popular than Stores' bestseller, *Getting to the Point*. \$10.95 pb, 1-56280-122-8, June.

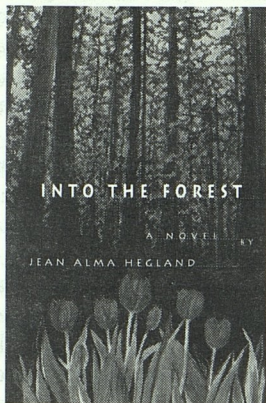
Your romance and mystery readers will say: "Yes, Yes, Yes!" to Judith McDaniel's *Yes, I Said, Yes I Will*, the hot follow-up to her hugely successful debut novel, *Just Say Yes*. The passionate love affair between openly lesbian Unitarian minister Rachel Smythe and deeply closeted government administrator Susan Meyers is tested when Susan (a recovering alcoholic and drug addict) is arrested in a statewide drug bust. \$10.95 pb, 1-56280-138-4, July.

Death at Lavender Bay is the debut of a thrilling new series by Lambda Literary Award winner Lauren Wright Douglas. From the moment Allison O'Neil inherits her Aunt Grace's bed-and-breakfast, she is haunted by the feeling that things are not what they seem. Her worst fears are realized when she discovers that Aunt Grace drowned while snorkeling — an unlikely pursuit for a woman who couldn't swim and was terrified of the water... \$10.95 pb, 1-56280-085-X, July.

NAIAD VIDEO

Just out, *Women From Down Under*, a compilation of four short lesbian films by lesbian film directors from Australia and New Zealand. *Peach* stars Lucy Lawless (TV's *Zena: Warrior Princess*) as a sexy truck

CALYX BOOKS



INTO THE FOREST

a novel by Jean Hegland

Two girls learn to survive alone after the collapse of society.

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— Riane Eisler

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ANOTHER SPRING, DARKNESS:

SELECTED POEMS BY ANURADHA MAHAPATRA
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The first English translation of poetry by this working-class woman from Bengal.

One of the best collections of poetry I have come across in recent years. You need this book. — Joy Harjo

July 1996. 112 pp. \$12.95 paper ISBN 0-934971-51-x;
\$22.95x cloth ISBN 0-934971-52-8.

Distributed to the trade by CONSORTIUM, 1045 Westgate Dr., St. Paul, MN 55114; 1/800/283/3572

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New Spring titles from

Scarlet Press**Smoke Screen****Women, smoking & social control***Lorraine Greaves*

Using historical and social analysis and giving voice to women smokers' views, *Smoke Screen* provides a starting point for theorising women's smoking.

'...Greaves argues passionately and convincingly for a woman-centred approach to smoking prevention and cessation programmes.' Amanda Sandford of

Action on Smoking and Health

144pp ISBN 1-85727-058-4 \$14.95

**Lesbians Talk****Detonating the Nuclear Family***Julia Brosnan*

With a range of lesbian voices, from lesbian mothers to activists involved in the family debate, this pamphlet deconstructs the nuclear family and offers positive insight into new patterns of relating, parenting and caring.

64pp ISBN 1-85727-028-2 \$8.95

Fighting Spirit**The stories of women in the Bristol Breast Cancer Survey***Heather Goodare (ed)*

In 1990 a study was published that appeared to show that women with breast cancer who attended the Bristol Cancer Help Centre and who received both alternative and orthodox treatment, fared worse than women given orthodox treatment alone. In an unprecedented example of patient power, the women in this study challenged the results and their four year campaign has resulted in new guidelines for the funding by charities of medical research. For the first time they speak directly about their experience.

'[Fighting Spirit] is a powerful and moving testimony of the courage and determination of women who want to take responsibility for their lives and have some control over their well being.' Jean Corston, Member of Parliament for Bristol East

168pp ISBN 1-85727-033-9 \$15.95

All available from InBook, Division of LPC group

driver attracted to a young Maori woman; *Just Desserts* hilariously compares Italian food to a teenage girl's sexual awakening; *Excursion to the Bridge of Friendship* is a weirdly funny story about a Bulgarian folksinger; and *Jumpin' the Gun* chronicles "the morning after" a hot one-night stand! \$29.95, color and B&W, 52 minutes.

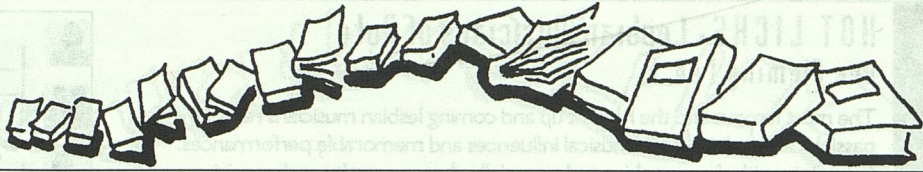


Northern Arts/Naiad Press has acquired another in its line of new feature length films by signing Megan Siler's romantic and delightful **The Midwife's Tale**. This long-ago and far-away movie uses the clever device of telling a romantic lesbian love story as a bedtime story with a surprise ending. **The Midwife's Tale** was widely seen at Gay and Lesbian film festivals in 1995 and 1996. Lady Eleanor is a headstrong noblewoman who falls in love with the village midwife. When accusations of witchcraft lead to the midwife's imprisonment, the damsels in distress plot an escape, and with a twist of fairy tale fate the two women live happily-ever-after. Winner of "The Emerging Talent Award" at the LA Gay and Lesbian Film Festival. Release date sometime this fall. Price will probably be in line with *Devotion* and *Costa Brava*.

Knowing the need for rental and sell-through titles at a reasonable price, Northern Arts/Naiad will also release, in time for ABA, a new compilation tape, **I Became a Lesbian & Others Too** featuring four short films: *Heat Wave*...the joys and torments of being in love with the girl next door. *Cat Nip*...what they discovered about grandmother and her torrid youth (plus ten cats co-star with the people). *Le Poisson d'Amour*...pleasures and pitfalls of lesbian life. *I Became a Lesbian*...(and you can too!). (52 minutes, \$29.95 with the usual discount.) These are all lesbian films, clearly directed at your audience. Watch your Naiad Press flyers for more details.

When Night Is Falling, Patricia Rozema's (*I've Heard the Mermaids Singing*) new film, will be released on video August 27. Even at \$89.95, this video should sell excellently. It is a classic lesbian film that promises to be around for a long, long time and will surely rival *Desert Hearts* and *Claire of the Moon* in popularity.

We will see you at ABA in booths #756 and #757. In addition to our usual carton cutters, we will be giving out posters for a number of films. 50% discount. The Naiad Press, PO Box 10543, Tallahassee



FL 32302; 800-533-1973. Distributed by BP, Ingram, Login/InBook, Koen/Inland, Airlift (London), Stilone Pty, Ltd (Australia, New Zealand). —*Naiad Press*



ONLYWOMEN PRESS

Our delayed titles (they were typeset when arts grant funding was summarily withdrawn two years ago) *Volcanoes and Pearl Divers* edited Suzanne Raitt and *An Intimacy of Equals: Lesbian Feminist Ethics* edited by Lilian Mohin have now gone into co-editions with The Haworth Press under their Harrington Park Press imprint. *V&PD* is in the U.S. now and *An Intimacy Of Equals* will be shipped in a few weeks when both editions (U.K. and U.S.) are completed by our printers. I'm really grateful The Haworth Press will get these books to the American audience that I know has been waiting for them. (The rights purchase helped our cash flow, too.)

We've had terrific reviews (over here) for our first two crime novels, *Burning Issues* by Meg Kelly and *Dirty Work* by Vivien Kelly (no relation). In speaking of our new list, *Everywoman* said, "Their first title is a stunner." *Gay Community News* (Ireland) said *Dirty Work* is "a real page turner...filled with interesting characters.... For anyone who enjoys good lesbian detective fiction."

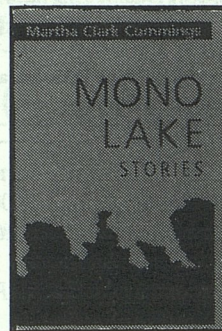
And a journal for aficionados of crime literature, *A Shot in the Dark*, described *Burning Issues* as: "Crime-noir with an authentic British accent. It is also very much a book about women's lives that avoids stereotypes and rings true with a vulnerable, believable protagonist. A notable first novel."

How are these *very* British novels read/seen/liked in the U.S? I'm particularly keen to know because our lead title for this summer, *Fearful Symmetry* by Tash Fairbanks, is another paperback original in the Onlywomen crime list of contemporary, British, lesbian detective fiction. (It's due from our printers by the end of March, with shipping time

to Login/InBook in Chicago it means May or June availability in the U.S.) *Fearful Symmetry* is set in Brighton, with its high profile gay communities and famous Victorian sea front. A monster foetus in the woods adjacent to a genetic engineering laboratory? Nonsense. But the very idea excites the gutter press, threatens the reputation of a Brighton research company and provides cover for at least one murder. Sam Carter, a street-savvy lesbian, is the private investigator who sifts through the suspects: religious fundamentalists, gay sadists and an androgynous adolescent runaway, until, finally, Sam puts her own life on the line in pursuit of the killer. This is an atmospheric, densely written first novel from playwright Tash Fairbanks. \$11.99 pb, 0-906500-54-0.

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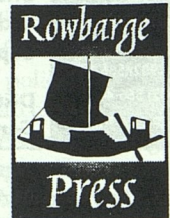


Mono Lake: Stories

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This collection is a true celebration, not only of lesbian life and love, but of all life and love.

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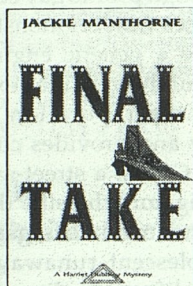


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HOT LICKS: Lesbian Musicians of Note

Lee Fleming (ed.)

The most famous and the hottest up and coming lesbian musicians reveal their passions and politics, their musical influences and memorable performances. Complete with discographies and a specially chosen song by each musician *Hot Licks* is the perfect gift for anyone interested in the current lesbian music scene.
Sept. 1996 128 pp 8 x 10 40 B&W photos ISBN 0-921881-42-8 \$24.95



FINAL TAKE: A Harriet Hubble Mystery

Jackie Manthorne

Harry is adjusting to single life, and the International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival in San Francisco seems like the ideal place to lick her wounds. Sex, lies and jealousy mix with hot movies, until a mysterious deadly fall awakens Harry's sleuthing instincts.

Sept. 1996 192 pp 5 1/2 x 8 1/2 ISBN 0-921881-41-X \$10.95

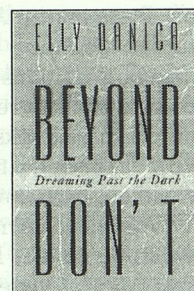
BEYOND DON'T: Dreaming Past the Dark

Elly Danica

Elly Danica, renowned author of *Don't: A Woman's Word*, once again lends her unwavering voice to speak the truth about child sexual abuse. In this, her long-awaited second book, she responds powerfully to the backlash against survivors and moves beyond telling to a new model for living.

Sept. 1996 192 pp 5 1/2 x 8 1/2 ISBN 0-921881-40-1 \$14.95

Distributed in the USA by InBook, a division of LPC and in Canada by General Distribution Services.



Onlywomen Press, Ltd., 40 St. Lawrence Terrace,
London W10 5ST, England; 0181-960-7122, fax 0181-
960-2817, e-mail (100756.1242@compuserve.com).
Distributed by Koen/Inland and Login/InBook.

—Onlywomen Press



PRESS GANG PUBLISHERS

Press Gang will publish a new, expanded edition of *Restricted Entry: Censorship on Trial* by Janine Fuller and Stuart Blackley with a new chapter on the legal decision in the case between Little Sisters' bookstore and Canada Customs, as well as an index. It will be out for ABA. \$16.95, C\$18.95, 0-88974-066-6. Press Gang Publishers, #101-225 East

17th Avenue, Vancouver BC V5V 1A6, Canada; 604-
876-7787, fax 604-876-7892.

—Press Gang

RAINBOW POTLUCK ENTERPRISES

Granny Dyke's Guide to Potluck Cuisine by Granny Dyke (aka Sherrienne Pierce) is a cookbook for those needing assistance with dish preparation for potluck-style events. Perfect for the dyke who suffers great depression when invited to a potluck and finds out someone else already plans to bring the chips. Recipes are suitable for every occasion where a potluck is part of the event, and for other meals as well. Most of the dishes have been simplified and take only a short time to prepare. \$10 pb. 45% for 6+. Rainbow Potluck Enterprises, 2444 Floral Road NW, Albuquerque NM 87104; 505-246-9806.

—JT



SEAL PRESS

Night Bites edited by Victoria A. Brownworth collects 16 never-before-published short stories revealing the vampire mythos through a female gaze: from insatiable vampires to uncommon victims. Contributors include Nikki Baker, Victoria A. Brownworth, Terri de la Peña, Mabel Maney, Ruthann Robson, Susanna J. Sturgis. For queer, bi, and hetero fans of vampire blood and lust. \$12.95 pb, 1-878067-71-0. Seal Press, 3131 Western Avenue #410, Seattle WA 98121. Distributed by PGW. —JT

UPPITY WOMEN PUBLISHING

Listen to Women for a Change: Every Woman's Handbook by Lee Byrd and Yvonne Kranz is a guide of inspirational and motivational axioms and quotations by women and men designed to assist women in their search for empowerment. Created to provide a constant reminder that the light at the end of the tunnel is not a train — that within women is the power to create our own reality. \$6 wholesale, \$10 retail, 0-9644942-0-5. Uppity Women Publishing, PO Box 400174, Hesperia CA 92340; 619-948-5046. Distributed by BP, Koen/Inland. —JT

VOLCANO PRESS

Wars I Have Seen: The Play in Three Acts, with Selected Stories by Esther Silverstein Blanc is a moving, eloquent depiction of her life and activities as a nurse and healer from the author of the award-winning children's book *Berchick*. The "wars" take place in three hospital wards. The first, during the San Francisco waterfront strike of 1936; the second on the front-line in the Spanish civil war; and the third during World War II, where Esther was a lieutenant. The short stories include: "The

Librarian," a love story every librarian will cherish; "The Boy Who Made Love to his Mother's Brassiere," a wry commentary on psychiatry in the 30s; and "Moreno: Spain Revisited." \$12.95 pb, 0-912078-80-4.

The 1996 update of *Menopause, Naturally: Preparing for the Second Half of Life* by Sadjia Greenwood includes exciting new discoveries about menopause in relation to soybeans, the complete source of protein. Gloria Steinem called *Menopause, Naturally* "the unique, common sense guide for this rite of passage." And the *San Francisco Chronicle* wrote "Greenwood's gift for weaving compassion and hard facts continues to make this book the bible of its kind." Women everywhere will rejoice! \$14.95 pb, 1-884244-05-X.

Walking On Eggshells: Practical Counseling for Women in or Leaving a Violent Relationship by Dr. Brian Ogawa is "easily the best book I have ever used with victims.... Rather than focusing on theory or analyzing the individuals who tend to be involved in violent relationships, Ogawa gives the victims a voice," says Helen M. Thueson, Director of Victim Services at

the Waco, Texas, police department. Developed for successful use in the Victim/Witness Assistance Program on Maui, *Walking on Eggshells* has a tone particularly relevant for women of differing cultures. Priced low for bulk sales. \$8.95 pb, 1-884244-11-4.

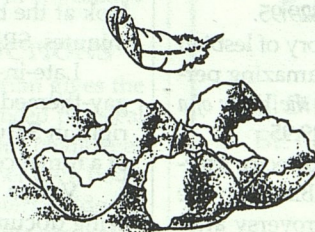
Volcano Press, PO Box 270, Volcano CA 95689; 206-296-3345, fax 209-296-4515. Distributed by BP, Ingram, B&T, Pacific Pipeline.

—Volcano Press

WOLFE VIDEO

In *Wild Side*, a young woman who is a corporate banker by day and prostitute by night gets involved in a money-laundering scheme. This totally unpredictable

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In this departure from her bestselling Isis series, Jean Stewart has written a warmhearted, gritty, enormously readable novel of contemporary lesbigay life—about the meaning of community and family; about the walls we erect around our hearts; & about the healing, redemptive powers of love.

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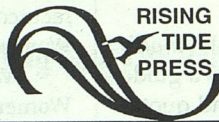
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ROUGH JUSTICE

Claire Youmans

Some people in Salmon Bay, a quiet coastal town near Seattle, have no regrets when Glen Lowry is lost at sea. But four years later, when his sunken fishing boat turns up, foul play is suspected.

Classy, ambitious Prosecutor Janet Schilling launches a murder investigation which produces several surprising suspects—one of them her own former lover Catherine Adams, now living a reclusive life on Seal Rock Island.

Filled with the beauty and danger of the sea and unexpected plot twists, *Rough Justice* poses an intriguing question: Is murder ever justified?

ISBN 1-883061-10-5; \$10.99; 5/96

suspenser fits its title, with beautiful, no-holds-barred love scenes between Joan Chen and Anne Heche. Surprising plot twists. SRP \$96.98.



Back by popular demand...and with price reductions, too:

In **Nitrate Kisses**, Barbara Hammer weaves archival footage with contemporary images of the sexual activities of four lesbian and gay couples in a sexy and haunting documentary. 67 minutes, SRP \$29.95.

Extramuros is a fascinating, dark story of lesbian love behind convent walls featuring an amazing performance by Carmen Maura (*Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown*). 120 minutes, SRP \$29.95.

Tongues Untied is Emmy-winning director Marlon Riggs' unprecedented exploration of Black gay life that became the center of national controversy after Pat Buchanan attacked its PBS broadcast. 55 minutes, SRP \$39.95.

Boys Shorts showcases six of the finest gay shorts produced in this decade, including a steamy tribute to

the 70s world of promiscuous disco, a slick comedy about coming out, an elegant film about the fears of HIV testing and other treasures. 119 minutes, SRP \$39.95.

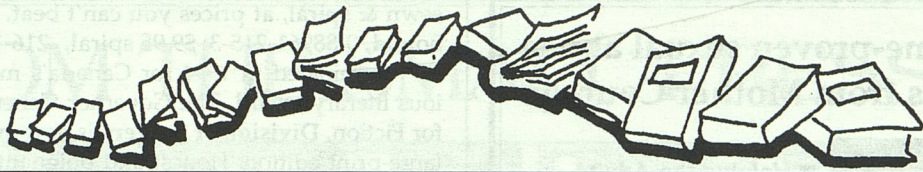
In **Together Alone** an intimate conversation takes place after two men have gone home together for a one-night stand, capturing the thrill, alienation and vulnerability of their chance encounter. Winner for Best Feature at the 1991 San Francisco Lesbian and Gay Film Festival. 87 minutes, SRP \$39.95.

Homo Promo is an incredibly entertaining crash course in gay and lesbian movie history and a colorful look at the best (and the worst) from Hollywood. 62 minutes, SRP \$39.95.

Late-in-life romances aren't featured too often in gay-themed movies, but Anne Claire Poirier puts it right in **Salut Victor**, a delicate, charming tear-jerker of a romance between two older gay men. SRP \$39.95.

Voices From the Front is an energetic, empowering documentary about AIDS activism in the U.S. SRP \$39.95.

Westler is a romantic and historic story of love across the Berlin Wall. Felix, a West Berliner, falls in love on a day trip to East Berlin with Thomas, a young man



with a beautiful smile and soulful eyes. SRP \$39.95.

She's Safe, SRP \$29.95; **Even Cowgirls Get the Blues**, SRP \$19.95; **Ballad of Little Joe**, SRP \$19.95; **The Incredibly True Adventure of Two Girls in Love**, SRP \$19.95, June; **Go Fish**, SRP \$29.95, June; **The Sum Of Us**, SRP \$29.95, July; and **Bar Girls**, SRP \$19.95, October.

Wolfe Video, 21640 Almaden Road, San Jose CA 95120; 408-268-6782, fax 408-268-9449, Web site: (<http://wolfevideo.com>). —Wolfe Video



WOMEN IN TRANSLATION

The Cockatoo's Lie by Marion Bloem (translated by Wanda Boeke) addresses the perplexing issue of cultural identity through the lens of a mixed-race Dutch woman searching for her identity. Melanie is a second-generation Indonesian born in the Netherlands who, through a letter to her ninety-year-old grandmother, sets down the stories of four generations of women, weaving the fabric of Indonesian culture with the historical facts of the turmoil Indonesia experienced during Dutch occupation. This, Bloem's fifth novel, is the first of her works to appear in English. \$11.95 pb, 1-879679-08-6. *Women in Translation*, 3131 Western Avenue #410, Seattle WA 98121; 206-286-8201, fax 206-285-9410. Distributed by Koen/Inland and Consortium. —*Women In Translation*

WOMEN OF DIVERSITY PRODUCTIONS

In **Woman in Motion**, Marlene Adrian gives the reader a personalized approach to enhanced physical wellness through self-awareness. Adrian challenges woman to develop acute awareness of her own body, its parts and how they interact. The chapters guide the reader to discover the joy of movement, the essence of self, personalized life spaces, vitalizing the cardiovascular system, strength in relaxation, and healthy eating choices — all for an integrated approach to self actualization. Great illustrations. \$11.95 pb, 1-884724-03-5;

\$18.95 cl, -04-3. 40% for 1+. Women of Diversity Productions, 421 Sandy Lane, Fort Worth TX 76120; 817-451-6615, fax 817-451-5879. —JT

WOMEN'S PRESS

Everywoman's Almanac continues to inspire dozens of imitators but after 21 years remains one of the best-selling women's datebooks on the market. The theme for 1997 is *New Attitude: Young Women and Feminism*, featuring women ages 14 to 24. It is a spicy, spunky and fun collection of interviews that cut to the heart of feminist issues in young women's lives. These young women strip back the rhetoric and dig up their realities; they share their sorrow and their pride, and entrust us with the sweet sensitivity of their everyday lives. Comes in two formats,

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sewn & spiral, at prices you can't beat. \$8.95 sewn bound, 0-88961-215-3; \$9.95 spiral, -216-1, June.

Nominated in 1994 for Canada's most prestigious literary award, The Governor General's Award for Fiction, **Division of Surgery** is now available in a large-print edition. Honest and poignant, this novel traces one woman's journey through and beyond her experience with a chronically painful and potentially fatal disease. Frequently subjected to surgery, Robin Carr struggles to retain the will to live, to enjoy life and to establish the boundaries of her life as she is willing to live it. \$13.95 pb, 0-88961-220-X.

Women's Press, 517 College Street #233, Toronto ONT M6G 4A2 Canada; 416-921-2425. Distributed in the U.S. by Login/InBook and in Canada by University of Toronto Press. —Women's Press

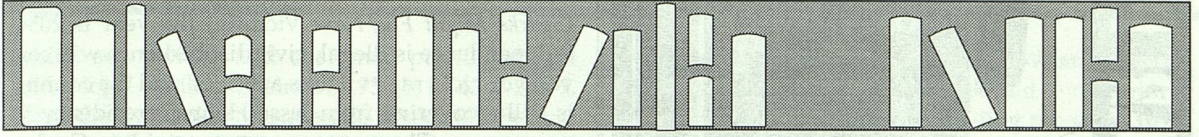


Some periodicals

Articles in **Feminist Collections: A Quarterly of Women's Studies Resources'** special issue on Women's Studies and Information Technology: Reports From the Field (vol. 17, #2, 1996) address: negotiating authorship in cyberspace, using information technology in feminist research, the changing gender gap in attitudes toward computers, using the Web as a women's studies resource, linking women in East Central Europe and the former Soviet Union, issues of privacy and the Web, and much more. \$3.50. Subscriptions to **Feminist Collections** (which include regular issues of *Feminist Periodicals* and *New Books on Women & Feminism*) are \$30 (individuals or nonprofit women's programs) or \$55 (institutions). UW System Women's Studies Librarian, 430 Memorial Library, 728 State Street, Madison WI 53706; 608-263-5754, e-mail <wiswsl@doit.wisc.edu>.

Rockgrl: information and inspiration for women in the music business is just that. Full of interviews, profiles, stories, trivia, industry information, equipment information and more, this magazine offers more than the stereotypical "chicks aren't rockers" or "Wow, that chick can play" images and information. Includes a lot of up-and-coming rockgrls. Feminist bent. For all rockgrls. \$4. Rockgrl, 7 West 41st Avenue #113, San Mateo CA 94403; 415-573-ROCK, e-mail <subscribe@rockgrl.com>. Distributed by Fine Print. —JT O

FROM THE SMALL PRESSES



By Jenn Tust

Lesbian Voices From Latin America: Breaking Ground by Elena M. Martínez surveys poetry and prose that deals with Latin American lesbian issues, themes and motifs. Martínez examines examples of lesbian literary experience focusing on the strategies used by authors to achieve a persuasive literary representation of that experience, with reference to the cultural and historical contexts of Latin American lesbian writing marked by silencing and marginalization. Work by Sara Levi Calderón, Sylvia Molloy, Cristina Peri-Rossi, Luz María Umpierre and others is examined. Expensive, yes, but get it! \$35 cl, 0-8153-1349-7. Garland Publishing Inc. Distributed by B&T, Ingram.

The New Fuck You: Adventures in Lesbian Reading edited by Eileen Myles and Liz Kotz is a great collection of writings from 37 highly opinionated lesbians. Camille Roy, Carmelita Tropicana, Sapphire, Holly Hughes, Laurie Weeks, Marilyn Hacker, Honor Moore, Myra Mniewski and others spout poetry and prose with an edge. Fresh, angry and passionate. A must-carry. \$8 pb, 1-57027-057-0. Semiotext[e], 522 Philosophy Hall, Columbia University, New York NY 10027. Distributed by Autonomedia, PO Box 568, Brooklyn NY 11211; phone/fax 718-963-2603.

Clit Notes: A Sapphic Sampler by Holly Hughes is a collection of some of this "escape" artist's greatest hits: *The Well of Horniness*, *The Lady Dick*, *World Without End* and *Clit Notes*. Hughes tells of her escape from conservative upbringing in a part of the country "where silence was the first language" to becoming an Obie award-winning

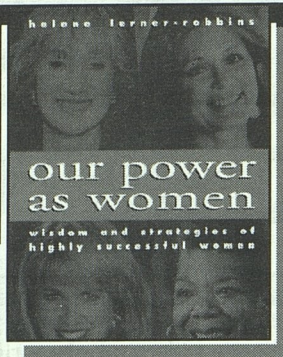
performance artist and playwright. Notes for each piece and an insightful introduction are additional highlights. "She strips down to her psyche.... Rarely have we been treated to a sharper nose for pleasure and a keener ambition to seize it." —Ms. \$12 pb, 0-8021-3333-9. Grove Press, 841 Broadway, New York NY 10003; 212-614-7850. Distributed by PGW.

Dear Sir or Madam: The Autobiography of a Female-to-Male Transsexual by Mark Rees is the story of Great Britain's most prominent female-to-male transsexual. We haven't seen it yet but expect it will be hot. (\$16.95 pb, 0-304-33394-8.) **Cassell's Queer Quizbook** by David Pollard is full of queer brain-teasers for fans of lesbian and gay heritage



Drawing by Young Im Yoo, from *Hear Our Voices*
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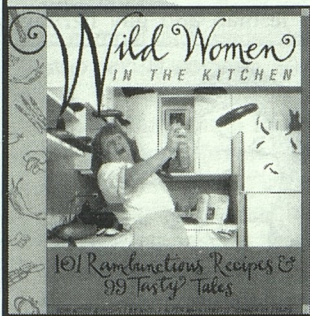
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trivia. (\$4.95 pb, 0-304-33408-1.) Cassell, 215 Park Avenue South, 11th Floor, New York NY 10003; 212-598-5717. Distributed by Koen/Inland, Login/ InBook.

In *The White Bones of Truth* by Cris Newport (*Sparks Might Fly*/New Victoria) the year is 2054, independence is illegal, civil disobedience will cost you your job, rape victims are fined and the country is still recovering from Jesse Helms' presidency 50 years ago. The consummate outsider, Corlay Llewlyn, hermaphrodite, painter and Netsurfer, wants to pay back an old debt to Michelle David, a screen star who had once protected her from a public beating. Upon discovering that contracted stars are forced into prostitution in exchange for choice roles, Corlay buys a night with Michelle with the intention of giving her a respite from these dehumanizing demands. Corlay, part of a failed experiment of genetic engineering, understands Michelle in a way that few others can. These are only two of the many characters in this second novel by Newport. \$10.95 pb, 1-886383-15-4.



Bitter Thorns by Chris Anne Wolfe is a lesbian retelling of *Beauty and the Beast* and it's a part of Pride Publications' From the Muse Fairytale Series. "This book has everything a fantasy fan could want!" —Lee Lynch. (\$10.95 pb, 1-886383-12-X.) Wolfe's first two novels, *Shadows of Aggar* and *Fires of Aggar*, were published by New Victoria Publishers. Her fourth, *Annabel and I*, a romantic fantasy that unfolds in the 1980s and the 1890s, is also available from Pride. (\$10.95 pb, 1-886383-17-0.)

Pride Publications was founded in 1989 by a circle of authors and artists dedicated to shedding light on misconceptions, challenging stereotypes and speaking for those not spoken for. 50% + free shipping for 1+. Pride Publications, PO Box 148, Radnor OH 43066; phone/fax 603-225-5651, e-mail (PridePblsh@aol.com). Distributed by BP.

In *Dirty Pictures*, Red Jordan Arobateau (*Lucy and Mickey*) "is not afraid to talk about power — and not as a consensual 'game,' but the real blood-and-guts power dynamics that exist between black and



white, sex worker and customer, privileged and underdog." —Marcy Sheiner. \$5.95 pb, 1-56333-345-7. Hard Candy Books/Masquerade Books, 801 Second Avenue, New York NY 10017. Distributed by BP, Alamo Square.



Fuori: Essays by Italian/American Lesbians and Gays edited by Anthony Julian Tamburri is a collection of essays by lesbians and gay men of Italian American descent that reveal the experiences of six people who have lived in a marginalized world of sorts, closed off to the "normal" world of children and young adults. Tommi Avicolti Mecca, Giovanna Capone, Theresa Carilli, Philip Gambone, Rachel Guido DeVries and Mary Cappello speak to both the trials and tribulations as well as the joys and happiness they have experienced in their individual coming-of-age stories. \$10 pb, 1-884419-05-4. Bordighera, 1359 Stanley Coulter Hall, West Lafayette IN 47907. Distributed by Armadillo; 800-499-7675.

In Uprooting Racism: How White People Can Work for Racial Justice, Paul Kivel speaks as a white to fellow whites, sharing stories, suggestions, advice, exercises and approaches for working together to fight racism. He discusses affirmative action, immigration, institutional racism, anti-Semitism, humor, political correctness and the meaning of whiteness. He also describes different forms of racial injustice faced by Latinos/as, Asian Americans, African Americans, Native Americans and Jews. \$16.95 pb, 0-86571-338-3; \$39.95 cl, -337-5. New Society Publishers, 4527 Springfield Avenue, Philadelphia PA 19143; 215-382-6543, fax 215-222-1993, e-mail (newsociety@igc.org). Distributed by Koen/Inland.

Isabel Allende has stated, "For women in Latin America, setting down a short story is like screaming out loud — it breaks the rules, violates the code

of silence into which we are born." **What Is Secret: Stories by Chilean Women** edited by Marjorie Agosin recovers 30 stories spanning the years from 1920 to the present, taking the reader to a "secret world created from feminine voices and visions." Stories from Marta Jara, Pía Barros, Jacqueline Balcells, Maria Luísa Bombal, Elizabeth Subercaseaux and Marta Brunet are included. Topics range from creation myths to travel, military dictatorships to eroticism and feminine clothing to a child's imagination. \$17 pb, 1-877727-41-5. White Pine Press, 10 Village Square, Fredonia NY 14063. Distributed by Consortium.

devorah major's (*An Open Weave*/Seal Press) **street smarts: poems** is a collection of poetry that explores the hardships of life in the streets, the damage that is done there and the strategies for survival. Hers is a powerful African American voice — joyful and proud. A must-carry. \$10.95 pb, 1-880684-27-6.

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Her Wild American Self, a mosaic of stories about contemporary Filipina American women by M. Evelina Gagliang, tells tales of identity, maturity, love, career, adolescence, ethnicity and independence. Characters include a teenager coming of age, an artist who finds her medium and leaves her lover and a 42-year-old woman who succeeds in establishing herself as her own woman. \$12.95 pb, 1-56689-040-3, Coffee House Press, 27 North 4th Street, Minneapolis MN 55401; 612-338-0125. Distributed by Consortium.



The Evacuation Diary of Hatsuye Egami edited by Claire Gorfinkel is the memoir of one *issei* (first-generation Japanese American) woman's experience in the internment camps of the 40s. Egami intersperses her inner thoughts with descriptions of daily routine

in Tulare Assembly Center amid descriptions of the dehumanizing evacuation, the assignments of numbers (loss of their names) and the loss of the cloak of modesty which horrifies her daughters. \$11.95 pb, 0-9648042-1-2. Intentional Productions, PO Box 94814, Pasadena CA 91109. Distributed by BP.

Mangos, Bananas and Coconuts: A Cuban Love Story by Himilce Novas tells of a love affair between a poor campesino on a large Cuban plantation and his patron's daughter and the resulting stories.... (\$22.95 cl, 1-55885-092-9.) Graciela Limón's **Song of the Hummingbird** pays tribute to pre-Columbian women and culture in this novel about one woman's experience — and resistance — during the Spanish Conquest and after. (\$11.95 pb, 1-55885-091-0; \$19.95 cl, -157-7.) Arte Público Press, University of Houston, Houston TX 77204; 713-743-2841, fax 713-743-2847. Distributed by BP, Ingram, B&T, Pacific Pipeline.

Finders is Julie Parson-Nesbitt's first volume of poetry. In her poems the author navigates the street-wise world of the personal, comes to terms with love

and interracial marriage and undertakes a political response to her Jewish heritage. "[It] excites, via its venturesomeness, its contemporary energy, its refusal to wear blinders or dark glasses...." —Gwendolyn Brooks. \$8.95 pb, 0-931122-83-X. West End Press, PO Box 27334, Albuquerque NM 87125. Distributed by the Talman Company 212-431-7175; fax 212-431-7215.



Old Woman of Irish Blood is a collection of poetry by Pat Andrus. "Clean, crisp, and without poetic excess, this collection, lush with imagery from the natural world, explores the mysterious roots of this writer's artistry, gender and Celtic ancestry. Fiercely feminine and passionate, the poet traverses a tumultuous journey to discover the great freedom and power of self-awareness." \$9.95 pb, 0-940880-59-8. Open Hand Publishing Inc., PO Box 22048, Seattle WA 98122; 206-323-2187, fax 206-323-2188.

Hear Our Voices: A Resource Directory of Immigrant and Refugee Women's Projects compiled by Claire Jung Jin Yoo, published by American Friends Service Committee's Nationwide Women's Program 1996, is a directory containing 200 listings of advocacy, economic development, organizing, legal assistance, social services, research, training and educational programs for immigrant refugee women. Gives address, phone/fax, contact name, brief description of who the group is, what they do, how they do it, resources they provide and assistance that they need. Essential for activists, advocates, service providers, organizers, educators, researchers and others. \$10 pb, 0-910082-30-8. 40% for 5+. AFSC, Literature Resources Unit, 1501 Cherry Street, Philadelphia PA 19102; 215-241-7048.

A grassroots approach to information access and self-reliance for women, **The WomanSource Catalog &**

Review: Tools for Connecting the Community of Women edited by Ilene Rosoff is a review of a multitude of information for women. Each entry contains an original editorial, an accompanying photo and, in the case of written works, an excerpt highlighting the flavor and essence of the work. "Using a holistic structure that presents practical ideas and solutions for meeting the challenges of life, our mission is to launch new ideas and provide the springboard to action, be it fixing your car, starting a business, surfing the Internet or learning how to institute change in your community." Looks great! You'll find FBN and a list of feminist bookstores on pages 156-157! \$19.95 pb, 0-89087-768-8, The Launch Pad/Celestial Arts, 8311 Jackson Springs Road, Tampa FL 33615; 800-841-BOOK, fax 813-249-0105. Distributed by Koen/Inland.

The 1996 edition of **Reading Group Choices: Selections for Lively Book Discussions** is now available. It includes 38 books (only one-third are by men!) from 21 publishers including *Amazon Story Bones* by Ellen Frye (Spinsters Ink), *The Hundred Secret Senses* by Amy Tan (Putnam), *The Romance Reader* by Pearl Abraham (Riverhead) and *If I Had My Life to Live Over I Would Pick More Daisies* edited by Sandra Haldeman Martz (Papier-Mache Press). Customer copies are available for the cost of shipping and handling — \$.75 per copy with a minimum order of 10. Paz & Associates, 2106 20th Avenue South, Nashville TN 37212; 800-260-8605.



Walking the Twilight II: Women Writers of the Southwest edited by Kathryn Wilder collects short stories from women writers of the Southwest: Paula Gunn Allen, Demetria Martínez, Uoshiko Uchida, Terry Tempest Williams, Rebecca Lawton and others on topics relating to Emergence, Presence, Eruption and Return. \$14.95 pb, 0-87358-648-4. 40% for 5+. Northland Publishing, PO Box 1389, Flagstaff AZ

86002; 800-346-3257. Distributed by BP, Ingram, B&T, Pacific Pipeline.

In **Singing Sky** Margaret Creal uses a sequence of linked short stories to capture key discoveries of childhood — those moments of heightened awareness and sensitivity when the essential truths of the self and others are cast in sharp relief. A staid prairie town, a thrifty Scottish Protestant family, a lively young girl with an astute and charismatic sensibility are combined in this work. \$14.95 pb, 1-55050-076-7. Coteau Books, 401-2206 Dewdney Avenue, Regina Saskatchewan S4R 1H3 Canada; 306-777-0170, fax 306-522-5152. Distributed by General.

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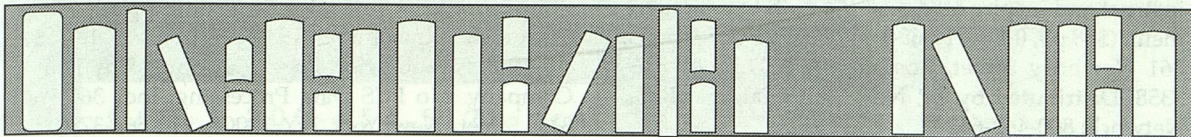
In **American Heaven**, Maxine Chernoff intertwines the lives of people living in the same apartment building, showing how this simple circumstance enables her lonely characters to form life-changing bonds with each other. A mathematician recently emigrated from Poland attends an aging jazz musician and a Chicago gangster attended by a mysteriously sad young woman are among the characters whose dynamics form this story of friendship. "Chernoff's style is clear, lyric and moving — very human." —Sara Paretsky. \$21.95 cl, 1-56689-041-1. Coffee House Press, 27 North Fourth Street #400, Minneapolis MN 55401; 612-338-0125, fax 612-338-4004. Distributed by Consortium.

Actual and arm-chair wanderers will enjoy **Without a Guide: Contemporary Women's Travel Adventures** edited by Katherine Govier. Poets, essayists and novelists Margaret Atwood, Hanan al-Shaykh, Alice Walker, Annie Proulx, Irene Guilford, Ysenda Maxtone, Carol Shields and others bring imagination and insight into new and strange environments fraught with danger, mystery and unexpected delights. \$16 pb, 1-886913-04-8. Hungry Mind Press, 57 Macalester Street, St. Paul MN 55105; 612-699-8892. Distributed by Koen/Inland.

Old Books in the Old World: Reminiscences of Book Buying Abroad by Leona Rostenberg and Madeline Stern is an account of the book-buying trips the authors made to post-war Europe. This illustrated journal is culled from the authors' diaries, letters and contemporary recollections and is filled with tales of steamships, cobblestone streets and musty rare-book shops. Rostenberg and Stern are partners in Rostenberg & Stern Rare Books. \$22.95 cl, 1-884718-18-3, June, Oak Knoll Books. Distributed by Lyons & Burford Publishers, 31 West 21st Street, New York NY 10010; 212-620-9580.



Eighty writers contributed to **Our Mothers, Our Selves: Writers and Poets Celebrating Motherhood** edited by Karen J. Donnelly and J.B. Bernstein. From a spectrum of genders, races, ages, religions, classes and nations, writers including Maya Angelou,



Galway Kinnel, Marge Piercy, Margaret Atwood and Robert Bly pay tribute to motherhood through poetry, essay, memoir and short fiction. \$19.95 cl, 0-89789-445-6. Bergin & Garvey, an imprint of Greenwood Publishing Group, 88 Post Road West, Westport CT 06880. Distributed by Ingram, B&T.

Writings by Mothers of Incest Victims by Sandi Ashley is a collection of writings by mothers of incest and sexual abuse survivors, who are also the wives or mothers of the perpetrators. These women poignantly relate their wrenching shock, hurt, betrayal, anger and guilt. The stories illustrate a diversity of experience and emotional response and offer hope to other women related to survivors and abusers. \$8 pb, 0-8403-7064-4. Kendall/Hunt Publishing, 2460 Kerper Boulevard, PO Box 539, Dubuque IA 52004. Distributed by WCSAP, 100 E. 5th Avenue #214, Olympia WA 98501; 360-754-7583, fax 360-786-8707.



Moving On: A Journey Through Sexual Assault is a personal account by Louise Phillips of her experience of rape and how it affected her life. Phillips tells of the assault, the aftermath and her experience with police, doctors and counselors. She tells of the dramatic sighting of the rapist two years later, his arrest and the agonizingly drawn-out process of justice. Phillips coordinates SCARS (Social Conscience Against Rape and Sexual assault), a lobby and support group, and is a member of the NSW Attorney General's Victims' Advisory Council. \$14.95 pb, 1-86351-156-3. Sally Milner Publishing Pty Ltd, 558 Darling Street, Rozelle NSW Australia 2039. Distributed by Seven Hills Book Distributors, 49 Central Avenue, Cincinnati OH 45202; 513-381-3881, fax 513-381-0753.

In Feminist Foremothers in Women's Studies, Psychology, and Mental Health, edited by Phyllis

Chesler, Esther D. Rothblum and Ellen Cole, feminists including bell hooks, Gloria Steinem, Teresa Bernadez, Starhawk, Z Budapest, Kate Millett, Andrea Dworkin, Shere Hite, Sandra Butler and Carol Gilligan write about their achievements in the fields of feminist therapy, feminist psychology and/or women's mental health, what their accomplishments were and how their lives were consequently changed by their work. \$29.95 pb, 1-56023-078-9. Harrington Park Press, 10 Alice Street, Binghamton NY 13904. Distributed by BP.



The Power to Dream: Interviews With Women in the Creative Arts by Nancy Jo Hoy begins in 1974 with an interview between the author and Anaïs Nin, and 20 years later concludes with her interview of Alice Walker. This book documents the challenges women face in the individual practice of their creative art, and illustrates the conflict between creative will and other aspects of women's lives. Includes interviews with E.M. Broner, Judy Chicago, Judy Dater, Marilyn Flex, Phoebe Helman, Barbara Hendricks, Laura Huxley, Maxine Hong Kingston, Frances Moore Lappé, Meridel Le Sueur, Bella Lewitzky, Lucy Lippard, Diane Wakoski and Beatrice Wood. An incredible resource for anyone involved in the creative arts. \$14 pb, 0-9641292-9-9. Global City Press, The City College of New York, 138th Street and Convent Avenue, New York NY 10031; 212-603-9857. Distributed by Consortium.

In Praise of Tara: Songs to the Saviouress by Martin Willson is about Tara, a Buddhist deity who as *bodhisattva* defied tradition when she attained omniscience in female form. This collection includes a history of the origin of the *Tara Tantra*, canonical and practice texts, and lyrical praises. (\$24.95, 0-86171-109-2.) Of related interest is **Enlightened Beings: Life Stories from the Ganden Oral Tradition** by Janice D. Willis which collects tales meant to

instruct and inspire others on the path to enlightenment. (\$18 pb, 0-86171-068-1.) Wisdom Publications, 361 Newbury Street, Boston MA 02115; 617-536-3358. Distributed by BP, New Leaf, National Book Network; 800-462-6420.



Women's Studies and Culture: A Feminist Introduction provides a new synthesis of the feminist critique of culture. The editors, Rosemarie Buikema and Anneke Smelik, open with an exploration of feminist academic practice and an overview of the full range of feminist theory. They engage in the equality/difference debate and the postmodern challenge to that debate examining the impact of women's studies on: linguistics, literary theory, popular culture, history, film theory, art history, theater studies, psychoanalysis, Black studies, lesbian studies and semiotics. \$17.50 pb, 1-85649-312-1; \$55 cl, -311-3. Zed Books, 7 Cynthia Street, London N1 9JF England. Distributed by Humanities Press (U.S.), Fernwood Books (Canada), Peribo Pty Ltd. (Australia).

'Ladies, Please Don't Smash These Windows: Women's Writing, Feminist Consciousness and Social Change 1918-38 by Maroula Joannou is an accessible feminist critique of the masculine assumptions about literature of the twenties and thirties. Writing from a feminist-materialist perspective, Joannou analyzes novels of sensibility, domestic fictions, lesbian writing, autobiography, speculative fiction and anti-fascist writing by Virginia Woolf, Rebecca West, Rosamond Lehmann, Radclyffe Hall and many others. \$19.95 pb, 1-85973-022-1. Berg Publishers, 13950 Park Center Road, Herndon VA 22701; 703-435-9326. Distributed by BP, B&T, Ingram.

The new edition of **The Politics of Housework** edited by Ellen Malos sums up the debate on housework, drawing from essays, books and pamphlets by figures in the women's movement in Britain and North America. The new final chapter highlights the growing importance of the domestic labor debate for women in the world beyond the western industrialized nations, and the widening of the definition of

housework to include the caring and supportive roles of women in the family. \$19.95 pb, 1-873797-18-4; \$45 cl, -19-2, New Clarion Press. Distributed by Paul & Company, c/o PCS Data Processing, Inc., 360 West 31st Street, New York NY 10001; 212-564-3730, fax 212-971-7200.

The Encyclopedia of Women's History in America by Kathryn Cullen-DuPont describes, in encyclopedic form, 300 years of movements, breakthroughs, legislation, court cases, issues, books and notable women in the U.S. from Colonial times through contemporary American events. Too bad there aren't any photos or graphics! \$45 cl, 0-8160-2625-4. Facts on File, 11 Penn Plaza, New York NY 10001; 212-967-8800. Distributed by B&T, Ingram.

The Endometriosis Sourcebook by Mary Lou Ballweg and the Endometriosis Association is subtitled "The definitive guide to current treatment options, the latest research, common myths about the disease and coping strategies — both physical and emotional." And that about says it! Shelve it next to Third Side Press' **Alternatives for Women With Endometriosis: A Guide by Women for Women** edited by Ruth Carol. (See Raves in Issue 18#6, page 123.) \$14.95 pb, 0-8092-3263-4. Contemporary Books, Two Prudential Plaza #1200, Chicago IL 60601; 312-540-4500, fax 312-540-4657. Distributed by B&T, Ingram.



Women's roles and experiences in the Spanish Civil War (1936-1939) are examined in **Defying Male Civilization: Women in the Spanish Civil War** by Mary Nash. Amid the crisis of war, women organized in many ways to fight fascism, including publishing antifascist journals and newspapers, providing services to help others and taking up arms. Based on research and interviews, **Defying Male Civilization** addresses the complexity of war and revolution from a gender perspective, focusing both on women's heroic achievements and on the limitations of change. \$22.50 pb, 0-912869-16-X; \$32 cl, -15-1.

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cattle, mined for gold and silver, farmed, ranched, performed in rodeos and wild west shows, worked as journalists, doctors and attorneys — and rode horseback astride rather than sidesaddle. Because they didn't conform to the idealized vision of female these women were either ignored or maligned by historians. This book recognizes these women for redefining the social and economic roles of their gender and for initiating the struggle, sometimes militantly, for women's rights in the U.S. \$18.95 pb, 0-912869-18-6; \$26.50 cl, -17-8. Arden Press, PO Box 418, Denver CO 80201; 303-697-6766. Distributed by BP.

In **Teenage Couples: Expectations and Reality**, Jeanne Warren Lindsay compiles the responses of her survey — 3,700 apparently straight teens, 670 who live with their partners — who talk about living together, roles, work, sex, jealousy, partner abuse and other issues. But what about the 10% or so of teens who are gay and dealing with these issues? Lindsay's questionnaire doesn't even ask about sexual orientation. Looks interesting, informative and diverse for straights. \$14.95

pb, 0-930934-98-9. Morning Glory Press, 6595 San Haroldo Way, Buena Park CA 90620; 714-828-1998. Distributed by Independent Publishers Group.

Homosexuality: The Secret a Child Dare Not Tell by Mary Ann Cantwell is a guide for parents of gay children or for parents who think their child may be gay. Documenting the author's realization that she, a teacher of emotionally disturbed six-and-seven-year-olds had failed to understand that her son was gay, this book calls parents to act with greater sensitivity and understanding if their child is somehow different. It also offers a message of hope for members of the gay male and lesbian community who may have suffered greatly within their family as they were growing up. \$12 pb, 0-9649829-9-4. Rafael Press, PO Box 150462, San Rafael CA 94915; 800-299-9190, fax 415-258-0207, e-mail <RafaelPrss@aol.com>. Distributed by Koen/Inland, BP, B&T, Alamo Square.

Daddy's Wedding written and illustrated by Michael Willhoite is the newest in Alyson's series of children's books on gay parenting, which includes *Heather Has Two Mommies* and *Daddy's Roommate*. In **Daddy's Wedding**, Nick, a ten-year-old boy, gets to be best man when his Daddy and daddy's roommate, Frank, decide to get married. The book seems too childish for ten-year olds, but for younger kids it would be fun. It's a great idea and has nice illustrations. \$15.95 cl, 1-55583-350-0, June, Alyson Publications, 6922 Hollywood Boulevard #1000, Los Angeles CA 90028; 213-871-1225, fax 213-467-0173. Distributed by Consortium, BP.



Sundays at Seven: Choice Words From A Different Light's Gay Writers Series edited by Rondo Mieczkowski and compiled by James Carroll Pickett features writings by 32 gay men including Peter Cashorali, Michael Lassell, Paul Monette and Mark Thompson. "[It] evokes an exciting era of writers finding their voices, honing their art, experimenting like mad. Reading it made me wish I were one of them." —Felice Picano. This is the men's companion piece to **In A Different Light: An Anthology of Lesbian Writers**, which was based on the bookstore's



Lesbian Writers Series. (\$9.95 pb, 1-87853307-X, Clothespin Fever Press.) This one just took a little longer to find its way into print. (\$12 pb, 1-886360-01-4.) Alamo Square, PO Box 14543, San Francisco CA 94114.

A singular collection, **Looking for Mr. Preston** edited by Laura Antoniou collects interviews, essays and personal reminiscences of John Preston — a man whose career spanned the industry from the early pages of the *Advocate* to various national best-seller lists, from pioneering gay men's pornography to serious fiction and community-building essay/anthologies. Twenty-five of Preston's colleagues, friends and disciples pay homage to his life and work, including Sasha Alyson, Stan Leventhal, Joan Nestle, Felice Picano and Carol A. Queen. \$23.95 cl, 1-56333-288-4. Richard Kasak/Masquerade Books, 801 Second Avenue, New York NY 10017. Distributed by BP, Alamo Square.



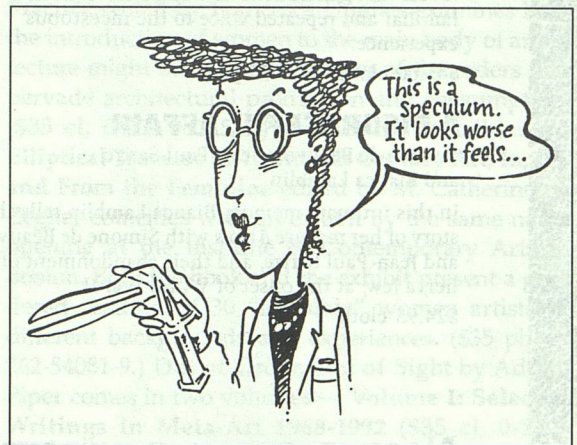
The Stone of Laughter by Hoda Barakat, translated by Sophie Bennett, offers the contradictory history of Beirut, a city under fire, through the life and dilemmas of Khalil, a gay man who tries to avoid ideological or military affiliations as he finds himself confronted with the collapse of his civil society. Unlike his friends at a newspaper who think falling bombs are great stories and promotion rather than tragedy and destruction, Khalil realizes that in a city at war, no one can remain neutral. \$12.95 pb, 1-56656-190-6; \$29.95 cl, -197-3. 40% for 5+. Interlink Publishing Group, 46 Crosby Street, Northampton MA 01060; 413-582-7054, fax 413-582-7057. Distributed by B&T, Ingram.

Nearly Roadkill: An Infobahn Erotic Adventure by Caitlin Sullivan and Kate Bornstein (*Gender Outlaw*) is a novel written in cyberspace, an Infobahn erotic thriller without any boundaries — virtual, sexual, legal or otherwise. What-appears-to-be Girl

meets what-appears-to-be Boy and their world is the Net, where any persona — and any gender — can be created. They pose as a host of different personalities, switching identities and genders as quickly as they create passwords. They cybersurf into various worlds on the Net as they fight government intervention in the last free frontier. \$13.99 pb, 1-85242-418-4. High Risk Books/Serpent's Tail, 180 Varick Street, 10th Floor, New York NY 10014. Distributed by Consortium.



Worthy Foes: Differently Abled Heros edited by Gary Bowen is a short collection of short sci-fi/fantasy/psychological horror stories about women and men with different abilities who overcome challenges and succeed in spite of obstacles no human should have to face. Although only one is written by a woman, two of the three have a woman hero. Pretty good. \$6 pb, 1-887666-12-5. Obelesk Books, PO Box 1118, Elkton MD 21922; 410-392-3640. Distributed by Alamo Square. ○



"Your First Pelvic Exam"

Illustration by Debbie Palen, from *The Period Book* (Walker and Company) See page 125, this issue.

NORTHEASTERN

IN WOMEN'S VOICES

Second Edition

ROOT OF BITTERNESS Documents of the Social History of American Women

Edited by Nancy F. Cott, Jeanne Boydston,
Ann Braude, Lori D. Ginzberg, and
Molly Ladd-Taylor

This thoroughly revised edition of the classic text in American women's social history draws on a wide variety of documents to reveal women's experiences in the United States over three centuries.

\$45.00 cloth • \$15.95 paper

NATURE'S BAN Women's Incest Literature

Edited by Karen Jacobsen McLennan

"As important a work as any that has been published about incest." — Louise DeSalvo

Traditionally forgotten or suppressed in literary history, the incest narratives in this anthology reveal that generations of women have given familiar and repeated voice to the incestuous experience.

\$45.00 cloth • \$16.95 paper

A DISGRACEFUL AFFAIR

Simone de Beauvoir, Jean-Paul Sartre,
and Bianca Lamblin

In this intimate memoir, Bianca Lamblin tells the story of her *ménage à trois* with Simone de Beauvoir and Jean-Paul Sartre, and their abandonment of her, a Jew, at the onset of World War II.

\$24.95 cloth

THE FEMINIST ALCOTT Stories of a Woman's Power

Edited, with an introduction,
by Madeleine B. Stern

The four engaging potboilers in this collection, edited by literary sleuth Madeleine Stern, feature the power struggle between the sexes and illuminate Alcott's feminist convictions.

\$40.00 cloth • \$14.95 paper

CORPORATE VICTIMIZATION OF WOMEN

Edited by Elizabeth Szojky and James G. Fox

Focusing on the way corporations disproportionately injure women in the labor market and as consumers, this volume analyses issues ranging from the Dalkon Shield to sexual harassment on the job.

\$47.50 cloth • \$17.95 paper

CATHOLIC GIRLHOOD NARRATIVES

The Church and Self-Denial

Elizabeth N. Evasdaughter

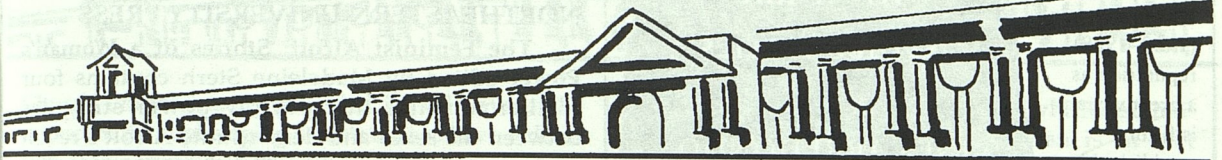
This pioneering study of thirty-three girlhood memoirs by women such as Sarah Bernhardt and Simone de Beauvoir offers keen insights into the Church's concept of the ideal Catholic woman and the femininity training used to instill it in Catholic girls.

\$28.95 cloth

NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY PRESS

360 Huntington Avenue, 416CP
Boston, MA 02115

FROM THE UNIVERSITY PRESSES



By Mev Miller

I noticed a trend this Spring that I think is rather curious. Several women's studies titles — history and biography especially — have been written by men! The credentials of the writers don't appear to be women's studies oriented; rather, they seem to be men working in their fields who have shown an interest in the works of women. Wow! (Or should I say...finally!) I debated about how many of them to include here since I know many stores prefer to buy women-oriented material written by women. I've included some — not all. And I don't think I had a formula for why I chose some and not others. Generally, though, I included them for their overall suitability in women's stores.

I recently received notice from Georgia State University Press that they have gone out of business as of June 30, 1995.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY PRESS

Deviant Eyes, Deviant Bodies: Sexual Re-Orientation in Film and Video by Chris Straayer adds to the growing list of film books from feminist and queer theory perspectives. Straayer looks at commercial film and video from a new angle by considering the number of films made by and for non-traditional (feminist and queer) viewers. \$17.50 pb, 0-231-07979-6, June.

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY PRESS

JHU offers three highly academic titles of limited interest to general readers in women's issues. I mention them here on the off-chance that you'll have interested customers. **Cultivating Women, Cultivating Science: Flora's Daughters and Botany in England, 1760-1860** by Ann Shteir explores a brief time when women were welcomed equal partners in a

scientific discipline. (\$29.95 cl, 0-8018-5141-6.) **Iron Men, Wooden Women: Gender and Seafaring in the Atlantic World, 1700-1920** edited by Margaret Creighton and Lisa Norling considers some of the women who made it out to sea. (\$16.95 pb, *short discount*, 0-8018-5160-2.) **Women's Health: The Commonwealth Fund Survey** edited by Marilyn Falik and Karen Scott Collins reports on the 1993 survey that revealed the numerous ways women's health is too often neglected. (\$18.95 pb, 0-8018-5354-0.)



MIT PRESS

Though expensive, technical and specific, MIT Press has three titles this season that will be of interest to those with strong clientele interested in art and architecture. **The Architect: Reconstructing Her Practice** edited by Francesca Hughes examines how the introduction of women to the main body of architecture might bring reconstruction of the orders that pervade architectural production and consumption. (\$35 cl, 0-262-08245-4.) **Inside the Invisible: An Elliptical Traverse of Twentieth Century Art, In, Of, and From the Feminine** edited by M. Catherine de Zegher coincides with an exhibit by the same name opening at the Institute of Contemporary Arts in Boston. Both the book and the exhibit present a gendered reading of 30 "invisible" women artists of different backgrounds and experiences. (\$35 pb, 0-262-54081-9.) **Out of Order, Out of Sight** by Adrian Piper comes in two volumes — **Volume I: Selected Writings in Meta-Art 1968-1992** (\$35 cl, 0-262-16155-9) and **Volume II: Selected Writings in Art Criticism 1967-1992** (\$35 cl, 0-262-16156-7). Adrian Piper is an internationally recognized conceptual artist

Underground River and Other Stories

INÉS ARREDONDO

Translated by Cynthia Steele
Foreword by Elena Poniatowska

Inés Arredondo's (1928–1989) reputation as a great writer is firmly established in Mexico. Her works dwell on obsessions: erotic love, evil, purity, perversion, prostitution, tragic separation, and death.

Set at the beginning of the twentieth century in the tropical northwestern Mexican state of Sinaloa, the stories collected in *Underground River and Other Stories* focus on female subjectivity and is the first appearance of Arredondo's stories in English.

\$12 paper/\$25 cloth

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University of
Nebraska Press
Lincoln NE
800-755-1105

and the only African American in the early conceptual art movement of the 60s. These writings trace the development of her thinking and artwork.

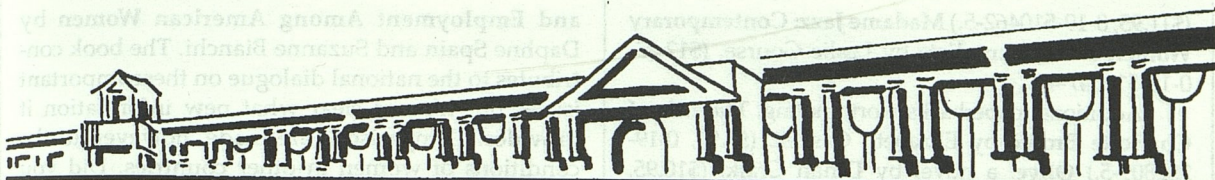
NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY PRESS

The Feminist Alcott: Stories of a Woman's Power edited by Madeleine Stern contains four thriller novellas that portray power struggles between the sexes and demonstrate Alcott's revolt against sexual inequality. These are less familiar works that contain a lot of power. (\$14.95 pb, 1-5553-266-7.) On the other hand, **Nature's Ban: Women's Incest Literature** edited by Karen Jacobsen McLennan anthologizes 20th-century women's writings — fiction, poetry, memoirs — that give voice to women describing incest experiences. My guess is that it won't be an easy volume to read, but one that will be quite essential for many incest survivors. (\$16.95 pb, 1-55553-253-5.)

Corporate Victimization of Women edited by Elizabeth Szockyj and James Fox examines how corporations cause harm by exploiting women's employment and reproductive and consumer vulnerability in order to increase power and profitability. The authors include essays by experts in law, economics and criminology who draw on feminist theory, victimization research and theories of white-collar crime. Thankfully, the bleak picture they paint concludes with some discussion on how to reshape public policy and promote change. \$17.95 pb, 1-55553-260-8, June.



The role of women in the Roman Catholic Church continues to be debated, but the debate results in only surface change. **Catholic Girlhood Narratives: The Church and Self-Denial** by Elizabeth Evasdaughter studies memoirs and autobiographies by 20th-century Roman Catholic women in six countries. Sarah Bernhardt, Colette, Simone de Beauvoir and Mary McCarthy are just a few of the women whose writings illuminate the ways in which girls' choices, behavior and development have been deeply affected by the Church's concept of the ideal Catholic woman. The narratives are linked by a remembered conflict with the repressive gender training of the institutional church. As a woman long-ago separated from the Catholic



Church, I'm continually reminded, in odd ways, of the impact of that upbringing. I can't wait to have a closer look at this one! \$28.95 cl, 1-55553-269-1.

New edition: **Root of Bitterness: Documents of the Social History of American Women, Second Edition** edited by Nancy Cott et al. \$15.95 pb, 1-55553-256-X.

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY PRESS

This summer, Ohio State will publish two titles in its Women and Health series — both pertaining to midwives. **Listen to Me Good: The Life Story of an Alabama Midwife** by Margaret Charles Smith and Linda Janet Holmes is the winner of the 1995 Helen Hoover Santmyer Prize in Women's Studies. This historically-pertinent book covers five decades of birthing stories as relayed by 91-year-old Margaret Charles Smith, a midwife who has been a women's health care worker since her early 20s. Smith describes her experience of being a midwife, her struggles with local health care "professionals" and the importance of the midwife in southern Black communities. (\$16.95 pb, 0-8142-0701-4, July.) On the more technical side, **Making Midwives Legal: Childbirth, Medicine, and the Law, Second Edition** by Raymond DeVries explores what happens when midwifery and medicine are brought together by legal regulation. (\$18.95 pb, 0-8142-0703-0, June.)

OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS

History often tells stories of women who dress as men and go to war. **An Uncommon Soldier** by Lauren Cook Burgess collects the letters of Sarah Rosetta Wakeman, who posed as Pvt. Lyons Wakeman during the Civil War. Although she did not survive the war, her letters remain as a singular record of female military life in the ranks — an experience largely ignored by historians. \$9.95 pb, 0-19-510243-6.

Changing Woman: A History of Racial Ethnic Women in Modern America by Karen Anderson looks at the lives of Native American, Mexican American and African American women. This book

describes and illuminates the ways in which discrimination against racial ethnic women is in fact dramatically different — more complex and more widespread — than described by the feminist movement. Anderson concludes that while white middle-class women have made strides toward liberation from male domination, women of color have not yet found, in feminism, any political remedy to their problems. \$25 cl, 0-19-505462-8.

Am I Thin Enough Yet? by Sharlene Hesse-Biber adds to the growing list of titles exploring how popular images of thinness undermine young women's self-confidence. She likens women's obsession with thinness to cult behavior, considers the social, political and economic forces behind this obsession and offers prescriptions on how women can overcome their low self-image in spite of a weight-obsessed society. \$25 cl, 0-19-508241-9.



Oxford is launching a new paperback series, Oxford Readings in Feminism, that will focus on outstanding works in contemporary feminist theory in every branch of academic knowledge. And the books are available at trade discount! The first two are **Feminism and History** edited by Joan Scott (\$15.95, 0-19-875169-9) and **Feminism and Science** edited by Evelyn Fox Keller and Helen Longino (\$15.95, 0-19-875146-X).

Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Identities Over the Lifespan: Psychological Perspectives edited by Anthony D'Augelli and Charlotte Patterson brings together top "experts" (I'm not sure who they mean since a list of contributors was not included) to offer a comprehensive overview of what has been discovered of lesbian, gay and bisexual identities. The writing is non-technical. \$18.95 pb, *academic/trade*, 0-19-510899-X.

Now in paperback: **Goddess: Myths of the Female Divine** by David Leeming and Jake Page.

(\$11.95, 0-19-510462-5.) **Madame Jazz: Contemporary Women Instrumentalists** by Leslie Gourse. (\$12.95, 0-19-510647-4.)

Additional paperbacks worth noting: **The Life of Charlotte Brontë** by Elizabeth Gaskell. (\$7.95, 0-19-282809-5.) **Olive**, a novel by Dinah Craik. (\$10.95, 0-19-289262-2, July.) **The Lodger**, a novel by Marie Belloc Lowndes edited by Laura Marcus. (\$7.95, 0-19-282371-X, July.) **The Voyage Out**, a satirical novel by Virginia Woolfe edited by Lorna Sage. (\$8.95, 0-19-281834-1.)

RUSSELL SAGE FOUNDATION

Caregiving, wage earning, lack of childcare, poverty, family policy, welfare reform and responsibility for children are just some of the topics discussed in **Balancing Act: Motherhood, Marriage,**

and Employment Among American Women by Daphne Spain and Suzanne Bianchi. The book contributes to the national dialogue on these important issues but it's not clear what new information it provides. Comparisons are made, however, to the conditions of women in other countries. Did you know that the U.S. is the only industrialized nation without policies to support working mothers and their families — especially around issues of subsidized childcare services?! \$16.95 pb, 0-87154-815-1.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION PRESS

The Smithsonian History of Aviation series has a promising offer for this Spring — **Soaring Above the Setbacks: The Autobiography of Janet Harmon Bragg, African-American Aviator** as told to Marjorie Kriz with

Western Women Writers

El Milagro and Other Stories

PATRICIA PRECIADO MARTIN

In her first fiction collection, Chicana writer Patricia Martin intermingles her colorful memories of the barrio with mystical, dreamy stories inhabited by miracles, ghosts, and Aztec princesses dressed in feathers and gold.

"Lyrical vignettes and loving character studies."

—KIRKUS REVIEWS

Camino del Sol Series

104 pp., \$22.95 cloth, \$9.95 paper

Earthquake Weather

JANICE GOULD

In her second poetry collection, Gould expresses her relentless search for identity. Sometimes accepting, sometimes full of anger, these poems are filtered through the feelings, thoughts, and experiences of a lesbian of mixed American Indian heritage.

Sun Tracks Series

96 pp., \$24.95 cloth, \$10.96 paper

A Mary Austin Reader

Edited by ESTHER F. LANIGAN

This anthology of Austin's stories, articles, and book excerpts includes texts from many works that have not previously been available. Each chapter focuses on a specific genre and includes an introduction by Austin biographer, Esther Lanigan, which helps illuminate the life and work of this major American writer.

256 pp., 6 photos, \$40.00 cloth, \$16.95 paper

The Frontiers of Women's Writing: Women's Narratives and the Rhetoric of Westward Expansion

BRIGITTE GEORGI-FINDLAY

A significant contribution to literary studies of the West, this volume draws on American studies scholarship, feminist criticism, and studies of colonial discourse to examine selections from the substantial body of writings—diaries, letters, journals, and published works—about the West by women between 1830 and 1930.

368 pp., \$45.00 library cloth, \$19.95 paper

New in Paperback

The Mysterious Lands: A Naturalist Explores the Four Great Deserts of the Southwest

ANN HAYMOND ZWINGER

"For anyone who loves the American Southwest, Ann Zwinger's books are essential reading. *The Mysterious Lands* continues her authoritative natural history of this most beautiful and most interesting region of the planet."

—EDWARD ABBEY

388 pp., illus., \$16.95 paper



Available from local booksellers or

**The University
of Arizona Press**

Phone/Fax 1-800-426-3797



a forward by Johnnetta Cole. Janet Harmon Bragg was, in 1942, the first African American woman to earn a full commercial pilot's license. In this autobiography, she recalls a life of multifaceted achievement that included being a pioneering aviator and a successful business woman, as well as running two Chicago South Side nursing homes. \$19.95 cl, 1-56098-458-9.

When Nickels Were Indians: An Urban, Mixed Blood Story by Patricia Penn Hilden is a reflective autobiography in the Smithsonian Series of Studies in Native American Literatures. Hilden writes, "The Mixed Blood is constantly aware of every alien characteristic, every gesture, activity confidence that offends what one is inside. And that concept, inside, is all-important: there, distant from everything around, is where one lives most of the time. Indeed, for urban Mixed-Blood children, growing up among aliens, the only rest is with other mixed bloods. Only there is there no suspicion: you aren't Indian, you aren't white." \$29.95 cl, 1-56098-601-8.



TEACHERS COLLEGE PRESS

Creating an Inclusive College Curriculum: A Teaching Sourcebook from the New Jersey Project edited by Ellen Friedman et al. gathers 40 innovative syllabi and teaching resources for two- and four-year college curriculums. This sourcebook will be a valuable tool for educational leaders, curriculum experts, policy planners and faculty in a broad range of disciplines. It includes not only essays on rethinking pedagogy in light of feminist information, but also women's studies units covering such topics as art, psychology, technological cultures, elder women, immigrant women and more. \$26.95 pb, 0-8077-6283-0.

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS

In **Sappho Is Burning**, Page duBois reads Sappho as a disruptive figure at the very origin of Western

civilization. This book explores all the anomalies of a poet — the tenth muse — whose work exists only in fragments and about whom very little is known. (\$24.95 cl, 0-226-16755-0.) Related by country and era is **Playing the Other: Gender and Society in Classical Greek Literature** by Froma Zeitlin. This collection of essays focuses on the prominence of female figures in male-authored texts. This is not a women's studies book but, rather, one that explores gender relations and structures through the works of classical Greek male writers. The material provided on this book does not imply a feminist viewpoint. (\$19.95 pb, 0-226-97922-9.)

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY PRESS

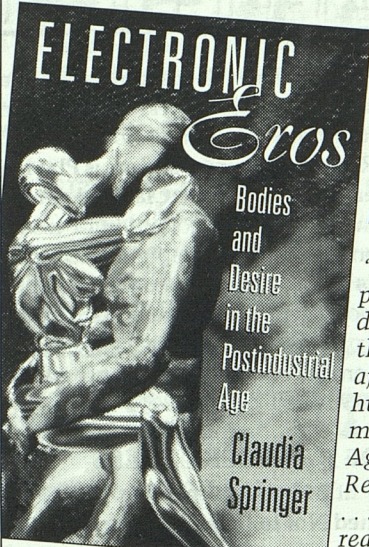
Here are two titles I didn't mention in the last issue. **How I Learned Not to Be a Photojournalist** by Dianne Hagaman contains personal essays that present and interpret 59 of her photographs that reach beyond her constraints of being a photographer for a daily newspaper. These photographs will interest those concerned with how images convey meaning. (\$17.95 pb, 0-8131-1958-8.) **G. I. Nightingales: The Army Nurse Corps in World War II** by Barbara Brooks Tomblin includes historical information and personal interviews to provide a look at life for women in the army. (\$29.95 cl, 0-8131-1951-0.)

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN PRESS

As part of its Poets on Poetry Series, the University of Michigan presents **Joy Harjo/The Spiral of Memory — Interviews** edited by Laura Coltelli. This volume gathers the conversations in which Harjo articulates her singular yet universal perspective on the world and her poetry. She reflects on the developments of her art and confronts the tensions between her Native American heritage and Anglo civilizations. \$13.95 pb, 0-472-06581-1.

Now in paperback: **A Woman's Place Is in the House: Campaigning for Congress in the Feminist Era** by Barbara Burrell — and just in time for the election year! \$19.95, *short discount*, 0-472-08384-8.

ELECTRONIC EROS
 Bodies and Desire in the Postindustrial Age



By Claudia Springer

A new study of techno-erotic imagery in the media

"Springer plumbs the dark depths of the Strangelove affair between human and machine in the Age of Digital Reproduction. . . . Essential reading for cybercritics and technofeminists."

—MARK DERY

Illustrated. \$12.95, paperback

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS PRESS



For those interested in how Russian women have been faring since Glasnost, **Dehexing Sex: Russian Womanhood During and After Glasnost** by Helena Goscilo can provide some insight. Goscilo reveals that the Russian cultural revolution has reshaped the female image in varied and often contradictory ways. She explores feminist and cultural theory and exposes Russia's repressive romance with womanhood as a metaphor for nationhood, while examining the past and present situations for Russian women in reality and national mythology. \$14.95 pb, 0-472-06614-5, June.

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA PRESS

Here is a highly academic volume, but one worth noting for your international feminism section —

Restructuring Patriarchy: The Modernization of Gender Inequality in Brazil, 1914-1940 by Susan K. Besse. \$16.95 pb, 0-8078-4559-0.

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA PRESS

In **Prime-Time Feminism: Television, Media Culture, and the Women's Movement Since 1970**, Bonnie Dow examines feminist representations in popular entertainment television and argues that television has been a key participant in the cultural dialogue about feminism in the U.S. Dow highlights the continuing tension between the commodification of select, simplified, feminist images and the complexities of feminist politics. \$17.50 pb, short discount, 0-8122-1554-0, June.

Other titles on the list are all short discount and highly academic. I place them here in case you have interested customers, but they probably are not of much interest to general readers. **Gendered Modernisms: American Women Poets and Their Readers** edited by Margaret Dickie and Thomas Travisano. (\$18.95 pb, 0-8122-1550-8.) **Gender on the Market: Moroccan Women and the Revoicing of Tradition** by Deborah Kapchan. (\$19.95 pb, 0-8122-1426-9.) **Infertility and Patriarchy: The Cultural Politics of Gender and Family Life in Egypt** by Marcia Inhorn. (\$16.95 pb, 0-8122-1424-2.) **Old Norse Images of Women** by Jenny Jochens. (\$39.95 cl, 0-8122-3358-1, June.)

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN PRESS

In **Greek Heroine Cults**, Jennifer Larson explores the widespread worship of heroines, as well as of gods and heroes in the ancient Greek world. Larson draws upon textual, archaeological and iconographic evidence as diverse as ancient travel writing, ritual calendars, votive reliefs and Euripidean drama, demonstrating the pervasiveness of heroine cults at every level of Athenian society. She also shows how heroic cults reinforced the Greeks' gender expectations and looks at the intersection of heroine cults with topics including: myths of maiden sacrifice, the Amazons, the role of the goddess Artemis and folk beliefs about female "ghosts." \$17.95 pb, 0-299-14374-0; \$37 cl, -14370-8. —JT

Now in paperback: **Nell's Story: A Woman from Eagle River** by Nell Peters with Robert Peters is a remarkable story of Nell Peters, a woman from northern Wisconsin whose tomboy childhood was only the beginning of her liaisons with both men and women. \$12.95, 0-299-14474-7.

UNIVERSITY PRESS OF MISSISSIPPI

This Spring, UPM presents the Silver Anniversary Edition of Eudora Welty's **One Time, One Place: Mississippi in the Depression: A Snapshot Album**. This volume demonstrates Welty's gift not only as a writer but also as an acclaimed photographer. These are soul-stirring photos of her homeland during the 30s. (\$27.50 pb, 0-87805-866-4.) A limited slipcased edition is also available. As a companion piece, you may also want **More Conversations with Eudora Welty** edited by Peggy Whitman Prenshaw. This is a second collection of interviews with this Mississippi writer. (\$16.95 pb, 0-87805-865-6.)

Elizabeth Bishop (1911-1979), poet, feminist and lesbian, won several prizes for poetry including a Pulitzer Prize and a National Book Award. **Conversations with Elizabeth Bishop** edited by George Monteiro brings together almost all of the known interviews (25 in number) given by Bishop in a 30-year period. Some are translated from Portuguese and Dutch into English for the first time. \$16.95 pb, 0-87805-872-9, June.

Now in paperback: **Anabasis: A Journey to the Interior** by Ellen Gilchrist. \$15.95, 0-87805-821-4.

UNIVERSITY PRESS OF NEW ENGLAND

Those of you who have a market for cloth fiction and are looking for something in the 40-something urbanite family retreats to the country genre, be sure to consider **J. Eden** by Kit Read. Three families retreat together for a summer in the Berkshires hoping to find renewal but, ultimately, confront the insubstantiality of their dreams and discover their flawed humanity. \$24.95 cl, 0-87451-746-X.

Under its Wesleyan imprint, UPNE has published two poetry titles by Sandra McPherson. **The Spaces Between Birds** draws on the authors' experiences of mothering her daughter, Phoebe (\$19.95 pb, 0-8195-2228-7) and **Edge Effect: Trails and Portrayals** explores both the arts of nature and the nature of art (\$19.95 pb, 0-8195-2226-0). WARNING: Even if you do have a clientele for poetry, these prices are rather high for the thin volumes they are.

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY PRESS

For those who like music history and especially enjoy country music, you'll want to take a serious look at **Ramblin' Rose: The Life and Career of Rose**

Maddox by Jonny Whiteside. Rose Maddox was one of the pioneering women of country music in postwar America. She not only made a place for herself in the male-dominated enclaves of country music but, Whiteside argues, she also prefigured the coming of rock and roll and left an indelible imprint on contemporary popular music. \$27.95 cl, 0-8265-1269-0.



WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY PRESS

Haskalah (or the Anglo Jewish Enlightenment) occurred between 1830 and 1880 in England. During this period, Jewish women in England became the first Jewish women anywhere to publish novels, histories, periodicals, theological tracts and conduct manuals. **The Origin of the Modern Jewish Woman Writer: Romance and Reform in Victorian England** by Michael Galchinsky demonstrates both that these women writers were the most widely recognized spokespersons for the *Haskalah* and that they strongly influenced Jews' campaigns for emancipation and religious reform. \$17.95 pb, 0-8143-2613-7.

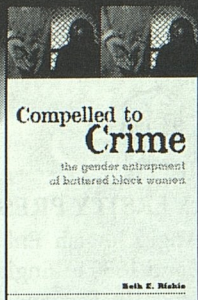
YALE UNIVERSITY PRESS

For women who want a straightforward book on menopause in everyday language, **What Every Woman Needs to Know About Menopause** by Mary Jane Minkin and Carol Wright may be just the book. Minkin, a gynecologist, has been treating menopausal women for more than 20 years. Topics include physical and psychological changes, common symptoms, hormone replacement therapies, sexuality, nonhormonal approaches and other common gynecological problems. \$25 cl, 0-300-06573-6.

Completely in French: **Écritures de femmes: Nouvelles cartographies** edited by Mary Ann Caws, Mary Jean Green, et al. includes poems, short stories, essays, memoirs and novels by Colette, Maryse Condé, Renée Vivien, Anne Hébert and 28 others. \$30 pb, *short discount*, 0-300-06412-8, June.

Now in paperback: **No Man's Land: The Place of the Woman Writer in the Twentieth Century, Volume 3: Letters from the Heart** edited by Sandra Gilbert and Susan Gubar. (\$18, 0-300-06660-0.) **Georgia O'Keeffe: American and Modern** by Charles Eldredge. (\$30, 0-300-05581-1.) ○

ROUTLEDGE



Compelled to Crime

The Gender Entrapment of Battered Black Women

Beth E. Richie

Chronicles the lives of women from low-income communities who have been physically battered, sexually assaulted, emotionally abused and involved in illegal activity.

192 pp \$16.95/Pb

Imaginary Bodies

Ethics, Power and Corporeality

Moira Gatens

A collection of essays that offer a sustained challenge to traditional philosophical notions of the body, sex and gender.

184 pp \$16.95/Pb

Integrative Feminisms

Building Global Visions 1960-1990

Angela Miles

"This book brings alive the creative politics of feminists around the world who are, together, shaping a new future."

— Charlotte Bunch, Center for Women's Global Leadership

256 pp \$17.95/Pb



Feminism Beside Itself

Edited by **Diane Elam** and **Robyn Wiegman** With an Introduction by **Diane Elam**

Brings together a distinguished group of scholars from several generations of feminists, asking them to reflect on the history and identity of feminism.

288 pp \$17.95/Pb



June Jordan's Poetry for the People

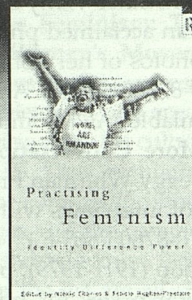
A Revolutionary Blueprint

Edited by **June Jordan**, **Lauren Muller**, and **The Blueprint Collective**

"... documents the history of this unique workshop and reading collective of the University of California at Berkeley...this freewheeling guidebook looks at poetry as a populist, highly diverse activity."

208 pp \$16.95/Pb

— Publishers Weekly



Practising Feminism

Identity, Difference and Power

Edited by **Felicia Hughes-Freeland** and **Nickie Charles**

Contributors from a range of backgrounds in anthropology, sociology and social psychology explore different ways of practicing feminism and the effect these practices have on gendered identities.

240 pp \$17.95/Pb

The Neutered Mother, The Sexual Family and Other Twentieth Century Tragedies

Martha Albertson Fineman

Undertakes an ambitious and revolutionary rethinking of the law's approach to the family.

256 pp \$16.95/Pb

Hail Mary?

Maurice Hamington

"Giving even fuller expression to the cult and myth of Mary is Maurice Hamington's *Hail Mary*... such a fascinating book that I had to put my pen down lest I underline everything."

—Judith Bromberg in the *National Catholic Reporter*

216 pp \$16.95/Pb

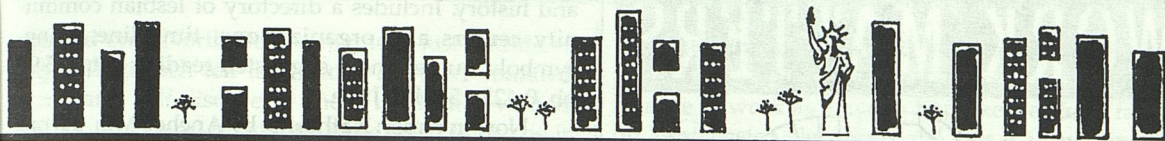
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AND ON PUBLISHER'S ROW



Compiled by Jenn Tust

ADDISON WESLEY

True Love Waits: Essays and Criticism by Wendy Kaminer, the author of *I'm Dysfunctional, You're Dysfunctional*, takes her wit and observations to our cultural obsessions, from sex and violence to feminism and pop psychology. \$22 cl, 0-201-48914-7.

In **The Futures of Women: Scenarios for the Twenty-First Century**, Pamela McCorduck and Nancy Ramsey explore four dramatically different alternatives for the economic and social future of women: worldwide backlash against women's gains; golden age of gender equality; preserving the status quo; and sexual separatism on professional, political or social levels. This book set my mind in gear — would be great to read as a group and discuss possible futures. Well done. \$24 cl, 0-201-48978-3, June.

Now in paper: **They Say You're Crazy: How the World's Most Powerful Psychiatrists Decide Who's Normal** by Paula J. Caplan, who is on the board of the American Psychiatric Association that determines who is and who is not normal, shows how ridiculous this process is. (\$12 pb, 0-201-48832-9; \$22 cl, 0-201-40758-2.) **The Prairie Keepers: Secrets of the Grasslands** by Marcy Houle. You might have done well with Houle's previous title, *Wings for My Flight*. I became captivated by *Prairie*, a very interesting look at a place where ranchers, grazing and wildlife work together for the benefit of all. (\$11 pb, 0-201-40821-X.)
—Dorothy Holland

AUGSBERG/FORTRESS PRESS

Meditation books for women have become increasingly popular over the years, especially as women look for resting places in their busy lives. **Soul Weavings: A Gathering of Women's Prayers**

edited by Lyn Klug will be of special interest to Christian women. It contains prayers — both traditional and contemporary — from such women of faith as Hildegard of Bingen, Julian of Norwich, Dorothy Day, Mother Teresa, Evelyn Underhill and others. \$13.99 cl, 0-8066-2849-9.
—Mev Miller

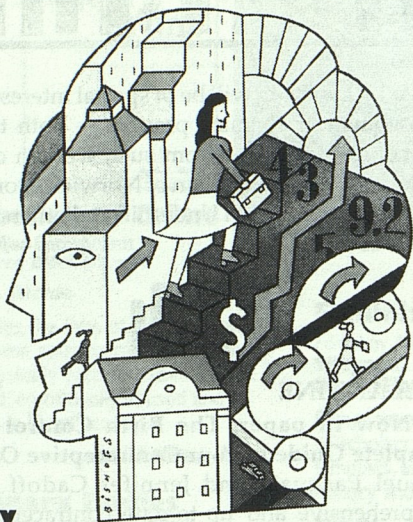


BALLANTINE

Now in paper: **The Birth Control Book: A Complete Guide to Your Contraceptive Options** by Samuel Pasquale and Jennifer Cadoff provides comprehensive and up-to-date contraceptive information for women — the female condom, the mini pill, Norplant 2, the cervical cap, the morning-after pill, natural methods and more. (\$12 pb, 0-345-40037-2.) **Meditations for People Who (May) Worry Too Much** by Anne Wilson Schaef, sequel to *Meditations for Women Who Do Too Much*, encourages readers to give up the troubling "what ifs." (\$12 pb, 0-345-39406-2.) In **New Passages: Mapping Your Life Across Time**, Gail Sheehy begins, "Imagine the day you turn 45 as the infancy of another life." (\$12.95 pb, 0-345-40445-9, June.) **Hanging Up** by Delia Ephron is a humorous, compassionate novel. (\$12 pb, 0-345-40444-0, June.) **Memnoch the Devil: The Vampire Chronicles** by Anne Rice is the fifth novel in the adventures of The Vampire Lestat. (\$14 pb, 0-345-38940-9, August.) In **Slow River** by Nicola Griffith, a woman awakens in an alley, naked, badly injured and without her identity implant. Who are you when you have nothing left? Absolutely wonderful. (\$11 pb, 0-345-39537-9, August.) **Crossing Over Jordan** by Linda Beatrice Brown is a novel about four generations of African American women. (\$11 pb, 0-345-40231-6.)
—Dorothy Holland

Women Talk About Their Jobs and Their Lives

WORK MATTERS



by
SARA ANN FRIEDMAN

While the debate on women and work continues to rage in the media and in politics, this timely and powerful book lets women speak for themselves—in voices that are impassioned and alive. Sixty-five women working every imaginable job speak out on the challenges they've met in the workplace, the struggle to balance family and work, and its ultimate importance to their sense of self.

"Sara Ann Friedman creates a document of singular significance; she conducts these voices in an opera of laughter, outcries, shouts and declarations."

—Regina Barreca, author of *They Used to Call Me Snow White...But I Drifted*

Illustration: Marie Bishofs

IN BOOKSTORES NOW FROM VIKING



BERKLEY

The Lesbian Almanac, compiled by the Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center of New York, says it's the "first definitive reference source written specifically for lesbians" and that it covers our culture and history. Includes a directory of lesbian community centers and organizations, time line, slang, symbols, quotes and a suggested reading list. \$15.95 pb, 0-425-15301-0, June.

Now in paper: **Katherine** by Anchee Min, a wonderful story of an American woman teaching in China. Lesbian content. Full Circle includes it on their Guaranteed Read List. \$6.99 pb, 0-425-15291-X.

—Dorothy Holland

FABER & FABER

In Women Living Single by Lee Reilly, 30 single women share their stories of navigating through a married world. This title looks at how the 20% of American women who are not married structure their lives — creating homes, building social lives, achieving career goals, dealing with society's view of them. \$22.95 cl, 0-571-19888-0.

Cracks in the Iron Closet: Travels in Gay and Lesbian Russia by David Tuller (of the *San Francisco Chronicle*) who traveled to Russia and reports how lesbians and gay men live today in a culture where homosexuality was very recently a crime against the state and where conformity is still prized. \$24.95 cl, 0-571-19890-2, June.

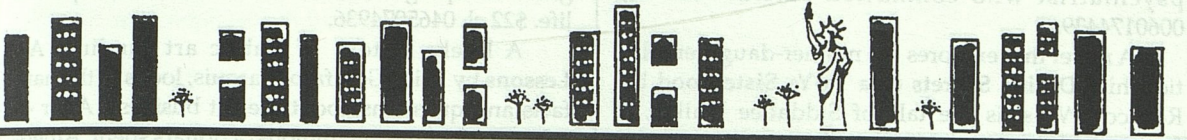
Journeys and Arrivals: On Being Gay and Jewish by Lev Raphael is a collection of the author's essays exploring the conflicts generated by his Jewish and gay identities. \$19.95 cl, 0-571-19882-1.

—Dorothy Holland

In Empire Under Glass by Julian Anderson, Viola Bragg, on the lam from a retirement home, crashes into a farm pond in a plane piloted by fellow octogenarian Jackson Pancake, and is trapped in an air bubble formed by the windshield. As she awaits rescue, she sorts through the contents of her purse and recounts to herself the story of her life. \$23.95 cl, 0-571-19884-8. —JT

HARPERCOLLINS

In Louise Erdrich's new novel, Tales of Burning Love, the former wives of Jack Mauser find themselves



stranded on a North Dakota highway just outside of Fargo. They each tell their secret story of wounded hearts and self-discovery. There is Eleanor who is spoiled, erotic and brainy; Candice, who finds she is tougher and more vulnerable than she can admit, especially once she's faced with her attraction to another woman; Marlis, who is a single mother caught up in a cycle of conflicting wishes; and Dot, Jack's best friend and his most angry wife. This novel is both a comic and a tender story of the struggle to survive, to hope and to love. \$25 cl, 0060176059.



To Be Seen: A Cultural Memoir of Beauty and Desire by Nancy Friday explores the uses and abuses of looks and appearance over the decades and into the future. Friday addresses the issues of beauty, looks, power and gender at the turn of the century and gives us a brave new mirror, with promise, space and love enough for all, regardless of gender or age. \$25 cl, 0060141405.

Dr. Harriet Lerner addresses 150 frequently asked questions by women about work and creativity, anger and intimacy, friendship and marriage, children and parents, loss and betrayal, and sexuality and health in her new book **Life Preservers**. Lerner gives readers the tools they need to solve problems and create joy, meaning and integrity in their lives and relationships. \$22.50 cl, 006017420X.

Twelve Golden Threads: Lessons for Successful Living From Grandma's Quilt by Aliske Webb is the story of a grandmother who passes on the wisdom of traditional truths necessary for a meaningful life while teaching her two granddaughters the basics of quilting. \$18 cl, 0060174633.

America's Dream by Esmeralda Santiago (*When I Was Puerto Rican*) tells the story of America Gonzales, a hotel housekeeper on an island off the coast of Puerto Rico. Her alcoholic mother resents her, her married boyfriend beats her, and their 14-year-old

daughter thinks life would be better anywhere else than with America. When America is offered the chance to work as a live-in housekeeper for a family in Westchester, New York, she sees it as an opportunity to start anew. America soon learns the superficial perfection of life in the suburbs is easily scratched and just as she dares to dream again, she must fight the nagging feeling that she can't get away from her past. \$23 cl, 0060172797; Spanish language edition, \$21 cl, 0060174528.

A new novel by Connie Briscoe (*Sisters and Lovers*), **Big Girls Don't Cry**, tells the story of Naomi Jefferson, a sheltered middle-class Black girl growing up in the early 60s. When Naomi's brother is killed on his way to a civil rights demonstration, the racism of white America suddenly becomes personal. As a college student in the 70s, Naomi immerses herself in campus politics but, unsure of herself, decides that politics are useless, that romance is hopeless and that what she really needs is a good job. Then, into her life walks Joseph, her dead brother's illegitimate teenage son, whose problems make Naomi's seem inconsequential. From him, Naomi learns to have the courage of her convictions and that anything worth having is worth fighting for. \$23 cl, 0060172770.



Repossessing Ernestine by Martha Hunt is one African American woman's search for her grandmother that confronts the heritage of slavery, the disempowerment of women, racism and dysfunctional families. When Hunt discovers that her grandmother, committed to an asylum in the 20s, is alive and languishing in a nursing home, she resolves to find her. Hunt's search unearths the story of her family, which includes a German Jewish slaveowner and his Black mistress, Hunt's grandfather, a prominent minister and educator in Memphis, his "child" bride Ernestine, who spent 50 years in a mental hospital, and Hunt's father, a Harvard-educated

psychiatrist who committed suicide. \$24 cl, 0060174439.

A novel that explores the mother-daughter relationship, **Divine Secrets of a Ya-Ya Sisterhood** by Rebecca Wells, is the tale of SiddaLee Walker, a 39-year-old theatrical director who has escaped her Louisiana hometown and her mother. (See **Little Altars Everywhere**, HarperPerennial, below.) When SiddaLee needs her mother's help with a play she's writing about women's friendships, Vivi sends her the letters, photos, journals and souvenirs from the Ya-Ya sisterhood, a group of girlfriends stuck in a small town where they were expected to raise babies, not Cain. This is the second in a series about SiddaLee. \$24 cl, 0060173289.

—Sandi Torkildson
A Room of One's Own

HARPERBASIC

Seeing The Crab: A Memoir Before Dying by Christina Middlebrook is a memoir of how she and her family have attempted to come to terms with her diagnosis of stage IV metastatic breast cancer. This book offers a lesson in family love and pain, and a

guide to coping with a difficult but inevitable part of life. \$22 cl, 0465074936.

A lively history of public art funding, **Art Lessons** by Alice Goldfarb Marquis, looks at the hard facts and questions about the art business. After 40 years of subsidies and billions of dollars spent, American arts institutions are no more secure financially than before. Marquis maintains that behind the headlines of controversial grants lie a conservatism and bureaucracy that give the well-established and mainstream institutions the bulk of government subsidies while truly innovative artists languish on the sidelines. This book engages the reader in a lively debate over who should or could decide what is art. \$15 pb, 0465004385.

—Sandi Torkildson
A Room of One's Own

HARPERPERENNIAL

Now in paper: Paula by Isabel Allende describes Allende's family and life from her early years in her native Chile, through the turbulent coup in 1973, to the subsequent dictatorship and her family's years of exile. Written for her daughter Paula

NEW FROM SR BOOKS



Revolutionizing Motherhood
The Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo

by Marguerite Bouvard

"[Bouvard] movingly sketches the radicalizing effects of daring to speak the truth to those in power."

—Booklist

Revolutionizing Motherhood examines one of the most

astonishing human rights movements in recent years. During the Argentine junta's Dirty War against subversives, as tens of thousands were abducted, tortured, and disappeared, a group of women forged the Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo and changed Argentine politics forever.

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WOMEN RESHAPING HUMAN RIGHTS
How Extraordinary Activists Are Changing the World



Women Reshaping Human Rights
How Extraordinary Activists are Changing the World

by Marguerite Bouvard

"...stories of triumph over tyranny, over harassment and abuse.... Riveting."

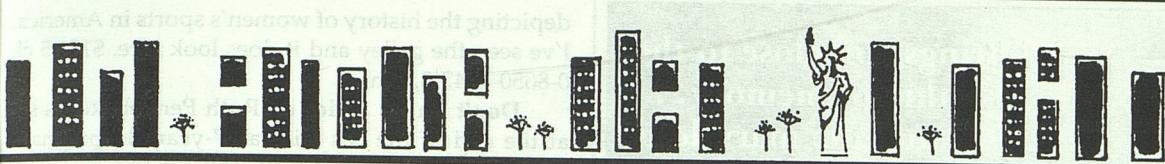
—Rose Styron,
Poet and Human Rights Activist

In this book, sixteen extraordinary activists tell their stories, in their

own words. Readers will meet Dai Qing, who fights the Communist Party's grip in China; Vera Laska, who joined the Resistance against the Nazis in Czechoslovakia; and Juana Beatrice Gutiérrez and the Mothers of East Los Angeles, who challenge drug dealers and toxic polluters threatening their neighborhood. These are real-life stories of courage.

Paper ISBN 0-8420-2563-4 \$18.95 Cloth ISBN 0-8420-2562-6 \$50.00

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after she became ill and slipped into a coma, Allende's story is a delightful and bitter childhood memoir filled with bizarre ancestors and the enthralling anecdotes of youth. (\$12.50 pb, 0060927216.) **Little Altars Everywhere** by Rebecca Wells is the tale of SiddaLee Walker, the oldest daughter of the Walker clan of Thornton, Louisiana. SiddaLee is at the eye of the family hurricane whose center is her mother, Vivi, the wild and gorgeous bourbon-drinking leader of a pack of girlfriends called the "Ya-Yas." Wells' second novel, **Divine Secrets of a Ya-Ya Sisterhood** is reviewed above, see HarperCollins. (\$11 pb, 0060976845.) A new edition of **Dust Tracks on a Road: An Autobiography** by Zora Neale Hurston with a foreword by Maya Angelou and new text painstakingly restored from the original manuscripts by the Library of America will be published in May. (\$13 pb, 0060921684.) **The Between**, a horror novel by African American writer Tananarive Due, is the story of Hilton, who was saved from drowning by his grandmother sacrificing her life. Thirty years later, he begins to suspect that he was never meant to survive the accident and that dark forces are working to rectify the mistake. (\$12 pb, 0060927267.) **Wild Ride: Earthquakes, Sneezes and Other Thrills** by Bia Lowe is a must-carry! (\$11 pb, 0-06-092695-3.) —*Sandi Torkildson*
A Room of One's Own



HARPERWESTVIEW

Present Imperfect edited by Ayesha Kagal and Natasha Perova is a collection of stories by Russian women published in the aftermath of Gorbachev's reforms. These stories revel in the basic commonalities of human experience and reassert a peculiarly Russian belief in the spiritual, mystical and supernatural. They satirize Soviet literary canons while exploring the full gamut of styles, from neorealism to magico-folkloric fantasy. \$17 pb, 0813326761, June.

The development of feminist political theory is recorded in **The Feminist Standpoint Revisited and Other Essays** by Nancy Hartsock. The central themes of this collection focus on the relationships between theory and activism, between feminism and Marxism, and between postmodernism and politics. Hartsock also shares how her theoretical work grew directly out of the demands of her activist life. \$16.95 pb, 0813315581, August.

Don't Marry Me To a Plowman! Women's Everyday Lives in North India by Patricia Jeffery and Roger Jeffery focuses on the complex interplay between the power of social structures to constrain individuals and the ways women negotiate these constraints to carve out places for themselves. The life histories of eight Hindu and Muslim women are presented to illustrate the many aspects of north Indian village life. \$19.50 pb, 0813326214.

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



HOLT

The Genie in the Jar, a children's book (ages four and up) by Nikki Giovanni, illustrated by Chris Raschka, "spins words of freedom, but warns against the pain it can bring." I love her poetry and Raschka's illustrations are exactly right for this poem. This book works best when read aloud. \$15.95 cl, 0-8050-4118-4.

Smithsonian Book of the First Ladies edited by Edith Mayo, photographs and art from The Smithsonian Institution, foreword by Hillary Rodham Clinton, is a comprehensive collection of biographies of the first ladies of the U.S. Besides documenting their lives, it also explores their achievements in the world. \$24.95 cl, 0-8050-1751-8.

"Is there anything at all you don't play?" "Yeah," said Babe Didrikson without missing a beat, "Dolls." **Winning Ways: A Photohistory of American Women in Sports** by Sue Macy has 100 photos

"Brings you close to the
rhythm of memory. . .
and the marvelous
secret of every life."

soft

—Alice Munro

joy

street

IN THE LANGUAGE OF LOVE

blossom

memory

A NOVEL IN
100 CHAPTERS

bitter

hungry

DIANE
SCHOEMPERLEN

©David Perry/PhotoDisc

Table. Hand. Bed. Comfort. For the heroine of this beautifully inventive first novel, these words and others are beads on a string of reminiscences: of loves and losses, parents and children, homes and marriages. The result is a collage of life's experiences, full of color and texture.

"Magnetic and moving.... Reads like a long dream just before waking... a powerful read whose associative reverberations linger long after the last page is turned." —*Elle*

"One of the finest montages of language to head south from Canada since Margaret Atwood's *Surfacing*." —*Publishers Weekly*



AT BOOKSTORES NOW FROM VIKING

depicting the history of women's sports in America. I've seen the galley and it does look nice. \$15.95 cl, 0-8050-4147-8, June.

Don't Think Twice by Ruth Pennebaker is set at the end of the 60s with a 17-year-old pregnant woman in a home for unwed mothers. She discovers her biggest challenge is not being pregnant, it is being herself. This is a moving story of the choices that define our lives. Young adult. \$15.95 cl, 0-8050-4407-8.

Go the Way Your Blood Beats: An Anthology of Gay and Lesbian Literary Writings by African Americans edited by Shawn Steward Ruff, foreword by E. Lynn Harris, examines Black gay and lesbian identity from inside and outside the closet, from the Harlem Renaissance to the present. Writings by Audre Lorde, Sapphire, Jacqueline Woodson, Toni Morrison, Richard Wright, James Baldwin and many others. \$16.95 cl, 0-8050-4437-X.



Angel Maker: The Collected Short Stories of Sara Maitland by Sara Maitland. If you haven't sold her before, wait for paper. She's very eclectic and rich. \$25 cl, 0-8050-4412-4, August.

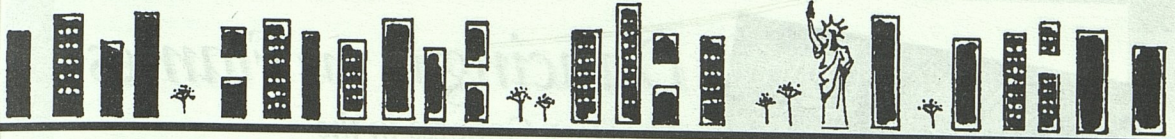
The Spirits Speak: One Woman's Mystical Journey Into the African Spirit World by Micky Arden is the tale of the spiritual awakening of a white South African woman and of her training as a medicine woman. \$22.50 cl, 0-8050-4207-5, July.

Healing Mind, Healthy Woman: Using the Mind Body Connection to Take Control of Your Well-Being by Alice Domar and Henry Dreher offers a repertoire of therapeutic methods to women, stress management to wellness, plus help on specific ideas. \$25 cl, 0-8050-4134-6, June.

Kink by Kathe Koja. I haven't any idea — but the catalog says, "the ever changing dynamics of a three-way relationship between a man and two women." \$23 cl, 0-8050-4391-8, June.

Bloomsbury Women: Distinct Figures in Life and Art by Jan Marsh traces the lives of the women of this celebrated and influential artists' group, from early years of the 20th century to old age and the legacy that lives on. \$29.95 cl, 0-8050-4550-3.

—Dorothy Holland



HYPERION

In The Girls With the Grandmother Faces: A Celebration of Life's Potential for Those Over 55, Frances Weaver offers practical advice for older women looking to change their lifestyles and take advantage of life's many opportunities. Weaver puts some common fears to rest by sharing ideas on how she and other women have expanded their interests and created an honest identity for themselves. It should do well as a giftbook. \$16.95 cl, 0-7868-6169-X.

The Two of Us Make a World: The Single Mother's Guide to Pregnancy, Childbirth, and the First Year by sisters Prudence and Sherill Tippins is a guide for single mothers that tackles issues including enlisting family support, negotiating a fair child-support and custody agreement, dealing with discrimination and anxiety at work, planning a secure financial future for two and establishing a support network. \$14.95 pb, 0-8050-3780-2, Owl. —JT



NORTON

Norton has reissued Gertrude Stein's **Paris France** and **Fernhurst, Q.E.D., and Other Early Writings**. **Paris France** is Stein's comprehensive look at French people and culture from cooking and relationships to art and war. (\$10 pb, 0-87140-160-6, Liveright.) **Fernhurst** is a collection of in-depth character profiles as Stein looks into what motivates people to love and the power struggles and political barriers that are inevitable elements in all relationships. (\$11 pb, 0-87140-161-4, Liveright.)

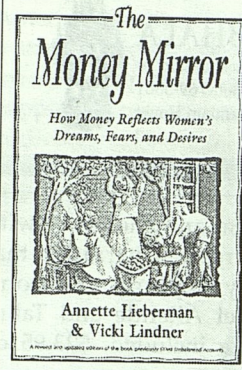
In **The Dreams of Women**, Lucy Goodison encourages women to wake up to the importance of their dreams and to stop pushing them aside. She describes ways to remember and record dreams, utilizing a variety of approaches to dream analysis (Freudian explores sexual motivations, Jungian calls attention to spiritual and religious aspects, Gestalt

holds that every person, object, color, or aspect of a dream represents part of the dreamer's character or personality). Goodison encourages the dreamer to find her own meanings as another aid in her path to self-discovery. \$23 cl, 0-393-03917-X.

The American Woman 1996-97: Women and Work edited by Cynthia Costello and Barbara Kivimae Krimgold, prepared by the Women's Research and Education Institute, is the sixth edition of the biannual series documenting the current social, economic and political status of American women. This edition focuses on women in the workplace. \$14.95 pb, 0-393-31431-6; \$30 cl, -03929-3. —JT

PENGUIN/PLUME/VIKING

In Sister Stories: Taking the Journey Together, Brenda Peterson weaves together the story of her



The Money Mirror
How Money Reflects
Women's Dreams, Fears,
and Desires

by Annette Lieberman
and Vicki Lindner
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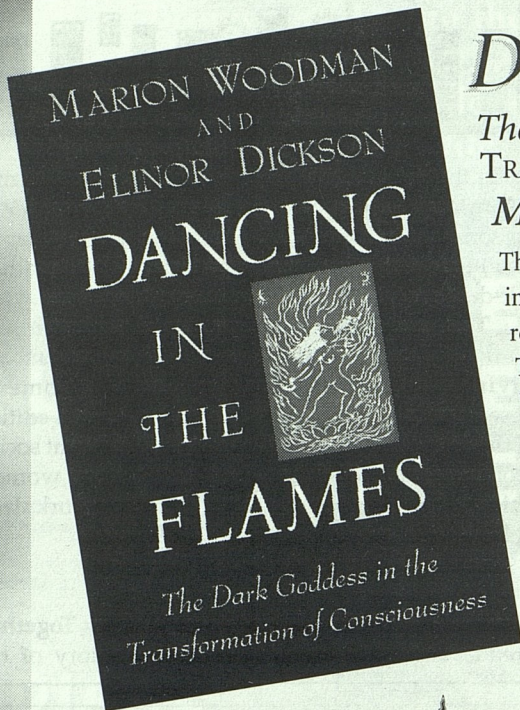
"This lively, anecdotal book explores women's historical relationship to money, the common symptoms of 'money-phobia' and the antidotes."

—Ms. Magazine

"... a wealth of down-to-earth tips on how women in fiscal straits can develop healthy, positive attitudes about money."

—Kirkus Reviews

The Money Mirror delves into the reasons that many otherwise successful and self-reliant women fear money.



Dancing in the Flames

The DARK GODDESS in the
TRANSFORMATION of CONSCIOUSNESS

Marion Woodman & Elinor Dickson

The Goddess is suddenly everywhere today, making news in places as diverse as the women's movement, traditional religion, and even science. What does it all really mean? The bold and thrilling answer provided by Marion Woodman, author of such beloved books as *Addiction to Perfection* and *Leaving My Father's House*, and clinical psychologist Elinor Dickson is this: the modern reemergence of the Divine Feminine signifies nothing other than humankind's readiness to burst forth into the next level of evolution, where reason, order and linear thinking are married to intuition, creativity, and joy, affecting every aspect of life from relationships to religion to ecology to science.

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sisterhoods — both biological and chosen — with those of other women to create a narrative that personally and politically explores the bond between women. The Isabel Allende and Tabra Tunoa sisterhood stories are included. \$23.95 cl, 0-670-85296-1, Viking.

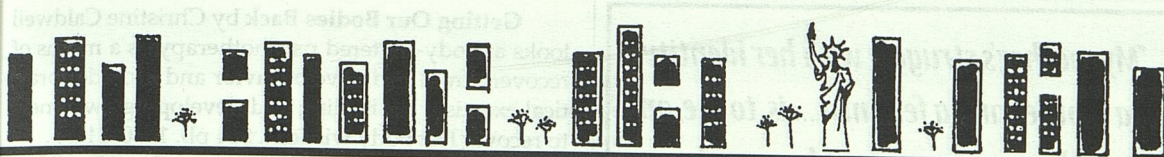


In Work Matters: Women Talk About Their Jobs and Their Lives, Sara Ann Friedman collects the personal stories of 65 women from diverse economic, social and ethnic backgrounds who have one thing in common: work is an essential part of their lives. \$23.95 cl, 0-670-84203-6, Viking.

Herotica 4: A New Collection of Erotic Writing by Women edited by Marcy Sheiner is the fourth book in the Herotica® series launched by Susie Bright and Down There Press in 1988. This one has 29 stories by and for women covering the sexual kaleidoscope. Contributors include Carol Queen, Cecilia Tan, Mary Maxwell, Angela Fairweather and Susan St. Subin. \$12.95 pb, 0-452-27181-9, Plume.

She Bop: The Definitive History of Women in Rock, Pop and Soul by Lucy O'Brien probes the history and personal stories of 200 often overlooked female performers in the music industry. O'Brien explores the "cleavage question," protest pop, androgyny and sexual orientation and much more with a feminist perspective. \$14.95 pb, 0-14-025155-3.

Now out in paper: **Autobiography of a Family**



Photo, a novel by Jacqueline Woodson. "The girl's voice will open your heart, show you something you need to see.... Look closely. This is a photo of great beauty, great heartbreak, greater love." —Dorothy Allison. With a little handselling it will be one of the best-sellers in your lesbian and African American fiction sections. \$9.95 pb, 0-452-27098-7, Plume.

—JT

RANDOM HOUSE

RH-Knopf

Footprints by Shelby Hearon is a novel that deals with the ways the sudden death of their 22-year-old daughter reveals the suppressed conflicts of her parents' marriage. When their daughter's heart saves the life of an aging southern preacher, Nan responds with scientific interest while Douglas is overwhelmed by the thought that part of his daughter lives on in an old man. Nan recognizes the distance between their two responses and searches for a way to begin to heal their pain. \$21 cl, 0679446419.

Beth Nugent's new novel considers a terrifying life in a dissociated and disconnected America. **Live Girls** tells the story of Catherine, who sells tickets in a run-down porn theater in a decrepit port city, and her only friend Jerome, an anorexic drag queen who searches for love among the sailors. Catherine and Jerome embark on a journey to Florida in a desperate attempt to find redemption in a world that offers little. \$22 cl, 0679419780.

In **I Was Amelia Earhart** by Jane Mendelsohn, "Amelia Earhart" tells us what happened after she and her navigator disappeared off the coast of New Guinea one glorious day in 1937. In this imaginative novel, Amelia describes her love affair with flying, her childhood desire to be a heroine, and her business manager/husband G. P. Putnam, who was willing to gamble her life so that the book they were writing about her flight around the world would sell out before Christmas. \$18 cl, 0679451548.

In Gish Jen's new novel, **Mona In The Promised**

Land, Chinese American teenager Mona Chang is turning Jewish, much to her parents' chagrin. In 1968, when the Chang family moves to the posh Scarshell, New York, it takes some getting used to, but Mona quickly bleaches her bell-bottoms and is off and running with her friends to reform race relations. \$24 cl, 0679445897.

—Sandi Torkildson
A Room of One's Own

RH-Pantheon

Russian writer Ludmilla Petrushevskaya's stories in **Immortal Love** are set against a backdrop of the cramped apartments, short rations, long lines and diminished expectations of Soviet Russia. These stories illuminate the lives of women and their battles for love, living space and money with dark humor and biting insight. \$24 cl, 0679422579.

Marion Winik's memoir **First Comes Love** is a journey of the heart of an unexpected but engaging American family. With candor, Winik tells the story of a straight woman and a gay man who fall in love, marry, set up house, raise two sons, and see their happiness crumble under the pressure of AIDS, drug addiction and betrayal. She shares the harrowing and heartbreaking final moments of their life together as she helps her husband die. \$23 cl, 0679445722.

—Sandi Torkildson
A Room of One's Own

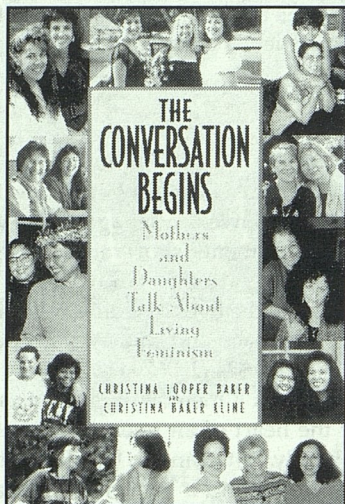


RH-Shambhala

In **Dancing In The Flames**, Marion Woodman and Elinor Dickson use the psychological work of numerous men and women, illustrated with art, poetry, dreams and fairy tales to show how integration of the divine feminine is healing the split in the lives of people today. They reveal the goddess' place in the history of the world, in ecofeminism, and in the scientific search for the seat of consciousness. \$23 cl, 1570621993.

"My mother's struggle with her identity as a mother and a feminist ... is, to me, one of the most important lessons she could have taught me about feminism."

—Christina Baker Kline in *THE CONVERSATION BEGINS*



In this moving testament to feminist motherhood, mothers and daughters join together to share their candid reflections on the women's movement—and how their lives were shaped by it. What was it like to be a feminist mother raising a family twenty years ago? And how are their daughters recasting the movement to suit the needs of a new generation? *THE CONVERSATION BEGINS* speaks to the personal and political sides of feminism. And, above all, it offers an inspiring touchstone for every woman who reads it.

Including conversations with Barbara Ehrenreich, Joy Harjo, Tillie Olsen, Patsy Mink, Carol Jenkins, and their daughters—and many others.



A Bantam Hardcover. Available wherever books are sold. **Bantam**

Getting Our Bodies Back by Christine Caldwell looks at body-centered psychotherapy as a means of recovery from addictive behavior and provides practical exercises for healing and developing awareness to recover lost body wisdom. \$14 pb, 1570621497.

—Sandi Torkildson
A Room of One's Own

RH-Villard

Terry: My Daughter's Life-and-Death Struggle With Alcoholism by George McGovern addresses the difficult issue of his daughter's alcoholism and her terrible death in the winter of 1994. Terry was found frozen in the snow while asleep in an alcoholic stupor in Madison, Wisconsin. This passionate memoir of his daughter is certain to engender controversy and compassion. \$21 cl, 0679447970.

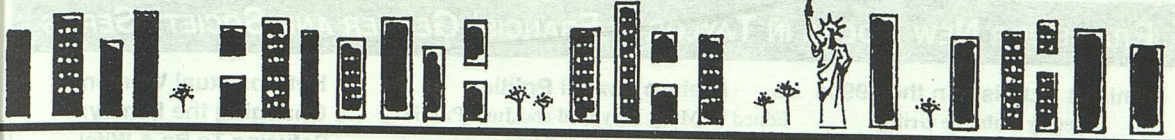
—Sandi Torkildson
A Room of One's Own



RH-Vintage

A new collection of essays by Bailey White, **Sleeping At the Starlite Motel**, catalogs the oddities of the Georgia town she knows so well. Among the man-eating gardens and Spanish moss, we meet Aunt Eleanor, the connoisseur of plumbing catastrophes; Miss Grantly, whose pride in her home is undiminished when it's stolen from underneath her; and Nockerd Sockett who, for one brief shining moment, was Person-In-Charge at the Our Place Your Eating Pleasure cafe. \$12 pb, 0679770151.

Now in paper: **Krik? Krak!** by Edwidge Danticat is a collection of stories steeped in the myths and lore of Haiti. Danticat demonstrates the power of storytelling to heal the demonic cruelties that people suffer. These tales of life and death under Haiti's dictatorships are tragic, horrifying at times, but beautifully told. (\$11 pb, 067976657-X.) **Rocket City** by Cathryn Alpert is a funny and sexy adventure novel. It tells the story of Marilee Levitay who is on her way to the birthplace of the atomic bomb when she is pulled over by a cop in Alamogordo, New Mexico. With her dwarf hitchhiker passenger, Marilee takes the reader to a parallel universe where the motels are called "The Trinity," the supermarket check-out girls have gorgeous two-colored eyes, and true love comes in



odd packages. (\$12 pb, 067977016-X.) Each of the stories in A.S. Byatt's **The Matisse Stories** was inspired by one of Henri Matisse's paintings: A neglected wife watches her reflection in the mirrors of a beauty parlor; a housekeeper whose enthusiasm for knitting may not be as naive as her employers think; and two academics weigh a young girl's future over the exquisite palette of a Chinese lunch, all come to life in Byatt's rich prose. (\$10 pb, 067976223-X.)

—Sandi Torkildson
A Room of One's Own



ST. MARTIN'S

The It-Doesn't-Matter Suit by Sylvia Plath, illustrations by Rotraut Susanne Berner, is a newly discovered masterpiece that was hidden among Plath's papers. A tale in poetry of a young boy who longs to be like everyone else. \$10.95 cl, 0-312-14189-0.

Keep Still by Eleanor Taylor Bland is the fifth case for Illinois police detective Marti MacAlister, one of the too few Black women protagonists in the mystery genre. Worth a try in cloth. \$20.95 cl, 0-312-14318-4, July.

—Dorothy Holland

Veiled Half-Truths: Western Travellers' Perceptions of Middle Eastern Women edited by Judy Mabro collects writings by Europeans about their fascination and repulsion of the harem and the veil, two symbols considered exotic and erotic. European travellers obsessed on this subject, produced "unreal and conflicting images of mysterious and passive female creatures imprisoned, yet immoral in respect to polygamy and dancing." The extracts are arranged around the observers' ideas and pre-judices. Highly readable and at times shocking, this anthology of travel writing examines how the 'Oriental Woman' was depicted by European travellers in the late nineteenth century. \$19.95 pb, 0-86064-027-3.

—JT

M. E. SHARPE

Voices From the Japanese Women's Movement edited by AMPO-Japan Asia Quarterly Review, foreword by Charlotte Bunch, is a collection of essays that introduces the reader to the current debates among Japanese feminists and the history of the Japanese feminist movement. The essays explore, from a variety of Japanese feminist perspectives, particular and universal issues including prostitution, violence and sexual exploitation, working conditions, and the second-class political status of women. \$17.95 pb, 1-56324-726-7; \$54.95 cl, -725-9.

—JT

SIMON & SCHUSTER

Voice of Her Own: Women and the Journal Writing Journey by Marlene Schiwy, foreword by Marion Woodman, looks at the relationship between journal writing and the evolution of the long-silent feminine voice. \$12 pb, 0-684-80342-9, Fireside.

Outing Yourself: How to Come Out as Lesbian or Gay to Your Family, Friends, and Coworkers by Michelangelo Signorile is an easy-to-follow 14-step program for coming out (honest, now we have our own 12 (14) step programs!). Includes exercises, meditation notes, anger checks, and accounts of coming out experiences. \$11 pb, 0-684-82617-8, June, Fireside.

About My Sister's Business: The Black Woman's Road Map to Successful Entrepreneurship by Fran Harris includes ideas and techniques for African American women starting and making a success of their own business. \$11 pb, 0-684-81839-6, June, Fireside.



Exquisite Corpse, a novel by Poppy Z Brite, "a major new voice in horror fiction." \$21 cl, 0-684-82254-7, August.

In **The Girls Next Door: Into the Heart of Lesbian America**, Lindsay Van Gelder and Pamela Robin Brandy have drawn from 100 interviews with women

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around the country to construct a portrait of how lesbian women today think, feel, love and live. (And, it's sold back to us in hardback!) \$23 cl, 0-384-81118-9.

The Case for Same Sex Marriage: From Sexual Liberty to Civilized Commitment by William N. Eskridge looks at one of the great civil rights issues of the 90s. Includes a history of gay unions throughout the world. \$25 cl, 0-684-82404-3, The Free Press.

A Voice of Our Own: Leading American Women Celebrate the Right to Vote edited by Nancy Neuman, sponsored by the League of Women Voters, features 28 original essays from prominent women leaders: Wilma Mankiller, Hillary Clinton, Martina Navratilova and others. \$24 cl, 0-7879-0231-4, Jossey-Bass.

Now in paper: **Vice Versa: Bisexuality and the Eroticism of Everyday Life** by Marjorie Garber gathers evidence from art, literature, history, culture, science and more to look at the nature and influence of bisexuality in our culture. (\$16 pb, 0-684-82412-4, Touchstone.) **The New Our Right to Love: A Lesbian Resource Book** edited by Ginny Vida, foreword by Rita Mae Brown, is a completely new edition, full of

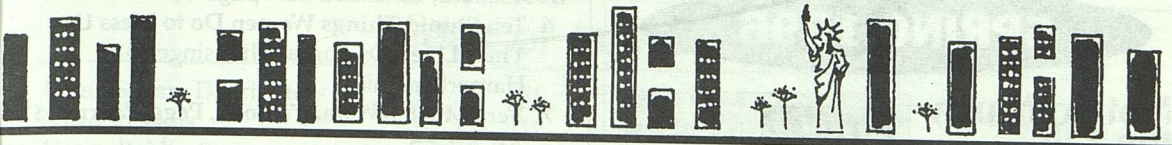
practical advice and personal insight. Wonderful collection. (\$14 pb, 0-684-80682-7, Touchstone.) **The Fatigue Artist** by Lynne Sharon Schwartz is another excellent novel from the author of *Leaving Brooklyn* and *Disturbances in the Field*. (\$11 pb, 0-684-82468-X, July, Scribner.) —*Dorothy Holland*



TOR/GRIFFIN/FORGE

So You Want to Be a Lesbian? by Liz Tracey and Sydney Pokorny starts with an LAT (Lesbian Aptitude Test), goes on to what records to play at a coming out party, and general stuff about our culture and history. Haven't seen it, but it sounds wonderful. Available in eight-copy display. "So You Want to Be a Lesbian?" home page will be available on the Internet in the near future. \$10.95 pb, 0-312-14423-7, June, Griffin.

Try **The Overland Trail: A Women of the West Novel** by Wendi Lee if you did well with *Thin Moon and Cold Mist* by Kathleen O'Neal Gear. This novel is



based on the diaries of women who crossed the country in the late 1840s. \$22.95 cl, 0-312-85288-6, June, Forge.

These sci-fi titles look interesting: **Night Sky Mine**, the newest Melissa Scott, promises to be equal to *Trouble and Her Friends*. I hope so. (\$24.95 cl, 0-312-85875-2, August, Tor.) **The Fortunate Fall** by Raphael Carter is a virtual reality, virtual memory, virtual love escapade. (\$21.95 cl, 0-312-86034-X, July, Tor.)

Mystery: Cat in a Diamond Dazzle, A Midnight Louie Mystery by Carole Nelson Douglas. Although the stores I work with don't usually carry a lot of hardback mystery, it seems there's always at least one person who wants Douglas enough to get hardback. \$24.95 cl, 0-312-86085-4, Forge.



Now in paper: **Mothers** by Jax Peters Lowell is a powerful, moving story of two women raising their son together. (\$12.95 pb, 0-312-14373-7, Tor.) **Florence King Reader** — she's wonderful, what can I say? (\$14.95 pb, 0-312-14337-0, July, Griffin.) **Under the Rainbow: Growing Up Gay** by Arnie Kantowitz is a reissue of a classic account of growing up gay before the gay rights movement. (\$11.95 pb, 0-312-14439-3, July, Griffin.)
—Dorothy Holland

WALKER & CO.

The Period Book: Everything You Don't Want to Ask (But Need to Know) by Karen Gravelle and Jennifer Gravelle, illustrations by Debbie Palen, is a funny and much-needed resource for girls. The authors, aunt and 15-year-old niece, discuss the changes of puberty that you can and cannot see, what menstruation is and means, what to wear during menstruation (clothing, pads, tampons), seeing a gynecologist and miscellaneous problems (cramps, unexpected arrival of a period, pimples). It would be even better if they had talked about alternatives to the usual pad and tampon (reusable pads, sea sponges,

caps). The illustrations are great! Shelve it next to *Period*. (Volcano Press). \$8.95 pb, 0-8027-7478-4; \$15.95 cl, -8420-8.
—JT

WILEY

A collection of first-person interviews of women who fought for the French Resistance, **Sisters in the Resistance: How Women Fought to Free France 1940-1945** by Margaret Collins Weitz weaves a portrait of defiance and endurance that captures the unsung heroism, quiet courage and ultimate triumph of the women in "the army of the shadows." The women speak about the driving forces behind their struggle, the ideals that motivated them, and the daily hardships and bitter realities of life in occupied France. \$30 cl, 0-471-12676-4.
—JT O

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6. **Ten Stupid Things Women Do to Mess Up Their Lives**, Dr. Laura Schlessinger, \$10, HarperPerennial
7. **Very Much a Woman's Book**, Peggy Warren, \$15, Art After 5
8. **When I Am an Old Woman I Shall Wear Purple**, Sandra Haldeman Martz, \$10, Papier-Mache Press
9. **The 10 Greatest Gifts I Give My Children**, Steven Vannoy, \$11, Fireside
10. **Best of Women's Quotations**, \$6.99, Exley Gift Books
11. **Chicken Soup for the Soul, V1**, Jack Canfield and Mark Hansen, \$12.95, Health Communications
12. **Women Who Run With the Wolves**, Clarissa Pinkola Estés, \$15, Ballantine
13. **Boundaries: Where You End and I Begin**, Anne Katherine, \$10, Fireside
14. **From Where Eagles Soar**, Sharon Reed, \$12.95, Sharon Reed Publishing
15. **Teddy Bear Stories for Grown Ups**, Catherine Taylor, \$14.95, Fulcrum

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1. **Double Bluff**, Claire McNab, \$10.95 pb, Naiad
2. **Northern Blue**, Tracey Richardson, \$10.95 pb, Naiad
3. **Family Secrets**, Laura DeHart Young, \$10.95 pb, Naiad
4. **Reviving Ophelia**, Mary Pipher, \$12.50 pb, Ballantine
5. **Love's Harvest**, Peggy Herring, \$10.95 pb, Naiad
6. **The Artist's Way**, Julia Cameron, \$12.95 pb, Tarcher
7. **Women's Bodies, Women's Wisdom**, Christiane Northrup, \$14.95 pb, Bantam
8. **I Knew You Would Call**, Kate Allen, \$10.95 pb, New Victoria
9. **Color of Winter**, Lisa Shapiro, \$10.95 pb, Naiad
10. **From Wedded Wife to Lesbian Life**, Ellen Farmer and Deborah Abbott, eds., \$14.95 pb, Crossing Press

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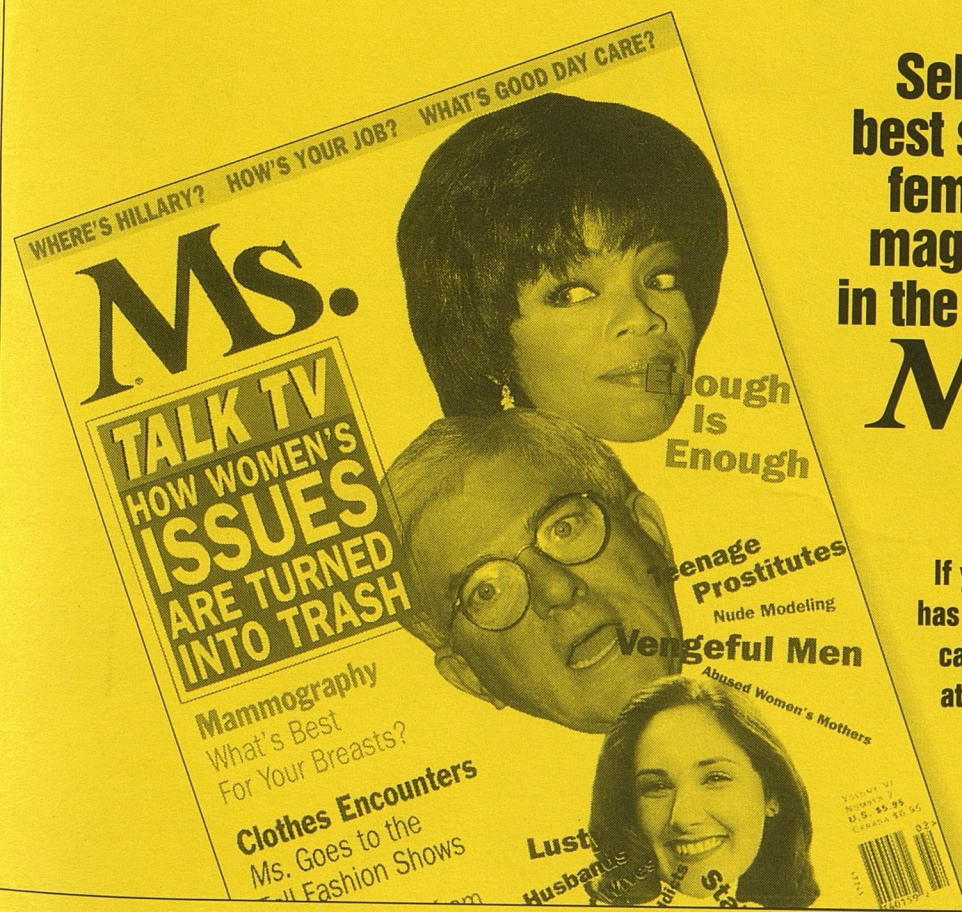
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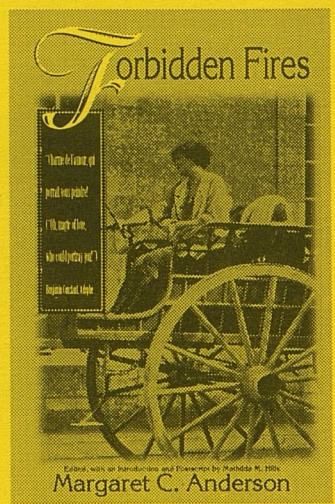
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